



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
National Museum of Natural History
(Ministry of Environment & Forests)

FICCI Museum Building
Barakhamba Road
New Delhi-110001
Phone: 23320739, 23314849

No.13(6)/2007-08/NMNH

Date: 25 /1/2010

To

Shri Narain Das
Deputy Secretary (GC)
M/o. Environment & Forests,
527, Paryavaran Bhavan, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-3.

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 **January, 2010**:

N.M.N.H., NEW DELHI

Braille Day (4.1.2010) NMNH makes effort to involve the section of our society that includes specially challenged children who have immense capacity to understand and engulf the knowledge imparted to them. To commemorate Louise Braille Day, a special programme for visually challenged children was conducted on 12th & 15th January 2010. An “***Essay Writing Competition in Braille***” was organized on 12th January 2010 in two categories – Junior Group: class V to VII and Senior Group: class VIII to X. Total 67 students from 6 schools for visually challenged children in Delhi participated in the programme. The external Judges deputed by NMNH evaluated the copies. Topics for essay writing was for Junior Gp.- **My contribution towards Eco-friendly India**. Senior Gp.- **Climate Change - We can make a difference**. First, Second, Third and Five Encouragement Prizes in each category will be given.

“**Declamation Contest**” was organized on 15th January, 2010 for visually challenged children from classes VIII to XI. 18 students from 5 schools for visually challenged children in Delhi participated in the programme. Topic for Declamation: “**To save the species from extinction, Join hands for their protection**”. First, Second, Third and Five Encouragement Prizes will be given to the winners.

School Visits: 17,397 students from 83 schools in Delhi & NCR visited NMNH galleries. The schools included are the MCD primary schools, Government/Govt. Aided schools, Public schools and NGO groups.

Family Groups / General Visitors: Around 3311 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 Visiting Groups:

- i) On 3rd Jan. 2010, 58 students and 3 teachers from T C V School, Lower Dharamshala, Distt. Kangra (HP) visited NMNH.
- ii) On 9th Jan. 2010, 14 students and 3 faculties from the Department of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), Lalita Devi Institute of Management & Sciences, Delhi visited NMNH.
- iii) On 21st Jan. 2010, Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) brought 100 students to the Museum for a visit from R.S.B.V., East Vinod Nagar and R.P.V.V., Tyagraj Nagar with three teachers from each school.

R.M.N.H., MYSORE

Following Competitions were held in the museum during the month:-

- 1) **Painting Competition** for primary, Higher Primary and High School students on 16.1.10
- 2) **Written Quiz Competition** for Higher Primary and High School students on 21.1.10
- 3) **Debate Competition** for High School Students on 21.1.10.

Technical seminar on Food Practices in Animal Husbandry: by Dr. Siddaramanna, Scientist, NDRI, Bangalore in collaboration with Science & Environment Education Academy, Mandya, Karnataka State Vijgnana Parishath, Bangalore and Dept. of Public instruction, Mandya, Karnataka Veterinary Association, Mysore on 8th Jan. 2010 in the Museum Audiotirum.

Training programme for High School Teachers: of Mandya Dist.: in collaboration with Science & Environment Education Academy, Mandya, Karnataka Veterinary Association, Mysore on 13th Jan. 2010 in the Museum Audiotirum. Joint Director, DDPI, Dept. of Public Instruction, Govt. of Karnataka and Education Officer, DDPI, were present on the occasion.

Visit of public: About 2967 visitors had visited to this Museum which includes organized groups, students, family groups, tourists and individuals.

R.M.N.H., BHOPAL

Workshop on Trees: A Capacity Building Programme: Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal has organized a workshop on trees: A capacity building programme during 23-24 December, 2009. The aim of this workshop is to identify the trees of Bhopal, their ecological importance and the ecosystem services rendered by trees. Eight experts and fifty participants drawn from various organization of Bhopal were participated in this workshop. A field key monograph was also published.

National Seminar: A national seminar titled "Integrated Management of Water Resources with Reference to Biodiversity and Livelihood" was held during 16th-17th

January, 2010 at RMNH - a collaborative host. Hon'able Minister of Farmer Welfare and Agriculture Development Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Ramkrishan Kusmariya was the chief guest of the programme. He visited the museum and appreciated. In this programme a fellowship has been awarded to Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist-in-Charge, RMNH, Bhopal by Academy of Science and Technology (F ASET) for outstanding contribution for furthering knowledge of science and society to improve the quality of life of people.

Study on Birds: The bird watching studies earlier initiated at Shahapura lake has been continued this month also by Scientist-in-Charge.

Visit of Public: A total number of 7689 visitors so far visited the Museum during December 20, 2009 to January 19, 2010. This is more than the previous year record i e 6636 of the same period.

Visits of Organized Groups: 961 numbers of students/teachers were provided guided tours at museum's galleries during December 20, 2009 to January 19, 2010.

R.M.N.H., BHUBANESWAR

Gallery on Northeast Biodiversity: The scientific and technical staffs are working out details to give final shape to the exhibits and the whole process of gallery development on north-east biodiversity is in full swing. The background painting of the diorama on Kaziranga National Park, the Loktak lake of Manipur, Primates diversity of North-east India, Red panda habitat, panoramic view of Namdapa Tiger reserve, preparation of foreground, preparation of models etc is in progress. The mural map of North-east India is under process.

Collaboration with ZSI: About 3000 butterflies were collected from the museum campus during 2007-09. For identification of these butterflies' professional help was extended by Dr. N. Sharma, Scientist-B, Entomologist, Lepidoptera Section, ZSI, Kolkata. He had identified about 30 species of butterflies of family Lycaenidae and Hesperidae.

Photo documentation: Photographs collected from various sources were developed for reference for development of the north-east biodiversity gallery. Besides, National Consultation on Bt. Brinjal organized by Centre for Environment Education (CEE) and attended by honorable minister Shri. Jairam Ramesh on 16th January at KIIT University, Bhubaneswar has been photo documented and sent to Headquarter.

Exhibition on Wheels: The exhibition on wheels was stationed at Nandankanan Zoo premises on 22nd January 2010 for publicity among zoo visitors and for the benefit of students of Nandankanan School nearby. About 600 students visited the mobile exhibition and gathered information on forest wealth.

Guided Visit: A guide visit for about 400 participants from 30 districts of Orissa of State Level Science Seminar was conducted. The students interacted in the live corner looking at the turtles and gathered information on various kinds of snakes in the herpetological section. They also enjoyed a film on wildlife screened for them in auditorium.

Visit of public: During the month the visitor's book recorded total number of 17,347 visitors from different organizations, institutions & family groups.

Special Visit: During the National Youth Festival-2010 held in Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar from 8th-12th January participants from Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram, Manipur, Goa, and Bihar visited the museum. Participants of Assam, Mizoram and Manipur were taken to the ongoing north-east biodiversity gallery to give their remarks and suggestions.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Smt. Naaz Rizvi)

Scientist-C & Head of Office

Copy to:-

- 1) Dr. G.V. Subrahmanyam, Advisor, M/o. Environment & Forests, 548, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-3.
- 2) Smt. Usha Subramaniam, Addl. Director, M/o. Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-3.
- 3) Shri J. Sriraman, Under Secretary (NMNH), M/o. Environment & Forests, 1026, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-3.