

Project Update: December 2015

Bat Conservation and Awareness Project (Study on Bat Ecology, Diversity, Distribution and Conservation Status in the Idukki Landscape of Southern Western Ghats, India., ref: 17637-1 started in first week of June 2015. The first month was purchase of survey materials and campaigning material. Thereafter, July to October were utilised to undertake core research and campaigning work on bats in high range Mountain Idukki landscape of southern Western Ghats, India.



High Range Mountain Idukki Landscape (HRIML) is extremely rich biological diversity especially in chiroptera diversity. The first scientific bat research work in HRIML of Southern Western Ghats, India, (Other data is not available).



We were exploring thoroughly survey new bat roosts in some part of the HRIML. Bat conservation and awareness campaign was launched for the first time in HRIML.

All possible target groups such as local youth college and school students as well as tribal people and local communities living at different settlements across the HRIML like different villages, and cities were briefed about the nature, ecological and economic importance of bats through the lectures, demonstrations and opportunistic interactive group discussion sessions. Through the campaigning exercise we tried to eradicate the existing myths and discard the relevant prevailing fear, as well attempted to inculcate the sense of appreciation about bats among the people of HRIML.

Tribal community, Local communities, students and forest department staff will be the main target groups for conservation awareness programmes. Through persistent training accorded to forest department staffs other non-government, government agencies staff, creation of awareness and conservation related education among students and local people through talks, interactions, and presentations.

