



**HSNC UNIVERSITY, MUMBAI**  
**KISHINCHAND CHELLARAM COLLEGE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCES**

**Under the Aegis of DBT Star Status Activity**

## **A Virtual Field Trip to Velas, Ratnagiri**

### *Marvel of Marine Ecosystem at Velas Beach*

**Date:** 11/11/2020

**Venue:** Velas, Ratnagiri

**Resource person:** Mr. Mohan Upadhye

The Department of Life Science, K.C. College under the aegis of DBT Star Status organized a departmental Virtual trip to Velas Ecovillage, Ratnagiri on 11th November 2020 at 4:30pm. The event was held virtually amid the on going pandemic on ZOOM. Vice Principal Dr. Shalini Sinha and H.O.D of Life Sciences Department Dr. Sagarika Damle started the event on an enthusiastic amid joyful note.

#### **Report on field trip:**

The Department of Life Sciences, Kishanchand Chellaram College, Mumbai despite the current pandemic crisis and lockdown took an initiative to spread awareness about the marvels of marine ecosystem and the importance of turtle conservation by organizing a Virtual Trip to Velas, Ratnagiri with the guidance of Mr. Mohan Upadhye who is a Livelihood Assistant at the Mangroves Foundation who has been involved in turtle conservation for a long time.

The event kick started by the quote "Look deep into nature, and you will understand everything better" by the great Albert Einstein. Followed by the Vice Principal for Student Affairs, Dr. Shalini Sinha who showed her enthusiasm for the virtual trip and gave us a valuable lesson regarding the conservation of the environment.

The H.O.D of Life Sciences Department Dr. Sagarika Damle gave a warm welcome to all the students and teachers present.

The Resource Person for the day Mr. Mohan Upadhye who was present at the Velas Beach virtually connected us to the Ecosystem of Velas Beach. Mr. Upadhye gave us an explanation on how the female turtle finds a suitable spot to lay her eggs and then how certain predators attack

those eggs. Then he also gave us a demo on how they determine where the female turtle has laid her eggs and then how they remove them carefully to place them in a hatchery. Mr. Upadhye also showed us how they made the hatchery using sticks and net to avoid any predators also how they spread awareness amongst the villagers to preserve the turtles and their eggs.

We were also shown how vast the ecosystem of Velas was consisting of mangroves and different types of plant and birds. Followed by a short break. Post break Mr. Upadhye showed us a detailed slide show in which he told us about the different turtle nesting sites in Maharashtra, the need for turtle conservation and how to conserve them. He covered interesting topics like the initiative for Mangrove conservation and to remove ghost nets from the sea.

The students and teachers were then allowed to ask questions to Mr. Upadhye pertaining to the session. The Event came to an end with a memorable speech by our Vice Principal Tejashree Shanbaug and her continued guidance and blessings due to which the department of Life Sciences and it's students have strived and reached so far and loads of memories and information on turtle and mangrove conservation to take home.

- Team, KCLSD

