

National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi

COP 11 PROGRAMME: Poster-making Competitions

As a side event to the XI Conference of Parties to the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity), the NMNH will be hosting a Sahyadri Children's Biodiversity Congress (SCBC) on 6th October, 2012 at Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.

As part of the first Phase of the SCBC, the NMNH Mysore is organizing poster-making competitions for students between 14-17 years, in four states coming within the Sahyadri (Western Ghats) region, namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The theme of the competitions is 'Biodiversity of Western Ghats' to be organized during September, 2012.

The First prize winners from each State shall participate in the Sahyadri Children's Biodiversity Congress to be held in October, 2012, and are expected to present a paper each on the theme of the competition – Biological Diversity of Western Ghats.

National Biodiversity Museum

On the invitation of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Director NMNH visited Hyderabad during 20-21 September 2012 in connection with the setting up of the proposed National Biodiversity Museum (NBM) at Hyderabad. He held discussions with officials of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, especially of AP State Biodiversity Board. The National Biodiversity Museum is being established in Gachibowli area in Hyderabad as a commemoration of CoP XI, as a Central Scheme by the Ministry of Environment & Forests at a site donated by the AP State Government.

MONITORING OF THE NMNH

Senior Audit Officer Smt. Daya Chelia, from Principal Directorate of Audit (Scientific Departments), New Delhi visited NMNH from 3rd – 7th September, 2012 to review the work of the NMNH for the vetting of the Para wise Action Taken Note (ATN) of CAG Report No: 17 of 2010-11 about the Activities of NMNH, New Delhi.

Later, the Audit Officer Mr. Atul Nayar, and Assistant Audit Officer Mrs. Sumita Satija, also paid visit to NMNH during 10-12 September, 2012 to review the compliance by NMNH to the reply recommendation of Fifty Seventh Report of the PAC (15th Loksabha) on MoEF based on CAG Report No. 17 of 2010 -11.

**INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF OZONE LAYER
(16TH SEPTEMBER, 2012)**

The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was designed to reduce the production and consumption of ozone depleting substances in order to reduce their abundance in the atmosphere, and thereby protect the earth's fragile ozone Layer. The original Montreal Protocol was agreed on 16 September 1987 and entered into force on 1 January 1989. The year 2012 marks the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Montreal Protocol.

To commemorate this day, NMNH organised two competitions: (i) Poem Writing (theme: Saving the Ozone layer, Effects of Climate change, Biodiversity and Conserve our Forests); and (ii) Essay Writing (theme: Protecting our atmosphere for generations to come) categories in either English or Hindi, to sensitize children on the significance of Ozone Layer, Climate Change etc. The competitions were organised for children of VIII to X standard of schools in Delhi and NCR, with participation of five students per category from each school. The entries were evaluated by a panel of external judges nominated by the NMNH.



Participating children in the Essay/Poem writing contest on the Preservation of Ozone Layer

In all 65 students from 9 schools participated in these competitions: 38 in Poem writing and 48 in Essay writing, and 21 children participated in both the competitions.

The prizes and certificates to the winners will be given during prize distribution function to be held in December, 2012.

Hindi Pakhwara (14 -29 September)

As part of the initiative by the Ministry of HRD, Government of India, to promote our national language, 14 – 29 September every year is observed as Hindi Pakhwara. The officials of Govt. of India are promoted to work and adopt Hindi in their daily official work. During this fortnight, several competitions for the Govt. Staff have been organised.

NMNH organized various contests in its Head Quarter office to celebrate this 2012 Hindi Pakhwara. The contest included Essay Writing in Hindi, Shrutlekh (Dictation), Translation from Hindi to English and vice versa, Correct the spellings and Speech, and were organised between 15th – 22nd September, 2012. A Hindi Karyashala was also held on 26th September, 2012 to encourage the staff to work in Hindi.

Regional Museum of Natural History, Mysore

Teacher Orientation Workshop -2012

A teachers workshop was organised during 14th &15th Sept.2012 in order to train the biology teachers in Mysore for making Biology Kits.

Development in the Gallery

The renovation work of Whale model in the gallery was completed and opened to the public

Renovation work

The renovation of public toilet in the gallery area was completed by the CCU and opened to the public. The CCU continued the renovation of other toilets in the Museum.

Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal

International Vulture Day

To mark the occasion of International Vulture Day (September 1), the Museum organized a Vulture Awareness Programme on September 6, 2012. Nearly Six hundred students from Govt. Navin Higher Secondary School, Arera Colony participated in the programme. The Educational Resource person of the Museum presented a slide show on vultures. The study material received from Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore was also distributed among the participating students.

Hindi Fortnight Programme

Hindi fortnight Programme (Hindi Pakhwara) was inaugurated on September 14, 2012 at RMNH, Bhopal. During this Pakhwara various Hindi competition were held to encourage staff to work in Hindi.

Collaborative Programme

The RMNH, Bhopal provided the logistic support to a programme organised by EPCO, Bhopal organized a programme on the training of master trainers attached with National Green Cops on August, 30, 2012

Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhubaneswar

International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer-2012 Written and Oral Quiz Competitions on

On the occasion of International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer on 16th September, 2012, a Written and a Oral quiz competitions were organized by the Museum for the students of Class VIII to X. The competitions intended to create awareness among children about the ill-effects of ozone layer depletion, green house gases, global warming etc. .



Participants are being quizzed by quiz master

In response to the publicity made through letters, posters and banners, a total of 29 teams from 29 schools registered for the written quiz. All 29 registered teams were participated in the written quiz. The Written Quiz was an elimination round of 30 minutes duration, consisting of objective questions based on nature, environment, wildlife and conservation. The first six teams of the Written Quiz were selected for participation in the Oral quiz, conducted by professional quiz master of a duration of two hours and consisted of wide variety of questions on preservation of ozone layer.

The oral quiz of six rounds was based on nature, environment & wildlife, with a audience round as well for active audience participation. The students from DAV Public School, Pokhariput, Bhubaneswar were

declared winners of the first prize, followed by D.M.School, Bhubaneswar and JNV, Mundali, Cuttack with second & third prize. The encouragement prizes were bagged by KV No. 4, Bhubaneswar, DAV Public School, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar and JNV, Kendrapara.

Environmental Awareness Programme- 2012 for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalas

Environmental Awareness Programme-2012 for JNVs of Odisha was held at JNV, Panikoili, Jajpur District on 14th September-2012 and at JNV, Rahama, Jagatsinghpur District on 18th September-2012. The programme included a written quiz on environment, followed by Film show on nature, environment & wildlife, presentation on poisonous and non-poisonous snakes and interaction with the participants.

A total of 202 students participated in the quiz competitions and about 394 students took part in the interactive session on nature conservation, biodiversity and ecology through Power Point Presentation by Scientist-C & H.O. The winners were awarded with cash prize of Rs. 1,000/-, Rs. 750/-, 500/- as 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes respectively, along with 5 consolation prizes of Rs. 200/- each and certificates in the presence of the Principal and staff of the school.



Participants engrossed in the Written quiz at JNV, Rahama, Jagatsinghpur.

Regional Museum of Natural History, Sawai Madhopur

Temporary Exhibition/ Gallery works

The background paintings in the dioramas of Man & Nature, Bishnoi Community and Ranthambhore National Park have been complete. The painting work in the fourth diorama on Deforestation is also about 60% complete. In the modelling part a mold of life size standing Tribal woman of Bishnoi diorama has also been completed.

Visit of Scientists from NMNH and RMNH, Bhopal

Scientist 'D' Mrs. Naaz Rizvi, of NMNH, New Delhi visited the RGRMNH on 13-14 Sept., 2012 to take stock of the developmental work in the Museum gallery. She held meeting with the staff members and discussed about the progress of work regarding the exhibits in the temporary Exhibition/ Gallery.

The Scientist 'E', Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, RMNH, Bhopal paid visit to the RGRMNH, SWM from 17 to 19 September, 2012 to have a first hand view of the site earmarked for the Gallery on 'Forests and wildlife of Rajasthan'. In this connection, he had meetings with Dr. Y.K. Sahu (D.F.O) and Mr. M.D. Parashar, (Wildlife Artist & Photographer) of Sawai Madhopur.

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

Co-coordinators:

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