

**A brief note on talk of Dr. Ravi Chellam on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019.**

**TITLE: Protect Our Species Conservation of Asiatic Leo *Pantheraleoparsita***

Dr. Ravi Chellam has been involved with wildlife research, education and conservation since the early 1980s. He has worked with Wildlife Institute of India, UNDP, India Program, Madras Crocodile Bank Trust, Gharial Conservation Alliance, Asian Nature Conservation Foundation, and Foundation for Ecological Security and Greenpeace India. He is associated with wildlife conservation NGOs in governance roles; serves on Governing Council of BNHS and Board of Advisors of Nature Conservation Foundation.

The speaker delivered talk on behavioral patterns of Gir Lions.

In his talk, he said presently there are over 400 numbers of lions at Gir. Hence, they are overcrowded. As a result, over 100 of them have spilled over and found homes in the patches of forests surrounding the sanctuary. They need to be provided with a new congenial habitat. Madhya Pradesh's Kuno forest could be one such habitat where few lions could be Trans located. He opined that translocation is like a life insurance for the lions of Gir, so that in case of calamities we would still have a separate population of lions unaffected.

He said that after a long time of debating and pursuance, the Supreme Court allowed translocation of Asiatic lions from Gujarat to Madhya Pradesh.

PANKAJ AGGARWAL

Head extension.