

Government of India
National Museum of Natural History
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
4th Floor, Block-3, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS: DECEMBER, 2020

For the containment of COVID-19 Pandemic, the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), New Delhi and its Regional Centres at Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur were closed for the general visitors. The museums are working with minimum essential staff and the rest of the officials are assigned duties to work-from-home.

I. NMNH, NEW DELHI

➤ **Constitution Day 2020: Online Competitions:**

National Museum of Natural History and its Regional Centres organized various online competitions to celebrate “Constitution Day 2020” (26th November, 2020). The theme for the competitions was – “Hamara Samvidhan – Hamara Abhiman” (Our Constitution – Our Pride).

Different online competitions organized are as following:

- i) Slogan Writing Competition for school students of Class 8th to 12th is organized by NMNH, New Delhi.
- ii) Poster Making Competition for school students of Class 9th to 12th is organized by RMNH, Mysuru.
- iii) Essay Writing Competition for Undergraduate students is organized by RMNH, Bhopal.
- iv) Painting Competition for school students of Class 5th to 8th is organized by RMNH, Bhubaneswar.
- v) Quiz Competition for school students of Class 6th to 10th will be organized by RGRMNH, Sawai Madhopur on 3rd December.

The details of these online competitions were made public on 26th November, 2020 through information posters/advertisement on website of MoEF&CC and various social media platforms like facebook, instagram, twitter, whatsapp and through e-mails to schools/colleges.

The last date to submit the entries for various competitions was 4th December, 2020.

For online Quiz Competition interested participants registered online till 2nd December, 2020.

Top Five best entries will be declared winners in each competition will be awarded trophy and e-certificate.

Selected best entries in Slogan Writing, Painting, Poster making and Essay Writing competitions will be published on website/social media of MoEF&CC and popular environmental awareness publications of NMNH.

Total entries for Slogan Writing Competition received through E-mails are 350. These entries will be judged by a panel of judges nominated by the Director, NMNH.

➤ **Prize money and E-Certificates sent to the winners of Online Painting Competition held to commemorate Teachers Day**

Prizes in the form of cash was credited to the Bank Accounts of the winners of the Online Painting Competition organized to commemorate Teachers Day in September 2020. E-Certificates were also issued and sent through E-mails to all the winners. The Result of the competition was declared and all the winners were informed in November, 2020. The entries were evaluated by a panel of judges/experts nominated by the Director, NMNH. In total 289 entries were received. The competition was organized for the school students of classes IX to XII. The theme of the Painting Competition was – “Environment and Health”. Twelve best entries selected will be utilized in the Environmental Awareness Desk Calendar of NMNH.

➤ **Forthcoming Programmes:**

- Winter Nature Programme – “Explore Nature and Environment” will be organized for school students in January, 2021.
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II. **RMNH, MYSURU**

➤ **Constitution Day Programme:**

RMNH, Mysore organised a poster making competition as part of Indian Constitution Day Programme for 9th to 12th Standard students. The last date for the submission of poster entries through online mode was on 4th December 2020. About 103 poster entries were received from various schools across the country. The entries were judged for prizes on 19th December 2020. The panel for judging the prizes consists of Shri. Binduraya R. Biradar, HOD and Lecturer, Dept. of Applied Arts, CAVA, Mysore, Shri M. Vijay, Scientist-C, Shri John Thomas, Taxidermist, S.J. Srinivas, SEP and Shri B.S. Yogendra E.A. The panel scrutinised the entries and best 5 entries were selected for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 2 Nos. of encouragement prizes.

➤ **TFL Garden Cleaning Campaign:**

As part of Swacch Bharath activities Touch Feel Learn Bio Resource Garden and the sunken bridge was restored with the help of museum staff and resource during 15th to 22nd December 2020.

➤ **Gallery maintenance work:**

The wire mesh elephant sculpture at foyer area of this museum was repainted. The foreground area of the sculpture was also repainted to resemble rocky terrain habitat.

➤ **Forthcoming Programmes:** (Tentative)

- Teacher Training Programme during January.2021
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III. RMNH, BHOPAL

➤ **Online Essay Writing Competition:**

RMNH, Bhopal organized an Online Essay Writing Competition for under graduate students on the occasion of “Constitution Day of India - 26 November, 2020”. The theme of the competition was “Our Constitution – Our Pride”. 147 Nos. of students participated in the competition.

➤ **Online Painting Competition:**

RMNH, Bhopal organized an Online Painting Competition for underprivileged children of class 6th to 8th students. The theme of the competition was “Impact of Covid-19 on Wildlife”. 21 Nos. of students participated in the competition.

➤ **Conservation/Treatment:**

One number of tiger skin received from O/C Yodhasthal, 21 Corps Signal Regt, Bhopal for conservation/treatment.

➤ **Scientists involved in other Educational Programmes:**

- Dr. Manoj Kumar Sharma, Scientist-C attended a Bird Watching Programme as Resource person/Expert at Van Vihar National Park, Bhopal on 21st December, 2020 jointly organized by Van Vihar National Park, Madhya Pradesh Eco Tourism Board, Bhopal Birds and VNS Nature Saviour, Bhopal.
 - Shri Manik Lal Gupta, Scientist-C attended a programme at Pragyan School, Kolar Road, Bhopal as Chief Guest on 22nd December, 2020.
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IV. RMNH, BHUBANESWAR

➤ **Online Painting Competition for Children:**

An online painting competition was organized on 26th November, 2020 on the occasion of Constitution Day, 2020 and continued up to 4th December, 2020. This competition was for the school students of 5th to 8th class on the theme “Hamara Samvidhan – Hamara Abhiman”. E-Certificates were provided to the participants.

➤ **Collection:**

A Large specimen of Mud Crab is collected from the peripheral region of Bhubaneswar.

➤ **Conservation:**

- i) The skeleton of toothed whale is being treated and curated to prevent further degradation due to non-functional air conditioners in the gallery since past few years.
- ii) The Baleen whale is under preservation process with dusting and chemical cleaning.

➤ **Ongoing developmental/maintenance works:**

- i) Baleen Whale skeleton is being treated with chemicals, cleaning and peroxide treatment has been completed.
- ii) Garden maintenance done to keep plants and landscape in good shape.

- iii) Fish tanks and aquariums cleaned and maintained to keep live corner healthy and safe.
 - iv) Reserve collection is checked upon time to time for chemical treatment to keep collections safe from fungal attack and deterioration.
 - v) Grass beds are being prepared for garden enrichment. A mini nursery has been established to nurture new saplings for garden supply.
 - vi) Structure for vertical garden is internally being prepared from scrap material.
 - vii) Model of Crocodile from composite biodegradable material is under process.
 - viii) Taxidermy specimen of Lesser Adjutant Stork specimen is under repair and chemical treatment.
 - ix) An installation of giant mushroom is being prepared out of scrap material.
 - x) Annual calendar of NMNH was designed.
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V. **RGRMNH, SAWAI MADHOPUR**

➤ **Online Quiz Competition:**

Rajiv Gandhi Regional Museum of Natural History, Sawai Madhopur, organized an Online Quiz Competition on the theme "HAMARA SAMVIDHAN - HAMARA ABHIMAN" (OUR CONSTITUTION - OUR PRIDE) on 3rd and 4th December, 2020 for 6th – 10th Class Students in connection with Constitution Day (26th November, 2020).

More than 600 participants registered their names through online Google Form but only 450 valid entries were selected for the Competition & they participated independently in an Online Quiz Competition from different schools from all over India and around the world through Go To Meeting App.

E-Certificates have been sent to all participants and Prizes (1st, 2nd & 3rd) for both A & B Groups have been sent to the prize winner's registered postal address through speed post.

➤ **Online Video Making Competition:**

RGRMNH, SWM organized an Online Short Video Making Competition on the theme "Our Nature - Our Environment" for 9th -12th Class. students, held on 16th December, 2020.

E-Certificates have been sent to all participants and Prizes (1st, 2nd, 3rd & 2 Encouragement Prizes) have been sent to the prize winner's registered postal address through speed post.

➤ **Preservation:**

- Chemical treatment of Zoological specimens was carried out which were shifted from NMNH, New Delhi to RGRMNH, Sawai Madhopur.
- Chemical treatment, modeling & finishing work is going on to the Zoological Specimens.

➤ **Documentation:**

- List of displayed Biological Specimen in the gallery has been prepared and started documentation and accession.

➤ **Professional Help Extended to other Organizations:**

Sh. Mohd. Yunus, Scientist-D & HO, was invited as a resource person in National Webinar on "ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES" organized by Department of Geography, SCRS Government College, Sawai Madhopur held on 22nd December, 2020 and delivered a lecture on "Role of the Natural History Museums towards Environmental Education to all masses of the Society".

➤ **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan:**

Cleaning in the museum campus is going on regularly.

➤ **Art Section:**

A Road Map of RGRMNH from Sawai Madhopur Railway Station to the Museum is in progress.

➤ **Modelling Section:**

Fiber casting of life size model of Grey Hornbill is in progress.

➤ **Education Unit:**

- Coordinated all Participants of “Online Quiz Competition” held on 3rd - 4th December, 2020 to commemorate Constitution Day (26th Nov., 2020), by WhatsApp groups 4nos. for sharing weblinks, instructions etc. for smooth functioning of Online Quiz Competition.
- Prepared Google Form for Free Registration for “Online Quiz Competition” and “Online Video Making Competition”.
- Designed Flier for wider publicity and E-Certificates for above said Competitions.
- Evaluated, the entries of “Online Quiz Competition” in connection with Constitution Day-2020.
- Evaluated, the entries of Online Video Making Competition in connection with “Youth Skill Development”.
- Verification of museum collection from old communications is in progress.
- As per instruction received from GA Section of MoEF&CC, New Delhi, counting of official files and its pages is under process for scanning/digitization of official files for future informational record.

➤ **Special Visits / Meetings:**

- Dr. Aziz Aazad, Sr. Consultant Surgeon, Sawai Madhopur visited this museum along with his family on 04th December, 2020.
- Sh. Rajendra Kishan, District Collector, Sawai Madhopur visited Rajiv Gandhi Regional Museum of Natural History, along with his wife on 07th December, 2020.
