

# NEWSLETTER

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

**SECOND QUARTER | APRIL-JUNE | 2025**



## **In this issue:**

- Natality
- Mortality
- Educational Visits
- Training programs held at PNHZP
- Staff Training
- Celebration of Earth Day
- Celebration of World Environment Day
- Work done in Taxidermy in this quarter
- Enrichment in this quarter
- Development work in this quarter

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## *From the Directors Desk...*

Greetings from PNHZ Park family, it brings me great pleasure to introduce the second quarterly update from Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park for the year 2025. This quarter was eventful & highlighted by the celebration of Earth Day and World Environment Day with active participation from students of various local schools in Darjeeling. An 'One-day workshop on Sample Collection and Preservation for Biobanking' for the Veterinarians & staffs held in this quarter. A total number of 460 students/trainees/other officials from 8 different schools/institutes visited the park in this period. This quarter also saw infrastructure improvements such as the installation of weather protection tiles near the main gate, vertical expansion of staff quarters for a multipurpose hall & upgraded seating facilities for visitors.

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.	Snow Leopard ( <i>Uncia uncia</i> )	13.04.2025	0:0:2
2.	Himalayan Goral ( <i>Nemorhaedus goral</i> )	16.04.2025	0:1:0
3.	Barking Deer ( <i>Muntiacus muntjac</i> )	24.04.2025	0:1:0
4.	Yak ( <i>Bos grunniens</i> )	26.04.2025	1:0:0
5.	Himalayan Tahr ( <i>Hemitragus jemlahicus</i> )	10.05.2025	0:0:1
6.	Markhor ( <i>Capra falconeri</i> )	10.05.2025	0:0:1
7.	Markhor ( <i>Capra falconeri</i> )	14.05.2025	0:0:1
8.	Blue Sheep ( <i>Pseudois nayaur</i> )	19.05.2025	1:0:0
9.	Kalij Pheasant ( <i>Lophura leucomelanos</i> )	12.06.2025	0:0:2
10.	Red Panda ( <i>Ailurus fulgens fulgens</i> )	27.06.2025	0:0:2

## MORTALITY

SL.No	Name of Animals	Date of Death	No
1.	Cheer Pheasant ( <i>Catreus wallichii</i> )	03.04.2025	1:0:0
2.	Himalayan Palm Civet ( <i>Paguma larvata</i> )	11.04.2025	0:1:0
3.	Himalayan Monal ( <i>Lophophorus impejanus</i> )	27.04.2025	0:1:0
4.	Reeves Pheasant ( <i>Syrmaticus reevesii</i> )	03.05.2025	0:1:0
5.	Himalayan Goral ( <i>Nemorhaedus goral</i> )	12.05.2025	1:0:0
6.	Masked Palm Civet ( <i>Paguma larvata</i> )	12.05.2025	0:1:0
7.	Asian palm civet ( <i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i> )	13.05.2025	1:0:0
8.	Masked Palm Civet ( <i>Paguma larvata</i> )	15.05.2025	1:0:0
9.	Masked Palm Civet ( <i>Paguma larvata</i> )	16.05.2025	0:1:0
10.	Mishmi Takin ( <i>Budorcas taxicolor taxicolor</i> )	19.05.2025	1:0:0
11.	Red Jungle Fowl ( <i>Gallus gallus</i> )	20.05.2025	0:1:0
12.	Blue Sheep ( <i>Pseudois nayaur</i> )	22.05.2025	1:0:0
13.	Barking Deer ( <i>Muntiacus muntjac</i> )	24.05.2025	0:1:0
14.	Barking Deer ( <i>Muntiacus muntjac</i> )	29.05.2025	0:1:0
15.	Blue Sheep ( <i>Pseudois nayaur</i> )	16.06.2025	1:0:0

## Acquisition of animals

Date	Animals	Ratio	Acquired from
16.05.2025	Barking Deer ( <i>Muntiacus muntjac</i> )	0:2:0	Zoological Garden Alipore, Kolkata
	Alpaca ( <i>Vicugna pacos</i> )	0:1:0	



## Educational visits

Sl. No	Date	Name of the School/ Training Institute/ College	Number of Students/ Trainees	Number of faculty	Educational Incentives
1.	01.04.2025	Madhya Pradesh Range Officer Trainees	38	2	Zoo Pamphlets & educational materials
2.	02.04.2025	Karnataka Forest Academy, Dhanwad	35	1	Zoo Pamphlets & educational materials
3.	11.04.2025	Paradise English School	50	18	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
4.	16.04.2025	Blessings Academy	96	17	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
5.	03.05.2025	St. Paul's School	78	12	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
6.	12.05.2025	Chandrapur Forest Academy, Chandrapur	28	1	Zoo Pamphlets & educational materials
7.	26.05.2025	Agriculture & Research Station, Raigarh	27	3	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee
8.	11.06.2025	Banbole High School, Uttar Dinajpur	50	4	Concession on zoo entry ticket fee



**Educational visit of Madhya Pradesh Range  
Officer Trainees on 01.04.2025**



**Educational visit of Chandrapur Forest  
Academy Trainees on 12.05.2025**

## Training programs held at PNHZP in this quarter

Sl. No.	Resource Person	Subject matter of Training	Period of Training	Number of participants
1.	Dr. Karthikeyan Vasudevan, Chief Scientist, LaCONES Lab, CCMB	One Day Workshop on Sample Collection & preservation for Biobanking	3 <sup>rd</sup> April, 2025	70





## Staff training in this quarter

Sl. No.	Name and designation of the zoo personnel	Subject matter of Training	Period of Training	Name of the Institution where the Training attended
1.	Miss. Pranita Gupta Zoo Biologist	Hands - on training on techniques of banking, cryopreservation and DNA extraction	19 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 to 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025	CSIR- Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad
2.	Mr. Saurav Pradhan Research Assistant (Biobanking)	Hands - on training on techniques of banking, cryopreservation and DNA extraction	19 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 to 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025	CSIR- Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad
3.	Mr. Vikash Chhetri, Laboratory Assistant	Modern Approach towards Feeding & Healthcare Management of Zoo Animals	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 to 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	North Bengal Wild Animals Park
4.	Miss. Ruma Mandal, Education Assistant	Modern Approach towards Feeding & Healthcare Management of Zoo Animals	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 to 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	North Bengal Wild Animals Park



**Mr. Vikash Chhetri at training for “Modern Approach towards Feeding & Healthcare Management of Zoo Animals”**

## Earth Day

Earth Day is celebrated to raise awareness on the importance of protecting the Earth's natural resources for future generations. This year the theme of Earth Day is **“Our Power, Our Planet”** which emphasizes on the collective responsibility of individuals, organizations, and govt. to transition to renewable energy sources and builds sustainable future. The goal is to triple the global generation of clean electricity by 2030.

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park celebrated Earth Day 2025 by organizing an educational program on **“How to use renewable energies in daily life”** for young students. Students from 4 different local schools in Darjeeling participated in the program.

S. No	Name of the School	No of Participants	STD
1.	Assembly of God’s Church School	4	VIII & IX
2.	Rama Krishna Siksha Parisad	4	VIII & IX
4.	St. Robert’s High School	4	VIII & IX
5.	Nepali Girls High School	4	VIII & IX

The scheduled program for Earth Day 2025:

11 :00 am: Registration of students and faculty

11 :15 am: Address by the Director & commencement of the program

11 :30 am: Presentation on How to use renewable energies in daily life

12:00 am: Tour of the zoo including a session on sustainable practices done by the Zoo

01 :00 am: Ending discussion session & distribution of certificate

01 :15 pm: Refreshments and dispersal

This year the park's goal was to educate about the importance of renewable energy sources for a cleaner and healthier planet & develop interest towards environment sustainability & protection. The program saw the enthusiastic participation of students and teachers.







## World Environment Day Celebration

World Environment Day is celebrated every year on 5th June to demonstrate support for environmental protection via various measures. This year, the park celebrated World Environment Day by organising a “**Biodiversity Run**”, which is a fun way of teaching young students about the flora life present in their surrounding environment. Participants were instructed to collect plant samples from the Zoo Forest, create a herbarium, and note identifying features of the collected samples.

The schedule for World Environment Day 2025:

10:30am: Assemble in front of Himalayan Black Bear enclosure & registration of students.

11:00am: Address by the Director & commencement of the program

11:30 am to 02:00pm: Biodiversity Run

02:00am to 03:30pm: Lunch & Report writing

03:45pm: Distribution of certificates & Dispersal

20 Students from Darjeeling Govt. College’s Nature Club participated in the program. The students were divided into 4 groups, including 5 students each and they were provided with newspapers to collect plant samples. The event saw active participation as the students enthusiastically collected plants and identified them based on their physical features. The 4 groups were judged based on their knowledge about their surrounding plant life. The winning group identified 19 different local plant species. The names of the winners are:

Sl no	Name of the students	Institution
1.	Mr. Avatar Rai	Darjeeling Govt. College (Nature Club)
2.	Miss. Apecha Chettri	
3.	Miss. Sneha Pradhan	
4.	Miss. Pramoda Chettri	
5.	Miss. Deeya Subba Limbu	



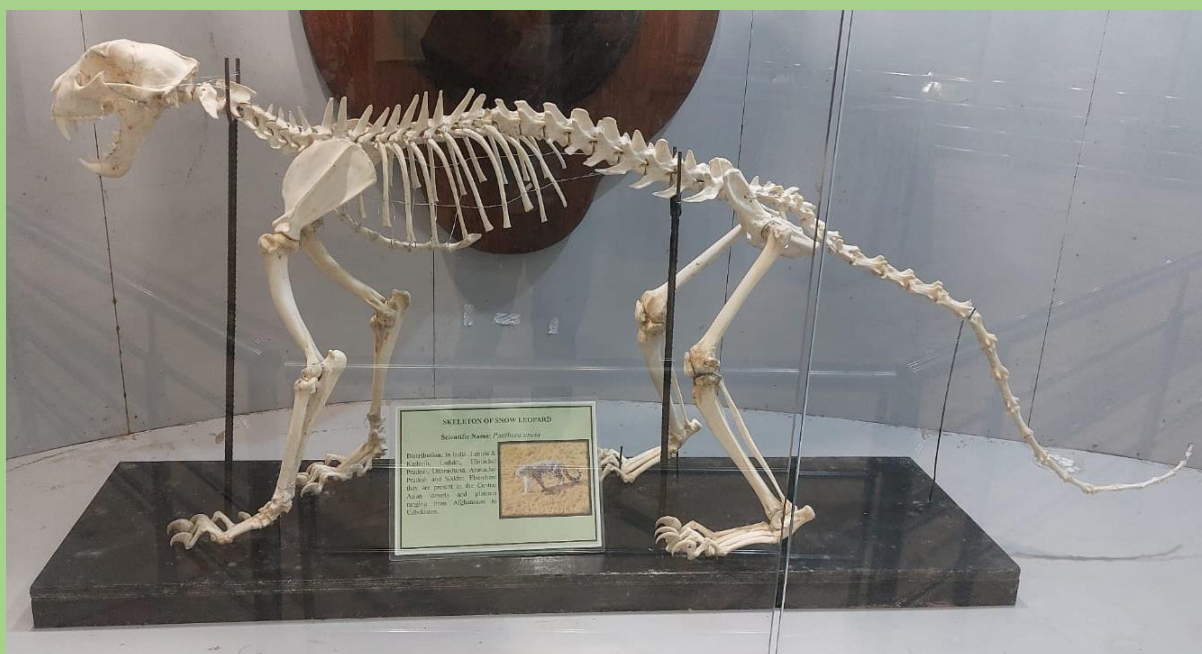


## Taxidermy work done in this quarter

### List of Specimens:

Sl. No.	Name Of Specimen	Date of Collection	Accession No.	Remarks
1.	Barking Deer	24/04/2025	SK/BNHM/M/14	Under articulation process

- The skeleton of Snow Leopard with accession no. SK/BNHM/M/12 was articulated & put on display in skull & skeleton section of BNHM on 15/5/2025.



**Skeleton of Snow Leopard**



## Enrichment in this quarter



**Pre-monsoon enrichments at herbivore enclosures**



**Re-construction of platform at Himalayan Black Bear**



**Re-construction of platform at Snow Leopard enclosure**





**Pre-monsoon enrichments at Snow Leopard enclosure**



**Installation of Sand bath at Pheasantry**



**Aerial walkways at lesser carnivore enclosure**



## Development in this quarter



**Development of seating arrangements of visitors in front of Red Panda enclosure at PNHZP**



**Providing weather protection tiles near main gate at PNHZP**



**Vertical extension of existing staff quarter for construction of multipurpose hall**