

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 February 22, 2013

To

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

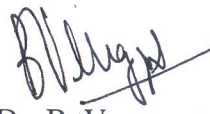
Sub: Monthly Report for the Cabinet – reg.

Sir,

Please find enclosed the Monthly Report of the National Museum of Natural History for the month of February, 2013.

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 FEBRUARY, 2013

NMNH HQ, NEW DELHI

World Wetlands Day (2nd Feb 2013)

To commemorate World Wetlands Day (2nd February, 2013), an out-reach programme was organized for specially challenged children. These children were taken for a visit to National Zoological Park (Delhi Zoo) to observe Migratory Water Birds and other animals. Battery operated vehicle was provided to take children around the Zoo. The Delhi Zoo officials interacted with children and made them aware of habits and habitat of migratory birds and other animals. These children also participated in Nature Painting activity. The children were given token gifts and also provided with refreshments.

21 mentally challenged children along with 4 teachers from NIMH Model Special Education Centre, Kasturba Niketan, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi participated in this out-reach programme.

Programme for Specially Challenged Children (6th to 8th Feb 2013)

National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) organizes a variety of educational programmes and extension activities throughout the year for students in particular and public in general. It also makes effort to involve the section of our society that includes special children who have immense capacity to understand and capture the knowledge imparted to them.

Programme for specially challenged children is an annual programme organized by the Museum in the month of February. The aim of this programme is to create an equal opportunity for children with disabilities and bring awareness among them regarding environment, nature and wildlife through different educational activities. This programme was organized by the Division of Educational Services from 6th to 8th February 2013. Besides Division of Educational Services, staff from Art and Modeling Units of the Museum was also involved to make the programme a success. The officials from NMNH and resource persons visited the selected special schools for children with disabilities to interact and do various activities with them. Shri K. S. Attri, Sr. Educational Assistant., NMNH coordinated the programme. All the participating children were given Token gifts and were provided with refreshments.

On 6th February, 2013 the officials from the museum visited NIMH Model Special Education Centre, Kasturba Niketan, Lajpat Nagar-II, New Delhi and interacted with Mentally challenged children. Shri Krishan Madan, Artist, NMNH and Ms. Kriti taught Collage Painting and Nature Painting to children. 38 children participated in this programme.

On 7th February, 2013 the officials from the Museum visited Institute for the Blind, Amar Colony, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi and interacted with Visually challenged children. Shri Nand Lal, Sr. Exhibit Preparator and Shri Vivek Chugh, Exhibit Preparator, NMNH taught Bird and Animal Modelling to children. 21 children participated in this activity.

28 children participated in Story Writing in Braille. They were asked to write stories related to wildlife and environment.

On 8th February, 2013 the officials from the Museum visited Model Integrated Primary School, Pt. Deen Dyal Upadhyaya Institute for the Physically Handicapped, Vishnu Digambar Marg, New Delhi. Shri Krishan Madan, Artist, NMNH and Mrs. Chanchal interacted with children and taught them making flowers, greeting cards using the art of Origami and Nature Painting. 24 children participated in this programme.

School visits and Family groups/General visitors

9143 students & teachers/coordinators from 73 schools/institutes in Delhi/NCR visited museum.
1528 general visitors visited museum during the month.

The educational staff interacted with the visitors and provided information on the exhibits displayed in galleries.

The visitors were also requested to fill the Feedback forms giving their remarks and suggestions regarding the facilities available in the museum.

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.

Special visits:

1. On 2nd February 2013, a group of 83 Middle/Secondary/Sr. Secondary school teachers from different States/Union Territories of the country participating in an Orientation course for in-service teachers by Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), visited NMNH. The teachers were given briefing about the educational programmes and activities organised by the Museum followed by guided tour of the museum galleries.
2. On 13th February 2013, a group of 150 trainee teachers pursuing ETE 1st year from District Institute Education and Training (DIET), South West, Ghumanhera, New Delhi, visited NMNH. The trainee teachers were given a brief talk on educational programmes and activities followed by guided tour of the museum galleries.
3. A Foreign delegation of 10 members from Afghanistan visited NMNH on 5th February 2013. Faculty from University of Delhi accompanied the group. Director, NMNH interacted with the group followed by guided tour in the museum galleries. Mrs. Naaz Rizvi, Scientist-D and Dr. Reena Dey, Scientist-C, NMNH accompanied the group in the galleries and discussed the educational and technical aspect of the exhibits.

Director's programme:

During the month, Dr. B. Venugopal, Director participated in the following meetings:

1. Discussion with Dr. Mrs Shikhar Noor Munshi, Keeper, Department of Natural History, Bangladesh National Museum, Dhaka on possible future collaboration between National Museum (Bangladesh) and NMNH (India) on 19th February 2013
2. Meeting of Experts for the New Vocational Education Qualification Framework (NVEQF) organised by the AICTE in New Delhi on 20th February 2013
3. Lecture on "Museum education: Indian perspective" at the NMI on 21st February 2013 at the 2 days "Working Seminar" organised by the NMI in collaboration with British Council
4. MoEF Committee on new Building in Aliganj: Meeting to brief regarding art work/ instalations at the new building of the MoEF on the 22nd February 2013

RMNH, MYSORE

Programme for differently abled persons

The programme for differently abled persons will be held in the 4th week of February, .2013.

Observation of National Science Day 28th Feb.2013

National Science Day will be observed on 28th February, 2013.

Visitors

During the month, a total number of 5941 visitors from different schools, organizations, institutions and family groups visited the Museum.

Film Shows:

Daily film shows on environment were shown from 12.00 Noon to 1.00 pm and from 4.00 to 5.00 pm.

R.M.N.H., BHOPAL

Inauguration of Temporary Exhibition:

A temporary exhibition on "Wildlife Conservation and Ecotourism" fabricated by the Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal in the temporary exhibition hall of the Museum in association with Madhya Pradesh Ecotourism Development Board, Bhopal and inaugurated on 14th February, 2013. The Chief Guest Shri R.S. Negi, IFS, PCCF, Forest Department, Madhya Pradesh inaugurated the exhibition. Dr. A. K. Bhattacharya, IFS, Executive Director, Madhya Pradesh Van Vikas Nigam, Bhopal was present as the Guest of Honour. Shri Satish Tyagi, IFS, CEO, MPEDB, Bhopal, invitees, general public and staff members of the museum were present during the programme.

Collaborative Programme

Crusade for Revival of Environment and Wildlife (CREW), Bhopal organized a programme on "Wildlife film making" on February 28, 2013 with the logistic support of RMNH, Bhopal.

Visitors

A total number of 8710 public visited the Museum during January 20, 2013 to February 19, 2013. 12 groups of students/teachers were provided guided tours at museum's galleries during January 20, 2013 to February 19, 2013.

Film Shows:

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

R.M.N.H., BHUBANESWAR

Orientation programme for Eco-Development Committee members, Forest Guards & Foresters: (1st – 3rd February 2013)

Museum organized an orientation programme for forest guards, forester and eco-development committee members of Bhitarkanika range and Jumboo range from 1-3 February in collaboration with Mangrove Forest Division (Wildlife) Rajnagar, Kendrapara. The orientation programme

included an orientation about interpretation in the field, making them aware of the various biodiversity components and their inter-relationship for proper interpretation to the visitors of national parks along by using the museum gallery resources along with exposure visit to Zoo, RPRC, Energy Park and Chandaka Interpretation Centre. Shri Manoj Mohapatra, DFO, Mangrove Wildlife Division, Shri K. L. Purohit, ACF, Nandankanan Zoo, Dr. S.K.Kar, Former Research Officer, Forest Dept and Shri. G.N.Indresha, Scientist-MNH, Bhubaneswar made a presentation on the relevant topics during the programme. About 20 members participated in the programme.

Special programme for differently-abled students: (16th & 17th February 2013)

Museum organized special programmes for differently-abled students on 16th & 17th February 2013 in collaboration with Neelachal Seva Pratisthan, Kanas, Puri district. Special programme included various creative activities like clay modeling, painting, sand art, touch, feel & identify, identifying calls of birds & animals and singing competition on nature & environment etc. This programme provided a special opportunity for differently abled students to participate in various museum activities like regular students and express their talents related to natural history. The programme was envisaged outside Bhubaneswar to provide opportunity to the students of Puri district in Odisha. The students were involved in various activities as per their aptitude, ability, interest. The programme was undertaken under seven different events consisting of three groups viz. visually challenged, mentally challenged and hearing impaired students. About 130 differently-abled students took part in the above competitions. At last all prize winners were awarded with cash prize and certificates during the prize distribution function graced by Shri Hari Mohan Harichandan, Chairman, NSP and Bidyadhar Paschmimakabata, Principal of the school.

Visit of public:

During the month the visitor's book recorded a total number of **31,093** visitors from different organizations, institutions & family groups.

RGRMNH, SAWAI MADHOPUR

Exhibition development:

The exhibition at the Museum is in the final stage. Mr. Nandlal, Sr. Exhibit Preparator and Mr. Soran Singh, Gallery Attendant, NMNH, have been officially deputed to RGRMNH, Sawai Madhopur (11-16 Feb. 2013) to give final touch of the diorama.

Programme of Scientist:

Shri Mohammad Yunus, Scientist C, RGRMNH, Sawai Madhopur visited Jaisalmer in order to make arrangements for the Workshop on "Museums and Intangible Natural Heritage with focus on Desert". He will be on tour to Lucknow from 28th February to 1st March, 2013 in connection with CBI Case No.RC5(E0/2000-EOU-V for treatment of wildlife articles.