



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
National Museum of Natural History
(Ministry of Environment & Forests)

FICCI Museum Building
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New Delhi-110001
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No.13(6)/2010-11/NMNH

Date: 26/4/2010

To
Shri Narain Das
Deputy Secretary (GC)
M/o. Environment & Forests,
527, Paryavaran Bhavan, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-3.

SUB:- MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET – REG.

Sir,

The National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi and its Regional Museums organized the following educational programmes, in addition to its normal activities, during the month of **April, 2010**:

N.M.N.H., NEW DELHI

Earth Day: A “Written Quiz Contest” was organized on 22nd April 2010 (Earth Day) for the students of class IX & X on the theme of “Our Rich Biodiversity” to select the candidate for the “Young Environmentalist of the Year Award-2010” which will be given on 5th June 2010 on the occasion of “World Environment Day”. The contest was simultaneously conducted at NMNH, Delhi and RMNH (Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar & Sawai Madhopur). Registration was restricted to 200 students at each venue on first come first served basis. Participants were allowed to attempt the Quiz Contest in English or in regional language (Hindi, Kannada, Oriya).

Workshop on Climate Change:

Dr. S.M. Nair (Ex-Director of NMNH) now Head – Education at OD Alternatives Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. will conduct a workshop for the School Principals from 28th to 30th April 2010 on the theme of Climate Change in collaboration with National Museum of Natural History. The museum will provide logistic support to the workshop which will be held in the Conference Room of NMNH. The Museum will arrange for the visit of the Principals to the Museum Galleries, interaction with the museum staff and distribution of museum publications.

Special Visiting Groups:

1. On 1st April 2010 a group of 16 students with 2 coordinators from Society for Peace (Regd.), Sangrur, Punjab visited NMNH.
2. On 2nd April 2010 a group of 54 trainee teachers and 4 staff members from R.S.M. College of Education, Panipat, Haryana visited NMNH.
3. On 9th April 2010 a group of 139 students and 5 teachers from Bhatnagar International School, Vasant Kunj visited NMNH through HT PACE.
4. On 13th April 2010 the CCRT organized an educational visit to NMNH for a group of 60 students from Himmat Gramin Sanstha, Jhinzana, Muzaffar Nagar (UP) with five escorts and two CCRT officials.
5. On 15th April 2010 a group of 20 students with one coordinator from Bharthiar Palakalai Koodam, Pondicherry visited NMNH.
6. On 16th April 2010 a group of 124 students from Delhi International Public School, Rohini visited NMNH to enhance the academic knowledge of the children.

7. On 24th April 2010 a group of 170 students of class V with 5 teachers from Rukmini Devi Public School, Pitampura will visit NMNH with an objective to go beyond the curriculum and make the students aware of diverse aspects related to evolution and natural history.

Public/School visits:

5982 school students from 46 schools/institutes in Delhi & NCR visited NMNH. Also Around 3081 general visitors & Family Groups visited the museum.

R.M.N.H., MYSORE

World Water Day - 2010: Observation of World Water Day -2010 was held on 06th April - 2010 at 11.00 a.m with a lecture on Climate Change and Fresh water by Shri. S. Shamsundar, Director, CREST, NIE College, Mysore, at the Museum premises for students and general public.

Preparation for the Exhibition on “Biodiversity of Western Ghats”: The Technical and Educational Unit of the RMNH, Mysore has continued to actively involve in the preparation of the proposed exhibition on “Biodiversity of Western Ghats”.

Public Visits: *About 7670 No's of visitors up to 20th April 2010 had visited to this Museum which includes organised groups, students, family groups, tourists and individuals.*

R.M.N.H., BHOPAL

Braille Essay Writing Competition : Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal has organized a Braille Essay Writing Competition for differently abled students on 12 April, 2010. The topic of the competition was “Biodiversity”. The objective of this competition was to create awareness on our biodiversity among the students during the International Year of Biodiversity. Eleven students participated in this competition. All the participants were gifted with white canes for their participation. Shri Manik Lal Gupta and Shri Sukhchain Prasad Shrivraas organized this programme.

Earth Hour: The energy saving “Earth Hour” awareness was created among the member of staff and visitors during the informal meet. Member of staff and the public were requested to switch off the electrical installation at their places on 27th March, 2010 between 08:30 – 09:30 pm. Following the request from Director, WWF, Bhopal these instructions were disseminated. The critical service area of RMNH during the said time was taken care off.

Meeting on Birds of Bhopal: A discussion meeting was arranged with NGO on 30th March, 2010. Mr. Khalique from ‘Birds of Bhopal’ was invited to draw a project on birds of Shahpura Lake during the International Year of Biodiversity. Local behavioural adaptations of birds was the topic choosen.

Interaction with AMU: A discussion meeting was arranged with Scientist-in-Charge and AMU students on 1st April, 2010 at 03:00 pm. The topic discussed was “role of students in transliteration” with special reference to tribes of Madhya Pradesh. There were three teachers and fourteen students headed by Prof. S. Imtiaz Hasnain, Department of Linguistics, AMU visited.

A Temporary Exhibition on House Sparrow: A temporary exhibition inaugurated on House Sparrow on 20th March 2010 as a part of International Biodiversity Year 2010 was kept open for public upto 28th March 2010. This simple exhibition drew the public attention.

NGO Collaboration Programme: The museum school by Parvarish was continued during this period also along with approximately forty deprived children.

Public visits: A total number of 3757 public visited the Museum during March 20, 2010 to April 19, 2010.

R.M.N.H., BHUBANESWAR

Development of Northeast Biodiversity Gallery: Foreground modeling is in progress & preparation of models of birds, animals has been completed. Labels and panels of northeast biodiversity is about to be completed shortly. The animal models have been exhibited in appropriate diorama. Illumination and panel fixing is nearing completion.

Celebration of Earth Day (22nd April 2010): On the occasion of Earth Day, National level written quiz was conducted to select **Young Environmentalist of the Year 2010**. About 200 students participated in the programme. Best 08 entries from the centre send to headquarter for national level selection. Besides, slide show was organized by Shri. A. K. Biswal, IFS on the topic "**Flora Diversity of Eastern Himalayan Hotspot**". Prof. P. Mohanty-Hejmadi, Chairperson, Advisory Planning Committee, RMNH, Bhubaneswar has graced the occasion and briefed the students regarding the importance of the mother Earth.

To mark the occasion, a sapling of *Mimusops elengi* (Bakula) was planted inside the museum campus by Prof. P. Mohanty-Hejmadi, Chairperson, Advisory Planning Committee, RMNH, Bhubaneswar.

Also, a state level function by Forest Department, Govt. of Orissa was held in the museum premises. Shri T. K. Mishra, IAS, Chief Secretary, Orissa was chief guest of the function. Prof. P. Mohanty-Hejmadi, Ex-Vice Chancellor, Sambalpur University, Shri U. N. Behera, IAS, Principal Secretary to Govt. of Orissa, Forest & Environment Department and Dr. K.D. Singh, Forester & Forestry Consultant graced the occasion.

Taxidermy Work:

A dead specimen of Sarus Crane (4^{1/2} ft) was collected from Nandankanan Zoological Park on 9th April 2010. Skinning and mounting of the bird in life like posture has been completed. Dead specimen of Silver pheasant was collected from Nandankanan Zoological Park on 12th April 2010. Skinning and mounting in life like posture has been completed. The broken Ostrich egg has been repaired and restored for display in egg showcase for the visitors.

Visit of public: During the month the visitor's book recorded a total number of 3,614 visitors from different organizations, institutions & family groups.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. B. Venugopal)
Director

Copy to:-

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(Dr. B. Venugopal)
Director

