

Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens



MYSURU ZOO

NEWSLETTER



A ZOO FOR ALL SEASONS

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From the Desk...



From the Desk

Mysuru zoo has successfully completed 126th year since its establishment. It is one of the major zoos in India and standing amongst leader zoo's of Asiatic continent. It is my privilege to hold additional charge of this institution from 12th June 2018.

During the first quarter of financial year 2018, we have successfully organized several educational activities and also received two Green Anacondas through animal exchange programme from Sri Lanka Zoo.

The major event was the Summer Camp-2018. It is conducted every year during April and May for children of age between 12 to 18 years. In this camp children are made aware of importance of wildlife and their conservation through theory and practical classes. Efforts are made to make learning more curious and entertaining. This year, 100 students participated in this education programme.

On 21th June, we celebrated the tallest land mammal i.e Giraffe (*Giraffacamelopardalis*) as it was World Giraffe Day. We took the initiation to create awareness of their declining population in wild through several colorful posters and interpreter talk to the visitors.

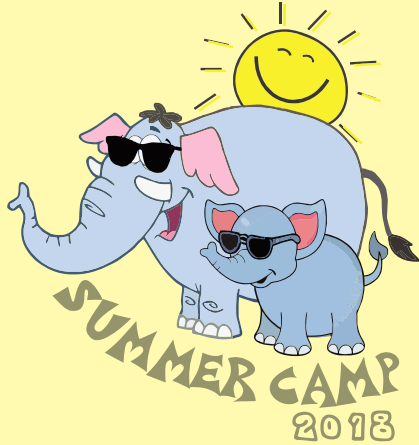
The Conservation Speak was re-initiated and 18th Conservation Speak was given by Dr. Ajith Kumar from National Center for Biological Sciences on 26th June 2018. The speech was on Ecology and Conservation of Lion-tailed Macaques (LTM's). In this speech, issues pertaining to status and conservation of LTM's were discussed.

We are thankful to all including zoo officers and employees for extending their heartfelt cooperation for the development and administration of Zoo and expect the same in future also.

Thank you all.....

Deputy Conservator of Forests &
Executive Director

SUMMER CAMP 2018



Mysuru Zoo organized the Summer Camp from 23rd April to 2nd May for 1st batch & 7th to 16th May 2018, for 2nd batch, for the interested students. Each batch was of 50 students. Students were made aware about nature, wildlife conservation and biological diversity. Apart from theory classes, several practical sessions were also organized and highlight session was interaction with zoo animal keepers. In order to make learning a fun, activities like treasure hunt, skits etc were also conducted. Students were taken to Karanji Lake Nature Park and Natural History Museum during the camp period. Bird Watching, Tree/Plants Identification, animal behavior studies were also the additional activities of this summer camp programme.



Celebration of



Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysuru, contemplated to celebrate World Environment Day every year. Theme for the current year's World Environment Day was 'Beat Plastic Pollution'.

In this connection several programs were organized by Mysuru Zoo with the involvement of public, students, Environmentalists, NGO's, Media people and Zoo volunteers on 5th June, 2018.



A. Programmes organized at Lalithadripura Lake area:

As per the orders of the Deputy Commissioner, Mysuru, a lake named TippayyanaKere in the limits of village Lalitadripura was taken over by the Mysuru Zoo on 13.04.2015 for management. Area of this lake is about 15.18 acre. Recently Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) has also handed over about 13 acre of land which is adjacent to said lake to Zoo Authorities for management. Zoo proposes to develop this area in to Nature Park for creation of awareness about nature. As a part of proposed developmental activities, Zoo has already taken up plantation of tree species like Ficus species, Jamun, Neem etc which are beneficial for birds and other wild animals along with grassland management and bio-treatment of sewage water which enters the lake.

In order to create awareness about importance of conservation of lakes, World Environment Day was celebrated at TippayyanaKere site by involving students, local residents and NGOs. As a part of World Environment Day Celebration, the following events were organized.

- Talk on the importance of water resources and its conservation in the urban landscape by Sri U.N. Ravikumar, Naturalist, Mysuru.
- Information about Trees and Birds species and their Identification.
- Planting of Saplings.

2. Programmes organized at VanyaRanga, Zoo premises at 2.30 p.m. :

- Briefing about the successful story of action taken on 'Beat Plastic Pollution' in zoo premises through power point presentation and information on eco-friendly activities as well as water conservation and its recycling adopted in Mysuru Zoo.
- Naming Ceremony to newly born Calves of Giraffe, Hippopotamus and Gaur.
- Signature campaign
- Planting of Saplings



World Giraffe Day

Giraffes are listed as Vulnerable to extinction in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Giraffe numbers in Africa have plummeted by a staggering 40% over the last 30 years. It is estimated that there are fewer than 1,00,000 giraffe remaining in all of Africa. This worldwide event is meant to raise support, create awareness and provide a deeper understanding of the challenges that these animals face in the wild. Not only it is a worldwide celebration of these amazing and much-loved animals, but an annual event to raise support, create awareness and shed light on the challenges giraffe face in the wild.

To contribute to this worldwide celebration, Mysuru Zoo took the initiative to celebrate these majestic animals as well as to improve the awareness. Display boards showing importance Giraffe Day, interesting facts about Giraffe and family history of giraffe at Mysuru Zoo were displayed in front of Giraffe Enclosures. In addition to this, our giraffe keeper, Mr. Essak and Education Officer Ms. Sindhuja, conducted interpreter talk to the general public. The Day attracted lot of visitors to admire these animals and also helped in knowing more about Giraffe.

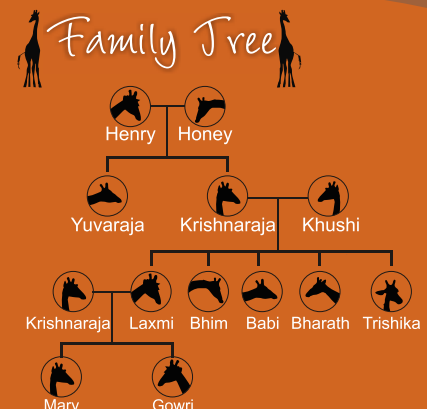


History of Mysore Zoo Giraffes:

The first ever giraffes in Mysuru zoo were Honey and Henry, who were received from German zoo by animal exchange programme on 3rd July 1988 and ever since then Mysuru zoo has always had giraffe for exhibition.

Mysuru zoo holds a big herd forming a major attraction. Currently, Mysuru zoo is proud to say it has 6 healthy Adults and a recently born female calf under its care. The old eldest male Yuvaraja stands the tallest, mesmerizing the visitors with his pitch dark colour which he has gained with age. Kushi, the eldest female and mother of five, can be said to be the reason for the giraffe population at Mysuru zoo. Her youngest offspring, Trishika, was welcomed on 26-05-2018. Mysuru zoo has successfully bred giraffes and exchanged giraffes via animal exchange programme across India.

The giraffes co-exist in harmony and remain active throughout the day. Along with a balanced diet, the zoo provides ample browse to the giraffe, ensuring nutritional value and behavior well being, and limiting their display of oral disturbances.



Successful Captive Breeding of Giraffes at Mysuru Zoo- A report of female giraffe Khushi.

Dr. Ramesh, veterinarian and **Sindhuja Sirigeri**, Education Officer of Mysuru Zoo

The female Giraffe, Khushi, was born to Anubhav (sire) and Sujata (dam) on 28 of February in 2005 at Lucknow Zoo. She was received at Mysuru zoo on 7th October 2007 through animal exchange programme under the instructions and management of the then Executive Director Shri Vijay Ranjan Singh IFS.

Sexual maturity of giraffes is reached between 2 and 5 years in females and 3 years in males in captivity. Female Giraffes are polyestrous, non-seasonal breeders. The female comes into estrus on average every 15 days with gestation approximately 14.5 months with an average interval between births of about 20 months. Khushi was paired with Krishnaraja, who was hand reared from day one at Mysuru zoo. Krishnaraja was born to Henry and Honey on 6th October 1996.

Khushi has the Giraffe studbook number T395 with the local ID M00021. Under the Prophylactic health care management it is regularly vaccinated. A combined vaccine for Foot and Mouth disease, Hemorrhagic septicemia and black quarter is given once every 6 months. Deworming is done once in every 3 months. The additional pregnancy care was given which included nutritional supplements such as micro minerals and vitamins.

Kushi has not suffered from any infectious or contagious diseases and she is an exceptionally good mother, taking nursing care of all her young calves. Perhaps this maybe one of the reasons for exceptional captive breeding of Giraffe at Mysuru zoo. Presently we have F1 and F2 generations of the female giraffe Khushi at the Mysuru zoo. Some of her progeny have been given to other zoos such as Sanjay Gandhi JaivikUdyan and Bannerghatta Biological Park through animal exchange programme.

Table of calving History

Sl. No.	Date of birth of the calf	Sex	Name
1.	26/12/2009	Female	Lakshmi
2.	14/04/2012	Male	Bhim
3.	15/12/2013	Female	Babi
4.	10/12/2015	Male	Bharath



18th Conservation Speak

Eighteenth Conservation Speak Programme was organized at Mysuru zoo on the subject “Ecology and conservation of Lion-Tailed Macaques (*Macacasilenus*)” on 26th June 2018. Dr. Ajith Kumar, Director, Wildlife Biology and Conservation, National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore, delivered the talk on the issue which consisted captive management, nutritional requirements and conservation efforts on Lion-Tailed Macaques. Shri B.P. Ravi IFS, Member Secretary, Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Dr. Meva Singh, Wildlife expert, Department of Zoology, University of Mysore, Mysuru zoo Executive Director, M.C.Sidramappa IFS, Zoo Officers and staff, zoo volunteers, NGO's and wildlife enthusiast were amongst those who attended the Conservation Speak.



In-reach programme

The In-reach programme is conducted to make the students understand the purpose of conservation and organization, maintenance and working of a zoo. Some of the students and trainees who visited the Zoo are,

1. 50 officers from State Institute for Urban development, ATI campus, Mysuru.
2. 50 Specially abled Children from Tumkur.
3. 100 RFO trainees from Odisha.
4. Specially abled children From Mandya.
5. 33 Officers from Administrative Training Institute, Mysuru



Specially abled Children from Tumkur



Administrative Training Institute Trainee officers visit



RFO Trainees from Odisha(Batch 1)



RFO Trainees from Odisha(Batch 2)



Specially abled Children from Mandya

Recent Developmental works:



Renovation of open aviary Chain-link Mesh: The existing chain-link mesh was worn out and required additional mesh which was provided without removing the old one to increase the strength of the chain-link mesh.



Renovation of Crocodile Enclosure: Crocodile enclosure was renovated to improve water holding capacity and to reduce seepage.



Snake House Sump: The Sump was constructed to hold the Kaveri river water for cleaning the view glasses of the snake house as borewell water was not suitable for glass cleaning.



Installation of Sprinklers at Wolf, Zebra, Hyena and Bear enclosures: This is a part of summer management programme, to regulate extreme heat during the summers.

Arrival of two Green Anacondas from Sri Lanka Zoo to Mysuru Zoo under animal exchange programme



During the year 2011 Mysuru Zoo had received 5 Green Anacondas from Sri Lanka Zoo as gift. Now, as a part of Central Zoo Authority approved exchange programme, Sri Lanka Zoo would be providing 6 Anaconda (3:3) in exchange of 2:2 Black Buck & 2:2 Nilgai from Mysuru Zoo.

As part of above said exchange programme, two Green Anacondas (a male & a female) reached Mysuru Zoo on 28.04.2018. They reached Bengaluru Airport by Sri Lankan Airlines on 28/4/2018, and the same day they were received and successfully transported to Mysuru Zoo by our Zoo Veterinarian and animal keeper by road. At present they have been kept in Quarantine enclosure. They are about 4 years 8 months old and 6 to 8 feet in length and weigh up to 15 kg. Their health condition is stable.

The arrival of Anaconda has added to the animal collection of the Mysuru Zoo and will give an opportunity to zoo visitors see Anacondas from close range and learn about these majestic snakes.



Major Adoptions



“Vivek Bagai and Shaunak Bagai”

have adopted

Asiatic Black Bear & Lion Tailed Macaque by paying

Rs. 45,000 for a period of one year from **01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019**.

“Sakala Appachu”

has adopted

Leopard and King Cobra by paying

Rs. 38,500 for a period of one year from **07/06/2018 to 06/06/2019**.

“Kaushal K. Hebbar”

has adopted

Indian Grey Wolf, Finch, Ring Tailed Lemur, Flamingo,

Love Bird and Asian Grey Hornbill by paying

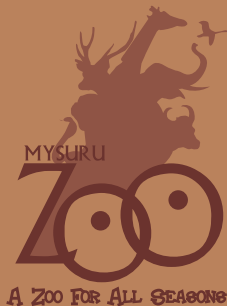
Rs. 52,000 for a period of one year from **06/05/2018 to 05/05/2019**.

Birth of Young Ones at Mysuru Zoo:

On 26th May 2018, a Female Giraffe born to Khushi (dame) and Krishnaraja (sire) in the giraffe enclosure. She has been named as Trishika.



On 16th May 2018, a female Hippopotamus was born in the hippo enclosure. She is born to Rani and it is named as Harini.



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