

**NMNH HQ, New Delhi**

**World Wetlands Day (2nd Feb 2013)**

To mark the occasion of the World Wetlands Day (2nd February), an out-reach programme was organized by the Museum for 21 mentally challenged children of .Model Special Education Centre, Kasturba Niketan, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi. These children were taken to National Zoological Park (Delhi Zoo) to observe Migratory Water Birds and other animals. Battery operated vehicle was provided by the zoo to take the children around. The zoo officials interacted with the children and explained them about the habits and habitat of migratory birds and other animals. These children also participated in Nature Painting activity. The children were given token gifts.



*Mentally challenged children attempting Nature painting at Zoo*

**Programme for Specially Challenged Children- 2013**

The Museum, besides organizing a variety of educational programmes and extension activities for general students, also



*Mentally challenged children getting tips from the resource person*

makes regular effort to organize programmes for special children who have immense capacity to understand and capture the knowledge imparted to them.

Programme for specially challenged children is an annual programme organized by the Museum in the month of February every year. The aim of this programme is to create an equal opportunity for children with disabilities and bring awareness among them regarding environment, nature and wildlife

through different educational activities. This year's programme was organized from 6th to 8th February 2013. The education and technical resource persons from the Museum visited the selected schools of children with disabilities to interact and do various activities with them.

On 6th February, 2013 the Museum's Artists conducted a programme on Collage Painting and Nature Painting for 38 Mentally challenged children at NIMH Model Special Education Centre, Kasturba Niketan, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi

On 7th February, 2013 the Museum's Modelling staff conducted a programme for 21 Visually challenged children at the Institute for the Blind, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi. The resource persons taught special children about Bird and Animal Modelling. Besides this about 28 children participated in Story Writing in Braille on wildlife and environment.



*Visually challenged children getting tips from the resource person*

On 8th February, 2013 the Museum's resource person visited Model Integrated Primary School, Pt. Deen Dyal Upadhyaya Institute for the Physically Handicapped, Vishnu Digambar Marg, New Delhi and conducted a programme on making flowers and greeting cards using the art of Origami and Nature Painting. Nearly 24 children participated in this programme.

### **Special visits**

1. A group of 83 Middle/Secondary/Sr. Secondary school teachers attending an in-service teachers' training programme at Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) visited NMNH on 2nd February 2013. Another group of 150 trainee teachers pursuing ETE at District Institute Education and Training (DIET), South West, Ghumanhera, New Delhi, visited NMNH on 13th February 2013. The teachers of both the groups were given a brief talk on educational programmes and activities followed by guided tour of the museum galleries.

2. A 10 members foreign delegation from Afghanistan visited NMNH on 5th February 2013 with the Faculty from University of Delhi. The Director, NMNH interacted with the group. Later, the group visited the galleries and discussed about the educational and technical aspect of the exhibits with Scientists and Education staff of the Museum.

## **Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal**

### **Inauguration of Temporary Exhibition**

A temporary exhibition on "Wildlife Conservation and Ecotourism" was set up at the Museum's temporary exhibition hall in association with Madhya Pradesh Ecotourism Development Board, Bhopal and inaugurated on 14th February, 2013. The Chief Guest Shri R.S. Negi, IFS, PCCF, Forest Department, Madhya Pradesh inaugurated the exhibition. Dr. A. K.

Bhattacharya, IFS, Executive Director, Madhya Pradesh Van Vikas Nigam, Bhopal was the Guest of Honour. Shri Satish Tyagi, IFS, CEO, MPEDB, Bhopal, invitees, general public and staff members of the museum were present during the programme. This exhibition will remain for the visitors for one month.

### **Collaborative Programme**

The Museum extended the logistic support to an NGO, Crusade for Revival of Environment and Wildlife (CREW), Bhopal in organization of a programme on “Wildlife film making” on February 28, 2013.

In yet another programme, the activities of “The Museum School” by an NGO Parvarish continued during this period for approximately forty deprived children of the society.

## **Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhubaneswar**

### **Orientation programme on Eco-Development**

The Museum organized an orientation programme for forest guards, foresters and eco-development committee members of Bhitarkanika range and Jumboo range from 1 to 3 February, 2013, in collaboration with Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife) Rajnagar, Kendrapara. The orientation programme included an orientation on in- field interpretation, making them aware of the various biodiversity components and their inter-relationship for proper interpretation to the national parks visitors by using the museum gallery resources along with exposure visit to Zoo, RPRC, Energy Park and Chandaka Interpretation Centre. Shri Manoj Mohapatra, DFO, Mangrove Wildlife Division, Shri K. L. Purohit, ACF, Nandankanan Zoo, Dr. S.K.Kar, Former Research Officer, Forest Dept and Shri. G.N.Indresha, Scientist-RMNH, Bhubaneswar made presentations on the relevant topics during the programme. About 20 members participated in the programme.



*Participants in a session on Eco-development Programme*

### **Special programme for differently-abled students**

Museum organized special programmes for differently-abled students on 16th & 17th February 2013 in collaboration with Neelachal Seva Pratisthan, Kanas, Puri district. These programme included various creative activities like clay modeling, painting, sand art, touch, feel & identify, identifying calls of birds & animals and singing competition on nature & environment etc. This programme provided a special opportunity for differently-abled students to participate in various museum activities like r

egular students and express their talents related to natural history. The programme was envisaged outside Bhubaneswar to provide opportunity to the students of Puri district in Odisha. The students were involved in various activities as per their aptitude, ability and interest. The programme was undertaken under seven different events consisting of three groups viz. visually challenged, mentally challenged and hearing impaired students. About 130 differently-abled students took part in the above competitions. All prize winners were awarded with cash prizes and certificates during the prize distribution function graced by Shri Hari Mohan Harichandan, Chairman, NSP and Bidyadhar Paschmimakabata, Principal of the school.



*Visually challenged children sensing an animal in the Special Programme*

## **Regional Museum of Natural History, Sawai Madhopur**

### **Development of Exhibition**

The development of the Exhibition on “Biodiversity of Rajasthan” is in the final stage.

---

**Coordinator:** Naaz Rizvi, Scientist D, National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi-110001

**Co-coordinators:**

- 1 Vipin Saxena, Publication Assistant, National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi- 110001
  2. Kuljit Singh Attri, Sr. Education Assistant, National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi- 110001
-