

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 September 25, 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 September, 2010:

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

International Day for the Preservation of Ozone Layer (16th September, 2010):

NMNH conducted a “Declamation Contest” for the school students of Delhi and NCR (Class IX & X) on the occasion of “International Day for the Preservation of Ozone Layer” on 16th September, 2010. The aim of this contest was to sensitize the school children on the issue of preservation of life saving ozone layer. The theme given by UNEP for the year-2010 is - **“Ozone Layer Protection: Governance and Compliance at their best”**. Topic given for Declamation contest was – **“Save the Ozone Layer: Ozone Friendly Planet, Our Target”**. Around 70 schools in Delhi/NCR were invited to send their students for the contest. 10 schools confirmed their participation in the contest. Each school was allowed to send 2 participants. Each participant was given a time period of 3 minutes to express their views on the topic either in English or Hindi. Mrs. Jagjit, Scientist-D (Retd.), and Mrs. Nupur Awasthi, Educational Consultant & Naturalist were the judges of the event. First, Second, Third and two Encouragement Prizes were declared. The winners will receive the prizes at the Valedictory Function of NEAC / Winter Programme, 2010.

Special Visit:

300 Trainee Teachers from D. I. E. T., Rajinder Nagar, Delhi visited the Museum in batches of 50 each on 24th September 2010 onwards. The educational staff of the museum interacted with them in the museum galleries.

School Visits:

Around 1358 students / teachers from 21 schools of Delhi and NCR visited the museum. The educational staff interacted with them in the galleries for exhibit interpretation and to satisfy their query.

Family Groups / General Visitors:

Around 1489 general visitors visited the museum. Their query was satisfied and information on exhibits displayed in the gallery was provided. Publication material was also distributed to them.

Special Event of the Month (September, 2010):

National Museum of Natural History, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi in Collaboration with EMBASSY OF COLOMBIA, New Delhi organized an **Exhibition on Botanical Expedition of Colombia**. The Exhibition was inaugurated on 23rd September 2010 at 11:00 AM in the NMNH Auditorium. Mr. Juan A. P. Saavedra, Honourable Ambassador of Colombia was the Chief Guest and Dr. Deepak Kumar, Professor, JNU was the Guest of Honour at the function. Dr. G. V. Subrahmanyam, Scientist-G, Ministry of Environment & Forests presided over the function. Dr. B. Venugopal, Director, NMNH was also present at this occasion. The Exhibition is open for the public for one month from 23rd September to 22nd October 2010. The Schools of Delhi/NCR are invited to send their students to visit the Exhibition at the Second Floor Gallery, NMNH, New Delhi.

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

The following activities and programmes were conducted during the month of October 2010

1. Wild Life Week - 2010:

(a) Painting Competition:

Observation of Wild Life Week -2010 was held from 6th to 9th October 2010. Painting Competition was organised for the Higher Primary and High School students of Malavalli Tq., Mandya Dist. and T. Narasipura Tq., Mysore Dist. on 6th and 7th October 2010 at Guru Bhavan, T. Narasipura. About 900 rural students have been participated from various rural schools during the competition. 30 prize winners were selected out of the 20 rural schools participated in the painting competition. The prize winners were brought to Sri Chamrazendra Zoological Garden, Mysore on 9th October 2010 as a field visit to study the wild animals in captivity.

(b) Guest Lecture:

A public function was also organised at the Auditorium of RMNH, Mysore. Shri Motappa, DCF, Mercera Wildlife Division, Mercera was invited as Chief Guest for the prize distribution function. He was also delivered an illustrated talk on 'Wild life and its importance' on this occasion.

2. Photographic Exhibition on Wild life:

A Photographic Exhibition on 'Wild Life' was organised and inaugurated to the public in collaboration with NGO, Voice for Wild Life, Mysore.

3. Special Film Shows on Wild Life:

Special film shows were organised to screen on wildlife by the Films Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India, Bangalore from 5th to 8th October 2010 in Mysore and surrounding areas.

4. Work of Traveling Exhibition on "Biodiversity of Western Ghats":

Regarding the organization of the Traveling Exhibition on "Biodiversity of Western Ghats", The work is in progress and the following activities are undertaken:

After obtained the administrative approval the work orders were placed to the lowest quoted firms for the supply of Exhibition Stall Components, Design work, Printing etc.

Quotation notices for inviting quotations for supply of electronic components/hardware materials for the traveling exhibition were despatched to different firms.

Exhibition committee opened the received quotations for the supply of fibre glass relief models and murals. Prepared the comparative statement and recommended for the lowest quoted firm. Letter despatched to the H.O. for the administrative approvals to place work orders to the lowest quoted firms.

3. Film Shows:

Regular Film Shows from 12.00 Noon to 1.00 P.M. and 4.00 to 5.00 P.M. were arranged for visitors.

International Ozone Day -2010:

(a) Painting Competition:

A Painting Competition was organized for High School Students in connection with the observation of International Ozone Day – 2010 in collaboration of the Geetha Shishu Shikshana, Geetha School, Siddarthanagar, Mysore on 14.9.2010 at Geetha School. About 250 students had participated in the competition from different schools of Mysore.

(b) Guest Lecture:

A Guest Lecture was organized in connection with the International Ozone Day – 2010 on 16.9.2010 at the Museum Auditorium. Lecture on ‘Ozone’ was delivered by Dr. H.N. Visvanath, Professor, Department of Education, Sharda Vilas Teachers College, Mysore for the students and General Public. The Prizes were also distributed to the prize winners of the painting competition on the same day.

Special Programme of the Month - 2010:

A three days workshop on “Bird’s flue and its impact on Environment” held between 1st and 3rd September 2010 for Veterinary Doctors from Mysore, Mandya and Medikere as collaborative programme organized with the office of the Assistant Director, City Veterinary Hospital, Department of Animal Husbandry, Jilla Panchayath, Mysore.

Work of Traveling Exhibition on “Biodiversity of Western Ghats”:

Regarding the organization of the Traveling Exhibition on “Biodiversity of Western Ghats”, the Organizing committee of the exhibition visited Bangalore on 16th & 17th Sept. 2010 to conduct market survey and collect addresses for calling quotations for the supply of Exhibition Stall Components, design work, printing etc. The Committee also discussed with Prof. G.N. Ganeshaiah, Professor, School of Ecology and Conservation and Department of Forestry and Environmental Science, University of Agricultural Science, Bangalore for the preparation of the

Computer Kiosk. Letters have been despatched to all the reputed agencies for calling quotations for the supply of Exhibition Stall Components, Design work, Printing etc. on 20.9.2010.

Film Shows:

Regular film shows were arranged for visitors from 12.00 Noon to 1.00 P.M. and 4.00 to 5.00 P.M.

R.M.N.H., Bhopal

Hindi Fortnight Programme: Hindi Fortnight has been inaugurated on September 14, 2010 at RMNH, Bhopal. Various Hindi competitions are being held during the Hindi Fortnight. Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist 'E' and all staff members of RMNH, Bhopal attended the inauguration programme at Conference Hall.

Meeting at IGRMS: Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist 'E' attended a meeting with Dr. K. K. Misra, Director, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya on Sept. 16, 2010. The objective of the meeting was to organize the collaborative programme with IGRMS, Bhopal.

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

E. Foot Falls: A total number of 4841 public visited the Museum during August 20 to September 19, 2010.

F. Visits of Organized Groups: 9 groups of students/teachers were provided guided tours at museum's galleries during August 20 to September 19, 2010.

G. Film Shows: Regular film shows from 3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. were arranged for visitors in the eco-theatre of museum. The rare films received during the CMS Wild Life Film Festival were screened which gained greater applause from the wild life enthusiast and general public.

R.M.N.H. Bhubaneswar

Development of Northeast Biodiversity Gallery:

Gallery development work is nearing completion. Printing and fixing of labels and panels of northeast biodiversity is about to be completed shortly. It is proposed for inauguration on 19th November 2010.

Special programme for visually challenged:

A special programme for visually challenged children was conducted on 4th September 2010 at Hellen Keller School for Blind, Berhampur. Children participated in touch, feel & identify stuffed animals, identifying calls of animals & birds, clay modeling, quiz competition on wildlife. About 80 children participated in the competition. Prizes to the winners were distributed by Shri A.K. Jena, DFO, Berhampur Division.

Nature tour for mentally challenged:

About 25 mentally challenged children from Jewels International (Chetana) were taken for an exposure visit to the museum followed by visit to Nandankanan Botanical Garden & Zoo on 08th September 2010. Children were shown birds & animals in the Zoo and allowed to feel the forest in an open diorama of simlipal forest in the museum. Cartoons related to animals were screened for their benefit.

Orientation programme for Teachers in-charge of eco- clubs:

A two days orientation programme for Teachers-in-charge of eco-clubs, Khurda district was organized on 15th & 16th September 2010 in association with Centre for Environmental Studies, Forest & Environment Deptt, Govt. of Orissa. The programme was inaugurated by

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Shri Bhagirathi Behera, Director, Environment-cum-Spl. Secretary, Forest & Environment Department, Govt. of Orissa in the presence of Sri G. Rajesh, DFO, Khurda-cum-Member Convener, NGC, Khurda. Presentation and discussions were held on the topics like Climate Change & Ecosystem, Green House Effect, Energy Audit, Strengthening NGC programme, Eco Club-School to village approach, Role of Eco Club in awareness generation, Medicinal Plant Conservation, Understanding Biodiversity, Collection, Preservation & documentation for understanding biodiversity etc. About 100 teachers of eco-clubs schools of Khurda district participated in the programme. Programme concludes with distribution of certificates to the participants.

Visit of public:

During the month visitor's book recorded a total number of 6,188 visitors from different schools, organizations, institutions & family groups.

Special visits:

About 25 mentally challenged students of Jewels International (Chetana) visited on 08th September 2010.

Visit of about 124 tribal students from Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar visited on 23rd September 2010.

About 35 teachers from Anganwadi workers training centre, Jajpur visited on 23rd September 2010.

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.

(Dr. B. Venugopal)
Director