

2016

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

GUINDY CHILDREN'S PARK

MESSAGE FROM WILDLIFE WARDEN

Guindy Children's Park has a rich historical background and well known for its rich biodiversity. The half a century old park was inaugurated by the then Prime Minister of India, Shri. Jawaharlal Nehru on 14.09.1959. The 22 acre wide ex-situ conservation centre houses a variety of animals, birds and reptiles including a number of endangered species and a few common species. This zoo is situated just adjacent to the Guindy National Park and has an added advantage of located close to nature. One of the objectives of the Children's park is to create awareness on wildlife and its conservation to the city based younger generation and also to garner their active support and patronage for biodiversity conservation.

This zoo prioritizes the conservation of critically endangered species of smaller animals viz primates, birds and reptiles. Suitable environment has been created for these identified threshold species to encourage regular breeding in captivity. The zoo receives over 9.50 lakh visitors annually and is a very popular destination for recreation and nature education in Chennai City. More than 1500 schools visit the zoo annually which shows the niche the zoo holds in the area of nature education for children. The park has an interpretation centre and a wildlife awareness centre for facilitating awareness programmes. Visitor amenities like purified drinking water, sitting benches, rest sheds, shelters, walk paths, clean toilets, etc have been provided and maintained regularly. The lay out plan of this park has been approved by the Central Zoo Authority during the 77th technical committee meeting during the year 2016. The plan for re-designing the animal enclosures thematically has been submitted for the approval of Central Zoo Authority. Timely veterinary care is provided to the animals of the zoo.

The zoo is well known for the rescue of free ranging and stranded animals like spotted deer, monkeys, snakes, etc in Chennai City and its surrounding areas. A separate rescue centre is available for the treatment and care of rescued animals and birds.

***Wildlife Warden
Chennai***

Mission Statement

To strengthen the national efforts of conservation of the endangered wild fauna, conveying the message of conservation education through demonstrative learning experiences without compromising the expected standards of display of wild animals and flora and fostering public appreciation and support for wild animals and their conservation.

History of the Zoo

Guindy National Park is situated in Mambalam – Guindy Taluk of Chennai District in the south- west part of Chennai City. Prior to 1958 the area was under the control of Raj Bhavan. Later on, the then Governor of Tamil Nadu offered to relinquish about 400 ha of the Guindy Reserve Forest which was under the management of Raj Bhavan in order to reduce the cost of maintenance and to contribute to the public amenities. While accepting the proposal the then Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru suggested that the area should be preserved and a small part of it should be developed into a Children’s Park. He wished that the Children should play in a natural environment thus growing up in to individuals who appreciate nature. The area was taken over for management by Forest Department in the year 1958. A Children’s Corner was created as per the wish of the late Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and it was inaugurated by him in 1959. It is maintained as a medium in natural wooded surroundings to provide a healthy atmosphere for children to play in and learn more about nature and wildlife.

Zoo Activities at a Glance (For the Period April 2016 - March 2017)

Animal Habitats and Upkeep

Ecological enrichment of various enclosures like wallowing facility for sambar, perching facility for birds and climbing facility for primates have been carried out periodically to provide near natural conditions to the zoo animals. The sub-dominant animals were provided opportunities for feeding and space by managing the area used by these animals inside the enclosures. The sambar enclosure has been bifurcated

partly to germinate the naturalistic vegetation to ensure their natural feeding behavior of herbivores later. Proper drainage was provided in animal enclosures to prevent water logging inside the enclosures. Preventive measures against Avian Influenza Virus outbreak was taken in the zoo which included the sprinkling of lime, spraying of Kohrsolin solution regularly around aviaries. Potassium permanganate foot baths were also provided at vulnerable locations.

The **butterfly park** was reopened to public this year. Many species of host plants are being grown inside the park to provide nectar and thus attract butterflies. Around 25 species of both nectar and host plants are grown inside the park with water-sprinkling facilities. The existing plants are attracting nearly 30 species of butterflies as recorded so far.

Summer Management

Special interventions were made for easing the stress caused to animals during summer when the temperatures were soaring high. Sufficient shade was provided in the enclosures by providing new thatched sheds, water was sprayed over jute sheets to reduce the heat and the diet of the animals was altered to keep the animals hydrated.

Animal Health Care

The zoo animals were regularly screened for any diseases by the veterinarian from Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur, biologist and animal keepers. Captive animals were de wormed periodically to tackle with ecto and endo parasites. The biologist and the animal keepers observed the animals for any injuries or wounds. Lime, turmeric were regularly sprinkled around the enclosures to prevent infections. Butox was sprayed on monthly basis in carnivore enclosures.

Captive breeding

This ex-situ centre has a number of scheduled and non-scheduled species in its collection. The naturalistic enclosures and supply of nutritious feed have ensured successful breeding of many species. Effective conservation measures have given remarkable success in the breeding of the following species.

- 1 Rhesus macaque
- 2 Black buck
- 3 Barking deer
- 4 Sambar deer
- 5 Spotted deer
- 6 Painted stork
- 7 Grey pelican
- 8 Little egret
- 9 Night heron
- 10 Muscovy duck
- 11 Love birds
- 12 Cockatiels
- 13 Emu
- 14 Ostrich

Acquisitions, Birth, Death and Disposal of Animals

Mammals

Sl. NO.	Name of the Species	Scientific name	Opening Stock 01.04.2016				During the quarter												Closing Stock 31.03.2017					
							Birth			Acquisition			Disposal			Death								
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T		
1	Rhesus macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	7	3	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	-	10
2	Bonnet Macaque	<i>Macaca radiate</i>	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
3	Common Langur	<i>Seminopithecus entellus</i>	1	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
4	Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>	4	1	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	4	1	0	5
5	Black buck	<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>	0	4	-	4	0	0	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	0	4	-	4
6	Common palm civet cat (or) Toddy Cat	<i>Paradaxurus hermaphroditus</i>	0	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	-	1
	TOTAL		13	10	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	10	0	23

Birds

Sl.No	Name of the Species	Scientific name	Stock 01.04.2016				During the Quarter												Stock 31.03.2017			
							Birth			Acquisition			Disposal			Death						
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T			
1	Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	5	0	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	0	0	5
		TOTAL	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5

Reptiles

Sl.No	Name of the Species	Scientific name	Stock 01.04.2016				During the Quarter												Stock 31.03.2017			
							Birth			Acquisition			Disposal			Death						
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T			
1	Indian Cobra	<i>Naja naja</i>			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
2	Indian Rock python	<i>python molurus molurns</i>			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
3	Rat snake	<i>Ptyas mucosus</i>			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
4	Russels viper	<i>Vipera russelli</i>			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
5	Marsh crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	1	1	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	1	1	0	2

6	Checked keel back Water Snake	<i>Xenochrophis piscator</i>	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
7	Spotted black terrapine	<i>Geoclemys hamiltoni</i>			13	13	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	13	13	
		TOTAL	1	1	29	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	29	31

ABSTRACT

Species coming under Schedule - I & II of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

Sl.No.	Class	Opening Stock 01.04.2016	Birth	Acquisition	Disposal	Death	Balance 31.03.2017
1	Mammals	19	0	8	1	3	23
2	Birds	05	0	0	0	0	5
3	Reptiles	32	0	0	0	0	32
	TOTAL	56	0	8	1	3	60

Human Resource & Capacity Building

SI.No	Designation	Sanctioned Post	In position	Vacant
1	Wildlife Warden	1	1	0
2	Zoo Superintendent	1	1	0
3	Forester	1	1	0
4	Biologist	1	1	0
5	Forest Guard	2	2	0
6	Forest Watcher	5	3	2
7	Plumber	1	0	1
8	Electrician	1	0	1
9	Driver	1	0	1
10	Office Assistant	1	0	1
11	Permanent Mazdoor	31	16	15
Total		46	25	21

Eco – education and Awareness Creation

The Children's Park has always given importance to the mandate of eco-education. A calendar of activities was designed to conduct awareness programmes throughout the year. The scheduled programmes were conducted at regular intervals to the school children and general public. The winners/participants of the programmes were given attractive prizes. This park's endeavor for eco education has received outstanding appreciation from the participants.

Calendar of activitiesfor Environmental Education

Sl. No	Month/ year	Students Class room programme	Quiz programme for academicians	On spot eco education	Activity based eco education	Animal keepers Talk	Keepers encounter programme	Conducted tour in nature trail on every week end	Special events
1	Aug 2017	02.08.2017 23.08.2017	04.08.2017 25.08.2017	07.08.2017	28.08.2017	09.08.2017	30.08.2017	Black buck nature walk trail	World environment day 5 th June
2	Sep 2017	01.09.2017 22.09.2017	06.09.2017	27.09.2017	08.09.2017	29.09.2017	13.09.2017	Spotted deer nature walk trail	World ozone day sep 16-18
3	Oct 2017	04.09.2017 11.10.2017	18.10.2017	20.10.2017	25.10.2017	28.10.2017	13.10.2018	Jackal nature trail walk	Wildlife week celebration - Oct 2 nd week
4	Nov 2017	01.11.2017 08.11.2017	10.11.2017	17.11.2017	22.11.2017	24.11.2017	29.11.2017	Ant-eater nature trail walk	Puppet show on Childrens day Nov 14 th

Sl. No	Month/year	Students Class room programme	Quiz programme for academicians	On spot eco education	Activity based eco education	Animal keepers Talk	Keepers encounter programme	Conducted tour in nature trail on every week end	Special events
5	Dec 2017	06.12.2017 13.12.2017	08.12.2017	18.12.2017	20.12.2017	27.12.2017	29.12.2017	Identifying Herbal plants	
6	Jan 2018	04.01.2018 11.01.2018	06.01.2018	13.01.2018	18.01.2018	25.01.2018	28.01.2018	Birds watching	Pongal festival
7	Feb 2018	07.02.2018 14.02.2018	09.02.2018	16.02.2018	21.02.2018	23.02.2018	28.02.2018	Butterfly survey documentation	NGO programme
8	Mar 2018	07.03.2018 14.03.2018	16.03.2018	23.03.2018	21.03.2018	28.03.2018	30.03.2018	Focus on animals call	1. World Forest day 2. World Water day-Mar 22nd

Rescue and Rehabilitation of Wild Animals

The zoo is located in the midst of Chennai city and caters to the rescue and rehabilitation of wild animals and birds regularly. The rescued animals were treated in the rescue centre or sent for further treatment to Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur. The following is the list of rescue carried out during the period.

Zoo Administration and Financial Performance

Guindy Children's park comes under the umbrella of the Zoo Authority of Tamil Nadu chaired by the Honourable Chief minister of Tamil Nadu. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Director, Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur is the member secretary of the Zoo Authority of Tamil Nadu. The Children's Park Guindy is managed by the Wildlife Warden at the level of Zoo Director followed by the Forest Range Officer known as Superintendent, Guindy Children's park.

The Superintendent (Forest Range Officer) heads the management of animal section and is assisted by two caretakers at the level of Foresters. Animal keepers are entrusted with the task of feeding animals and the cleaning of animal enclosures. It is their duty to observe animal behaviour and report any abnormality or change in behaviour of animals or any case of sickness in animals. The biologist takes care of observing and recording of animal behavior, maintaining animal inventory, butterfly park, medicinal garden, organizing awareness and educational programmes, running of the Wildlife Awareness Centre and Interpretation Centre.

Financial Performance

Visitor Details

Revenue

SL.NO	REVENUE DETAILS	2016-17 in Rs.
1	Entrance, camera, movie etc..	14748031
2	Electrical charges	178946
3	Water charges	7590
4	Rest House	24600
5	Tender Schedule	78750
6	Canteen Lease	5870500
7	TANTEA Lease	10800
8	Toilet Lease	112755
9	Snake Park Lease	240
10	Interest amount	2399896
11	Fine amount recovered from contractor	600
	Total	23432708

Expenditure

EXPENDITURES DETAILS - 2016-17			
Sl. No	Head of Account	2016-17	
		Allotted Rs.in lakhs	Expenditures Rs. in lakhs
1	Feed	50	47
2	Machinery and Equipment	5	4.51
3	Maintenance of animals houses	70	54.33
4	Maintenance of Visitors Amenities	20	16.05
5	Office Maintenance	8	7.71
6	Wages	45	42.7
7	Capital outlay expenditures	50	30.37
8	Medicine	2	2
TOTAL		250	204.67

Publications

1. N.Baskar., World Forest Day & World Environment Day celebration at Guindy Children's Park, Chennai - Zoo's Print, Vol 32, No 8, 2017
2. N.Baskar., The role of Wildlife awareness centre in eco- education at Guindy Children's park. Accepted, Indian zoo year Book

Zoo Inmates

Jackal



Rehesus monkey - with youngones



Palm Civet - youngones



Barking deer - young



Butterfly - Common rose

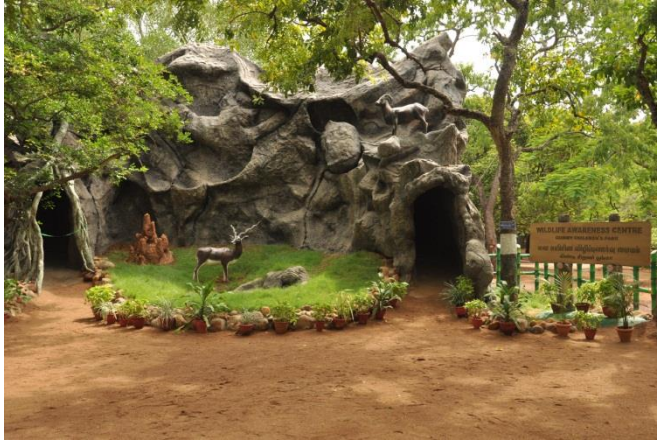


White Cobra



Park Architecture

Wildlife Awareness Centre



Terrarium



Conference Hall



Interpretation Centre



Parking area



Park Entrance





Eco Education Activity - Encouraging Younger Generation



Park Facilities

Attractive Leading Path



Model of Dinosaur



Modern Playthings



Park Route Map



Modernised Display Board



Greenary Section of the Park



POSTINGS AND TRANSFERS

Sl.No	Name	Designation	Date of joining/Relieved	Remarks
1	N. Renugadevi	Assistant	13.02.2017	Direct Recruitment
2	S. Kavitha	Assistant	01.07.2017	Promoted as Superintendent and transferred to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests office.

RETIREMENT DETAILS

Sl.No	Name	Designation	Date of retirement
1.	K. Ganesan	Forest Watcher	31.10.2016
2	S. Devandavid	Permanent Mazdoor	31.10.2016
3.	R. Dhanasekaran	Superintendent	30.04.2017
4.	K. Subramanian	Mali	31.02.2017
5.	K. Rajendran	Permanent Mazdoor	30.06.2017
6..	K. Rajamanickam	Permanent Mazdoor	30.06.2017
7.	K. Aachi	Permanent Mazdoor	30.06.2017

ADDITIONAL CHARGE

Sl.No	Name	Designation	Duration of Period
1.	M. Ravichandran	Assistant	01.07.2016 to 12.02.2017

TRAINING

Sl.No	Name	Designation	Duration of Period
1.	N. Aathmaram	Forester (Training)	01.08.2016 – 31.01.2017

VISITOR DETAILS

The zoo receives visitors all the year round, the numbers of visitors is more on Saturdays, Sundays and festival days. The visitation is maximum in January and May of every year. The zoo is opened to the public from 9.00 AM to 5.00 PM in all days except Tuesday.

Sl.No	Month	No.of.Visitors
1	Apr 2016	74946
2	May 2016	131072
3	June 2016	43941
4	July 2016	61183
5	Aug 2016	59615
6	Sep 2016	61009
7	Oct 2016	72268
8	Nov 2016	52179
9	Dec 2016	20604
10	Jan 2017	93029
11	Feb 2017	60150
12	Mar 2017	69206