

# National Zookeepers Training on Captive Management of Reptiles



**Assam State Zoo-cum-Botanical Garden  
R.G.Baruah Road, Guwahati-05**

**01-12-2021 to 03-12-2021**





## PARTICIPANTS FOR THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

Sl No.	Name of the Participants	Designation	Name of the Zoo
1	Mr. Lalchhandama Sailo	Forest Guard	Aizawl Zoological Park, Mizoram
2	Mr. C Chawng Hmingliana	Asstt. Conservator of Forests	Aizawl Zoological Park, Mizoram
3	Mr. Immanuela	Deputy Range	Aizawl Zoological Park, Mizoram
4	Mr. Subi Ram Basumatary	Animal Keeper	Mobile Veterinary Service, Western Assam, Kokrajhar, A satellite station of CWRC
5	Mr. Romen Das	Animal Keeper	CWRC, Golaghat
6	Mr. Gopa Kumar C	Range Officer	Mini Zoo, Miao, Arunachal Pradesh
7	Mr. Ranajoy Acharjya	Veterinary Field Assistant	Namdapha National Park & Tiger Reserve, Miao, Arunachal Pradesh
8	Mr. Bushan	Animal Attendant	Nagaland Zoological Park, Dimapur
9	Mr. Hechilo Semy	Animal Attendant	Nagaland Zoological Park, Dimapur
10	Mr. Pindrick M Sangma	Animal Attendant	Nehru Park Danakgre cum Mini Zoo, Tura, Meghalaya
11	Mr. Steppenson N Marak	Animal Attendant	Nehru Park Danakgre cum Mini Zoo, Tura, Meghalaya
12	Dabir Hossain	Veterinary Assistant cum Zoo Keeper	Rasikbeel Mini Zoo, Coachbihar
13	Smt. Kino Yachik	Animal Keeper	Biological Park, Itanagar
14	Smt. Marta Gour	Animal Keeper	Biological Park, Itanagar
15	Mr. Rahiz Ali	Animal Keeper cum Casual Worker	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
16	Mr. Nitul Rabha	Animal Keeper cum Casual Worker	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
17	Mr. Sobin Deka	Animal Keeper cum Casual Worker	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
18	Mr. Dipjyoti Kakati	Animal Keeper cum Casual Worker	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
19	Mr. Nabajit Deka	Animal Keeper cum Casual Worker	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
20	Mr. Surjya Kr. Das	Animal Keeper cum Casual Worker	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
21	Mr. Champak Das	Animal Keeper cum Casual Worker	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
22	Mr. Sunil Teron	Animal Keeper	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
23	Mr. Mochindra Bhumiz	Animal Keeper	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati
<b>Total No. of participants</b>			<b>23 Nos.</b>



## **DAY-01: 01/12/2021**

The Zoo Keeper's Training on Captive Management of Reptiles started on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2021 with the major objective of imparting training to the zoo keepers of Indian zoos with a special focus in the reptile section of the various Indian zoos. It aimed to emphasise the importance of Zoo keepers in the captive management of reptiles, as the Zoo keepers possess first-hand knowledge about animals, their health condition, behaviour, etc.



**Pic-1: Inaugural Session**



**Pic-2: Group Photo**

The three days of training started with the inaugural session chaired by Mr. M.K. Yadava, IFS, Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, in the august presence of Dr. Saibal Sengupta, Professor, Assam Don Bosco University, Dr. Niladri Dasgupta, Scientific Consultant, TSA India, Dr. Jayaditya Purkayastha, Deptt. Of Herpetology, Help Earth and Dr. Ashwini Kumar, IFS, DFO, Assam State Zoo, Guwahati. The special guests present through online mode were Dr. Sonali Ghosh, IFS, DIGF, CZA, New Delhi & Dr. Gowri Mallapur, Veterinary Consultant, CZA, New Delhi.





**Pic: 3: Mr. M.K. Yadava, IFS, CWLW, Assam**

around us and there is need to know about them. Animal keepers play an important role in zoos, he added. These types of trainings would be useful for animal keepers to further enhancing their skills. He said it would be nice if similar programs could be conducted offline, but due to this pandemic situation, it is being conducted in hybrid mode, he said.

Mr. M.K. Yadava, IFS, Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam addressed the trainers and other audience emphasizing the importance of reptiles and their role in the ecosystem. All the Reptile animal keepers from Indian Zoos should utilize this opportunity and learn all practical skills from this program, he said. It is the first of its kind that a training on the reptile captive management & conservation is being organized in the country, he added.

He said that reptiles are always



**Pic: 4: Dr. Ashwini Kumar, IFS, DFO, ASZ**

Dr. Ashwini Kumar, IFS, DFO, Assam State Zoo, Guwahati welcomed all the dignitaries with Traditional Gamucha and addressed the trainees and talking about the importance of reptiles with an emphasis on snakes and challenges being faced by the various agencies in conserving them. Reptiles which include Crocodiles, Tortoise, Gharials, and Snakes are highly sensitive, thus, their handling and management needs the best of the skills.

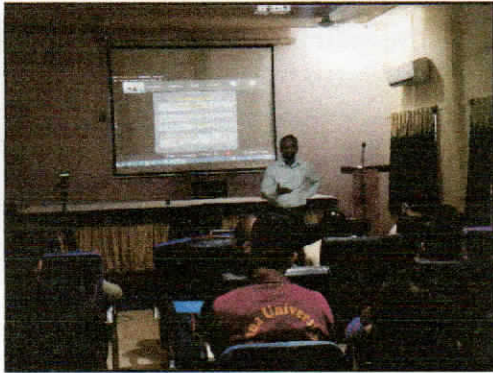


### **Day-1: 01/12/2021 (Technical Sessions)**



**Pic: 5: Dr. Saibal Sengupta, Professor,  
Assam Don Bosco University**

In the morning session, Dr. Saibal Sengupta, Professor of Assam Don Bosco University started the technical session by giving a brief about “Herpetofauna & What a Keeper Should Know” to the trainees.



**Pic: 6: Dr. Niladri Dasgupta, Scientific Consultant, TSA India**

Later on, Dr. Niladri Dasgupta, Scientific Consultant, TSA India addressed the participants about the Basic Biology of Turtles, Tortoises.

After that, Dr. Jayaditya Purkayastha Expert on Department of Herpetology, and Founder of Help Earth addressed the trainees about the basic biology of Reptiles. He also taught the trainees about the identification of venomous and non venomous snakes.



**Pic: 7: Dr. Ashwini Kumar, IFS, DFO, ASZ**



**Pic: 8: Dr. Firoz Ahmed, Scientist F, Aaranyak**

In the end of the session, Dr. Firoz Ahmed, Scientist F, Aaranyak and Dr. Ashwini Kumar, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Assam State Zoo, Guwahati addressed the trainees about Conservation Importance of Reptiles and Reptile Conservation Status in Assam State Zoo, Guwahati.



## **Day-2: 02/12/2021 (Technical Sessions)**

In the second session, the trainees visited the Zoo and learned about enclosure upkeepment. They have interacted the zookeepers of Assam State Zoo, Guwahati about the handling ways and feeding habits of the zoo captives.



Later on, Dr. Gowri Mallapur, Veterinary Consultant, Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi addressed the participants about Identification, Handling, Restraint Marking and Management of Reptiles.

**Pic: 9& 10: Dr. Gowri Mallapur, Veterinary Consultant,  
Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi**



After that, Dr. Shailendra Singh, Country Programme Director, Turtle Survival Alliance, India addressed the trainees about the Equipments used in Reptile Capture, Care and Management.

**Pic: 10: Dr. Shailendra Singh, Country Programme Director,  
TSA, India**

### **Day-3: 03/12/2021 (Technical Sessions)**



In the third session, Dr. Sonali Ghosh, IFS, DIGF, Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi addressed the trainees about Zoo and giving a brief about the Central Zoo Authority, its role and various legislations while managing a Zoo.

**Pic: 10: Dr. Sonali Ghosh, IFS, Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi**



And lastly, Dr. Gowri Mallapur, Veterinary Consultant, Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi briefed about Enrichment tools and hands on reptiles.

**Pic: 10: Dr. Gowri Mallapur, Veterinary Consultant,  
Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi**




### VELEDICTORY SESSION (03/12/2021)



**Pic 11: Dr. Amit Sahai, IFS, PCCF, WL, Assam & Dr. Sonali Ghosh, IFS, DIG, CZA, New Delhi presenting the certificates to the trainees**

During the Valedictory session, Dr. Ashwini Kumar, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Assam State Zoo Division, Guwahati gave his conclusion remarks, thanking the senior officials of Assam Forest Department; senior officials from CZA, the Directors of all the participant zoos and the animal keepers who joined as participants; the Assam State Zoo team involved in organizing this training and the media for giving much publicity to the event. Dr. Sonali Ghosh, IFS, DIG, CZA, New Delhi congratulated the team of Assam State Zoo, Guwahati for successful completion of the three days training program. Participants from online & offline expressed their valuable feedback about the training program and about what they learned. Finally, certificates & souvenir kits were distributed to the participants by **Dr. Amit Sahai, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife, Assam & Dr. Sonali Ghosh, IFS, DIG, CZA, New Delhi.**

Overall, conducting this training for the team of Assam State Zoo, Guwahati was a great opportunity and a challenge for the training being conducted in a hybrid mode. This was first of its kind in mainly 2 ways: training conducted in hybrid mode and dedicated training for the Captive management of Reptiles for the zoo keepers. This definitely opened doors to conducting more of such specialized trainings. We are thankful to Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi for giving us the opportunity.

  
Divisional Forest Officer  
Assam State Zoo Division  
Guwahati-05  
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