NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK, NEW DELHI

Press Release

04 October 2026

WILDLIFE WEEK 2026 – DAY 3 AT NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Celebrating Birds, Inspiring Young Minds and Strengthening the Bond Between People and Nature

New Delhi, 4 October 2026: The National Zoological Park, New Delhi, marked the third day of Wildlife Week 2026 with a vibrant programme of bird-focused learning, creative participation and conservation awareness. The day brought together students, teachers, visitors and experts with a shared message: **understanding wildlife is the first step towards caring for it.**

The morning began with a Sunday Bird Walk, in which 78 participants—including 54 students, 9 teachers and 15 visitors—enthusiastically explored the diverse avifauna of the National Zoological Park. The participants were divided into two groups and guided by bird experts Sh. T. K. Roy and Dr. Rajat Bhargava, who highlighted the diversity of birds and their vital role in maintaining ecological balance.

The Bird Walk was followed by a series of inclusive and creative competitions designed to nurture curiosity, empathy and a deeper appreciation of nature. A Bird Feeder Making Competition for PH/CWSN participants was organised on the theme "Supporting Birds and Urban Biodiversity". Students of Classes VI to VIII participated in a Bird Nest Making Competition on "My Nest – A Safe Home for Birds", while students of Class IX and above took part in a Leaf Craft Competition on "Leaves to Life: Celebrating Nature and Biodiversity".

The activities provided children with an opportunity to learn through creativity—understanding the needs of birds, the importance of natural habitats and the role of biodiversity in sustaining healthy ecosystems. Together, the competitions saw participation from 54 students representing 23 schools, reflecting the growing enthusiasm among young people for wildlife conservation and environmental sustainability.

Interacting with the participating students, teachers and visitors, the Director, National Zoological Park, appreciated their enthusiasm and encouraged them to develop a lifelong interest in wildlife and nature conservation. The Director also highlighted the wide range of opportunities in wildlife, zoology, biodiversity conservation and environmental management, motivating young participants to see themselves as future custodians of India's natural heritage.

As part of Wildlife Week's initiative of placing a different species or group in focus each day, "Birds" were the Species in Focus for Day 3. A dedicated enclosure enrichment programme was undertaken at the bird enclosure, demonstrating how thoughtful enrichment can encourage natural behaviour and provide stimulating environments for animals under human care.

The programme concluded with an informative Keeper's Talk, where bird-keeping staff shared practical insights into the care, management and conservation of birds under human care. Educational literature on birds was also distributed to participants and visitors, extending the learning beyond the day's activities.

The third day of Wildlife Week reinforced the National Zoological Park's commitment to wildlife education, inclusive participation and conservation awareness. By connecting observation with creativity and knowledge with action, the programme sought to inspire every participant to become a more informed and responsible steward of wildlife and biodiversity.

PROGRAMME FOR DAY 4 – 5 OCTOBER 2026

Butterflies, Dragonflies and the Lion in Focus: The Wildlife Week celebrations will continue on 5 October 2026, bringing visitors closer to some of nature's most fascinating species through guided exploration, art and keeper-led learning.

- **8:00 AM – 10:00 AM: Butterfly and Dragonfly Walk**
- **10:00 AM onwards**: On-the-Spot Painting Competition for school students on "Where Wildlife Finds a Home". Categories: Classes I–V, VI–VIII, IX–XII, and PH/CWSN Divyangjan.
- **3:00 PM**: Keeper's Talk and Enclosure Enrichment Programme at the Lion Enclosure, with Lion as the "Species in Focus". The programme will offer insights into lion behaviour, conservation and care in zoological institutions. Educational literature on lions will also be distributed.

The National Zoological Park warmly invites students, teachers, zoo volunteers and visitors **to participate in Wildlife Week 2026 and be part of a collective movement to understand, respect and protect wildlife and biodiversity.** Together, let us turn awareness into action and inspire a stronger connection between people and nature.

Director
National Zoological Park, New Delhi