

NEWSLETTER

PADMAJA NAIDU HIMALAYAN ZOOLOGICAL PARK
DARJEELING, WEST BENGAL

LAST QUARTER | OCTOBER- DECEMBER | 2024



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From the Directors Desk...

Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year on behalf of the PNHZP family! I am delighted to present the final quarterly newsletter of the year. This quarter featured several significant updates including natality, mortality, animal transfers, acquisitions and the celebration of Children's Day. To commemorate Children's Day, the park waived the entry fee for students from various schools and colleges. During this period, we proudly welcomed two male Red Pandas from Rotterdam Zoo and a pair of Leucistic Royal Bengal Tigers from Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad. A total number of 997 students/trainees/ other officials from 21 different schools/institutes visited the park in this period. On November 13th , 2024, the zoo was delighted as the Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, Smt. Mamata Banerjee, stopped by the zoo & named Red Panda and Snow Leopard new born cubs and engaged with the Zoo Director. This quarter the zoo was honoured to receive Smt. Birbaha Hansda, the Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Forest and SHG & SE, Govt. of West Bengal from 20th – 23rd December. The developmental work included the renovation of herbivore enclosure.

I hope to share more with you in the next year.

Director
PNHZ Park
Darjeeling

NATALITY

SL.No	Name of Animals	Date of Birth	No
1.	Himalayan Goral (<i>Naemorhedus goral</i>)	14.10.2024	0:0:1
2.	Himalayan Goral (<i>Naemorhedus goral</i>)	28.10.2024	1:0:0
3.	Bengal Hanuman Langur (<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>)	12.11.2024	0:0:1

MORTALITY

SL.No	Name of Animals	Date of Death	No
1.	Himalayan Palm Civet	13.10.2024	0:1:0
2.	Green Pheasant	14.10.2024	1:0:0
3.	Blue Sheep (<i>Pseudois nayaur</i>)	24.10.2024	1:0:0
4.	Himalayan Goral (<i>Naemorhedus goral</i>)	14.10.2024	1:0:0
5.	Blue Sheep (<i>Pseudois nayaur</i>)	04.11.2024	0:1:0
6.	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	07.11.2024	0:1:0
7.	Golden Pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	20.11.2024	1:0:0
8.	Temminck's Tragopan (<i>Tragopan temminckii</i>)	27.11.2024	0:1:0
9.	Slow Loris	29.11.2024	1:0:0
10.	Golden Pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	03.12.2024	1:0:0
11.	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	08.12.2024	1:0:0
12.	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	10.12.2024	0:1:0
13.	Bengal Hanuman Langur (<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>)	12.12.2024	1:0:0
14.	Cheer Pheasant (<i>Catreus wallichii</i>)	29.12.2024	1:0:0

Acquisition of animals

Date	Animals	Ratio	Acquired From
26.11.2024	Leucistic Royal Bengal Tiger (<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>)	1:1:0	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
26.11.2024	Golden Jackal (<i>Canis aureus</i>)	2:2:0	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
26.11.2024	Golden Pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	1:1:0	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
25.12.2024	Red Panda (<i>Ailurus fulgens fulgens</i>)	2:0:0	Rotterdam Zoo, Netherlands
25.12.2024	Lady Amherst (<i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i>)	0:1:0	Garchumuk Deer Park, Howrah

Transfer of animals

Date	Animals	Ratio	Transfer to
26.11.2024	Silver Pheasant (<i>Lophura nycthemera</i>)	2:3:0	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
26.11.2024	Golden Pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	1:2:0	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
26.11.2024	Lady Amherst (<i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i>)	2:1:0	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
26.11.2024	Cheer Pheasant (<i>Catreus wallichii</i>)	2:1:0	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
26.11.2024	Royal Bengal Tiger (<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>)	1:1:0	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad
11.12.2024	Himalayan Goral (<i>Nemorhaedus goral</i>)	4:1:0	Singalila Nationa Park, Gairibans
13.12.2024	Himalayan Goral (<i>Nemorhaedus goral</i>)	3:2:0	Singalila Nationa Park, Gairibans
24.12.2024	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	10:10:0	Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary

Adoption of animals in this quarter

This quarter the park has three adopters. The details of the adopters are listed below:

Sl. No	Name of the Adopter	Name of the animal Adopted	Period of Adoption
1.	Miss Sudipta Bhaumik & Mr. Kaushik Bhaumik	Himalayan Black Bear (Guddu)	02.12.2024 to 01.12.2027
2.	Mr. Aninda Mookherjee	Snow Leopard (Rahala)	05.12.2024 to 04.12.2025

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SNOW LEOPARD (RAHALA)

Has been adopted by
Anindya Mookerjee

The certificate features a circular image of a snow leopard in the top left and a circular image of Mr. Aninda Mookherjee receiving a certificate in the bottom right. The background is green with a world map and floral decorations at the bottom.

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Lebong Cart Rd, Jawahar Parbat, Darjeeling, West Bengal 734101

HIMALAYAN BLACK BEAR (GUDDU)

Has been adopted by
Sudipta Bhaumik & Kaushik Bhaumik

The certificate features a circular image of a Himalayan black bear in the top left and a circular image of Miss Sudipta Bhaumik and Mr. Kaushik Bhaumik in the bottom right. The background is green with a world map and floral decorations at the bottom.

Educational visit

Sl. No	Date	Name of the School/ Training Institute/ College	Number of Students	Number of faculty	Educational Incentives
1.	02.10.2024	Govt. High School, Purulia	100	17	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
2.	02.10.2024	Gobindapur Abad Bipin Bihari Sikshaniketan (H.S), Kolkata	56	6	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
3.	23.10.2024	St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling	30	3	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
4.	25.10.2024	Gangotri School	34	2	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
5.	26.10.2024	Hans Raj Academy	40	5	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
6.	13.11.2024	Taltala High School	72	10	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
7.	14.11.2024	Mothers Nursery School, Darjeeling	35	7	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
8.	15.11.2024	Auxillium Convent School	60	5	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
9.	15.11.2024	The Assembly of God Church School	80	10	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
10.	15.11.2024	Prelude English School, Rangbull	60	4	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
11.	15.11.2024	Blue Bird School, Sonada	40	8	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
12.	20.11.2024	Sree Chaitanya College, Habra	29	3	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
13.	20.11.2024	WWF-India	20	4	Zoo Pamphlets, educational tour, lecture on conservation & educational materials

14.	29.11.2024	Krishnath College, Beharampur	31	3	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
15.	01.12.2024	Manjushri Public School	44	6	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
16.	13.12.2024	Balti High School, North 24 Pargana	80	11	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
17.	16.12.2024	Sambhota Tibetan School	50	5	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
18.	20.12.2024	Belgharia Jatisdas Vidyamandir, Kolkata	42	10	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
19.	22.12.2024	Nebadhai High School	47	9	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
20.	26.12.2024	CASFOS East India Tour	35	2	Zoo Pamphlets, educational tour, lecture on conservation & educational materials
21.	30.12.2024	PGDFM students of IIFM, West Bengal	12	1	Zoo Pamphlets, educational tour, lecture on conservation & educational materials





Visit of Dignitaries





Fig: Visit of Hon'ble Minister in charge of Forest, Miss. Birbaha Hansda at PNHZP on 22.12.24

Children's Day Celebration

Children's day in India is celebrated every year on 14th November to increase the awareness of people towards the rights, care and education of children. Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park celebrates Children's day every year with various educational programs. This year the Park invited many schools and students to share knowledge about high altitude animals and birds, threats faced by them, conservation measures and the role of PNHZ Park in wildlife conservation and education. This year on the occasion of Children's Day the park exempted entry fee for all the students visiting from different schools & colleges.



Release of Himalayan Goral in Singalila National Park

A total 10 (7:3) himalayan goral was released in two phases in Singalila National Park on 11.12. 2024 & 13.12 2024 in presence of Dr. Basavaraj S. Holeyachi, IFS, Director, PNHZ Park; Shri Gyachola Yolmo, WBFS, Deputy Director, PNHZ Park, Dr. Joy Dey, ADVO, PNHZ Park, Shri. Shiromani Syangdan, Estate Officer, PNHZ Park, Miss. Pranita Gupta, Zoo Biologist, PNHZP and other officials of PNHZ Park.



Release of Red Junglefowl in Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary

A total 20 (10:10) Red Jungle Fowl was released in Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary on 24.12.2024 in presence of Smt. Birbaha Hansda, Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Forest and SHG & SE, Govt. of West Bengal; Shri Bhaskar J.V., IFS, Chief Conservator of Forest Wildlife (North); Dr. Basavaraj S. Holeyachi, IFS, Director, PNHZ Park; Shri Viswanath Pratap N, IFS, DFO Darjeeling Wildlife Division; Shri Gyachola Yolmo, WBFS, Deputy Director, PNHZ Park, Dr. Joy Dey, ADVO, PNHZ Park, Shri. Shiromani Syangdan, Estate Officer, PNHZ Park, Miss. Pranita Gupta, Zoo Biologist, PNHZP and other officials of PNHZ Park.



Inauguration of Biobanking facility, Pathology Lab, Skeleton Museum & artificial waterfall

On December 23rd, 2024, the Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Forest and SHG & SE, Government of West Bengal, Smt. Birbaha Hansda visited the Darjeeling Zoo. During her visit, she inaugurated the newly constructed biobanking facility, pathology lab, artificial waterfall, and skeleton museum marking a significant step in the zoo's efforts toward wildlife conservation.

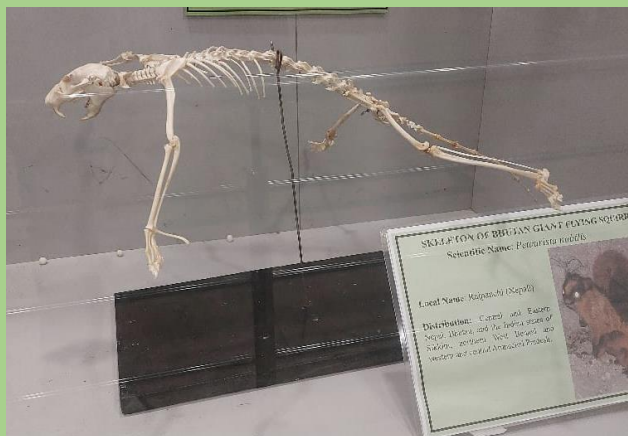


Taxidermy work done in this quarter

List of Specimens:

Sl. No.	Name Of Specimen	Date of Collection	Accession No.	Remarks
1	Grey Langur	12/12/2024	SK/BNHM/M/13	After removing all the flesh from the body, it is put for the mensuration process.

- The skeleton of Black Bear with accession no. SK/BNHM/M/07 was articulated and put on display in skull & skeleton section of BNHM on 26/12/2024.
- The skeleton of Flying Squirrel with accession no. SK/BNHM/M/08 was completed and put on display in skull & skeleton section of BNHM on 26/12/2024.



Enrichment in this quarter



Fig: Installation of new feeding platform at Himalayan Tahr enclosure at PNHZP display



Fig: Installation of new feeding platform & aerial walkway at Red Panda enclosure at PNHZP display



Fig: Installation of resting platform and honey log at Asiatic Black Bear enclosure



Fig: Installation of feeding platform & shed at Himalayan Goral enclosure



Fig: Repair of cubbing boxes at Old Conservation Breeding Centre Red Panda enclosure

Development in this quarter



Fig: Renovation of Herbivore enclosure

Special Achievement in this quarter

On 13th November 2024, the Honourable Chief Minister of West Bengal Ms. Mamata Banerjee during her visit to Darjeeling stopped by the Zoo & interacted with the Zoo Director Dr. Basavaraj S. Holeyachi & named newborn Red Panda cubs (Pahadia, Hilly, Dream, Victory) & Snow Leopard cubs (Charming & Darling). She also interacted with the shopkeepers of the newly rented out shops of the Zoo. It was an honor to receive the Honourable Chief Minister at the Zoo.

