

CBSG South Asia and Zoo Outreach Organization joins "Wild Face of Climate Change" -350.org climate change movement

R. Marimuthu and B.A. Daniel

The Conservation Breeding Specialist Group **IUCN SSC CBSG** launched "Zoos and Aquariums for 350" climate change movement at annual meeting in October 2013. Many zoos and aquariums joined in this movement and began implementing this at their respective institutions and also communicating this to the public.

CBSG requested zoos, aquariums and CBSG regional networks to join in showing the 350.org's Wild face of Climate Change on 22 May 2014 in photos coinciding with the Int'l Day for Biological Diversity.

The objective demonstrated the zoo and aquarium community's participation in the 350 movement, and to communicate to public on change and how it affects species. Also zoos could organize 350 focused education programmes for their visitors, etc.

CBSG, South Asia and ZOO promoted the 350 movement in India by inviting by email and phone calls to zoo personnel that responded with 350 project photos: <http://www.cbsg.org/content/wild-face-climate-change> and <https://www.facebook.com/zoosandaquariumsfor350>.

CBSG, SA and ZOO conducted a programme at the VOC Park Zoo photographing animals susceptible to climate change impact. We emailed them to CBSG, SSC, IUCN web site. Also we conducted an awareness programme on 350 climate change movement to communicate the zookeepers and the public about climate change and how it affects species as well human beings. They learned 350.org is a global climate movement, dedicated to bring safe down atmospheric CO₂ level to 350 parts per million from its current level of 400 ppm for the improvement of species live on the earth.

Dr. Asokan, Director, VOC Park Zoo coordinated the event. We thank the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation for granting permission.



In the end about 500 visitors and keepers learned about a list of actions they could do for to combat climate change.



Individual can save electricity, water, usage of transport, usage of paper and trees, recycling the waste from the kitchen and rainwater harvesting to reduce the carbon footprint.



Photos by B.A. Daniel.

Other programmes and comments from some zoos in India

National Zoological Park, New Delhi

On 22nd May we celebrated International Day for Biological Diversity at the National Zoological Park in the elephant enclosure along with animal caretakers and school students from Faith Academy School, John L. Dorsey Road Prasad Nagar, New Delhi.

The slogan 350 means that we should go back to the 'safe' 350 ppm of Carbon dioxide level in the atmosphere. Scientists say that it is the safe upper limit of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas that traps heat in the atmosphere and contributes to climate change. Right now, the atmosphere contains about 400 ppm of CO₂ and is increasing every year. At 400 ppm of CO₂ in our atmosphere, we are already seeing problems related to climate change, from the melting of the arctic to increasing extreme weather events. If we stay on our current pathway, CO₂ levels will continue to rise climate change will continue to progress.

The programme was conducted with the support of Zoo Outreach Organization. The Programme was well covered by media.

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Mahendra Chaudhury Zoological Park, Chhatbir, Punjab

MCZP, Chhatbir acknowledged Zoo Outreach Organization's request to join and showing the 350.org wild face of Climate Change. We took photos of Sarus crane and Barking deer with 350 logo. Both the species are endangered and like other species they need us to act to get the atmospheric CO₂ back to a "safe" 350ppm. While taking photo shots, we communicated our visitors about the 350-climate change movement and individual's role to combat the climate change.

Submitted by: Mr. Harpal Singh, Block Officer. Email: harpalwildlifer@gmail.com



Both senior officers and zoo keepers have fun with the 350 slogan and their elephants also.



Barking deer zookeeper at Mahendra Chaudhury Zoological Park proudly poses with his contribution to the 350 project.

Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur - 350 photos

Tata Zoo supplied innovative and attractive photos to celebrate Z&A for 350 at their zoo. In addition to Jumbo the lion, they photographed children working on their 350 painting projects.

The Zoo also organised a 3 day event called "Art in Nature 2014 - Workshop cum Painting Competition" from May 20th to 22nd to coincide with International Day for Biological Diversity 2014. This will be reviewed in full on the next page.

Ms. Seema Rani, Biologist cum Education Officer. Email: cmarani00@rediffmail.com

Arignar Anna Zoological Park – International Day for Biological Diversity

A programme for International Day for Biological Diversity 2014 was conducted by Ms. Jessie Jeyakaran in collaboration with the staff of the Arignar Anna Zoo. Students of CSI Ewart Matriculation HS School, Anna Nagar participated.

Dr. Manimozhi gave a presentation on the importance of learning about the problems of atmosphere and our future and Ms. Jessie Jeyakaran explained about the project Zoos and Aquariums for 350, Wild Face of Climate Change and CBSG's invitation to the zoos and others about photo challenge. On the spot quiz competition. Later the students stood in front of the Nilgiri Langur enclosure with different animal posters bearing 350-logo and taught the visitors about the impact of climate change to the fauna and flora and questions from visitors answered as well. **Submitted by: Ms. Jessie Jeyakaran, Chennai: Email: jessiejey@rediffmail.com.**



Jumbo, the African Lion at Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur, India seems to be intently pondering the message behind Zoos and Aquariums for 350.



Dr. Manimozhi, Biologist explained to students about Climate change



Students celebrated Zoos and Aquariums 350

Tata Steel Zoological Park to organize 'Art in Nature 2014' – Art workshop cum Painting Competition to celebrate International Day for Biological Diversity 2014

Seema Rani*

Tata Steel Zoological Park in association with Off The Wall Art Gallery and Art Kingdom - an Institute of Art and Craft organised 'Art in Nature 2014' an art workshop cum painting competition at the Nature Education Centre in Tata Zoo from May 20th to May 22nd 2014.

As part of meeting the AICHI TARGET-1 OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION 2020, Tata Zoo has taken the initiative to make more and more people aware of the value of biodiversity by organising various educational activities throughout the year. For the last four years, the Zoo has been organizing an Annual Art Camp cum painting competition 'Art in Nature' for school students during month of May-June.

May 22nd, 2014 is 'International Day for Biological Diversity' and this year the United Nations has declared the day as the International Day of Island Biodiversity. To generate awareness on the need to protect Islands and their surrounding near-shore marine areas that constitute unique ecosystems, the Zoo organised this art workshop cum painting competition which was open to all. During the three day event, there were art workshops conducted by experienced art teachers from Art Kingdom who helped children improve their art skills by sharing interesting tips and providing valuable guidance.

The theme of 'Art in Nature 2014' was "Island Diversity" and the need to protect Islands and their surrounding near-shore marine areas that constitute unique ecosystems like coral reefs, atolls etc. Students from Std. 2 to 10 were invited to participate.

Art in Nature 2014' was inaugurated by Mr. Gian Taneja, Managing Director, Apex Corporation in the presence of Ms. Divya Koh from Off The Wall Art Gallery, Dr. M. Palit- Dy.

Director cum Veterinary Officer, Mr. S.K. Mahato, Curator, Tata Steel Zoological Park and Dr. Mrs. S. Ghosh, Member, Rotary Club of Jamshedpur Steel City.



Mr. Gian Taneja painting his depiction of Mahatma Gandhi to inaugurate Art in Nature 2014 art & painting exercise.

Over three days from May 20th to May 22nd, children enthusiastically created works of art on different topics – ranging from Plants of Islands, Animals of Islands, Human habitation on islands, Bat Island (the island in the middle of Jayanti Sarovar Lake inside Tata Steel Zoological Park which is inhabited by hundreds of Indian Flying Fox (*Pteropus giganteus*) and Greater Short Nosed Fruit Bat (*Cynopterus sphinx*) etc.



Mentors guiding children with their painting efforts during Art in Nature 2014 Art Workshop cum Painting Competition

On the final day, eminent artists from Jamshedpur – Mr. Anup Sinha, Mr. Arun Sinha and Mr. Ashok Maity judged the winners and awarded them trophies and certificates.

One of the main highlights of the competition was that one of the supporters of Art in Nature 2014 – Off The Wall Art gallery graciously offered to display all the winning paintings at their Gallery for 3 days starting May 23rd, 2014.

The events were co-ordinated by Seema Rani, Biologist cum Education Officer and Sandeep Raj Singh, Zoo Volunteer, Tata Steel Zoological Park.



Winners of Art in Nature 2014 Art Workshop cum Painting Competition along with guests and judges during the Prize Distribution Ceremony

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