



भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान  
Wildlife Institute of India

**NATIONAL SPEARHEAD TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR GANGA PRAHARIS OF GANGA  
BASIN-II**

**Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2021**

**Venue: Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun**

Under the Wildlife Institute of India-National Mission for Clean Mission Ganga project 'Biodiversity Conservation Initiative Phase II, 6 days National Spearhead Training Programme for Ganga Praharis of Ganga Basin-II was conducted at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2021. The objective of the training was to train the spearhead team of Ganga Praharis-Guardians of the Ganga, who will lead the conservation activities in their respective areas specially conducting cleanliness and plantation drive, volunteering with State forest departments in population census of different aquatic species of Ganga River and mobilization of school children at their respective states. A total of 65 selected Ganga Praharis from Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh had participated in the workshop. These participants have been actively involved with the project as Ganga Praharis since 2017 hence; have been selected to be the spearheads along the main stem Ganga and its selected tributaries.

**Team Members**

Resource persons and WII team comprised of following persons: Dr. Ruchi Badola, Scientist G; Dr. S. A. Hussain, Scientist G; Dr. V. P. Uniyal, Scientist F; Dr. Bitapi Sinha, Scientist G; Dr. S.K Gupta; Scientist E; Dr. Rakesh Kumar Singh, Trustee and Scientific Advisor, Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment; Dr. Sangeeta Angom, Project Scientist & Training Coordinator; Ms. Hemlata Khanduri, Ecodevelopment Officer; Mr. SK Zeeshan Ali, Project Scientist; Dr. Anupam Srivastav, Subject Matter Specialist, NMCG- WII Project; Dr. Deepika Dogra, Project Associate; Mr. Goura Chandra Das, Project Associate; Ms. Aditi Dev, Project Fellow; Ms. Amanat Kaur Gill, Project Fellow; Ms. Suneeta Rawat, Community Officer; Ms. Monika Mehralu, Assistant Training Coordinator; Mr. Saurav Gawan, Conservation Biologist; Ms. Ms. Aishwarya Ramachandran, Project Fellow; Ms. Shuchismita Das, Project Fellow; Mr. Ashish Panda, Research Biologist; Ms. Sana Shaikh, Assistant Training Coordinator; Mr. Shreyas Khade, Extension Officer; Ms. Priti Kumari, Project Fellow; Mr. Aakash Mohan Rawat, Project Assistant; Ms. Preeti Shukla, Project Assistant; Ms. Simran Dogra, Project Intern

**Participants**

The workshop was attended by 65 Ganga Praharis from 6 Ganga Basin states viz. Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. Detail list of participants is provided in the Participants database.

**Day 1**

The day 1 started with the registration of participants. After this the participants were informed about the technical issues pertaining to biodiversity conservation activities were shared with the participants to enable them to lead and carry forward the Ganga conservation activities. The inaugural session started with welcoming all the participants to the training programme by Dr. Sangeeta Angom, Training coordinator and encouraged them to carry forward and continue the cleanliness and conservation activities in their respective states. After this the participants were asked to introduce themselves about their interest in association with WII as Ganga Praharis. Thereafter Dr. Ruchi Badola, PI & Nodal Officer, gave the brief overview about the roles and objective about the spearhead training workshop. Dr. Dhananjai Mohan, Director WII presented his inaugural address where he appreciated the efforts of all the Ganga Praharis for Ganga Biodiversity conservation and also motivated them to carry forward these activities at the Basin level. The inaugural session was concluded with the vote of thanks by Ms. Hemlata Khanduri.

Dr. Ruchi Badola gave an overview about the WII-NMCG Phase II- "Planning and Management for Aquatic Species Conservation and Maintenance of Ecosystem Services in the Ganga River Basin" where she informed about activities and progress conducted under the project. She highlighted the various activities that are been conducted by the Ganga Praharis at their respective sites. Thereafter the participants visited the Forensic lab and GIS lab. In the forensic lab the experts guided them on the identification and differentiation of poaching samples and fake samples of different species whereas in the GIS lab Mr. Zeeshan Ali and Ms. Aishwarya Ramachandran explained the participants about the methods of gathering segregated information from the field and also to identify the stretch which is more suitable for conservation, using GIS tools, by, Project Fellow. The day ended with the lecture on Rescue and rehabilitation techniques where Dr. Anupam Srivastav, Subject Matter Specialist explained about the rescues and rehabilitation Techniques of different species particularly in times of a distress and injury and also informed about the roles and responsibility of being a first responder.

## **Day 2**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> day started with the WII-nature trail visit where the participants were explained about the history of the lake and various species found in the trail. They also explained about the vegetation sampling techniques. Ms. Priti and Ms. Sakshi explained about the Bird identification techniques and Ms. Aishwarya Ramachandra explained about how the data is collected for the field. Thereafter, Mr. Goura Chandra Das gave a lecture on Dolphin of Ganga River Basin where he explained about the various dolphin species found in the world and also informed about the techniques that are used for the monitoring of the species. After this an activity session was conducted where the participants were divided state wise into teams and each team was asked to devise solutions to the problems identified by them during the Village Level Micro Planning exercise. Ms. Hemlata Khanduri, Dr. Deepika Dogra and Ms. Aditi Dev interacted with all the teams and guided them with reasonable solutions to achieve the desired conservation goals. After lunch the session continued where Dr. V.P. Uniyal, Scientist G delivered a lecture on the 'Insect as Bioindicators', which covered the significance of various insects including earthworms, beetles, spiders and so on for the balanced ecological system on the river basin. The last session for the day was on Turtle of Ganga River Basin where Mr. Saurav Gawan informed about the different species that are found in the Ganga River Basin. He also highlighted the importance of turtles in an ecosystem and explained the techniques of turtle handling, threats, solution and survey techniques.

### **Day 3**

The day 3 started with the field visit to Dehradun Zoon where Mr. Goura Chandra Das briefed the participants about the animals and birds present in the zoo, their habitat, environment and handling to protect and conserve them. After this the participants were taken to the HESCO-Himalayan Environment Studies and Conservation Organization where the participants were addressed by the Padma Bhushan Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi on conservation of water and biodiversity. He also emphasized the role of community and community leaders in conserving the environment. The day further proceeded with the participants visiting the Forest Research Institute of India, Dehradun. They visited the museums and were given detailed information about the Forest type of India and their management at Silviculture museum.

### **Day 4**

The fourth day of the training programme began on the banks of Ganga River at Ganga Avlokan, Chandi Ghat, Haridwar. The Ganga Praharis were briefed about the efforts taken by the Government and other stakeholders to rejuvenate Ganga River and its tributaries. After this, a Nukkad Natak was organized by the members of Sambhav Parivar Manch. Through play, the Ganga Praharis were informed the various issues such as pollution in Ganga River, ways to conserve and protect the biodiversity of Ganga River by the local communities.

### **Day 5**

On 4<sup>th</sup> day the participants visited the Asan Conservation Reserve where Mr. Goura Chandra Das briefed the Ganga Praharis about the wetlands, its importance, inter geographical importance of Migratory birds, water conservation and ecosystem services. He also explained some of the techniques used for water quality monitoring. After this a lecture on conservation education- a tool for eliciting public support was taken by Ms. Malvika Panday where she introduced the participants to various ways of outreaching and spreading awareness on conservation and protection of environment as well as Gangetic ecosystem with some interactive games. The last session of the day was on Environmental law by Dr. Rakesh Kumar Singh, Trustee and scientific advisor Legal institute for forest & environment. Dr. Singh gave a detailed overview of laws and regulations that are effective in India with regards to environment and forest. He further explained about the penalties of the offenders and legal rights of the citizens. He also stressed on the importance of awareness at grassroots level to protect and conserve the environment. The day concluded with the cultural programme where in the Ganga Praharis brought forward the different issues pertaining to cleanliness and conservation of biodiversity of the Ganga River through dance, songs and skits.

### **Day 6**

The sixth and final day of the training programme began with a lecture on Genetic sampling and sample collection with hands on experience on sample collection using economic tools by Dr. Sangeeta Angom. The last session of the day was taken by Ms. Hemlata Khanduri on understanding the process of village level Micro-planning followed by team building exercise. During the team building exercise the Ganga Praharis were asked to identify the problems in their villages and discussed on the sustainable solutions associated with cleanliness and conservation of biodiversity of the Ganga River and its tributaries. To mark the celebration of Swachhta Pakhwada, the Ganga Praharis and NMCG-WII team took a Swachhta pledge to conserve water and making the environment pollution free. The 6 day National level training workshop for Spearhead team of Ganga Praharis-II was concluded with the valedictory ceremony during which Dr. S.A Hussain, Dr. Ruchi Badola, Dr. Sangeeta Angom, Ms. Hemlata Khanduri and Dr. Deepika Dogra encouraged and

motivated the participants to continue their remarkable work towards the conservation of Ganga River and its tributaries. The programme concluded with the distribution of certificate and experience sharing by selected Ganga Praharis from the six Ganga basin states.

#### PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE		
NATIONAL SPEARHEAD TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR GANGA PRAHARIS OF GANGA BASIN-II 16 <sup>TH</sup> TO 21 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2021		
TIME	SESSIONS	NMCG-WII & RESOURCE PERSON
Day 1 16 <sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021 INAUGURAL SESSION		
0930-1030	Registration and Pre-training Assessment	Ms. Sana Shaikh, Mr. Akash Mohan Rawat, Ms. Simran Dogra, Mr. Rahul Gupta
1030-1040	Welcome Address	Dr. Sangeeta Angom, Training Coordinator, NMCG-WII Project
1040-1050	Role and objective of the workshop and spearhead training	Dr. Ruchi Badola, Scientist G & PI, NMCG-WII Project
1050-1100	Inaugural Address	Dr. Dhananjay Mohan, Director, WII
1100-1105	Vote of Thanks	Mrs. Hemlata Khanduri, Eco development Officer, NMCG- WII Project
1105-1130	GROUP PHOTOGRAPH AND HIGH TEA	
TECHNICAL SESSION I		
1130-1230	Overview of WII-NMCG Project Phase II- "Planning and Management for Aquatic Species Conservation and Maintenance of Ecosystem Services in the Ganga River Basin"	Dr. Ruchi Badola, Scientist G & PI
1230-1330	Community mobilization and role of Ganga Praharis in Ganga Conservation	Dr. Deepika Dogra, Project Associate, NMCG- WII Project
1330-1430	LUNCH	
TECHNICAL SESSION II		
1430-1630	Forensic Lab	Dr. S.K. Gupta, Scientist E, WII
	GIS Lab visit	Mr. S.K. Zeeshan Ali, Project Scientist, NMCG-WII Ganga Project
1630-1700	TEA	
1700-1800	Rescue and rehabilitation techniques	Dr. Anupam Srivastav, Subject Matter Specialist, NMCG- WII Project
Day 2 17 <sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021		

0630-0830	WII-Nature Trail	Ms. Aishwarya Ramachandran, Ms. Sakshi, Ms. Preeti, Ms. Suchismita Das Mr. Akash Mohan Rawat Mr. Shreyas Khade
TECHNICAL SESSION III		
1000-1100	Understanding the process of	Dr. A.K. Bhardwaj, Senior
	Microplanning	Professional Fellow, WII
1100-1130	TEA	
1130-1230	Dolphin of Ganga River Basin	Mr. Goura Chandra Das, Project Associate, NMCG-WII Ganga Project
1230-1330	Group Activity: Problem and Solution Tree Analysis	Dr. Ruchi Badola, Ms. Hemlata Khanduri, Dr. Deepika Dogra, Ms. Aditi Dev
1330-1430	LUNCH	
	TECHNICAL SESSION IV	
1430-1530	Invertebrates as bio-indicator for ecological monitoring	Dr. V. P. Uniyal, Scientist G, WII
1530-1600	TEA	
1600-1700	Turtles of Ganga River Basin	Mr. Saurav Gawan, Conservation Biologist, NMCG-WII Ganga Project
1700 onwards	Group activity continued	
1830	TEA	
Day 3 18 <sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021 TECHNICAL SESSION V: FIELD VISITS		
0800 - 1200	Dehradun Zoo	Mr. Goura Chandra Das, Project Associate, Mr. Ashish Panda, Research Biologist, Mr. Akash Mohan Rawat
1200-1230	TEA	
1230-1330	HESCO Visit	Mr. Goura Chandra Das, Project Associate, Mr. Ashish Panda, Research Biologist, Mr. Akash Mohan Rawat
1330-1430	LUNCH at HESCO	
1500-1730	Interaction at FRI	Mr. Goura Chandra Das, Project Associate, Mr. Ashish Panda, Research Biologist, Mr. Akash Mohan Rawat
1730 onwards	Town visit	Mr. Goura Chandra Das, Project Associate, Mr. Ashish Panda, Research Biologist, Mr. Akash Mohan Rawat

Day 4 19 <sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021 TECHNICAL SESSION VI		
0830 onwards	Field Visit to Ganga Avlokan	Mr. Akash Mohan Rawat, Ms. Preeti Shukla, Ganga Praharis
1330-1430	LUNCH AT GANGA AVLOKAN	
1430-1500	Nukkad Natak	Sambhav Parivar Manch
1500-1530	TEA	
1600	Back to WII	
1800 onwards	Practice session for cultural programme	
Day 5 20 <sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021		
0800 onwards	Field visit to Asan Conservation Reserve (Monitoring of Birds)	Mr.Goura Chandra Das, Project Associate, Mr. Aakash Mohan Rawat, Ms. Suchismita Das, Project Fellow
1330-1430	LUNCH AT WII	
TECHNICAL SESSION VII		
1430-1530	Conservation Education: A tool for eliciting public support	Dr. Bitapi C. Sinha, Scientist G, WII
1530-1600	TEA	
1600-1700	Environmental Law	Dr. Rakesh Kumar Singh, Trustee and Scientific Advisor , Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment
1730 onwards	Cultural Evening followed by dinner	
Day 6 21 <sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021		
1000-1100	Genetics sampling and sample collection	Dr. Sangeeta Angom, Training Coordinator, NMCG-WII Phase II
1100-1130	TEA	
1130-1330	Team Building Exercise	Ms. Hemlata Khanduri, Dr. Deepika Dogra, Ms. Amant K Gill, Ms. Aditi Dev, Ms. Monika Mehralu
1330-1430	LUNCH	
VALEDICTORY FUNCTION		
1500-1510	Welcome Address	Dr. Ruchi Badola
1510-1530	Training Report	Dr. Sangeeta Angom
1530-1600	Interaction and experience by the Ganga Prahari	One representative from each state
1600-1645	Certificate Distribution	Dr. Dhananjai Mohan, Dr. Ruchi Badola, Dr. S.A. Hussain, Dr. Sangeeta Angom
1645-1700	Valedictory Address (Online)	Shri. Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General, NMCG
1700-1710	Address	Dr. Dhananjai Mohan, Director, WII
1710-1715	Vote of Thanks	Dr. Deepika Dogra
1715-1745	Post training assessment	WII-NMCG team

## PHOTO GALLERY



**A. Registration of Participants**



**B. Welcome Address by Dr. Sangeeta Angom, Training Coordinator**



**C. Briefing the objective of the workshop**





**D. Inaugural Address by Dr. Dhananjai Mohan, Director, WII**



**E. Vote of Thanks by Dr. Hemlata Khanduri**



**F. Group Photograph**





**G. GIZ lab Visit**



**H. Lecture on Rescue and Rehabilitation by Dr. Anupam Shrivastav**



**I. Lecture on Turtles of Ganga River Basin by Mr. Saurav Gawan**



**J. Lecture on Dolphin of Ganga River Basin by Mr. Goura Chandra Das**



**K. Lecture on Invertebrates as bio-indicator for ecological monitoring by Dr. V.P Uniyal**



**L. Dehradun Zoo Visit**





**M. Interaction with Padma Bhushan Dr. Anil Prakash Joshi**



**N. Visit to FRI Museum**



**O. Visit to Ganga Avlokan, Chandi Ghat, Haridwar**



**P. Visit to Asan Conservation Reserve**



**R. Lecture on Conservation Education & Nature Interpretation**



**S. Lecture on Environmental Law by Dr. Rakesh Kumar Singh**





**T. Cultural Event**



**U. Lecture on Genetics sampling and sample collection by Dr. Sangeeta Angom**



**V. Lecture on Village level Micro-planning by Ms. Hemlata Khanduri**



**X. Team building exercise**



**Y. Certificate Distribution**