

Government of India
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
(Ministry of Environment & Forests)

Tansen Marg,
New Delhi-110001.

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

Dated the October 25, 2012

To

Shri R.K. Agarwal,
Deputy Secretary (GC),
Room No.1030, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110003.

Sub: Monthly Report for the Cabinet – reg.

Sir,

Please find enclosed the Monthly Report of the National Museum of Natural History for the month of October, 2012.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. B. Venugopal)
Director

Copy to:

Shri M.M. Pandey, Under Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER, 2012

CoP 11 programmes

The NMNH organised the following programmes as side events of 11th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity (CoP11) in Salarjung Museum Hyderabad in collaboration with the NBA (National Biodiversity Authority) and APBB (Andhra Pradesh State Biodiversity Board).

International Conference:

A large number of Experts from India and abroad participated and presented papers in the International Conference on “Natural History of Indian Biodiversity” organised by the NMNH (through its RMNH Mysore) during 4-5 October 2012. The foreign delegates included experts from London (Natural History Museum), Edinburgh (Royal Botanical Garden), Amsterdam, Paris (National Museum of Natural History) and Stanford (USA). There were sessions on ‘Indian Biodiversity’, ‘Intangible Natural Heritage’, ‘NH of AP’ and ‘National Biodiversity Museum’

Children’s Sahyadri Biodiversity Congress:

The Phase 2 of the CSBC was organised by the NMNH (through its RMNH Mysore) on the 6th October 2012. The winners from the Phase I of the Congress, involving children from the states of AP, Karnataka, Kerala and TN, had presentations on the Biodiversity of Western Ghats. The winners were given attractive prizes. Selected prize winning entries from the four Southern states were exhibited in the Salarjung Museum for public benefit.

Rare manuscript on Indian NH:

Dr Le Duc, Director International Relations of the National Museum of Natural History at Paris handed over a digital copy of “Jardin de Lorixa” (a rare manuscript on the plants of Orissa written in 1725) to the Director NMNH India on 5th October 2012 at a function chaired by Dr Saroj Ghose, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the NMNH. The manuscript is inspired by *Hortus Malabaricus* on which the NMNH has undertaken a series of programmes.

International colloquium on Ecological Heritage:

The Director NMNH was invited to speak on “Intangible Natural Heritage” at an international colloquium organised by the AgroParisTech Musee du Vivant, Paris (France) during 11-134 October 2012.

Heritage committee of the CBSE:

The Director NMNH was appointed as a Member for the CBSE Committee of Heritage Education Programme for a three years term.

NMNH HQ, New Delhi

Wildlife Week (2-8 October, 2012)

In order to sensitize the school children on the matters for preservation and to arouse a general awakening in favour of protection of wildlife, schools in Delhi/NCR were invited to NMNH where education staff interacted with them and made them aware about the wildlife of India through guided tour of the museum galleries. This included a talk on wildlife of India followed by exhibit interpretation in the museum galleries and film show in the museum auditorium. The special guided tour was available on prior booking and registration by the schools.

The following schools visited NMNH for special guided tour:

- 3rd October 2012 : Cambridge School, Jr. Wing, Sec-27, NOIDA: 196 students of class III & 6 teachers
- 4th October 2012: St. Michael's School, Sec-4, Gurgaon: 25 students of classes XI-XII & 3 teachers
- 9th October 2012: Kendriya Vidyalaya, Sec-2, R. K. Puram, N. Delhi: 45 students of class XII & 2 teachers
- 12th October 12: Ramjas Foundation/Ramjas Primary School, Delhi: 80 students of class V & 14 teachers

Visitors

4964 Students & teachers/coordinators from 58 schools/institutes in Delhi/NCR visited museum. 2422 general visitors visited museum during the month.

Special Groups:

1. On 16th Oct'12, 37 trainee teachers & 2 coordinators from DIET, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, Delhi visited NMNH
2. On 17th Oct'12, 20 senior educational administrators (Principals of DIETS and SCERT) attending Capacity Building Programme in Art Integrated Learning by NCERT visited NMNH for understanding the Role of Museum as Resource for Teaching.
3. On 18th Oct'12, 82 children 8 staff members from Shubhiksha Educational Society, Rohini, Delhi visited NMNH. The visit was organised by CCRT.

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

Poster making competition on Biological Diversity of Western Ghats -

As a side event of the Cop 11, poster making competition for the students between the age group of 14 to 17 years was held on 30.9.2012 at Salarjung Museum, Hyderabad (A.P.). About 65

students participated in the said competition. The judgement was done on the same day and the best five entries were selected as prize winning entries. 20 best posters were also selected for the exhibition purpose. The first prize winner Shri. Challuri Veer Chaithanya was given an opportunity to present a power point presentation on “Biodiversity of Western Ghats” during Children Syhadri Biodiversity Congress held on 6.10.2012 at Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.

Observation of Wildlife Week-2012

The following programmes were held at Vivekananda Shikshana Samasthe, Bannur, Mysore Dist. from 9-11 October, 2012 to create awareness among the student community about wildlife:

Date	Activity	Details
9.10.2010	Painting competition and Film show on Wildlife for class 8-10	Painting on wildlife at any one Rural High school out side Mysore (Vivekananda Shikshana Samsthe, Bannur, held 9 th October 2012)
10.10. 2010	Elocution competition and Film show on Wildlife for class 8-10 students	Elocution competition on wildlife at any one Rural High school out side Mysore (Vivekananda Shikshana Samsthe, Bannur, held on 10 th October 2012)
11.10. 2010	Mysore Zoo & RMNH visit and Prize distribution (Valediction) programme	12 Prize Winners of above competition had been taken to Mysore Zoo for visit followed by prize & certificates distribution at RMNH, Mysore held on 11 th October 2012

In this programme, considering his practical experience in the area of environmental Education and wildlife conservation Sri Rajkumar, Wildlife Biologist and Honorary Wildlife Warden, Bandipur National Park was invited as Guest Speaker on the accession. Sri Suresh N., Artist, 27 Pankaj Nilaya, II Main, 16th Cross, Vidyaranayapuram, Mysore, Mahadev Swamy, Artist, Chamarajanagar and Sri Ravitheja, Artist, Raviverma Art College, Mysore were invited as Judges to adjudicate the Painting competition which was held on 9th October 2012 at 10.30 a.m. and Sri Santhosh Kanada, Lecturer in Biology, Maharaja Jr. College, Sri Somshekar, Education Officer, Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Garden and Sri S.K. Krishnaraju, Dy. Director, Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Dept. of Police, KPA Compound, Mysore were Judges to adjudicate the Elocution competition on wildlife conservation which was also held on 10th Oct. 2012 at 10.30 a.m. at Vivekananda Shikshana Samasthe, Bannur, Mandya Dist.

Visitors

During the month, a total number of 4436 visitors from different schools, organizations, institutions and family groups visited the Museum.

Film Shows:

Daily film shows on environment were shown during 12.00 Noon to 1.00 pm and 4-5 pm.

R.M.N.H., BHOPAL

Hindi Fortnight Programme:

RMNH, Bhopal organized valediction of Hindi Fortnight on October 4, 2012. Various competitions were organized during the Hindi Fortnight. Shri Manik Lal Gupta, Educational

Assistant was awarded first prize while Shri Manoj K. Sharma, Taxidermist and Shri Sukhchain Prasad Shriwas, UDC bagged second and third prizes respectively. Shri Shivaji Rao, Preparatory Assistant, Shri Urba Dutt, LDC, Shri Gautam Singh Yadav, Photographer, Shri Navin Kumar, Artist and Shri Panchhi Lal Ray, Gallery Attendant received encouragement prizes. Shri Manoj Kumar Sharma, Taxidermist was the co-ordinator of the programme.

Museology Training Programme:

Ten students from Department of Museology, M.S. University of Baroda attended the practical training programme at RMNH, Bhopal from 3rd Oct. to 11th Oct. 2012 as part of the training programme. The students were involved in works related to taxidermy, exhibit preparation, museum photography, gallery development. During the training programme, lecture on crypto taxidermy was delivered by Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist-E and lecture on preservation techniques was delivered by Shri Manoj Kumar Sharma, Taxidermist. Demonstration on taxidermy arranged at taxidermy studio by Shri Manoj Kumar Sharma, Taxidermist on live cock. Students learnt the taxidermy techniques during the demonstration. Shri R.R. Bakde, Former Scientist of NMNH shared his experiences in the field of museology. Shri Tapas Biswas, Senior Photographer from Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal shared the techniques of museum photography. The practical training programme was co-ordinated by Shri Manoj Kumar Sharma, Taxidermist.

Participation:

Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist-E delivered a lecture-cum-PPT presentation on “Animal Diversity” on October 18, 2012 during the national workshop on “Horizon of bioinformatics in environmental management & biodiversity conservation” at Barkatullah University, Bhopal.

Label Work on Dinosaur:

Label works have been initiated on Dinosaur on Oct.03, 2012.

Visitors

A total number of 6778 public visited the Museum during September 20, 2012 to October 19, 2012. 10 groups of students/teachers were provided guided tours at museum’s galleries during September 20, 2012 to October 19, 2012.

Film Shows:

Film shows on environment were shown to public daily at 3.00 p.m.

R.M.N.H. BHUBANESWAR

Teachers Training Workshop on Biology Kits (4th & 5th October-2012):

The Museum organized a two days Teacher Training Workshop on 4th & 5th October 2012 in collaboration with Regional Institute of Education (NCERT), Bhubaneswar to develop Learning Kits in Biology at V to VII Standard level based on NCERT curriculum. Main objective of the workshop is to identify the content, text, activities, information sheets and write up to be incorporated in the form of user’s guide for the Learning Kits in Biology with the guidance,

interaction and inputs from experts and the participating teachers based on their classroom experiences.

Environmental Awareness Programme-2012 for JNVs of Odisha at JNV, Dhenkanal Dist. and JNV, Balasore Dist.: (11th & 13th October 2012)

Environmental Awareness Programme-2012 for JNVs of Odisha was held at JNV, Sarang, Dhenkanal District on 11th October 2012 and at JNV, Bagudi, Balasore District on 13th October 2012. The programme included a written quiz on environment of 30 minutes duration followed by film show on nature, environment & wildlife of 30 min. duration, presentation on poisonous and non-poisonous snakes and interaction with the participants. A total of 216 students participated in the quiz competition and about 1080 students took part in the interaction session about the nature conservation, biodiversity and ecology through Power Point Presentation by Scientist-C & H.O. The winners of each school were awarded with cash prize of Rs. 1,000/-, Rs. 750/-, 500/- as Ist, IInd and IIIrd prize respectively along with 05 consolation prizes of Rs. 200/- each and certificates in the presence of the Principal and staff of the school.

Movement of Exhibition on Wheels: (16th & 17th October-12)

Exhibition on wheels on the theme "Forest Wealth" was on display at JNV, Gurujung Khordha District on 16th & 17th October-2012 during NVS National Science & Environment Exhibition to create an understanding & awareness among the students and general public about the forest resources, their role, and sustainable use of forest resources. Around 740 students, teachers and general visitors witnessed the mobile exhibition. Guided facility to the children and teachers was provided by museum interpreters to facilitate their understanding and learning about environment.

Visitors:

During the month 11,555 visitors from different organizations, institutions and family groups visited the Museum. Special Visitors included 76 student & teachers from Nursery school for Deaf, Bhubaneswar visited on 07.10.12, 16 students & teachers from Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir, Andaman visited on 10.10.12 and 46 students & teachers from St. Xavier's Academy, Jharkhand visited on 16.10.12.

Film shows:

Film shows on environment were shown to public daily at 3.00 p.m.

RG RMNH, SAWAI MADHOPUR

Exhibition work:

Various works such as fabrication, art, modelling, labels etc of the new exhibition on Biodiversity of Rajasthan is progressing.

Visitors:

Even though the Museum is not opened to visitors, 214 public and tourist dropped in to the Museum. In addition, a team from the MoEF/NMNH (Mr. M. M. Pandey, Under Secretary, NMNH Cell, MOEF, New Delhi, Mr. Vinod Kumar, A.O., NMNH & Hukum Chand, UDC) visited the Museum on 19th October, 2012 to take stock fo the progress of the work.