

National Workshop on Education and Awareness Strategy for Sea Turtle Conservation

A national workshop on Education and Awareness Strategy was conducted by Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad. The workshop was held from August 16 – 18, 2001 at CEE, Ahmedabad. The workshop was funded by the GOI – UNDP sea turtle project. A summary report has been produced and CEE envisages to bring out a set of posters thematically on turtle conservation.

Source: E.K. Nareshwar, Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad. India.

TED workshop in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh

The State Institute of Fisheries Technology, Kakinada, conducted a 2 day workshop on the Operation of TED at Kakinada for the fishermen and Fisheries Officials on 24th and 25th of January 2002. The workshop was conducted with the financial assistance of the WII, Dehradun, as a part of the GOI – UNDP Sea Turtle Project. As a follow-up measure in sea turtle conservation, a TED demonstration cum information center was inaugurated during the workshop. This institute has been actively involved in the conservation of sea turtles by conducting awareness programs in fisherman villages throughout the state of Andhra Pradesh. The Government of Andhra Pradesh Department of Fisheries has, in September 2001, issued an amendment in the A.P. Marine Fisheries Regulation Act by making the TED compulsory for shrimp trawlers, without which they are liable for a fine of Rs. 2500/- and confiscation of the catch.

Source: M.A. Yakub Basha & O. Bhavanisankar State Institute of Fisheries Technology, Kakinada. India.

TED workshop in Orissa

A TED awareness and demonstration workshop was conducted by Project Swarajya on February 9 –12, 2002 at Paradip, Orissa. The workshop was attended by trawl operators and owners and technical agencies involved with Fisheries in Orissa.

Source: Chitta Ranjan Behera, Project Swarajya, Orissa. India.

Workshop on marine turtles in Lakshadweep

The Wildlife Institute of India conducted a detailed survey of sea turtles in the Lakshadweep islands

during July 2002 to February 2002. To disseminate the information gathered and to develop a turtle conservation action plan in a participatory manner, the Wildlife Institute of India organised a workshop on “Sea Turtle Conservation and Management in Lakshadweep” at Kavaratti, Lakshadweep on February 9, 2002 in collaboration with the Department of Environment & Forests, Administration of the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. The one day workshop was attended by 48 participants from different governmental agencies and representatives from the NGOs of Lakshadweep. The workshop included sessions on the current situation and problems of sea turtles, involvement and action by other organisations in sea turtle conservation and assessment of conservation needs and action plan for Lakshadweep

Source: Basudev Tripathy, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. India.

Turtle Protection at Muthiyam beach, Kerala

The Kerala Forest Department has established a hatchery for the protection of olive ridley nests in Muthiyam beach, Malapuram District, Kerala. The Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), Malapuram and local Panchayat are also helping in the program, to educate the public with regard to turtle conservation. The main threats to marine turtles on this beach is egg depredation by jackals and feral animals. In 1999-2000, 2500 hatchlings were released, and in 2000-01, 2100 hatchlings were released.

Source: Vinod Kumar Damodar, Hon, Welfare Officer, Animal Welfare Board of India, Calicut

Conservation of marine turtles, Vizhinjam, Kerala

Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Vizhinjam, has been carrying out a study on marine turtles in Vizhinjam and nearby areas of Trivandrum from 1996. The study has surveyed nesting on the Trivandrum coast and accidental catch of marine turtles in different gears. Four species of turtle have been reported, including Olive ridleys, Hawksbill turtles, Green turtles and Leatherback turtles.

Source: Dr. S. Krishna Pillai, Principal Scientist, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Vizhinjam, Kerala. India.