



Report on Safeguarding Natural Heritage through Education, Awareness and Network Building among Teachers



Submitted By

Wildlife Institute of India-Category 2 Centre for World Natural Heritage Management & Training for Asia and The Pacific Region under the Auspices of UNESCO at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

29th October, 2023

Introduction

The WII-Category 2 Centre organized a one-day teachers training workshop on October 29, 2023, aimed at educating and building the capacity of teachers located around Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur, Rajasthan. The program focused on enlightening educators about the significance of World Heritage Sites and the key role teachers play in conserving these natural treasures. With the participation of about 25 teachers from diverse schools, the workshop encompassed various sessions and practical engagements, outlined as follows.

Inaugural Session

Dr. Bhumesh Singh Bhadaouria, Technical Officer at WII-C2C, addressed the workshop. He commenced by introducing the WII-C2C and providing fundamental insights into the importance of World Heritage Sites. Dr. Bhumesh clarified the essence of these sites, highlighting their cultural, historical, and environmental significance. His introductory session set the stage for the subsequent discussions.

Presentation by Sh Anuranjan Roy on Teacher's Role in Conservation

Anuranjan Roy took the stage to engage with the teachers. Through an interactive presentation, he emphasized the critical role teachers play in conserving natural World Heritage Sites. Anuranjan illustrated this through multimedia, showcasing the responsibilities and impact teachers have in preserving such sites. Moreover, he provided supplementary study materials and resources to assist the teachers in incorporating conservation aspects into their educational practices.

Movie Screening on Keoladeo National Park:

A crucial addition to the workshop was the screening of a documentary/ movie focusing on Keoladeo National Park. This visual medium provided a captivating portrayal of the park's history, biodiversity, and its significance as a World Heritage Site. The movie offered a deeper understanding of the park's ecosystem, engaging the teachers in a visual journey through its natural wonders.

On-Site Visit within the Park:

Following the presentations, all participating teachers embarked on a guided tour within Keoladeo National Park. During this excursion, the Deputy Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Sh. Manas Singh, engaged with the teachers. He provided invaluable insights into the park's significance, expounded on biodiversity conservation, and highlighted strategies for preserving the park's ecosystem. This immersive experience within the park allowed the teachers to witness firsthand the park's diverse flora and fauna, further deepening their understanding of its ecological importance.





Closing Session

Sh. Manas Singh concluded the workshop with an informative and engaging session. He underscored the significance of Keoladeo National Park as a World Heritage Site (WHS), emphasizing its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and unique characteristics that merit its global recognition. Manas Singh delineated the distinct attributes that make Keoladeo NP a WHS, citing its role as a critical habitat for many avian species, especially during migratory seasons.

He also discussed the various threats and challenges faced by the park, including habitat loss, water scarcity and the impact of human activities. He stressed the urgent need for conservation efforts, highlighting the crucial role teachers can play in protecting the OUV of Keoladeo National Park. He urge the teachers to educate their students a deep appreciation for the park's unique ecological significance and the importance of preserving its natural heritage.

Dr Bhumesh Singh Bhadouria added specific ways in which teachers could contribute to safeguarding the park's OUV, such as integrating environmental education into their curriculum, organizing field trips to the park, encouraging student involvement in conservation projects, and promoting a culture of responsible and sustainable environmental practices within their schools and local communities. He reiterated the importance of collective action in safeguarding Keoladeo NP's unique characteristics for future generations.

This session not only motivated the teachers but also provided them with a clear roadmap on how they could actively contribute to the protection and preservation of Keoladeo NP's Outstanding Universal Value. At the end, Sh Manas Singh thanked all teachers again to participate in the workshop and concluded the session after field visit.



Annexure-I





Safeguarding Natural Heritage through Education, Awareness and Network Building among Teachers

27th October 2023

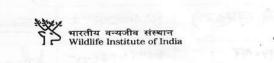
Venue: Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur (Rajasthan)

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Day-1: Sunday, 29 th October 2023				
10.30 - 11.00 am	Welcome and Introduction			
11.00 - 11.30 am	Role of Teachers in Heritage Conservation - Anuranjan Roy			
11.30 - 12.00 pm	Tea Break & Group Photo			
12.00 - 12.30 pm	Keoladeo NP WHS – Dr. Bhumesh Singh			
12.30 - 1.00 pm	Movie screening on Natural WHS in India - C2C Team			
01.00 - 1.30 pm	Discussion Q/A			
01.30 - 2.30 pm	Lunch			
02.30 - 4.00 pm	Park Visit			

Annexure-II

Attendance Sheet





SAFEGUARDING NATURAL HERITAGE THROUGH EDUCATION, AWARENESS AND NETWORK BUILDING AMONG TEACHERS OCTOBER 27TH, 2023

VENUE: KEOLADEO NATIONAL PARK, BHARATPUR (RAJASTHAN)

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