

National Museum of Natural History
Monthly Report for the month of April, 2012

NMNH, NEW DELHI

World Heritage Day (18th April, 2012):

An out-reach special programme for the under-privileged children was organized in collaboration with National Zoological Park, Delhi (Delhi Zoo) on the occasion of World Heritage Day on 18th April, 2012. 20 under-privileged children from Madarsa Misbalum, Ashok Vihar, Loni (Gzb, UP) and 20 under-privileged children from Hauz Khas, Pahari Bastim, New Delhi participated in this programme through an NGO – KHUSHI Centre for Rehabilitation & Research, South Extn, New Delhi. The purpose of the programme was to give access of the museum resources and activities to the under-privileged children to whom museum resources are otherwise inaccessible.

The Resource Persons interacted with the under-privileged children. The children were taken for a visit through the Delhi Zoo to observe and learn about habits and habitat of wild animals and birds. Children also participated in educational activities organized by the resource persons. The children were given token gifts and refreshment at the conclusion of the programme.

Earth Day (22nd April, 2012):

“Poster Making Competition” was organized on the occasion of Earth Day on 22nd April 2012 on the Theme – “Green Economy: Does it include you?” for the children born between 1st April 1992 to 31st March 1997. The competition was held on National Level at NMNH, New Delhi and Regional Centres at Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur. Entry was by Registration only which was done at each venue during 17-19 April 2012. A maximum of 200 children were allowed to register on first cum first served basis.

The best Regional Prize entry from each venue will be pooled to select One National Winner who will be given the “Young Environmentalist of the Year Award-2012” (YEYA-2012) at a function to be held in New Delhi on 5th June 2012 on the occasion of World Environment Day.

Visitors

1,565 school students and teachers from 10 schools/institutes in Delhi & NCR visited NMNH Museum galleries. Around 2,477 family groups/general visitors visited the museum. The educational staff interacted with the students and general visitors in the museum galleries for exhibit interpretation. Their queries were satisfied and information on exhibits displayed in the gallery was provided. Publication material was also provided to them on request.

Nature on Screen:

Films on the themes of Environment, Nature and Wildlife are screened in the museum auditorium twice a day at 11 am and 3 pm, for the visiting public and school students.

RMNH, MYSORE

Observation of World Water Day-2012

The World Water Day was observed on 22nd March, 2012. **The objective of World Water Day** is to focus international attention on the impact of rapid urban population growth, industrialization and uncertainties caused by climate change, conflicts and natural disasters on urban water systems. This day was first formally proposed in [Agenda 21](#) of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development ([UNCED](#)) in [Rio de Janeiro, Brazil](#). Observance began in 1993 and has grown significantly ever since; for the general public to show support, it is encouraged for the public to not use their taps throughout the whole day, the day has become a popular [Face book](#) trend.

The venue of the programme was Govt.Girls Higher Primary School,Arakere, Srirangapattana Tq. Mandya Dist. The programme was formally inaugurated by Shri Jagdesh, Block Education Officer, Srirangapattana Tq. Mandya Dist. Shri K. Manu, C/o Mysore Amateur Naturlist,#227, 3rd Main A1 Block 3rd Stage, Vijayanagar , Mysore was invited as Guest Speaker and Sh. M.K. Nagaraj, Science Teacher, Govt. High School, Arakere was also invited as resource person during the programme. Shri. M.B. Mahesh and his team consisting of three members from Learning Designer, Excel Soft technologies Pvt. Ltd. 1-B, Hootagalli Industrial Area, Mysore – 570 018 participated in the programme as Resource person for the interactive (practical) session. Smt. Manjula, Teacher Govt.Girls Higher Primary School,Arakere and Joint Secretary, Karnataka Primary School Teacher Association,Bangalore, welcome the guests, Dr. P. Onkara Naik, SEA, RMNH,Siddarthanagar, Mysore spoken about the importance and need of the programme and Shri Rajshekar, Head Master, Govt.Girls Higher Primary School,Arakere gave vote of thanks during the plenary session of the programme.

During this programme about 250 students from Govt. Higher primary School and Govt Girls Higher Primary School, Arakere, participated and made use of the programme. However, the entire programme was very informative and successful.

Visitors

During the month, a total number of 5935 visitors from different organizations, institutions and family groups visited the Museum.

Film Shows: Regular film shows from 12.00 Noon to 1.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. were arranged for visitors.

RMNH, BHOPAL

Sparrow Day Programme: The Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal observed 'Sparrow Day' on March 20, 2012 by arranging the photographic exhibits on sparrow at the entrance area of museum.

Participation:

1. Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist E attended local advisory meeting at Regional Science Centre, Bhopal on 2nd April 2012
2. Dr. Sethuramalingam, Scientist- E, Shri Manoj K. Sharma, Taxidermist and Shri Manik Lal Gupta, Educational Assistant of RMNH, Bhopal attended a Brain storming workshop on Traditional Ecology of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh on 7th April, 2012 organized by Limnology Department of Baraktullah University, Bhopal. Dr. S.Sethuramalingam, Scientist E presented a slide show detailing the priorities, ethical values and scientific validation of ecological traditions.

Deputations:

1. Shri Manik Lal Gupta, Educational Assistant, RMNH, Bhopal attended a workshop on Intangible Natural Heritage on 23-24 March, 2012 organized by NMNH, New Delhi.
2. Shri Manoj K. Sharma, Taxidermist of RMNH, Bhopal was deputed to examine the condition of the Wildlife Trophies at Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 3rd to 4th April, 2012. RMNH, Bhopal.

D. Taxidermy works;

1. **Restoration:** The earlier collected Tiger Trophies from Chief Conservator of Forest, Sagar, Forest Department, Govt. of M.P. were quarantined and effect of fumigation were observed and recorded.
2. **Scientific photo documentation:** The complete photo documentation of these collected trophies were done scientifically.

E. Meeting : Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist-E arranged a meeting with Shri Ajaoy Dubey, Secretary of Bhopal based Praytna, NGO on 17th April, 2012 to conduct a Save tiger interactive programme on the occasion of Earth Day 2012 having Additional PCCF (Wildlife) Department of Forest of M.P. Shri Suhas Kumar, IFS as Chief Guest.

Visitors

A total number of 2253 public visited the Museum during the month of March 20 to April 19, 2012. 03 groups of students/teachers were provided guided tours at museum's galleries.

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.

RMNH, BHUBANESWAR

Visits of public:

During the month visitor book recorded a total number of 10200 visitors from different organizations, institutions and family groups.

Competitions for children of Fisherman Community (10th April 2012)

The museum organized a painting and singing competition for the children of the fisherman communities living in important fishing location of Odisha i.e. Gopalpur beach in Ganjam District on 10th April, 2012 at Nodal Upper Primary School, Gopalpur-on-sea, Ganjam. About 250 students from four different schools (Nodal Upper Primary School, Project Primary School, Gopalpur Girl's High School and RCM M.E. School) of Gopalpur-on-sea from Ganjam district participated in the competitions. The painting competition was held in three categories i.e. Category I, from Class I to III; Category II, from Class IV to VI and Category III, from Class VII to IX. The singing competition was held in two groups i.e. Junior group, from Class III – V and Senior group, from Class VI – VIII. At the end of the programme, certificates and cash prizes were distributed among the prize winners in the presence of DFO, Shri A.K.Jena, Berhampur Division.

Workshop on “Elephant Conservation in Odisha & its Challenges” (8th April 2012):

Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhubaneswar organized a workshop on “Elephant Conservation in Odisha & its Challenges” on 8th April 2012 in collaboration with Nature and Wildlife Conservation Society of Orissa (NWCS). The meeting was held in presence of the Chief Guest, Shri Debi Prasad Mishra, Hon'ble Minister, Forest & Environment, Odisha, Shri P.N. Padhi, IFS, PCCF, Odisha, Shri J.D. Sharma, IFS, PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha, Shri M.F. Ahmed, IFS(Rtd), Former DG Forest and President, NWCS, Shri G.N. Indresha, Scientist-C & H.O, RMNH, Bhubaneswar. The workshop included the discussion on the impact of social development on forest and wildlife along with conservation of Elephant and its habitat.

Poster Making Competition and Summer Vacation Programme-2012

As part of Earth Day and World Environment Day, 2012 the museum organized a Poster Making Competition on 22nd April, 2012 as well as Summer Vacation Programme for children will be organized from 22nd May to 31st May, 2012. For this purpose wide publicity through banners in important locations has been made and posters & circulars were sent to 67 schools and colleges in Bhubaneswar.