

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

2019-20



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Government of India)

Block No. 3, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

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INTRODUCTION

ADMINISTRATIVE STATUS:

Administrative status: Subordinate office of MoEFCC

Scheme status: Ecology and Environment (Direction and Administration) (Subordinate Office. Namely National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) continuing since 5th June, 1978 funded as detailed below:

Financial Status: Budgetary support by means of annual Budget Estimates (BE) through Demand for Grants of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change are being provided by the Government of India.

Financial Year 2019-20		
1	Major Head	3435 – Ecology and Environment
2	Sub-Major Head	01 – Survey (Botanical)
3	Minor Head	3435.01.001 – Director and Administration
4	Sub Head	04 - Subordinate Office
5	Detailed Head	04.03 – National Museum of Natural History

Institutional status: Natural History Museum

Content status: Natural History/ Biodiversity (Flora and Fauna)

Major Functional status: Environmental Education

HISTORY

Even though decision was taken in 1972 to establish a NMNH in New Delhi, it was opened to public on 5th June 1978 on the occasion of the World Environment Day. Over years the NMNH established itself as a pioneering institution for Environment Education. Later, it opened many Museums in different regions of India: Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, and Sawai Madhopur.

NMNH Established: 1972;

NMNH (opened to public): NMNH HQ: New Delhi: 1978: June 5

NMNH Southern Region: RMNH Mysore: 1995: May 20

NMNH Central Region: RMNH Bhopal: 1997: September 29

NMNH Eastern Region: RMNH Bhubaneswar: 2004: August 10

NMNH Western Region: RMNH Sawai Madhopur: 2014: March 1

NMNH North Eastern Region: RMNH Gangtok (being established)

VISION, MISSION, OBJECTIVES

VISION

1. Development of Scientific temper in society on environment and natural heritage of the country for education, training and creating awareness by a network of natural history museums of international standard.

MISSION

1. To realize the NMNH as a leading Museum institution in India with its collection of natural heritage through the methods collecting, conserving, documenting, researching natural heritage objects and communicating it through education, exhibition, publication and information for a socially included society.

OBJECTIVES

1. To establish the NMNH as a leading Museum in India on Natural History
2. To undertake curatorial work related to the Museum collections (collection, conservation, documentation, research etc.) and its communication (exhibition, education, publications etc) to public
3. To undertake programmes for making the Museum resources 'accessible to all' for a socially included society on a national level
4. To create human resource in all aspects of natural history museum curatorship

FUNCTIONS

The NMNH Functions are summarized below:

1. To undertake curatorial work on natural heritage (Geology, Botany and Zoology) aspects of the NMNH
2. To undertake curatorship on collection-oriented functions (Collection, Conservation, Documentation, Research etc.)
3. To undertake curatorship on communication-oriented functions of the Museum (Exhibition, Education, Information etc.)
4. To work towards making the Museum resources 'accessible to all' aimed at a socially included society
5. To work towards making the Museum resources accessible on a regional level by establishing RMNH
6. To undertake capacity building programmes for Natural History Museums/ Museologists in the country
7. To undertake international professional programmes with Museums and institutions outside India
8. To organize programmes on behalf of the MoEFCC

As per the definition of Museums by International Council of Museums (ICOM), "A Museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment." [ICOM Statutes, adopted by the 22nd General Assembly (Vienna 24 August 2007).

MAJOR FUNCTIONS

Major functions of the NMNH are grouped under two categories: collection-oriented and visitor-oriented

COLLECTION-ORIENTED FUNCTIONS

Collection, Intangible Natural Heritage, Conservation, Documentation and Research

VISITOR-ORIENTED FUNCTIONS

Exhibition, Education, Information and Social inclusion

COLLECTION

In the NMNH, collections consist of Geology, Botany and Zoology. Collections are generally acquired in the NMNH from donations or field work. Donations included specimens which were collected during the initial inception of the NMNH Headquarters in New Delhi from the National Zoological Park (NZP) and Zoological Survey of India (ZSI). Over years when many RMNH were established collections came from Van Ingen, based in Mysore. Collections by field work consisted of Herpetology as part of Indi-US bilateral collaboration and by NMNH staff (Taxidermy, Scientists etc.). Some geology collections in Bhopal were from GSI Nagpur. Skeletons of Elephants and Whale were collected at Bhubaneswar through the help of Forest department. The original bird collections of the 'Birds of Mysore State' (collected by Salim Ali) were procured from Karnataka State Museum and now in RMNH Mysore.

CONSERVATION

Conservation in the NMNH involves both dry and wet preserved specimens located in Galleries, open space, Reserve collections, Lab etc. Continuous conservation work of objects on display and in the Reserve is important. The NMNH has a few trained young Taxidermists for undertaking conservation of animal specimens. However, there is need to have capacity building training programmes to be imparted to staff from other Museums, Zoos, Forest departments who often approach the Museum for help. In the light of the recent observations of stranding of a large number of marine mammals (dolphins, whales etc.), teams from NMNH, New Delhi, Mysore, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur were asked for salvage operations. Accordingly it is felt that there is potential to develop a Natural Heritage Rapid Action Force with fundamental training programmes in NH Conservation Management for fishermen, Coast Guards and Zoo/Forest/Museums staff in coastal States. During the current Financial Year, such programmes will be initiated with the collaboration of National Research Laboratory for Conservation(NRLC), Lucknow.

DOCUMENTATION

The collections in the NMNH have been acquired many years back during the initial phase of the establishment of the HQ in New Delhi. However, during the establishment of the various RMNHs, on account of stringent laws, we could not collect many objects. This was compounded by the lapsing of many field oriented posts in the NMNH. Accordingly collections along with documentation became low priority.

However, the establishment of a new permanent headquarter in New Delhi has opened up a new avenue for the documentation of all the existing collections for the purpose of records. In addition, the incorporation of additional function of INH has added dimension to the importance of digital collections which may be uploaded to the website for larger dissemination.

RESEARCH

Research in the NMNH is of two types: Collection-oriented and Museology oriented.

Collection-oriented Research involves studies on collections belonging to Botany, Zoology, as well as its conservation aspects. However, at present research on collections is low priority as the same are being undertaken by BSI and ZSI.

Museology oriented Research includes Studies on Indian Museum Visitors.

EXHIBITION

Exhibition is the major communication tool of NMNH. It includes the following:

1. Permanent Exhibitions (Galleries): After the establishment of RMNH, no full-fledged Galleries have been opened in any RMNH except at Bhubaneswar. Accordingly there is urgent requirement of initiation of work for the new Galleries in RMNH Mysore and Bhopal. The new HQ is being planned at New Delhi wherein new Galleries of international standards would be opened. For the time being, after the unfortunate fire incident in earlier NMNH HQ at Tansen Marg, majority of the Technical staff has been transferred to other RMNHs. Survived exhibits / specimens have been translocated to the nearest RMNH at Sawai Madhopur.
2. Temporary Exhibitions: Temporary Exhibition (TE) based on different topics of interest are organised on a regular basis in the Museums. This will be continued during the current Financial Year with the "Exhibits of the Month" project
3. Mobile Exhibition: A Mobile exhibition is a self-contained exhibition structure in a Vehicle. At present the NMNH has such a ME in RMNH Bhubaneswar. However, it is too obsolete to be functional.

EDUCATION

Museum Education in the NMNH may be classified, depending on the type, as:

1. Formal (supporting School education, involving Students and teachers)
2. Non-formal (groups involving trainees, adult educators etc.),
3. Informal (General public/family group visitors).

MUSEUM VISITORS

Museum Visitors in the NMNH in general may be classified based on age group as Children, Youth, Adults, and Aged. Family groups involve mixed age groups.

SERVICE PROVISIONS INSIDE MUSEUM:

- For Regular visitors
 1. Guidance/Interpretation: Interpretation or guidance in Galleries. Target audience may be general public or specific groups such as Schools. From previous Financial Year 2016-17, all programmes involving schools are grouped under MEANS ((Museum Environmental Awareness Network through Schools)
 2. Public Engagement: Public lectures, Gallery talks, Film shows, etc.
 3. Competitions: Organisation of various competitions on various occasions related to various days/ events of interest to the Museum.
- For non-regular visitors
 4. In-reach (Social inclusion): Basically for service to children with disabilities. Specialised activities

SERVICE PROVISION OUTSIDE MUSEUM:

- For regular visitors
- 5. Extension: Activities extended to those who are already getting the benefit, such as Schools. During the Financial Year 2018-19, all these programmes will be grouped under MEANS
- For non-regular/potential visitors
- 6. Out-reach (Social inclusion): These are organised outside Museum to bring in those (other than children with disabilities) who are not regular visitors of the Museum. The target audience may be slum children, aged, economically/ socially backward people

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

The CAG observed about the lack of international programmes and MOU with Museums of repute. Earlier there were proposals from the NMNH in this regard. However, it could not be materialised. However, on the advice of the CAG, efforts will be initiated to revive International programme. A draft MoU between NMNH New Delhi and NHM London (UK) prepared was submitted to the MoEFCC.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

The NMNH Museums generally organise educational programmes / competitions on the following days:

World Braille Day	January 4
World Wetland Day	February 2
Programme for Specially Challenged children	February 2 nd Week
World Wildlife Day	March 3
World Forestry Day	March 21
World Day for Water	March 22
Earth Day	April 22
International Museum Day	May 18
Anniversary Programmes	May vary
Summer Vacation Programme	May-June
International day for Biological diversity	22 May
World Environment Day	June 5
World Day to Combat Desertification	June 17
Van Mahotsav	July 1-7
International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer	September 16
Wildlife Week	October 2-8
Conservation Day	November 25
World Day for disabled	December 3
Winter Nature Camp	December-January
Teachers Training Workshop	Every Quarter

INFORMATION

In the NMNH, information is passed to public through the following means:
Library, Publications, Website, and E-Newsletter (uploaded on the Website)

MEANS

Taking advantage of the strides India has developed with digital revolution, as well as the various educational programmes being arranged by NMNH (HQ and its RMNH) on a national level, it was found appropriate to initiate a new network under the umbrella of the NMNH called MEANS (Museum Environmental Awareness Network through Schools).

During the current Financial Year, new projects will be initiated inspired by the earlier examples.

YEYA (Young Environmentalist of the Year Award)

“Young Environmentalist of the Year Award” (YEYA) – is a National Level award which is given by National Museum of Natural History (NMNH), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, every year to the teenager in the age group of 13-16 years. This award was started in the year 1999, which was the 21st Foundation Day (5th June, 1999) of NMNH. The aim of this award is to create awareness among the teenagers to observe and understand nature and to prepare them to play an important role in conserving nature and wildlife. Even though initially the YEYA winner was selected on the basis of best performance in various activities done during the Summer Programme held at NMNH, New Delhi, later the selection venues have been extended to other NMNH offices in Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur.

INFRASTRUCTURAL WORKS

All the Museums under the NMNH except the HQ have been established on its own campuses with the land donated by the State Governments. The HQ however, had been functioning from its inception in 1972, from a rented building belonging to FICCI. After an unfortunate fire incident in FICCI Museum Building, the NMNH HQ has been shifted to CGO Complex and has been functioning with a meagre space of 5 small rooms.

The search for a piece of land for a permanent HQ for the NMNH succeeded finally with the MoEFCC able to acquire 6.5 acres of land near Bhairon Mandir Marg behind the National Zoological Park. Tenders were floated and a Consultant Agency has been selected for establishment of the new HQ.

The project on the new RMNH for North Eastern Region (NER) at Gangtok (Sikkim) has now become activated after the problems of land acquisition has been sorted out. Accordingly during the current FY, a few activities/ programmes (workshops) may be initiated in the NER for which additional budget may be requested from the MoEFCC.

No new Gallery has been established in any RMNH after its inauguration, except Bhubaneswar. Even though many efforts were undertaken for the development of new Galleries in Mysore and Bhopal earlier, it could not succeed. Accordingly there is essential requirement of reviving the efforts to develop new Galleries in RMNH Mysore and Bhopal during the current FY.

BUDGET

The Budget requirements of the NMNH are allotted by the MoEFCC.

Plan Budget includes both Revenue and Capital Heads.

The Scheme under which the NMNH functions includes: NMNH (HQ) AND RMNHs

12th Five Year Plan (FYP)BUDGET(Rs Crores)

Component	2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			2016-17		
	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.(as on 31.12.16)
capital	05.00	09.00	07.00	09.00	04.50	04.52	07.00	05.75	05.46	04.20	04.20	02.63	07.00	7.00	1.80
Revenue	08.15	08.20	07.78	08.62	08.11	07.93	08.00	06.19	06.03	06.80	11.70	11.50	3.00	11.00	8.25
Total	13.15	17.20	14.78	17.62	12.61	12.45	15.00	11.94	11.49	11.00	15.90	14.13	10.00	18.00	10.05

BUDGET 2019-20:

A total Budget Estimate (BE) of Rs. 22.87 Crores has been allotted to the NMNH for the financial year 2019-20:

HEAD	Amounts (Rs. In Crores)
PLAN: REVENUE	12.47
PLAN: CAPITAL	10.40
Total	22.87

The total Budget Estimate allocated has been distributed among the HQ and the RMNHs as per details given below:

Amount in Rs Crores			
PLAN: REVENUE	12.47		
NMNH HQ		4.53	
RMNH		7.94	
Mysore			1.90
Bhopal			2.00
Bhubaneswar			2.18
Sawai Madhopur			1.86
PLAN: CAPITAL	10.40	10.40	
NMNH HQ& RMNH Gangtok			10.40
Total	22.87	22.87	

Targets (Financial and Physical)

The Plan Targets (Financial and Physical) (excluding Capital component) to be achieved have been finalized after a series of discussion among the HOs of the various offices of the NMNH during November, 2018– February, 2019. The same is given below (Rs Lakhs):

2019-20: FINANCIAL TARGETS (AMOUNT IN RS LAKHS)							
Object Head	PLAN	PLAN AMONG HQ + RMNH		PLAN DIVISION AMONG 4 RMNHs			
	BE	BE	BE	MYS	BPL	BUB	SM
	NMNH (HQ+ RMNH)	HQ	RMNH				
Salaries	727.00	327.00	400.00	120.00	100.00	100.00	80.00
Wages	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Overtime Allowance	0.10	0.10	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Treatment	12.90	7.90	5.00	1.50	1.00	1.00	1.50
Domestic Travel Expenses	15.00	10.00	5.00	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25
Foreign Travel Expenses	10.00	10.00	0	0	0	0	0
Office Expenses	140.00	40.00	100.00	15.00	25.00	30.00	30.00
Rent, Rate & Taxes	5.00	0	5.00	1.00	1.50	2.50	0
Publications	4.00	1.00	3.00	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
Other Administrative Expenses	40.00	15.00	25.00	7.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Supplies & Materials	20.00	10.00	10.00	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
Advertising & Publicity	8.00	6.00	2.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Minor Works	100.00	0	100.00	15.00	25.00	25.00	35.00
Professional Services	3.00	2.00	1.00	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Other Contractual Services	145.00	20.00	125.00	22.00	33.00	45.00	25.00
Other Charges	15.00	3.00	12.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Total	1247.00	453.00	794.00	190.00	200.00	218.00	186.00

PHYSICAL TARGETS for the year 2018-19

	Targets	Qr.1	Qr.2	Qr.3	Qr.4	Total
New Initiatives *						
	Development of New website of NMNH	-	-	1	-	1
	Development of mobile App for Museums	-	1	-	-	1
Exhibitions	Temporary Exhibitions	-	5	-	5	10
	Exhibits of the Month	12	12	12	12	48
Educational Programmes	Environmental Awareness Programmes	15	15	15	15	60
	Summer Nature Programme	5	-	-	-	5
	Winter Nature Programme	-	-	5	-	5
	Teachers Training Workshop	5	5	5	5	20
	Development of New Popular Publications	3	3	3	3	12
	Programme for underprivileged Children	3	3	5	4	12
	Mass Awareness Campaign through Street Play	2	3	3	2	10
	Monthly School Biodiversity Programme	15	15	15	15	60
	Programme for children with special needs	-	-	10	10	20
	Regular Guided Tour of IPB for students/special groups	As per the requirement from MOEF&CC				

*New initiatives have been taken for the year 2018-19. More such initiatives having regard to the mandate of the National Museum of Natural History will also be introduced in the next financial years.

More new programmes / activities conforming to the objectives of the National Museum of Natural History and within the budget provision may also be taken up with the approval of the competent authority.

OUTCOME MEASURES

The measurable outcomes of the Scheme indicators are as under:

The outcomes of the Scheme are in the form of measurable indicators only. The primary objectives of the National Museum of Natural History include collection of natural heritage through the methods collecting, conserving, documenting, researching natural heritage objects (both tangible and intangible) and communicating it through education, exhibition, publication and information for a socially included society.

The scheme is an important tool for Environmental Education and creating public awareness on conservation about environment and natural heritage among masses through non-formal means of education. By undertaking capacity building programmes for Natural History Museums / Museologists / Teachers in the country, the deliverables / outcomes and mandate and objectives of the National Museum of Natural History vis-à-vis those thrust areas. This will be monitored and evaluated.

The broad outcomes of the schemes are as follows:

- Inculcation of proper attitudes towards the environmental awareness and its conservation through community interactions.
- Sensitisation of children to issues related to environment and development through field visits.
- Stimulation of young minds by involving them in action projects related to environmental conservation.
- Exposure of school children to in-depth field experience, and providing opportunities to convert their ideal into creative action.
- Observance of following environment related days by organising educational programmes (in-house and out-reach) / competitions amongst the school children / Specially Challenged children (Hearing impaired, Mentally challenged, Physically challenged) in various parts of the country signifies that the scheme is very popular and enjoys wide social acceptance and importance of the scheme:

Name of environment related days	Date	Target Group	Outcome
World Braille Day	January 4	Visually impaired people	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
World Wetland Day	February 2	School / College students & Teachers	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
Programme for Specially Challenged children	February 2 nd Week	Children with special needs	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
World Wildlife Day	March 3	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
World Forestry Day	March 21	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
World Day for Water	March 22	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
Earth Day	April 22	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
International Museum Day	May 18	General public, professional, like minded institutions	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
Anniversary Programmes	May vary	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
Summer Vacation Programme	May-June	School children	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment

International day for Biological diversity	22 May	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
World Environment Day	June 5	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
World Day to Combat Desertification	June 17	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
Van Mahotsav	July 1-7	Children, youth, general public & teachers	Tree plantation drive. Awareness of afforestation
International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer	September 16	Children, youth & general public	Awareness of ozone layer depletion & its impact
Wildlife Week	October 2-8	Children, youth, general public & teachers	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
Conservation Day	November 25	Children, youth & general public	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
World Day for disabled	December 3	Children with special needs	Dissemination of knowledge and awareness on Nature & Environment
Winter Nature Camp	December-January	Children, youth & general public	Enrichment of practical knowledge of students in respect of flora & fauna
Teachers Training Workshop	Every Quarter	Teachers (in-service / trainee)	Enhancement of teaching skills on Environment & Nature

- **Footfalls:** More than 10.00 lakh visitors inclusive of school groups / general public visit the Regional Museums of Natural History at Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur every year.

STRATEGY

The budget of the NMNH for any financial year is realised generally through various schemes / programmes / work as envisaged in the Annual Action Plan (AAP). The AAP for the Financial Year (FY) 2018-19 has taken into consideration the following:

1. Priorities of the Ministry of MoEFCC
2. Experience gained through the implementation of the Annual Action Plan for the previous Financial Years
3. Feedback from Officers and staff

MONITORING MECHANISM

Participation of a very large number of schools / school children in various in-house and out-reach programmes and conduction of various programmes in large numbers in various parts of the country signifies that the scheme is very popular and enjoys wide social acceptance. However, in order to make the AAP workable by realising the achievement of Physical and Financial targets, it is necessary to monitor the progress of the work. The instruments for Monitoring proposed are listed below:

1. Regular reports by Officers: Monthly, Quarterly
2. Formats / Guidelines for various work
3. Grievance mechanism
4. Aadhar linked Time control system
5. E-Newsletters
6. Evaluation of Scientists (as per number of projects/ work)