NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK, NEW DELHI

Press Release

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Wildlife Week 2026 – Day 2 at National Zoological Park:

Connecting People with Nature, Inspiring Young Minds and Advancing Animal Welfare

New Delhi, 3rd October 2026: The National Zoological Park (NZP), New Delhi continued its Wildlife Week 2026 celebrations with a vibrant programme of nature exploration, creative learning, conservation dialogue and animal welfare activities on the second day of the week-long celebrations.

With enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, parents, zoo volunteers, interns and visitors, the day's programmes reinforced the message that wildlife conservation begins with understanding, appreciation and responsible action.

🌳 Discovering the Green Wealth of the Zoo:

The day's activities began with a Tree Walk, offering participants an opportunity to explore the diverse flora of the National Zoological Park and understand the vital role of trees and plants in providing habitat, food and ecological support to wildlife. The walk highlighted how every tree contributes to the larger web of life, supporting biodiversity and helping maintain ecological balance. A total of 29 students and 15 teachers and parents participated in the activity.

💬 Young Voices for Wildlife Conservation:

The Tree Walk was followed by a Debate Competition for students of Classes IX to XII on the thought-provoking topic: "**Are Wildlife Corridors Essential for the Survival of Wild Animals?**" The debate encouraged young participants to explore the importance of habitat connectivity, safe movement of wildlife and landscape-level conservation.

An Essay Writing Competition for Classes VI to VIII, on the theme "**Wildlife without Boundaries – Connecting Habitats, Sustainable Life**," encouraged students to reflect on biodiversity conservation, connected habitats and the need for harmonious coexistence between people and wildlife.

Together, the debate and essay competitions saw participation from 43 students representing 21 schools, reflecting the growing interest of young minds in wildlife conservation and environmental sustainability.

🐿️ Primates in Focus – Enrichment for Better Animal Welfare:

Continuing the Wildlife Week theme of highlighting different species each day, primates were the "Species in Focus" for Day 2.

A dedicated enclosure enrichment programme was undertaken at the Lion-tailed Macaque and Hamadryas Baboon enclosures to provide behavioural stimulation, increase environmental complexity and enhance the overall welfare of the animals. The activity brought together the Zoo Biologist, zoo volunteers, interns and primate-keeping staff, who collaboratively introduced appropriate enrichment elements based on the species-specific behavioural and welfare needs of the animals.

The initiative demonstrated that modern zoo management goes beyond providing food and shelter. Understanding animal behaviour and creating stimulating environments are integral to responsible animal care and welfare. It also offered valuable practical learning opportunities for staff, interns and volunteers in primate behaviour, enclosure management and species-specific welfare practices.

🌿 Wildlife Week – Learning, Experiencing and Caring for Nature:

The National Zoological Park is using Wildlife Week as a platform to bring wildlife, people and young minds closer together through educational, participatory and experiential programmes. The celebrations aim to move beyond awareness towards a deeper appreciation and sense of responsibility for wildlife, biodiversity and nature.

🐓 Day 3 – 4 October 2026: Birds in Focus:

The third day of Wildlife Week, on Sunday, 4th October 2026, will celebrate “Species in Focus: Birds.” The programme will begin with a Birds Walk at 07:00 AM, focusing on the free-ranging birds of the National Zoological Park, with participation from zoo volunteers, students and visitors.

This will be followed by:

- Bird Nest Making Competition – Classes VI to VIII
- Bird Feeder Making Competition – CWSN
- Leaf Craft Competition – Class IX and above

The day's programme will conclude with a Keeper's Talk and Enclosure Enrichment Activity at the Aviary, providing participants an opportunity to interact with bird-keeping staff and learn about the care, behaviour and conservation of birds.

The Director, National Zoological Park, expressed appreciation to the students, schools, teachers, parents, zoo volunteers and visitors for their enthusiastic participation and encouraged greater public involvement in the programmes being organised throughout Wildlife Week.

Director
National Zoological Park, New Delhi