

Nandankanan Biological Park Highlights 2023

Animal Collection

- Nandankanan currently has the largest animal collection among Indian Zoos housing 4186 individuals belonging to 164 species as on 25.12.2023.
- 1 pair of Hoolock Gibbon and 1 pair of Leopard Cat were brought from Itanagar Zoo, Arunachal Pradesh on 25/07/23.



- 1 pair of Hoolock Gibbon, 1 pair of Pigtail Macaque, and 1 Female Himalayan Black Bear were brought from Aizawl Zoo, Mizoram on 08/09/23.
- 2:5 Chausingha and 2:3 Sambar were brought from Sambalpur Zoo on 05/12/23 to enhance genetic diversity and bloodlines for these species.
- Squirrel Monkey (1:1), Ostrich (1:2), Cassowary (1:1), Red-Handed Tamarin (1:1), Wallaby (1:1) and Livingstone Turaco acquired.
- 264 births were reported in the Zoo during the year, including Indian Grey Wolf bred in Nandankanan for the first time in its history.

Animal Housing & New Enclosures



- Two 2882 square meter enclosures with 2 back kraals and eight well-ventilated feeding cells for Hoolock Gibbons inaugurated on October 18, 2023.
- New quarantine facility with three housing cells & video surveillance established in the Pangolin Conservation Breeding Centre.
- Construction of 6 (six) number of back kraals for small mammals.
- New Wallaby enclosure constructed.



Health & Veterinary Care

- Mobile Veterinary Unit started functioning on 07.07.2023 with one Veterinary doctor, 1 Livestock Inspector, 2 Attendants and 1 Driver. Already 46 camps conducted till 25.12.2023.

- Endoscopy unit at Zoo veterinary hospital started functioning from 12.07.23.



- Deployment of new equipment such as urine analyser, portable X-ray, battery operated X-ray machine and ECG machines.

- Additional block in the Live Feed Rearing Centre constructed.

Rescue & Rehabilitation

- During the year, the zoo provided medical care and rehabilitation to 56 rescued animals from different parts of the state.

- Rehabilitation of the seriously injured elephant calf through advanced medical treatment in the Zoo is a notable achievement.



Visitor footfall & enhancement of amenities

- During the year the Zoo attracted 36,41,412 visitors.

- Total revenue collected is Rs.21,20,59,334 /-.

- First Zoo in the country to offer WhatsApp-based ticket booking services for visitors.

- Lily Pond within Multi-Level Car Parking restored and beautified.

- Zoo souvenir shop renovated & started functioning directly under Zoo Society with new merchandise.



- Drinking water fountains installed at three strategic locations.
- Ropeway inaugurated on 17.11.2023.
- The boating facility resumed on 18th November, 2023.



Infrastructure Development

- Mini conference room constructed in the office of the Deputy Director.

- Administrative building of State Botanical Garden renovated with Project Management Unit (PMU) and a Conference Hall.

- New staff quarter complex (6 number for Foresters and 12 number for Forest Guards) inaugurated on 18th October, 2023.

- Upgradation of 4.1 km of internal roads.

- Renovation of Zoo Forest Rest House.



Human Resources, Capacity Building & Staff Welfare

- Project Management Unit consisting of a Project manager, one Architect, one Civil engineer, one IT expert and one Accountant started functioning from 18.09.23.

- Staff of Nandankanan participated in 11 (9 national and 2 state) conferences and training programmes.



- Dedicated monitoring App for Nandankanan, NIMS (Nandankanan Integrated Monitoring App) developed, tested and deployed.
- Three-day Health camp organized with 199 staff availing services.
- Three-day Eye check-up camp with 216 numbers staffs availing services.
- In order to motivate the field staff, a cricket tournament for staff conducted.



Conservation Breeding & Research

- Assistant Education Officer, Laboratory Technician, and Biological Data Manager engaged.
- 2nd phase of the project "Species Recovery of Gharial in river Mahanadi" implemented.
- Procurement of RT PCR, high end microscope and - 80°C deep freezer for Zoo Laboratory.
- Six tigers, one Indian pangolin, and ten mouse deers were born under conservation breeding programme.



Education & Outreach

- Ambassadors for Nandankanan got selected in 53 number of schools all over Odisha, through the education programme "Zoo Ambassador Programme"
- Students' education programme "One day at Nandankanan" organized for 18 Batches with 2554 number of students participating.



- Zoo Outreach programmes organized in 22 schools.
- Friends of Nandankanan," an online community for well-wishers of Nandankanan formed through the website of Nandankanan on 8th July, 2023.
- MoU signed with Centurion University of Technology and Management (CUTM), Bhubaneswar on 24.04.2023.
- Zoo Volunteers Programme launched on June 14, 2023 with 60 volunteers.
- Felicitation of retired veterinarians of Nandankanan Zoological Park on World Veterinary Day-2023.



- Van Mahotsav- 2023" celebrated with NWCSO on July 4, 2023.
- Celebration of Wildlife Week, 2023 observed on all days with three programmes each day.
- Collaborative workshop with NWCSO on "Ex-situ Conservation in Odisha- Present status & way Forward" for all zoos of Odisha Zoos.
- Important Eco/ important days celebrated on 14 individual days



Development of State Botanical Garden

- New Bambusetum displaying 70 species of bamboos.
- Hydrophyte Garden showcasing 60 species with the Hydrophyte Museum featuring different species .



- New Website launched for State Botanical Garden.
- 32 awards won in different important state level flower show competitions.
- 2 number of water ATMs, three pre-fabricated toilets and one drinking water unit were installed to enhance the visitor amenities.
- Renovated the Forest Guest House (FRH-2)



Habitat management

- In order to ensure the health of lake ecosystem of Kanjia, dewatering done in the entire stretch of the lake.
- Rejuvenation of Kiakani lake was carried out .



“World-class Nandankanan”: a 5T initiative of the State Government.

- On 23rd June, 2023, Hon. Chief Minister of Odisha declared that Nandankanan will be transformed to a world-class Zoo.
- Accordingly, a new Master Plan of Nandankanan Zoological Park for the period of 2023 to 2043 was prepared and was approved by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) on 18/12/2023.
- A dedicated Project Management Unit for implementing new initiatives started functioning from 18th September, 2023.
- Two Consultants for landscaping, hardscaping and design of selected enclosures at Nandankanan and State Botanical Garden have been onboarded and work is under progress.
- New Ropeway opened for visitors.
- Concept plan for construction of Tunnel aquarium has been approved by the State Government and preparation of RFP in progress.
- Proposal for providing outlet for Kanjia lake prepared by the Water Resource Department has been approved and funds granted.
- Proposal for upgradation of toy train in PPP got in principle approval.

