

Mysuru Zoo

NEWS LETTER

March 2022 | Volume 21 | Issue 01



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Newsletter

MARCH-2022

VOL. 21 [ISSUE-1]

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1. From the Desk

The beginning of new year brought some relief with respect to further improvement in COVID-19 situation and facilitated taking up many activities where people gathering could be done adhering to COVID appropriate behavior. This period witnessed valedictory function of Youth Club, World Wildlife Day, World Sparrow Day, International Day of Forests and World Bear Day. For World Bear Day, Zoo Education Officer, and Biologist along with our Zoo Volunteers conducted awareness creation program at Govt School in Mysore.

The upcoming Gorilla facility required the shifting of visitor's potable water unit near to Thandi Sadak. To ensure safe storage of Hay material for African Rhino, a small storage shed was erected. To provide place for Keepers to keep their belongings, place monitor of CC camera and to provide resting place for Keepers, a small keepers room was developed for Lion Tailed Macaque Facility. Zoo store where zoo animals feed is stored and prepared daily needs highest standards of hygiene. As a part of this, zoo store was painted. To avoid Zebra hitting to fence wall of Kraal area, opaque barricade was created by plastering.

Republic Day and Women's Day were celebrated very meaningfully in the presence of Chairman and Members of Zoo Authority of Karnataka. This period witnessed Zoo Day as well. In this event, all employees of zoo actively participated.

Dedicating the underpass connecting vehicle parking area with zoo ticket counter by Hon'ble District Incharge Minister, Mysore and Minister of Cooperation Sri S T Somashekar in the presence of Hon'ble MP Sri. Pratap Simha, Hon'ble MLA Sri. S A Ramdas. Sri L R Mahadevswamy, Chairman - Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Sri Ravi B. P. IFS, Member Secretary -ZAK, Hon'ble Mayor Smt. Sunanda Palanetra, Smt. Jyothi Rechanna, Sri. Gokul Govardhan members was another major event of this period. This underpass is built to reduce zoo visitor blocking the road and also to minimise the associated vehicular accidents.

This period also witnessed the arrival of a Lioness from Raipur Zoo and Grey Wolf and White Peafowl from Indore Zoo. This acquisition is to infuse new bloodline in zoo stock.

We wish that situation improves and our visitors visit the zoo like in pre-COVID time.

Ajit Kulkarni, IFS

Deputy Conservator of Forests &
Executive Director

Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens,
Mysuru-570010

2. Youth Club Valedictory Function

Youth Club is a unique conservation programme run by Mysuru Zoo for the last 28 years. This is the 29th Youth Club consecutively held by Mysuru Zoo involving the young children aged between 12-18 years for 25 Sunday's. This year due to the effect of Pandemic COVID- 19 an e-program was scheduled, virtual classes were conducted from 1st August 2021 and later as there was relaxation in the covid protocol and schools were reopened youth club classes were started in offline mode from 1st October 2021 to 28th February 2022 involving 56 students representing different institutions consisting of 28 boys and 28 girls. The Youth Club was inaugurated on 1st August 2021 by Sri B.P. Ravi, IFS, APCCF & Member Secretary Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Sri Ajit Kulkarni, IFS, DCF & Executive Director Mysuru Zoo. Students got exposure to basics of Captive Wild Animals Management, Biodiversity & Wildlife Conservation, Importance of Zoo's, Animal Behaviour, Man-Animal conflicts, Wildlife crimes & laws, Forest fire and its management, Importance of Conservation of lakes, marine biology and road ecology. Zoo Veterinary Officers and other Subject Matter Specialists and scientists interacted with the participants. Apart from this, the students were taken for Zoo rounds and for visit to Kurghalli Rescue Centre and Dammanakatte Forest Range. The valedictory function of Youth club- 2021 was held on 28th February 2022. Sri B.P. Ravi, IFS, APCCF & Member Secretary Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Sri Ajit Kulkarni, IFS, DCF & Executive Director Mysuru Zoo were present at this occasion. The aim of youth club is to develop leadership qualities in youth to spread the message of wildlife protection and environmental conservation. The knowledge we impart to the members of the club is vital to their understanding of the components of Biodiversity and their interaction.





3. World Wildlife Day - 3/3/2022

World Wildlife Day is an opportunity to celebrate beautiful and varied forms of wild fauna, flora to raise awareness for their conservation. The theme for World Wildlife Day 2022 was “Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration.” Mysuru Zoo celebrated Wildlife Day by displaying theme posters on this topic on the display board at the zoo premises. Zoo visitors and students were engaged and briefed regarding this topic to create awareness. The celebrations were a sought to draw attention to the conservation status of some of the most critically endangered species of wild fauna and flora, and to drive discussions towards imagining and implementing solutions to conserve them as there is imperative need to reverse the fate of the most critically endangered species, to support the restoration of their habitats and ecosystems and to promote their sustainable use by humanity.

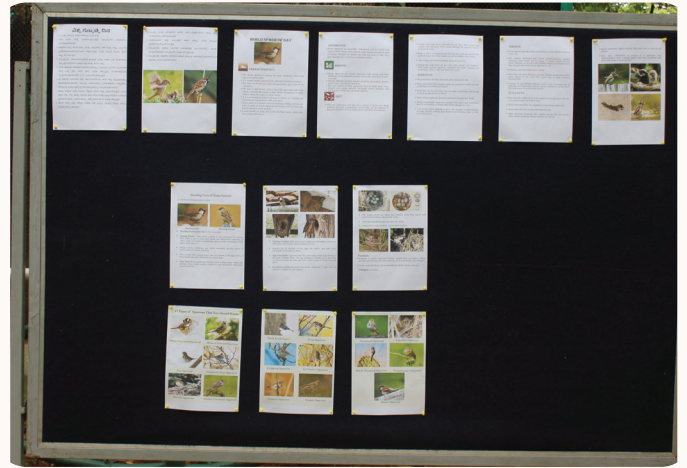




4. World Sparrow Day - 20/3/2022

World Sparrow Day is observed to raise awareness on the plight of the sparrow, which is on the verge of extinction. World Sparrow Day aims to bring individuals together who have a passion for sparrows and appreciate their beauty. House sparrows were a common sight in our backyards, and they were easy to see. However, as we have lost touch with the nature and biodiversity in recent years, spotting house sparrows in the city has become more difficult. The purpose of World Sparrow Day is not only to honour the event for a day but also to use it as a platform to emphasise the importance of sparrow conservation and urban biodiversity.

Mysuru Zoo celebrated World Sparrow Day by doing in reach activity for visitors by putting up relevant posters and fact sheets. Visitors were educated about the importance of the day, threats to the species, their role in ecosystem and their importance. Main objective was to encourage and educate the people to conserve these species.



5. International Day of Forest - 21/3/2022

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21st March the International Day of Forests in 2012 to celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of forests. Countries are encouraged to undertake local, national and international efforts to organize activities involving forests and trees, such as tree planting campaigns.

In this regard Mysuru Zoo Volunteers and visitors planted seedlings in zoo premises. The day is to celebrate and to raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests, and trees outside forests, for the benefit of current and future generations as well as to increase the public awareness among communities about the values, significance and contributions of the forests to balance the life cycle on the earth.



6. Celebration World Bear Day - 23/3/2022

As part of “World Bear Day”, an outreach program was conducted for students of class 1 to 9 in Government High School Vontikoppal, Mysore. This Session included a Talk on bears which included explanation of identification of different species of bears, their diet their behaviour, communication, reproduction, threats faced by them and conservation efforts made to conserve them. The session was followed by a fun filled activity for students.





7. Recent Developmental works

i. Construction of Keeper's room in LTM enclosure



ii. Flat tiles to ZAK office



iii. Construction of Fodder Shed at White Rhino Enclosure



iv. Construction of New RO Water Unit near White Rhino Enclosure



v. SS Handrailing's to Underpass



vi. Painting of Walls in Zoo store and Kitchen



vii. Lath Plaster to Zebra Day Kraal



8. News in Brief

A. Major Events and Happenings

i. Republic Day

Mysuru zoo celebrated 73rd Republic Day on 26th January 2022. Sri L.R. Mahadevaswamy chairman Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Smt. Jyothi Rechanna and Gokul Govardhan council members ZAK, Sri Ajit Kulkarni Executive Director Mysuru Zoo graced the occasion.



ii. Women's Day

On March 8th 2022 International Women's Day program was organised in Mysuru Zoo. Smt. Jyothi Rechanna council member of ZAK spoke inspiring words on the importance of women's education, health and their priorities. Women staffs were appreciated for the work they are rendering to Mysuru Zoo.



iii. Zoo Day Celebration

The staff members of Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens celebrated the zoo day in a unique way. Every year the zoo day will be celebrated in honour of birth anniversary of Sri Chamarajendra Wodeyar Bahadur the founder of Mysuru Zoo, which is on 22nd February. As part of Zoo Day celebrations various sports competition were held on 22/2/2022 & 8/3/2022. Zoo staff actively participated in a jovial and sportive way. On 22nd of March 2022 Chamundeshwari pooja was arranged followed by lunch and valedictory function. All the employees celebrated this day as festival. During the valedictory function, the winners of the competition were given prizes besides honouring the employees by way of encouraging them to render good service.





iv. Underpass Inauguration

On 2/3/2022 Hon'ble Minister of Cooperation and District In-charge Minister Sri. S.T.Somashekhar inaugurated Underpass connecting zoo parking and zoo entrance Plaza. Hon'ble MP Sri. Pratap Simha, Hon'ble MLA Sri. S A Ramdas. Sri L R Mahadevswamy, Chairman - Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Sri Ravi B. P. IFS, Member Secretary -ZAK, Hon'ble Mayor Smt. Sunanda Palanetra, Smt. Jyothi Rechanna, Sri. Gokul Govardhan members ZAK, Sri. Ajit Kulkarni, IFS Executive Director, Mysuru Zoo and others graced the occasion with their esteemed presence.



B. Quarterly Acquisition Report from January-March 2022

Sl. No.	Date	Local ID	Species	M	F	U	T	Remarks
1.	11/12/2021	M01666-67	Leopard cubs	1	1	0	2	Received from near Kalavadi, Srirampura, Mysore.
2.	12/12/2021	M01668	Asiatic Lion-Nirbhaya	0	1	0	1	Received from Raipur Zoo
3.	16/12/2021	M01669	Tiger	0	1	0	1	Received from Nagarahole Range
4.	26/12/2021	M01670-71	Indian Grey Wolf	1	1	0	2	Kamla Nehru Prani Sangrahalaya, Indore
5.		B01940	White Peafowl	0	1	0	1	
			Total	3	5	0	8	

C. Natality Report

Sl. No.	Date	Local ID	Species	M	F	U	T	Remarks
1.	1/12/2021	M01437-G	Sambar	0	0	2	2	Born in enclosure
2.	5/12/2021		Sambar	0	0	1	1	Born in enclosure
3.	6/12/2021	M01665	Gaur P2	1	0	0	1	Born in enclosure
4.	11/12/2021	M01664	Zebra	0	1	0	1	Born in enclosure
5.	13/12/2021	M01437-G	Sambar	0	0	2	2	Born in enclosure
6.	20/12/2021		Sambar	0	0	1	1	Born in enclosure
7.	5/1/2022	M01376	Thamin Deer	0	0	1	1	Born in enclosure
8.	10/1/2022		Thamin Deer	0	0	1	1	Born in enclosure
9.	22/1/2022	M01437	Sambar	0	0	1	1	Born in enclosure
10.	15/12/2021	M01672-80	Dhole	0	0	9	9	Born in enclosure
11.	10/2/2022	M01437	Sambar	0	0	1	1	Born in enclosure
12.	10/2/2022	B01939	Lady Amherst Pheasant	0	0	8	8	Hatched in incubator

Sl. No.	Date	Local ID	Species	M	F	U	T	Remarks
13.	15/2/2022	B01933	Golden Pheasant	0	0	10	10	Hatched in incubator
14.	26/2/2022	M01592	Meerkat	0	0	4	4	Born at Zoo Hospital
15.	28/2/2022	B01941	Yellow Golden Pheasant	0	0	10	10	Hatched in incubator
			Total	1	1	51	53	

D. Animal Treatments

- i. **Ventral abdominal swelling in an elderly female Asiatic Elephant** - a female Asiatic Elephant aged 67 years oedematous swelling in the ventral abdominal region this summer. Her appetite and activity were normal. Blood sample was collected from the ear vein and was subjected to haematology and serum biochemistry which revealed normal values. The animal was recently dewormed. Hence only hot water fomentation was advised to the keepers to be carried out twice or thrice a day in the swollen region until the oedema subsided. The abdominal swelling reduced in 3 days without any complications.



ii. Trimming of abnormally grown

antlers in a Sambar Deer: a male sambar deer had abnormally grown left antler which was constantly in friction with the left ear pinnae resulting in a maggot infested wound. The animal weighed approximately 150 kgs and was sedated under Etorphine @ 0.015 mg/kg and Xylazine @ 0.1 mg/kg. the animal was in lateral recumbency in 12 minutes but required a bit of physical restraining. The deformed antler was cut above the base with an axe blade and the ear pinna wound was irrigated with povidone iodine and



dressed after removing the maggots. Injections of doramectin and Long acting enrofloxacin was administered along with supportive medications and the animal was revived with diprenorphine 0.5 ml i/m and 0.5 ml i/v and yohimbine 0.2 ml i/v. Animal was completely revived in 4 minutes and the wound had healed in a week.

- iii. Dehorning in a male Blackbuck:** A male blackbuck had an injury on its left horn due to infighting with one of the other male inmates. Upto 20 cms long horn was fractured which bled for a while and stopped. It was advised to not to handle the animal at that point to avoid stress. Later on the animal was feeding very well and its appetite was normal hence it was advised to just observe the animal. After a week the keeper observed that the animal was shaking its head a lot a foul smell was emanating probably from the wound. The animal was sedated under xylazine @ 1mg/kg and ketamine @ 4 mg/kg. the animal was recumbent in 10 minutes. Sternal recumbency was maintained. The core of the horn was severely infested with maggots. Maggots were removed from the core; the extra length of horn which was cavitated by the maggots was cut with an axe blade and the wound was dressed with turpentine oil, tinc. Benzoin. Medications such as doramectin, long acting oxytetracycline and supportive treatment was given and revived with atipamezole 6 mg i/v since blackbucks are not responsive to the reversal agent yohimbine. The recovery was uneventful and the animal recovered in a week.

E. Major Adoption from January to March

Sl. No	Name of the Adopter	Animal Adopted	Duration	Time Period
1.	C.S. Shadakshari	African Hunting Cheetah	1 Year	31/12/2021 to 30/12/2022
2.	Amar Kapatkar	Darwin's Rhea	1 Year	11/2/2022 to 10/2/2023
3.	Pejwar Rohit Bhat,	Smooth Coated Otter and Finch	1 Year	12/2/2022 to 11/2/2023
4.	Kodira A Kushalapa (IFS Retd)	Great Indian Hornbill	1 Year	1/1/2022 to 31/12/2022
5.	Dr K Dinakar Rao & Sujatha Dinakar Rao,	Zebra and Tapir	1 Year	19/2/2022 to 18/2/2023
6.	Sheshadripuram Independent Pre-University College	Himalayan Goral	1 Year	18/2/2022 to 17/2/2023
7.	Surabhi Balgar	Great Indian Hornbill	1 Year	25/2/2022 to 24/2/2023
8.	Tanvi Balgar	Four Horned Antelope	1 Year	16/3/2022 to 15/3/2023
9.	KVS Smaraka Samsthe	Four Horned Antelope	1 Year	1/3/2022 to 28/2/2023
10.	Srimantha	Common Ostrich and Green Anaconda	1 Year	10/3/2022 to 9/3/2023
11.	JSS Public School Siddartha Nagar, Mysuru	Green Anaconda and Star Tortoise	1 Year	4/3/2022 to 3/3/2023

Sl. No	Name of the Adopter	Animal Adopted	Duration	Time Period
12.	Pratham Lingasadal	Blue and Yellow Macaw	1 Year	5/3/2022 to 4/3/2023
13.	Shubhangi.G	African Hunting Cheetah	1 Year	11/3/2022 to 10/3/2023
14.	Dr Chetan Singai	Green Anaconda	1 Year	1/3/2022 to 28/2/2023
15.	Jyothi Gangadhar Pheonix Horixona USA	Donation for Drinking Water for animals	1 Year	20/3/2022 to 19/3/2023
16.	Lunar Exports Private Ltd, (Company, Hootagalli,	Orangutan, Bengal Tiger, Giraffe, Chimpanzee, African Hunting Cheetah, Lion Tailed Macaque, Great White Pelican, Hoolock Gibbon, Malabar Giant Squirrel, Green Anaconda, Common Ostrich, Meerkat, & Emu	1 Year	24/3/2022 to 23/3/2023
17.	Payaswini & Nikhil	Golden Jackal	1 Year	26/3/2022 to 25/3/2023
18.	Sharada Ranganath	Sambar Deer and Yellow Golden Pheasant	1 Year	26/3/2022 to 25/3/2023
19.	Sarvamangala H R	Four Horned Antelope	1 Year	26/3/2022 to 25/3/2023
20.	Shonet Saldanha	Red Billed Toucan	1 Year	1/4/2022 to 31/3/2023

