



# WIZNEWS

MARCH 2024

THE WISDOM NEWSLETTER

03/2024





# PRATEETI 2024

## GRADUATION DAY

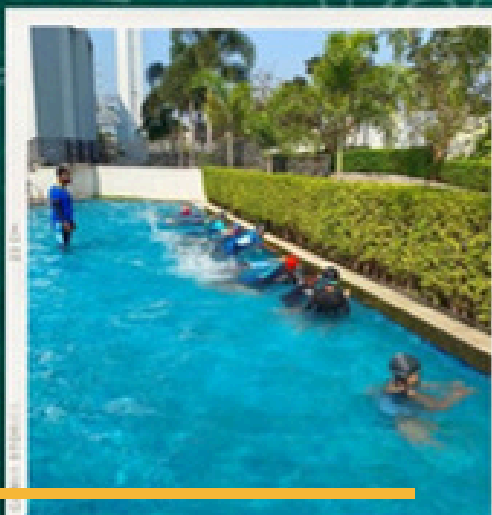
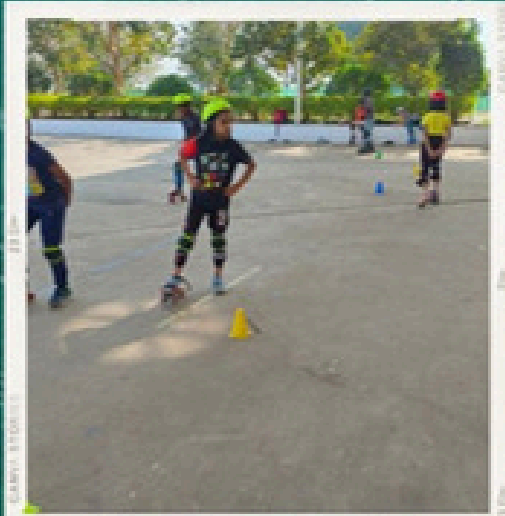
The joyous satisfaction of Graduation Day! The buzz and the excitement, the fulfilment of one phase, stepping on to the next. PRATEETI 2024, The DN Wisdom Tree Global School's Graduation Ceremony concluded the session with elan, to applause and smiles all around.





# BAGLESS<sup>®</sup> DAYS 2024

EXAMS DONE. IT'S TIME FOR FUN.  
BAGLESS DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!  
01 MARCH - 14 MARCH 2024

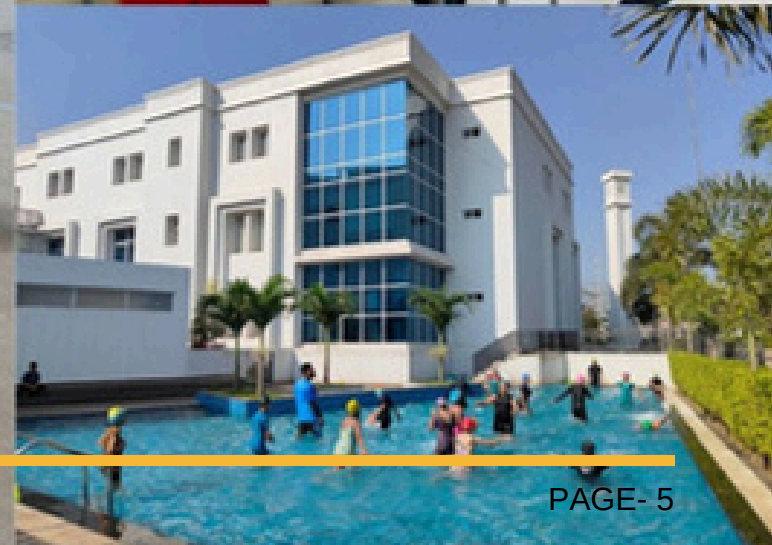


## From The Director-Principal's Desk

### Bagless Days

Debates on bags and backpacks are as old as learning. The jhola that the early kids of Gurukuls must have carried were equally in question. Where is the knowledge contained, in bags and jholas, or minds? Well, a lighter body can fly to greater heights. Knowledge is what we absorb from everything we encounter, our senses are the gateways to wisdom. So, we plan such days when they only carry themselves to school - with wide-open eyes, navigable minds, warm hearts and unabating zeal.

NEP has proposed. We have adopted. But, why we do this is a million-dollar question - for parents, teachers and students alike. Bagless days are carefully scheduled, well-planned, meticulously organised days of open learning. Through these days we let them explore learning in a more sensorial way, creating a positive environment of immersive experiences - of the sciences and the arts that they study in their regular, everyday classrooms. The lessons planned for bagless days are designed to integrate multiple disciplines in a way that helps children understand the holistic nature of education. Education is not merely having expertise in a particular subject, it is the understanding of life and the world through that lens of the subject. The subject is just a provocation, rest is the totality of the experience. Bagless days provide such opportunities for our young learners to get the flavour of true learning, pragmatic, experiential education.



A child will know science not by browsing pages alone but by experiencing the same while swimming in the pool. He or she will experience the buoyant force that will be calculated later in his or her exercise book, he or she will get the feel of fluidity which will no longer remain a mere word. When he or she is riding a horse, he or she will get the true knowledge of speed and acceleration and also touch the skin of the horse he or she must have read or seen as pictures in books.

So a bagless day is a mindful day for our children. My heart runs for such days to celebrate education in its truest form.

Dr. Rita Chatterjee  
Director-Principal  
The DN Wisdom Tree Global School



# SATURDAY STORY

After a busy morning of sports and games on Day 2 of the Bagless Days fortnight, youngsters of Grades 4, 5, 6 and 7 had a treat in store this Saturday afternoon. Our Vice Chairperson, Ms. Panchami Manoo Ukil introduced the children to acclaimed classical vocalist Vidushi Sunanda Patnaik rendering the famed devotional 'Jibana Patra Mo Bharicha Kete Mate'. The endearing response from children melted our hearts - we watched them fold their hands, close their eyes and sit still, listening in rapt attention. What could be more moving than this?

At The DN Wisdom Tree Global School, a school as unique as your child, each day has special moments, each day shines differently.



## Bagless Day 2

2nd March 2024



Saluting the Tall Man,  
standing tall forever.

Our loving tribute to  
the legend on his birth anniversary.  
He continues to inspire generations.

# BIJU PATNAIK

5 MARCH 1916 - 17 APRIL 1997





# Wednesday Whirl

## Bagless Days

6th March 2024

Having had their fill of outdoor sports and indoor games on Day 4 of the Bagless Days fortnight, our little people had a session on creating artworks from discarded cardboard boxes. Their surprise came just after - a special introduction to Van Gogh. Our Vice Chairperson, Ms. Panchami Manoo Ukil took the fifth, sixth and seventh graders through a unique experience - an immersive session on the life and works of the legendary artist Van Gogh. While children learnt briefly about his life and times, they also had the opportunity of getting to know his works in a whole new digital dimension of 3D projection. Children were in awe of the experience. The Bagless Days fortnight is replete with such memorable moments designed and presented by our Vice Chairperson, for raising the world view of our wards. Any wonder then that we say The DN Wisdom Tree Global School is a school as unique as your child?



# Vincent van Gogh

An Immersive Experience





# CONGRATULATIONS!



## ସମ୍ବାଦ

# ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ଯେନତାକ୍ ସିଲାଇଂରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାକୁ ୨୧ ପଦକ

ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର, ୧୧/୩ (ଓନିଆ): ଭୈରବ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ ମଠୁ ୧୦ ତାରିଖ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଖେଳାଳୀମାନଙ୍କର ଆତ୍ମସ୍ଥିତ ପଞ୍ଜମ ପୂର୍ବାଞ୍ଚଳ ଯେନତାକ୍ ବିଭାଗ ପ୍ରତିଯୋଗିତାରେ ଓଡ଼ିଶାକୁ ଆଖ୍ୟାତ ସଫଳତା ମିଳିଛି। ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାତ ନବ ବିଶେଷ ପାଠକାଳୟ, ଶ୍ରୀରାମ ସାହୁ ଓ ପ୍ରକାଶ ଚେନ୍ଦେରୀଙ୍କ ଚତୁରତାଧୀନରେ ୨୬ନାମିଆ ଚାଳ୍ୟ ତଳ ଏହି ପ୍ରତିଯୋଗିତାରେ ଆଉତୁରାଣ ଭଳି ୨୧ ପଦକ ମିଳିଛି। ଯେଉଁମଧ୍ୟରେ ଭୈରବି ୧୨ ପୁରୀ, ୫ ଭୈରବ ଓ ୪ ଚାମା ପଦକ। ପଦକ ବିତରଣ ଖେଳାଳୀମାନଙ୍କ ଉପରେ ଚାନ୍ଦିଆ ଦି, ଭୃଷ୍ଣାଳ ଚେନ୍ଦେରୀ, ସାନ୍ତାଲ ପ୍ରେମ ସାହୁ, ଅଧିକାର ପୁରୀ, ଆୟୁଷ ବନିଆରୀତ, କରୁଣା ପାତ୍ର, ଅପିଲ ଭାଣି, ଚର୍ଚ୍ଚିତା ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରପାଣି ପଲ, ସାତ ଅକ୍ ନିହାଦ୍ ସାହୁ, ଆଦୁର ଭୈରବୀ, ପୁରୀଶିଳ ଚନ୍ଦେରୀ, ପଦ୍ମା ବିଶ୍ୱାଳ (ସମସ୍ତେ ପୁରୀ), ରୁଦ୍ର ପ୍ରସାଦ ମିଶ୍ର, ବିଶ୍ୱ ପ୍ରକାଶ ଚାଳ୍ୟ, ଚେନ୍ଦେରୀ ଚାଳ୍ୟ ପଲ, ଯୋଗୀଶ୍ୱର ଚାଳ୍ୟ, ଭୈରବୀ ନାୟକ (ସମସ୍ତେ ଭୈରବୀ ପଦକ) ଓ ଶାମଳ ପାତ୍ର, ପ୍ରକାଶ ଚେନ୍ଦେରୀ, ଭୈରବ ନାୟକ, ବିଷ୍ଣୁ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ର ପ୍ରଧାନ (ସମସ୍ତେ ଚାମା ପଦକ)। ଖେଳାଳି ବିଶେଷତାକୁ ନେଇ, ଆୟୁଷେଷ ନାୟକ, ଅମରକାନ୍ତ ଦେ, ମୁଖ୍ୟ ବନିତ ଚେନ୍ଦେରୀ ଚାନ୍ଦିତ୍ୱ ଭୃଷ୍ଣାଳ ଚାଳ୍ୟ ପାଠି ଭୈରବ ଚାନ୍ଦିତ୍ୱ। ଏହି ସଫଳତା ଲାଭି ଖେଳାଳି ନିତ୍ୟା ଯେନତାକ୍



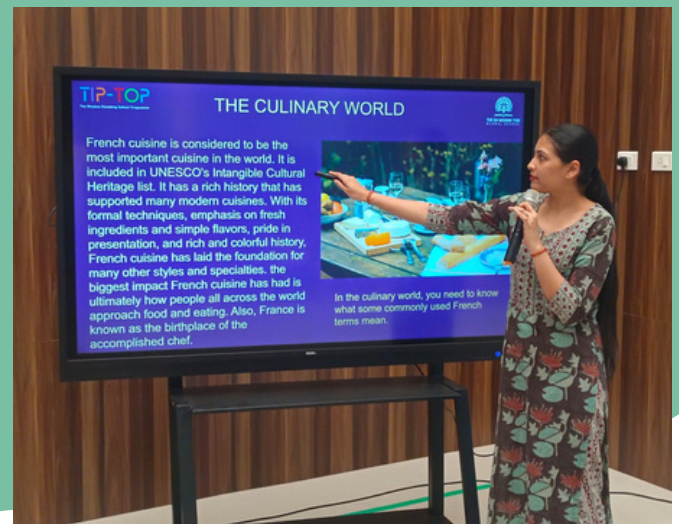
ବିଭାଗ ନିପାତ ସଫଳତା ସାଧନା ପ୍ରସାଦ୍ ଚାମା, ଆଖ୍ୟା ବନିତ ନାୟକ, ନିପାତ ବିଶେଷତାକୁ ନେଇ ଚାନ୍ଦିତ୍ୱ ଯେନତାକ୍ ବିଭାଗ ଆଦେଶି-ନାୟକ୍ ଅକ୍ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ମୁଖ୍ୟ ପ୍ରଶ୍ନାପାତକ ଚାନ୍ଦିତ୍ୱ ସାଧନା ପ୍ରସାଦ୍ ଚାମା, ସଫଳତା

ଚାମା କୁମାର ଚାନ୍ଦିତ୍ୱ, ଚେନ୍ଦେରୀ ନାୟକ, ଅଧିକାର ଭୈରବ, ଖାଲ୍ୟା ନିପାତ ପ୍ରେମ ଦିବ୍ୟ ଶାମା, ଚେନ୍ଦେରୀ କୁମାର ମୋତି ପ୍ରମୁଖ ପଦକ ବିତରଣ ଖେଳାଳିଙ୍କୁ ଅଭିନନ୍ଦନ ଜଣାଉଛି।

# WISDOM FINISHING SCHOOL PROGRAMME

It was season 4 of the Wisdom Finishing School Programme, at The DN Wisdom Tree Global School, a school as unique as your child. We closed this academic session with a visit to the Culinary World, to get to know know different types of classical food establishments. We also revisited Etiquette, specifically table manners and dining etiquette.

It was heartening to witness the interaction of children and mentors, and we were surprised too - with all the things children knew!



#WFSP\_SEASON 4

# PARENT-TEACHER MEETING 2024

Happy Children = Happy Parents = The DN Wisdom Tree Global School

We are grateful to all our beloved parents for their continued faith and their affirmation for the institution. Your encouragement inspires us to be better versions of ourselves. Immense gratitude!



## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS 2024

*Trees are the earth's endless effort to speak to the listening heaven ~ Rabindranath Tagore*

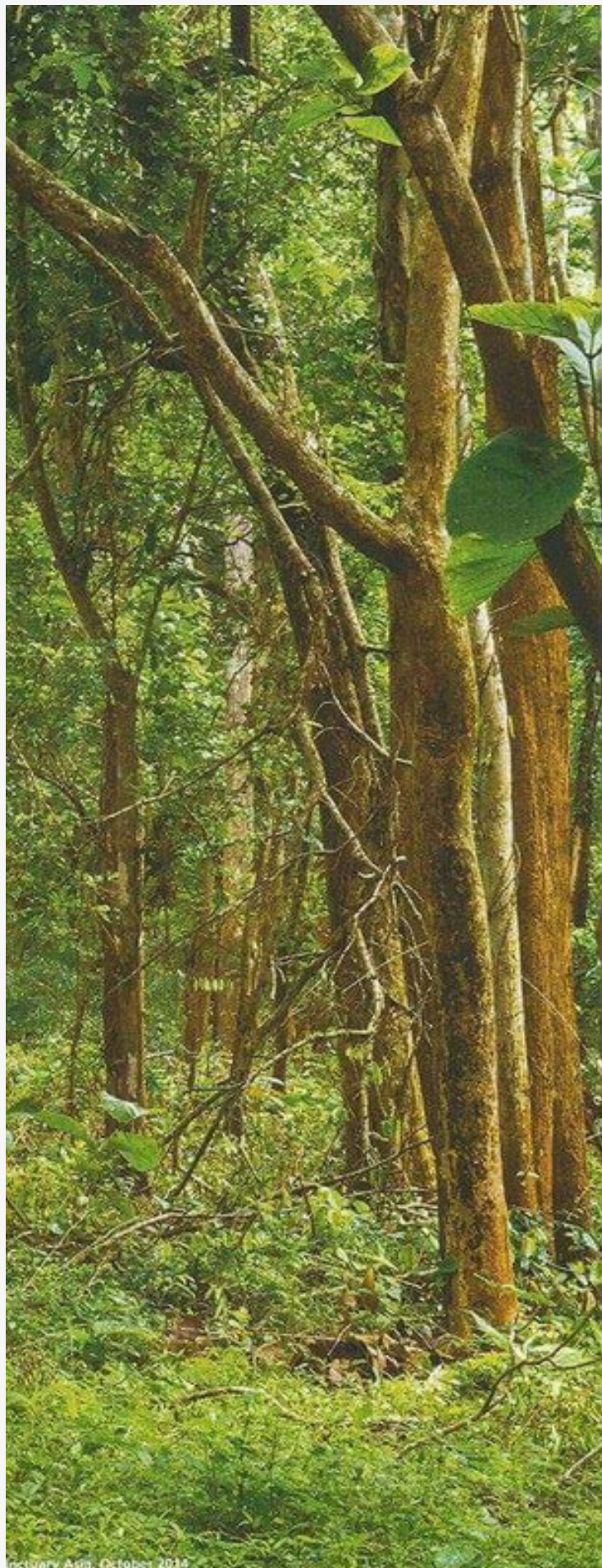
On International Day of Forests, it is with pride that we share this article on the lesser known Berbera Forest, penned by our Vice Chairperson, Ms. Panchami Manoo Ukil, for Sanctuary Asia.

Protection and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems of our beautiful state are imperative. The DN Wisdom Tree Global School's leadership is committed to ensuring that we do our bit, every day, in every way we can.

# BERBERA

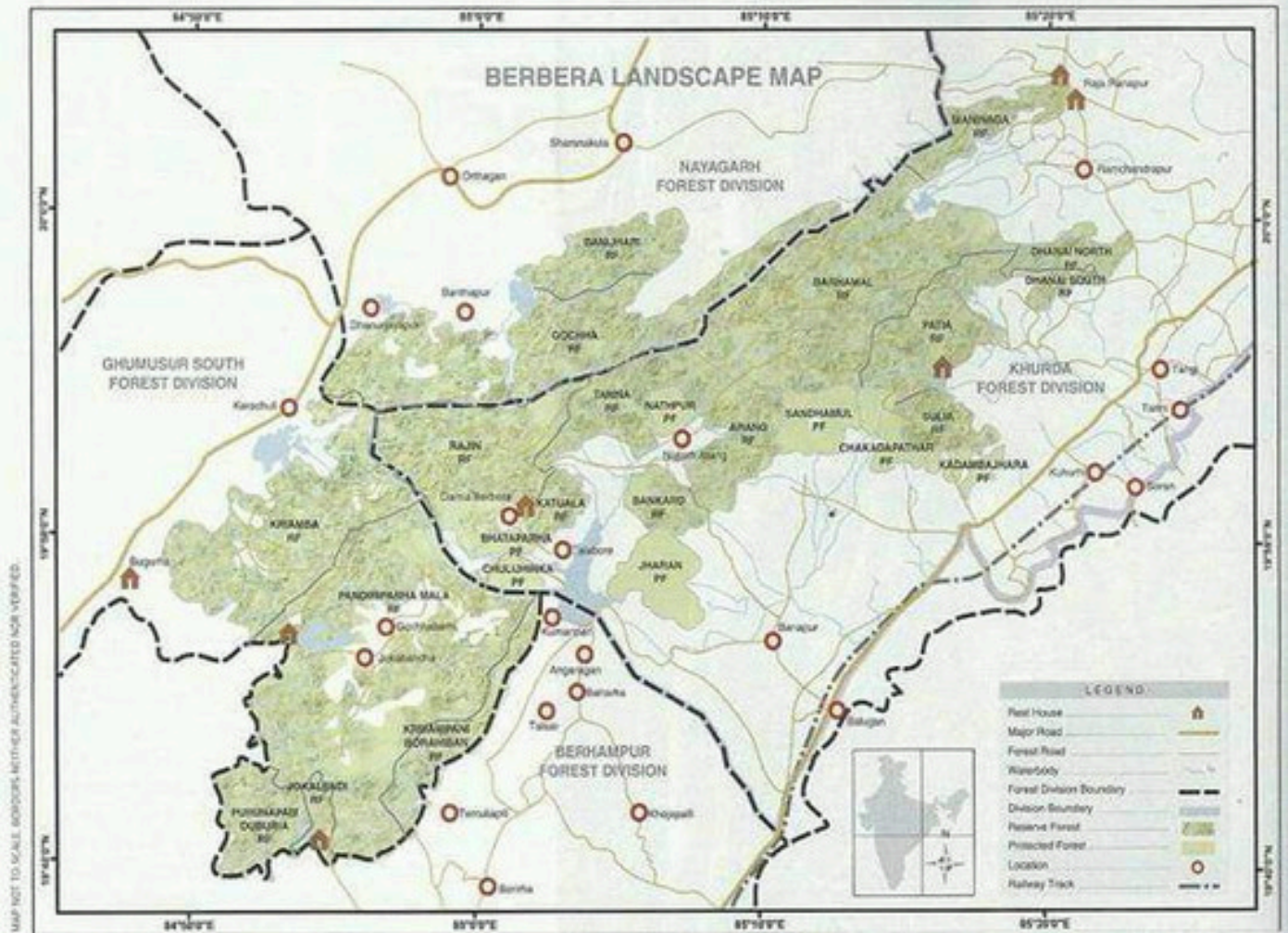
Where nightjars and cuckooshrikes rule

By Panthami Manoo Ukil



**D**riving in the pre-dawn darkness through a thickly forested jungle. Immeasurable stillness all around, only a cool and gentle night breeze wafting in, carrying with it unknown scents of the forest. Suddenly two glittering specks on the path ahead... a nightjar's eyes. I whisper... and yes, a nightjar it is. To me this bird is mystical, especially so after reading J. A. Baker's description of this enigmatic bird of the night. Resembling a crisp, fallen dry leaf, the nightjar, a master of camouflage is mostly seen lying motionless on the ground. As we draw closer, the bird suddenly lifts off in a graceful, flighty dance-like movement, disappearing into the thickets on the side. A little ahead we see the twin glimmers again. This time it bounces off the ground, and comes to perch lengthwise on a vertical twig just outside my car window. As I peer out into the darkness, I realise that inspite of its drab dreariness, the nightjar looks hauntingly beautiful. Driving ahead, another pair leap up, almost in unison, indulge in some aerial gambolling, and then disappear into the gloomy darkness. As we stop to look around for them, we hear their churring song sweetly slicing through the silence. It is as if the whole of this pre-dawn night of May is soaked in the mood of the nightjar's song - the notes seeming plaintive and joyous at the same time, and the song almost like an invocation to dawn.

**FACING PAGE** *The pristine Berbero landscape holds a rich treasure of birds within its forested folds. Legend has it that the forest was named after Barbara, the wife of a British officer who was killed by a tiger in the area.*



Six trysts with nightjars in a span of 30 minutes is simply a night of high romance. As we move further ahead, in the first light of the sun, we see the tops of smoky hills... wispy grey clouds kissing the hilltops to begin the day with a tinge of melodrama. The light brightens and we cannot take our eyes off the riveting scene that unfolds... the expanse of pensive blue waters of the Salia dam a gracious witness to the play between clouds and hills. From the verdure, ring loud and clear, the calls and songs of the early birds – the Indian Cuckoo, particularly tireless in its renditions. It's a musical birdsong daybreak in the forests of Berbera, three hours away from Bhubaneswar. A rich birding hotspot in itself, an hour at the Salia dam site throws up several species of birds such as the Plum-headed Parakeet, Common Iora, Black-headed Cuckooshrike, sunbirds, Indian Peafowl and some waterfowl too.

### A CHECKERED HISTORY

The pristine and less explored Berbera landscape shared by the Khordha, Nayagarh, and Ganjam districts of Odisha, holds a rich treasure of birds within its forested folds. Berbera is under the administrative purview of the Balugaon range of the Khordha Forest Division. A quaint tale rests behind the christening of this forest. Apparently, the wife of a British forest officer was killed by a tiger in this area. Her name was Barbara and hence the forest was named in her memory, albeit pronounced with a local accent – Berbera!

Arriving at the picturesque, slanting-roofed forest rest house in Berbera, we are treated to the most amazing bird sightings almost immediately. Emerald Doves strut around casually, almost like pigeons

at home. An Indian Pitta perches at eye-level and calls its heart out, marking its territory, as the nesting season has just commenced. A Jungle Owlet camouflages itself expertly on the edge of a branch and peers at us. The Indian Roller feeds its nestling in the hollow of a tree trunk, orange and yellow Small Minivets flit in the top canopies, while Hill Mynas fly across to give us yet another remarkable sighting. I was seeing a Hill Myna after almost 25 years!

Berbera has an antiquated history, with the British using the habitat as a major plantation area for teak in the 1880s. Teak was abundantly planted on the hill slopes as well as at the foothills. Some of these surviving heritage teak trees are formidable in their appearance with the girth of their trunks stretching more than three metres. The area



More at [www.sanctuaryasia.com](http://www.sanctuaryasia.com) | Birding

The Large Cuckooshrike *Coracina macei* has a loud 'kul-eeep' call and the characteristic habit of shrugging its folded wings immediately after landing on a perch.

the Russell's viper, geckos, Indian gaur, elephants, wild pigs and chital. Berbera, a long time ago, was also tiger and leopard territory.

Engulfed by birdcalls, it was a discovery of largesse in terms of sheer numbers. We were witness to some 20 Emerald Doves on our track during the course of a three hour survey, four species of woodpeckers, shamas, robins, raptors and many small birds. The 40 °C plus temperature and a sleepless night were no deterrents to our dedicated band of 12 birders who participated in an official bird survey of the Berbera Forest Reserve.

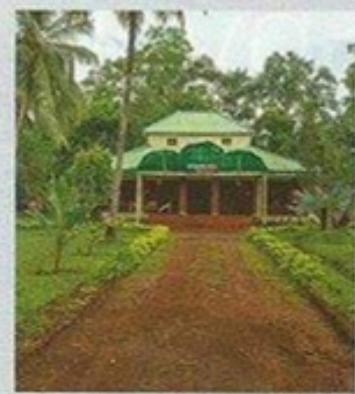
Some other areas in the vicinity rich in flora and fauna are Shankhajodi, Paatia, Betuli, Ketakijhara, and Jiripada. The adventurous can drive up the Rajin Hills which peak at 762 m. above sea level and offer mesmerising views of the dropping valleys. Small water springs and falls nestle amidst the lush green vegetation. A well dug in the early 1900s on the hilltop for thirsty travellers still exists there.

Botanists and plant lovers will also find delight in the Tamana Medicinal Plant Conservation Area, an integral part of the Tamana Reserve Forest which surrounds Berbera. Berbera is a true virgin forest as far as the exploration of its flora and fauna is concerned. The Divisional Forest Officer of Khordha Division, Akshya Patnaik, is extremely upbeat about the potential that this beautiful forest

holds and laments the lack of extensive studies that could reveal many new wonders. With the menace of timber felling being stemmed to a great extent, he feels that it is now time to move towards serious documentation of the trove of flora and fauna in these rich and untapped forests. On his part he is encouraging research organisations and NGOs to undertake field trips into the forests and record their observations. The Odisha Wildlife Lounge (OWL), Birds of Orissa (BoO), and The Bhubaneswar Bird Walks (TBBW) are some of the organisations involved in documentation of avian fauna, while the Regional Plant Resource Centre (RPRC) at Bhubaneswar is working on documenting the plant life in the forest. It has conducted several studies on the flora of the region and confirms that nearly 400 species of medicinal plants are found here. Some of these species have been classified as under conservation concern. Many species of wild orchids bloom in these forests with one of the species being a new find for the country.

## PROTECTING THE FUTURE

In order to minimise human-animal conflict, the Forest Department is taking tangible steps towards the economic and social upliftment of the communities who depend on these forests for their livelihood. The department is focussing on strengthening service conditions for



## THE FOREST REST HOUSE

The forest rest house in Berbera was built by the British in 1912. Its original teak-panelled interiors have been well-maintained over the years.

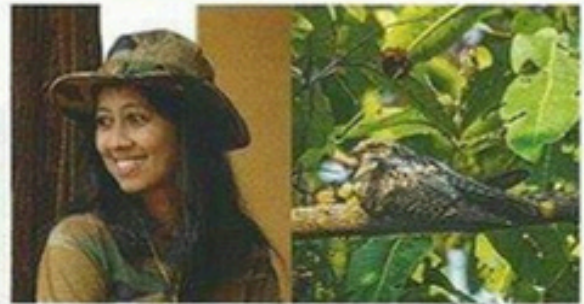
its staff, especially forest guards, by facilitating electricity in the beat offices inside the forest, upgrading roads, enabling living quarters, and making arrangements for a regular supply of drinking water. Tapping of solar energy and rainwater harvesting are being actively used to achieve these objectives. The DFO stresses the need for a dedicated forest force like the one deployed in the Similipal Tiger Reserve. The Forest Department has also embarked on an aggressive native tree plantation drive to supplement the existing vegetation in some forests in this range. Patnaik hopes that with intensive documentation of the habitat, some of the reserve forests around the Berbera landscape will be eligible for elevation to the status of a sanctuary in the near future.

Two trips to Berbera and one feels that one has barely scratched the surface of this secret forest so close to home. The scents and sounds of the woods are addictive, and when they carry unraveled mysteries in the denseness of their greens, the attraction is magical and irresistible. I will have to go back to walk the tracks for more trysts with the churring nightjars, unravel their camouflage, see them to my heart's content and explore the enchanting and still unexplored trails that will unfold new surprises each time. 🌿



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PANCHAMI MANOO UKIL



*Bhubaneswar-based birder, she founded The Bhubaneswar Bird Walks and conducts bird outings for citizens every Sunday morning to document the avian diversity in the city and its outskirts.*

*Tracking tigers, mitigating conflict, managing tourists and stopping poachers. Forest guards across the country, work day and night to protect India's wildlife. On assignment for Sanctuary Asia, Anurodha Morwah and Varun Thakkar spent a fortnight with the foot soldiers of the Tadoba -Andhari Tiger Reserve. They spotlight the faces behind wildlife protection for this issue's cover story, and pay tribute to the men and women who battle against all odds to save our natural heritage.*

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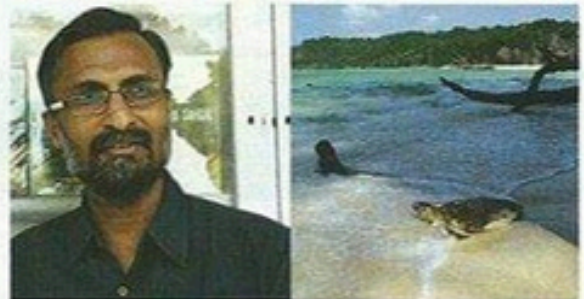
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PRIYA SINGH

*An alumnus of the WCS post-graduate programme in Wildlife Biology and Conservation at the NCBS, Bangalore. Priya is primarily interested in carnivore biology and writes here about her camera trapping experiences in Rajasthan.*

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PANKAJ SEKHSARIA



*A researcher, writer, photographer, campaigner and academic, he has worked for nearly two decades in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. He recently released his debut fiction book, The Last Wave.*



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AJITH DEVAKUMAR

*Programme Manager in a technology firm, his true interest lies in exploring wildernesses, which he says always offer a touch of magic and spontaneity. He next hopes to sight the snow leopard in the high Himalaya.*

# INTRA SCHOOL HANDBALL MATCH

Bagless Days

14th March 2024

WINNER



TEAM - ACE MAKERS WISDOMITES



TEAM -HIGH FLYERS WISDOMITES



# WORLD POETRY DAY 2024

At The DN Wisdom Tree Global School, a school as unique as your child, we believe that the brilliance and charm of poetry communicates life's many nuances in unique ways. We think that for our children, life will never be uninteresting if poetry inspires them to live better every day. Early exposure to classics, poetry readings and sharing the works of poets in different languages enables the ability to express deep feelings, experiences, and hope. And so we marked World Poetry Day with a special session anchored by our Vice Chairperson, Ms. Panchami Manoo Ukil, who shared her favourite lines from Rashtrakavi Ramdhari Singh Dinkar's mahakavya 'Rashmirathi' with our students Aaryahi Das and Rehan Ankit.

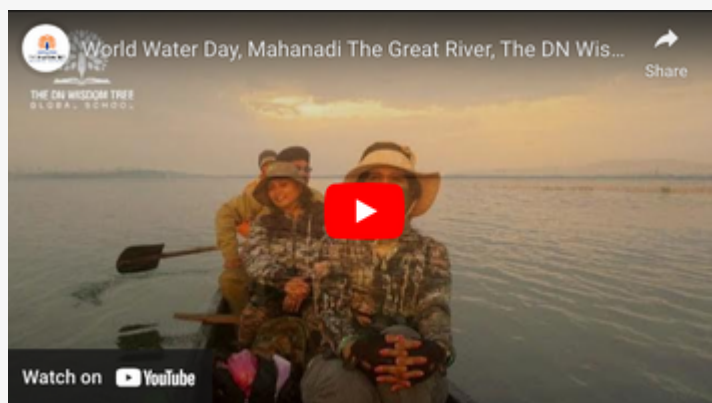
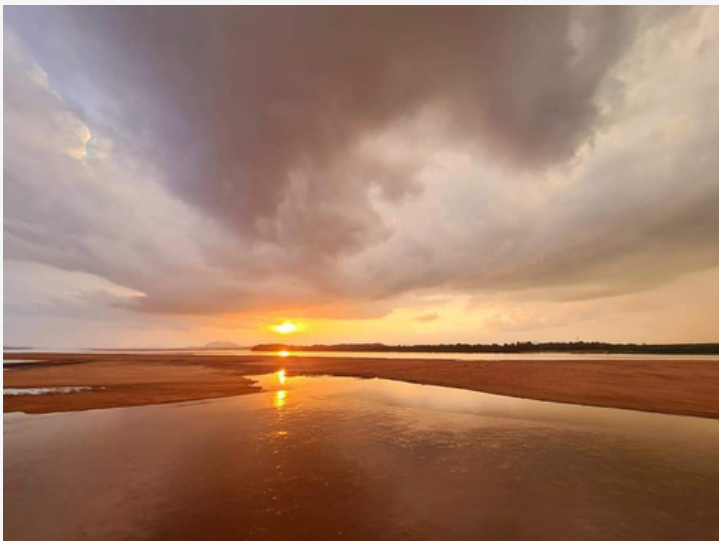
We hope and wish that poetry enriches your lives every day too!



# WORLD WATER DAY 2024

On World Water Day, homage to our beloved Mahanadi, Odisha's lifeline. Our Vice Chairperson Panchami Manoo Ukil sketches the beauty and value of the great river system, highlighting its importance, and the integral role it plays in our lives, through her words and the visuals she has captured as part of her work in conservation of biodiversity.

***The theme of World Water Day 2024 is 'Water for Peace'. When we cooperate on water, we create a positive ripple effect – fostering harmony, generating prosperity and building resilience to shared challenges. We must act upon the realization that water is not only a resource to be used and competed over – it is a human right, intrinsic to every aspect of life. This World Water Day, we all need to unite around water and use water for peace, laying the foundations of a more stable and prosperous tomorrow. - United Nations***





# HOLI 2024





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GLOBAL SCHOOL

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**THE DN WISDOM TREE**  
GLOBAL SCHOOL

## DASARATHI NAIK FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE

**Jagadish Prasad Naik**  
Founder & Chairman

**Panchami Manoo Ukil**  
Vice Chairperson

**Ratnamala Swain**  
Trustee

**Minati Naik**  
Trustee

**Rita Chatterjee**  
Director-Principal

**The DN Wisdom Tree Global School**

📍 Plot #740/1363, Sundarpur, Khandagiri - Chandaka Rd, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 754005

☎ 9439070000 ✉ [enquiry@wisdomtreebbsr.com](mailto:enquiry@wisdomtreebbsr.com)

