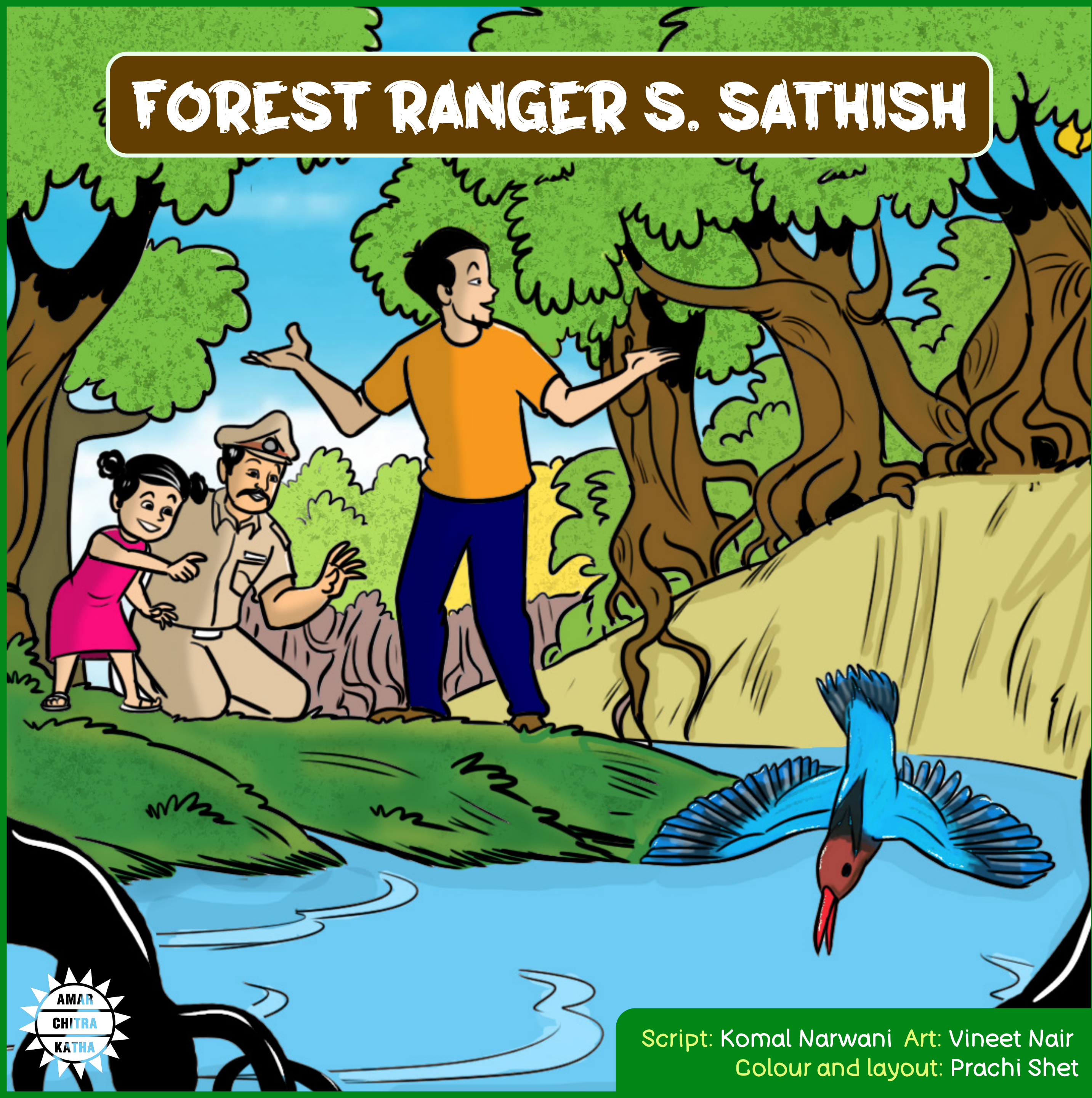


FOREST RANGER S. SATHISH



FOREST RANGER S. SATHISH

One day, in Thalavadi village of Erode district, Karnataka —

....Amazing, Sathish! You remember it very well. And, the blue-coloured butterfly we saw earlier is *Pareronia ceylanica* also called Dark Wanderer.

Pareronia ceylanica! It is fun to learn, sir.

SATHYAMANGAL
WILDLIFE
SANCTUARY



When Sathish grew up —

Sathish, have you decided? Medicine or Forestry?

I see myself happy protecting animals and plants. I will do my Masters in Environmental Science and then prepare for the UPSC*.

After two unsuccessful attempts at the UPSC, in 2011, he appeared for the Tamil Nadu Civil Services exam. In 2016 —

Yes, my friend, I am a Forest Range Officer now.

*Union Public Service Commission Exam

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One day, at the office —

We have noted over 100 cases of sea cucumber* poaching. There are four major smuggling spots. Deploy a team of 25 officials and tighten the security in these areas.

The team was ambushed by a mob and threatened but, with the support of the state police and the Indian Coast guards, they continued their work.

After a few months —

Good work, team. We have registered 70 cases against the offenders and have requested the judge to increase their serving sentence.

*marine animal with an elongated body and a leathery skin

Another day in a mangrove forest —

Sir, is that a kingfisher?

Yes, they belong to the Alcedinidae family.

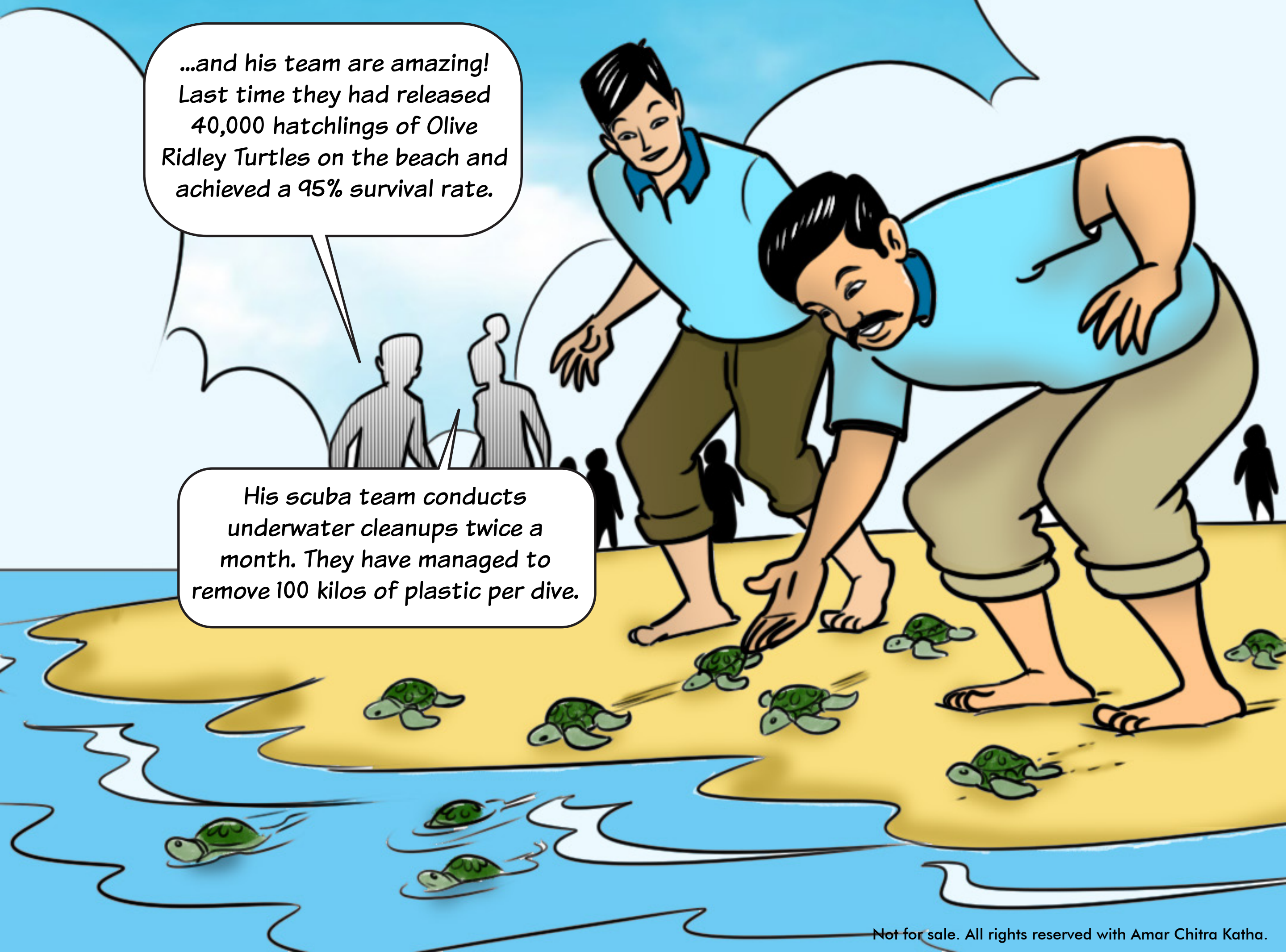
You have revived this forest by planting seeds of so many endangered trees. The migratory birds are back!



Over the years, people started noticing the efforts of Sathish.

...and his team are amazing!
Last time they had released
40,000 hatchlings of Olive
Ridley Turtles on the beach and
achieved a 95% survival rate.

His scuba team conducts
underwater cleanups twice a
month. They have managed to
remove 100 kilos of plastic per dive.



In April 2021, Sathish was given a very special award by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Switzerland.

Congratulations on winning the International Ranger Award, Sathish.

I feel humbled, but there is a long way to go.

