

Conservation of Some Natural Resources in Ganeshpuri, Thane Maharashtra, India



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Abstract

A survey of Ganeshpuri, Thane district in Maharashtra was conducted. It was found to be rich in flora and fauna. Many medicinal plants, flowers, birds, insects and animal species were observed. This paper deals with the study of observed species of birds, insects, plants and hot springs in the area. An overview of natural beauty of the place is depicted in this work. Conservation of the natural habitat is essential and needs immediate attention.

Keywords: Species of birds; Insects; Plants; Hot springs; Natural habitat; Leopard pug marks; Conservation

Introduction

Technology plays a pivotal role in today's world. Human living and lifestyle is going hand in hand with a techno-savvy trend. On extensive selection of some indispensable gadgets and management of them with availability of professional services ensures smooth running of tasks. Efficient time saving applications, advantageous connectivity has created conditions ideal for communication. But at this point a mechanical state of living creeps within finding its way into our so-called lifestyle. And then we turn to environment. Making trips to beautiful places, trying to spend time with nature. A feeling of security is sensed as we witness the beautiful creations, colours and sounds of nature. Ganeshpuri is one such place where each step is blessed with beautiful nature around.

Ganeshpuri is a small village about 80km north of Mumbai. It is known for its hot springs and it is a famous tourist spot. It is also an abode of Swami Nityananda, the famous spiritual Indian Guru. Many foreign tourists are regular visitors at this place. Ahead of it lies the Vajreshwari temple which has an historical background.

Materials and Methods

Live species of insects, birds, flowers and medicinal plants are observed. Simple watching techniques accompanied with photography were employed. Utmost care was taken not to disturb the natural sanctity and the habitat of the living specimens

studied. Observations were done from early morning to midday for a period of seven days.

Observations

Leopard pug marks were seen at certain places. There were reported to the forest officers. A variety of plants, insects like butterflies, moths were observed. Different birds were spotted. Many people who visit the Bhagwan Nityananda Temple take bath in the tree hot springs which are located immediately near the temple. Each day nearly 700 people take a deep in these hot springs and the number goes to a thousand during holiday or vacation period (Figure 1-3, Table 1, Figure 4).

Discussion

Many devotees manage their way into the hot springs for a few hours depending on their stay at the spot. The extensive use of water for this purpose has to be monitored in order to maintain these natural hot springs which the devotees and tourists use with exceptional dedication. Developments to further enhance the flora and fauna must be pursued substantiated with a positive approach by the State Government. This will serve as a major catalyst in the expansion of the tourism business in Maharashtra. Conservation of the medicinal plants, some species of birds, insects and the hot springs around Ganeshpuri need immediate attention. The negligence of this place has resulted in many concrete structures coming up in the last five years. Violation of nature, disturbance and destruction of the natural habitat of many plants, insects and birds may devour Ganeshpuri of its natural resources [1-14].

Table 1: List of Identified Faunal Species.

Species	Common Name	Scientific Name
Butterflies	Angled Castor	<i>Ariadne ariadne</i>
	Glassy Tiger	<i>Parantica aglea</i>
	Common Palmfly	<i>Elymnias hypermnestra</i>
	Peacock Pansy	<i>Junonia almana</i>
	Gray Pansy	<i>Junonia atlites</i>
	Chocolate Pansy	<i>Junonia iphita</i>
	Red Pierrot	<i>Talicauda nyseus</i>
	Great Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i>
	Danaid Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas misippus</i>
	Common Mormon	<i>Papilio polytes</i>
	Common Gull	<i>Cepora nerissa</i>
	White Orange Tip	<i>Ixias marianne</i>
	Yellow Orange Tip	<i>Ixias pyrene</i>
	Common Emigrant	<i>Catopsilia pomona</i>
	Mottled Emigrant	<i>Catopsilia pyranthe</i>
	Spotless Grass	<i>Yellow Eurema</i>
	Common Grass	<i>Yellow Eurema</i>
	Common Jay	<i>Graphium doson</i>
	Tailed Jay	<i>Graphium agamemnon</i>
	Common Tiger	<i>Graphium sarpedon</i>
	Lime Butterfly	<i>Papilio demoleus</i>
	Blue Mormon	<i>Papilio polymnestor</i>
	Common Indian Crow	<i>Euploea core</i>
	Tawny coster	<i>Acraea terpsicore</i>
	Black rajah	<i>Charaxes solon</i>
	Grass jewel	<i>Freyeria putli</i>
	Spot Swordtail	<i>Pathysa nomius</i>
	Common baron	<i>Euthalia aconthea</i>
Dragonflies & Damselflies	Crimson tailed marsh hawk (male)	<i>Orthetrum pruinsum</i>
	Crimson marsh glider (male)	<i>Trithemis aurora</i>
	Blue skimmer	<i>Libellula vibrans</i>
	Yellow Waxtail Damselfly	<i>Ceriatrigon coromandelianum</i>
Other Insects	Praying mantis	<i>Mantodea</i>
	Leafhopper	<i>Cicadellidae</i>
	Grasshopper	<i>Caelifera</i>
	Planthopper	<i>Fulgoromorpha</i>
	Two tailed spider	<i>Hersilia savignyi</i>
	Tent web spider	<i>Cyrtophora citricola</i>
	Water Scorpion	<i>Nepidae</i>

Avifauna	Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
	Eagle	<i>Clanga hastata</i>
	Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
	Koyal (female)	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>
	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>
	Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
	Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
	Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>
	Hen and Cock	<i>Gallus gallus domesticus</i>
	Common drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
	Grey backed shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>
	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>
	Pond heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>
	Rock pigeon	<i>Columba livia domestica</i>
Reptiles & Amphibians	Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>
	Tree frog	<i>Polypedates leucomystax</i>
	Common skink	<i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i>



Figure 1: Natural Flora.



Figure 3: Pug Marks of Leopard.



Figure 4: Hot springs.

Conclusion

Ganeshpuri is a place with rich habitat of plants, birds and insects, which definitely needs to be thoroughly investigated and conservation of this natural habitat is essential. The present research work is concluded with the mission statement to provide devotees, tourists and the visitors with rich pure offerings of nature in Ganeshpuri, Thane in the state of Maharashtra.

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