

Mysuru Zoo

NEWS LETTER

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Mysuru Zoo

Newsletter

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1. From the Desk

**Dear Readers,
Greetings from Mysore Zoo!**

This quarter begun with the celebration of Wildlife Week. As a part of this, several programs and activities to create awareness about importance and need of conservation of wildlife was conducted. Inspector General of Police, Southern Range, Mysuru Sri Praveen Madhukar Pawar, IPS, graced the inaugural event of Wildlife Week as a Chief Guest.

A week long program on captive management of wildlife was conducted to Final Year Students of College of Forestry, Ponnampet. International Cheetah Day was Celebrated and Zoo Education Team interacted with zoo visitors on the issues of historical distribution of Cheetahs, Current range, population status and conservation needs and initiative at national and international level.

Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated with enthusiasm and active involvement of zoo staff and visitors. On Children's Day, thousands of Children availed the benefit of free entry to zoo and enjoyed their visit.

A milestone event during this period was opening of visitor entry gate between Karanji Lake and Regional Museum of Natural History (RMNH). This was long pending demand of visitors of Karanji Lake and RMNH as it would reduce the travel time between these two visitor facilities in Mysore and also promotes tourism and visitor flow to RMNH and Lake.

As a part of annual health checkup, zoo employees were screened for zoonotic diseases along with other health issues.

Routine repair and maintenance of zoo infrastructures was carried out to ensure the welfare of zoo animals, employees and of visitors. Sri Udaykumar, zoo employee, who worked for about 40 years with zoo at various capacities (Gardner, Animal keeper, Animal supervisor and Senior Assistant) retired from the service. He has been very disciplined and dedicated worker! Zoo remembers his contribution. Christmas and New Year period witnessed visit of tens of thousands of visitors to zoo and zoo team with the cooperation of our esteemed visitors could manage the visitor's movement very comfortably.

At this juncture I thank all the zoo visitors, patrons and colleagues for their continued support during this calendar year!

Team Mysore Zoo Wishes everyone a joyful 2023!

Thanking You,

Ajit Kulkarni, IFS

Deputy Conservator of Forests &
Executive Director

Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens,
Mysuru-570010

Cover Page
Leopard
(*Panthera pardus*)
© Avani V



2. Wildlife Week – 2022

The celebration of 68th National Wildlife Week was observed from 2nd to 8th October 2022. The main objective of this campaign was to promote the conservation and protection of animal life. Wildlife plays a crucial role in maintaining the ecological balance of nature. Any harm to it can pose threat to entire ecosystem. Thus, making it important to preserve flora and fauna. Wildlife Week was started with the aim of raising awareness among the public to take vital measures for the protection of wildlife life.

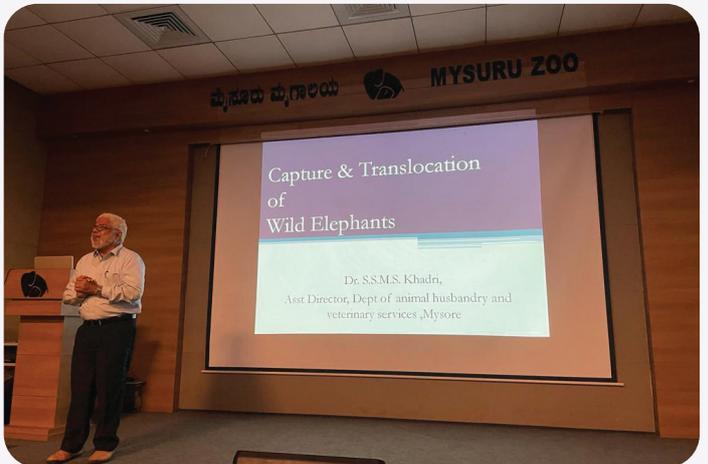
In this regard Wildlife Photography Competition was held in Mysuru Zoo. Photographs of participants were dedicated to public viewing on 2.10.2022 by our Chief Guest Sri Praveen Madhukar Pawar, IPS, Inspector General of Police, Southern Range, Mysuru District. Sri Shivakumar. M, Chairperson, Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Sri Ravi B.P. IFS, APCCF, Member Secretary, ZAK, Sri Gokul Govardhan & Smt. Jyothi Rechanna, Members Governing Council, ZAK were also present during the occasion. The photo exhibition was open for public viewing from 2nd October to 8th October 2022 from 10:00am to 5:00 pm. The selected Photographs gave a glimpse of Wild animals in their Natural Habitat and in Zoo Set Up.





3. Training Program for BSc (Forestry) Students

As part of academic curriculum, 80 final year B.Sc (Forestry) students from College of Forestry, Ponnampet visited Mysuru Zoo from 25/11/22 to 2/12/22. They were taught about captive management of zoo animals.





4. International Cheetah Day - December 4th

One of the fastest animal in the world is racing for survival. Huge reductions in their natural habitat have pushed the number to just 7,000 individuals existing globally. International Cheetah Day is a Day to raise awareness about the fastest animal on land and to encourage people to help cheetah win the race against extinction.

In this regard Mysuru Zoo Celebrated this Day by displaying Posters and Fact Sheets in front of the African Hunting Cheetah enclosure to educate visitors. Zoo Education Officer and team of Mysore Zoo volunteers interacted with zoo visitors.





5. Fire fighting Training

Fire fighting Drill was conducted on 24.12.2022 for Security Staff of Mysuru Zoo as a precautionary measures to avoid fire incidents at the time of emergency.



8. News in Brief

A. Brief observation on Calving Behaviour of Giraffe at Mysuru Zoo

Mysuru Zoo houses 8 Rothschild giraffes/Baringo Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi*) which is the subspecies of Northern Giraffe. It is listed as Near threatened by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in 2018, having the total population of mature individuals to be less than 1,468.

Babbi, a 9 year old female giraffe has given birth at Mysuru Zoo on 4th July 2022. Giraffes are Monotocous and their gestation period of a giraffe is 15 months.

In the last few weeks prior to parturition, Babbi's udder had increased tumescence. From the last 2 days prior to parturition she has decreased appetite. On the day of parturition, her vulva swollen and turgid. A week earlier to the delivery, Babbi was separated from other Giraffes and she was given a separate enclosure with a pen for safe calving.

On the morning of 4th July 2022, at around 11 AM, the amniotic sac, creamy colored was noticed by the keepers and by 11.10 AM the forelimb hooves of the fetus was present anteriorly in the sac. Along with the fore limbs, nostrils appeared followed by complete head and neck. During most of the labor period the mother was pacing around the enclosure. As uterine contractions continued she had spread her hind legs and extend her head and neck forward, paralleling to the ground. At 1:10 PM the entire fetus was expelled, dropping from the height of 7 feet. The fetus fell down with the neck coming into floor contact first. The complete labour took approximately 2 hours.

The most striking behavior was from the movement of delivery. The mother started licking the calf's nostril and eyes to clear all the fetal membranes and viscous fluid. She positioned her feet in-between the calf's forelimbs which was at recumbent posture. She started softly kicking the calf's sternum to stimulate the calf to stand. As a reflex, the calf attempted to stand leaning against the mother's feet but failed in several attempts. It took 20 min of effort for the calf to completely stand up with the mother's



Mother supporting the calf to stand by presenting her forelimb



Giraffe Babbi with her Calf

support. The young calf was identified to be female and it was 6 feet tall at birth, weighing approximately 80-90kg. It started exploring the mother's mammary gland and in a few attempts it was seen suckling the mother's brisket folds mistaking them for the teats. At 2 PM the calf consumed the colostrum from the right posterior teats. Three hours after delivery a large amount of lochia and placenta was seen expelled from the mother.

The calf is presently 6 months old and it has been introduced with the other Giraffes.

B. Major Events and Happenings

i. Kannada Rajyotsava Celebration

67th Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated on 1st November 2022 by staff of Mysuru Zoo.



ii. Children's Day Celebration

On account of children's day free entrance was provided for students to Mysuru Zoo.





iii. Inauguration of Entry Gate Between Karanji Lake Nature Park and RMNH Museum

Common Entry Gate connecting Karanji Lake Nature Park and Regional Museum of Natural History Mysuru (RMNH) was dedicated for public facility on 18.11.2022 by Sri Shivakumar. M, Chairman, Zoo Authority of Karnataka in the presence of Sri Ravi B.P. IFS, APCCF, Member Secretary, ZAK, Sri Gokul Govardhan & Smt. Jyothi Rechanna, Members Governing Council, ZAK, Scientist C & H.O Dr. Arjun Prasad Tiwari and official of RMNH.

This entry would facilitate the easy movement of visitors, especially of Children, between these two facilities but also reduces the burden of travel on visitors, vehicle movement, fuel consumption and also vehicle parking problem. It is likely to increase visitors flow and also helps in spreading the message of forest conservation to an increased number of people.



iv. Health check-up

Regular Health check-up was organised on 23.11.2022 for staff of Mysuru Zoo. Staff were made to undergo various tests such as Tuberculosis, Blood Sugar, Blood Pressure, Pulmonary Function Test and ECG.





v. Dedication of Tiger Cubs for public viewing

Mysuru Zoo is happy to announce that on 24.12.2022 Tiger Cubs born to Tiger Tara and Rocky on 26.4.2022 were dedicated for public viewing by Hon'ble Minister of Cooperation and District In-charge Minister Sri.S.T.Somashekhar in the presence of Sri.S.A. Ramadas Hon'ble MLA, Sri M. Shivakumar, Chairman ZAK , Smt. Jyothi Rechanna, Member ZAK, Sri Ravi B P IFS, Member Secretary ZAK, local public representatives and Visitors.





7. Recent Developmental Works

1. Repair & Painting works to Staff Parking Shed



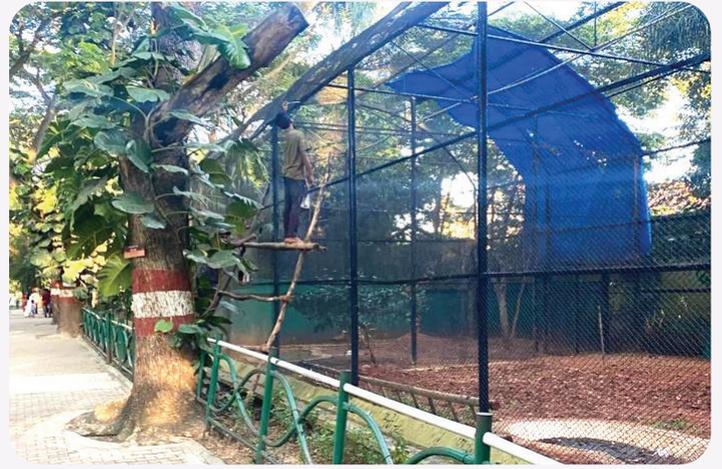
2. Repair & Painting to Hyena enclosure



3. Painting to Lady Amherst's Pheasant, Indian Peafowl & White Peafowl Enclosure



4. Painting to Sarus Crane Enclosure



5. Painting to Sloth Bear Enclosure



6. Painting to Visitor shelter



7. Providing Stainless Steel Hand Railings & additional Water Tank to Public Toilet



8. Retirement

Shri. M.G.Udayakumar: Senior Assistant (Animal Supervisor), Mysuru Zoo was Retired on 30.11.2023 after serving for a period of 40 years. Staff Members of Mysuru Zoo bid a farewell in appreciation of his service rendered to the zoo.



F. Major Adoption from April-June 2022

Sl. No	Name of the Adopter	Name of the Birds / Animals	Period of Adoption	Term	Amount
1.	Subbulakshmi Manjunatha	Spotted Deer, Common Peafowl, Indian Cobra, Grey Parrot	12/10/2022 To 10/10/2023	1 Year	26,000
2.	H M Gopinatha	Ring-Tailed Lemur	12/10/2022 To 10/10/2023	1 Year	25,000
3.	All Like Marketing Private Limited. Advaith Motors Pvt. Ltd.	Elephant-2 Tiger-2	8/10/2022 To 7/10/2023	1 year	7,00,000
4.	Siddartha	Smooth Coated Otter Leopard cat	8/10/2022 To 7/10/2023	1 Year	20,000
5.	M R Tejasvi	Four Horned Antelope	6/10/2022 To 5/10/2023	1 Year	10,000
6.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited Mysuru Division Office	Rhinoceros-Bobbli Rhinoceros-Virat	22/9/2022 To 21/9/2023	1 Year	3,00,000
7.	Vani V	King Cobra, Indian Cobra and Peacock	17/10/2022 To 16/10/2023	1 Year	13,000
8.	Prasad M K	Spotted Deer	22/10/2022 To 21/10/2023	1 Year	15,000
9.	Harshavardhan B MLA Nanjangud Constituency	Black Panther	28/10/2022 To 27/10/2023		50,000
10.	K. Varadaraja Kamath	King Cobra-2 Star Tortoise - 2	5/12/2022 To 4/12/2023	1 Year	16,000
11.	Yamuna Prabhakar	Spotted Deer	2/11/2022 To 1/11/2023	1 Year	15,000
12.	Krishna Anand, Smt Indira Venkatraman	Nilgai	26/11/2022 To 25/11/2023	1 Year	20,000
13.	Indira Venkatraman	Common Ostrich	26/11/2022 To 25/11/2023	1 Year	20,000
14.	M/s Sapient Education Trust	Common Ostrich	4/11/2022 To 3/11/2023	1 Year	20,000
15.	Dhruv Compusoft consultancy pvt ltd	Sponsoring of Battery Operated vehicle to Mysuru Zoo	—	1 Year	5,00,000
16.	Karanji Rakshanandan (Karanji Venkatesh Gargi)	Hippopotamus	16/11/2022 To 15/11/2023	1 Year	1,50,000
17.	Karanji Rakshanandan (Karanji Venkatesh Gargi)	Peacock Brown Wood Owl	16/11/2022 To 15/11/2023	1 Year	10,000
18.	Mysuru Heritage Round Table 109, Mysuru Heritage Ladies Circle 109, Mysuru	Common Ostrich	17/11/2022 To 16/11/2023	1 Year	20,000
19.	State Bank of India, Mysuru Sahukar Channaiah road, Saraswathi Puram, Mysuru	Tiger	16/11/2022 To 15/11/2023	1 Year	2,00,000
20.	Sri Ravi Kiran	Black Buck	20/11/2022 To 19/11/2023	1 Year	15,000
21.	Gowri Nagaraj	Great Indian Hornbill, King Cobra	28/11/2022 To 27/11/2023	1 Year	15,000
22.	Suraj Rao B	Four Horned Antelope	30/11/2022 To 29/11/2023	1 Year	10,000
23.	D Karthik	Spotted Deer (Male)	1/12/2022 To 30/11/2023	1 Year	15,000
24.	D Karthik	Spotted Deer (Female)	1/12/2022 To 30/11/2023	1 Year	15,000

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