

Government of India
National Museum of Natural History
(Ministry of Environment & Forests)

FICCI Museum Building,
Barakhamba Road,
New Delhi-110001.

No.13(6)/2010-11/NMNH

Dated the July 24, 2010

To

Shri Narain Das,
Deputy Secretary (GC),
Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110003.

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 July, 2010:

1. N. M. N. H., NEW DELHI

Special Programme for the under-privileged children on the occasion of Van-Mahotsava:

A special programme for the under-privileged children was organized on 15th July 2010. A group of 20 children in the age group of 10-15 years from Salaam Balak Trust (SBT), an NGO in Delhi, participated in this programme. The purpose of this programme was to bring awareness about plants and biodiversity in our surroundings and help children understand Nature through various activities. Mrs. Sandhya Bansal was called as resource person who interacted with the children and taught them to make flowers, leaves and collage painting through the art of Origami. The participants were taken through the museum galleries for exhibit interpretation explaining the importance of plants in the network of Nature through the exhibits of Photosynthesis, Food chain, Man & Nature, Two faces of forest, etc.

Out-reach Programme for Specially-Challenged children:

An out-reach programme for specially-challenged children was organized on 21st July 2010 for the children of Aanchal NDMC School for Mentally Retarded and Hearing Impaired,

Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. The purpose of the programme was to give an access to the museum resources to the specially-challenged children who otherwise cannot visit museum and help them understand Nature and Biodiversity. 36 children along with 4 staff members participated in the programme. Two groups were formed. One group was engaged in the activities of Origami which included making different shapes of birds, animals, objects from paper with a theme and pasting them on drawing sheets (collage painting). Second group of participants learnt to make birds and animal shapes out of clay (clay modelling).

School Visits and Family Groups:

1212 school students from 13 schools/institutes in Delhi & NCR and 2687 family groups/general visitors visited the museum. Publication material was also provided to them.

2. R.M.N.H., Mysore

Public Visits

About 8165 visitors which included organized groups, students, family groups, tourists and individuals, visited the Museum up to 14th July 2010.

3. R.M.N.H., Bhopal

Detailed Project Report

The Detailed Project Report has been prepared and sent to Director, NMNH, New Delhi and Advisor, MoEF, New Delhi on July 15, 2010.

Nature Magazine

The Nature Magazine was prepared by RMNH which covered the activities of Summer Programme – 2010 organized by RMNH, Bhopal.

Project Proposal

A collaborative project proposal on “A study on wetland birds of Bhopal for environment education of people” by RMNH, Bhopal and Environment Conservation Society (Bhopal Birds), Bhopal was sent to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and Director, NMNH, New Delhi

Deputation

Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist-in-Charge attended “National Consultation for Green India Mission” organized by Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Bhopal on behalf of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India on July 09, 2010 at IIFM, Bhopal. Hon’ble Minister Shri Jayram Ramesh, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India was the Chief Guest of this programme.

NGO Collaboration Programme

The activities of “The museum school” by Parvarish was continued during this period also along with approximately forty deprived children.

Visit of Public

A total number of 3660 public visited the Museum during June 20 to July 19, 2010. One groups of students/teachers was provided guided tours at museum’s galleries.

4. R.M.N.H., Bhubaneswar

Development of Northeast Biodiversity Gallery

Work is under progress. Models of different species of northeast frogs are under preparation. Labels and panels of northeast biodiversity is about to be completed shortly.

Collection & preservation

The museum has obtained the distinction of having largest skeleton of a 47.3 ft dead baleen whale washed ashore on Gopalpur Beach, Berhampur on 29th June which was processed for retrieval of its skeleton for display, education and research in the Museum. The entire process of retrieval of the complete skeleton of this dead whale weighing 80 tones, near the sea shore and final transportation to the museum involved about 10 people working continuously for about 08 days. Final processing and preservation process of the specimen are going on in the museum.

Van Mahotsav celebration in the museum

The museum celebrated Van Mahotsav on 7th July through planting of sapling of 50 different species in the campus.

Exhibition on Wheels

The mobile exhibition on “Forest Wealth” was on display in Gopalpur on 7th & 8th July for the benefit of tourists, local fisherman and villagers.

Visit of public

A total number of 2,132 visitors from different organizations, institutions & family groups visited the Museum. About 316 SC & ST students from different zones had scientific exposure visit in the museum organized by Institute of Materials Science, Bhubaneswar.

Forthcoming programmes

A proposal has been sent to conduct written quiz for +2, +3, P.G students and painting competition for students of class V-X to commemorate 6th anniversary of the museum on 10th

August 2010. Special Programme for Differently Abled will be conducted during last week of this month to provide opportunity for those who cannot reach museum and involve them in various activities as per their aptitude, ability, interest.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. B. Venugopal)
Director

Copy to:

- 1) Dr. G.V. Subrahmanyam, Adviser, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.
- 2) Smt. Usha Subramaniam, Addl. Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.