



Impact of Covid 19 on Wild animals

By

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Introduction :



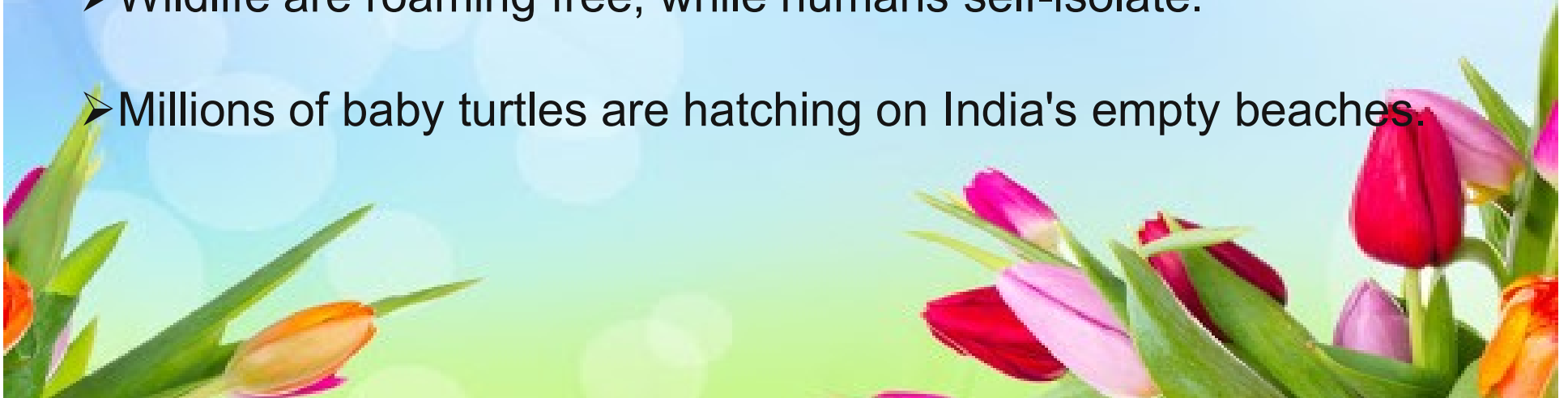
- The world is fighting against an invisible opponent that has forced us all to push the 'PAUSE' button on our lives.
- This global pandemic has set off a ripple effect across nations & life.
- This crisis has also had a deep impact on wildlife.
- While the world has come to a complete and utter standstill, nature seems to be reclaiming her territory
- wild animals near urban cityscapes are taking this opportunity to step beyond the comforts of their forested homes, global wildlife trade has been thrown into the spotlight and wildlife tourism too has felt the impact of this pandemic.



The impact of Covid-19 on global wildlife has been both positive & negative



- Poaching of endangered species is on the rise & Increased incidents of illegal poaching and human-elephant conflicts
- Experts have called for a ban on the trade of wildlife.
- A tiger has a confirmed case of corona virus in New York.
- Wildlife are roaming free, while humans self-isolate.
- Millions of baby turtles are hatching on India's empty beaches.



Poaching of endangered species & human-elephant conflicts



- The towns became unusually quiet.
- Asian elephants were more regularly exploring human spaces in the Jhargram Forest Division, West Bengal, in search of food and in the case of solitary tusker elephants, to expand their territories, resulting in potentially fatal consequences.
- In Africa incidents of poaching of Rhinos happens



The effects of COVID-19 litter on animal life



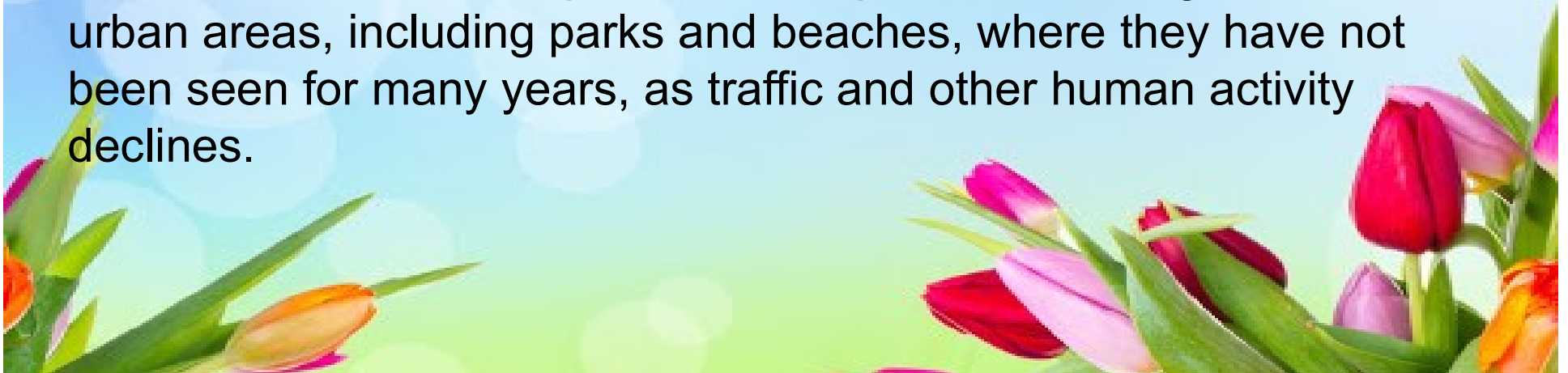
- Reported cases of entanglement, entrapment, ingestion & the use of COVID-19 litter as nesting material.
- PPE litter has already been found in terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems.
- Its impact observed in all of habitats, by both vertebrates and invertebrates, ranging from birds and mammals to fishes and crabs.



Reduced human pressure on wild species



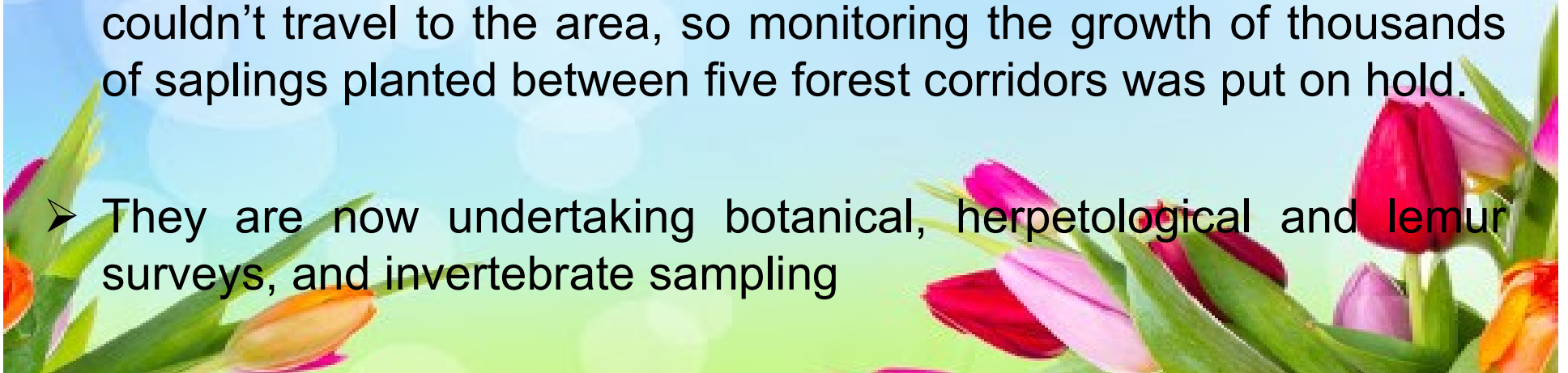
- In protected areas, declines in visitor numbers cause by travel restrictions & park closures have reduced stresses on sensitive animals & trampling pressure on popular trails.
- reduced human pressures in the most popular parks will be good for sensitive species.
- We have also seen reports of wild species venturing into rural and urban areas, including parks and beaches, where they have not been seen for many years, as traffic and other human activity declines.



Forest teams flourish in Madagascar, creating vital homes for lemurs



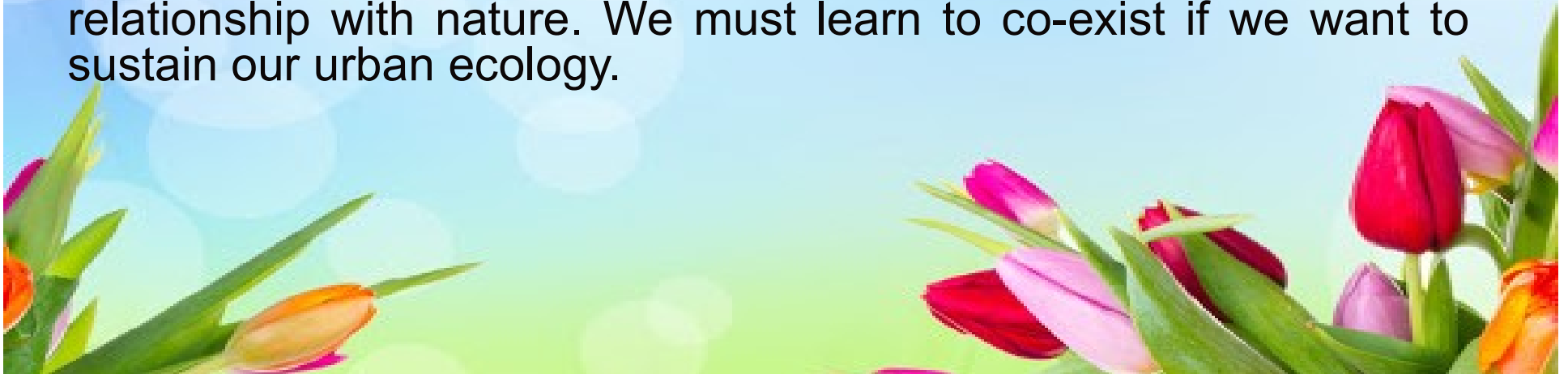
- Works to protect unique environments such as Madagascar's littoral forest
- the process of replanting green corridors between forest patches – vital habitats for tree-dwelling lemurs, whose populations have become fragmented through habitat loss
- When Covid-19 hit, local volunteers and international staff couldn't travel to the area, so monitoring the growth of thousands of saplings planted between five forest corridors was put on hold.
- They are now undertaking botanical, herpetological and lemur surveys, and invertebrate sampling



Pollution level decrease



- Pollution levels have decreased, public spaces are lying deserted and reduced human encounters has in turn given urban wildlife an opportunity to venture beyond their usual territory.
- All around the world, there have been reported incidents of animals venturing into cities as people have started confining themselves to the safety of their homes in an effort to control the spread of Coronavirus.
- This global pause also gives us a chance to rethink our relationship with nature. We must learn to co-exist if we want to sustain our urban ecology.





Thank You