

**MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS : MARCH, 2016**

**1. Foot Falls:**

- A total number of 45,796 people visited NMNH Museums (New Delhi, Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur) during the month of March 2016. Among them 9,986 were from schools and 35,810 were general public.

**2. Educational Programmes:** During the month various educational programmes were organized:

- NMNH, New Delhi organized a programme for the school students on the occasion of World Wildlife Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 at Ganga Auditorium, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi. On this occasion the prize distribution function was also organized for the winners of Poster making competitions held on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 to observe World Day to Combat Desertification. About 80 students attended the programme.
- RMNH, Bhubaneswar organized various competitions for the Children with Special Needs in five different categories like sand art, drawing, painting, singing and dance competitions for Hearing Impaired, Visually Challenged and Mentally Retarded students from 1<sup>st</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016 at Ramadevi Sishu Bihar, Lalbag, Cuttack. The winners were brought to the museum to make them familiar with exhibits related to nature in the museum and facilities like touch feel exhibits etc.
- RMNH, Bhopal organized Teachers training programme during 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. Twenty selected Pre-service teachers from various colleges in and around Bhopal were participated in this two day programme.
- RMNH, Bhopal conducted a Workshop on Preservation and Conservation of Natural History Collection during 03<sup>rd</sup> – 04<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. About twenty in-service museum professionals/ biology teachers/ Laboratory Assistants from various museums/schools/ colleges/Laboratory etc. were participated in this workshop. During the occasion the certificates and awards/prizes were distributed to winners and participants of Essay writing competition, Origami competition, Winter Nature Camp and Workshop.

**3. Exhibition:**

- RMNH, Bhopal organized a Temporary Exhibition at Pragya Higher Secondary School, Rajharsh Colony, Bhopal on the occasion of World Water Day (March 22, 2016) for a period of 15 days. The theme of the exhibition is “Jal Hi Jiveen Hai”. Nineteen panels from reserve collection of RMNH, Bhopal are displayed in the exhibition. Approx 200 students and teachers visited the exhibition.
- RGRMNH, Sawai Madhopur organized a temporary exhibition on “Perception & Expression on Biodiversity of Ranthambhore National Park by Younger Generation” on the occasion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of RGRMNH, SWM.

**4. Collaborative Programme:**

- RMNH, Bhopal in collaboration with M.P. Biodiversity Board, Bhopal and Bhopal Birds, Bhopal organized a painting Competition on occasion of World Sparrow Day on March 22, 2016. About 200 students participated in the painting competition.
- RGRMNH, Sawai Madhopur organized collaborative programme with Ranthambhore Foundation (NGO), Sawai Madhopur on World Sparrow Day (20<sup>th</sup> March, 2016). School students from different schools located in rural areas of Distt. Sawai Madhopur participated in the programme.

**5. Collection of skeleton of short finned Pilot Whale:**

- RMNH, Mysore collected a skeleton of dead short finned pilot whale (*Globicephala macrorhynchus*) which was buried by the forest department, Tamil Nadu in the Manappad coast near Thiruchendur in Tuticorin district through unearthing, defleshing and retrieving the skeleton parts for further processing, preservation and display in the museum for education and research purpose during 23-24<sup>th</sup> March, 2016.

**6. Anniversary Function:**

- Rajiv Gandhi Regional Museum of Natural History, Sawai Madhopur celebrated its second Anniversary on 1st March, 2016. About 250 officials/officers from various govt./ non-govt.. offices, guests, parents, teachers, students etc. attended the above programme. During the occasion Cash Prizes along with certificates has been distributed to winners of Painting & Debate competition.

**7. Film shows:**

- Regular film shows on popular subjects on environment, wildlife, natural history etc. have been shown in NMNH, New Delhi and its Regional Museums at Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur.
- RMNH, Bhopal organized a film show at Miriam School for the Mentally Handicapped, Bhopal on 29-02-2016 to observe the National Science Day (i.e. 28<sup>th</sup> Feb). Environment related films were screened during the programme to create awareness among the students about environmental conservation.

**8. Meeting:**

- Experts from Natural History Museum London (Lord Stephen Green, Chair of Trustees, Sir Michael Dixon, Director and Mr Jim Broughton, Head of International Engagement) visited the NMNH on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and held discussion with Dr B. Venugopal, Director NMNH and senior officials of the NMNH, MoEFCC Cell and CCU. They discussed possible future collaborations between the two Museums. The NHM team later visited the proposed site for the headquarter of the NMNH

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