

Greenolution *Digest*

Greenolution e-Newsletter, December 2018

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COVER STORY



International Mountain Day

Trekking story by

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THE ECHO OF THE MOUNTAINS



How often do you sigh in frustration and wish to leave everything and run to the Himalayas?! Or the constant buzzing of alarms and the whirr of the turbine or an intricate array of excel sheets send your brain into a tizzy and you wish for an escape. An escape surely! Where to, if not the Himalayas? And thus the decision to go to Kedarkantha, was made on a whim. An idea popped in someone's head and in the moment of sheer spontaneity, we thought, why not? After some haggling for leave-approval, five like-minded colleagues were on the bus to Dehradun!



Garhwal, the land of Jim Corbett's man-eating tiger and the muse of Ruskin Bond, is home to some of the most beautiful expanse of snow and diverse flora and fauna. No wonder the place has kindled the imagination of many a writer. Kedarkantha Trek is located on one such trail. Spread over 6 days and covering a distance of 20km, it is considered to be one of the most scenic winter treks which concludes with reaching to the top of Kedarkantha peak which is at a height of 12500 ft. Thus in the first week of February we assembled at Dehradun where we were joined by the rest of the trekking party and hence our adventures began!

We drove to Sankri which is 220kms away from Dehradun at a height of around 6400ft. ((The journey took almost 12 hours. The only tourists in Sankri were people like us, on their way to Kedarkantha peak or Har-Ki-Dun. Life slows down in Sankri. The clocks seems to tick in a relaxed manner. It's a scenic village in the lap of the Himalayas, with great panoramic views and through the majestic vistas we witnessed along the way, we were excited about what lay further in our trek



The next day we saw the start of the actual trek. Adorned in an assortment of trekking gear and weighing a ton, our trekking party made its way towards Juda ka Talab which is located at 9100ft. The whole route meandered through pine forests interspersed with gurgling streams. It was around 4'o clock when the party reached the lake. Beyond the lake it was the white of the snow that caught the fancy of the travelers. We were taught how to pitch tents and that night the group rested in the tents amid the great expanse of snow, and the starry skies.



Day three suddenly saw a jump in difficulty level as trudging through the snow was easier said than done! A distance of 4.5km was covered to reach the Kedarkantha Base Camp at 11500ft. That night snowfall graced the group. By the morning our feet were sinking up to our ankles in snow. The journey to the top began. Around afternoon we reached the summit. Despite aching joints and numb fingers, the view more than made up for all our struggles in our path. We returned to the base camp soon after.

The next day we returned to Sankri. From there we drove to Dehradun. And finally it was the trip back to our land of Boilers and Turbines. For most of us it was a first time trekking experience and we vowed to do this more often.



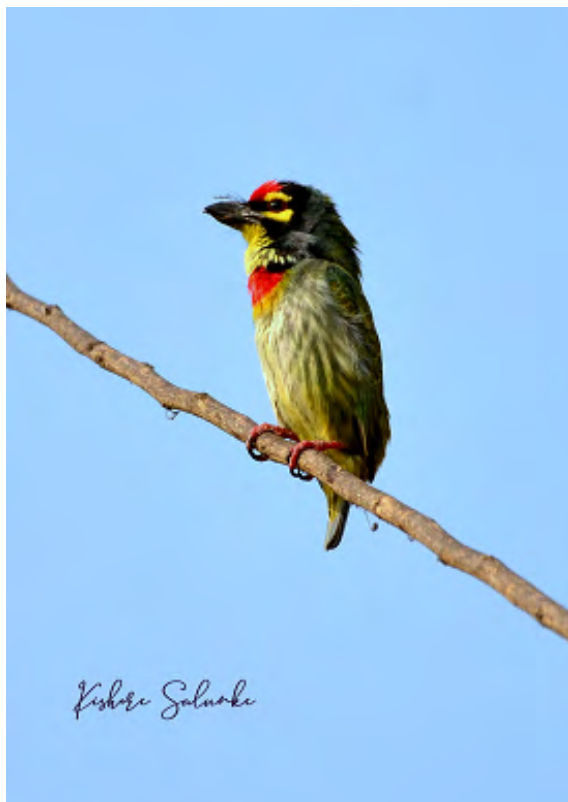
To sum it all up, do you want to know why we really did this trek? To meet new people and make new friends? Maybe. To get away from our helter-skelter daily routine and madness? Probably! To boast about stories like "You know I went to the peak of Kedarkantha and saw Mt. Swargarohini and Bandarpooch from up close". Definitely! Five days of trekking through snow, climbing by ridges and reaching the summit - these things told us a lot about ourselves we never knew. These weren't lessons that were taught to us by a book or anecdotes of wisdom that took birth in our heads. We lived those lessons, experience every minutia of them by ourselves; that's the reason we will never forget even one of them.



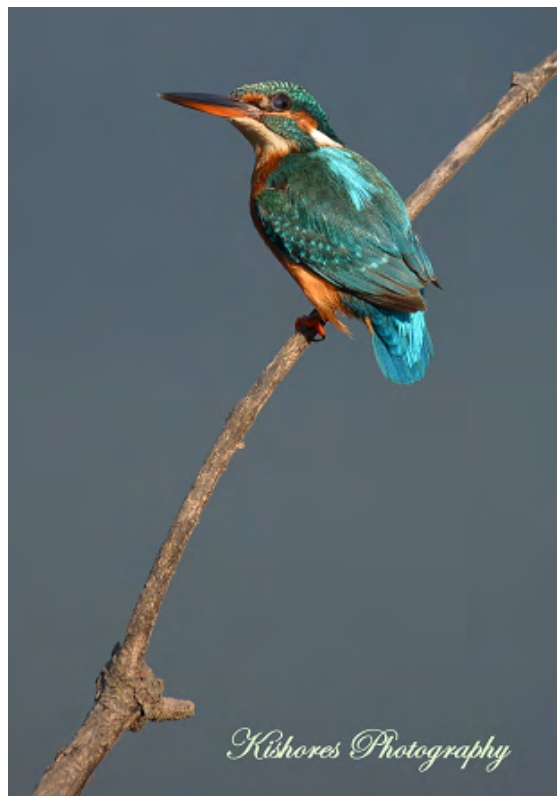


Some more entries ' **Know your neighbours**' photo contest

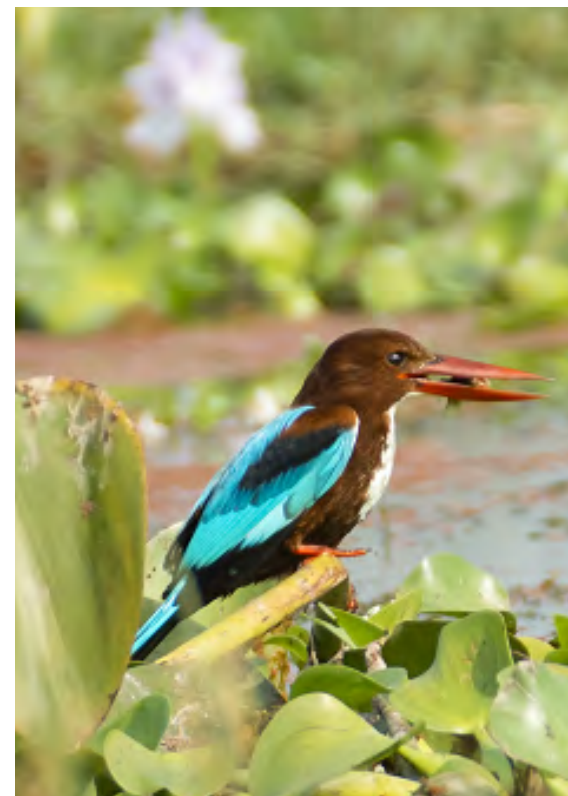
Coppersmith Barbet
Kishore Salunkhe-DSMG



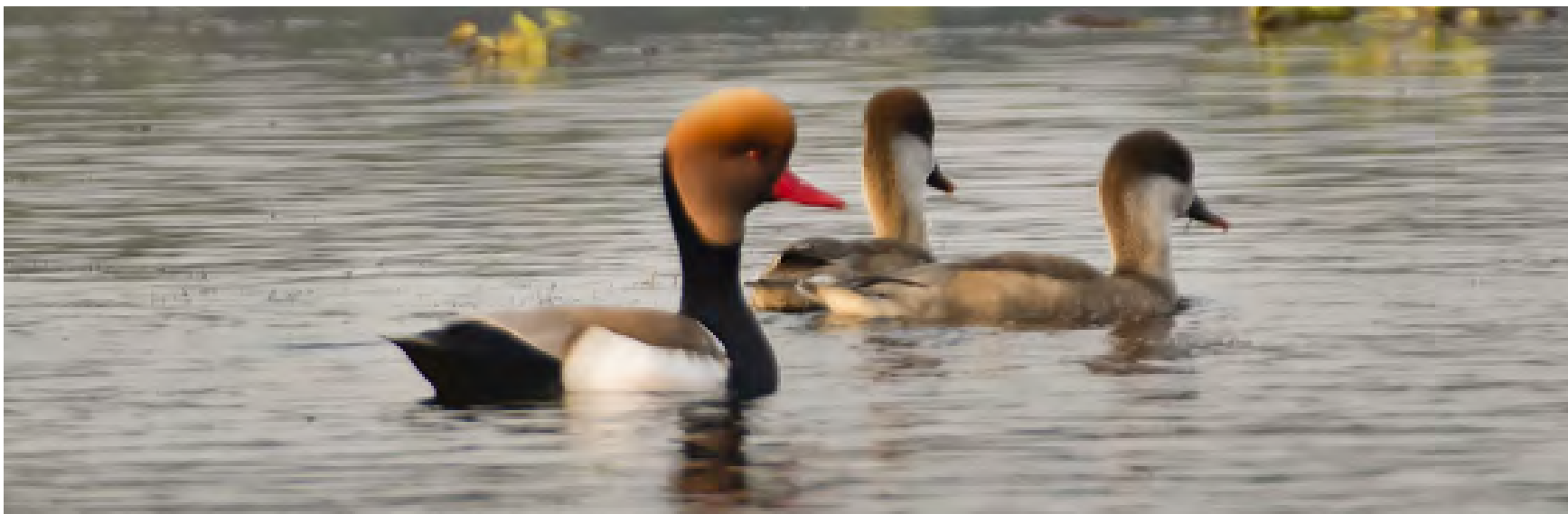
Common Kingfisher
Kishore Salunkhe-DSMG



White throated Kingfisher
Joydeb Mallick-Haldia



Red crested Pochard
Joydeb Mallick-Haldia Operations





Lesser whistling ducks
Joydeb Mallick-Haldia Operations



Spotted owlet
Photo by Kautuk Joshi-Trombay Operations



Tushar Tripathi- CGPL Coal Handling Plant





Cattel egret on the back of Buffalo
Photo by Mr.Tushar Tripathi



Photo by Utkarsha Kachare
DSMG-Meter Reading



Magpie Robin
Utkarsha Kachare-DSMG-Meter Reading



Asian Koel
Utkarsha Kachare-DSMG-Meter Reading





Rose ringed parakeets
Utkarsha Kachare - DSMG-Meter Reading



Small Salmon Arab
Photo by - Kishore Salunkhe



Lime Swallowtail
Bhavin Doshi-CGPL Procurement & Stores





Small Salmon Arab

Photo by Tushar Tripathi-CGPL Coal Handling Plant



Small Salmon Arab caterpillars

Photo by Tushar Tripathi-CGPL Coal Handling Plant



Plain tiger

Photo by Tushar Tripathi-CGPL Coal Handling Plant



Small Salmon Arab eggs

Photo by Tushar Tripathi-CGPL Coal Handling Plant





Striped pierrot
Photo by Tushar Tripathi-CGPL Coal Handling Plant



Plain tiger
Photo by Tushar Tripathi-CGPL Coal Handling Plant



Small Salmon Arab
Photo by Tushar Tripathi-CGPL Coal Handling Plant



Plain tiger
Photo by Tushar Tripathi-CGPL Coal Handling Plant





Praying mantis

Photo by L S V K S Murthy-CGPL Safety & Fire



Common evening brown

Photo by - Utkarsha Kachare-DSMG-Meter



Praying Mantis

Priyank Patel-CGPL Procurement & Stores



GREEN QUIZ

Quiz

1

A larva called "cavaborus" abounds in this lake and eliminates bacteria in the water, thus contributing to exceptional purity of water. The larvae are found in this Ramsar site

- A. Bhoj wetland in M.P
- B. Deepor Beel in Assam
- C. Sastamkotta lake in Kerala

2

Boost in oxygen level between 445 and 485 million years ago caused which event?

- A. Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event
- B. Ice Age
- C. Cambrian Explosion
- D. Global Warming

3

Which of the following is not sources of micro plastics pollution

- A. Plastic Water Bottles
- B. Glitter used in decoration
- C. Cosmetics industry
- D. None of the above

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What was theme for World Wetland Day - 2019.

Send in your answers to
greenolution@tatapower.com



Winner of Greenolution Quiz -
November 2018 -
Mohammad imran
Walwhan Solar AP Ltd-
5MW Solar Power Project

