



PADMAJA NAIDU HIMALAYAN ZOOLOGICAL PARK DARJEELING, WEST BENGAL

NEWS LETTER

APRIL- JUNE 2019

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From the Directors Desk...

Greetings to you from the PNHZP family. It gives me great pleasure to present the quarterly newsletter of this year. This quarter we celebrated World Environment Day and International biodiversity involving students and teachers from local schools of Darjeeling. In addition to this the Park also hosted 421 students and 84 faculties from 12 institutes for educational tours of the park. The developmental work this quarter included maintenance and development of Directors Residence parking area, reinstallation of aquarium at the reptile house, repair & maintenance of office basement floor for Research section, interns & maintenance section, renovation of Aviaries in front of BNHM, Development of rainwater harvesting by providing filter tanks, modification of hedge planters along the office road & Director's residence etc.

I hope I have more to share with you next quarter.

**Director
PNHZ Park
Darjeeling**

BIRTH OF ANIMAL

SL.No	Name of Animals	Date of Birth	No
1.	Common Grey Langur (<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>)	05.04.2019	0:1:0
2.	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	13.04.2019	0:0:1
3.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	29.04.2019	0:0:1
4.	Kalij pheasant (<i>Lophura leucomelana</i>)	29.04.2019	0:0:3
5.	Silver Pheasant (<i>Lophura nycthemea</i>)	01.05.2019	0:0:7
6.	Himalayan Tahr (<i>Hemitragus jemlachius</i>)	08.05.2019	0:1:0
7.	Silver Pheasant (<i>Lophura nycthemea</i>)	09.05.2019	0:0:1
8.	Himalayan Tahr (<i>Hemitragus jemlachius</i>)	10.05.2019	0:1:0
9.	Temminck's Tragopan (<i>Trangopan temminicki</i>)	11.05.2019	0:0:1
10.	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	12.05.2019	0:0:5
11.	Himalayan Goral (<i>Naemorhaedus goral</i>)	15.05.2019	0:1:0
12.	Markhor (<i>Capra falconeri</i>)	15.05.2019	2:0:0
13.	Markhor (<i>Capra falconeri</i>)	16.05.2019	2:0:0
14.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	19.05.2019	0:0:5
15.	Blue Sheep (<i>Pseudois nayaur</i>)	21.05.2019	1:0:0
16.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	24.05.2019	0:0:3
17.	Temminck's Tragopan (<i>Trangopan temminicki</i>)	26.05.2019	0:0:2
18.	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	26.05.2019	0:0:3
19.	Temminck's Tragopan (<i>Trangopan temminicki</i>)	28.05.2019	0:0:3
20.	Red panda (<i>Ailurus fulgens fulgens</i>)	06.06.2019	0:0:1
21.	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	09.06.2019	0:0:6
22.	Lady Amherst (<i>Chrysolophus amherstia</i>)	10.06.2019	0:0:4
23.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	17.06.2019	0:0:2
24.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	18.06.2019	0:0:4
25.	Barking Deer (<i>Muntjac muntiacus</i>)	20.06.2019	1:0:0
26.	Barking Deer (<i>Muntjac muntiacus</i>)	23.06.2019	0:0:2

DEATH OF ANIMALS

SL.No	Name of Animals	Date of Death	No
1.	Common Grey Langur (<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>)	05.04.2019	0:1:0
2.	Kalij Pheasant (<i>Lophura leucomelana</i>)	25.04.2019	0:1:0
3.	Golden Pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	09.05.2019	0:0:1
4.	Markhor (<i>Capra falconeri</i>)	17.05.2019	2:0:0
5.	Reeves's pheasant (<i>Syrmaticus reevesii</i>)	17.05.2019	0:1:0
6.	Common Leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>)	19.05.2019	1:0:0
7.	Markhor (<i>Capra falconeri</i>)	21.05.2019	1:0:0
8.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	21.05.2019	0:0:1
9.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	22.05.2019	0:0:1
10.	Kalij pheasant (<i>Lophura leucomelana</i>)	23.05.2019	0:0:1
11.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	24.05.2019	0:0:3
12.	Cockatiel (<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>)	30.05.2019	0:0:2
13.	Golden pheasant (<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>)	02.06.2019	0:0:2
14.	Red Jungle Fowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>)	03.06.2019	0:0:1
15.	Temminck's Tragopan (<i>Trangopan temminicki</i>)	04.06.2019	1:0:0
16.	Reeves's pheasant (<i>Syrmaticus reevesii</i>)	06.06.2019	1:0:0
17.	Himalayan Tahr (<i>Hemitragus jemlachius</i>)	13.06.2019	0:1:0
18.	Temminck's Tragopan (<i>Trangopan</i>	14.06.2019	0:0:1

	<i>temminickki</i>)		
19.	Temminck's Tragopan (<i>Trangopan temminickki</i>)	17.06.2019	0:0:4
20.	Temminck's Tragopan (<i>Trangopan temminickki</i>)	26.06.2019	0:0:1
21.	Tricarnate Hill turtle (<i>Indotestudo elongate</i>)	26.06.2019	0:0:1

ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF ANIMALS

Date	Animals	Number of Animals	Acquired from
10.05.2019	Himalayan Pit Viper (<i>Gloydius himalayanus</i>)	0:0:1	Zoo Forest
18.05.2019	Himalayan Pit Viper (<i>Gloydius himalayanus</i>)	0:0:1	Zoo Forest

OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The outreach programme of the Park involves students of all levels including trainees. The programme includes a tour of the park followed by an interactive session where topics such as role and functions of the modern zoo, conservation breeding programmes, environmental issues and the work of the zoo in working towards conserving rare and endangered species are discussed. Educational material regarding information on the housed animals of the park, conservation breeding programmes of the zoo, its biodiversity etc. are distributed to the students along with notebooks and lunches.

During this quarter the education wing of the Park attended to 421 students and 84 faculties from 12 institutes.

Date	Name of school/Training institute/ Colleges/ Universities	Number of students/ trainees	Number of teachers/ Instructors	Education incentives
10.04.2019	Rama Krishna Siksha Parishad Higher Secondary School, Darjeeling	31	10	Education Materials, Visit to Zoo and Interaction.
15.04.2019	Turnbull Primary School, Darjeeling	27	19	Education Materials, Visit to Zoo and Interaction.
15.04.2019	Forest Guard Trainees, State Environment & Forestry Training Institute, Dimapur	25	04	Education Materials. Visit to Zoo and Interaction
30.04.2019	Glenmore International School, Mirik	50	06	Education Materials, Visit to Zoo and Interaction.
12.05.2019	Range Officer Trainees, East India Tour of Forest Range Officers Training Batch 2018-19, Uttarakhand Forestry Training Academy	26	03	Education Materials. Visit to Zoo and Interaction
14.05.2019	Debinagar K.C.R Vidyapith Higher secondary School, Raiganj	40	08	Education Materials, Visit to Zoo and Interaction/ Lecture.
20.05.2019	Mukh Bandh Kam Suru (NGO), Darjeeling	12	01	Education Materials. Visit to Zoo and Interaction
21.05.2019	Risheehat Higher Secondary School, Darjeeling	60	04	Education Materials. Visit to Zoo and Interaction
21.05.2019	New Light Academy, Marybong	87	15	Education Materials, Visit to Zoo and Interaction.
04.06.2019	Camellia School Darjeeling	10	04	Education Materials, Visit to Zoo and Interaction.

05.06.2019	Minerva Academy, Kalimpong	21	05	Education Materials. Visit to Zoo and Interaction
18.06.2019	Goke High School, Darjeeling	32	05	Education Materials. Visit to Zoo and Interaction.



Educational Tour of Glenmore International School



Educational Tour of Debinagar K.C.R Vidyapith Higher Secondary School, Raiganj



Educational tour of New Light Academy, Marybong



Educational Tour of Goke High School, Darjeeling



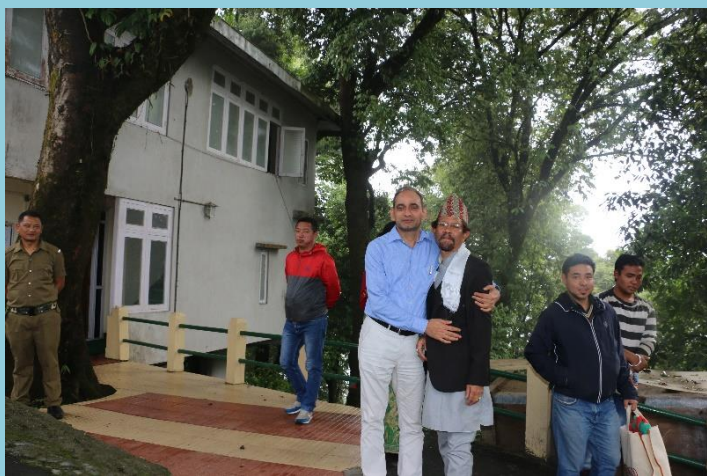
Educational Tour of Camelia School, Darjeeling



Educational Tour of Range Officer Trainees, East India Tour of Forest Range Officers Training Batch 2018-19

STAFF RETIREMENT

On 31.05.2019, Shri Sachin Sunam, retired from Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park. A farewell function was organised by the staff of Darjeeling zoo on 06 June 2019 to bid farewell and to honour Shri Sunam for his invaluable service to the park. The farewell function was attended by all members of the staff who along with other officials thanked Mr Sunam for his service and honored him by presenting him with a gold ring. The program ended with the distribution of refreshments to all the staff of the Park.



CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DAY

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park celebrated the International Day of Biodiversity on 22nd May 2019 to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. The theme for 2019 is **“Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health”**. This year's celebrations aims to leverage knowledge and spread awareness of the dependency of our food systems, nutrition, and health on biodiversity and healthy ecosystems and also celebrates the diversity provided by our natural systems for human existence and well-being on Earth, while contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals.

An extempore competition based on the theme of the day involving students from different local schools in Darjeeling were invited to participate. A total of five (5) students including three (3) participants, two (2) audience members from class IX and X, and one (1) faculty member were invited from eight (8) schools. The total number of attendees were forty nine (49) out of which twenty four (24) were participants in the extempore competition. The participant school list is as follows:

S.No	Name of School	No of Participants
1.	Vidya Vikash Academy	3
2.	Camellia School	3
3.	Assembly of God Church School	3
4.	North Point School	3
5.	St. Pauls School	3
6.	West Point School	3
7.	Gyanoday Niketan	3
8.	Notre Dame Academy	3

The extempore completion was judged by Dr Joy Dey, Assistant Director cum Veterinary Officer and Mr Shiromani Syangden, Estate Officer, Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park.

The event commenced at 10 am with the registration of the students and teachers, followed by a welcome address by Dr Joy Dey, ADVO, PNHZ Park and hi-tea. The extempore competition was followed by the screening of a wild life movie along with the distribution of packet lunch to all the students and teachers. The programme ended with the prize distribution and vote of thanks by Miss Rohini Chettri, Research Assistant, PNHZ Park.

The program list for the event is as follows:

WORLD BIODIVERSITY DAY 2017 PROGRAMME

10:00 am- 10:15 am	: Registration
10:15 am -10:30 am	: Welcome address by Dr Joy Dey, ADVO, PNHZ Park
10:30 am -10:45 am	: Hi-Tea
10:45 am -11:45 am	: Preparation time for students
11:15 am -1:30 pm	: Extempore Competition
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	: Lunch/ Screening of wildlife movie
2:30 pm -2:30 pm	: Remarks of the Judges & Prize Distribution
2:30 pm - 3:00 pm	: Vote of thanks

For the extempore competition, the students were given topics relevant to the theme for this year's International Biodiversity day. Each participant picked out a different topic for their extempore speech through a luck draw system on the day of the event. All the participants were given one hour to prepare for their speeches based on the topic picked out and each student was given a maximum time of 5 (five) minutes each to speak on their respective topics.

S. No	Topics
1.	Biodiversity acts as a key catalyst in transforming food systems and improving human well-being.
2.	Biodiversity might be the cure for modern sickness- and lower health costs as well.
3.	Sustainable urban food systems.
4.	Biodiversity reveals the treasure all around us, how local varieties can support nutrition and food security.
5.	Local food systems offer long term sustainable solutions to communities.
6.	Biodiversity plays a crucial role in food security, nutrition, livelihoods and in the provision of ecosystem services.
7.	Sustainable food system- A healthy perspective.
8.	Challenges to achieve a healthy and sustainable food systems.
9.	Impact of climate change on agriculture, nutrition and health.
10.	Interaction between sustainable food systems, health and industrial crop systems.
11.	Agriculture, Biodiversity and Ecosystem services- Together is better.
12.	Different food, different impact.
13.	Agricultural sectors- the Big enemy or a strong ally for biodiversity?
14.	Healthy sustainable diets for future generations.
15.	Issues with sustainable food consumption.
16.	Sustainable management of water resources.
17.	Agro biodiversity for food security, health and income.
18.	Social issues in sustainable agriculture.
19.	Environmental issues in sustainable agriculture.
20.	Economic issues in sustainable agriculture.

21.	Challenges in water sanitation and health.
22.	How sustainable agriculture can address the environmental and human health harms of industrial agriculture?
23.	Climate change, food security and chronic diseases.
24.	Food security: Why is biodiversity important?

The students were judged based on relevance to the topic, presentation of ideas, language, confidence and fluency. The winners list and their topics are as follows:

Prize	Name	School	Topic
1 st	Master Bipashwee Lama	North Point school	Biodiversity reveals the treasure all around us, how local varieties can support nutrition and food security.
2 nd	Master Pranav Gurung	Gyanoday Niketan	Local food systems offer long term sustainable solutions to communities.
3 rd	Miss Sneha Dubey	Notre dame Academy	Biodiversity might be the cure for modern sickness- and lower health costs as well.

The winners were presented with books related to biodiversity, environment and conservation along with a certificate. All the participants were given certificates and education materials from the zoo along with packet lunches and caps. The teachers too received educational materials from the park.

The main purpose of organizing an extempore competition for senior students of various local schools was to open a dialogue in between students and also between students and authorities that contribute towards conservation efforts and to understand the students perception and knowledge about our biodiversity, the problems plaguing it along with ways to counter the loss of biodiversity through individual and collective efforts.





CELEBRATION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, 2019

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, celebrated World Environment Day on 5th June 2019. This year's theme was "Air Pollution". The park organized poster making competition to celebrate the event and to educate students about environmental issues and the importance of working towards conservation.

The invitation to participate in the event was sent out to different local schools of Darjeeling who were requested to send three students each from either or class V- VI along with a teaching staff. A total of eight (8) schools accepted the invitation to compete in the event. Twenty four (24) students and eight (8) teachers of different schools of Darjeeling participated in the programme.

S.No	Name of School	Number of Participants
1.	St. Michaels Higher Secondary School	3
2.	St. Robert's Higher Secondary School	3
3.	Municipal Boys Higher Secondary School	3
4.	Ram Krishna Siksha Parishad Higher secondary School	3
5.	St Teresa's School	3
6.	Mount Carmel School	3
7.	North Point Academy	3
8.	Nepali Girls Higher Secondary School	3

The event started at 10:00 am with registration of all the participants followed by a welcome address by Dr Joy Dey, ADO & Shri Shiromani Syangden, Estate Officer, PNHZ Park. The participants were given an hour for poster making. After the poster making competition, the participants were shown a wildlife movie during lunch. The program ended with a the prize distribution and vote of thanks.

The programme for the event is as follows:

WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL DAY 2019 PROGRAMME

10:00 - 10:40 am: Registration & Welcome Address
 10:40 am - 11:00 pm: Tea & Snacks
 11:00 am -12:00 pm: Poster Making Competition
 12:00pm -12:30pm: Lunch and Wildlife Movie
 12:30pm- 1:00 pm: Results & Vote of Thanks

The theme for the Poster making competition was “Air pollution” and was judged by Dr Joy Vey, Assistant Director cum Veterinary officer, PNHZP and Shri Kiran Moktan, former Animal Supervisor, PNHZ Park & artist. The participants were judged on the basis of relevance to the topic, their ideas and their ability to portray their ideas.

The winners list is as follows:

Prize	Name of Student	School
1 st	Miss Meghna Sharma	North Point Academy
2 nd	Master Koangtshen Lepcha	St Roberts Higher Secondary School
3 rd	Miss Tshering Doma Sherpa	Mount Carmel School

The 1st, 2nd and the 3rd prize winners were presented with a certificate and books as prizes. All the participants were also given certificates, educational materials and caps. The teachers were also given educational materials. All the attendees of the program were also given packet lunches and refreshments. The posters created by the students were also kept on display at the Bengal Natural History Museum at the Park for visitors to create awareness on World Environment day.

The main aim of organizing such a programme was to get children from primary division of local schools involved and educated regarding environmental issues and conservation measures and also to grasp their understanding on the particular subject and to broaden their knowledge.







TAXIDERMY WORK DONE IN THIS QUARTER

- **Skinning and Mounting of Red-tailed tropic bird**

One Red-tailed tropic bird was acquired from AFR, 24 Parganas (South) division (Attached Forest Ranger). It was skinned and mounted for future display in BNHM.

Scientific Name: *Phaethon rubricauda*

Collection: From AFR, 24 Parganas (South) division (Attached Forest Ranger)

Date of Collection: 15th May 2019

Acc. No.: BNHM/TB/01



- **Skinning of Reeves Pheasant**

One Female Reeves Pheasant was acquired from PNHZ Park. It was then skinned and preserved for further mounting.

Scientific name: *Syrmaticus reevesi*

Collection: From PNHZ Park

Date of Collection: 20th May 2019



- **Skinning of Markhor Fawn**

Two male Markhor Fawn was acquired from PNHZ Park it was then skinned and tanned for further mounting.

Scientific name: *Capra falconeri*

Collection: From PNHZ Park

Date of Collection: 20th May 2019

Acc. No.: BNHM/M/63 & BNHM/M/64



- **Skinning of Leopard Cat**

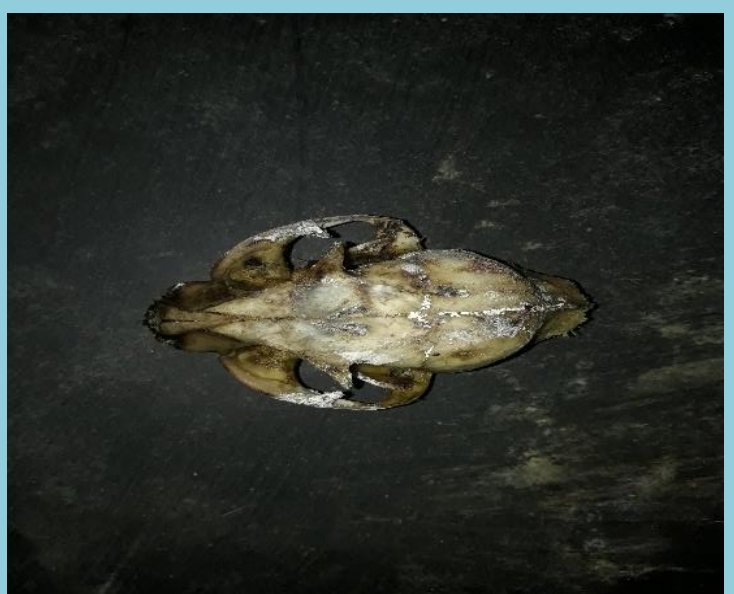
One male Leopard Cat was acquired from PNHZ Park it was then skinned and tanned for further mounting.

Scientific name: *Prionailurus bengalensis*

Collection: From PNHZ Park

Date of Collection: 29th May 2019

Acc. No.: BNHM/M/65



- Dichlorobenzene was added for the rolled specimens in old Collection of BNHM. Naphthalene ball and silica gel was added for the specimens in the Entomological section.

List of specimens skinned, mounted and preserved:

Sl no.	Name	Accession no.
1	Red-tailed tropicbird <i>Phaethon rubricauda</i>	BNHM/TB/01
2	Reeves Pheasant <i>Syrmaticus reevesi</i>	BNHM/PH/146
3	Markhor Fawn <i>Capra falconeri</i>	BNHM/M/63
4	Markhor Fawn <i>Capra falconeri</i>	BNHM/M/64
5	Leopard Cat <i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	BNHM/M/65

DEVELOPMENT WORK AT PNHZP IN THIS QUARTER

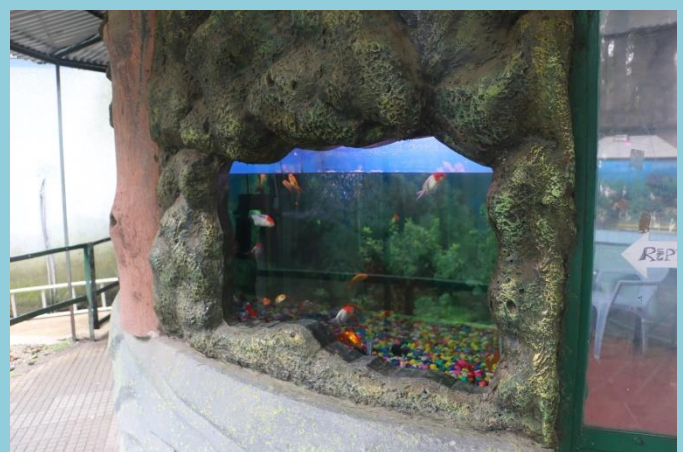
The developmental work taken up during this quarter include maintenance and development of Directors Residence parking area, reinstallation of aquarium at the Reptile house, repair & maintenance of office basement floor for Research section, interns & maintenance section, Renovation of Aviaries in front of BNHM, Development of rainwater harvesting by providing filter tanks, loping of trees at Red Panda enclosure and modification of hedge planters along the office road & Director's residence.



Maintenance & development of Director's Residence parking area over tank 1 & tank 2



Providing slab above Entrance porch behind BNHM



Reinstallation of Fish Aquarium at beat-1



Repair & maintenance of Office Basement floor for Research section, interns & maintenance section



Renovation of Aviaries in front of BNHM



Development of rainwater harvesting by providing filter tanks

Lopping of trees at Red Panda enclosure



Modification of hedge planters along the office road & Director's residence