



## Site Status Report: Satchari National Park

Satchari National Park, the newest among the 17 Protected Areas of the country, has been established to preserve the remaining natural hill forest of Raghunandan Hill Reserve Forest. The word "Satchari" means "seven streams" and refers to the streams that flow through the forest. Its beauty and proximity to Dhaka gives it high potential for nature tourism, and particularly for those that love birdwatching.

The most notable event for Satchari is its notification National Park in 2005 under the Wildlife (Preservation) Order, 1973. In recent months, focus of efforts have been on mobilizing council and committee as governing bodies to support conservation. In addition, progress continued on expansion of AIG.

### Progress Since November 05

- Range and Beat Officers received orientation training on Nishorgo Program. During the training sessions, the Officers drafted their own Code of Conducts.
- The 4th Co-management Council meeting took place and 19 members Co-management committee has formed.



Cattle Rearing - Training

- To raise awareness amongst the younger generation, two Nishorgo Clubs were formed. Inter club cricket match took place which more than 500 youths and local people enjoyed the NSP organized match.

NSP arranged an art competition for school children to observe the Victory Day at SNP where 85 children participated. A Quotation Exhibition on forest and biodiversity conservation was also organized at the competition venue.

School awareness program at Shatong bazar, and Agrani High school under Deorgach and Paikpara union where around 500 students including teachers were present.

- Beneficiaries training on Homestead Gardening, Nursery Development, Pisciculture and Cattle rearing are continuing in which 43 members participated. More and more stakeholders are joining.
- NSP arranged Peoples theatre show for motivation and awareness raising on stopping illegal felling and eco-tourism where approximately 2 thousand people watched the drama. 12 people received People's Theatre training and 10 people received Folk Songs Training for community mobilization.

Two Eco-tour guides traveled to Dhaka to meet the private tour operators at a meeting jointly hosted by Parjatan Corporation. Later they joined the workshop arranged by 'Sylhet Division Tourism Development Forum'.

### Satchari National Park: At a Glance

- **Forest Type:** Tropical evergreen and semi-evergreen forest
- **Area:** 243 ha.
- **Flora & Fauna:** Its rich biodiversity includes 24 species of mammals of which 6 species of primates, 220 species of birds, 6 species of amphibians; 18 species of reptiles; and 167 species of plants.
- **Flagship Species:** Hoolock Gibbon, Monkeys Capped Langur, Wild boar, Fishing Tiger, Deer, Jungle Fowl and many birds.
- **Location:** Satchari National Park is located approximately 130-140 km northeast of Dhaka and 60 km southwest of Srimonglal, just off the N2 Dhaka Sylhet Road.
- **Settlement:** Tripura ethnic community people live inside the forest having 24 households.
- **Accessibility & Visitor Infrastructure:** Located by the side of paved road, easily accessible. By road or rail it takes approximately 2-3 hours to reach Shayestagonj. From there it is 40 minutes drive to Lawachara. 1 Forest Rest house exists inside SNP.

- 20 users group (representing 273 households) formed and linked with forest protection.
- Demonstration funds have been distributed for establishing homestead gardening, nursery development and cow rearing activities.
- To raise awareness on national level, a tour to Satchuri National Park was arranged for a group women opinion leaders.
- New Site Facilitator Mr. Joydip Roy joined the team.

### Planned Activities

The major Key activities for the next quarter will be:

- Rapid expansion of AIG activities for key stakeholders in pig rearing, pisciculture and homestead gardening.
- Expansion of household improved stoves.
- Initiation of elephant ride enterprise activities and related nature tourism small enterprises.
- 10 FSP user groups will be linked with NSP activities.
- Expansion of Nishorgo Clubs by three and link to Scouts.

### Impact from NSP's Intervention

#### i. Illegal Felling:

Evidence indicates that illegal felling and fuel wood removal from Satchuri core natural forest has reduced considerably. NSP has established longer term indicators of change that are being remeasured in March/April to verify success of conservation activities.

#### ii. Income Generation Activities in Locality:

Relevant IGA	Participants Trained/ Oriented			Participants doing AIGA			NSP demonstration fund allocated		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Eco-Guiding	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nursery	2	3	5	2	1	3	8,000	12,000	20,000
Fish Culture	4	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Milk Cow & Beef Fattening	0	12	12	0	12	12	0	60,000	60,000
Home Gardening/Vegetable Gardening	2	14	16	2	10	12	4,000	28,000	32,000

Group Formed: 20(Female- 16 Male- 4)  
Total Person: 273



Fish Culture Training

#### People Level Impact: Roish Miah

Roish Miah was a poor villager. He earned his livelihood from illegal tree felling at Satchuri National Park. The Field Organizers of Nishorgo Support Project visited him several times. After various sessions of discussion and motivation, Roish Miah joined the Rotonpur male group and received training in home gardening. NSP also provided demonstration input as grants such as vegetable seeds and organic fertilizers. With his newly acquired skill and inputs from NSP, Roish Miah cultivated cabbage, radish, long yard been, lalshak, and carrots. All of them except the long yard been produced high yield. He sold many of his vegetables and retained some for his family. He not only benefited economically but also his family can now have the nutrition they required. The villagers got inspired for home gardening when they saw the positive change at Roish Miah's family. Mr. Roish Miah now realizes the importance of the Protected Areas for sustainable future for his kids. Roish Miah is now working hard to make his plot ready for vegetable gardening in large scale for the coming summer.



Roish Miah

