

# Karuna

[A monthly newsletter about the activities of Acton for Protection of Wild Animals (APOWA)]

## From APOWA Team:

Our organization has been going from strength to strength in the field of animal welfare and environment. APOWA have been alleviating fear, pain and suffering in countless animals' lives, and defended the laws that protect them.

APOWA carries out all of these programmes with the collective hard work of its highly skilled and dedicated workforce. Today, some highly motivated and skilled volunteers under APOWA's fold are working in the remote villages, immersing themselves directly with target communities. We are glad that many new people are entering to our team. APOWA believes that more people join in this field, we could save more animals and protect environment. This broad base of support makes it possible for APOWA to achieve lasting solutions to pressing animal welfare and conservation challenges-solutions that benefit both animals and communities. Over the years, our approach has been as varied as the species we protect. The work is difficult, thankless and depressing. Therefore activists are some of the most strongest, ambitious and determined individuals who never lose a battle.

We have sufficient number volunteers, but we always need of funds as it is largely dependent on local donations from animal lovers, community & valuable supporters. Even a small contribution will make a difference to the life of the destitute animals and protection of environment.

Many thanks and regards,

**APOWA Team, Orissa**

## Rescue of Animals in Distress

As usual 'animal rescue team' was busy with rescue and treatment of animals in distress with help from commu-



nity. APOWA rescue team received a total of 24 calls and rescued animals which included 7 stray cattle, 9 dogs, 7 cats and 1 monkey in the month of May. All of the animals were treated in the spot out of which 18 animals shifted to our rescue centre for rehabilitation.

Apart from that a mega animal treatment camp was organized at Dimiripal village on 16th May 2010. There were 248 animals (both stray and domestic) treated in the camp. The camp was coordinated by the vet doctors and rescue team of APOWA. All the medicines, feeds and vaccines were supplied by APOWA in free of cost.

*(animal treatment camp for animals)*

## Olive Ridley Sea Turtle Conservation Programme

APOWA has been continued to save, protect and help conserve the endangered species and their habitat. Our objective is to involve the community by creating awareness of the necessity for sea turtle conservation.



*(Hatchlings enter the sea )*

The Olive Ridley Sea Turtle, which nests along the Orissa coast, is highly endangered today. This sea turtle is especially known for its mass nesting when several thousand turtles migrate to the breeding ground to nest .

The programme has been protect the nesting sites from disturbances during nesting, clear it of litter, protect nests from predation, and spread awareness among the coastal community. The most important component in this initiative is the involvement of fishermen community as conservationists and appointed them as turtle guards, which was help the project and mission for the long run. The protection of the nesting beach as well as sea turtle eggs and hatchlings are

priority for saving the Olive Ridley sea turtles along the sites. The demand based awareness, education and training programme was help; improve the target groups achievement motivation and knowledge of sea turtle conservation.

### **A) Patrolling of Nesting Site:**

The patrolling and monitoring of nests, turtles and hatchling has been done by turtle guards at the each site on around the clock wise. Six turtle guards along with volunteers are protecting the turtles during the ongoing turtle season.

### **B) Hatchlings:**

The hatchlings usually emerge from the nest at night, and in large groups, so that they can overwhelm predators. Predators include feral dogs, jackals, wild boars, birds and fish once the hatchling reach the sea. But, our turtle guards were taking care of this problem with the appropriate measurers. Till now, nearly 10000 baby turtles have been safely released back into the sea.



*(A visitor looks at the poster of APOWA presented at the international symposium )*

It is noted that, APOWA has participated and presented a poster on “The recovery of nesting habitat: Conservation challenges for the Olive ridley sea turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) along the Orissa coast in the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual International Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation during April 29-30, 2010 at Goa, India. More than 800 delegates from all round the world has participated the symposium.

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