

ZOO News

Grant's Zebras at Tata Steel Zoological Park now open to public display

The long awaiting of Jamshedpur people has been put to rest with housing two pairs of Grant's Zebras at the Tata Steel Zoological Park. T.V. Narendran, Managing Director, India & South East Asia, Tata Steel Ltd., finally opened the exhibit for public display on 24 February 2016. The zebras were acquired from Ramat Gan Safari, Tel Aviv, Israel and arrived at the zoo in early December 2015. They were under mandatory quarantine for some time. During this period, the zoo team maintained strict quarantine



T.V. Narendran, Managing Director is seen cutting the ribbon to inaugurate newly built Zebra enclosure

protocols, including closure of the enclosures, maintaining a dedicated team of animal keepers, regular testing and round the clock observation through closed circuit television cameras. The 2016 sq.mts. enclosure was constructed in advance to provide them with the best suited habitat by ensuring that the gently undulating terrain was covered with grass and suitable for them to gallop, trot and walk comfortably. In addition to this, strict attention was



The Chief Guest looking at the animal signage during enclosure visit



Tamarind sapling is planted near the exhibit by the Chief Guest as a memory

paid to their daily diet, which comprises of hay, grass, mixed grain, carrots and vitamin supplements. The Grant's Zebra is one of the six subspecies of the Plains Zebra. They are found throughout the grasslands, savannas and some woodlands of Eastern and Southern Africa. These herbivores live in large groups called 'Harems' and live up to 20-30 years in the wild and up to 40 years in captivity.



Two pairs of Grant's Zebras which acquired from Israel zoo

To promote nature conservation and as a symbol of a new beginning, the Managing Director planted a sapling of Tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*) near the Zebra enclosure. The new members of the Tata Zoo family have now settled in their new enclosure and are in perfect health. The citizens of Jamshedpur enjoy watching them trotting around their enclosure. **Submitted by Seema Rani, Biologist cum Education Officer Tata Steel Zoological Park. Email: cmarani00@rediffmail.com**