

Government of India
National Museum of Natural History
(Ministry of Environment and Forests)

FICCI Museum Building
Barakhamba Road
New Delhi-110001.

No. 13(6)/2010-11/NMNH

Dated the December 23, 2010

To,

Shri Narian Das
Deputy Secretary (GC),
Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110003.

Sub: Monthly Summary for the Cabinet-reg.

Sir,

The National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi and its Regional Museums organised the following educational programmes, in addition to its normal activities, during the month of December 2010.

1. N.M.N.N., NEW DELHI

Winter Programme-2010

The National Museum of Natural History is conducting educational programmes and activities during winters in November-December every year to create environmental awareness among the masses in general and students community in particular. It is conducted from 19th November to 19th December every year. A central theme is selected for the campaign every year and the activities are focused on this theme. This year's theme is on Biodiversity.

During this month-long "Winter Programme-2010", the division of Educational Services (DES), National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) conducted various educational programmes and activities for the school children, under-privileged children, specially-challenged children, etc.

The NMNH in association with HT PACE conducted "**NMNH-HT PACE Essay Writing Competition**" in Junior (class IV & V) and Senior (class VI, VII & VIII) categories for the students of HT PACE member schools in November-December, 2010. Best entries were invited from the schools and 523 entries were received. The essay writing copies were evaluated by the external judges nominated by NMNH. First, Second, Third and Five Encouragement Prize Winners were selected in each category.

The winners of "NMNH-HT PACE Essay Writing Competition" were taken to **Yamuna Biodiversity Park, Delhi for Nature Study Tour on 17th December, 2010**. The children were taken around different parts of the YBP like Butterfly conservatory, Medicinal plants, sacred grove, Migratory birds at wetlands,

etc. This was followed by a Talk and slide show on the theme, “Tiger –Gentleman of the Forest” by the Scientist-in-charge of YBP.

To commemorate “**International Day for Disabled**”, out-reach programmes for specially-challenged children were conducted for the Physically-challenged students of Handicapped Welfare Federation (HWF), I P Extn., Madhu Vihar, New Delhi on 7th December, 2010 & Visually-challenged students of Institute for the Blind, Panchkuian Road, New Delhi on 9th December, 2010. The Education Division and Art Unit of the NMNH were involved in this programme which included a discussion on fauna and flora in our surrounding, nature painting mask-making, etc. for physically-challenged and story-writing in Braille for visually-challenged children.

Regular film shows were screened in the Museum Auditorium related to Environment, Nature, Wildlife & Conservation of Natural Resources.

Valedictory Function of Winter Programme-2010 was organized on 21st December, 2010 in the Museum Auditorium. Mr. Sharad Gaur, Regional Director, Centre for Environment Education (CEE) was the Chief Guest at the function. Mrs. Enu Rodrigues, Deputy Manager-Curriculum, HT PACE was the Guest of Honour. Dr. B. Venugopal, Director, NMNH and Mrs. Naaz Rizvi, Scientist-D, NMNH were also present on this occasion.

The winners of various contests like “Declamation Contest” held on 16th Sept.’ 10—the International Day for the preservation of Ozone Layer, “Nature Painting and Poster Design Contest” held to commemorate Wildlife Week in October 2010, “Written Quiz Competition” held on 19th November, 2010 and “NMNH-HT PACE Essay Writing Competition” held during November-December 2010 were awarded Prizes & certificates during the “Valedictory Function” of “Winter Programme-2010”. The Rolling Trophies were also be given to the schools of first prize winners in “NMNH-HT PACE Essay Writing Competition”.

Special Visiting Groups:

On 3rd December, 2010 a group of 39 Range Forest Officers (Trainee) along with 3 coordinators from Central Academy for State Forest Service (CASFOS), Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu visited Museum. Dr. B. Venugopal, Director, NMNH interacted with the group followed by their visit to the museum galleries, On 18th December, 2010 a group of 94 teachers from different states of India, undergoing Orientation Workshop at Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT), Dwarka, New Delhi and 3 coordinators visited the Museum. A talk by the Director, NMNH was arranged for the group followed by exhibit interpretation in the museum galleries by the educational staff of the museum.

School Visits and Family Groups/ General Visitors:

Around 18,496 student/ teachers form 140 schools of Delhi and NCR visited the museum. Around 1790 general visitors visited the museum. The educational staff interacted with them in the

galleries for exhibit interpretation and to satisfy their queries. Publication material was also distributed to them.

2. R.M.N.H., Mysore

Preparation for the Exhibition on “Biodiversity of Western Ghats”

After receiving two instalments of money for the exhibition on “Biodiversity of Western Ghats” almost all the work was completed and the exhibition is ready for inauguration.

NEAC Programme 2010

NEAC Programme for the senior was organized for the High School student on 9th and 10th December, 2010 at Ramakrishna Institute of Moral and Spiritual Education, Mysore.

- a) Painting Competition on Bio-diversity: This programme was organized for the 8th & 10th Class students and held on 9th December, 2010.
- b) Written Quiz Competition on Environment: This programme was organized for the 8th, 10th Class students and held on 10th December, 2010.

Participation in the First Biodiversity Congress—IBC 2010

Shri C. Rajasundaram, Scientist-D and Shri John Thomas, Taxidermist of RMNH, Mysore will participate in the First Indian Biodiversity Congress—IBC 2010 from 28th to 30th December, 2010.

Film Shows:

Regular film show from 12.00 Noon to 1.00 P.M. and 4.00 to 5.00 P.M. were arranged for visitors.

3. R.M.N.H., Bhopal

Poster Design Competition: Regional Museum of Natural History (RMNH), Bhopal organized a Poster Design Contest for hearing impaired student on November 24, 2010 as a part of National Environment Awareness Campaign –2010 under International Year of Biodiversity 2010. The theme of the contest was ‘The State Animal and Bird of M.P.’. 92 hearing impaired students participated from four schools of Bhopal.

Essay Competition: Regional Museum of Natural History (RMNH), Bhopal organized Essay Competition and Lecture for students from Class 11th –12th on 26th November, 2010 as a part of National Environment Awareness Campaign –2010 under International Year of Biodiversity 2010. Dr. Yogesh Dubey, Faculty, Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal delivered a lecture on ‘Avian Fauna’.

Nature Camp at Patchmarhi: Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal organized an nature camp at Patchmarhi from 8th to 10th December, 2010 for prize winners of various competitions which were conducted during the National Environment Awareness Campaign—2010. Fifteen students participated along with four office members of Museum.

Valediction of NEAC—2010: Regional Museum of Natural History (RMNH), Bhopal organized “Valedictory Session and Prize Distribution Programme” of National Environment Awareness Campaign –2010 under International Year of Biodiversity 2010 on 19th December, 2010. Shri

Manish Gautam, Deputy Director & Head, Doordarshan News, Bhopal was the Chief Guest of the programme. The winners, participants of the competitions attended the programme along with their parents. General visitors also attended the programme.

Vigyan Bhushan Award to RMNH: A National Children Science Congress—2010 meet was organized at Bhopal. The organizers of the event awarded the title “Vigyan Bhushan” to Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal at Bansal Institute of Science and Technology, Bhopal on November 28, 2010. Dr. S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist ‘E’ has been conferred the award on behalf of Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal in appreciation of the excellent work done in popularizing science through a variety of means particularly stimulating scientific attitude among children, teachers, NGO workers and common masses through science and environmental activities.

Participation: Dr. S. Seturamalingam, Scientist E attended 10th All India Conference of Heads of Science Museums/Centers at Sikkim Science Centre, Gangtok during December 17-19, 2010. He delivered a presentation on "Locating Areas For Strategy: A Review of Case Studies And Identifying Models" during the conference.

NGO Collaboration Programme: The activities of "The museum shcool" by Parvarish was continued during this period also along with approximately forty deprived children.

Foot Falls: A total number of 6298 public visited the Museum during the month of December, 2010.

Visits of Organized Groups: 16 groups of students/teachers were provided guided tours at museum's galleries during November 20 to December 19, 2010.

Film Shows: Regular film shows from 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm were arranged for visitors in the eco-theater of museum. the rare films received during the CMS Wild Life Festival were screened which gained greater applause from the wild life enthusiast and general public.

4. R.M.N.H., Bhubaneswar

Visits of public

During the month Visitor Book recorded a total number of 13,086 visitors from different organizations institutions and family groups.

Bhubaneswar CMS Vatavaran

The Regional Museum of Natural History in association with CMS Environment organized CMS Vatavaran Environment and Wildlife Film Festival and Forum 2010 from 30th November to 5th December 2010. During the festival besides selected film screening daily, painting competition, eco-tour, waste craft competition, creative expression competition, clay modelling competition and workshop for teachers on low carbon practices and a panel discussion on confronting climate change towards carbon neutral cities was organized during the festival.

13th Odisha Bigyan Congress

The Indian Science Congress Association-Bhubaneswar Chapter, Orissa Environmental Society and Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhubaneswar collaboratively organized the 13th Orissa Bigyan Congress from 9th -11th December 2010 on the focal theme "New frontiers of life Science". Extensive lecture sessions were held in which there were 10 invited lectures on various fields by eminent scientists

in two different sessions. participants also presented several papers and posters on prominent areas of science including agriculture and polymer technology physical sciences, environmental sciences, medical sciences, life sciences and biotechnology. prof. K.C.Pandey, General President, Indian Science Congress Association was the Chief Guest and president by Prof. R.Ramamurthi, President, Indian Society of Life Science.

Odisha Environment congress2010

The museum in association with Centre for Environment and Development Human Development Foundation, Odisha organized Odisha Environment congress from 22nd Dec. to 24th December 2010 with the focal theme "Water Resources of Odisha: Reflections for the 21st Century" with the open session "Water for Future". The congress was inaugurated by Shri. Naveen Patnaik, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha in the presence of Shri. Debi Prasad Mishra, Hon'ble Minister, Higher Education, Culture and Tourism, Shri. Rajendra Singh, Magssassay Awardee.

Taxidermy Work

A study skin prepared of the bird (Golden headed thrush) for further study and preserved insects have been fumigated by chemicals for avoiding fungus and mites etc.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Dr. B. Venugopal)
Director

Copy to:

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(Dr. B. Venugopal)
Director