

NEWS FROM INDIAN ZOOS

Jawharlal Nehru Biological Park

Births and Hatchings:

Budgarigar	0:0:4
Himalayan Bear	1:0:0
White Cockateil	0:0:2

Acquisitions, confiscations, rescues, etc.

Leopard 1:1	(From Ramnagarh WL Sanctuary, Burdwan)
Hill Mayna 2:2	
Love Birds 3:3	
WhiteCockateil 2:2	

Surplus animals—available for exchange

Indian Python 1:1
Sambhar 1:1
Blue Bull 1:1
Spotted deer 4:4
Bonnet monkey 1:1
Rhesus monkey 1:1

Single animals—require mates

Golden Langoor (M) 1:0
Stump-tail Monkey (F) 0:1
Capped Langoor (F) 0:2

New exhibits, enclosures, centres, etc.

- One enclosure has been renovated and modified for the housing of Hippopotamus which will be procured from National Zoological Park, New Delhi, very soon.
- Old building of Interpretation Centre has been removed and give a facelift.
- One of the kiosk started functioning.

New Education activities initiated:

- Additional educational signages has been provided inside the Park.
 - Animal welfare Fortnight and World Environment Day celebrated.
 - Sit & Draw, Quiz and Essay competition organised among the school children.
 - Awareness competition among the Park Attendants organised.
- Annual Report published.

Submitted by Dr. M.A. Salam, Jawharlal Nehru Biological Park Sector-IV, Bokaro Steel City 827 004, Bihar.

Gandhi Zoological Park, Gwalior

Recent Births and Hatchings :

Chital 1:1
Sambar 1:0
Blue bull 1:1
Chinkara 1:0
Hog deer 1:0

Acquisitions-from other zoos, confiscations, rescues, etc.

Black buck 2:3	from Kanpur Zoo
Tiger 0:1	from Kanpur Zoo
Bonnet monkey 2:2	from Kanpur Zoo
Silver Pheasant 2:2	from Kanpur Zoo

Surplus animals-available for exchange

Leopard 2:2
Hyaena 2:2
Blue bull 3:3
African lion 1:1
Gharial 1:1
Mugger 1:1

Single animals-require mates

Himalayan Black bear	require one Male
Tiger	require one Male
Hanuman langur	require one Female

Transfers, new officers, etc.

Dr. Pradeep Shrivastava, Ph.D., Wildlife Studies, appointed Zoo Officer

New exhibits, enclosures, centres etc.

The zoo has completed the construction of a modern veterinary hospital which is technically up to date with well equiped operation theatre

New Educational activities initiated,

All animal enclosure have been provided with scientific information on animal behaviour and their role in nature-breeding, feeding, distribution, reproduction and their status in wildlife.

Submitted by Dr. Pradeep Shrivastava, Zoo Officer
Gandhi Zoological Park, Municipal Corporation, Gwalior

Announcement

The Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary, which has a zoo, is in need of a vasectomised male lion to keep with their three females. The females are showing an odd behaviour pattern, mounting one another and fighting during estrus. Zoo authorities believe the addition of a male may help regularise the behaviour of the lions, however, they do not want to increase their population with cubs.

If any zoo has a vasectomised male that is surplus or a vet willing to perform a vasectomy on their fertile male, will they please get in touch with Goa Zoo at the address below.

Mr. Amar Heblekar, Range Forest Officer, Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary, Post Usgaon, Goa 403 407 India

Madras Crocodile Bank Trust

Births and Hatchings :

<i>C. porosus</i>	0.0.10
<i>G. gangeticus</i>	C.0.09
<i>V. salvator</i>	C.0.02
<i>C. siamensis</i>	C.0.15

Acquisitions

Nil

Surplus animals—available for exchange

<i>Ophiophagus hannah</i>	10 (Captive bred)
<i>C. palustris</i>	2000 all sizes
<i>C. porosus</i>	40 adult/subadult
<i>Caiman crocodilus</i>	100 adult
<i>G. gangeticus</i>	6 adult
<i>V. salvator</i>	40 adult/subadult

Single animals—require mates

<i>Kachuga kachuga</i>	Male needed
<i>Batagur baska</i>	male needed

Transfers, new zoo officers

Nikhil Whitaker, Asst Curator, MCB/CFH

New exhibits, enclosures, centres etc.

King cobra exhibit

New Educational activities initiated

New books available: Crocodile fever by Rom & Zai Whitaker Rs.575/-

Lizards by Indraneil Das and Rom Whitaker Rs.10/-

Submitted by Madras Croc Bank, Centre for Herpetology, Post Bag No.4, Mamallapuram 603 104 Tamil Nadu.

Alipore Zoological Garden

Births & Hatchings:

June:	Spotted Deer - 0.0.2
July:	Spotted Deer - 0.0.2
	Bhutan Grey Peacock Pheasant - 0.0.3
Aug:	Barking Deer - 0.0.1
	Common Peafowl - 0.0.1
	Bonnet Monkey - 0.0.2
	Sarus Crane - 0.0.1
	Rhesus Monkey - 0.0.1
	Brahminy Duck - 0.0.3
Sept:	Black Buck - 0.0.1
	Spoonbill - 0.0.1
Oct:	Indian Lion - 0.0.2
	Chinkara - 0.0.1

Acquisitions:

June:	Japanese Quail (Purchased) - 0.0.30
Sept:	Chimpanzee (1.0) Received on exchange basis from Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Chennai.
	Lady Amherst's Pheasant - 2.2.
	Chimpanzee 1.1 - From Twycross Zoo
	Grant's Zebra 1.1 - From Twycross Zoo, England. (1.0)

Surplus animals: Available for exchange.

Brow-antlered Deer - 2,2
Green Imperial Pigeon - 2,2

Barking Deer - 2,2
Bhutan Grey Peacock Pheasant - 5,5
White Fallow Deer - 0.4
Spoonbill - 2,2
Chinkara - 1,1
Australian Diamond Dove - 4,4
Nilgai - 2,2
Cockatiel - 5,5
Leopard - 2,0
Rosy Pelican - 1,1
Normal coloured Bengal Tiger with white gene - 2.0
Painted Stork - 2,2
Chinese Silver Pheasant - 1,1

Single animals: Require mates.

Slow Loris - 0.1
Hamadryas Baboon - 1.0
Pigtailed Monkey - 1,0

New exhibits, enclosures, etc.

Construction of an open-air moated enclosure having one acre of land for Indian Elephant is in progress and it is expected that the same will be completed by December, 1998.

Submitted by A. K. Das, Director, Alipore Zoological Gardens, Calcutta 700 027, W.B. INDIA, Tel/Fax:91-033-479 1150



DON'T FORGET

OUR
GRRRRRRREEAAAATTTTTT
T-SHIRTS

Animal Exchange

Surplus and wanted list from Zoo Negara Malaysia

Write to Director, **Idris ABD Malik, AMN**
Director, Zoo Negara Malaysia
68000 Ampang, Selangor Malaysia
Tel:603-4083422 ; Fax:603-4075375

Required for breeding -- by Zoo Negara

Mammals

<i>Presbytis obscura</i> , Dusky leaf monkey	2.3.0
<i>Presbytis melalophus</i> , Banded leaf monkey	2.3.0
<i>Saimiri sciurea</i> , Squirrel monkey	2.4.0
<i>Presbytis entellus</i> , Common langur	2.2.0
<i>Macaca artoidea</i> , Stump tailed macaque	2.3.0
<i>Macaca fascicularis</i> , Long tailed macaque	2.4.0
<i>Papio sphinx</i> , Mandrill baboon	0.2.0
<i>Arctogalidia trivirgata</i> , Small-toothed palm civet	1.1.0
<i>Viverra zibetha</i> , Malay civet	1.1.0
<i>Felis temminckii</i> , Golden cat	0.2.0
<i>Felis viverrinus</i> , Fishing cat	0.1.0
<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i> , Cheetah	2.3.0
<i>Panthera onca</i> , Jaguar	1.2.0
<i>Panthera pardus</i> , Black panther	0.1.0
<i>Canis mesomelas</i> , Black backed jackal	0.1.0
<i>Macropus giganteus</i> , Grey Kangaroo	2.3.0
<i>Tragulus napu</i> , Greater mousedeer	6.14.0
<i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i> , Capybara	3.5.0
<i>Oryx dammah</i> , Scimitar horned oryx	1.0.0
<i>Damaliscus dorcas phillipsi</i> , Blesbok	0.2.

Birds

<i>Berenicornis comatus</i> , White crested hornbill	0.1.0
<i>Anthraceroceros malayanus</i> , Black hornbill	1.1.0
<i>Anthraceroceros convexus</i> , Pied hornbill	1.1.0
<i>Rollulus roulroul</i> , Crested wood partridge	3.3.0
<i>Endocimus ruber</i> , Scarlet ibis	5.5.0

Surplus to breeding programme -- for exchange

Birds

<i>Crex rubra</i> , Greater curassow	1.1.0
<i>Argusianus argus</i> , Argus pheasant	0.3.0
<i>Ignita rufa</i> , Crested fireback pheasant	0.2.0
<i>Polyplectron inopinatum</i> , Mountain Peacock Pheasant	0.2.0
<i>Buceros bicornis</i> , Greater hornbill	1.0.0
<i>Pelecanus rafescens</i> , Pink-backed pelican	0.0.1

Mammals

<i>Presbytis obscura</i> , Dusky leaf monkey	1.0.0
<i>Hylobates lar</i> , White-handed gibbon	4.2.0
<i>Macaca mullatta</i> , Rhesus macaque	1.1.0
<i>Macaca radiata</i> , Bonnet macaque	3.3.3
<i>Macaca fascicularis</i> , Long tailed macaque	2.0.0
<i>Papio cynocephalus anubis</i> , Savana baboon	1.0.0
<i>Helarctos malayanus</i> , Malayan sun bear	1.1.0
<i>Arctictis binturong</i> , Binturong	2.0.0
<i>Paguma larvata</i> , Masked civet	3.0.0
<i>Felis bengalensis</i> , Leopard cat	2.0.0
<i>Panthera pardus</i> , Black panther	1.0.0
<i>Equus burchelli</i> , Common zebra	0.2.0
<i>Sus barbatus</i> , Bearded pig	1.2.0
<i>Bos taurus</i> , Ankole cattle	3.3.0
<i>Bos taurus</i> + <i>B. Indicus</i> , Seladang + Selembu	1.2.0
<i>Capricornis sumatraensis</i> , Serow	0.1.0

MORE NEWS

Tamil Nadu Foresters and former zoo personnel get prestigious state award

Dr. S. Paulraj, IFS, Dist. Forest Officer, Dharmapuri and S. Kalyanasundaram, District Forest Officer, Thirupattur have been awarded Chief Ministers Gold medal for their outstanding service for the year 1998. This is the highest state level award given to government servants. This award was instituted for the first time from this year onward, and these former zoo officers were the first recipients. The award function was held at Coimbatore on 9.10.98 on the occasion of Wildlife Week. Paulraj was awarded for Wildlife Conservation and S. Kalyanasundaram was awarded for Forest Protection.

The Citation for Paulraj reads :

"Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Chief Ministers Award 1998, Wildlife Week Celebration Honourable Chief Minister's Gold Medal is awarded to Dr. S. Paulraj, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer for his exemplary and outstanding service."

This officer has done a meritorious service while he was working in Arignar Anna Zoological Park and Grizzled Giant Squirrel Sanctuary. He has written 27 articles on wildlife conservation. Of these 12 articles appeared in international journals.

8 October 1998, Coimbatore

Signed V. R. Chitrapu, IFS, PCCF,
Forest Department of Tamil Nadu"

Congratulations to Dr. S. Paulraj and S. Kalyanasundaram

Genetic kit to nab rhino poachers

A sensitive detection kit has been developed in India by Scientists at the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi. The kit contains a genetic probe that can detect rhino horn even if it is crushed into powder or mixed with anything else to evade recognition by wild life inspectors. The probe is so powerful it can not only find out whether the specimen contained rhino horn but also tell whether it came from rhinoceros in Assam or West Bengal according to Sher Ali, head of the institute's molecular genetics laboratory. Ali and his colleagues who analysed the genetic material of India's one-horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) say they discovered a repetitive DNA sequence, a genetic fingerprint which is unique to this species. It was not present in any other animal not even in the double-horned black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*) of Africa. In other words one can use the NII probe to find out if a particular horn came from India or Africa.

This will be a valuable weapon in the hands of conservationists wanting to track down the source of rhino horn in the illegal market. NII scientists identified the unique genetic fingerprint by analysing the DNA extracted from six wild rhinos from Jalapara park in West Bengal and one rhino of Assam origin from the Delhi zoo. The DNA fragment was subsequently cloned and sequenced for developing the probe. The Delhi scientists tried to find out if the DNA fragment was present in any other animal in cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, rat, mouse, fish, rabbit, pig, camel, kangaroo, and the African species of rhinoceros but the test was negative. While the DNA fingerprint is unique to Indian species, the genetic test is sensitive enough to distinguish rhinos of West Bengal from those of Assam.

India News Network, New Delhi, October 1998