

VEERMATA JIJABAI BHOSALE BOTANICAL UDYAN & ZOO

Annual Report for the year
2024-2025



the
mumbai
botanical udyan
and zoo

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1. Report of the Officer-in-charge

MUNCIPAL CORPORATION OF GREATER MUMBAI

VEERMATA JIJABAI BHOSALE BOTANICAL UDYAN & ZOO

From Director's Desk

It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual Report of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo which is a heritage zoo nestled in the heart of Mumbai and a living testament to the city's commitment to wildlife conservation, education, and environmental responsibility.

This year has been one of innovation, growth and many proud milestones for us.

Foremost among them is the remarkable success of our Humboldt Penguin breeding program. What began as a small group of seven individuals has now grown to a thriving colony of twenty one penguins which has been made possible by the unwavering dedication of our animal care team. All chicks have been reared naturally by their parents under the careful monitoring of our penguin management staff. This is a first-of-its-kind success in India and we encourage other zoos across the country to explore and take up Humboldt Penguin conservation and breeding projects. We are happy to share our experiences and support others in contributing to the growth of ex-situ conservation efforts in India.

Our commitment to outreach and education continues to be strengthened through active engagement across digital platforms. With a combined social media reach of more than 20,000 followers on Instagram, YouTube, Facebook and Twitter, we regularly share behind-the-scenes glimpses, conservation messages, animal care insights and educational videos bringing the zoo closer to the public and creating an informed and inspired community.

Environmental sustainability is another pillar of our zoo's vision. In collaboration with 5R Cycle, we now ensure that all plastic waste collected at the zoo's entrance including PET bottles and wrappers is responsibly recycled. We are proud to report that none of this waste is sent to landfills, underscoring our commitment to a circular economy and a cleaner planet.

We continue to place a strong emphasis on education and youth engagement. Under the New Education Policy introduced by the Central Government, we partnered with colleges affiliated with University of Mumbai, to host students for on-job training in zoology and zoo management. Over the past year, we have successfully trained more than 150 students from eight different colleges, helping inculcate best zoo practices and sparking curiosity among the next generation of wildlife professionals.

On the academic front, we're proud to have been represented on international platforms by our talented veterinary team. **Dr. Komal Raul**, Dy. Supdt. Vet (Zoo), represented the zoo at the **Annual Avian Medicine Symposium organized by the German Standard Group in Dubai**, where she presented a collaborative study on ocular parameters in Humboldt Penguins, conducted with Dr. Kalyani, a postgraduate wildlife student from Madras Veterinary College.

Adding to our accolades, **Dr. Dipika Valsarajan and Dr. Madhumita Kale** were recognized for their outstanding contributions at the **International Zoo and Wildlife Health Conference 2025 held in Jabalpur**, both receiving awards for best oral presentations based on clinical case studies from our zoo.

This year also saw our zoo host esteemed dignitaries, including **Her Royal Highness, the Princess of Belgium**, as part of the India-Belgium Life Sciences Seminar under the Belgium Economic Mission. Their visit and their warm appreciation of our zoo's transformation into a modern, welfare-driven institution was a proud moment for our team.

Furthering our role as a knowledge-sharing platform, we also **hosted educational seminars and conferences** in collaboration with institutions and professional groups, continuing to position our zoo as a hub for learning and discussion around wildlife care, conservation, and research.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to our mission to be a place where wildlife is protected, where the public is educated and where every action, small or large, contributes to a more sustainable and compassionate world for animals.

Dr. Sanjaykumar A. Tripathi

Director (Zoo)

2. History of the Zoo

Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan & Zoo is one of the oldest zoos in the country & was established in 1862. This area was under the control of Agri-Horticultural Society of Western India. The management of this Udyan & Zoo was handed over to MCGM by the then state govt in 1873. The total area of this Udyan & Zoo is approx. of 53 acres and is declared as “Heritage Grade II (B)” site. This Udyan & Zoo has been given recognition as “Medium Zoo” by Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi.

3. Vision

Veer mata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo is one of the oldest zoos in the country and was established in the year 1862. The total area of the Udyan and the Zoo is approximately 53 acres and is declared as Heritage Grade II (B) site. This Udyan and Zoo has been given recognition as “Medium Zoo” by the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi

Considering the small area of this zoo and a great footfall (around 10 to 15 thousand visitors on an average per day) it is felt that this zoo should work more in educating the people for creating love, interest, empathy and awareness among general visitors, school students/teachers group, college students and representative of various organizations. Various event days related to wildlife, Nature and Environment shall be organized for the purpose in the interpretation center newly constructed at this zoo having the facilities such as a 200-seater auditorium and exhibition areas which are under development. These facilities can be used for conducting various training programme, seminars, workshops, exhibition, wildlife weeks, essay/drawing/elocution competitions and similar other activities including various audiovisual shows, wildlife movies and power point presentation etc.

Most of the New Animal Enclosures will be open and spacious (as per the area norms prescribed for Indian Animals by the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi). The Natural environment, as per the natural habitat of the respective animals will be created. This will satisfy the basic needs of the animals and provide them comfort and security. These exhibits will also be helpful in educating the visitors about the natural habitats of the animals. There will be visitors viewing areas with the acrylic glass panels, which would not only serve the purpose of a barrier in between the animals and visitors but also shall facilitate the visitor's viewing.

4. Mission

“To engender a respect for wildlife and inspire conservation action”

The zoo aims to create an ambiance that will create awareness about wildlife and inculcate a healthy attitude towards animals. By providing naturalistic, immersion exhibits that display animals in their “wild” surroundings and by imparting information through engaging signage, the zoo aims to become a learning center, albeit in a relaxed and leisurely manner.

The future objective of the zoo is to meet world standards for animal care and husbandry, for environmental education and to be a truly memorable visitor experience.

As part of its mission, the zoo aims to help the visitor be a good zoo steward. Caring for the collection is a primary responsibility of the zoo and the visitor has an important role to play in ensuring the health and well-being of the collection. Visitors shall be briefed on what behaviors are acceptable in the zoo, how their behavior has an impact on animal health and the quality of their own experience and the reasons why respectful conduct is important. Visitor action, both at the zoo and at their home, should serve as an example to others to respect wildlife and to protect the environment on which all life depends.

It is important to educate the visitors about extinction and remind them of our losses, like the dodo, the Indian Cheetah, the Pink headed duck which were all lost due to man’s fault. Remembering our losses is important so that we may learn not to commit the same grave mistakes again and help species that are already on the brink of extinction and thus inspire conservation action amongst them.

5. Objective

The objective of the V.J.B. Udyan and Zoo is to develop in to one of the best Zoos in the country as well as abroad, by providing best facilities to the Zoo inmates as well as the visitors. Such as a well-equipped Zoo hospital, cafeteria, food kiosks, drinking water fountains, beautiful internal gardens, rain water shelters, high class Toilets etc. It aims to perform as one of the best nature Interpretation centres for creating interest and awareness about the role of a Zoo in particular and also about Nature, Wildlife and Environment in general, in the minds of people, especially school/college students and teachers. The Zoo interpretation centre having facilities such as an auditorium for conducting various educational activities and the exhibition area are under development, which will be functional in near future.

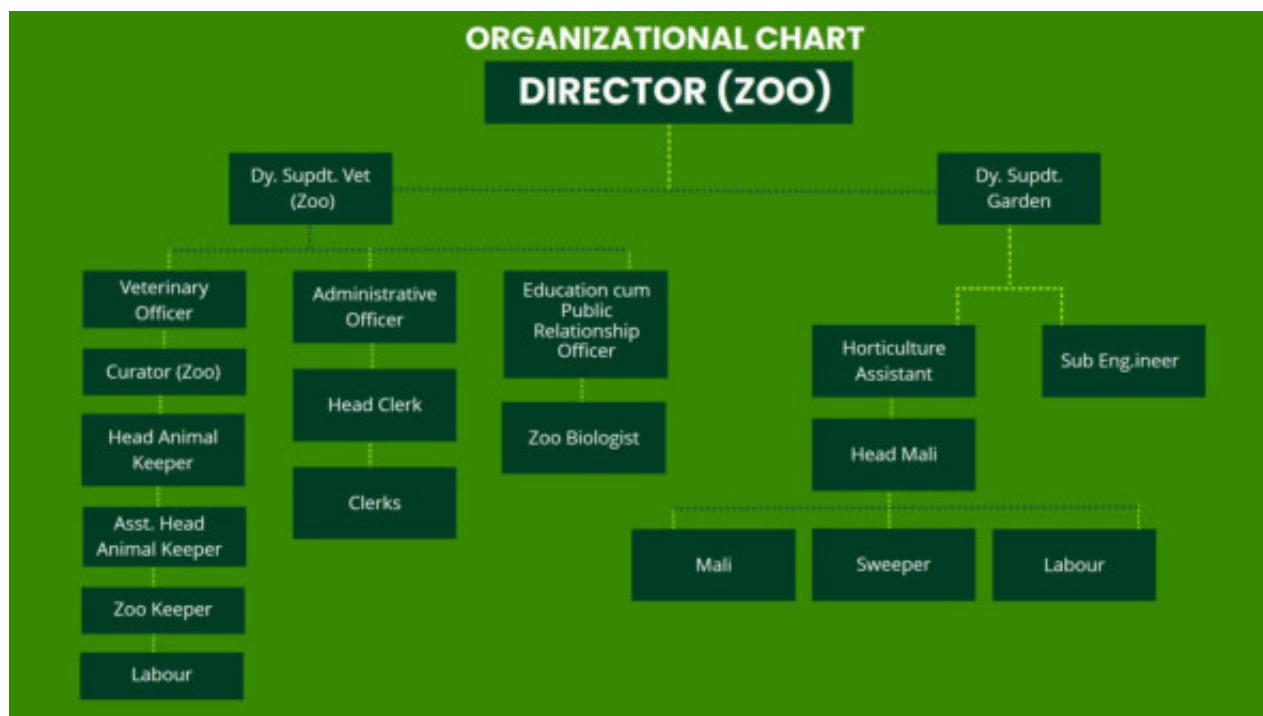
6. About us

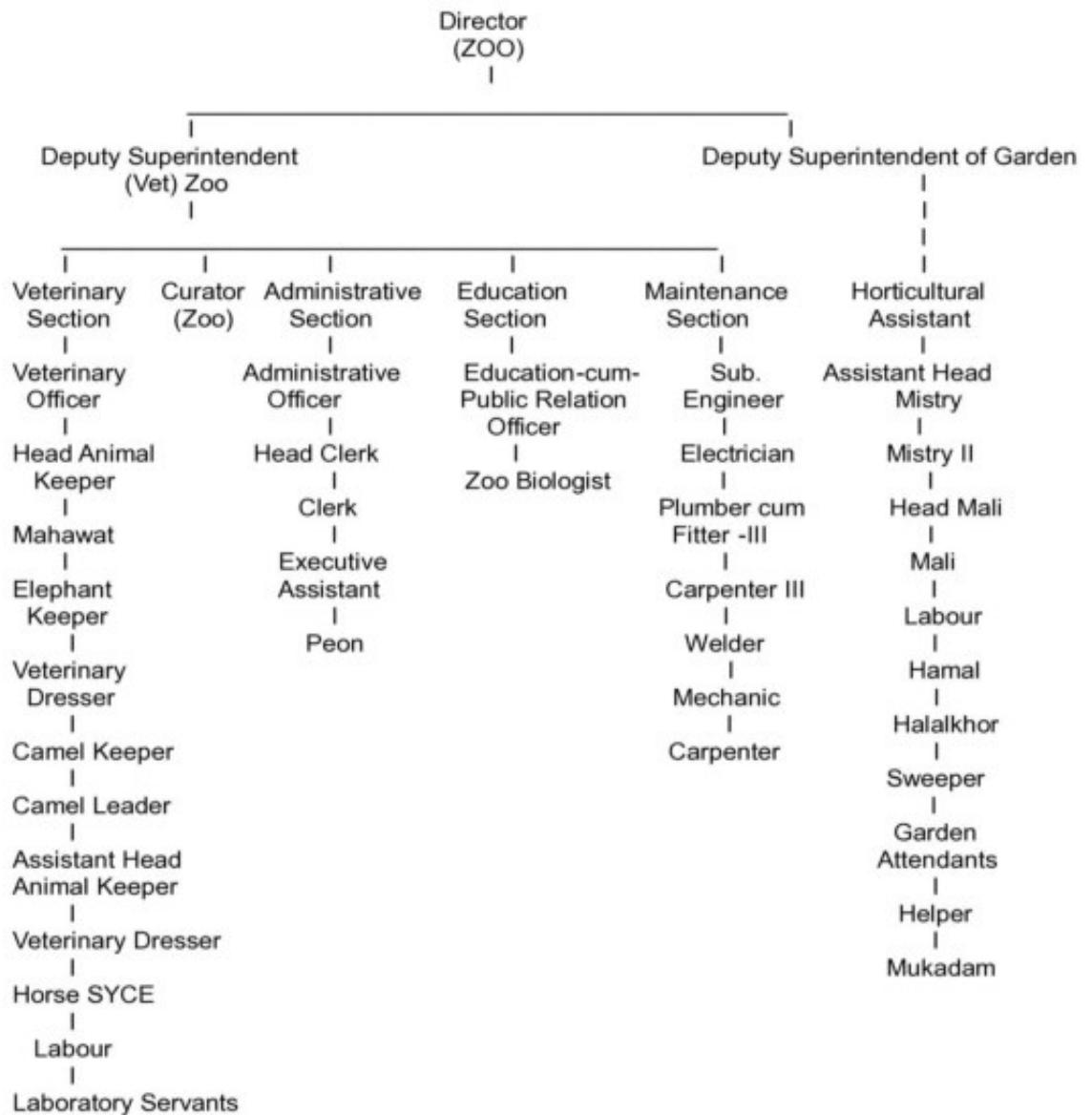
S.No.	Particulars	Information
Basic Information about the Zoo		
1	Name of the Zoo	<u>Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan & Zoo</u>
2	Year of Establishment	1862
3	Address of the Zoo	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Rd., Byculla (East), Mumbai- 400 027
4	State	Maharashtra
5	Telephone Number	022-223772414
6	Fax Number	–
7	E-mail address	vjbudyanzoo@yahoo.co.in dirzoo01@mcgm.gov.in
8	Website	–
9	Distance from nearest	Airport: 16 km (Approx.)
		Railway Station: From Byculla Station: 550 m (Approx.) Reay Road Station: 700 m(Approx.)
1033	Recognition Valid up to (Date)	25/12/2025
11	Category of zoo	Medium

S.No.	Particulars	Information
12	Area (in Hectares)	21.4483 Hectares (Approx.)
13	Number of Visitors (Financial Year)	Adult: 17,33,049
		Children: 6,34,554
		Total Indian: 23,67,603
		Adult: 2483 Children: 299 Total Foreigners: 2782 Date 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025
		Total Visitors: 23,70,385
14	Visitors' Facilities Available in Zoo	1. Ticket house with baggage counter souvenir shop and public toilet 2. Drinking water fountains 3. Rain water shelters 4. Interpretation Center 5. Child care center 5. Public Toilets 6. Cafe Wild- Eatery
15	Weekly Closure Day of the Zoo	Wednesday
Management Personnel of the zoo		
16	Name with designation of the Officer in-charge	Dr. Sanjaykumar A. Tripathi Director (Zoo)
	Name of the Veterinary Officer	Dr. Komal V. Raul
	Name of the Curator	Dr. Devanand D. Shirsat

S.No.	Particulars	Information
	Name of the Biologist	Dr. Abhishek N. Satam
	Name of the Education Officer	-
	Name of the Compounder/ Lab Assistant	Shri. Arun Bhagane (In Charge)
Owner / Operator of the Zoo		
17	*Name of the Operator	Municipal Commissioner. Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation Mumbai
18	Address of the Operator	2nd Floor, Municipal Head Office, Mumbai- 400 001.
19	Contact details/Phone number of Operator	022- 22620251 022-22620525
20	E-mail address of Operator	mc@mcgm.gov.in

7. Organizational chart





8. Human Resources

Sr. No.	Designation	Number of Sanctioned Posts	Names of the incumbent
1	Director (Zoo)	1	1
2	Deputy Superintendent (Vet) Zoo	1	1
3	Deputy Superintendent of Garden	1	1
4	Veterinary Officer	1	0
5	Curator (Zoo)	1	1
6	Education-cum-Public Relation Officer	1	0
7	Biologist	1	1
8	Administrative Officer	1	1
9	Head Clerk	1	1
10	Horticultural Assistant	4	2
11	Clerk	3	3
12	Executive Assistant	2	2
13	Clerk (Store)	1	1
14	Peon	2	2
15	Tracer	1	0
16	Draftsman	1	0
17	Mechanic	1	0
18	Mistri I	1	0
19	Welder	1	0
20	Helper	1	0
21	Carpenter II	1	0
22	Painter	2	0
23	Head Mali	1	0
24	Plumber cum Fitter -III	1	0
25	Garden Attendants	3	2
26	Carpenter- III	1	0
27	Mukadam	5	0

28	Mistry II	4	1
29	Mali	81	31
30	Sweeper	14	12
31	HalalKhor	1	0
32	Store Attendant	1	0
33	Garden Labourer	15	3
34	Hamal	2	0
35	Cart Driver	2	0
36	Head Animal Keeper	1	0
37	Mahawat	3	0
38	Elephant Keeper	1	1
39	Camel Keeper	2	0
40	Camel Leader	1	0
41	Assistant Head Animal Keeper	2	0
42	Veterinary Dresser	1	1
43	Animal Keeper	25	13
44	Assistant Veterinary dresser	1	1
45	Horse Syce	2	0
46	Zoo Labourer	14	13
47	Laboratory Servants	2	1
	TOTAL	216	96

9. Capacity building of zoo personnel

Sr. No.	Name & Designation of the zoo personnel	Subject matter of training	Period of training	Name of the institution where the training attended
1.	Dr. Dipika Valsarajan (Veterinary Officer)	Workshop on advanced Diagnostics, Critical care and Clinical procedure in wildlife medicine	25 th -27 th September 2024	Arignar Anna Zoological Park Chennai
2.	Dr. Abhishek Satam (Zoo Biologist)	National Level Capacity building Workshop at Vaizag	24 th – 26 th October 2024	Indhira Gandhi Zoological Park
3.	Dr. Komal Raul (Deputy Vet Zoo) Dr. Dipika Valsarajan (Veterinary Officer)	Wildlife Health Management	2 nd - 6 th December 2024	WRTC Gorewada, Nagpur

10. Zoo Advisory Committee – NIL

11. Health Advisory Committee-

a. Date of Constitution- 05.07.2011

b. Members

1.) Dr. D. U. Lokhande

Professor, Dept. of Surgery & Radiology

2.) Dr. D.G. Dighe

Asst. Professor, Dept. of Medicine

3.) Dr. G.M. Gadegaonkar

Asst. Professor, Dept. of Animal Nutrition

4.) Dr. P.V. Meshram

Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pathology

5.) Dr. P. E. Awari

Asst. Professor, Dept. of Poultry Science,

c. Dates on which meetings held during the year- NIL

12. Statement of income and expenditure of the Zoo

Financial Year 2024-25			
Annual Revenue (Rs.) Entry fees		9,18,75,231	
Annual Expenditure (Rs. In Crore)			
Allotted Revenue Budget	Consumed Revenue Expend.	Allotted Capital Budget	Consumed Capital Expend.
16.5 Cr.	18.17 Cr.	66.17 Cr.	1.62 Cr.

13. Daily Feed Schedule of animals

Sr. No.	Species	Feed item	Quantity		Day of fasting
			Winter	Summer	
1.	Elephant	a) Hay b) Rice Straw c) Lucern grass d) Banana e) Carrots f) Sugar Cane g) Pony pellets + wheat bran + oil cake h) Jaggery I) Garlic+pepper+sesame seeds+ turmeric+ methi +linseed+ karli	20 kg. 10 kg. 55 kg. 1 Dozen 15 kg. 25 kg. 5 kg. + 5 kg. + 0.8 kg. 500gm 1.5kg	5 % less feed	None
2.	Hippopotamus	a) Soaked Gram + Maize b) Wheat Bran c) Lucern grass	6 Kg. 10 Kg. 30 Kg.	5 % less feed	None
3.	Sambar	a) Soaked gram + maize b) Wheat bran + Oil cake c) Carrots d) Lucern Grass e) Hay f) Cattle Feed g) Bananas h) Rock salt	½ Kg. ½ Kg.+100gm ¼ Kg. 2 Kg. 1 Kg. ½ Kg 4-5 nos.	5 % less feed	None

4.	Black Buck, Spotted Deer, Barking Deer	a) Soaked Gram + Maize b) Wheat Bran c) Carrots d) Lucern Grass e) Hay f) Cattle Feed	½ Kg. ½ Kg. ¼ Kg. 1 Kg. 1 Kg. ¼ Kg	5 % less feed	None
5.	Swamp Deer	1) Soaked gram + maize b) Wheat bran + Oil cake c) Carrots d) Lucern Grass e) Hay f) Cattle Feed g) Bananas h) Rock salt	½ Kg. ½ Kg.+100gm ¼ Kg. 2 Kg. 1 Kg. ½ Kg 4-5 nos.	5 % less feed	
6.	Monkey	a) Groundnuts b) Socked gram + Maize c) Carrots d) Banana e) Ladies finger, Beet, Tomato, Cucumber f) Other vegetables and Fruits (apple, guava, seasonal fruit) g) Water Melon	100 gms. 100 gms. 50 gms. 4 No. } 80 gms. } 1 Kg. 100 gms 5 % less feed	5 % less feed	None

7.	Striped Hyena	• Chicken/Beef with bone	4 Kgs.	4 Kgs.	Thursday
		• Liver	200 gms.	200 gms.	
		• Rock Salt	Always avail	Always avail	
8.	Leopard	• Chicken/Beef with bone	5 Kgs.	5 Kgs.	Thursday
		• Liver	200 gms.	200 gms.	
		• Rock Salt	Always avail	Always avail	
9.	Royal Bengal Tiger	• Chicken/Beef with bone	12 Kgs.	12 Kgs.	Thursday
		• Liver	400 gms.	400 gms.	
		• Rock Salt	Always avail	Always avail	
10.	Golden Jackal	• Chicken/Beef with bone	1.5 Kgs.	1.5 Kgs.	Thursday
		• Liver	50 gms.	50 gms.	
		• Rock Salt	Always avail	Always avail	
11.	Sloth Bear	• Porridge (rice, milk, jaggery, eggs)	1 litre (½ kg, 1 litre, 100 gms, 4nos.)	1 litre (½ kg, 1 litre, 100 gms, 4nos.)	None

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • papaya • water melon • apple • banana • chikoo • Salad leaves • cabbage • beetroot • carrot • groundnut with cover • honey 	500gm 1 Kg 1 nos. ½ dozen 03 nos. 250 gms 100 gms 50 gms 250 gms 100 gms 20ml		
9.	Snakes	a) Mice	1 No.	1 No.	Depending on the size
10.	Pied Horn Bill	a) Plantain (Banana) b) Papaya c) Minced meat d) Seasonal fruits	4 Nos. 100 gms. 30 gms. 50gms	4 Nos. 100 gms. 30 gms. 50gms	None
11.	Adjutant stork/ Painted Stork	a) Fish	500 gms.	500 gms.	None
12.	Pelican	a) Fish	2 Kgs.	2 Kgs.	None
13.	Macaw (per pair)	a) Apple, Chickoo b) Groundnuts with cover c) Sugar cane d) Guava	300 gms. 200 gms. 200 gms. 100 gms.	300 gms. 200 gms. 200 gms. 100 gms.	None

		e) Sunflower seed	100 gms.	100 gms.	
		f) Paddy	50 gms.	50 gms.	
		g) Cuttle fish Bone	Always avail.	Always avail.	
		h) Corn Cobs	In season	In season	
		i) Green peas	In season	In season	
14.	Crane	a) Mixed Grain.	250 gms.	250 gms.	None
		b) Fish	200 gms.	200 gms.	
		c) Mixed Leafy vegetables	50 gms.	50 gms.	
15.	Cockatiel (Per pair)	a) Kang	50 gms.	50 gms.	None
		b) Sunflower seed	50 gms.	50 gms.	
		c) Mixed vegetables	100 gms.	100 gms.	
		d) Mash (chonga)	50 gms.	50 gms.	
		e) Cuttle Fish Bone	Always avail.	Always avail.	
16.	Red Crown Crane	a) Fish	300 gms.	300 gms.	None
		b) Mixed Grain	250 gms.	250 gms.	
		c) Mixed vegetables	100 gms.	100 gms.	
		d) Mixed Fruits	100 gms.	100 gms.	
17.	Humboldt Penguins	Sardine/Eel/ Bombay Duck/ Mackerel/ Indian Salmon/ Anchovies	700-800 gms	700-800 gms	Sunday

14. Vaccination Schedule of Animals

Sr. no.	Species	Disease vaccinated for	Name of the vaccine and dosage/quantity used	Periodicity	Remarks
1.	Striped Hyena, Golden Jackal, Sloth Bear	i) a) Canine Distemper b) Canine Leptospiro- canicola, pomona grippotyphosa, and icterohaemorrhagica c) Canine Adenovirus type 2 d) Canine Parainfluenza e) Canine Parvovirus	7 in 1 vaccine	Annually	Subcutaneous
		ii) Canine Rabies	Anti-Rabies vaccine	Annually	
		iii) Canine Corona virus	Corona vaccine	Annually	
2.	Leopard, Royal Bengal Tiger	i) a) Feline Calcivirus b) Feline Rhinotracheitis virus c) Feline Panleucopenia	Feligen vaccine	Annually	Subcutaneous
		ii) Canine Rabies	Anti-Rabies vaccine	Annually	
3.	All birds	a) Ranikhet disease	Lasota vaccine/ Ranikhet vaccine	Biannually	Drinking water
4.	Elephant	Rabies Tetanus	Anti-Rabies Vaccine Tetanus Toxoid 3 ml	Annually	Intramuscular

15. Deworming Schedule of Animals

Sr. no.	Class of animals	Species	Drug used	Month
1.	Carnivores	Hyena, Golden Jackal, Leopard, Royal Bengal Tiger	Febantel+ Pyrantel+Praziquantel	March, June, November
2.	Omnivores	Monkeys Sloth Bear	Fenbendazole/ Albendazole Febantel+ Pyrantel+Praziquantel/ Fenbendazole	March, June, November
3.	Herbivores	Elephants Hippopotamus Deer Antelope	Ivermectin Fenbendazole Fenbendazole Fenbendazole	March, May, June, November
4.	Birds	Peafowl, Parakeet, Macaw, Cockatoo, Cockateil, Parrot, Emu, Crane, Stork, Heron, Pelican <i>etc.</i>	Fenbendazole	March, June, November
5.	Reptiles	Crocodile, Turtle, Tortoise, Snake	Fenbendazole	March, June, November

16. Disinfection Schedule

Disinfectants in the form of sprays, solutions, powders eg. Potassium permanganate, Dettol, Aseptic, Kohrsoline, Bleaching powder are used to maintain hygiene in and around animal enclosures.

Sr. No.	Class of animals	Species	Type of enclosure	Disinfectant used and method	Frequency of disinfection
1.	Carnivores	Hyena Tiger Leopard Jackal	Feed House and water body	KMno4, Kohrsoline, Virkon, Germigo	Daily with water and once a week with disinfectant
2.	Omnivores	Monkeys Sloth Bear	Feed House and water body	KMno4, Kohrsoline, Virkon, Germigo	Daily with water and once a week with disinfectant
3.	Herbivores	Elephants Hippopotamus Deer Antelope	Feed House and water body	KMno4, Kohrsoline, Virkon, Germigo	Water body cleaned once a week.
4.	Birds	Pheasant Parakeet Macaw Cockatoo Cockateil Parrot Emu Crane Stork Heron, Pelican <i>etc.</i>	Enclosure and water body	KMno4, Kohrsoline, Virkon, Germigo	Water body cleaned once a week.

17. Health screening of employees for zoonotic diseases

All zoo staff were screened for TB.

Sr. no.	Name	Designation	Date of Health check-up	Findings of Health Check up
1	Nitin Kadam	Head Animal Keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
2	Israr Khan	Asst. Head Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
3	Omkar Satardekar	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative
4	Ravindra Nivate	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
5	Arun Bhangane	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
6	Rakesh Jadhav	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
7	Jeetsingh Bali	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
8	Jamal Khan	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
9	Vilas Amberkar	Lab Assitant	24-04-2024	Negative
10	Sanju Kharva	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
11	Balkrishna Shelke	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative
13	Mahesh Choughule	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
14	Amol shinde	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
15	Ramesh Pawar	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
16	Balu Waghmare	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
17	Arun Bhangane	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
18	Gurunath Narvekar	Compounder	24-04-2024	Negative
20	Ashish Tambe	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
22	Saif Khan	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative

23	Maruti Makadwala	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
24	Amit Waghmare	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative
25	Amethibalan	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative
26	Pratik Hate	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative
27	Sachin Satam	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative
28	Mahesh Kashte	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative
30	Suresh Rathod	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
33	Siddharth Kadam	Animal keeper	24-04-2024	Negative
34	Aakash Dherbhere	Labour	24-04-2024	Negative
35	Dr. S.A. Tripathi	Director (Zoo)	24-04-2024	Negative
36	Dr. Devanand Sirsat	Curator	24-04-2024	Negative
37	Dr. Dipika Valsarajan	V.O.	24-04-2024	Negative
38	Dr. Abhishek Satam	Biologist	24-04-2024	Negative

18. Developmental Works carried out in the zoo during the year 2024-25

NIL

19. Education and Awareness programmers during the year

World Earth Day 22nd April, 2024

On World Earth Day, The Mumbai Botanical Udyan and Zoo in collaboration with 5R cycle took an initiative in creating awareness about proper disposal of electronic waste by installation of electronic waste storage bins in their administrative office and in the zoo premises urging the zoo staff as well as visitors to dispose e-waste in the correct manner. Electronic devices are non-biodegradable and often contaminate habitats . The leaching chemicals that are harmful to people, animals and environment. Dispose e-waste rightly and be a responsible citizen Amchi Mumbai .. Swachh Mumbai.



On World Earth Day, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo in association with 5R cycle had organised a drawing competition on the theme 'Plastic vs Planet' in order to raise awareness about the environmental impact of plastic on our planet.



International Leopard Day 3rd May, 2024 (03rd – 05th May, 2024)

On the occasion of International Leopard Day, Veermata Jijabai Bhosle Botanical Udyan and Zoo in association with Wildlife Conservation Society India organised educational activities for the visitors to raise awareness about leopard conservation efforts taken in Maharashtra. Camera trapping, use of telemetry collar for tracking a leopard were demonstrated by Researcher Nikit Surve, Wildlife Conservation Society and Director of Wildlife Conservation Society India Vidya Athreya educating people on how free ranging / wild leopards are tracked using technologies thereby protecting the leopards and help mitigate human animal conflict.



World Biodiversity Day 22nd May, 2024

To celebrate World Biodiversity Day, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo, in collaboration with 5RCycle, hosted a special workshop for children. Mumbai Zoo Biologist Dr. Abhishek Satam captivated young minds with the wonders of biodiversity, emphasizing its importance for conservation. Dr. Smita Birkar provided valuable insights on waste management, teaching kids to reduce, reuse, and recycle for a sustainable future. Mrs. Mithali Zakatdar shared her gardening expertise, helping children connect with nature by nurturing plants. The event concluded with a creative activity where children transformed recycled wood cutouts into vibrant bird masterpieces.



World Environment Day 04th June, 2024

On the eve of World Environment Day, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo in association with Mangrove Foundation organised Vann Ki Baat - an informative talk on the topic 'Introduction to Coastal and Marine Biodiversity of Maharashtra' by Jayesh Vishwakarma. In this talk, Jayesh Vishwakarma gave an in-depth information about coastal biodiversity of Maharashtra and also explained the measures being planned for their conservation.



Special online quiz competition organized by the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Garden and Zoo on Environment Day, and take a step towards promoting environmental awareness.

On the occasion of World Environment Day (5th June), Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Director, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo, Mrs. Vandana Milkhe, Deputy Superintendent of Gardens and other staff members along with Dr. Anand Pendharkar, Ecologist & CEO, SPROUTS, students and teachers from V.E.S College of Architecture planted trees in the premises of Mumbai Zoo.



On the occasion of World Environment Day, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo in association with SPROUTS Organisation conducted a special study tour for students of VES College of Architecture at the Mumbai Botanical Udyan and Zoo. In this study tour, Ecologist & CEO Sprouts Organisation Dr. Anand Pendharkar and Zoo Biologist Dr. Abhishek Satam gave information about the importance of zoo, their structure, natural habitat, topography i.e. landscape design as well as the different trees inside the Botanical Udyan. The students also got a chance to discuss various aspects of nature and environment with the director of Zoo Dr. Sanjay Tripathi.



Van Mahotsav 7th July, 2024

As a part of Van Mahotsav, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and OikoEssence organised an exhibition showcasing wild vegetables that thrive during the rainy season. In this exhibition, the visitors were provided valuable information about different wild vegetables such as Kurdu, Kuli, Ambadi etc. Alongside this educational aspect, engaging nature-themed games added an interactive and fun dimension to the event.



As a part of Van Mahotsav, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo in collaboration with 5R Cycle and Naturalist Foundation organised a tree walk for students and enthusiastic visitors. At the end of walk, the students and visitors also planted a Sardol tree (*Sterculia villosa*) inside the premises of Mumbai Botanical Garden and Zoo.



As a part of Van Mahotsav, Director Zoo Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Deputy Superintendent (Garden) Mrs. Vandana Milkhe, Deputy Superintendent Veterinarian Dr. Komal Raul planted medicinal trees Nutmeg and Indian Bael inside the premises of Mumbai Botanical Udyan and Zoo.



As a part of Van Mahotsav, Employees of National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP) of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's E Ward planted Jamun tree inside the premises of Mumbai Botanical Udyan and Zoo.



World Mangroves Conservation Day 24th July, 2024

On the occasion of International Mangrove Conservation day, Maharishi Dayanand

College organised a national conference on Mangrove, Biodiversity and Environment Conservation in collaboration with Mangrove Foundation, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Veermata Jijamata Bhosle Botanical Udyan and Zoo and Mumbai Tarun Bharat (Maha MTB). The conference provided a platform for students from diverse colleges, educational institutes, and research organizations to participate actively. They showcased their research papers focusing on the critical themes of Mangroves and Biodiversity, emphasizing the importance of conservation efforts in these crucial ecosystems.



National Moth Week 26th July, 2024

To celebrate National Moth Week, the event “करूया पतंगांचे कौतुक” was held at Veermata Jijabai Bhosle Udyan and Zoo in collaboration with Flabella Ecoservices. Dr. Alka Bhagwat inaugurated the program with an engaging lecture on moths.



Following the talk, light traps were set up around the garden and zoo grounds to attract and observe various insects. Participants had the opportunity to explore these fascinating creatures under the expert guidance of entomologist Dr. Amol Patvardhan.



International Tiger Day 29th July, 2024

On the occasion of International Tiger Day on 29th July 2024, Veermata Jijabai Udyan and Zoo in association with Department of Zoology, Maharashtra College, a special lecture was organized by Dr. Anubhab Khan. In this lecture Dr. Khan gave an important presentation on “Challenges in tiger and leopard management using genetic technology”. Students and professors of Maharashtra College were present for this program. In an expert talk segment, ‘Vaani Ki Baat’ a Lecture is organised on “Challenges in Tiger and Leopard Management Using Genetic Technology” by Dr. Anubhab Khan.



On the occasion of International Tiger Day, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo presents "Goshta Waghobachi" 8th Episode of ‘Virtually Wild’ Series.

Mysore Zoo’s Global Tiger Day (29th – 30th July, 2024)

Hearty congratulations to Dr. Komal Raul, Dy. Supdt Vet (Zoo) from Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo securing best oral presentation at Mysore Zoo’s Global Tiger Day seminar on ‘Roaring Forward: Effective Actions for Big Cat Conservation’. Dr Komal was felicitated by Shri Soumitra Dasgupta, IFS, Director of IBCA (International Big Cat Alliance) , Shri Dr. Sunil Panwar, IFS, Member Secretary, Zoo Authority of Karnataka and Shri Mahesh Kumar, IFS, Executive Director of Mysore Zoo.



Hearty congratulations to Dr. Dipika Valsarajan, Veterinary Officer from Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo securing best poster presentation at Mysore Zoo's Global Tiger Day seminar on 'Roaring Forward: Effective Actions for Big Cat Conservation'. Dr Dipika was felicitated by Shri Soumitra Dasgupta, IFS, Director of IBCA (International Big Cat Alliance) , Shri Dr. Sunil Panwar, IFS, Member Secretary, Zoo Authority of Karnataka and Shri Mahesh Kumar, IFS, Executive Director of Mysore Zoo.



World Elephant Day (12th August, 2024)

We celebrated World Elephant Day at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo by treating Anarkali to her favorite fruits as part of a special enrichment activity. The event featured informative photo booths to increase awareness among visitors, while students from Maharashtra College provided educational insights about elephants. Additionally, children had the opportunity to learn origami techniques to create elephant figures.



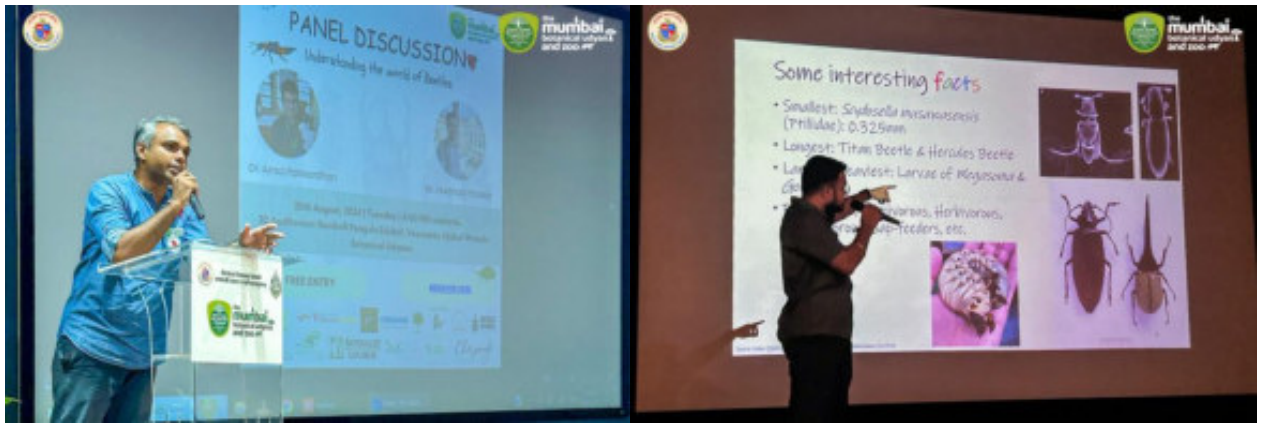
CPR demonstration 21st August, 2024

The Rotary Club of Bombay Seacoast organised a special workshop for all officers, employees, and workers at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo. Under the expert guidance of Dr. Jyoti Soneji and Dr. Surendra Soneji, the workshop focused on providing crucial first aid knowledge for heart attack situations. The session included a hands-on CPR demonstration by all participants. In addition, the Rotary Club of Bombay Seacoast proudly donated an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) machine to the Mumbai Botanical Udyan and Zoo, enhancing their emergency preparedness.



Understanding Beetles 20th August, 2024

A special seminar titled “Understanding Beetles” was organized at the Veermata Jijabai Bhosle Botanical Udyan and Zoo on 20-08-2024 .The event was a collaborative effort between Beetle Mania, Flabella Ecoservices, Naturalist Explorers and The Nature’s Eye. Mr. Harshad Parekar led the session, providing in-depth information about Beetles and addressing the participants’ questions. The seminar saw active participation from visitors, students and teachers from various colleges.



Swachhata hi Seva’ campaign

As part of the ‘Swachhata hi Seva’ campaign, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo, in collaboration with 5RCircle Foundation. Dr. Smita Birkar, Founder of 5R Cycle conducted an interactive session with the Mumbai Zoo staff. She emphasized the significance of cleanliness, effective solid waste management, and adopting a sustainable lifestyle for a better and healthier future



Under the ‘Swachhata Hee Seva’ campaign, a painting competition was organized for the housekeeping staff of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan & Zoo. Through their participation, these sanitation workers, who tirelessly work to maintain cleanliness in our premises, expressed the importance of hygiene by bringing their message to life through art.



Veermata Jijabai Bhosle Botanical Udyan and Zoo, in collaboration with the 5R Cycle Foundation, hosted a workshop titled “Wealth from Waste” as part of the ‘Swachhata Hee Seva’ campaign. Participants were shown how to create artistic articles from waste materials gathered at home were displayed as a part of awareness regarding recycling and reuse.. The event encouraged active engagement, with visitors enthusiastically crafting various items from recyclable materials.



Big Butterfly month 24th September, 2024

Big Butterfly month was celebrated in collaboration with Naturalist Explorers and Wildnest . The workshop on crafting 3D butterflies from parchment paper was conducted by Mr. Paresh Churi in Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo where the participants enjoyed a hands-on demonstration of this unique art form, showcasing the intricate process of butterfly creation.



Umeed 30th September, 2024

As part of RBL Bank’s CSR initiative under the name ‘Umeed’, bicycles and school kits were distributed to the girl child of the BMC employees at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo. The event was graced by Dr. Amol Bhor, OSD to Education Minister (Govt. of Maharashtra) and Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Director of Mumbai Botanical Udyan and Zoo, along with RBL Bank officials.



Swachhata Hi Seva

Under the “Swachhata Hi Seva” campaign, students from the National Service Scheme (NSS) of D.G. Ruparel College participated in a cleanliness drive at the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Garden and Zoo, contributing to the zoo’s cleaning efforts.



Wildlife Week 2024 (02nd – 08th October, 2024)

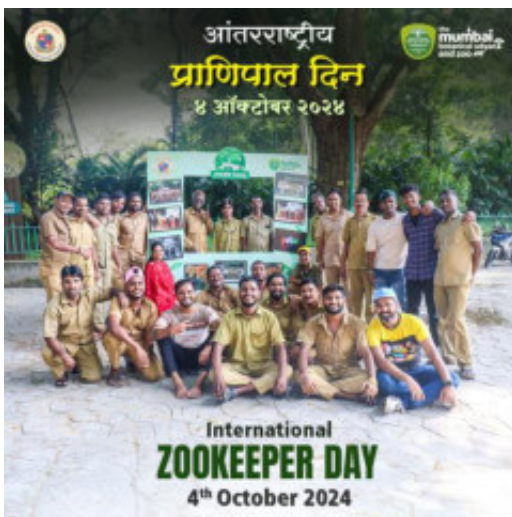
As a part of Wildlife Week 2024 celebrations, school and college students participated in Drawing, Rangoli and Photography (Mobile & Camera) competition based on theme wildlife conservation at the Veermata Jijabai Bhosle Botanical Udyan and Zoo.



What happens when the zoo keepers who look after the zoo animals are brought together to perform animal pose yoga? Yoga expert Ms. Tanvee Bhise's session included animal inspired yoga poses like Pakshasan (Bird pose) , Vrukshasan (Tree pose) and many more to enhance their connection with the wildlife thereby making them aware of their physical flexibility, strength, mental well being which are essential in their demanding work. The unique session of animal inspired yoga blending with meditation had a relaxing, calming effect on the zoo keepers making them appreciate the animals they serve at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo



Celebrating the skilled zookeepers of Mumbai Botanical Udyan and Zoo on International Zookeeper’s Day! Your tireless dedication ensures a harmonious balance between animals and their environment. A keeper plays a vital role in providing good nutrition, maintaining hygiene of exhibits and care during the times of ill health. Thank you for your invaluable contributions! We wish all “Happy Zookeeper’s Day!”



“Best Out of Waste” activity in collaboration with Naturalist foundation was conducted during wildlife week 2024 at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo. School children enthusiastically took part, creating vibrant artwork from recycled plastic bottles.



In celebration of Wildlife Week 2024, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo, in partnership with the Naturalist Foundation and Naturalist Explorers, hosted “Van Ki Baat.” This event featured an expert talk and composting demonstration by horticulturist Sachin Rane, who provided insights on composting and showcased the process in action.



To celebrate Wildlife Week 2024, Veermata Jijabai Botanical Garden and Zoo hosted “Van Ki Baat,” featuring researcher Mr. Shubham Soni. He presented a talk on “How to Read Research Papers,” which aimed at helping college students effectively understand and navigate academic research in a simpler way.



In Celebration of Wildlife Week 2024, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo, in partnership with the Naturalist Foundation and Naturalist Explorers, hosted a vibrant Wildlife Mela. The event included a variety of engaging activities such as a Micro-green Workshop, Seed Ball Making Workshop, and Animal Clay Modelling Workshop. Visitors enjoyed these activities, making it a memorable experience for all.



On the occasion of Wildlife Week 2024, the ‘Best ZooKeeper’ award was presented to the zookeepers who performed outstandingly in the zoo during the year.



Bird Week (05th – 12th November, 2024)

As part of the Bird Week celebrations at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo, ornithologist Mr. Prathamesh Desai presented an engaging lecture titled “Mumbai Wingscape” during the ‘Vann Ki Baat’ session. In his talk, Mr. Desai delved into the rich bird diversity found in Mumbai, a city often overlooked in terms of its natural avian life. He explored the unique and varied species of birds that inhabit the city, shedding light on both resident and migratory populations. The session also addressed the challenges birds face in Mumbai’s urban landscape, such as habitat loss, pollution, and the pressures of a rapidly growing metropolis. Through this session, Mr. Desai encouraged the audience to appreciate and protect the avian diversity of Mumbai, fostering greater awareness and responsibility towards urban wildlife conservation.



In celebration of Bird Week 2024, Veermata Jijabai Bhosle Botanical Udyan and Zoo, in collaboration with Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sanghralaya, hosted a special session on ‘‘Insights on bird taxidermy’’. This workshop offered visitors an in-depth exploration of the taxidermy process, highlighting its artistic aspects. Additionally, a display of taxidermy bird specimens showcased the fascinating diversity of birds and their feathers, providing an immersive experience for attendees.



As part of Bird Week celebrations, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo, in collaboration with 5R Cycle Foundation, hosted an engaging bird awareness program. The event featured interactive activities where our volunteers showcased various bird feathers and demonstrated the diverse diet provided to the birds. 5R Cycle volunteers highlighted the critical role birds play in maintaining environmental balance and shared insights into environmental conservation. To spark creativity, gift cards were distributed to children for bird-themed paintings, while visitors had the chance to enjoy face paintings featuring vibrant bird species.



A one-day seminar dedicated to birds was organized as part of Bird Week at the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo. The event, which aimed to raise awareness and foster discussions on avian conservation and care, was inaugurated by Dr. Shivani Tandel, Founder of Exotics Vet Clinic. During her keynote address, Dr. Tandel highlighted the significant contributions of vets specialising in veterinary care of birds and other exotic animals. She emphasized the importance of understanding the unique needs of different bird species and shared detailed insights into the specific care protocols required for their treatment and well-being. The event was also graced by Dr. Hemant Birade, ex dean of Akola Veterinary College.



In celebration of Bird Week 2024, Veermata Jijabai Bhosle Botanical Udyan and Zoo hosted a special lecture on vulture conservation and public awareness, organized by Dr. Percy Avari. The event brought together a diverse audience of students, bird enthusiasts, and nature lovers, all eager to learn more about the critical role vultures play in our ecosystems and the urgent need for their conservation. Dr. Percy Avari, a passionate and dedicated expert in vulture conservation, took center stage to share his extensive knowledge and lifelong work in vulture research and protection. In his talk, Dr. Avari dispelled common myths and misconceptions about vultures—often misunderstood as ominous or dangerous creatures—by highlighting their importance to both biodiversity and human health. Overall, the lecture was both educational and inspiring, leaving a lasting impression on all who participated, and reinforcing the importance of vulture conservation in maintaining a balanced and healthy ecosystem.



As part of Bird Week celebrations this year, Veermata Jijabai Bhosle Botanical Udyan and Zoo organised a Marathi wildlife play ‘The Cultured Vulture’, produced by Seetai Creations. The play was presented under the “Vanyavani” movement, which focuses on using cultural mediums to raise awareness about wildlife conservation. The screening was not only a cultural event but also an important initiative aimed at educating the public about the plight of vultures, a species increasingly under threat. The play creatively blended elements of Maharashtra’s rich folk art traditions, including folk songs, drama, and comedy, to narrate the story of vultures and their critical role in the ecosystem. By weaving humor and cultural expressions into the narrative, the play made a serious conservation message both entertaining and accessible to a wide audience. For many in the audience, the play was a revelation—blending entertainment with education in a way that left a lasting impact. It offered a fresh perspective on vulture conservation, making it more relatable and accessible to people from all walks of life.



On the occasion of Bird Week 2024, the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Garden and Zoo has organized a lecture under the series ‘Van Ki Baat,’ featuring Dr. Tushna Karkaria, an expert who has made invaluable contributions to the conservation of the Great Indian Bustard. Let’s learn more from Dr. Tushna about the conservation efforts for the Great Indian Bustard in India.

Childhood with Wildhood – 26th December, 2024

An enchanting celebration of nature, wildlife, and visitor enthusiasm was held at the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo, organized in collaboration with Threco (The

Recycling Company) on the occasion of Christmas. Through fun-filled activities for children, efforts were made to raise awareness about the management of e-waste, also known as electronic waste. Additionally, the gifts received from Santa Claus doubled the joy of visitors, especially the little ones.



Coastal Life of Mumbai 28th December, 2024

The launch event of our book titled Coastal Life of Mumbai, on Sat Dec 28, 2024 from 2-6pm at the Byculla Zoo Auditorium, Mumbai.

The 6th annual Story X'press storytelling festival 06th February, 2025

The 6th annual Story X'press storytelling festival organised by Akshara foundation in collaboration with the Mumbai Zoo and Bhau Daji Lad Museum was celebrated today at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo. The event featured diverse storytelling sessions, workshops, and film screenings tailored for students aged from 8 to 14 years from various schools. A total of 300 school students participated in this engaging festival.



Druk Padma Karpo School 08th February, 2025

A day of learning beyond classrooms! Druk Padma Karpo School students explore the wonders of nature and wildlife at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo!

A two-day workshop “A Feathered Adventure: Exploring Mangrove Birds.” (21st – 22nd February, 2025)

The Zoology Department of SIES College of Arts, Science, and Commerce, in collaboration with Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan & Zoo and Mangrove Foundation, organized a two-day workshop titled “A Feathered Adventure: Exploring Mangrove Birds.” The workshop was inaugurated by Director of The Mumbai Zoo, Dr. Sanjay Tripathi. Also present on the occasion were Principal of SIES College Dr. Satish Sarfare and Assistant Director of Mangrove Foundation, Rishikesh Rane. The workshop commenced with a keynote address by Professor and Head of the Zoology Department at Carmel College, Goa, Dr. Manoj Borkar, who spoke on the mangrove ecosystems of Maharashtra and Goa. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation, with over 150 students from various colleges attending the workshop. (The Mumbai Zoo, Wildlife, Animals, Mangrove Foundation, SIES College, Mangrove Birds)



Wildlife Day 3rd March, 2025

On the occasion of Wildlife Day, 160 students from the Environmental Science, Biodiversity, Wildlife Conservation and Management, Zoology, Microbiology, and Biochemistry departments of Vidya Prasarak Mandal's B. N. Bandodkar College of Science (Autonomous), Thane, visited the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Garden and Zoo. Zoo biologist Dr. Abhishek Satam guided the students on zoo management and wildlife conservation. During the visit, students were shown a documentaries based on wildlife, and their various queries were addressed.



Her Royal Highness Princess Astrid of Belgium 05th March, 2025

It was a privilege for Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan & Zoo to host Her Royal Highness Princess Astrid of Belgium during her official visit to India as part of the Mission Life Science Conference. Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Belgium's Deputy Prime Minister Maxime Prevot and other dignitaries, was cordially welcomed by Dr. Sanjay Tripathi (Zoo Director) and Dr. Abhishek Satam (Zoo Biologist). The delegation visited the Humboldt Penguin Section, where insights into the zoo's dedicated care and conservation efforts were shared. This visit marked a proud moment of international exchange and recognition for the zoo.



World Kidney Day 12th March, 2025

On the occasion of World Kidney Day today, children battling kidney disease from Bai Jerbai Wadia Children's Hospital in Mumbai had the opportunity to visit the Veeramata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo. Surrounded by the soothing presence of nature, the children embraced the chance to uplift their spirits, finding joy in the animals, birds, and diverse trees, creating a positive energy within themselves. The Mumbai zoo, Zoo safari, worldkidney day, My BMC, Zoosafari, Wildlife Safari.



World Sparrow Day 20th March, 2025

On the occasion of World Sparrow Day, a one-day workshop was organized on March 20,

2025, to discuss measures for the conservation of sparrows, which are becoming increasingly rare in urban areas due to rapid urbanization. This event was jointly conducted by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation – Tree Authority, Nature Forever Society, and Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo. During the workshop, Mr. Mohammed Dilawar, popularly known as the ‘Indian Sparrowman’ and the President of the Nature Forever Society, provided insights into the ongoing efforts for sparrow conservation. He also guided attendees on how they could contribute to this vital cause. The workshop was attended by Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Director (Zoo), Mr. Jitendra Paradeshi, Garden Superintendent, along with municipal officials, staff, and citizens.



Exotic Animal Medicine and Surgery with PPAM and VPWA (22nd & 23rd March, 2025)

Continuing Education Program on Exotic Animal Medicine and Surgery in collaboration with Pet Practitioners Association Of Mumbai (PPAM) and Veterinary Practitioner’s Welfare Association (VPWA) was held at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo on 22nd - 23rd March 2025. International speakers Dr Claudia Hochleithner and Dr Manfred Hochleithner from Vienna, Austria imparted knowledge on exotic animal medicine and surgery to around 200 practising veterinarians coming from different cities of Maharashtra.



A fun Family day was organised on 23rd March at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo in collaboration with Naturalist Foundation (NGO) for the family members of the veterinarianians attending the CE on Exotic Animal Medicine and surgery event by PPAM and VPWA. The families spent their day going on nature trails, engaging in Warli and clay modelling workshops and playing interactive educational games. The day ended with a musical drama - The Cultured Vulture presented by Makarand Sawant, Seetai Creations based on the importance of Vultures and the need for their conservation.



On March 23, at the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo, a CE program on exotic animal medicine and surgery was organized by PPAM and VPWA. As part of the event, The Cultured Vulture, a musical wildlife play focused on vulture conservation, was presented. Produced by Seetai Creations under the Vanyavani movement and written and directed by Makarand Sawant, the play received an overwhelming response from a housefull audience, including dignitaries and scholars. By using folk art to raise awareness about wildlife conservation, this play has introduced a new and impactful medium for researchers and conservationists working in the field.



20. Important events and happenings:-

Death Anniversary of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale (as per date)

The 349th Death Anniversary of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale, as per date was observed on Wednesday, the 17th June 2024. Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Director (Zoo) paid homage to Jijamata by offering garlands to the statue of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale and Bal Shivaji at V.J.B.Botanical Udyan & Zoo other officials from V.J.B.Udyan & Zoo remained present at the occasion.

Death Anniversary of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale (as per the Solar Calender)

The 349th Death Anniversary of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale, as per the Solar Calender was observed on Saturday, the 12th June 2024. Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Director (Zoo) paid homage to Jijamata by offering garlands to the statue of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale and Bal Shivaji at V.J.B.Botanical Udyan & Zoo other officials from V.J.B.Udyan & Zoo remained present at the

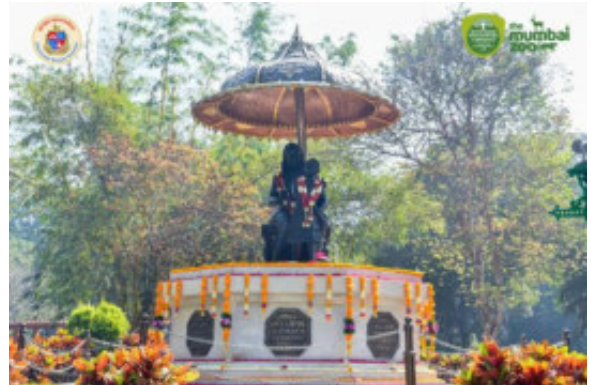
occasion.

Celebration of Birth Anniversary of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale at V.J.B.Botanical Udyan & Zoo (13th January 2025 - as per the Solar Calender)

The 426th Birth Anniversary of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale was celebrated by offering garlands to the statues of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale & Balshivaji at the hands of Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Director (Zoo) on 13th January 2025 at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan-Zoo. Other Zoo officials remained present to grace the occasion.

Celebration of 426th Birth Anniversary of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale at V.J.B.Botanical Udyan & Zoo (as per date) 12th January 2025

The 426th Birth Anniversary of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale was celebrated by offering garlands to the statues of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale & Balshivaji at the hands of Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Director (Zoo) on 12th January 2025 at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan-Zoo. Other Zoo officials remained present to grace the occasion.



International Yoga Day 21st June 2024

The staff of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo celebrated International Yoga Day with yoga sessions led by Abhijeet Gawli from Infywell Studio.



Celebration of 78th Independence Day (15 August 2024)

78th Independence Day celebrated by Director zoo and zoo staff and visitors at Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo.



The 162nd Foundation day 19th Nov, 2024

The 162nd foundation day of Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo was celebrated on 19th November 2024. On this occasion, an exhibition of various species of plants found in deserts was inaugurated by the Superintendent of Garden Mr. Jitendra Pardeshi and the Director of the Zoo Dr. Sanjay Tripathi.



75th Republic day 26th Jan, 2025

Dr. Sanjay Tripathi, Director- Zoo, Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo unfurled the Tri-colour National Flag in the presence of Office bearers, Security staff and Visitors during the 75th Republic Day celebrations held inside the premises of the Zoo.



Zoo Awareness Programmes

The programmes for creating interest and awareness about the order concept of zoo as per the National Zoo Policy 1998 were conducted.

Internship Students

Final year veterinary students from Mumbai Veterinary College started their internship at Mumbai zoo in batches of 10 students per month starting from 01.01.2024. The internship students are given training in wild animal restraining methods, handling remote drug delivery systems, hands on training during wound dressings, blood collection, necropsy etc., feed preparation, quality inspection and distribution of feed, providing enrichment to zoo animals etc.



21. Seasonal special arrangements for upkeep of animals

Summer:

1.) **Feed enrichment:** Whole fruits like watermelon and seasonal fruits, whole tender coconuts, ice lollies and ice fruit cakes made out of cut seasonal fruits and sweetened water with jaggery syrup are offered to monkeys and elephants. Whole watermelons and pumpkins are also provided to the hippopotamus.

2.) **Enclosure enrichment:**

Wet mud patches in the enclosures are provided for the deer to cool off in the Summer.

Small water pools are provided for the monkeys in the enclosures.

Roofs of the bird enclosures are covered with palm leaves.

Monsoon:

Animal enclosure roofs are covered with Tarpaulin sheets.

Dry hay is provided in all animal houses and sheds of deer enclosures to keep the deer dry and warm during the rains. Similarly, jute gunny bags are provided to monkeys and hyaenas.

Winter:

Dry hay is provided in all deer animal houses and sheds to keep the deer warm during Winter. Similarly, jute gunny bags are provided to monkeys and hyaenas.

22. Research work carried out and publications- None

23. Conservation breeding Programme of the zoo- None

24. Animal Acquisition / transferred / exchange during the year- None

25. Rescue and Rehabilitation of wild animals carried out by the zoo- None

26. Annual Inventory of animals

Veer mata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan – Zoo, Mumbai
Endangered Species (Sch I & II)
Inventory from 01-04-2024 to 31-03-2025

Sr. no	Species	Scientific Name	Stock as on 01-04-23				Birth			Acquired			Disposal			Death			Stock as on 31-03-24						
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T			
A	Mammals																								
1	Elephant Indian	<i>Elephas maximus</i>	0	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	0	0	0	0
2	Macaque Rhesus	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	6	6	14	26	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	17	29
3	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	2	2	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0	4
4	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis lupus</i>	2	0	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0	2
5	Sloth Bear	<i>Melarsus ursinus</i>	1	1	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	2
6	Striped Hyena	<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>	1	1	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	0	0	1
7	Royal Bengal Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>	3	1	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	0	4
	Total of A		15	12	14	41	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	15	10	17	42
B	Birds																								
1	Hornbill Indian Pied	<i>Anthracer os malabaricus</i>	0	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	1	2
2	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	0	1	0	1													1			0	0	0	0
	Total of B		0	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2
C	Reptiles																								
1	Crocodile Long Snouted	<i>Gavialis gangeticus</i>	0	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0	2
2	Crocodile Marsh (Mugger)	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>	2	0	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	0	0	1
3	Python Indian Rock	<i>Python molurus</i>	2	2	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0	4
4	Rat Snake	<i>Ptyas mucosus</i>	0	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	1	1
5	Turtle Indian Black	<i>Melanochelys trijuga</i>	0	0	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	5	5
6	Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>	0	0	8	8	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	0	0	6	6
7	Indian Star Tortoise	<i>Geochelone elegans</i>	0	0	0	0	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	15	15
	Total of C		4	4	14	22	0	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	3	4	27	34
	Total of A+B+C		19	18	29	66	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	18	15	45	78

* 4U Indian Flapshell Turtles identified as 2M and 2F after necropsy

Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan – Zoo, Mumbai
Species (Sch III & IV)
Annual Inventory from 01-04-2024 to 31-03-2025

Sr. no	Endangered Species	Scientific Name	Stock as on 01-04-24				Birth			Acquired			Disposal			Death			Stock as on 30-03-24			
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T
1	Heron Night	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	0	2	85	87	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	2	94	96
2	Parakeet Alexandrine	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	7	3	10	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	10	20	
3	Pelican Rosy / White	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	1	1	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0	2	
4	Stork Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>	1	1	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	3
5	Stork Painted	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	0	1	8	9	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	1	3	10
	Total of D		9	8	104	121	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	9	8	114	131	
E	Mammals		M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T
1	Barking Deer	<i>Muntiacus Muntjack</i>	2	1	8	11	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	1	7	10
2	Sambar Deer	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	1	1	1	3	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	4	1	7
3	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	3	0	7	10	-	-	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	3	4	5	12
	Total of E		6	2	16	24	0	0	5	4	7	0	0	0	0	3	0	8	7	9	13	29
	Total of D + E		15	10	120	145	0	0	19	4	7	0	0	0	0	3	0	12	16	17	127	160

* 4U Spotted deer identified as 1M 3F on post mortem
* 4U Barking deer identified as 3M 1F on post mortem
* 1U Night Heron identified as 1M on post mortem
1U Adjutant stork identified as 1M on post mortem
2U Painted stork identified as 2M on post mortem

Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan – Zoo, Mumbai
Other Species (Sch III & IV)
Annual Inventory from 01-04-2024 to 31-03-2025

Sr. no	Species (III & IV)	Scientific Name	Stock as on 01-04-23				Birth			Acquired			Disposal			Death			Stock as on 30-03-24					
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T		
E	Birds																							
1	Budgerigar	<i>Melopsittacus undulates</i>	0	0	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0	0	0	2		
2	Cockatiel grey + White	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	0	1	70	71	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1	82	71		
3	Crane Crowned Red	<i>Grus japonicus</i>	2	2	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0	4		
4	Emu	<i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>	0	0	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	2	2		
5	Macaw Military	<i>Ara militaris</i>	4	3	0	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	0	7		
6	Parrot African Grey	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	2	5	0	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	5	0	7		
7	Humboldt Penguin	<i>Spheniscus humboldti</i>	9	9	0	18	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	10	0	18		
8	Pheasant Golden	<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>	1	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3		
	Total		18	21	75	114	2	1	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	19	22	85	114		
	Mammals		M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T		
1	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	2	2	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0	4		
	Reptiles		M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T		
1	Red Eared Slider	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>	0	0	0	0	-	-	10	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	0	0	0	22		
Mammals – 10 species, 75, Birds – 13 species, 259, Reptiles – 8 species, 56																								

Acquisition report of Endangered and other Sp. of Mammals/ Birds/ Reptiles at V. J. B. Udyan & Zoo from 01-04-2024 to 31-03-2025					
Sr. No.	Name of Species	Scientific name	Date of Acquisition	No. & Sex	Remarks
1	Sambar Deer	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	8/8/2024	2M + 1F	Donation from RGZP and WRC, Katraj Pune
2	Sambar Deer	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	8/10/2024	1M + 1F	Donation from RGZP and WRC, Katraj Pune
3	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis Axis</i>	8/10/2024	2F	Donation from RGZP and WRC, Katraj Pune
4	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis Axis</i>	8/29/2024	2M +2F	Donation from RGZP and WRC, Katraj Pune
5	Red Eared Slider		8/29/2024	12U	Found in Japanese Garden and pond
6	Indian Star Tortoise	<i>Geochelone elegans</i>	9/3/2024	15U	Found in the zoo premises and entrance security area
7	Red Eared Slider		9/30/2024	10U	Hatchlings found in Japanese Garden and pond

Disposition report of Endangered and other Sp. of Mammals/ Birds/ Reptiles at V. J. B. Udyan & Zoo from 01-04-2024 to 30-03-2025					
Sr. No.	Name of Species	Scientific name	Date of Disposition	No. & Sex	Remarks
	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Annual Birth report of Endangered and other Sp. of Mammals/ Birds/ Reptiles at V. J. B. Udyan Zoo from 01-04-2024 to 31-03-2025				
Sr. No.	Name of Species	Scientific name	Date of Birth	No. & Sex
1	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulata</i>	4/6/2024	1U
2	Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>	7/10/2024	2U
3	Heron Night	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	7/12/2024	10U
4	Barking Deer	<i>Muntiacus Muntjack</i>	7/30/2024	1U
5	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulata</i>	8/3/2024	1U

6	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulata</i>	8/22/2024	1U
7	Barking Deer	<i>Muntiacus Muntjack</i>	8/22/2024	1U
8	Cockatiel	<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	9/29/2024	12U
9	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	12/27/2024	1U
10	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	1/19/2024	1U
11	Barking Deer	<i>Muntiacus Muntjack</i>	1/29/2023	1U
12	Stork Painted	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	2/15/2025	3U
13	Stork Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>	2/15/2025	1U
14	Humboldt Penguin	<i>Spheniscus humboldti</i>	27/06/2023	1M
15	Humboldt Penguin	<i>Spheniscus humboldti</i>	27/06/2023	1M
16	Humboldt Penguin	<i>Spheniscus humboldti</i>	27/06/2023	1M

Egg report of Crocodile (<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>)						
Sr. No.	Date of egg lay	No. of eggs	Date of incubation	Date of hatch	Date of egg disposed	Method of incubation
	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Egg report of Humboldt Penguin (<i>Spheniscus humboldti</i>)						
Sr. No.	Date of egg lay	No. of eggs	Date of incubation	Date of hatch	Date of egg disposed	Method of incubation

27. Mortality of Animal

Death/Disposed report of Endangered and other Sp. of Mammals/ Birds/ Reptiles at V. J. B. Udyan Zoo from 01-04-2024 to 31-03-2025					
Sr. No.	Name of Species	Scientific name	Date of Death	No. & Sex	Cause of Death/Disposal
1	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	28-04-24	1F	
2	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	05-05-24	1F	Asphyxia, choking
3	Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>	09/05/24	1F	eneteritis, Cardiac shock
4	Budgerigar	<i>Melopsittacus undulates</i>	13/05/24	1M	Cardiac shock, old age
5	Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>	16/06/24	1M	Multiple organ failure
6	Barking Deer	<i>Muntiacus Muntjack</i>	19/06/24	1M	Cardiac shock
7	Barking Deer	<i>Muntiacus Muntjack</i>	7/3/2024	1M	Cardio-respiratory failure
8	Stork Painted	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	7/30/2024	1M	Cardiac shock due to infighting stress
9	Sambar Deer	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	7/30/2024	1M	Cardiac shock
10	Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>	9/6/2024	1F	Putrefied
11	Heron Night	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	9/20/2024	1M	Cardiac shock due to infighting stress
12	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	9/21/2024	1M	Cardiac shock
13	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	9/28/2024	1M	Cardiac shock
14	Budgerigar	<i>Melopsittacus undulates</i>	10/17/2024	1F	Old age
15	Elephant Indian	<i>Elephas maximus</i>	11/10/2024	1F	Old age, abdominal tumor
16	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	11/19/2024	1F	Respiratory failure
17	Striped Hyena	<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>	11/30/2024	1F	Old age, paralytic ileus
18	Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>	12/16/2024	1M	Cardiac shock
19	Barking Deer	<i>Muntiacus Muntjack</i>	12/27/2024	1M	Cardio-respiratory failure
20	Crocodile Marsh (Mugger)	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>	2/11/2025	1M	Old age
21	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	3/1/2025	1F	Egg Binding
22	Stork Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>	3/10/2025	1M	Cardiac shock, infighting
23	Stork Painted	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	3/16/2025	1M Chick	Haemorrhagic shock, fracture
24	Parrot African Grey	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	3/16/2025	1M	Old age
25	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	3/27/2025	1M	Cardio-respiratory

					failure
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28. Status of the Compliance with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority

Sr. No.	Norm No.	Details on the conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, MoEF	Status with regard Compliance of the conditions as submitted by the Officer-in-charge of the Zoo
2. Administrative and Staffing Pattern :			
1	10.2 (1)	The financial powers of the Director for purchasing items or daily use are not sufficient for such a large zoo. It should be increased substantially.	The financial powers for Director are currently Rs.40,000/- for daily expenditure and for tendering procedure up to Rs.20,00,000/- as per current MCGM norms.
2	10.2 (2)	Recruitment of Veterinary support staff should be completed early.	Lab Technician post has been approved and being advertised for recruitment.
3. Development and Planning :			
3	10.3 (6)	The implementation of collection plan as approved by the CZA should start early.	This Zoo has already initiated compliance in this regard by adding various species like, Tiger, Leopard, Jackal, Hyena, etc. as per new approved Animal Collection Plan and these animals are displayed in newly developed exhibits.
4	10.3 (7)	Proposal should be forwarded for consideration of the CZA for transfer of rescued wild animals for which the zoo does not have off-display housing facility of prescribed design and dimension.	At this stage, this zoo has (1) one rescued Malabar Pied Hornbill for which PCCF, Wildlife has granted permission to retain the bird at Zoo since it is unfit to be released in wild. In due course, permission will be sought from CZA, for the acquisition of the said bird in Zoo's Animal

			Collection Plan.
4. Animal Housing, display of animals and animal enclosures :			
5	10.4 (10)	The interpretation centre should be made functional.	The interpretation centre will be made functional within 2 months.
5. Upkeep and health care of animals :			
6	10.5 (3)	Sufficient size freezer for shortage of meat products should be purchased immediately.	Complied. The zoo has purchased two (2) deep freezers (500 kg capacity) in addition to one already existing for storage of meat products.
9. Acquisition and breeding of animals :			
7	10.9 (4)	The lone Malabar Pied Hornbill should be transferred to some other Zoo or paired here only.	This Zoo will initiate the exchange proposal for pairing of the lone Malabar pied hornbill.
8	10.9 (4)	Single female sloth bear should be paired or transferred to some other Zoo.	This zoo has already submitted animal exchange proposals to various zoos having sloth bear male in excess. This zoo has already finalized animal exchange proposal with Indore Zoo, who have agreed to spare a pair of Sloth bear. The proposal is awaiting nod from CZA.

11. Education and outreach activities :			
9	10.11 (1)	Various visitors' facilities should be created along with dedicated website for the Zoo and conducted tours should be started.	Various visitors' facilities like shelters, pyau, toilets have been developed and made operational. To develop dedicated website for the Zoo, the proposal has been initiated for administrative approval.
12. Visitors facilities :			
10	10.12 (1)	Since the Zoo is situated in the densely populated south Mumbai, battery operated vehicles will be of great help to the visitors.	The facility of battery operated vehicles is included in the comprehensive revenue income plan, which is under process. Very soon this facility will be made available for the visitors.

29. List of free living wild animals within zoo premises

Mammals:

1. Mongoose
2. Fruit Bats
3. Three striped Palm Squirrel

Birds:

1. Common House Crow
2. Jungle Crow
3. Rose-ringed Parakeet
4. Alexandrine Parakeet
5. Indian Grey Hornbill
6. Black Kite
7. House Sparrow
8. Common Mynah
9. Eurasian Cuckoo
10. White-throated Kingfisher
11. Purple-rumped Sunbird
12. Cattle Egret
13. Grey Heron
14. Pond Heron
15. Night Heron
16. Copper-smith Barbet
17. White-breasted Water-hen
18. Ashy Drongo

19. Golden Oriole
20. Tailor Bird
21. White-browed Fantail
22. Spotted Owlet
23. Rock Pigeon
24. Indian Cormorant
25. Crow Pheasant
26. Magpie Robin
27. Red-vented Bulbul
28. Red- whiskered Bulbul
29. Barn owl
30. Paradise Flycatcher
31. Scaly Breasted Munia
32. Orange Headed Ground Thrush
33. Painted Stork

Reptiles:

1. Checkered Keelback
2. Common Rat Snake
3. Skinks
4. Geckos
5. Garden Lizards
6. Worm Snake
7. Wolf snake

