

**Major Achievements**  
**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**  
**Monthly Report for the month of July, 2015**

1. **Foot Falls**- A total number of 34,432 people, including general public and school students visited NMNH Museums (New Delhi, Mysore Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur) during the month of July 2015.
2. **Educational Programmes**: During the month various educational programmes were organised:
  - Van Mahotsav: Van Mahotsav was celebrated in the first week of July 2105 in all the Museums under the NMNH. The RMNH at Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur had various drives for planting trees with the help of NGOs and children in its campuses.
  - Teachers' workshop: RMNH, Mysore organized Teacher Training workshop for Life Science teachers during 3-5 July 2015.
  - Programme "Interaction with Scientist": Was organised by the RMNH Mysore on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2015
3. **Film shows**: Regular film shows on popular subjects on environment, wildlife, natural history etc are being shown in RMNH Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur
4. **Visits**:
  - Shri Ashok Lavasa, IAS, Secretary, MoEFCC visited the NMNH HQ on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and interacted with the Staff. He was accompanied by Shri A K Mehta, the Joint Secretary. He also visited the various Galleries of the Museum and gave valuable suggestions for improvement of visitor services
  - Shri Arun Kumar Mehta, IAS, Joint Secretary in the MoEFCC visited the Museum on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 and had detailed discussion with staff. He also reviewed the various activities of the Museum, especially its visitor facilities and suggested ways to increase visitor service.
  - European Union team (Duccino Bandini, Attache, Programme Manager, Delegation of the EU to India, New Delhi and Dr Alessandra Bertini Malgarini, Director, Italian Embassy Cultural Centre, New Delhi) visited the Museum on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and had interaction with the Director and senior officials for exploring the possibility of bilateral collaboration between India and EU in the subjects of Museum and Heritage Management.
5. **Collections**:
  - On hearing about the media reports about the death of a blue whale on the shores of Maharashtra, a team from the NMNH HQ and RMNH Sawai Madhopur visited the site during 8-11 July 2015 and held discussion with the forest officials to explore the possibility of salvaging the skeletal remains of the animal which was buried underground. The team gave valuable tips for preliminary conservation of such specimens. It was decided to send a larger team after a few months when the skeletal remains may have more chance of getting salvaged.
  - Processing and chemical treatment of 30 ft. sperm whale skeleton collected earlier by the RMNH Bhubaneswar is progressing for development of permanent exhibition proposed to be inaugurated later.
6. **Beginning of a new initiative**:

With the special interest of the JS, it was suggested to launch a Schools network called MEANS (Museum Environmental awareness Network through Schools) to be launched shortly. Preliminary works in this regard has-been been undertaken by all Museums under the NMNH where various meetings were arranged. A major meeting of stakeholders in New Delhi was held on 14<sup>th</sup> July in which Shri A K Mehta, JS in the MoEFCC, addressed the participants.