

# Karuna

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

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## From the President's Desk:

Caring animals with all protection having given to them opens of the starting point of the big race we have been in. APOWA is committed to reaching all of the animals suffering the most in the rural villages. We determined to make sure that these animals have a better life now through free treatment; food, shelter and cruelty free a happier future. In the vast majority of places where we work, veterinary care is easily not available for the large number of animals.

We have been closely associated with school students and there we have forming Karuna clubs and promote humane education. APOWA targets the future inheritors of this society and tomorrow's planners and administrators. This is doubtless, a proven attempt, a platform to promote vegetarianism and non-violence. Humanity cannot be without vegetarianism and non-violence. This is no exaggeration, but this is our perception they experimented.

Best regards,

Bijaya Kumar Rout, President, Action for Protection Of Wild Animals

## Rescue of Animals in Distress

Animal rescue is one of the most important parts of our work; since this is what we really stand for-rescuing any animal in distress. Whenever we find injured, sick or wounded animals, we treat and rescued that animals. In several cases we take it to our rescue home to rehabilitate. The rescue animals from operational are bring to shelter for the proper care and rehabilitation. The animal help service is provided day and night – 24 hours a day. APOWA is at animal welfare service all the time. In the month of February, we have been rescued 21 animals in distress.

1) Stray Cattle- 05 , 2) Stray Dog– 09 , 3) Cat– 06, 4) Owl– 01

**Some Pictures of Rescued Animals by our Team:**



## Olive Ridley Sea Turtle Conservation Programme

We are focusing on species that have endangered today. Their ecosystems or habitat as a whole are a crucial component of our conservation strategy. The Olive Ridley Sea Turtle, which nests along the Orissa coast, is highly endangered today. Today, their numbers show tremendous reductions such that all species have been assigned status ranging from threatened to critically endangered by the red list data of The World Conservation Union (IUCN). Challenges that these turtles face disturbances from human activities such as pollution, fishing and incidental capture, and habitat loss. The Olive Ridley is indeed affected by all of these stresses, in particular, the loss of nesting habitat.

### **APOWA's Action:**

#### **a)Nest Protection:**

A large part of this initiative is devoted to direct protection of the turtles and their nests. The casual workers from the sea side villages have been appointed as Turtle Guard for 24x7 Nest & turtle protection. They have been protecting the turtles and their nests from feral dogs, jackals, wild boar and other wild and domestic animals and human poachers.



*(Volunteers patrol a beach to protect nesting turtles and their nests )*

#### **b) Community Awareness, Education Program:**

A major focus of the sea turtle conservation programme is involving broadly based community awareness campaign and awareness about the need to protect the endangered olive ridley turtles. The community awareness campaign's objective is to begin the difficult process of changing community perceptions and attitudes towards turtles. Community led conservation of sea turtles and their habitat will ensure their partnership and sustain their association.

### **Please Support us:**

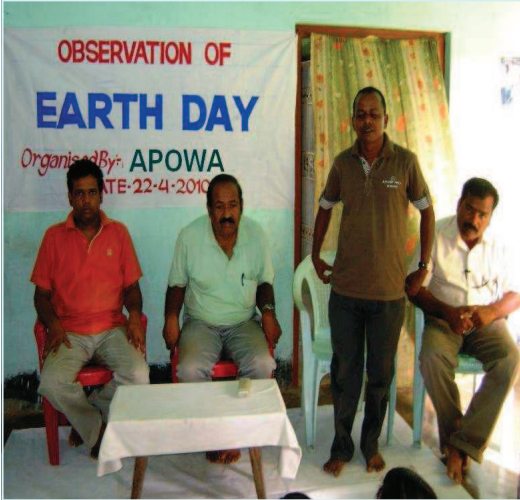
APOWA seeks the support from organizations and individuals who wish to join their hands with APOWA to continue its community based sea turtle and their habitat conservation programmes in Orissa. All the species of the world's marine turtles are threatened and this is why even small actions are important as a cog-in-the-wheel in the efforts to conserve marine chelonians.

### **Oil spill threatens turtles in Rushikullya rookery, Orissa**

The oil leaked from a ship M V Malavika after it hit the berth on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at Gopalpur port, Orissa and threatened the marine species especially endangered olive ridley sea turtles, which more than 2 lakhs of turtles had nested last month at Rushikullya sea turtle rookery, Orissa . The oil spill always danger for turtles and their eggs, which are present now in the Orissa waters lead to danger. Our team has been strict vigil on the situation and monitors the sites and collect the data on the impact of oil spill on marine species.

## Observation of EARTH Day 2010

Action for Protection of Wild Animals (APOWA) has celebrated the Earth Day – 2010 with the active involvement of School Community. Celebrating Earth day with the student community is an effort by APOWA to promote comprehensive environmental activities and also to build-up student's interest in participating similar environmental activities. The organization has encouraged young students to become active participants in the Preservation of Earth's natural resources.



Eco club students of various schools were assemble in the morning with the strong belief that it's high time to get together to protect our earth and its resources. They attended with great enthusiasm and display to inspire an awareness and appreciation for the Earth to protect plants and animals and other natural resources in their surroundings. A group of students presented a beautiful song on our mother 'Earth' and followed by an enriching passage read by Ambuja Kundu of USAK High school reminded the students to keep the earth clean and preserve the harmony in nature. Number of activities were also conducted to honour the beautiful planet 'Earth'. Some

students made paper bags from old newspapers. Paintings were presented by the students giving the message of Saving Environment and Saving Earth.

Mr. Bijaya Kumar Kabi, Director, APOWA rendered a welcome and introductory talk in the assembly to welcome all the dignitaries and participants in the second session of the programme. During the ceremony, Dr. M. Patnaik, Forest Range officer, Rajnagar Mangrove Division attended as the chief resource person and addressed the participants and informed them about the importance of Mother Earth. He suggested that scientific community as well as environmentalists and the groups working for protection of environment should work together for the goal. Among others, Mr. Manoj Kumar Satapathy, Eco guide teacher, USAK was participated as resource person. In his talked, he expressed the role of students and community in preservation and conservation of Earth. Apart from that, Mr. Mahanta Kumar Mallick, Forester, Rajnagar Mangrove Division addressed to the participants on this occasion. Overall, it was learning and a fruitful experience for the participants.



( a beautiful painting prepared by a participant)

### Donation In-kind:

We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to Worldwide Veterinary Services (WVS) for provided deworming medicines for cattle to APOWA.

### Training, Workshop Attended by APOWA Team members

APOWA Director Mr. Bijaya Kumar Kabi has participated the 30th Annual International Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation during April 24 to April 29, 2010 at Goa, India. He gave presentation on "The recovery of nesting habitat: Conservation challenges for the Olive ridley sea turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) along the Orissa.

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