

# **Concept Note on Government Aquarium, Cubbon park, Bangalore**

## **Present Status of Government Aquarium**

Bangalore also known as the '**Garden city of India**' has beautiful sightseeing places and a lot of visitors coming in from all over the world. Cubbon park in Bangalore is also known as the 'visitors island' and it is here that a Government Aquarium for public display was constructed during **1972** and was officially inaugurated on **27.08.1983**.

Government aquarium, Cubbon park is a '**fresh water fish aquarium**' in an octagonal shape and is a three-storied building. The total area of the Government aquarium is 2700 sq.m. Out of the built up area is 850 sq.m. The ground floor comprises of the office.

The first floor has 14 big tanks of 6'X4'X3' dimension. On the second floor, aquariums are arranged in two rows and there are a total of 62 numbers of medium to small size aquaria. It has about 60-70 varieties both indigenous and exotic species of freshwater ornamental fish.

The Aquarium is open to public on all days except Mondays and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays. The entry fee is Rs.10 per head for adult. If the children visit aquarium through their respective schools, then the ticket rate is at Rs.5.00 per head. There is no entry fee for children below 5 years.

## **Objective of the Government Aquarium:**

- **Recreational activities:** To create displays and exhibits that are aesthetically pleasing as well as good for the creatures and plants that live within them. An aquarium can boost morale of the viewer, which in turn has a positive effect on productivity.
- **Education:** Many teachers use aquariums to help teach biology, water chemistry, physics, mathematics, geography, animal behavior and so much more. Aquariums teach kids about nature and caring for one helps them learn responsibility.
- **Therapeutic effect:** Studies show that viewing an aquarium can be therapeutic as they lower blood pressure, reduce stress and have a calming effect on people.

### Details of Visitors and revenue collected:

YEAR	CHILDREN	REVENUE (RS)	ADULT	REVENUE (RS)	TOTAL REVENUE (RS)
2014-15	34377	68,754.00	67617	3,38,085.00	4,06,839.00
2015-16	35275	70,550.00	80816	4,04,080.00	4,74,630.00
2016-17	26370	52,740.00	129522	6,47,610.00	7,00,350.00
2017-18	15416	77,080.00	101974	10,19,740.00	10,96,820.00
2018-19	19899	99,495.00	100073	10,00,730.00	11,00,225.00
2019-20	22282	111410.00	108182	1081820.00	11,93,230.00
2020-21*			2358	23,580.00	23,580.00
2021-22**	193	965.00	41889	418890.00	419855.00

\*The Aquarium was closed for public as per Covid 19 guidelines.

\*\*Upto November 2021

### Expenditure:

The annual overall expenditure of the Government aquarium is about Rs.100.00 lakhs . Out of this Rs.15.00 lakhs is spent for the maintenance of the aquarium.

### Background of the Proposal

In the recent past with the amazing growth in technology and innovations in the aquarium industry, there are a plethora of aquarium related hardware and flora available in the market which are mostly imported from south-east Asian countries. Also as people are more exposed to digital technology and low cost aviation, they get to see world-class public display aquariums in countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan and in other developed countries as well. Bangalore is famous being the Silicon Valley of India, Karnataka's capital city is a well-known IT hub and some of the world's major IT corporations operate

out of the city. Therefore there are lots of visitors moving in and out of Bangalore. This aquarium is about 38 years old and has to be renovated.

The Department of Fisheries has put in lot of efforts towards repairs of the building but not much could be done towards an entire face-lift on a 38 year old building. The building has to be repaired with proper drainage, leakages to be fixed and other civil works to be taken up along with electrical repairs. The present aquarium glass tanks have to be replaced. The tanks should be made with presently available technology with inbuilt filtration system. The premises also have to be suitably decorated.

Therefore, concept design from interested individuals/ firms / consortium to assess the market potential for operating the Government Aquarium at Cubbon Park, Bangalore through Public Private Partnership with Department of Fisheries, Government of Karnataka.

**Location Advantage:**

The Government Aquarium is located at Cubbon Park. The park is accessible from M.G. Road, Kasturba road, Hudson Circle and Ambedkar Veedhi (Road). The other attractions in and around Government Aquarium are Bal Bhavan, Museum, Venkatappa art gallery, High court, Vidhana Soudha, Planetarium, etc. This area is an important tourist spot with respect to the tourists visiting Bangalore. And the place is also a main destination for school educational trips. Around 6,000 people visit Cubbon Park every day.

# PHOTOS OF AQUARIUM

