

Education Reports

World Forestry & World Water Day at Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur

Deforestation and degradation are the major contributors of global warming. As a significant part of controlling these problems, the habitats need to be protected as they play a pivotal role in the hydrological cycle and are vitally important for preserving adequate water supplies. To promote awareness of the value of forests and water across the globe by providing information on the protection, production, and recreation of forests and preserve water resources to protect the environment and the benefits, which we gain from them, 'World Forestry Day' is celebrated around the globe every year on 21 March and World Water Day on 22 March. TSZP Jamshedpur commemorated these two events in association with Dhalbhum Forest Division. Following programmes were organised during the celebration.

On 21 March, in the forenoon an inter school elocution competition was organised on the focal theme- 'Role of forest and water in environment conservation'. Five topics were given to the students and they were asked to select any one of the topics either in Hindi or English. The topics were: Forest as a resource of water, Water and Forest are interdependent, Water and Forest Complement each other. Effect of water reservoirs on Living beings and Impact of e-waste on Forest and Water. Thirty-eight students from 11 different city schools participated. This was declared open by Mr. Bipul Chakrabarty, Director, TSZP in presence of Ms. Mamta Priyadarshi, I.F.S, attached officer, Dalbhum Forest Division. A panel of Judges judged the contestants. The winners were: Aashirwad Kumar, RVS Academy (first), Ekta Kar, KSMS (second), Shreyashi Mukherjee, Carmel Junior College (third), Anmol Kumari, Kerela Public School and Akanksha Shah, Carmel Junior College (consolation).

On 22 March the closing ceremony was held. Shri K. Z. Bhutia, DFO, Dhalbhum Forest Division welcomed the guests. Dr. S. S. Razzi, Head, Department of Zoology, Co-operative College, Jamshedpur Guest of Honour and Speaker of the day appreciated the efforts of Dhalbhum Forest Division to be associated with Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur for organizing such a promotional event. The winners were awarded with prizes on the next day during closing ceremony.



Birth day of tiger cub celebrated

Implementing Aichi Biodiversity Goal and Target 1 at TSZP, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand

On 29 October 2010, Conference of parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity came together at Nagoya, Japan to decide upon strategy to prevent rapid loss of biodiversity and its sustainable utilization with the underlying theme, "Living in harmony with nature" Five strategic goals and 20 targets were identified to be addressed by 2020 by all stakeholders.

Zoos are a major stakeholder and have been given the responsibility to address Strategic Goal-A and Target-1. Goal-A: address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society and TARGET-1 being "By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably". Zoos world over are visited by 700 million people annually and are best place to convey the message on conservation and preservation of biodiversity. Tata Steel Zoological Park chalked out various ways and means to carry home the message of conserving and preserving India's precious wildlife, by involving the eco clubs of schools, like-minded NGO's and corporate houses of the city. The vehicles for awareness generation being planting of trees, organizing nature camps, through competitions like essay writing, debating, fancy dress and painting and by birthday celebration of key flagship wild animal species.

In follow-up to the Aichi strategy, TSZP organized birthday celebration of tiger cub "Dona" born on 16 April 2012. It was after a decade that the zoo had witnessed birth of a tiger cub. To make this day special and convey our commitment towards conservation of endangered wild animals, the First Lady of Tata Steel Ltd. Mrs. Shurekha Nerurkar honoured the event by cutting a cake. Mr. Sunil Bhaskar, Dy. Vice President, Tata Steel, Mr. Amitabh Chatterjee, Regional Manager, State Bank of India, Mr. Swetabh suman, Commissioner, Income Tax, other officials and all Zoo staff and children from the underprivileged class of society, Madrasa and school students participated in the celebration.

The celebration was started at 8.00 am at the lawns facing the tiger enclosure and was attended by 150 people comprising of adults, children / students. All of them wished Dona for a cheerful and long life and prayed that the country's tiger population becomes stable. During this occasion State Bank of India donated an amount of 7.55 lakhs towards improving the veterinary facility in the zoo. It was co-coordinated by Ms. Seema Rani and her team of volunteers. **Submitted by: Ms. Seema Rani, Biologist cum Education Officer, Tata Steel Zoological Park.** <cmarani00@rediffmail.com>