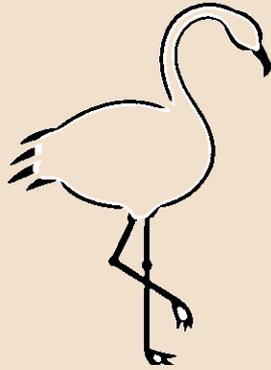


JALTARANG, 2015

8TH CONSECUTIVE WORLD WETLANDS DAY COMMEMORATION BY TERI

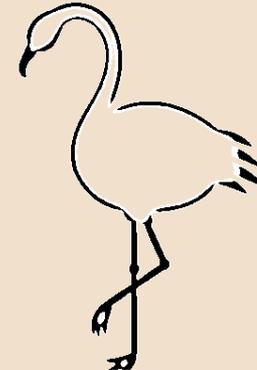


'FLAMINGO WALK'

Organized on February 2nd, 2015

at

Club House, Seawoods Estate, Seawoods, Navi Mumbai



Participation:

Members of Rotary Club of Bombay

Organised by:-



Convention partners:-



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS

(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

Jaltarang 2015: Flamingo Walk

Background:

- Navi Mumbai having a long coastline, is blessed with variety of rich wetland ecosystems including mangroves, swamps, dams, holding ponds, creeks, mudflats, Paddy fields and salt pans which co-exist with this unique urban area.
- However, the ecological and functional significance of these wetlands is yet to be fully understood.
- Additionally, the impact of industrialization and rapid urbanization is already posing a great threat to these fragile ecosystems.
- For the past 8 years, TERI's WRC (Western Regional Centre) has been actively focusing on creating awareness amongst diverse stakeholders and citizens of the area.

Flamingo Walk: Trail Map

Flamingo Walk: Sagar Vihar, Vashi, Navi Mumbai
19° 4'32.17"N, 72°59'3.22"E

Mumbai

Navi Mumbai

Nerul Dutch dykes (Holding Pond)
19° 1'33.08"N, 73° 0'31.83"E

Venue: NRI Complex, Seawood Estate
19° 0'15.48"N, 73° 0'56.99"E



Objectives

For years, the Greater and Lesser Flamingos have been migrating to MMR (Mumbai Metropolitan Region) including Thane, Mumbai and Navi Mumbai due to presence of vital coastal habitats . Thus keeping this theme in mind, a Flamingo walk was organized with the following objectives:

- To sensitize the citizens of Mumbai about the significance of wetlands especially in an urban context.
- To showcase and explain significance of manmade wetlands like Holding ponds of Navi Mumbai.
- To explain the wetland habitats and its associated biodiversity and the subsequent dependence of migratory birds such as the flamingos.

Participants

- Chief Guest

- Shri. Ravi B. Budhiraja (I.A.S),

Chairman, Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority, GoM

- Guest Of Honours

- Smt. Chitkala Zutshi (I.A.S),

Member Economy, Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority, GoM,

- Brigadier A. S. Adhikari,

Member Secretary Governing council, Training Ship Rahman

- Special Invitees

- Lt. Cdr. Daniel Brian Tauro, Indian Naval Academy, Kerala

- Participants

- A group of more than 60 esteemed members from Rotary Club of Bombay representing various business fields lead by Dr. Sonya Mehta, President- Elect, Rotary Club of Bombay. A report has been uploaded about the event by the Rotary Club of Bombay in their bulletin “The Gateway” (<http://www.rotaryclubofbombay.org/Files/0702155124The%20%20Gateway%20February%2010%20to%2016.pdf>)

Program Outline

Inauguration of the program by hands of Chief Guest Shri. Ravi B. Budhiraja (I.A.S), *Chairman*, Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority, GoM

Speech by the Guest of Honor Smt. Chitkala Zutshi (I.A.S) *Member Economy*, Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority, GoM

Speech by the Guest of Honor Brigadier A. S. Adhikari, *Member Secretary Governing council*, Training Ship Rahman

Speech by Special Invitees Ms. Sonya Mehta, *President- Elect*, Rotary Club of Bombay

Speech by Special Invitees Lt. Cdr. Daniel Brian Tauro, Indian Naval Academy, Kerala

Presentation on Wetlands and their significances by Dr. Anjali Parasnis, *Associate Director*, TERI- WRC

Presentation on Flamingos by Mr. Yatish Lele, *Research Associate*, TERI- WRC

Screening of documentaries on Wetlands

High Tea

Field visit to Dutch dykes (Holding Pond) at Nerul

Field visit to Sagar Vihar, Vashi for Flamingo walk



Brigadier A S Adhikari

Shri. Ravi B. Budhiraja

Smt. Chitkala Zutshi

Dr. A

Chief Guest Shri Ravi Bhudiraja, Chairman, Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority, Government of Maharashtra, shared his experience on water tariff and water conservation. Further he also highlighted on the significance of creating awareness amongst masses on these issues.



Guest of Honor Smt. Chitkala Zutshi, Member Economy, Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority, Government of Maharashtra, made an appeal to work towards water conservation and river restoration through out the year as a collaborative effort and not to restrict it only on occasions.



Brigadier A S Adhikari



Shri. Ravi B. Budhiraja



Smt. Chitkala Zutshi

Guest of Honor Brigadier A. S. Adhikari, Member Secretary Governing council, Training Ship Rahman expressed his commitment towards wetland conservation and stated that he would initiate conservation activity of a heritage water storage tank at his facility at Training Ship Rahman at Uran.



Dr. Sonya Mehta, President- Elect, Rotary Club of Bombay highlighted on how water as a resource is important in each and every aspect of the environment and society and further extended her support to initiate a long term project to achieve this objective to benefit society at large.



Lft. Cdr. Daniel Tauro, Indian Naval Academy, Kerala talked about his recent association with TERI for usage of bio-diesel in marine applications. He emphasized the issue that ships are one of the major sources of marine pollution and people should be sensitized about this issue through conducting various awareness programs.



Dr. Anjali Parasnis, Associate Director, TERI- WRC introduced all the participant to the concept and types of wetlands along with their significances. She further detailed out the situation of wetlands in Mumbai region and the urgent need for their conservation to prevent future damages.



Mr. Yatish Lele, Research Associate, TERI- WRC familiarized all the participants about Flamingos by explaining about its habits, habitats, and so on. He emphasized on the dependence of these birds on wetlands and the need for conservation of the same.

Some features of the Flamingos explained to the participants



Significance of Holding Ponds

Some of the areas of Navi Mumbai are below the sea level and hence the city needs special protection from rising sea water during high tides coupled with monsoon flooding.

Navi Mumbai city lies below the sea level, and thus while developing the city CIDCO (City and Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd.) constructed about 12 holding ponds in Navi Mumbai (NMMC area) to prevent flooding which may arise due to the coupling effect of surface run off and pressure from high tide especially during monsoon season. The Holding ponds have been developed on the lines of the dyke systems constructed in Netherlands. These holding ponds have unidirectional flap gates which open towards the creek. During high tide the surface runoff gets accumulated in the holding pond as the flap gate gets closed automatically owing to increase in level of water. While during the low tide the gates open due to pressure from the water accumulated in the holding pond and gets released in the creek. This system prevents the city from getting flooded.

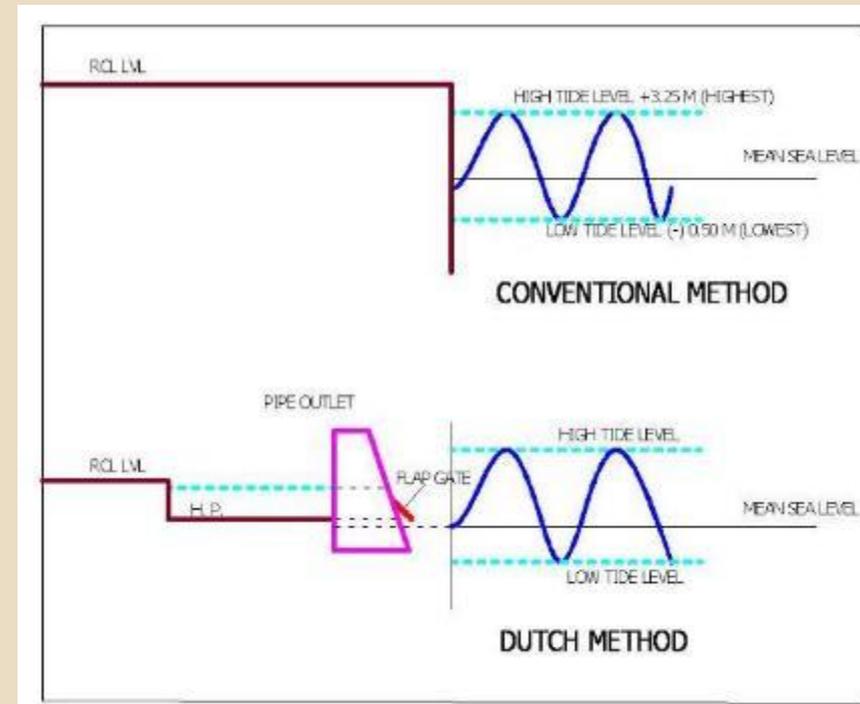


Diagram representing the Dutch method used for land reclamation in development of Navi Mumbai

Dutch dykes (Holding Ponds)

Participants were thrilled to observe the functioning of Holding Ponds



Mr. Chourey, explaining to the participants, the function and significance of Dykes in the city.

Photo taken at Nerul Lake, Palm Beach, Navi Mumbai.



The Dutch Dyke system. Which prevents flooding of Navi Mumbai city

Photo taken at Nerul Lake, Palm Beach, Navi Mumbai.



Participants observing Flamingos at Sagar Vihar, Vashi, Navi Mumbai.
Site visit organized as a part of the program

Flamingos & other migratory birds seen at mud flats of Navi Mumbai



Other birds observed during the site visit

Greater Egret



Pond Heron



Brown headed Gull



Gull billed tern



Participants enjoying the Flamingo Pose at Sagar Vihar, Vashi Navi Mumbai





Rotary participants and members of TERI team at the Flamingo Walk event organized on the occasion of World Wetlands Day February 2nd 2015

About TERI

With over four decades of experience in Research and Innovation, TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute) continues to strive towards achieving a sustainable future. Energy Environment and Sustainable development being the core areas of research, TERI is always driven by achieving global vision and outreach.

TERI has a strength of over 1000 employees representing diverse disciplines and highly specialized fields.

With the headquarters based in New Delhi, TERI has regional presence in Mumbai, Bangalore, Guwahati, Goa and the Himalayas. TERI has also set up international affiliate institutes at TERI-North America, Washington-DC, USA, and TERI Europe, London, UK – and also have a presence in Japan, Malaysia, and the UAE.

With the global agenda of sustainable development which could be translated into action, TERI continues to inspire and reach out to diverse stakeholders in and around the world.

For more information please visit our website: <http://www.teriin.org/>

WeMaP (Wetland Management Program)

In this era of exponential development, wetlands are under constant pressure. Encroachments, reclamation, release of domestic and industrial waste water, and municipal garbage are some of the major threats to these fragile ecosystems. Given the dwindling freshwater resources, it is essential that the available freshwater bodies be preserved. Considering the grim situation of these ecosystems, TERI launched the project titled WeMaP (Wetland Management Programme) in the year 2007. The WeMaP is based on three main pillars being research, policy intervention and awareness. Under the program TERI is also developing methodologies, through integration of wetland ecosystems, for water recycling and purification, especially for industrial operations.

Jaltarang

Wetlands are one of the most productive and important ecosystems having physical as well ecological significance. However the wetlands are often neglected and degraded for other short term benefits. In urban and peri-urban areas, the dumping of construction and demolition waste and reclamation of wetlands for new construction and development is a common practice. It is the lack of information and awareness about the role and services of that leads to destruction of wetlands.

Taking this into consideration TERI has been celebrating World Wetlands Day under the banner of 'Jaltarang' with an objective to sensitize diverse stakeholders including key decision makers, government officials, environmentalists, researchers, educational institutions, industrialists, citizens' media and so on about the significance and importance of wetlands. In the past seven years Jaltarang event has tried to reach out to diverse stakeholders ranging from senior level government officers to alert citizens to students.

TERI has been celebrating World Wetlands Day for the last seven consecutive years with an objective to bring the key decision makers, government officials, environmentalists, researchers, educational institutions, industrialists, citizens and the media on a common platform. A glimpse of the events organized under the banner of Jaltarang is given below:

Outreach of Jaltarang



2008 &
2009

- School Children

2010

- Government officials and School Children

2011

- Architecture Students

2012

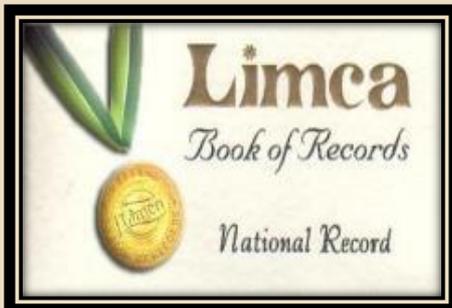
- Specially abled Children

2013

- Corporates and Beurocrats, GoM

2014

- Corporates



Thank you !!!!

