



# NEWSLETTER

**PADMAJA NAIDU HIMALAYAN ZOOLOGICAL PARK**  
**DARJEELING, WEST BENGAL**

**THIRD QUARTER | JULY- SEPTEMBER | 2021**



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## This Quarter issue:

- **Natality**
- **Mortality**
- **Acquisition and Transfer of Animals**
- **Van Mahotsab Celebration**
- **Farewell to Shri. Dharmdeo Rai**
- **Foundation Day Celebration**
- **Independence Day Celebration**
- **International Red Panda Day**
- **Zoo Reopening**
- **Visit of Dignitaries to PNHZ park and their valuable comments**
- **Enrichment in this quarter**



## **From the Directors Desk...**

**Greetings to you from the PNHZP family. It gives me great pleasure to present the third quarterly newsletter of this year. This quarter includes birth of animals, transfer, and acquisition of animals from different zoos and the zoo reopened after 5 long months of lockdown in response to Covid-19. During this ongoing lockdown, the park was able to manage to celebrate Van Mahotsab, Independence Day, Foundation Day, International Red Panda Day. This quarter the park bid farewell to our former Director Shri Dharmdeo Rai, IFS. Development work remain undone in this quarter.**

**I hope to share more with you in the next quarter.**

**Director  
PNHZ Park  
Darjeeling**

## NATALITY

SL.No	Name of Animals	Date of Birth	No
1.	Himalayan Monal( <i>Lophophorus impejanus</i> )	27.07.2021	0:0:1
2.	Red Panda( <i>Ailurus fulgens fulgens</i> )	02.07.2021	0:0:1
3.	Red Panda( <i>Ailurus fulgens fulgens</i> )	06.07.2021	0:0:2
4.	Golden Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus pictus</i> )	01.07.2021	0:0:2
5.	Golden Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus pictus</i> )	02.07.2021	0:0:1
6.	Golden Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus pictus</i> )	04.07.2021	0:0:2
7.	Golden Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus pictus</i> )	06.07.2021	0:0:4
8.	Golden Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus pictus</i> )	09.07.2021	0:0:2
9.	Golden Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus pictus</i> )	03.08.2021	0:0:3
10.	Golden Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus pictus</i> )	07.08.2021	0:0:4
11.	Lady Amhrest Pheasant ( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	05.07.2021	0:0:3
12.	Lady Amhrest Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	07.07.2021	0:0:2
13.	Lady Amhrest Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	09.07.2021	0:0:2
14.	Lady Amhrest Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	11.07.2021	0:0:1
15.	Lady Amhrest Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	01.08.2021	0:0:4
16.	Lady Amhrest Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	03.08.2021	0:0:1
17.	Lady Amhrest Pheasant( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	07.08.2021	0:0:2

## MORTALITY

SL.No	Name of Animals	Date of Death	No
1.	Snow Leopard( <i>Panthera uncia</i> )	01.07.2021	1:0:0
2.	Snow Leopard( <i>Panthera uncia</i> )	02.07.2021	0:1:0
3.	Snow Leopard( <i>Panthera uncia</i> )	03.07.2021	1:0:0
4.	Red Jungle Fowl ( <i>Gallus gallus</i> )	03.07.2021	0:0:1
5.	Red Jungle Fowl ( <i>Gallus gallus</i> )	09.07.2021	0:0:1
6.	Indian Sand Boa ( <i>Eryx johnii</i> )	14.07.2021	0:0:1
7.	Red Jungle Fowl ( <i>Gallus gallus</i> )	21.07.2021	0:0:1
8.	Red Jungle Fowl ( <i>Gallus gallus</i> )	27.07.2021	0:0:1
9.	African Grey Parrot( <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> )	28.07.2021	0:0:1
10.	Red Jungle Fowl ( <i>Gallus gallus</i> )	29.07.2021	0:1:0
11.	Temminck's Tragopan( <i>Tragopan temminckii</i> )	31.07.2021	0:0:1
12.	Blue Sheep( <i>Pseudois nayaur</i> )	02.08.2021	0:1:0
13.	Lady Amherst( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	16.08.2021	0:1:0
14.	Lady Amherst( <i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i> )	20.08.2021	1:0:0
15.	Indian Rat Snake( <i>Ptyas mucosa</i> )	21.08.2021	1:0:0
16.	Red Jungle Fowl ( <i>Gallus gallus</i> )	26.08.2021	0:1:0
17.	Silver Pheasant ( <i>Lophuranythemera</i> )	26.08.2021	1:0:0

## Van Mahotsav Celebration

‘Van Mahotsav’ is an annual tree planting festival celebrated in the month of July. During this festival crores of trees are planted all over India. The beautiful tradition of Van Mahotsav was started in 1950 by Shri. K. M. Munshi, the union minister for Agriculture and Food with an objective to create mass awareness regarding planting of trees and conservation of forests. ‘Van Mahotsav’ is celebrated by planting trees or saplings in homes, offices, schools, colleges, etc.

This year in West Bengal the Van Mahotsav week celebrated from 14 July to 20 July. This year the Park celebrated the week by organizing an online event.

### **Program for Van Mahotsav:**

- An online “Van Mahotsav Extempore Competition” was conducted where participants have to upload a 2-minute video of themselves giving a speech on the theme “Natural Disaster can be prevented by conserving nature.” The Park witnessed active participation and the 3 winners of the competition received certificate and Book as a prize.

Following are the winner of the Extempore Competition:

	Name	Institute
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Mr. Chiranjit Saha	The University of Kalyani
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Miss. Anusha Dhali	Budge Budge Institute of Technology
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Mr. Suvankar Das	Shatabdir Kolkata

- The Park concluded the last day of Van Mahotsav by planting various indigenous saplings around the zoo forest.





## Farewell to Shri Dharmdeo Rai

On 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2021, the park bid farewell to Shri Dharmdeo Rai, IFS and former Director PNHZ Park. Shri. Dharmdeo Rai served the park as the Director from 22.07.2020 to 31.07.2021. His contribution to the park is commendable. Shri. S.K. Molley, IFS took over the charge of Director, PNHZ Park from Shri. Dharmdeo Rai, IFS.

On 25<sup>th</sup> August, the park bid farewell to Shri S.K. Molley, IFS, former Director PNHZ Park and welcomes Dr. Basavaraj S. Holeyachi, IFS.



## Foundation Day

The park celebrated 63<sup>rd</sup> foundation day on 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2021. The Park staff assembled outside the Director's residence for flag hoisting and singing of zoo anthem. This year the zoo flag was hoisted by Shri. PurnaGhising, Animal Supervisor, PNHZ Park at 9am. The staff was addressed by the Estate Officer after the Zoo anthem followed by Shri. ShiromoniSyangdan, Estate officer, PNHZ Park and Shri PurnaGhising, Animal Supervisor, PNHZ Park. This program ended with the distribution of sweets to all the staff members present.



## Independence Day

Like every year the park celebrated 75<sup>th</sup> Independence Day of India on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2021. The Park staff assembled outside the Director's residence for flag hoisting and singing of national anthem. This year the national flag was hoisted by Dr. Joy Dey, ADVO, PNHZ Park at 9am. The staff was addressed by the Deputy Director after the national anthem followed by Shri. Shiromoni Syangdan, Estate officer, PNHZ Park and Shri Purna Ghising, Animal Supervisor, PNHZ Park. This program ended with the distribution of sweets to all the staff members present.

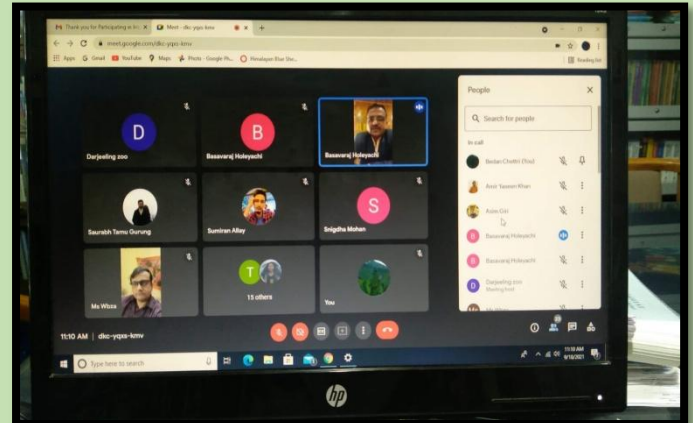
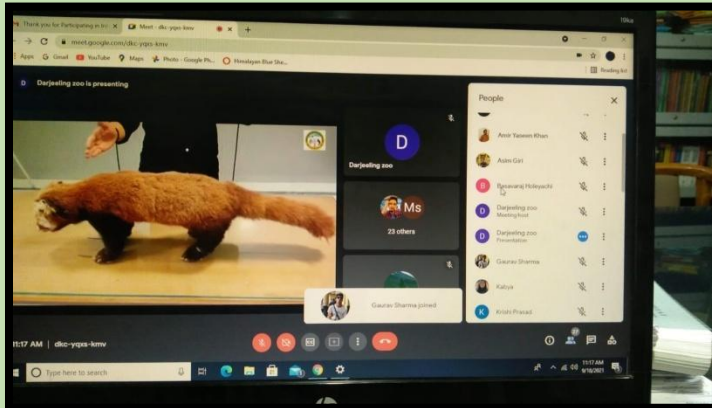


## International Red Panda Day

International Red Panda Day is celebrated on third Saturday of September every year to raise public awareness and support the conservation of Red pandas. This year the day falls on 18<sup>th</sup> September. The Park is one of the leading zoos in the conservation of Red Pandas. This year due to ongoing pandemic the park decided to celebrated IRPD online by organizing a “Webinar”. The webinar included two educational videos on Red Pandas followed by an interactive session with the participants and the Parks “Red Panda augmentation project” team members.

The details of the programme as follows:

- The webinar started at 11:00am with a introductory speech from the Director of PNHZP and Member Secretary, WBZA.
- That followed by the screening of a video on “Morphology of Red Panda.”
- A short interactive session with the participants on the video.
- Another video was screened on “Red Panda augmentation center of PNHZ Park in Singalila National Park.”
- Followed by an interactive session with the participants.
- The programme ended with and short concluding speech from the Director, PNHZP and the Member Secretary, WBZA.





## Re-opening of Zoo

PNHZ Park has reopened to visitors on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2021. After close to 5 months of shutdown owing to the Covid-19 spread and ensuing lockdown. On the first day of reopening, the zoo welcomed hundreds of visitors. The Park reopened with strict guidelines as set forth by West Bengal Zoo Authority.





## Visits of Dignitaries to PNHZ Park and their valuable comments

On 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2021 Hon'ble Minister Of State, Department Of Forests, Government of West Bengal Miss. Birbaha Hansdavis visited PNHZ Park and the Conservation breeding Centre Topkeydara.



Visit of Minister of State



## ENRICHMENT IN THIS QUARTER



Hanging platform for Langur enclosure



Repairing of feeding platform in Herbivore enclosure