



Sri Chamarajendra
Zoological Gardens

NEWSLETTER

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From the Desk . . .



Dear Readers,

Greetings!

This quarter marks the start of another exciting financial year for Mysuru Zoo. I am delighted to present the latest edition of newsletter for the 1st quarter i.e., April to June 2024. This issue highlights the remarkable progress and achievements of Mysuru Zoo during this period, as we continue our mission of conservation, education, and community engagement. I would like to extend my gratitude to our patrons for their invaluable support through the animal adoption program.

In the first quarter of this financial year we have welcomed approximately 10.68 lakh visitors, The incoming visitor flow underscores the growing public interest and appreciation for the conservation efforts and educational initiatives undertaken by the Mysuru Zoo. We are actively organizing in reach initiatives to spread the message of conservation to young minds, who represent the future of our country. The summer camp held in this period resulted in enthusiastic participation of young participants. These committed individuals are the future stewards of our environment, and their involvement in our programs brings us great hope and inspiration.

I am pleased to announce that significant progress has been made in various initiatives related to animal welfare, operational improvements and the enhancement of visitor facilities. The visit of the Hon'ble Minister of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Shri Eshwar Khandre, marked a significant occasion, for our zoo and we continue to work for the welfare of the zoo with his extended support. Finally, I thank the patrons and zoo team for their commendable efforts in the daily operations of our zoo!

D. Mahesh Kumar, IFS

Executive Director

Sri Chamaraajendra Zoological
Gardens, Mysuru

2. Summer Camp 2024

Mysuru Zoo hosted Summer Camp for students aged 12 to 18 years, with the first batch operating during 15th to 24th of April 2024, and the second batch during 6th to 15th May 2024, each lasting 10 days. This program provided participants with an opportunity to gain insights into the fundamentals of Ex-situ management and wildlife conservation. During the camp, students learned about various aspects of animal management, behavior and the conservation of wildlife and biodiversity. The curriculum included lectures on topics such as spiders, ants, snakes, birds, and the conservation of urban lakes. Zoo Veterinary Officers and other subject matter specialists interacted with the participants. The study visit included Karanji Lake Nature Park, the Regional Museum of Natural History and Ranganthittu Bird Sanctuary which enhanced their learning experience through practical exposure. This initiative aimed to inspire young minds about wildlife conservation and management, fostering a deeper understanding of the importance of wildlife



3. International Leopard Day – May 3rd

In celebration of International Leopard Day, a webinar was conducted that focused on the conservation of leopards from a genetic perspective. The event featured Prof. Uma Ramakrishnan from National Centre for Biological Sciences, (NCBS) in Bengaluru. Prof. Ramakrishnan shared her extensive research and insights on leopard genetics, highlighting the crucial role that genetics plays in understanding and protecting these magnificent creatures. The webinar provided an in-depth exploration of the latest advancements in leopard conservation, emphasizing the importance of genetic studies in preserving their populations. The session proved to be an enlightening experience, allowing participants to gain valuable knowledge about the genetic factors that influence leopard ecology. The participants appreciated the intricacies of wildlife conservation.



**INTERNATIONAL
LEOPARD DAY**

WEBINAR

Prof. Uma Ramakrishnan
Genetics & Development
NCBS, TIFR, Bengaluru

Topic - Conservation of leopards: insights from a genetic lens

Date: 3rd May 2024
Time: 11:30 am IST

4. International Day for Biodiversity - May 22nd

International Day for Biodiversity was celebrated with a comprehensive biodiversity assessment at Karanji Lake Nature Park. The event was a vibrant and educational experience with a special focus on identifying and cataloguing shrubs, grasses, and butterflies. Guided by experts in the field, participants had the unique opportunity to delve into the rich biodiversity of the area and enhance their understanding of the local ecosystem



During the assessment, approximately 66 species of flora were identified, showcasing the park's diverse flora. The experts provided details about several species, highlighting their ecological importance and unique characteristics. In addition to flora, the assessment also focused on butterflies, with 20 different species being identified. This activity not only underscored the variety of butterflies inhabiting the park but also emphasized their role as pollinators and indicators of environmental health. The event was both informative and engaging for participants.

5. 26th CONSERVATION SPEAK on World Otter Day - May 29th

On World Otter Day, May 29th 2024, conservation speak was focused on highlighting the vital role that otters play in our ecosystems and the urgent need to protect them. The event featured esteemed speakers Rana and Sugandhi, renowned for their exceptional work as wildlife filmmakers whose captivating stories and imagery brought otters lives and challenges vividly to the audience. Additionally, Shivanna, a fisherman with a growing passion for nature, shared his insights into the interactions between otters and local communities, emphasizing the delicate balance necessary for coexistence.

Throughout the discussions, it became evident that otters are not only charismatic creatures but also vital components of healthy ecosystems. Their role in regulating aquatic environments and supporting biodiversity underscores the interconnectedness of all life forms and the importance of comprehensive conservation efforts





6. World Environment Day - June 5th

On World Environment Day, a Swachhata Abhiyan was held at Karanji Lake Nature Park, aligning with this year's theme, #GenerationRestoration. This initiative highlighted the critical need to restore ecosystems and emphasized the active involvement of youth in conservation efforts. The campaign aimed to instill a sense of responsibility and stewardship among youth, motivating them to take proactive measures for environmental preservation.

Around 120 students and teachers from various organizations participated enthusiastically in the event. Their collective actions included cleaning and learning about sustainable practices. This collaborative effort not only enhanced the Lake's beauty but also provided a practical educational experience, showcasing the significant impact of community action on the environment. The event underscored the strength of unity in tackling environmental challenges and inspired participants to carry forward their commitment to sustainability in their everyday lives.



7. World Giraffe Day - June 21st

We had organized multiple activities on Giraffe Day at Mysuru Zoo! Visitors participated in a range of enjoyable activities that made their day unforgettable. Educational games captivated the audience, sharing intriguing facts about giraffes and their habitats. Art and crafts sessions inspired by these tall creatures like mask-making, crossword puzzles, quizzes, jumbled words, and colouring were engaging for both children and adults. Each activity was carefully crafted to entertain and educate, ensuring that everyone gained information about these magnificent animals.

The highlight of the day was the special treat given to our giraffes, who happily munched on their favourite food, much to the delight of the spectators. The joy and excitement were evident as the giraffes eagerly enjoyed their treats, creating a perfect conclusion to a fun-filled day. The celebration not only provided entertainment but also fostered a sense of connection and awareness regarding giraffe conservation among visitors, making Giraffe Day at Mysuru Zoo a remarkable success.



8. Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam – 30th June

Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign is a nationwide initiative aimed at promoting environmental conservation through tree planting, inspired by the relationship between mother and nature. In this connection, plantation drive was conducted at the Kurghalli Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, where staff members participated in the campaign as a gesture of gratitude towards their mother and Mother Earth, by planting trees. This event aligns with the broader goals of the campaign, which seeks to cultivate awareness on ecological responsibility and community involvement.





9. News in Brief

i Visit of Forest Minister

Shri Eshwar Khandre, the Hon'ble Minister of Forest, Ecology & Environment and Chairman of the Zoo Authority of Karnataka, visited Mysuru Zoo, marking a significant occasion. Accompanied by Dr. Sunil Panwar, IFS, Member Secretary of the Zoo Authority of Karnataka and officials from the Karnataka Forest Department, the visit highlighted several new initiatives aimed at enhancing the zoo's facilities and visitor services.

A key feature of the visit was inaugurating the expanded live feed unit which shall cater to the requirement of feed to reptiles followed by fagging-off the two new MUVs: a Bolero and an Isuzu Wildlife Ambulance, which will enhance the zoo's capacity for wildlife rescue and transport. These vehicles will be essential for ensuring timely and effective responses to wildlife emergencies, thereby safeguarding the animals' welfare. In addition to this, Hon'ble Minister inaugurated several innovative features, including a WhatsApp Ticketing

Facility, Live Feed Unit and flexible adoption options which is now available for one day, one week, one month and six months. These initiatives aim to modernize visitor engagement and foster conservation awareness while supporting the zoo's ongoing efforts.

Later, raincoats and gumboots were distributed to staff members to further enhance their comfort and safety, highlighting the importance of staff welfare in conservation efforts. The visit also included a naming ceremony of a newborn giraffe calf, adding a joyful element to the occasion. Furthermore, he also inaugurated our hospital building at Rescue Centre which is a significant enhancement in the zoo's ability to provide critical care for injured wildlife.

Our new initiatives and improvements at Mysuru Zoo demonstrate our commitment in enhancing the well-being of our diverse wildlife, staff and visitors. These efforts support the zoo's mission of education, conservation and sustainable wildlife management.



ii. Arrival of Tufted Capuchin Monkeys

Mysuru Zoo is excited to announce the arrival of four (0:4) tufted capuchin monkeys from Zoopark Zajezd, Czech Republic. The animals arrived to zoo on May 5th 2024, marks a significant addition to the zoo's animal family. The tufted capuchin monkeys, known for their playful and intelligent nature, are expected to enhance the visitor experience and contribute to the zoo's conservation efforts.



iii. New Spot to Take Home Memories – Selfie Point

Mysuru Zoo has introduced a new Selfie Point, providing visitors with a dedicated space to capture memorable moments during their visit. The Selfie Point is designed from natural and readily available materials sourced within the zoo. This sustainable approach not only highlights the zoo's commitment to environmental responsibility but also allows families and friends to take fun and creative photos together. It serves as a delightful addition to the zoo, making it a perfect spot for visitors to take home cherished memories of their day spent in the company of nature and animals.





iv. Beautifying the Bins

Mysuru Zoo has taken an innovative approach to enhancing both aesthetics and environmental consciousness by painting dustbins with vibrant, nature-inspired designs. These colourful bins blend seamlessly with the zoo's lush green surroundings, creating an engaging and visually appealing experience for visitors. It not only beautifies the zoo but also encourage proper waste disposal, promoting a cleaner and greener environment. This creative touch makes the bins stand out, making it easier for visitors to locate them and dispose of their waste responsibly.



Scan the QR Code
for the video

10. Retirement

i. **Essak** : Animal keeper, was retired on May 31st 2024, after dedicating 20 years to the Mysuru Zoo. The staff honoured him with a farewell as a gesture of gratitude for his contributions.

ii. **Chikkaboraiah** : Another animal keeper, also retired on May 31st 2024, having served for 18 years. The staff at Mysuru Zoo expressed their appreciation for his service by bidding him farewell.



iii. **Shivananju H** : A junior assistant, retired on June 29th 2024, after a remarkable 35-year tenure. The Mysuru Zoo acknowledged and valued his significant contributions to the institution.





11. Major Animal Adoptions from April to June

Sl. No.	Name	Name of the Bird/ Animal	Period of Adoption	Amount (in Rs.)
1.	R Siva Sankar Reddy	Panther	9.4.2024 to 8.4.2025	50,000
2.	Ritesh Gala	Spotted Deer-2	6.4.2024 to 5.4.2025	30,000
3.	Subhash, Samhith & Saanvi A S	Common Ostrich	13.5.2024 to 12.5.2025	20,000
4.	Tumkur Precision Pressing Works	Hoolock Gibbon	10.04.2024 to 9.04.2025	20,000
5.	Indira Venkatraman	Brahminy Kite	17.04.2024 to 16.04.2025	25,000
6.	Krishna Anand	Ring Tailed Lemur	17.04.2024 to 16.04.2025	25,000
7.	Charith Mahendra	Hoolock Gibbon	19.4.2024 to 18.04.2025	20,000
8.	B M Vishwanath	Rhesus Macaque	28.04.2024 to 27.04.2025	10,000
9.	Dr. Abhilash	Indian Rhinoceros	29.4.2024 to 28.04.2025	1,50,000
10.	Ashwin Venkat BG	Brown Wood Owl & King Cobra	4.5.2024 to 3.5.2.2025	10,000
11.	M/s Kanti Sweets Private Limited	Asiatic Elephant	1.6.2024 to 31.5.2025	3,00,000
12.	Sarang Deshmukh	Peacock & King Cobra	1.6.2024 to 31.5.2025	10,000
13.	Anshul & Abhigna c/o Kavitha Dinesh	Black Buck	15.6.2024 to 14.6.2025	15,000
14.	Nikhil Dutt	Common Ostrich	22.6.2024 to 21.6.2025	20,000

**** (Major Adopters name > Rs.10,000/-)**



New Flexible Animal Adoption Program

Now Everyone Can Adopt Animals!



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