



75  
आज़ादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव



# AZADI

— Ka Amrit Mahotsav —

**Conservation to Coexistence - The People's Connect**  
Volume I (March 2021 to Sept 2021)



जंगल है धरोहर  
हम सबका सहचर  
व्याघ्र सिंह हस्ती चीतल  
हरे-भरे वृक्ष अटल  
संवर्द्धित प्रकृति बने नीवः  
हो सुरक्षित अरण्य जीव  
ले प्रण, करें कर्म रहें अग्रसर  
आज़ादी के इस अमृत महोत्सव



मंत्री  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन  
और  
श्रम एवं रोज़गार  
भारत सरकार



सत्यमेव जयते

भूपेन्द्र यादव

**BHUPENDER YADAV**

MINISTER  
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



### संदेश

आजादी के इस अमृत महोत्सव में हर नागरिक का कर्तव्य है कि वे प्रगति के मापदंडों को सहेजे, अपितु वर्तमान और भविष्य के लिए नए मापदंड गढ़े भी। इस क्रम में केन्द्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण द्वारा किए जा रहे अनूठे और नवीन कार्यक्रमों की कड़ी, जो पर्यावरण संरक्षण में सराहनीय योगदान दे रहा है, का यह संकलन अत्यंत उपयोगी है। प्रथम 25 सप्ताह किए गए इन कार्यों में वैज्ञानिक संवेदना के साथ-साथ जन-भागीदारी का संयोजन प्रलक्षित होता है। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि प्राधिकरण का यह संकलन अन्य संस्थाओं और पाठकों के लिए प्रेरणाश्रोत सिद्ध होगा। मैं केन्द्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण को इस सराहनीय कार्य के लिए बधाई देता हूं।

दिनांक : 22.10.2021

(भूपेन्द्र यादव)





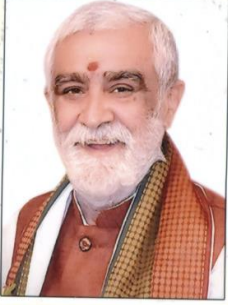
सत्यमेव जयते  
आहारशुद्धी सत्त्वशुद्धिः



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

राज्य मंत्री  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन  
उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण  
भारत सरकार  
MINISTER OF STATE  
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

अश्विनी कुमार चौबे  
Ashwini Kumar Choubey

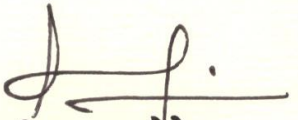


## संदेश

देश की स्वतंत्रता की 75वीं वर्षगांठ पर आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव पूरे देश में मनाया जा रहा है। मंत्रालय के अधीनस्थ संस्थानों द्वारा आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव के अवसर पर अनेकों कार्यक्रमों का अयोजन किया जा रहा है।

इसी क्रम में केन्द्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण ने देश के विभिन्न चिड़ियाघरों के साथ मिलकर पहले 25 सप्ताहों में पर्यावरण संरक्षण और संवर्धन हेतु विभिन्न कार्यक्रम आयोजित किए हैं, जिनका पठनीय संकलन यहाँ प्रस्तुत किया गया है। पर्यावरण के इस पहलू के प्रति जागरूकता और दायित्व हर व्यक्ति का संवैधानिक कर्तव्य है। मुझे विश्वास है कि ऐसे प्रयास अन्य संस्थानों को भी प्रेरित करेंगे।

प्राधिकरण के सभी अधिकारी एवं कर्मचारी इस संकलन के प्रकाशन के लिए बधाई के पात्र हैं।

  
( अश्विनी कुमार चौबे )

॥ प्लास्टिक नहीं, कपड़ा सही ॥

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
भारत सरकार



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय



**Central Zoo Authority**  
केंद्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण

## PREFACE

The Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an initiative of the Government of India was conceptualized to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture, and achievements. This is an intensive, country wide campaign which focuses on citizen participation, to be converted into a 'Janandolan', where small changes, at the local level, will add up to significant national gains. The Mahotsav was launched on March 12, 2021, with a freedom march (padayatra) from Sabarmati Ashram in Gujarat flagged off by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi.

The Central Zoo Authority (CZA), to complement the activities of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiated a massive conservation outreach campaign 'Conservation to Co-existence: the people connect'. This campaign aims to showcase 75 native, conservation priority species in 75 zoos of India during the 75 weeks of the celebration. Species representing different biogeographic zones of the country (Species-in-Focus) and corresponding zoos (Zoo-in-Focus) were identified for undertaking outreach activities.

Each week, outreach activities highlighting the conservation importance of the Species-in-Focus were taken up by the Zoo-in-Focus. The rich history and accomplishments of the respective zoos were featured through in-person and virtual activities. The aim being to sensitize people about wildlife conservation efforts in India to promote a harmonious co-existence. Scientific institutions, NGO's and civil society organizations were involved in organizing and conducting the outreach activities facilitating 'Citizen Participation' or 'Jan Bhagidari'. During each week, an expert talk was organised by CZA and streamed on YouTube providing information about the species and zoo-in-focus.

This compendium condenses over 1000 hours of the conservation outreach journey in a narrative that celebrates India's rich biodiversity while offering a tour d'horizon of the first 25 weeks of outreach activities.

We hope you enjoy this visual tour as much as our team has enjoyed compiling this book.

**Dr Satya Prakash Yadav,**  
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**Central Zoo Authority**



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- Officer In-charge and team of the 25 zoos:

Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo, Mumbai; Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Zoo, Mumbai; Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park and Wildlife Research Center, Pune; Bondla Zoo, Bondla; State Museum and Zoo, Trissur; Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal; Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur; Zoological Garden, Thiruvananthapuram; Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad; Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysuru; Pililkula Biological Park, Mangaluru; Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park, Nagpur; Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park, Tirupati; Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam; Nandanvan Jungle Safari, Chhattisgarh; Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru; Van Vihar National Park and Zoo, Bhopal; Nandankanan Biological Park, Bhubneshwar; Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, Ranchi; Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur; Machia Biological Park, Jodhpur; Nahargarh Biological Park, Jaipur; Sajjangerh Biological Park, Udaipur; Kota Zoo, Kota; Rajkot Zoological Park, Rajkot

### **Credits:**

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**Suggested Citation:** Central Zoo Authority (2021). Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav; Conservation to co-existence- The People Connect (Volume 1 - March 2021 to September 2021), Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi. Pp-116

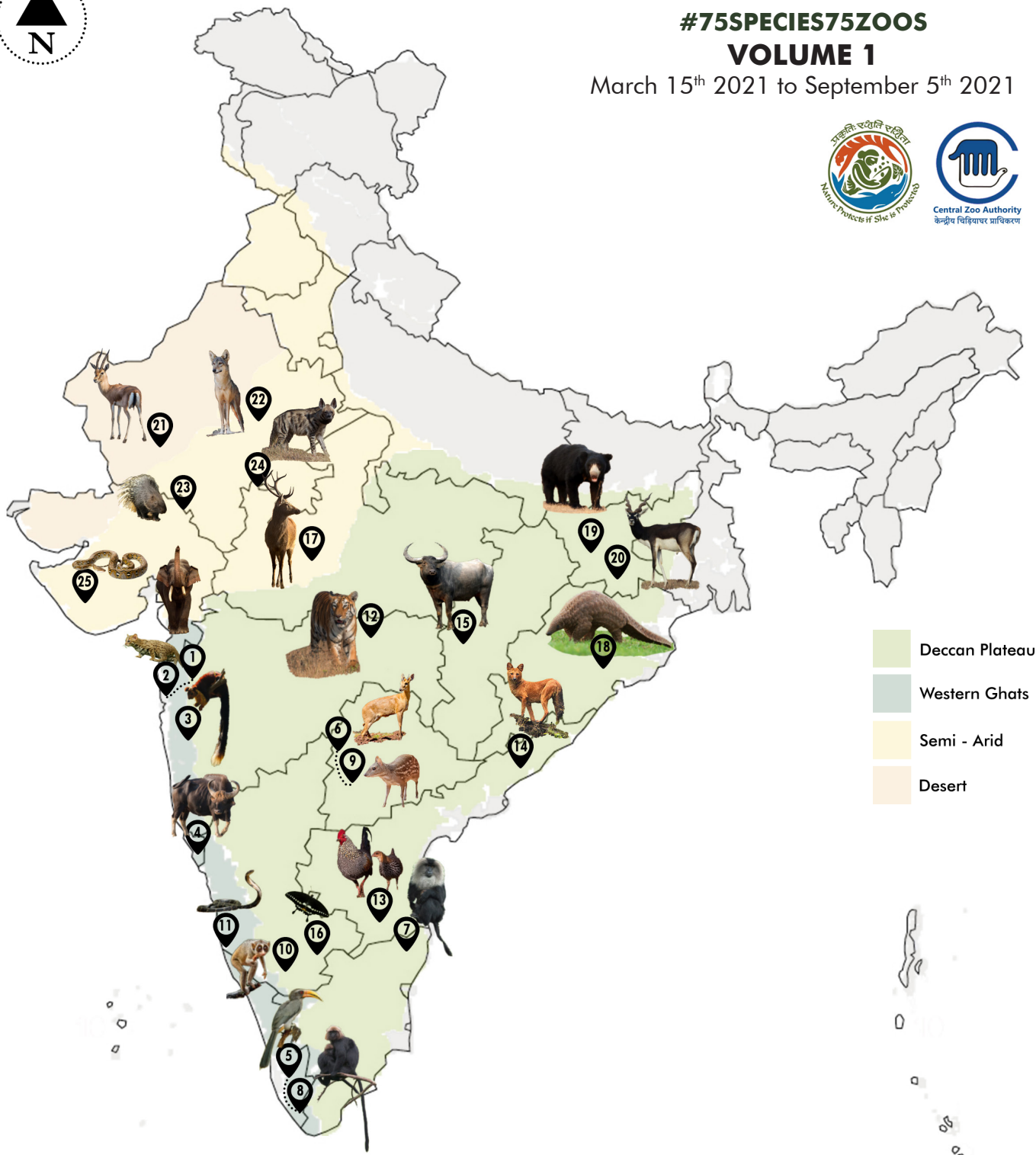


# AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV

#75SPECIES75ZOOS

VOLUME 1

March 15<sup>th</sup> 2021 to September 5<sup>th</sup> 2021



- Deccan Plateau
- Western Ghats
- Semi - Arid
- Desert

Week	Species in Focus	Zoo in Focus
1	Asian Elephant	Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo, Mumbai
2	Rusty-spotted Cat	Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Zoo, Mumbai
3	Indian Giant Squirrel	Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park and Wildlife Research Center, Maharashtra
4	Gaur	Bondla Zoo, Goa
5	Malabar Grey Hornbill	State Museum and Zoo, Thirissur, Kerala
6	Four-horned Antelope	Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal, Telengana
7	Lion-tailed Macaque	Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
8	Nilgiri Langur	Thiruvananthapuram Zoo, Kerala
9	Indian Chevrotain	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad, Telengana
10	Grey Slender Loris	Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysuru, Karnataka
11	King Cobra	Pilikula Biological Park, Mangalore, Karnataka
12	Bengal Tiger	Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park, Nagpur, Maharashtra
13	Grey Junglefowl	Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh
14	Dhole	Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
15	Wild Water Buffalo	Nandanvan Jungle Safari, Chhattisgarh
16	Malabar Banded Swallowtail	Bannerghata Biological Park, Bengaluru, Karnataka
17	Swamp Deer	Van Vihar National Park and Zoo, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
18	Indian Pangolin	Nandankanan Biological Park, Odisha
19	Sloth Bear	Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, Ranchi, Jharkhand
20	Blackbuck	Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur
21	Chinkara	Machia Biological Park, Jodhpur, Rajasthan
22	Indian Wolf	Nahargarh Biological Park, Jaipur, Rajasthan
23	Indian Crested Porcupine	Sajjargarh Biological Park, Udaipur, Rajasthan
24	Striped Hyena	Kota Zoo, Rajasthan
25	Pythons	Rajkot Municipal Zoo, Rajkot, Gujarat



AZADI KA  
AMRIT MAHOTSAV

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“ निसर्ग नियमांसहित, स्वयंचलित,  
स्वयंनियंत्रित, नैसर्गिक, पद्धतशीर  
व्यवस्था म्हणजे परमेश्वर ”

सद्गुरू श्री वामनराव पाई, दार्शनिक

*“Ecosystems that are, systematic, self-regulatory,  
self-controlled laws of nature are akin to God”*

*- Sadguru Shri Vamanrao Pai,  
Eminent philosopher*

**Week 1** of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav began with an invocation of Lord Ganesha who symbolizes a connection between nature (elephant), culture (man), and knowledge (elephant), and salutation to the Asian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*) at the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo, Mumbai. The zoo, also fondly called Ranibag by Mumbaikars is well known for its historical legacy and a treasure trove of trees both native and the famous African Baobab and near-natural environment. The week commenced with a mega-event and delegates from various walks of life interacted with the media and audience. The inaugural showcased the zoo's 5G idea -Great Green Grass Gentle Giant which was an Elephant silhouette made out of the grass. A rainbow Elephant was painted by differently-abled young artists from Dr. Sumeet Patil's Shreerang Charitable Trust using 'Rang Gandha; colors that can be distinguished based on their smell'. The week's activities included various contests and workshops for children such as clay modeling, elephant origami workshop, t-shirt painting, logo designing, etc.



A herd of Asian elephants is gathered on a dirt bank next to a river. The elephants are of various sizes, including a prominent adult in the foreground and several younger ones. They have dark grey skin with characteristic orange-brown spots on their faces and trunks. The background is a dense, green forest with a small building visible on a hillside.

# WEEK 1

March 15 to March 21, 2021

## ASIAN ELEPHANT

*Elephas maximus*

**Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo, Mumbai**

© Alex-azabache

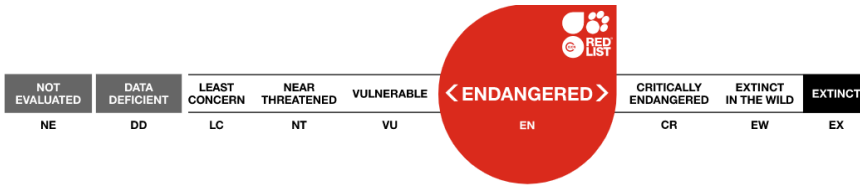
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## ASIAN ELEPHANT

*Elephas maximus*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Endangered**



**Distribution range:** Its distribution is spread across the Indian subcontinent in the states of Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and along the Himalayan foothills in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. In the North-East they are discontinuously distributed in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, foothills of Nagaland and Meghalaya.

**Habitat:** Elephants are generalists as they can thrive in a variety of environments as they do not have a fixed food habit. They thrive in areas such as mixed deciduous and evergreen forests, scrub, floodplains and grassland.

**Communication:** They use different kinds of vocalizations to communicate such as tummy rumbles, low chirps, roars and loud trumpets. Each vocalization has its significance, while roars and loud trumpets are used to demonstrate aggression or disturbance, tummy rumbles and low chirps have been recorded when the elephant has been confused or alarmed. They also use infrasonic calls that are not perceivable by the human ear.

**Diet:** Elephants eat a large amount of food for nourishment and have adapted to being both browsers and grazers

**Priority status:** The Asian Elephant has not been identified for ex-situ conservation practices.

**Presence in Zoos:** It is housed in 21 zoos across India

## VEERMATA JIJABAI BHONSALE UDYAN AND ZOO, MUMBAI

**Location:** The zoo is located in Mumbai, Maharashtra and is locally known as the Byculla Zoo.

**Establishment:** It is a medium category Zoo established in 1962 and is operated currently by the Municipal Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai.

**Information:** It is the oldest public garden of Mumbai and was named after Jijabai; the mother of Shivaji Bhonsale I, the first Maratha warrior popularly known as Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. [Hence, the name Veer mata i.e., Mother of the Brave]



Bharat Ka  
अमृत महोत्सव



**WEEK 1  
ASIAN ELEPHANT**  
12<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>th</sup> March, 2021



**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

**Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai  
Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Udyan and Zoo**

For creating conservation awareness of Asian Elephant, we have organised various programs like enrichment activity, origami workshop, online talks, painting, essay writing, clay moulding competitions etc.

**Schedule for CZA- 'Bharat Ka Amrut Mahostav' :  
Elephant week 12<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at Mumbai Zoo**

Date	Events
12-03-21	"From humble beginnings come great things" - Gajraj Poojan
13-03-21	Enrichment activity for our Gentle Giant - Anarkali
14-03-21	'Make your own Elephant' - An origami workshop for children at zoo
15-03-21 to 21-03-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Celebrating Asian Elephants" - Launch of online competitive events on social media platform like - Essay competition, photography competition, T-shirt painting &amp; many more.</li> <li>Documentary on Asian Elephants at 3D Auditorium of Mumbai Zoo</li> <li>Expert talk - Dr. Prachi Mehta ( Human - Elephant conflict &amp; Conservation expert)</li> </ul>
17-03-21	Live Painting- By Art school students
18-03-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zoo guided tour / Nature trail</li> <li>Expert Talk - Dr. Bivash Pandav, Director, BNHS</li> </ul>
19-03-21	"Mega Power" - A star studded event
20-03-21	Expert Talk - Shri. Anand Shinde (Founder - President Trunk Call - The Wildlife Foundation)
21-03-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be your own guiding light - Celebrating "World Down's Syndrome Day"</li> <li>Mumbai Zoo's 5G - Great Green Grass Gentle Giant</li> </ul>

**Bharat Ka अमृत महोत्सव**

ONLINE T-SHIRT DESIGNING COMPETITION

ONLINE QUIZ COMPETITION

ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION  
TAKE OUT YOUR CAMERA!

ONLINE CLAY MODELLING  
MY VERY OWN ELEPHANT

ONLINE LOGO DESIGNING COMPETITION

ONLINE PAPER QUILLING COMPETITION

ONLINE ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

Registration link for participation will be available on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles of The Mumbai Zoo (@themumbaizoo)

**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

**Azadi Ka अमृत महोत्सव**

ONLINE PAPER QUILLING COMPETITION

SUBJECT: AN ELEPHANT FROM MY EYES  
Let your imagination go wild!

Age: 8 -15 years

The top 3 entries will win merchandise.  
Participation certificates for all submissions.  
Last date of submission : 21st March

Registration link for participation will be available on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles of The Mumbai Zoo (@themumbaizoo)

**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

**Azadi Ka अमृत महोत्सव**

ONLINE CLAY MODELLING  
MY VERY OWN ELEPHANT

Playtime is claytime for the little ones this week.

Age: 3-7 years

The top 3 entries will win merchandise.  
Participation certificates for all submissions.  
Last date of submission : 21st March

Registration link for participation will be available on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles of The Mumbai Zoo (@themumbaizoo)

**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

**Azadi Ka अमृत महोत्सव**

ONLINE ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

Subject: Coexisting with Elephants  
Love to do the write thing?  
Pen down your thoughts and let your creativity flow.

Age: above 15 years

Languages: Marathi, English, Hindi

Word limit: 300-500 words

The best essay in each language will win merchandise  
Participation certificates for all submissions.  
Last date of submission : 21st March

Registration link for participation will be available on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles of The Mumbai Zoo (@themumbaizoo)

**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

**Azadi Ka अमृत महोत्सव**

ONLINE LOGO DESIGNING COMPETITION

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav meets the Asian Elephant  
Your design can be the symbol of awareness for the Asian Elephant. You need to create a logo unit which encompasses the topic given in the most creative way possible. Make all the creative decisions around the use of text and design elements to make your logo stand out.

The Logo design should include:

- Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
- 75Weeks75Species75zoos
- Image/illustration/abstract of an Asian Elephant

Age: Above 15 years  
The top 3 entries will win merchandise.  
Participation certificates for all submissions.  
Last date of submission : 21st March

Registration link for participation will be available on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles of The Mumbai Zoo (@themumbaizoo)

**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

**Azadi Ka अमृत महोत्सव**

ONLINE DOCUMENTARIES

HATHI- CHILDREN'S SONG (MARATHI)

OUR ELEPHANT- ANIMATED (HINDI, ENGLISH)

ELEPHANT 101 (ENGLISH)

LESSON IN HARMONY BY WWF (HINDI)

MOST FUNNY ELEPHANT VIDEOS

SEVEN WORLDS AND ONE EARTH (ENGLISH)

BHARAT KA AMRUT MAHOTSAV- ELEPHANT ANARKALI VIDEO

MUMBAI ZOO VIDEO

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ASIAN AND AFRICAN ELEPHANT (ENG)

ELEPHANTS NEVER FORGET (HINDI)

LESSON IN HARMONY BY WWF (ENGLISH)

96 SECONDS OF BABY ELEPHANT

Registration link for participation will be available on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles of The Mumbai Zoo (@themumbaizoo)

**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

**Azadi Ka अमृत महोत्सव**

ONLINE QUIZ COMPETITION

Subject: Know your Elephant  
An elephant may never forget, but can you remember your Elephant facts when you need them the most?

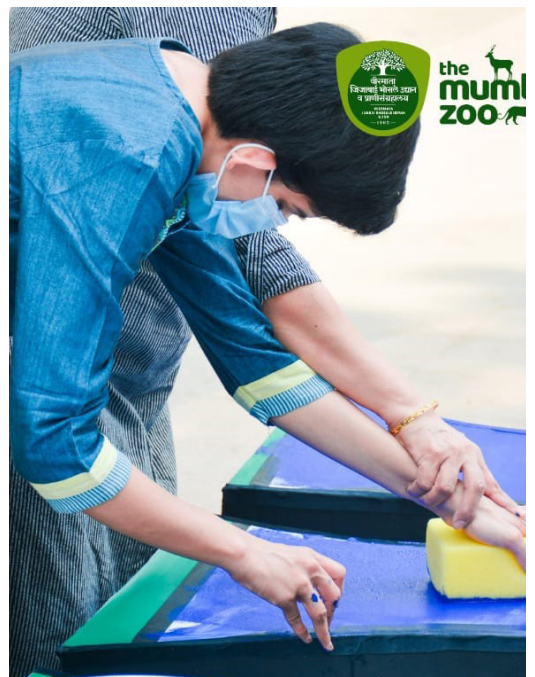
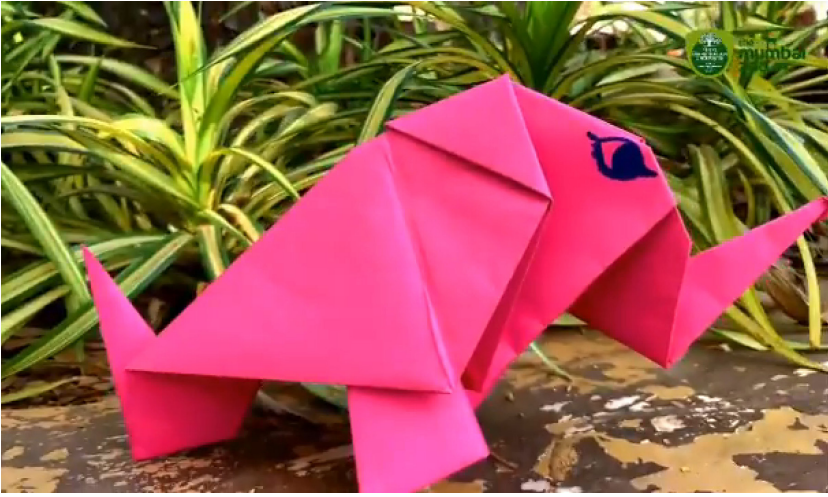
Age: Open to all  
Winners will be decided based on the most correct answers in the least time taken.  
Participation certificates for all submissions.

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March

Registration link for participation will be available on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter handles of The Mumbai Zoo (@themumbaizoo)

**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos








“ सखुआक जुड़ें भालू नाचे  
पथल खोहें बाघ बांचे ।  
गेर वा - पेर वा गीत गावे  
सियार - हुंडार खुसी मनावे ॥ ”

मोहम्मद असलम अंसारी, वन रक्षक, हजारीबाग, झारखंड

*Save the jungle O' good people  
For like our village playground, the bears play in the shadows of the Sal trees  
And like our homes in the village, the tiger too has his home in the rocky caves of the  
forest  
And like our happy community dances in the village, the foxes and wolves too dance  
in joy in their forest homes  
Save the jungle O' good people*

*- Md. Aslam Ansari, Forest Guard, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand*

**Week 2** featured the 'Rusty-spotted Cat (*Prionailurus rubiginosus*) one of the cat family's smallest members, of which historical records are known only from India and Sri Lanka and Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) an icon of the co-existence initiatives in urban landscapes as the species in focus and the Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Zoo, Mumbai as the zoo in focus. The Sanjay Gandhi National park and Zoo offers a natural oasis in the midst of a bustling city. The zoo organized talks by conservationists, media personnel, and veterinarians around the species in focus, the role of citizen science, ecological science, and human-wildlife conflict. Apart from the talks, the visitors were taken on guided nature trails following which sessions were conducted to create awareness about the natural history of the species in focus. The Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Zoo are actively involved in mitigating conflict situations and have a unique trained team of professionals who attend to rescue calls in Mumbai city and surroundings. Program participants got to interact with the team and engage with the leopard rescue team.





**WEEK 2**

March 22 to March 28, 2021

## **RUSTY-SPOTTED CAT**

*Prionailurus rubiginosus*

**Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Zoo, Mumbai**

© BBC. Big Cats. Episode 1.  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p05srpx8>

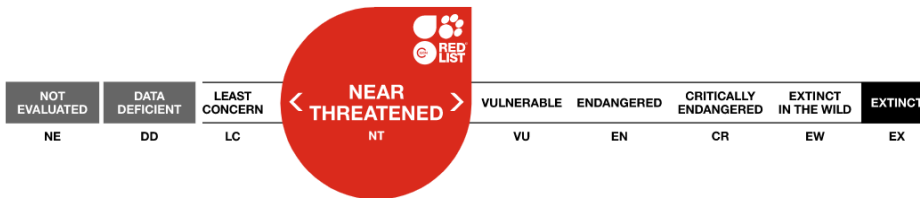
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## RUSTY–SPOTTED CAT

*Prionailurus rubiginosus*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Near Threatened**



The Rusty-spotted cat is the smallest cat in the world with historical records being only from India and Sri Lanka.

**Distribution range:** It is widely distributed in southern and central India.

**Habitat:** It occurs mainly in moist and dry deciduous forests. Studies also suggest preference of residence in open forests, scrub and rocky areas.

**Biology:** It is chiefly a nocturnal species with limited activity during the day. The gestation period is roughly about two and a half months and the life span of the cat in captivity is 12 years. Its lifespan in the wild is unknown.

**Diet:** It is carnivorous with a diet consisting of rodents, birds, lizards, frogs and insects.

**Priority status:** It has been assigned priority status and is part of the ex-situ conservation breeding program.

**Presence in Zoos:** Currently housed in two zoos across India.

## SANJAY GANDHI NATIONAL PARK AND ZOO

**Location:** The zoo is located in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

**Establishment:** It was established in 1975 and is operated by the Chief Conservator of Forests and Director of the zoo.

**Information:** The zoo is within an evergreen forest ecosystem. The zoo is contiguous with Sanjay Gandhi National Park although it falls outside the area of the notified area for the National Park. The zoo includes a deer park, lion and tiger safaris, aviary, apart from hosting free ranging animals such as leopards.





#75weeks75species75zoos

## 'CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE : THE PEOPLE CONNECT'

### Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Zoo

For creating conservation awareness on Rusty-Spotted Cat and Leopard, we have organised various programs such as Photography competition, Awareness video competition, Quiz competition.

#### RUSTY-SPOTTED CAT

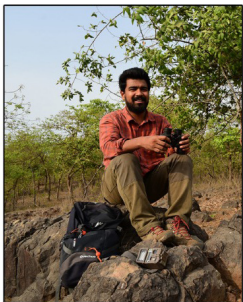


#### INDIAN LEOPARD



Conservation To Co-existence: The People Connect			
#75Weeks75Species#75Zoos			
Schedule for CZA -'Bharat Ka Amrut Mahostav': 21th -28th March 2021			
Sr. No.	Date	Time	Events
1	21/3/2021	10:00 AM - 11:00AM	Inauguration Program with forest staff, BNHS and CZA members
2	22/3/2021	04:00 PM - 05:00 PM	Introduction to SGNP by Mr. Sunil Limaye (APCCF, Wildlife West Zone), Mr. G. Mallikarjuna, (CF, Director SGNP). Documenting leopards of SGNP by Mr. Nikit Surve (Online)
3	23/3/2021	07:00 AM - 12:00PM	Public engagement session on Lesser cats of Maharashtra for the morning walkers and general visitors of park at SGNP
		04:00 PM - 05:00 PM	Leopard-Human interaction & co-existence by Mumbaikars for SGNP - Ranjeet Jadhav / Virat Singh from media (Online)
4	24/3/2021	10:00 AM	Media awareness session on leopard Radio collaring at SGNP
		11:00 AM	Results of Photography competition (Theme: - Lesser Cats of Maharashtra i.e. Rusty- spotted cat, Jungle cat, Leopard cat & Fish cat)
		04:00 PM - 05:00 PM	Know your species, Know your zoo by Mr. Sunil Limaye (APCCF, Wildlife West Zone), Mr. G. Mallikarjuna, (CF, Director SGNP), Rusty- Spotted Cat of SGNP by Dr. Shomita Mukherjee (Online)
5	25/3/2021	04:00 PM - 05:00 PM	Monitoring of leopards through Radio Collaring by Mrs. Vidya Athreya (Online)
6	26/3/2021	10:00 AM - 05:00PM	Quiz Competition (Online)
		04:00 PM - 05:00 PM	Rusty-spotted cat and other cats of Maharashtra by Mr. Mayur Kamath Hon. Wildlife Warden, Mumbai & Ms. Neha Panchmia President, RESQ Charitable Trust (Online)
7	27/3/2021	07:00 AM - 12:00PM	Public engagement session on Rusty- spotted cat for the trek participants at SGNP
		04:00 PM - 05:00 PM	Wildlife rescue operations in and around Mumbai by RFO Vijay Barabde, Dr. Shailesh Pethe & Mr. Pawan Sharma Hon. Wildlife Warden, Thane (Online)
8	28/3/2021	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM	Public engagement about Rusty-spotted cat for the Parent & Child program at SGNP
			Closing Ceremony

Date : 22/03/2021 **JOIN LIVE**  
Time : 4pm to 5pm  
Topic : Documenting Leopards of SGNP



Mr. Nikit Surve



#### Know all about the Species

The elusive rusty-spotted cat (*Prionailurus rubiginosus*), the smallest member of the felid family. Their small size, elusive nature and nocturnal habits make them one of the least studied felids in the world. The rusty-spotted cat is found in a wide range of habitats, including deciduous forests, scrubland, grassland, among rocky outcrops, forest plantations and in agricultural fields. The species is found only in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Named for its reddish-grey coloured, spotted coat, this tiny wild cat with its big eyes and distinctly long, bushy tail and weigh as little as a kilogram.



Date : 23/03/2021 **JOIN LIVE**  
Time : 4pm to 5pm  
Topic : Leopard-Human interaction and co-existence



Mr. Bhushan Raj



Mr. Ranjeet Jadhav



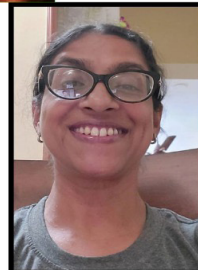
Mr. Virat Singh



Mr. Sunil Limaye  
APCCF,  
Wildlife West Zone



Mr. G. Mallikarjuna  
CF and Director  
SGNP



Dr. Shomita Mukherjee  
Senior Principal Scientist  
SACON

#### Know all about the Zoo

The Sanjay Gandhi National Park was notified in the year 1950 and Zoo was established at SGNP in 1976. The Zoo houses 92 captive animals of 10 species.

24<sup>th</sup>  
March 2021  
at  
04:00 pm



**Join Live!**  
CZA's YouTube Channel




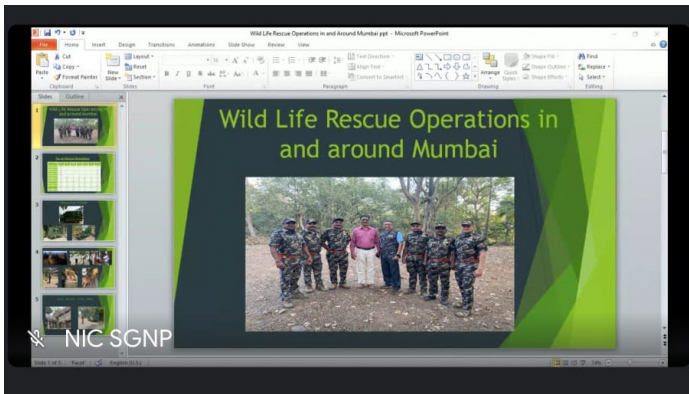




**Rusty-spotted Cat**

*"The smallest feline is a masterpiece" Leonardo da Vinci*

**Dr Shomita Mukherjee, SACON**

**Conservation perspective...**

- Learn more about small wild cat habitats/ assess human-dominated landscapes where they are found
- Protect habitats, reduce threats and ensure timely intervention where their populations are breeding

Thank You!



“ मानवी स्वैराचारामुळे पर्यावरणातील एखाद्या प्रजातीची वनस्पती किंवा एखाद्या प्रजातीचा वन्य जीव "दुर्मिळ" या श्रेणीमध्ये गणला जातो, तेव्हा संपूर्ण मानव जात विनाशाच्या दिशेने एक पाऊल पुढे सरकलेली असते. ”

- मकरंद सावंत  
लेखक, दिग्दर्शक

*When a species of plant or a species of wildlife is classified as "rare" due to human misconduct, the entire human race is one step closer to extinction.*

*- Makarand Sawant, Writer, Director*

**Week 3** showcased the Indian Giant Squirrel (*Ratufa indica*) a large multi-colored tree squirrel species endemic to forests and woodlands in India and the state animal of Maharashtra and the Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park and Wildlife Research Centre, Pune. The zoo has undertaken a conservation breeding program for the Indian Giant Squirrel (*Ratufa indica*) and the ex-situ work under this program was highlighted in virtual talks and discussion with species experts. A virtual tour of the zoo was live-streamed for public viewing. Talks on the biology of the species in focus, current research status, and way forward to address conservation challenges were discussed. Art and quiz competitions on the species in focus were held for students during the week.





**WEEK 3**

March 29<sup>th</sup> - April 4<sup>th</sup> 2021

**INDIAN GIANT SQUIRREL**

*Ratufa indica*

**Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park and Wildlife Research  
Center, Maharashtra**

©<https://brainberries.co/animals/this-giant-tailed-squirrel-has-gone-viral/>

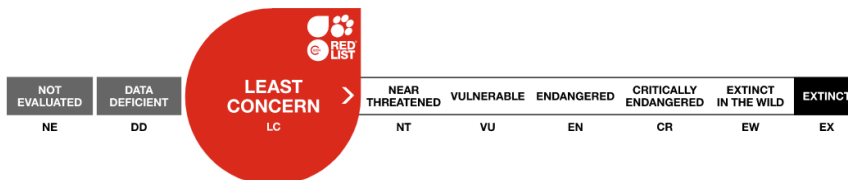
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## INDIAN GIANT SQUIRREL

*Ratufa indica*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Least Concern**



**Distribution:** The Indian Giant Squirrel or 'Shekru' is the state animal of Maharashtra. It is an endemic species and is one of the four species of Giant squirrels found in the world. Although widely distributed within its range, it occurs in severely fragmented populations in southern and central India.

**Habitat:** The squirrel is solitary living, diurnal by habit and arboreal. It is seen in pairs only during mating season and constructs more than one globe shaped nests or drey. When in danger, the squirrel often freezes or flattens itself against the tree trunk, instead of fleeing. They live in canopies and perch high, rarely coming to the forest floor and mostly inhabit tropical deciduous, semi-deciduous, dry scrub, evergreen and semi-evergreen forests.

**Communication:** They communicate through shrill calls and their alarm calls are usually high-pitched noises to alert fellow mates.

**Diet:** They feed on fruits, nuts, flowers and bark of trees. Some are omnivorous and eat bird eggs and insects too.

**Priority status:** Identified as priority species for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** The species is currently housed in 11 zoos across India.

## RAJIV GANDHI ZOOLOGICAL PARK AND WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, PUNE

**Location:** The zoo is located in the city of Pune in Maharashtra.

**Establishment:** It is a Medium category zoo established in the year 1999. The zoo currently sprawls across 51.83 hectares.

**Information:** The zoo also has a snake park and an animal orphanage. This zoo was first established by the PMC in 1953 with the name "Peshwe Park" and relocated to Katraj in 1999. Peshwe park was about 2.8 hectares and was placed in the area where Madhavrao Peshwa had established his private menagerie, a collection of wild animals kept in captivity for exhibition.



# Bharat Ka अमृत महोत्सव



## WEEK 3 GIANT SQUIRREL 29<sup>th</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2021



# 75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE: THE PEOPLE CONNECT India #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

Pune Municipal Corporation and Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park & Wildlife Research Center, Pune Zoo

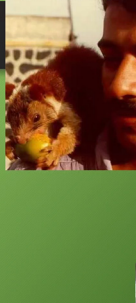
For creating conservation awareness of Indian Giant Squirrel, we have organised various programs like enrichment activity, origami workshop, online talks, paintings, essay writing, clay moulding competitions etc.

Schedule for CZA- 'Bharat Ka Amrut Mahostav' :  
Giant Squirrel week 29<sup>th</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April at Pune Zoo

Date & Time	Events
29 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 Monday 10:30 am to 10:50 am	Inauguration by virtual introduction to Indian Giant Squirrel captive breeding facility
29 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 Monday 10:50 am to 11:30 am	Know about Giant Squirrel An expert talk by Suhas Vaigankar
30 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 Tuesday 10:30 am to 11:30 am	Make a colourful day with Giant Squirrel - A Drawing / Poster Competition
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021 Wednesday 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm	Know our species & Know our Zoo An expert talk by Dr. Nandini Rajamani & Dr. Rajkumar Jadhav Listen the experts
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021 Thursday 10:30 am to 11:30 am	Asses your knowledge with us. A Quiz competition on Giant Squirrel
2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2021 Friday 10:30 am to 11:30 am	Watch charismatic fauna of Rajiv Gandhi Zoological-Park A virtual zoo tour
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021 Saturday 10:30 am to 11:30 am	Make a beautiful draft on Giant Squirrel. An Essay competition.
3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2021 Saturday 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm	An expert talk on giant squirrel by Dr. Subhash Mali
4 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 Monday 10:30 am to 11:30 am	Virtual visit to Rescue Centre, Snake Park and closing ceremony.

### FORAGING ECOLOGY

Sl. No.	Species	No.	% diet 1994	% 1995
1	<i>Manisuris indica</i>	1006	40.996	51.085
2	<i>Geococcyx alba</i>	5	16.091	3.915
3	<i>Memecyba umbellatum</i>	1478	13.478	15.174
4	<i>Geococcyx tuberosus</i>	172	11.474	3.586
5	<i>Amorus latifolius</i>	121	2.813	3.640
6	<i>Ficus verticillata</i>	36	2.330	3.077
7	<i>Strychnos acuminata</i>	253	2.285	6.280
8	<i>Strychnos gardneri</i>	98	2.129	3.915
9	<i>Diospyros sylvatica</i>	137	1.833	0.008
10	<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	3	1.410	1.630
11	<i>Ventilago bembicoides</i>	4	1.285	0.068
12	<i>Diphalgia macrocarpa</i>	4	0.889	0.684
13	<i>Embolia tigriswattana</i>	3	0.631	1.332
14	<i>Olus stevia</i>	278	0.598	0.882
Subhash Mali's screen**		1020	0.358	1.494



### Drawing Competition

Colorful day with Giant Squirrel

30<sup>th</sup> Mar  
10:30 AM to 11:30 AM  
On Zoom call

Class Group:  
3rd to 5th | 6th to 8th | 8th to 10th  
to participate join on Zoom: id 981 3097 8468  
pw 190866

Submit your entries  
rajivgandhizoo.pune@gmail.com  
Mention your Name, Std., School and Mobile number



**Know all about the Species**

If you are in the Western Ghats, you may hear something scurrying in the trees overhead. This is the Indian Giant squirrel, a beautiful, multi-colored squirrel endemic to India. It is one of the four species of Giant squirrels found in the world. Today, the giant squirrel's homes are fragmented. It is found mainly in Western and Eastern Ghats and some parts of Central India. It lives in canopies, requiring unbroken forests.

The squirrel is solitary, except in the mating season. At that time, it makes a charming, globe-shaped nest! It calls in a series of shrill calls. It likes to eat fruit, nuts, flowers, bird eggs, insects and bark of trees.



**Know all about the Zoo**

Pune Municipal Corporation established Pune Zoo in 1952, where the Parkers had their private menagerie. The facility was later relocated to a spacious roadside land at Khatu. It was renamed as Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park & Wildlife Research Centre and was inaugurated on 14<sup>th</sup> March 1999. The zoo is spread out on 130 acres with abundant greenery and is loved by Puneites as green lung of the city. Historical monument within the zoo is the lake built by Peshwas in 1720 which enhances its scenic beauty.

Currently, the zoo houses 62 wildlife species largely representing fauna of the Western Ghats & Deccan Plateau. The zoo aims to contribute to national efforts of wildlife conservation by participating in Ex-Situ conservation breeding programmes for Indian Giant Squirrel.

Dr. Nandini Rajamani  
Assistant Professor  
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh

Dr. Rajkumar Jadhav  
Director  
Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park and Wildlife Research Center, Maharashtra

31<sup>st</sup> March 2021  
04:00 pm

Join Live!  
CZA's YouTube Channel



Bharat Ka  
अमृत महोत्सव

Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park & Wildlife Research Centre

#75Weeks75Species#75Zoos

A live session on Zoom by the Expert!  
Know about  
**Giant Squirrel**  
State animal of Maharashtra  
by  
**Mr. Suhas Waingankar**

Mon 29 Mar  
10:50 am

Project Officer in CSE (Central For Environment Education) based in Pune region's office. Area of operation is Kolhapur, Sindhurg and Sangli District in Northern Western Ghats. Member of Maharashtra Wildlife Board.

# “ वृक्ष वल्ली आह्मां सोयरीं वनचरें । पक्षी ही सुस्वरें आळविती ”

तुकाराम महाराज, कवि और संत

*“The Birds, Trees, Animals are the forms of god and presence of its creatures. The birds give its melodious rhythmic love to the entire world. For all of us, they are our blood and flesh.”*

*- Sant Tukaram Maharaj, Poet and Saint*

**Week 4** The program moved further along the Western Ghats to Bondla Zoo, Usgaon, Goa, the zoo in focus and featured the Gaur (*Bos gaurus*) the largest cattle species in the world and the state animal of Goa in week 4. The Western Ghats and their outflanking hills in southern India constitute one of the most extensive extant strongholds of Gaur. Bondla Zoo, Usgaon, Goa is the only zoo in the state and is nestled in the pristine Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary. This is the smallest wildlife sanctuary in the state. The week’s activities included talks on ex-situ management of the species in Bondla Zoo as a part of the conservation breeding program for the frontline staff and the standard operating procedures for the ethical handling of animals and mitigating human wildlife conflict especially related to Gaur. A media interaction was also organized wherein the zoo operator discussed the challenges faced in in-situ conservation management.



# WEEK 4

April 5<sup>th</sup> - April 11<sup>th</sup> 2021

## GAUR

*Bos gaurus*



**Bondla Zoo, Goa**

©Arindham Bhattacharya

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## GAUR

*Bos gaurus*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Vulnerable**



The Gaur is a massive brown-black, cow-like animal with a charming set of white socks (legs with white markings), an upturned set of horns and a prominent ridge along its body. This is the largest bovid in peninsular India, and can weigh up to 1500 kilograms. The Gaur was once seen across South and South-east Asia, but now is extinct from Sri Lanka. This is an animal that prefers evergreen and deciduous and moist forests, feeding quietly in the thicket. Due to deforestation, some Gaur have been displaced and are seen wandering in towns.

**Communication:** They make a whistling snort as an alarm call and a low cow like “moo” for communication with each other.

**Diet:** They are herbivorous and prefer to graze and browse on the upper regions of the plants such as leaf blades, stems and flowers of grass species. Their food preference varies based on the season.

**Culture:** It is the mascot of the 54th Infantry Division of the Indian Army, also known as the Bison Division and the state animal for Goa and Bihar

**Priority status:** It has been prioritized for Ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** It is housed in 15 zoos across India

## BONDLA ZOO, GOA

**Location:** The zoo is located in the foothills of Western Ghat in Bondla, Usgao.

**Establishment:** The zoo was established in 1969 and sprawls over a 60 ha area.

**Information:** The zoo originally was an Animal rescue centre of the Goa Forest Department with the main objective of rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife. Subsequently, as the need for scientific management was realized, it was accorded the status of a mini zoo and later upgraded to a Small Category zoo. The zoo is located within the Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary. The natural forest areas surrounding the Zoo perimeter houses a rich assemblage of free-ranging wild animals.



**GAUR**  
STATE ANIMAL OF GOA

**75** CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT  
*India* # 75 Weeks 75 Species 75 Zoos

Bharat Ka  
अमृत महोत्सव

5<sup>th</sup> April to 12<sup>th</sup> April

**Common Name :** Gaur  
**Family :** Bovidae  
**Subfamily :** Bovinae  
**Latin Name :** *Bos gaurus* C.H. Smith  
**Height :** Up to 6'4"  
**Weight :** Up to 900kg



Calves are light brown in colour at birth.



Gaur calves look like buffalo calves, turning brown when they are a little older.



The female is slightly brown in colour. The gestation period is 10 to 11 months. After giving birth, the female leaves the herd and stays apart for a few days.



The Gaur is a herding animal. A herd of Gaur can have 10 to 30 Gaur.



**Food :** A completely vegetarian Gaur eats grass, shrubs, fallen fruits of Cluster fig and similar trees, Karvy stalks and the bark of certain trees.



The Gaur does not have a good eyesight. But their sense of smell is sharp. The gaur immediately smell anything.



**Bondla  
Zoological Park**



Photo © Raman Kulkarni



“ മൃഗങ്ങളെ മനസ്സിലാക്കിയാൽ  
മാത്രം പോര, അവരെ  
സ്നേഹിക്കുകയും  
സുരക്ഷിക്കുകയും വേണം. ”

ആതിര, പ്രമുഖ കവി

*“It is not enough to understand the wild animals; the  
point is to defend and preserve them”.*

*- Athira, Eminent poet*

**Week 5** highlighted the Malabar grey hornbill (*Ocyrceros griseus*), a hornbill endemic to the Western Ghats and associated hills of southern India. They have a large beak but lack the casque that is prominent in some other hornbill species. The Zoo in focus was the State Museum and Zoo, Thrissur. This zoo was established in 1885 by Mr. Sankarayya, Diwan Peshkar of Cochin Province, and animals were donated by the King of Cochin. Apart from the zoological garden and botanical garden, a star garden, art museum, and multi-purpose museum are also situated on the premises. The outreach campaign run by the zoo had awareness drives with the frontline staff and visitors and different competitions for children on the species in focus. A special plaque of the Malabar grey hornbill was created by Mr. Subramaniam, using different parts of the coconut tree, and is currently installed near the entrance of the zoo.



# WEEK 5

April 12<sup>th</sup> - April 18<sup>th</sup> 2021



## MALABAR GREY HORNBILL

*Ocyceros griseus*

**State Museum and Zoo, Kerala**

©Saminathan Babu at Thattekad, India in October 2014.

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## MALABAR GREY HORNBILL

*Ocyrceros griseus*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act,1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Vulnerable**



**Distribution Range:** The Malabar Grey Hornbill is endemic to India and found only in the Western ghats in the South-Western region. Unlike the Indian Grey hornbill, the Malabar Grey Hornbill does not have the casque (horn-like structure) on its beak.

**Habitat:** These birds are found in areas with large trees. They nest in holes in tree trunks, forming nesting pairs that can last a lifetime! The presence of a hornbill shows the health of the forest.

**Diet:** They are predominantly frugivorous and act as seed dispersal agents for many fruit bearing forest trees.

**Communication:** They communicate with each other through loud distinctive calls that sound like “hysterical cackling”, “laughing” or “screeching” .

**Priority status:** They have been assigned priority for ex-situ conservation due to the species being threatened by habitat loss.

**Presence in Zoos:** It is not currently housed in any zoo.

## STATE MUSEUM AND ZOO, KERALA

**Location:** The zoo is located in Thrissur, Kerala

**Establishment:** It was established in 1885 over an area of 5.6 ha

**Information:** The zoo is a medium category zoo and was first established in 1885 by Mr. Sankarayya, Diwan Peshkar of Cochin Province. It was re-established in 1912-1913 by acting Diwan, K. Narayana Marar and animals were donated by the King of Cochin. Apart from the zoological garden and botanical garden, a star garden art museum and multi-purpose museum are also situated in the compound.



**75**  
India

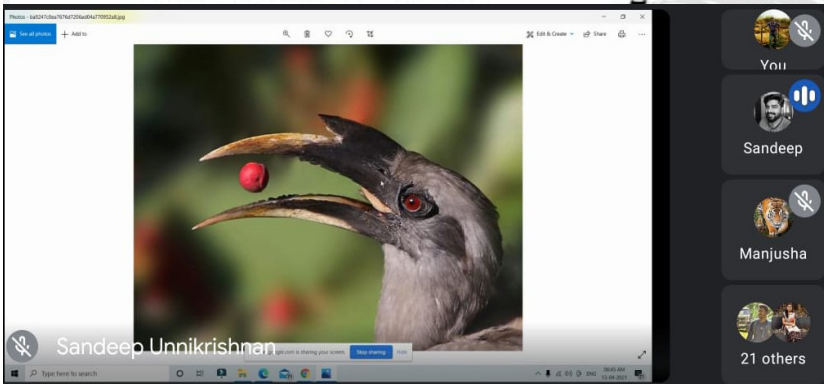
**Conservation to co-existence:  
The people's connect**  
#75Weeks75Species75Zoos

Date	Time	Programme
12-04-2021	03:00 PM	<b>Talk to zoo staff</b> (about the programme, conservation, know the species)
13-04-2021	10:30 AM	<b>Essay Writing</b> (for High School Students)
	11:30 AM	<b>Awareness Class</b> (for College Students)
14-04-2021	04:00 PM	<b>Talk on</b> Know your Species, Know your Zoo with Mr. Vishnudas C K & Ms. Manjusha S
15-04-2021	10:30 AM	<b>Quiz Programme</b> (for High School Students)
	02:00 PM	<b>Quiz Programme</b> (for College Students)
16-04-2021	10:30 AM	<b>Drawing/Painting Competition</b> (for UP/ High School Students)
	02:00 PM	<b>Drawing/Painting Competition</b> (for Plus 2/ College Students)
17-04-2021	11:30 AM	<b>Awareness Class</b> (for College Students)
18-04-2021	12:30 PM	<b>Quiz</b> Photography Competition (for staff)

**WEEK 5 – MALABAR GREY HORNBILL**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> TO 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021**

**STATE MUSEUM AND ZOO, THRISSUR**

(Department of Museums and Zoos, Government of Kerala)



“ మనం అన్ని జీవ వైవిధ్యాలతో జీవ  
జీవులుగా మనల్ని అర్థం  
చేసుకోవాలి. ఈ ఐక్యత మరియు  
పరస్పర ఆధారితత్వాన్ని మనం  
నిజంగా చూడగలిగినప్పుడు, ప్రకృతి  
క్షమించేదిగా, ఉదారంగా మరియు  
స్థితిస్థాపకంగా ఉంటుందని మేము  
కనుగొంటాము ”

అజ్ఞాత

*“We need to understand ourselves as  
biological creatures at one with the diverse of  
all life. When we can truly see this unity and  
interdependence, we will find nature to be  
forgiving, generous and resilient.”*

- Anonymous

**Week 6** The Chousingha or Four-horned Antelope (*Tetracerus quadricornis*) and the Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal were the species and zoo in focus respectively for week 6. The Chousingha is a small antelope found in India and Nepal. Its four horns distinguish it from most other bovids, which have two horns. It is the sole member of the genus *Tetracerus*. The Kakatiya Zoological Park was established as Van Vignan Kendra in 1985. It was renamed as Kakatiya Zoological Park in 2017 in honor of the glorious dynasty that ruled in the region between the 12-14th century with Orugallu (present-day Warangal) as its capital. The events commenced with an inaugural session in the presence of forest officers with a brief introduction and release of the poster on species highlighting its biology. The outreach activities conducted during the week included drawing, painting competitions, quizzes, and writing (story, poem, essay) competitions for students of different age groups. Guided zoo trips for students and visitors were also carried out.



# WEEK 6

April 19<sup>th</sup> - April 25<sup>th</sup> 2021



## FOUR-HORNED ANTELOPE

*Tetracerus quadricornis*

**Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal**

©Ashwin

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## FOUR–HORNED ANTELOPE

*Tetracerus quadricornis*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Vulnerable**



The Four-horned antelope is also commonly known as Chousingha.

**Distribution range:** It is endemic to Peninsular India and a small part of lowland Nepal. Occurs from the foothills of the Himalayas to the South end of the Deccan Plateau.

**Habitat:** They prefer open, dry deciduous and scrub forests and areas that have heavy undergrowth or tall grasses.

**Biology:** The antelope is the smallest of the Asian bovids. It is the sole member i.e., monotypic of the genus "Tetracerus" They are characterized by the presence of four horns; two between the ears and two on the forehead. They are diurnal; active mainly during day time and are solitary by nature. They mark their territory with a colorless secretion on the vegetation, they also use the maintain and use the same latrine sites

**Communication:** They are shy and elusive by nature and the use of alarm calls to alert others is not common.

**Diet:** Herbivorous by habit, they feed by grazing. Their diet includes grasses, shoots and fruit.

**Priority status:** It has been accorded conservation priority for ex-situ conservation owing to the threats faced due to loss of natural habitat owing to agricultural expansion.

**Presence in Zoos:** The species is housed in 25 zoos across India.

## KAKATIYA ZOOLOGICAL PARK, WARANGAL

**Location:** The zoo is located in Warangal, Telangana.

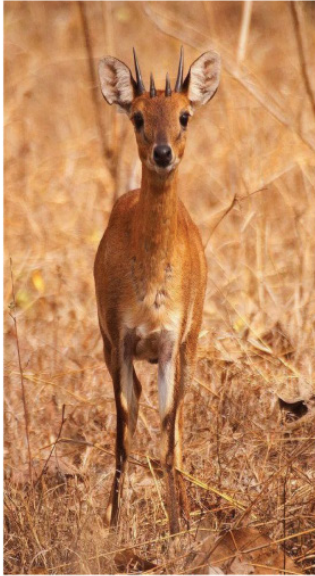
**Establishment:** It is a small category zoo, established in 1985 and spread over 19.22 hectares in the tri-city junction of Warangal, Hanamkonda and Kazipet.

**Information:** The foundation stone for this zoo was laid by the then Governor of Andhra Pradesh Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma under the name, Vana Vignan Kendra in 1985. It was initially recognized as a mini zoo and was subsequently upgraded to the category of small zoo. The zoo was renamed Kakatiya Zoological Park in 2017 by the State Zoos and Parks Authorities of Telangana (ZAPAT). It has an overall collection of 10 species of mammals, 5 species of reptiles and 28 species of birds.



आजादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव

**75** CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT  
*India* # 75 Weeks 75 Species 75 Zoos  
19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021  
**KAKATIYA ZOOLOGICAL PARK, WARANGAL, TELANGANA**



**WEEK 6**  
**FOUR HORNED ANTELOPE**  
19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2021

Date & Time	Event
19.04.2021 10.30 to 11 am 11.15 to 12noon	<b>Virtual Inauguration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav :</b> Introduction by Ms Arpana IFS, District Forest Officer, Warangal Urban, Jangaon & Rural. Release of e-posters on Kakatiya Zoological Park & Four horned antelope by Smt R. Sobha, IFS, PCCF (HoFF) / Chief wildlife warden, Telangana. Address by Dr S.J. Asha, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests, Warangal Circle. Special address by Ms R. Sobha, IFS, PCCF (HoFF) / Chief wildlife warden, Telangana. Key note address by Dr S.P. Yadav, IFS, Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, Delhi. Webinar (Expert talk) on species of the week - Four horned antelope by Dr Ch. Sammaiah, Retired Professor, K.U.
20.04.2021 9 to 11 am	Drawing, Painting competitions on any wild animal and Photography (offline) on any Flora of Telangana state, Deers & Antelopes for High School and College students at Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal.
21.04.2021 9 to 11 am 4 to 5 pm	Online photography competition (Photos to be sent to the <a href="mailto:frozoowgt@gmail.com">frozoowgt@gmail.com</a> ) on any Flora of Telangana state, Deers & Antelopes. Webinar (Expert talk) Know all about species by Dr Koustubh Sharma, Interantional Co-ordinator, Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystems Protection Program (GSLEP) Know all about Zoo by Ms Arpana, IFS, DFO, Warangal Urban, Jangaon & Rural (webinar).
22.04.2021 9 to 11 am 4 to 5 pm	Quiz competition on wildlife and wildlife conservation at Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal. Webinar (Expert talk) on species of the week by Dr Konda Satya Parameshwar, Retired Principal, Lal Bahadur college, Warangal and Interaction with Deccan Birders.
23.04.2021 9 to 11 am	Guided trips for the students and visitors in the Kakatiya Zoological Park by Dr Ch. Praveen Kumar and Team.
24.04.2021 9 to 11 am	Writing competitions – Essay, Story & Poem on Four horned antelope at Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal.
25.04.2021 9 to 10 am 10 to 11 am 11 to 12 noon	Exhibition and Digital shows to the local children. Interaction with volunteers of Friends of Snake Society. Prize distribution & Closing ceremony.



Note : Please maintain the social distance, sanitize your hands and wear a mask in the premises of Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal.



**Know all about the Species**

The four-horned antelope or chausingha is unique in being the only living species with two distinct pairs of horns. It's unique behavioral, morphological and dietary characteristics make the chausingha an indicator of the health of tropical dry deciduous forests that they inhabit.

As one of the smallest members of the Asian bovids, the species is distributed only in India and parts of Nepal, but is among the less studied species.



**Dr Koustubh Sharma**  
International Coordinator of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystems Protection Program (GSLEP)

**Know all about the Zoo**

Kakatiya Zoological Park is located in Warangal, Telangana. It is a small category zoo, established in 1985 and spread over 19.22 hectares in the tri-city junction of Warangal, Hanamkonda and Kazipet. The operator of this zoo is the District Forest Officer, Warangal Urban and Jangaon.

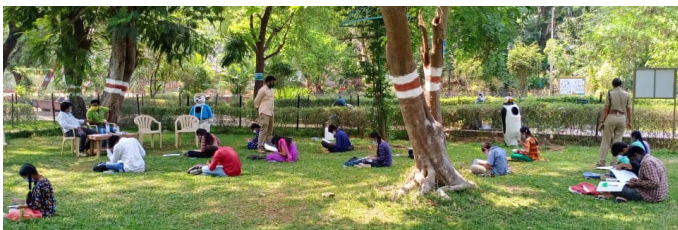
The foundation stone for this zoo was laid by the then Governor of Andhra Pradesh Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma under the name, Yana Vignana Kendra in 1985. The zoo was renamed Kakatiya Zoological Park to its present name in 2017 by the State Zoos and Parks Authorities of Telangana (ZAPAT). It has an overall collection of 10 species of mammals, 5 species of reptiles and 28 species of birds.



**Ms. Arpana, IFS,**  
(FAC) District Forest Officer, Warangal (Urban) & Jangaon.

21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 at 04:00 pm

75 India



**Join Live!**  
CZA's YouTube Channel



AZADI KA  
AMRIT MAHOTSAV



28

“ புதற்குப் புலியும் வலியே  
புலிக்குப் புதலும் வலியாய் விடும். ”

பழமொழி நானூற்றில் புலியூர் கேசிகள், 200

*The tiger adds strengths to the forest;  
The forest also becomes an asset for the tiger.*

- *Puliyur Kesikan in Pazhamozhi Nanuru, 200*

**Week 7** the species in focus was the Lion-tailed macaque (*Macaca silenus*), an Old World monkey endemic to the Western Ghats of South India. and the zoo in focus was the Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur. The zoo located in Vandalur Chennai is a large zoo and has many innovative practices to ensure high standards of zoo management including a digital connection via their website to continue engagement with their visitors and the general public. The outreach activities during this week included broadcasting media interactions with Radio city 91.1 FM, talks by eminent scientists who have worked on the in-situ Lion-tailed macaque populations over the decades. The talks focussed on the historical and present status of the species, the conservation challenges, veterinary interventions for its survival ex-situ, and the way forward to revive the dwindling wild populations. Competitions such as poetry, drawing, logo designing were also organized for visitors and students throughout the week.



# WEEK 7

April 26<sup>th</sup> - May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021

## LION-TAILED MACAQUE

*Macaca silenus*



**Arignar Anna Zoological park, Tamil Nadu**

©Sujith Sivas  
[www.inaturalist.org](http://www.inaturalist.org)

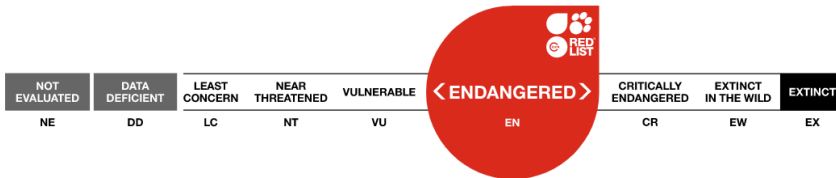
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## LION-TAILED MACAQUE

*Macaca silenus*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Endangered**



**Distribution range:** The Lion-tailed Macaque is an old world primate, endemic to the Western Ghats in several discrete populations.

**Habitat:** It is a rainforest dweller and prefers dense evergreen and semi-evergreen vegetation.

**Biology:** It is diurnal by habit i.e., active during daytime. It is arboreal and occupies the upper canopies of the forests.

**Communication:** Due to their preferred habitat and arboreal nature, the Lion-tailed macaques rely heavily on vocal signals as compared to visual signals. Studies have revealed a repertoire of 17 basic patterns in their vocalizations.

**Diet:** They are predominantly frugivorous, with fruits consisting almost 80 percent of their diet but they can be omnivorous too, depending on their habitat, eating leaves, buds, insects and small invertebrates.

**Priority status:** Habitat degradation of the forests has led to the species being prioritized for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** 54 individuals of the species are housed in nine zoos across India.

## ARIGNAR ANNA ZOOLOGICAL PARK, TAMIL NADU

**Location:** The zoo is located in Vandalur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

**Establishment:** It is a large category zoo established in 1985.

**Information:** The Arignar Anna Zoological Park, formerly known as Madras Zoo is now locally known as the Chennai Zoo or Vandalur Zoo. It was the first zoo formed in India and was first established as a private menagerie by Dr. Edward Green Belfour, Director of the Madras Museum. The menagerie was subsequently taken over by the Madras Corporation in 1861 and was shifted to a larger area of 12.03 acres. The zoo as we currently know it was established in 1985 spreading over an area of 602 hectares including a 92.45 hectare rescue and rehabilitation centre. It is the largest Zoological Park of India.



# ARIGNAR ANNA ZOOLOGICAL PARK



**26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY, 2021**



**LION-TAILED MACAQUE  
(MACACA SILENUS)**

**75 WEEKS | 75 SPECIES | 75 ZOOS**

DATE	PROGRAMME	PROGRAMME PLAN
26.4.2021 (Monday) (10.30 to 11.00 am) Webinar (11.00 am to 1pm)	Virtual Inauguration of AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV (AAZP YouTube Channel live)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome address by Shri. Naga Sathish Gidijala IFS, Deputy Director, AAZP</li> <li>Inauguration and address by Shri. Debasis Jana IFS, (APCCF &amp; Director - AAZP)</li> <li>Release of e-Poster by Director, AAZP</li> </ul>
	Long-term monitoring of Lion-tailed macaque populations in a human-dominated landscape with reference to habitat fragmentation in the Western Ghats	Dr. G. Umapathy Ph.D Senior Principal Scientist LaCONES, CCMB & Professor, Faculty of (AcSIR), Delhi
	Population status and conservation challenges of LTM in Western Ghats	Dr. H.N. Kumara Principal Scientist - Conservation Biology Division SACON
	Conservation breeding of LTM in AAZP	Dr. A.Manimozhi Biologist, AAZP
27.4.2021 ( Tuesday)	Awareness programme through Radiocity 91.1 FM channel Online Painting contest- Zoo website (Host)	Radiocity 91.1 FM show from 9.00am to 10.30 am Painting contest Topic - Role of LTM in conservation of forest.
28.4.2021 (Wednesday) (4.00 pm to 5.00 pm)	Know about Lion-tailed macaque.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Know your species Dr. Ajith kumar, Affiliate Senior Scientist, Centre for Wildlife Studies, Bengaluru.</li> <li>Know your Zoo Shri. Debasis Jana IFS, (APCCF &amp; Director - AAZP)</li> </ul>
29.4.2021 (Thursday)	Online Quiz contest	Zoo website
30.4.2021 ( Friday) (11.00 am to 12 noon)	Webinar on Veterinary care and Enrichment for Lion-tailed macaque (AAZP YouTube Channel live)	Dr.K.Sridhar Veterinary Assistant Surgeon (AAZP)
	Online Poetry competition in Tamil or English - Zoo website (Host)	Topic "Lion tailed macaque of Western Ghats"
1.5.2021 ( Saturday) (11.00 am to 12 noon)	Online Story telling session (AAZP YouTube Channel live)	Thinnai- the story tellers
2.5.2021 (Sunday)	Online LOGO making contest- Zoo website (Host)	Topic - Arignar Anna Zoological Park - Conservation Breeding Centre of Lion tailed Macaque









## Arignar Anna Zoological Park



Conservation Breeding Center of  
Lion tailed Macaque



அறிஞர் அண்ணா உயிரியல் பூங்கா  
**ARIGNAR ANNA ZOOLOGICAL PARK**

**WEBINAR**  **YouTube LIVE EVENT**

**SPEAKERS**

**Dr. G. UMAPATHY Ph.D**

Senior Principal Scientist LaCONES, CCMB & Professor Faculty of (AcSIR), Delhi

Topic : A long-term monitoring of Lion-tailed macaque populations in human dominated landscape with reference to habitat fragmentation in Western Ghats



**Dr. H.N. KUMARA**

Principal Scientist  
Conservation Biology Division  
SACON

Topic : Population status and conservation challenges of LTM in western Ghats

**Dr. A. MANIMOZHI**

Biologist, AAZP

Topic : Conservation breeding of LTM in AAZP

**26.4.2021 (Monday) 11.00 AM - 1PM**








அறிஞர் அண்ணா உயிரியல் பூங்கா  
**ARIGNAR ANNA ZOOLOGICAL PARK**

**VIRTUAL INAUGURATION OF  
AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV**

(AAZP YouTube Channel live)



Welcome address by  
**Shri. Naga Sathish Gidijala**  
IFS, Deputy Director, AAZP



Inauguration and address by  
**Shri. Debasis Jana, IFS**  
(APCCF & Director - AAZP)



**Release of e-Poster**



**Webinar**

**26.4.2021 (Monday)  
10.30AM - 11.00AM**









அறிஞர் அண்ணா உயிரியல் பூங்கா  
**ARIGNAR ANNA ZOOLOGICAL PARK**

**AWARENESS PROGRAMME THROUGH  
RADIOCITY FM CHANNEL**



**27.4.2021 (Tuesday)  
9.00AM - 10.30AM**







# Lion Tailed Macaque

IUCN status: Endangered

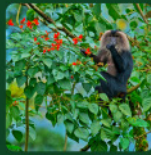
**75** CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
THE PEOPLE CONNECT  
India # 75 Weeks 75 Species 75 Zoos

आजादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव

26th April to 2nd May, 2021



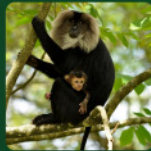
Lion-tailed Macaque is an old world primate, endemic to the Western Ghats hill ranges from the Kalakkad Hill to Sirsi-Honnava at altitudes of 100-1,300 m in the fragmented area of the states of Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu



Rainforest dwellers and arboreal in nature, they inhabit the upper canopy of evergreen forests of Western Ghats. Diet Omnivorous, shy in nature



The name signifies a tufted tail. Both male and female have a majestic silvery white mane, silky black fur, and hairless black face. Old world monkeys with cheek pouches. Male has large, sharp canine



The average age of sexual maturity is 5 to 6 years. Gestation period 6 months. The young ones are born with lighter faces and their manes start to grow after 2 months age



They are diurnal, live in groups of 20 to 30 individuals which spend much of their time foraging. The troop is headed by a single male which has exclusive breeding rights.



AAZP is the Species Coordinator for conservation breeding of Lion Tailed Macaque in India. Habitat degradation of the forests has led to the species being prioritized for ex-situ conservation. Currently AAZP has population of 19 animals in the ratio of 6:11:2:19



Tamil name - சோலைமந்தி, சிங்க வால் குரங்கு  
Common name - Wanderoo  
Scientific name - *Macaca silenus*  
Distribution: Endemic to the Western Ghats  
Sexual maturity: 5-6 years  
Breeding season: Year-round  
Litter size: Single, rarely two  
Longevity: 20 years (wild) 25 -30 years (Captive)

Tamilnadu Forest Department  
Arignar Anna Zoological Park  
Vandalur, Chennai



### Know all about the Species

The Lion-tailed Macaque is an old world primate, endemic to the Western Ghats in several discrete populations. It is a rainforest dweller and prefers dense evergreen and semi-evergreen vegetation. It is diurnal by habit i.e., active during daytime. It is arboreal and occupies the upper canopies of the forests. They are predominantly frugivorous, with fruits consisting almost 80 percent of their diet but they can be omnivorous too, depending on their habitat, eating leaves, buds, insects and small invertebrates.

Habitat degradation of the forests has led to the species being prioritized for ex-situ conservation. 54 individuals of the species are housed in nine zoos across India.

### Know all about the Zoo

The Arignar Anna Zoological Park, formerly known as Madras Zoo is now locally known as the Chennai Zoo or Vandalur Zoo. It was the first zoo formed in India and was first established as a private menagerie by Dr. Edward Green Belfour, Director of the Madras Museum. The menagerie was subsequently taken over by the Madras Corporation in 1861 and was shifted to a larger area of 12.03 acres. The zoo as we currently know it was established in 1985 spreading over an area of 602 hectares including a 92.45 hectare rescue and rehabilitation centre. It is one of the largest zoos in India.



Dr. Ajith Kumar  
Senior Scientist  
Centre for wildlife studies,  
Bengaluru



Mr. Debasis Jana, IFS,  
APCCF and Director,  
Arignar Anna Zoological Park,  
Vandalur, Chennai

29th  
April 2021  
at  
04:00 pm

75  
India



## ONLINE PAINTING CONTEST

**ROLE OF LION TAILED MACAQUE IN FOREST CONSERVATION**


**27.4.2021**  
(Tuesday)

**URL**  
[aazp.in/painting](http://aazp.in/painting)






Join Live!  
CZA's YouTube Channel



## ONLINE QUIZ CONTEST

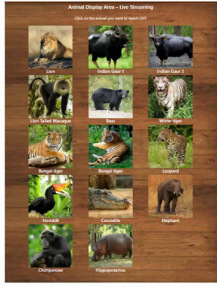
Participate Now & Get an e-Certificate

**29.4.2021**  
(Thursday)





## 24 x 7 Animal Live Streaming - Virtual Zoo



Only Zoo in the World to offer this facility for 15 animals free of cost

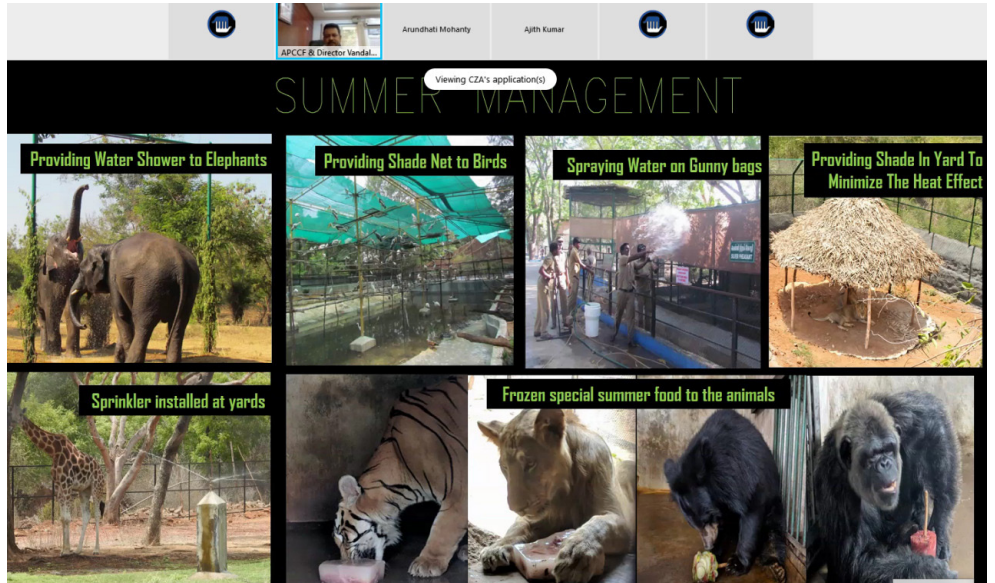
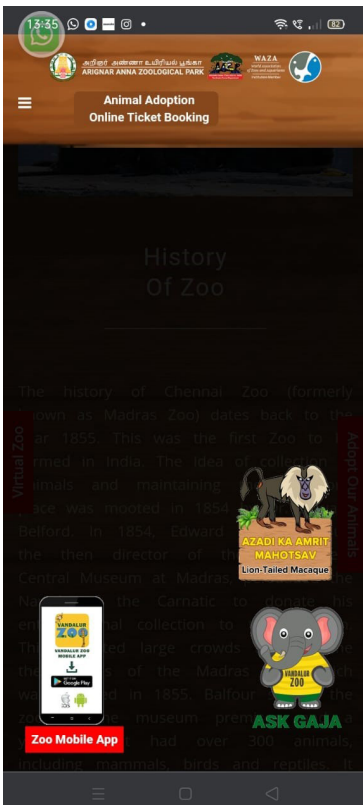


Zoo Mobile APP

More than 4.5 crore Views



Director AAZP



In pursuit of excellence and sustainability

The Journey of Arignar Anna Zoological Park thus far and the way forward

Debasis Jana, IFS  
Additional PCCF & Director



“ പ്രകൃതി നമ്മുടെ അല്ല. നമ്മൾ  
പ്രകൃതിയുടെ ഭാഗമാണ്.  
അതുകൊണ്ട് തന്നെ നമ്മൾ  
അതിനെ മറ്റ് ജീവചാലങ്ങൾക്ക്  
ഒപ്പം പങ്കിടണം. ”  
ആതിര, പ്രമുഖ കവി

*“We don’t own the earth. We belong to it. And we must share  
it with the wildlife.”*

*- Athira, Eminent poet*

**Week 8** highlighted the Nilgiri langur (*Semnopithecus johnii*) as the species in focus and the Thiruvananthapuram zoological garden, Thiruvananthapuram as the zoo in focus. The Nilgiri langur is an attractive black Colobine monkey with a pale gold mane. The rump and base of the tail are white, and females have white highlights on their inner thighs which are present from an early age. Swathi Thirunal Rama Varma, the ruler of Travancore during 1830–1846, was the visionary behind the establishment of the Thiruvananthapuram Museum and Zoo. It occupies 55 acres (22 ha) of woodland, lakes, and lawns. The activities at the zoo for the week began with awareness sessions for the zoo staff on species biology. Competitions such as painting and quiz were held for students. Online talks on the species in focus and other primates of India were also organized.



# WEEK 8

May 3<sup>rd</sup> - May 9<sup>th</sup> 2021

## NILGIRI LANGUR

*Trachypithecus johnii*



ASHVIJ NARAYANAN

**Zoological Garden, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**

©Ashvij Narayanan

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## NILGIRI LANGUR

*Trachypithecus johnii*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Vulnerable**



**Distribution range:** The Nilgiri Langur is an old-world monkey endemic to South India. They are predominantly found in the Nilgiri Hills in the Western Ghats, from which it also derives its name.

**Habitat:** It is found in evergreen and moist deciduous forests. Apart from which they are also found in plantations and edges of plantations.

**Biology:** They are arboreal species and use different levels of the canopy for their activities. They descend to the understory/ground only when crossing grassland patches, roads and for geophagy.

**Communication:** They have 19 distinct vocalizations as reported by studies that include; loud calls, barks, honks, rumbles, contact calls and whoops (shown by dominant males)

**Diet:** They are primarily folivores i.e., leaf eating. However, they also consume nuts, fruits, seeds, flowers and tree bark (lignivorous)

**Priority status:** Owing to the threats they face due to habitat loss, fires, poaching (for traditional medicines), hunting and pet trade, they have been accorded priority status for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** 26 Individuals of the species are housed in 5 zoos across India.

## ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

**Location:** The zoo is located in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

**Establishment:** It is a large category zoo established in the year 1859 and sprawls over an area of 14.58 hectares.

**Information:** The zoo was envisioned by Swathi Thirunal Maharaja who was the illustrious king of Travancore during 1830-1846. Establishment of the museum and zoo using the menagerie of the King was done by his brother, Uthram Thirunal Marthanda Varma and British Resident General Cullen. The zoo currently houses 47 species of birds, 30 species of Mammals and 23 species of Reptiles.





75  
India

Conservation to co-existence:  
The people's connect  
#75Weeks75Species75Zoos

**Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav – Detailed Schedule –**

**Thiruvananthapuram Zoological Garden, Government of Kerala**

Date and Time	Events
3 May 2021, 12.00 noon @7 pm	1. Poster Awareness campaign for Zoo staff 2. Social Media Promotion of nilgiri langur video prepared by Dept staff - TNHM FB page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Natural-History-Museum-Thiruvananthapuram-522238944526068">https://www.facebook.com/Natural-History-Museum-Thiruvananthapuram-522238944526068</a> 3. Inauguration and Staff sensitization programme on Zoom platform
4 May 2021, 11.00 am @6.00 pm	1. Painting Competition for Upper primary and High school levels on Zoom 2. Prelims for students Quiz competition
5 May 2021, 11.00 am @4.00 pm	1. Webinar on Monkeys of India with special focus on Long tailed Leaf Monkey Speaker Sujith V Gopalan, Herpetologist and Wildlife consultant 2. Expert talk – Nilgiri Langur – May 5, 2021 Youtube live in CZA official Channel. Speakers Dr. Giji K Joseph, Asst Prof. Nirmala College, Shri S Abu Director Dept. of Museums and Zoos, Kerala
6 May 2021, 11.00 am	Webinar on Primates of India with special focus on Nilgiri langur Speaker - E Kunhi Krishnan, Rtd Prof. University of Kerala Join Zoom Meeting
7 May 2021, 7.00 pm	Open quiz Quiz master - A Shivakumar Sr. Educational officer, WWF TNHM Facebook live <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Natural-History-Museum-Thiruvananthapuram-522238944526068">https://www.facebook.com/Natural-History-Museum-Thiruvananthapuram-522238944526068</a>
8 May 2021, 11.00 am	Quiz for Higher Secondary and College (Finals) on Zoom platform
9 May 2021, 11.00 am	Valediction and Prize distribution function Zoom platform and Fb live

**WEEK 8 - NILGIRI LANGUR**  
3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2021



आजदी का  
अमृत महोत्सव

**online PAINTING COMPETITION**  
in connection with **AMRUT MAHOTSAVA** 75  
commemoration of 75 years of India's Independence

Date **May 4, 2021**  
(Tuesday)

Levels: > Upper primary  
> High school

**Award ceremony on May 9, 2021**  
For enquiries +91-9890034273

Time : 11:00 AM to 01:30 PM

Organised by  
**Department of Museums & Zoos**  
Thiruvananthapuram  
Reach us at [competition.dmz@gmail.com](mailto:competition.dmz@gmail.com)

**online Quiz Competition**  
Cash prize for winners

organising by Department of Museums & Zoos,  
Thiruvananthapuram

Quiz master : Shri. Sujith V Gopalan  
Wildlife Consultant, Herpetologist  
Member, Society for Odonates studies

in connection with **AMRUT MAHOTSAVA** 75  
commemoration of 75 years of India's Independence

Registration closes on **May 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Prelims on **May 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Finals on **May 8<sup>th</sup>**

Register via GForms **May 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 2021**  
and will be closed by 08.00 PM  
<https://forms.gle/IXGzMSkMwJpY7B1Q8>

Levels: Plus Two  
College students

Reach us at [competition.dmz@gmail.com](mailto:competition.dmz@gmail.com) For queries : +91 9608008158

**online Open Quiz**

organising by Department of Museums & Zoos,  
Thiruvananthapuram

Quiz master : Shri. A.K. Sivakumar  
Senior Educational officer, WWF India

in connection with **AMRUT MAHOTSAVA** 75  
commemoration of 75 years of India's Independence

**Natural history Thiruvananthapuram**  
FB page

Awards for High Scores

Time **May 7<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 2021**  
Time - 7:00 pm

Reach us at [competition.dmz@gmail.com](mailto:competition.dmz@gmail.com)

**MAY 05**  
Wednesday  
Time : 10.30 AM -12.00 PM  
Reach us at [competition.dmz@gmail.com](mailto:competition.dmz@gmail.com)

**LIVE @ Natural history Museum Thiruvananthapuram**  
FB page

**SPEAKER**  
Zoom Online Participants  
Christian College, Kattakada  
**Shri. Sujith V Gopalan**  
Wildlife Consultant, Herpetologist  
Member, Society for Odonates studies

organising by **Department of Museums & Zoos,**  
Thiruvananthapuram

**MAY 06**  
Thursday  
Time : 10.30 AM -12.00 PM  
Reach us at [competition.dmz@gmail.com](mailto:competition.dmz@gmail.com)

**LIVE @ Natural history Museum Thiruvananthapuram**  
FB page

**SPEAKER**  
Zoom Online Participants  
MG College - Trpan,  
All Saint's College - Trpan  
Women's College - Trpan  
Padmanabha National college - Kottam  
NSS College - Kottiyam  
NSS College - Ottapalam  
**Retd. Prof. E. Kunhikrishnan**  
HOD, Zoology Department,  
University College



ALEENA A.P  
Std : VII-A  
Carmel GHSS  
Vazhuthacaud



Jyothishma S  
UP Section  
GUPS PANTAPPURA



Find a participant

- JS Jaikrishna S (G)
- V Vijayalakshmi
- 2 217256
- A Abhinav.P
- AP Akshitha P Gir
- AA Aleena. A. P
- AD Amrutha.S Dil
- AS Anarghya S S
- AS Anaswara saji
- AD Anjaly DR
- Arnav am
- AB Aswin. B
- At art
- B bhadra

Invite

Zoom Meeting

Recording...

will admin

Zoom Meeting

Recording...

The home range of Nilgiri Langurs is between two and six hectares, which varies according to how concentrated the sources of preferred food are and the density of langur troops in the area.

will admin

Zoom Meeting

Recording...

**PRIMATES OF INDIA**  
Special Reference to Nilgiri Langur

E.KUNHIKRISHNAN Former Associate Professor & Head  
Department of Zoology, University College  
Thiruvananthapuram

will ABU S

CiscoWebex

**Nilgiri langur**  
An Endemic Heritage of Southern Western Ghats

Dr. Gigi K. Joseph  
Nirmala College Muvattupuzha  
Kerala

Gigi Joseph

4:30 / 1:07:15

Zoom Meeting

Recording... LIVE on Facebook

**LIVING PRIMATES CLADOGRAM**

will Sujith V. Gopalan

CiscoWebex

**Social Structure**

- Unimale –multi female troops
- Troop size :5 to 7 individuals (3-25)
- Well defined dominance order
- Male emigration is common
- Multimale bands also seen
- Female transfer is very rare

12:01 / 1:07:15

“ నీళ్లలోన మొసలి నిగిడి ఏనుగు దీయ  
బయట కుక్కచేత భంగపడును  
స్థానబలిమిగాని తన బలిమి కాదయా  
విశ్వ దాభిరామ ! వినుర వేమ ! ”

యోగి వేమన, తత్వవేత్త మరియు కవి

*“While in water, Crocodile triumphs over an Elephant  
Once out of the water, same crocodile gets defeated even by a dog  
It is positional strength but not of its own  
Beloved of Viswada ! Listen Vema !”*

*- Yogi Vemana, Philosopher and Poet*

**Week 9** Mouse deer (*Moschiola indica*) and the Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad were the species and the zoo highlighted in Week 9. The Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad was established in the year 1959 and opened to the public on 6th October 1963 with the objective of conserving and breeding endangered species, especially the wildlife of Deccan Plateau. The zoo has been very successful in the conservation breeding of the Indian Chevrotain, the species in focus for the week. The Mouse deer or Chevrotains are the smallest hoofed mammals in the world and make up the family Tragulidae, the only extant members of the order Tragulina. The activities across the week included the showcasing of a short film on the Mouse deer and the reintroduction efforts undertaken by the Telangana forest department. Additionally, talks on the species with emphasis on husbandry practices carried out for conservation breeding, poster exhibition on the Mouse deer, and competitions such as painting and quiz were organized. A special plantation drive of wild fruit trees within the zoo premises was also initiated for the self-sustenance of the zoo.



# WEEK 9

May 10<sup>th</sup> - May 16<sup>th</sup> 2021

## INDIAN CHEVROTAIN

*Moschiola indica*



**Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad**

©Yogesh Koli

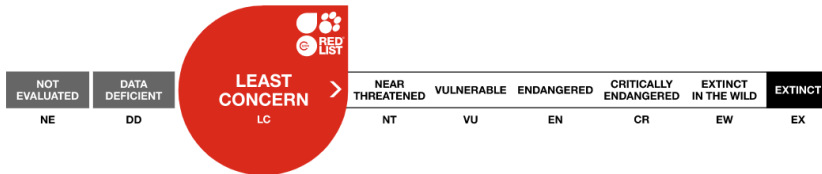
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## INDIAN CHEVROTAIN

*Moschiola indica*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Least Concern**



**Distribution Range:** The Indian chevrotain is the smallest ungulate species in India and is commonly known as 'Mouse deer'. It is found across peninsular India except the Himalayas, Deserts and North-east India. It is extremely rare to spot this species in the wild as it is nocturnal, elusive and cryptic.

**Habitat:** They inhabit dense forested areas in moist evergreen, semi evergreen and tropical deciduous forests with a dense understory. Usually solitary, they can also be found in pairs and studies indicate that they have a small home range. A gland in their chin is used for scent marking of territory. They lack antlers like those seen in other deer.

**Communication:** They communicate through scent marks and vocalizations. Primarily herbivorous; fruits form an important part of their diet.

**Priority status:** Habitat encroachment, poaching has accorded this species priority for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** 204 individuals are currently housed in 15 zoos across India.

## NEHRU ZOOLOGICAL PARK, HYDERABAD

**Location:** The zoo is located in Hyderabad, Telangana

**Establishment:** A large category zoo, it was established in the year 1959 and was opened for public in 1963. It currently sprawls over an area of 154 hectares.

**Information:** The zoo was opened to public in 1963 after relocation to the current location from Public gardens, Hyderabad. It is abutting Mir Alam Tank bund which is an indigenous arch bund dam with 21 arches that was built about 200 years ago during the reign of Mir Akbar Ali Khan Sikander Jah Asif Jah III, who was the third Nizam king. This area is also home to many migratory birds. The concept of a safari park in the zoo was first introduced here in 1974 and has since been upgraded to a safari park complex. It is also the first zoo in the country to have started the Nocturnal Animal house (1982) and an Open butterfly park (1998). The zoo currently houses a total of 193 species of animals and in total about 2000 individuals of Mammals, Birds, Reptiles and Amphibians.





**Schedule for C.Z.A "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav"**  
**"Indian Spotted Chevrotain/Mouse Deer (*Moschiola indica*)"**  
10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Date & Time	Events (Online)
10 <sup>th</sup> May, 21 @ 10.30 A.M to 11.00 A.M 11.00 A.M to 12 .00 P.M	Virtual Inauguration of <b>Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav</b> (Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad). Welcome address by: Ms. V.V.L. Subhadra Devi, Curator, NZP, Hyderabad. Inauguration and address by: Dr. Sidhanand Kukrety, IFS, Addl. Pri. Chief Conservator of Forests, Director (FAC), NZP, Hyderabad. Conservation Breeding of Mouse Deer in Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad what makes it a success? Dr. G. Umaphthy, Ph.D Senior Principal Scientist, LaCONES, CSIR-CCMB, Hyderabad & Professor, AcSIR, Delhi.
11 <sup>th</sup> May, 21 @ 11.00 A.M to 12.00 P.M	Painting Competition [Portrait paint of a Mouse Deer]
12 <sup>th</sup> May, 21 @ 11.00 A.M to 4.00 P.M	Short Movie on Mouse Deer
12 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 4-5pm	Know your species; Know your zoo webinar with Dr. A.J.T Johnsingh and Ms. V.V.L Subhadra Devi.
13 <sup>th</sup> May, 21 @ 11.00 A.M to 4.00 P.M	Poster Exhibition on Mouse Deer & Plantation of Wild fruits trees in Zoo Premises for frugivorous birds & animals.
14 <sup>th</sup> May, 21 @ 11.00 A.M to 4.00 P.M	Breeding biology, enrichment & Reintroduction of Mouse Deer in NZP, HYD, Telangana. Ms. V.V.L . Subhadra Devi, Curator NZP, Hyderabad.
15 <sup>th</sup> May, 21 @ 11.00 A.M to 4.00 P.M	Quiz Competition. [Mouse Deer and Ungulates]
16 <sup>th</sup> May, 21 @ 11.00 A.M to 1200 P.M	Special Talk on "Malabar Pied Hornbills: Gardener of forests (Ecology, Status and Conservation)" by Pooja Pawar.

NOTE: All Entries (Painting & Quiz) will be submitted through Email: [awarnesnehruzoologicalpark@gmail.com](mailto:awarnesnehruzoologicalpark@gmail.com) and get links at twitter: @nehruzoopark1



**Species in Focus**  
**Week 9**

Schedule for C.Z.A "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav"  
"Indian Spotted Chevrotain/Mouse Deer (*Moschiola indica*)"  
10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Hosted by CZA  
Monday, May 10, 2021 @10:30 am  
Live stream  
on  
Facebook  
<https://fb.me/e/3x07rEjIX>

Virtual Inauguration of **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**  
(Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad)  
on  
10<sup>th</sup> May, 2021  
10.30 A.M to 11.00 A.M

Welcome address by: Ms. V.V.L. Subhadra Devi,  
Curator, NZP, Hyderabad.

Inauguration and address by: Dr. Sidhanand Kukrety, IFS, Addl. Pri. Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Director (FAC), NZP, Hyderabad.  
Expert Talk  
on  
11.00 A.M to 12 .00 P.M  
Conservation Breeding of Mouse Deer in Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad what makes it a success?  
by  
Dr. G. Umaphthy, Ph.D  
Senior Principal Scientist, LaCONES, CSIR-CCMB, Hyderabad & Professor, AcSIR, Delhi.



**Species in Focus**  
**Week 9**  
**#Day 2**

Schedule for C.Z.A "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav"  
"Indian Spotted Chevrotain/Mouse Deer (*Moschiola indica*)"  
10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Painting Competition [Portrait paint of a Mouse Deer]  
on  
11<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 @10.30 A.M to 4.30 P.M

All Entries will be submitted through  
Email: [awarnesnehruzoologicalpark@gmail.com](mailto:awarnesnehruzoologicalpark@gmail.com)



twitter: @nehruzoopark1



**Species in Focus**  
**Week 9**  
**#Day 5**

Schedule for C.Z.A "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav"  
"Indian Spotted Chevrotain/Mouse Deer (*Moschiola indica*)"  
10<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021



Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85384588840?pwd=dHd0SUXUyQVnVjUnBBZ2hka0FSSGF3Q0t0O9>  
Meeting ID: 853 8458 8840  
Passcode: 402115

Expert Talk  
on  
14<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 @3.00 P.M  
Breeding biology, enrichment & Reintroduction of Mouse Deer in  
Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad, Telangana  
by



Ms. V.V.L. Subhadra Devi,  
Curator,  
NZP, Hyderabad.



“ ಪ್ರಕೃತಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಬದುಕಿನ  
ಭಾಗವಲ್ಲ. ನಾವು ಪ್ರಕೃತಿಯ  
ಒಂದು ಭಾಗ. ”

– ಕುಪ್ಪಳಿ ಪುಟ್ಟಪ್ಪ ಪೂರ್ಣಚಂದ್ರ ತೇಜಸ್ವಿ,

ಬರಹಗಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾದಂಬರಿಕಾರ

*“Nature is not part of our lives. We are a part  
of nature.”*

- *Kuppali Puttappa Poornachandra Tejaswi,*

*Writer & Novelist*

**Week 10** highlighted the Grey slender loris (*Loris lydekkerianus*) named after the English naturalist Richard Lydekker recognized for having extremely gracile limbs and extreme stereoscopic vision and the Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Garden, Mysuru. The zoo was started in 1892 by Chamaraja Wodeyar X, then the King of Mysuru. Initially, a private Zoo, Khas-Bangale, was meant exclusively for the royal family but public entry was started as early as the 1920s. The zoo has now spread over an area of 250 acres. The week’s activities at the zoo included talks on the species in focus along with two other species of conservation significance housed there; the Indian grey wolf and the Nilgiri Langur. Apart from the online talks, competitions such as poster making, essays, quiz and drawings, and painting competitions were organized for students of different age groups.



# Week 10

May 17<sup>th</sup> to May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021

## GREY SLENDER LORIS

*Loris lydekkerianus*



**Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens,  
Mysuru, Karnataka**

©Dr. K.A.I. Nekaris

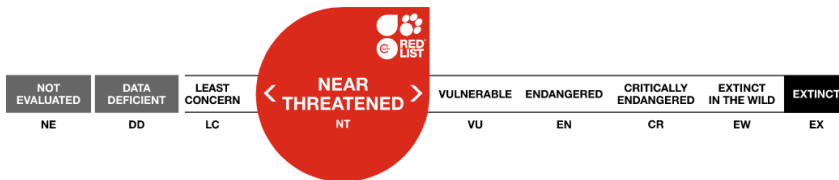
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## GREY SLENDER LORIS

*Loris lydekkerianus*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Near Threatened**



**Distribution Range:** The Grey slender loris is found in India and Sri Lanka. In India, it is found in the southern region of the subcontinent. They inhabit tropical primary and secondary rainforests, dry semi-deciduous forests, scrub, swamp, acacia, bamboo, edge, and montane cloud forest up to 2,000 m above sea level.

**Habitat:** The species is nocturnal and arboreal by nature. They emerge from their roost cavities only at dusk and sleep in groups during daytime. They are usually solitary while foraging but roost in groups of up to seven individuals as per studies. They have a multi male/multi female social structure.

**Communication:** Communication amongst this species is through a range of vocalizations, visual signaling and scent marking.

**Diet:** They are primarily insectivorous, occasionally eating fruits, flowers and small animals like mice and geckos.

**Priority status:** The species is placed in Schedule I of the Wild Life Protection act according to its highest protection in India. Hunting, pet trade and habitat fragmentation are some of the impending threats.

**Presence in Zoos:** The species is currently housed across 4 zoos in India.

## SRI CHAMARAJENDRA ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS

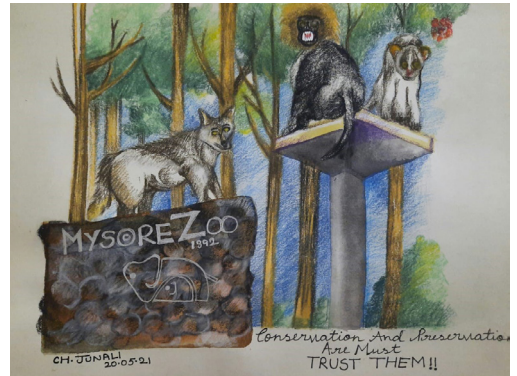
**Location:** Mysuru, Karnataka

**Establishment:** It is a large category zoo established in 1892.

**Information:** The zoo is popularly known as the Mysuru zoo and is amongst the oldest zoos in the country. It was established by the erstwhile Ruler of Mysore, Sri Chamarajendra Wodeyar and was initially named 'Palace zoo'. The zoo housed the royal animal collection of the Maharaja of Mysore and also served as an orphanage for rearing abandoned wild animals. Mysuru zoo is spread over an area of 157.13 hectares and is renowned for housing both native and exotic species. It currently houses 54 species of Mammals, 72 species of birds and 24 species of reptiles.



17.05.2021 11.00 AM	<b>Talk on Nilgiri Langur</b> Dr Mewa Singh Distinguished Professor Department of Psychology and Institute of Excellence University of Mysore
18.05.2021 11.00 AM	<b>Talk on Mysore Slender Loris</b> Dr Honnavalli Kumara Principal Scientist Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History
19.05.2021 11.00 AM	<b>Talk on Indian Grey Wolf</b> Krupakar & Senani Wildlife Photographers and Film-Makers
4.00 – 4.30 PM	<b>Brief Introduction about Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysuru</b> Ajit Kulkarni IFS, Executive Director
4.31 – 5.00 PM	<b>Slender Loris in Urban Landscape</b> Dr Kaberi Kar Gupta Founding Director, Urban Slender Loris Project
20.05.2021 3.00 PM	<b>Poster Making Competition</b> Posters on Nilgiri Langur, Mysore Slender Loris and Indian Grey Wolf
21.05.2021 3.00 PM	<b>Quiz Competition</b> Wildlife Management and Conservation
22.05.2021 3.00 PM	<b>Essay Competition</b> Pandemics and Wildlife Conservation
23.05.2021 3.00 PM	<b>Drawing and Painting Competition</b> Pandemics and Wildlife Conservation



“ ಕಾಡುಗಳಿಲ್ಲದ,  
ಕಾಡುಪ್ರಾಣಿಗಳಿಲ್ಲದ ಪರಿಸರವು  
ಶ್ಮಶಾನಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಭೀಕರವಾಗಿ  
ಕಾಣುತ್ತವೆ. ”

- ಕುಪ್ಪಳಿ ಪುಟ್ಟಪ್ಪ ಪೂರ್ಣಚಂದ್ರ ತೇಜಸ್ವಿ,

ಬರಹಗಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾದಂಬರಿಕಾರ

*“A environment without forest and wildlife can  
look worse than a cremation.”*

- *Kuppali Puttappa Poornachandra Tejaswi,*  
*Writer & Novelist*

**Week 11** Pilikula Biological Park, Pilikula extending over an area of 400 acres along the banks of Gurupura river and the King Cobra (*Ophiophagus hannah*), the largest venomous snake in the world were the focus for week 11. The species in focus is the sole member of the genus *Ophiophagus*, it is distinguishable from other cobras by its size and neck patterns. Awareness activities centered around the species in-focus by way of talks on species biology, husbandry practices, and captive breeding. Competitions such as collage making, drawing, photography were also organized for students of different age groups.



# Week 11

May 24<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> 2021

## **KING COBRA**

*Ophiophagus hannah*



**Pilikula Biological Park, Mangaluru, Karnataka**

©Rob Ferguson

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## KING COBRA

*Ophiophagus hannah*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Vulnerable**



**Distribution Range:** The King Cobra is the world's longest venomous snake and is India's National Reptile. Although widely distributed, the populations are fragmented and hence they are fairly uncommon in regions of occurrence. This species is found in a variety of habitats ranging from pristine forests, degraded forests, mangrove swamps and even agricultural and fringe habitats.

**Habitat:** In India, it is found in Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh; regions of eastern ghats (covering Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh, to coastal Odisha, Bihar and southern West Bengal, especially the Sunderbans); and parts of western Ghats and Andaman Islands. It occurs up to an elevation of 2000 msl.

**Diet:** Their diet primarily consists of snakes including conspecifics, monitor lizards and very occasionally small vertebrates such as birds.

**Priority status:** In addition to the threats presented by habitat destruction (due to deforestation, expansion of agricultural land), the largest venomous snake in the world, also faces threats of mis-guided persecution by humans and poaching and is prioritized for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** 48 individuals are housed in 12 zoos across India.

### Pilikula Biological Park

**Location:** The zoo is located in Mangaluru, Karnataka.

**Establishment:** It is a large category zoo, established in the year 2001

**Information:** The name "Pilikula" is derived from the local tulu language word 'Pili' meaning Tiger and 'Kula' meaning pond. The park area is covered with 70% of thick vegetation, which acts as a natural habitat for the wild animals in captivity. The premises also host a variety of free ranging mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and insects and serves as nesting ground for birds (more than 60 species recorded). It currently houses 57 species of birds, 32 species of Mammals and 33 species of Reptiles.





**Schedule for "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav"  
King Cobra (Ophiophagus hannah)  
24<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

Date and Time	Online Events
24 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 11:00 am	Inauguration by Sri Prakash S Netalkar I.F.S., Chief Conservator of Forests, Mangalore Circle. Intro. to Pilikula Biological Park and Insights on captive breeding of King Cobra by Sri HJ Bhandary, Director, Pilikula Biological Park.
25 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 11:00 am	Expert talk on King Cobra by Dr. Varad Giri, Senior Project Co-ordinator, BNHS – "The real King..."
26 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 04:00 pm	Zoo in focus - Co-ordinated by Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi
27 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 11:00 am	Drawing/painting competition
28 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 11:00 am	Collage Competition
29 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 11:00 am	Photography Competition
30 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 11:am	Expert talk on King Cobra by Sri Murthy Kantimahanti, Conservation Practitioner, Eastern Ghats Wildlife Society - "Conservation of King Cobras in the Eastern Ghats of South India"

**Note:**  
All entries should be submitted through Google forms (links are provided on Pilikula zoo website).  
For more information:  
website:www.pilikulazoo.com, email:pilikulazoo-cza@nic.in, mobile:+91 9980187057

Species in focus: King Cobra (*Ophiophagus hannah*)

Expert Talk on 30.05.2021 @ 11:00 A.M.

**King Cobra Conservation in the Eastern Ghats of South India**



**Murthy Kantimahanti  
Conservation Practitioner  
Eastern Ghats Wildlife Society**



**HISTORY**

"Pilikula", the name was derived from the local tulu language 'Pili' meaning Tiger and 'kula' meaning pond.

It is said that in the past years Tigers were extensively found in this locality. The Tigers used to drink water from a pond found in the area hence the name "Pilikula".

The natural tiger caves still exist in the locality.

Now the small pond was excavated to form a lake.

“ मि तो वारली आदिवासी  
आमच्या पद्धती हाईत ऐतिहासिक  
या रानाचा मूलनिवासी  
जीव आणतो पडसर मातीत  
प्राण हिरवा माझा देव आहे वाघोबा ”

प्रकाश भोईर, कार्यकर्ते

*“I am the Warli Adivasi, we follow  
traditional lifestyle, we are capable of  
bringing life to barren soil. My life is green  
and Waghoba is our God.”*

*- Prakash Bhoir, Activist*

**Week 12** highlighted the Bengal Tiger (*Panthera tigris ssp tigris*) and the Gorewada International Zoo, Nagpur. This week also coincided with World Environment Day, June 5, 2021. The theme for World Environment Day was “Tigers as flag-bearers for ecological restoration” and the general theme was additionally adopted for the activities for the week. Conservation awareness activities throughout the week were taken up with talks on species biology and ecology. A two-day virtual symposium on the management of large felids in zoos and protected areas was organized wherein conservation practitioners from the zoo and protected areas presented their work. On world environment day collaboration with SAEVUS Mumbai was undertaken and an inter-school eco-achievers earth hour debate was held virtually with participation from schools from different states of the country.



# Week 12

May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 6<sup>th</sup> 2021

## **BENGAL TIGER**

*Panthera tigris tigris*



**Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International  
Zoological Park, Nagpur, Maharashtra**

©Keyur Nandaniya

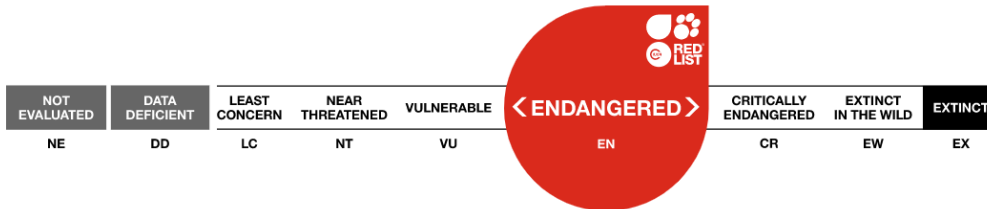
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## BENGAL TIGER

*Panthera tigris tigris*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Endangered**



**Distribution Range:** The Bengal Tiger is the national animal of India and is one of six extant species of Tigers in the world. It is endemic to the Indian sub-continent and is characterized by a tawny-orange coat with black stripes. Distributed along the Terai foothills of the Himalayas, North-east India, Central India, Eastern Ghats and Western Ghats, they inhabit different forest types including tropical dry and moist deciduous, evergreen and riverine forests. They are also adapted to mangrove vegetation in Sundarbans, coniferous, oak and rhododendron habitat in higher altitudes (Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh).

**Habitat:** Tigers are generally solitary, with adults maintaining exclusive territories, or home ranges. Males usually having a larger home range than females and they use scent to mark their territories.

**Communication:** Communication between tigers is by calls and through scent. They are vocal and aggressive when courting and while indulging in play-fighting.

**Priority status:** Habitat fragmentation, habitat loss and poaching are the major threats to the species. It has been accorded priority for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** 281 individuals are housed in 51 zoos across India.

### **Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park**

**Location:** The Zoo is located in Nagpur, Maharashtra.

**Establishment:** It was inaugurated and opened to public on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2021.

**Information:** The zoo has been renamed to 'Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park' in the honour of Late Marathi leader 'Balasaheb Thackeray'. It is conceptualised to be of an international standard with state-of-the-art animal collection and themed exhibits. The envisioned infrastructure has areas for jungle safari, research centre (wildlife) and a rescue centre. The total area of the Gorewada Project is 1914 hectares of which 564 hectares is earmarked for the development of the zoo. The rescue centre here is established over an area of 25 hectares and is the largest rescue centre in Central India. The zoo currently houses 5 species of Mammals and is under development to include a diverse collection of mammals, birds and reptiles.



**Species in Focus: Tiger** (*Panthera tigris tigris*)

**Day 1**

**Inaugural Function**

- 🐾 **Webinar 1:**  
Saving Tigers in Human Dominated Landscape - Lessons learnt from Indian Terai
- 🐾 **Webinar 2:**  
Rescue and Rehabilitation of Large Felids.

**Day 2**

- 🐾 **Webinar 3:**  
Tiger Conservation & Veterinary Intervention: SWOT Analysis
- 🐾 **Webinar 4:**  
Wildlife Forensics with special reference to Wild Felids

**Day 3**

- 🐾 **Webinar 5:**  
Know your species; Know your Zoo

**Day 4**

**Felid Symposium - Day 1**

- 🐾 **Session I:**  
Health Management & Interventions in Captive Large Felids
- 🐾 **Session II:**  
Management of Captive Large Felids

**Zoo in Focus:** Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park

**Day 5**

**Felid Symposium - Day 2**

- 🐾 **Session III:**  
Conservation Biotechnology & Forensic Investigation in Large Felids
- 🐾 **Session IV:**  
Rescue and rehabilitation in Large felids
- 🐾 **Valedictory Session**

**Day 6 - June 5, 2021**

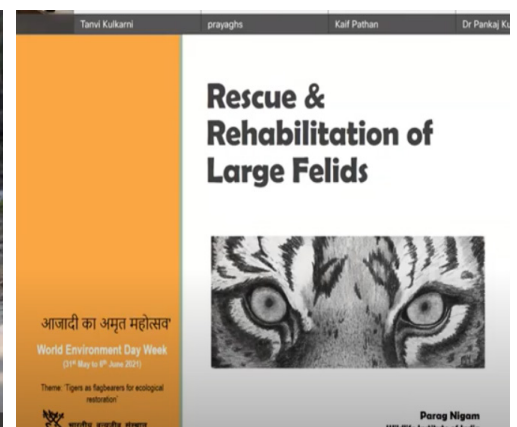
**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY**

- 🐾 World Environment Day Celebration - Saevus Mumbai Eco -achievers Earth Hour (inter-school Debate)
- 🐾 **AWARD CEREMONY**

**Day 7**

- 🐾 **Webinar 6:**  
Conserving India's Tiger – The Actions, Achievements & Challenges
- 🐾 **Webinar 7:**  
Tigers in Human Dominated Landscape – Movement Ecology Approach
- 🐾 **Closing Ceremony**

## Tigers as flagbearers for ecological restoration



**Demography of family: Felidae in Indian zoos: Way forward to achieve long-term sustainability**

Lakshminarasimha R<sup>1</sup>, Gowri Mallapur<sup>2</sup>, Sonali Ghosh<sup>3</sup>, Satya Prakash Yadav<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Scientific Officer; <sup>2</sup>Veterinary Consultant; <sup>3</sup>Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Hq.); <sup>4</sup>Member Secretary  
CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY, NEW DELHI

“ మనిషి ప్రకృతిని అధిగమిస్తాడని  
నిరూపించడానికి మరియు ఆమె తీపిని రుచి  
చూడడానికి మరియు ఆమె సీనియారిటీని  
గౌరవించడానికి తక్కువ సమయం గడిపితే  
మనిషికి ఉజ్వల భవిష్యత్తు గురించి నేను  
మరింత ఆశాజనకంగా భావిస్తాను. ”

- అజ్ఞాత

*“I would feel more optimistic about a bright future  
for man if he spent less time proving he can outwit  
Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and  
respecting her seniority.”*

- Anonymous

**Week 13** The Grey Junglefowl (*Gallus sonneratii*) and the Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park, Tirupati were the species and the zoo in focus respectively for Week 13. The species epithet commemorates the French explorer Pierre Sonnerat. It is endemic to India and is found mainly in peninsular India and towards the northern boundary. The Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park, Tirupati is developed on a mythological theme and with references to the ancient texts like the epics of Ramayana, Mahabharata, Puranas, Vedas, and Upanishads. The park highlights the role of animals in mythology and spreads the message of conservation of nature. Activities across the week included essay writing, painting/drawing, and quiz competitions for students of different age groups. Talks on species biology, resource partitioning related to the species, behavior, and the zoo were organized.



# Week 13

June 7<sup>th</sup> to June 13<sup>th</sup> 2021

## GREY JUNGLEFOWL

*Gallus sonneratii*



Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park, Andhra Pradesh

©Flicker

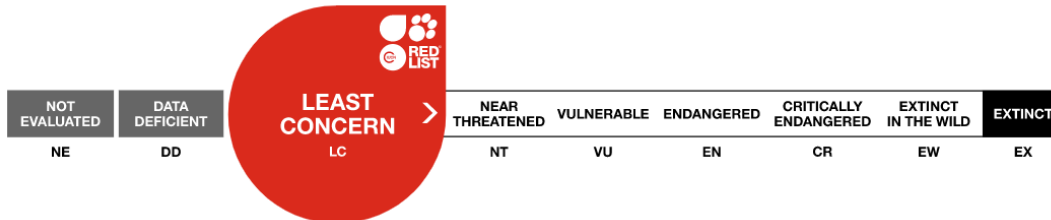
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## GREY JUNGLEFOWL

*Gallus sonneratii*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule II**

**IUCN Red list status: Endangered**



**Distribution Range:** The Grey Junglefowl is endemic to India and is one of the ancestors of the domestic chicken. It is distributed mainly in peninsular India extending into eastern Gujarat, till Mount Abu in south Rajasthan. Its distribution overlaps with the Red Junglefowl in central India. It inhabits undergrowth in broadleaved evergreen and deciduous forest up to 2,400m above MSL (in Nilgiris) secondary growth, bamboo thickets and patches of cultivation in forests, and near water sources in summer. In southern India, it generally forages in abandoned plantations of rubber, coffee and tea roosts in trees.

**Diet:** Omnivorous by habit, their diet includes seeds of bamboo and *Strobilanthes*, shoots of grass and crops, tubers, figs and berries of *Zizyphus*, *Lantana*, insects and small reptiles. They usually forage close to cover and congregate in groups only when food is abundant.

**Priority status:** The species is threatened by loss of forested habitat due to agricultural expansion, overgrazing, burning of scrub, removal of understory for fuelwood and hunting for food and sport. Hence, the species has been accorded priority for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** 46 individuals are housed in 11 zoos across India.

## Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park

**Location:** The zoo is located in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.

**Establishment:** It was established in the year 1993

**Information:** It is one of the largest category zoos located on the foothills of Seshachalam hills, which is an offshoot of Eastern Ghats. Opened to visitors in 1993, and named after the lord of seven hills, it is an important tourist destination for pilgrims visiting famed Tirupati temple. Zoo is spread over an area of 1254.71 ha of which 289 ha area has been developed so far. The developed area of the zoo is on a mythological theme to emphasize the role played by wild animals, birds & reptiles in the ancient epics thereby strengthening the unique nature-culture linkages for conservation. The animals housed are exhibited in large and natural enclosures resembling their natural habitats. Presently, the zoo houses 32 species of mammals, 49 species of birds and 7 species of reptiles.



Date and Time	Online Events
07.06.2021 Monday 11.00 A.M - 01.00 P.M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pheasants of India: An overview of Status and Conservation, Conserving wild ancestors of domestic chicken: The case of Grey and Red Junglefowls.</b> Dr. S.Sathyakumar, Scientist-G / Senior Professor, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun &amp; Member, IUCN / SSC Galliformes Specialist Group.</li> <li>• <b>Ecology, behaviour, threats &amp; conservation of Grey Junglefowl</b> : Prof. M.C.Satyanarayana, Associate Professor (Retd), Department of Zoology &amp; Wildlife Biology, A.V.C.College, Mayiladuturai, Tamil Nadu.</li> </ul>
08.06.2021 Tuesday 3.00 P.M - 4.00 P.M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conservation Breeding of Pheasants in India</b> Lakshmi Narasimha.R, Scientific Officer, CZA.</li> </ul>
09.06.2021 Wednesday 4.00 P.M - 5.00 P.M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Know about the Species</b> Dr. Merwyn Fernandes, Program Co-ordinator, TRAFFIC-India &amp; Member, IUCN / SSC Galliformes Specialist Group</li> <li>• <b>Know about the Zoo</b> M.Hima Sailaja, Curator, Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park.</li> </ul>
10.06.2021 Thursday 11.00A.M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Talk on Birds of Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve</b> Rajasekhar Bandi, Citizen Science Coordinator, IISER, Tirupati.</li> </ul>
11.06.2021 Friday 11.00A.M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Quiz Competition</b> Topic : Grey Junglefowl</li> </ul>
12.06.2021 Saturday 11.00A.M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Essay Writing Competition</b> Topic : Conservation of wildlife and their habitats</li> </ul>
13.06.2021 Sunday 11.00A.M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Drawing and Painting Competition</b> Topic : A visit to Zoo</li> </ul>

**Note:**  
All entries should be mailed at svzpoutreach@gmail.com  
( links are provided on Website:svzoo.com, Facebook: Svzoo Tirupati,  
Twitter: sv zoological park, Instagram: Svzoo Tirupati )



Schedule for C.Z.A “ Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav ”  
“Grey Junglefowl” ( *Gallus sonneratii* )

**Special Talk**  
07<sup>th</sup> June, 2021

<p><b>Session I</b> ( 11:00 A.M - 12:00 P.M ) Pheasants of India: An overview of Status and Conservation, Conserving wild ancestors of domestic chicken: the case of Grey and Red Jungle Fowls.</p>  <p><b>Dr. S.Sathyakumar,</b> Scientist-G / Senior Professor, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun &amp; Member, IUCN / SSC Galliformes Specialist Group.</p>	<p><b>Session II</b> ( 12:00 P.M - 01:00 P.M ) Ecology, behaviour, threats, &amp; conservation of Grey Junglefowl</p>  <p><b>Prof. M.C.Satyanarayana,</b> Associate Professor (Retd), Department of Zoology &amp; Wildlife Biology, A.V.C.College, Mayiladuturai, Tamil Nadu.</p>
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Schedule for C.Z.A “ Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav ”  
“Grey Junglefowl” ( *Gallus sonneratii* )

**Expert Talk**  
08<sup>th</sup> June, 2021

Conservation Breeding of Pheasants in India




Lakshminarasimha. R,  
Scientific Officer, CZA.

Schedule for C.Z.A “ Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav ”  
“Grey Junglefowl” ( *Gallus sonneratii* )

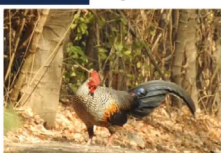
**Special Talk**  
10<sup>th</sup> June, 2021

Talk on Birds of Seshachalam Biosphere Reserve



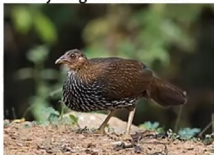
Rajasekhar Bandi,  
Citizen Science Coordinator,  
IISER, Tirupati.

Via **Cisco-Webex** / **Junglefowl - Male**



Rajy Kasumber, Mumbai, Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic

**Grey Junglefowl - Female**



Kashy Koshy/ArMabab, Haryana, India, Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic

Body Length : 65-73 cm ; Weight: 564-1,700 gm

Habitat: 2 layers structural (ground : mid)  
40-60% Shrub cover; Canopy 21-40%  
(Subramanian et al., 2008; Sathyakumar 2006)

Breeding: February-May

Nest Site/ Type : under a bush/bamboo clump

Clutch Size : 3 to 5

Incubation Period : 20-21 days

(Ali & Ripley 1983, Madge and McGowan 2002)



**Conservation status**

IUCN: others  
IWPA: Schedule Iv  
CITES : II



**Habitat & Breeding**

**Habitat :** undergrowth in broadleaved evergreen & deciduous forest, secondary growth, bamboo thickets & patches of cultivation in forests

**Altitude :** <2,400 m

**Nest Site/ Type :** under a bush or bamboo clump in forest

**Breeding Season :** February-May

**Clutch Size:** 3 to 5



“ వన్యప్రాణులు మరియు అరణ్యం యొక్క  
నిరంతర ఉనికి మానవ జీవన నాణ్యతకు  
ముఖ్యమైనది ”

- అజ్ఞాత

*“The continued existence of wildlife and wilderness is  
important to the quality of life of human”*

- Anonymous

**Week 14** featured the Dhole (*Cuon alpinus*) and the Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam. The Dhole is a highly social animal, living in large clans with several breeding females. It is genetically close to the species within the genus *Canis* but has several anatomical differences that set it apart. The Indira Gandhi Zoological Park is located amidst Seethakonda Reserve Forest covering an area of 625 acres in the Visakhapatnam district. The zoo has a deep connection with people, which was evident in the way the community came together to help the zoo resurrect from the ravage of cyclone Hud Hud in 2014 and make a new beginning. The conservation awareness activities for the week included story writing, painting, and quiz competitions. Talks were given by experts on species biology, landscape-based approach for conservation, husbandry practices, and the ex-situ conservation breeding of Dholes at the zoo.



# Week 14

June 14<sup>th</sup> to June 20<sup>th</sup> 2021

**DHOLE**

*Cuon alpinus*



**Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam  
Andhra Pradesh**

©Ramki Sreenivasah

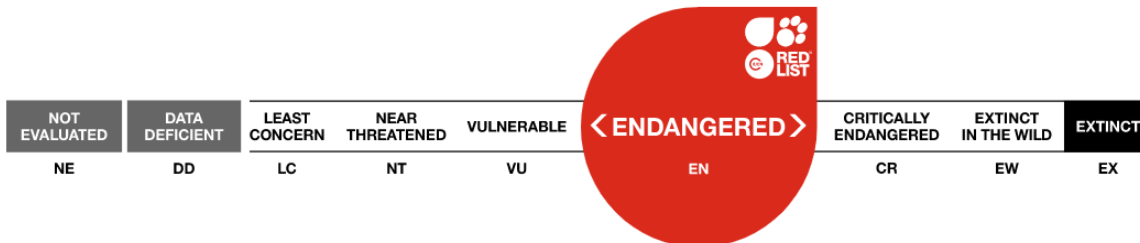
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## DHOLE

*Cuon alpinus*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule II**

**IUCN Red list status: Endangered**



**Distribution Range:** A canid species native to South Asia, Dhole may look similar in appearance to dogs, but they are genetically closer to wolves. They are characterized by a distinctive red coat with a black-tipped tail and are widely distributed in the Indian peninsula, in the regions of the southern-Gangetic plains, Eastern and the Western Ghats, North-east India, and West Bengal.

**Communication:** They communicate amongst each other through yaps, barks, and unique whistling calls. Bi-phonic calls including a high-frequency squeak and a low-frequency yap are a prominent feature of their vocalizations. These are believed to be used for individual recognition and as a contact call to locate pack members and re-group after separation

**Priority status:** The species is threatened by habitat loss and is susceptible to disease transfer from domestic dogs. In the early 19th century, they had been extensively exterminated as 'vermin'. However, now they have been accorded the highest protection under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and a priority for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** 114 individuals are housed in 11 zoos across India.

## Indira Gandhi Zoological Park

**Location:** Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

**Establishment:** Opened to the public in 1977.

**Information:** It is a large category zoo located amidst the Seethakonda Reserved Forest in Visakhapatnam. Construction of this facility began in 1972 and it was opened to the public on May 19, 1977, covering an area of 625 acres. The zoo is situated between the scenic Eastern Ghats on three sides and the Bay of Bengal on the fourth side. The zoo has a large number of rare, endemic trees and shrubs. Water bodies inside the zoo and adjoining area of Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary act as water resources for the sustenance of various flora and fauna of the zoo park. Presently, there are 843 individuals of mammals, birds, and reptiles belonging to 123 species housed in the natural ambiance. The area is also home to a variety of free-ranging animals and birds owing to its proximity to the Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary.



Date	Time	Event
14-06-2021	11:00am-12:00pm	<b>Inaugural session on Conservation Breeding of Asiatic Wild Dog</b> Inaugural address: Sh. P. Ram Mohan Rao, IFS, Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam Circle Expert Talks Speaker: Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist-E, WII, Dehradun & Dr. K. Ramesh, Scientist-E, Department of Landscape Level Planning and Management, WII, Dehradun
15-06-2021	10:00am-5:00pm	Online Quiz Competition on Asiatic Wild Dog
16-06-2021	11:00am-12:00pm	Webinar on Know your species; Know your zoo Speaker: Dr. Nandani Salaria, IFS, Curator, IGZP, Visakhapatnam Dr Bhaskar Acharya, Wildlife consultant and Member, IUCN SSC Canid specialist group
17-06-2021	10:00am-5:00pm	Online Painting Competition on Asiatic Wild Dog, Theme: Asiatic Wild Dogs with its family and habitat.
18-06-2021	11:00am-12:00pm	Collaboration with IISER, Tirupati with a virtual talk on Asiatic Wild Dog Speaker Name: Dr. Nandini Rajamani, IISER, Tirupati & Dr. Shomita Mukherjee, SACON
19-06-2021	10:00am-5:00pm	Online Story Writing Competition
20-06-2021	11:00am-01:00pm	Webinar on Behavior Ecology on Dholes, Veterinary care on Asiatic Wild Dogs, Reproductive Biology, Breeding Behaviour, Enrichment. Speakers: Ms. Pallavi Ghaskadbi, PhD Scholar, WII, Dehradun , Dr. Purushottam, Junior Veterinarian, IGZP & Mr. M. Purushottam, Conservation Biologist, IGZP

**INDIRA GANDHI ZOOLOGICAL PARK**  
#75Weeks #75Species #75Zoos

Conservation to co-existence: The People's Connect-Outreach activities as part of Bharat ke Amrit Mahotsav  
Commemoration of 75 years of India's Independence.

**Schedule for CZA "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav"**  
**"Asiatic Wild Dog or Dhole (Cuon alpinus)"**  
**14<sup>th</sup> June 2021**



Sh. P. Ram Mohan Rao, IFS  
Conservator of Forests,  
Visakhapatnam



Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist-E, Head,  
Animal Ecology & Conservation Biology,  
Wildlife Institute of India



Dr. K. Ramesh,  
Scientist-E,  
Department of Landscape  
Level Planning  
and Management,  
Wildlife Institute of India



Dr. Nandani Salaria, IFS, Curator,  
Indira Gandhi Zoological Park,  
Visakhapatnam

TIME	EVENT
11:00-11:10am	Inaugural address by Sh. P. Ram Mohan Rao, IFS, Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam Circle
11:10-11:20am	Brief about Conservation Breeding Program of Asiatic Wild Dog in IGZP, Visakhapatnam by Dr. Nandani Salaria, IFS, Curator, IGZP, Visakhapatnam
11:20-11:45am	Dhole-The mysterious predator of Indian Jungles by Dr. Bilal Habib
11:45-12:10pm	Es-situ and in-situ Linkage: Need for integrated approach by Dr. K. Ramesh
12:10-12:15pm	Vote of thanks and Conclusion

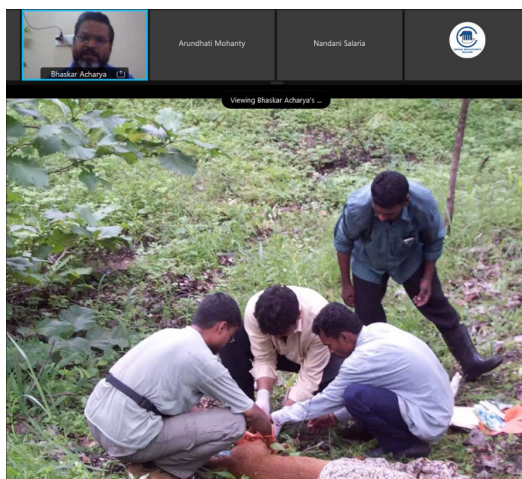
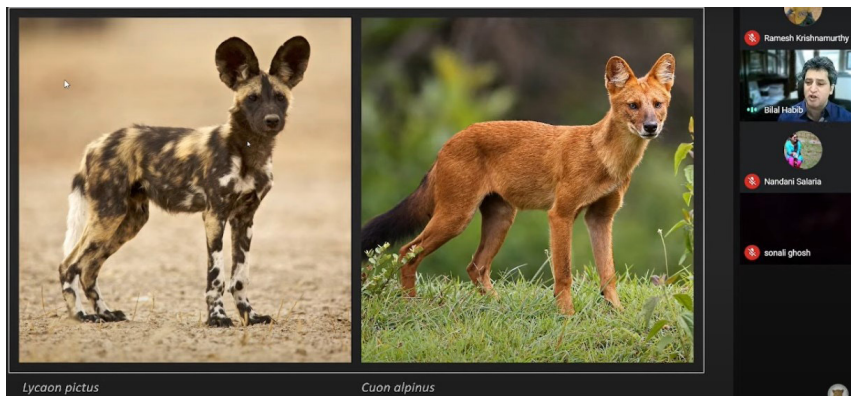
**INDIRA GANDHI ZOOLOGICAL PARK**  
#75Weeks #75Species #75Zoos

**Online Painting Competition on Asiatic Wild Dog**

**Painting**  
Date : 17 June 2021  
Time : 10:00am to 05:00pm

**Theme**  
Asiatic Wild Dogs with its family and habitat

All Entries Should sent to [events.igzp@gmail.com](mailto:events.igzp@gmail.com)



“ पोका माकर हार जोते,  
बोनेक बांदर ढेंका फोरे,  
चिड़ऊ बिहिन् छिंटे  
खेरहवे किसान रे।। ”

- अज्ञात

*“The insects till the ground, the macaques crack open the nuts, the squirrels drop the seeds and this leads to the growth of a forest...all under the watchful eye of the hare”*

*-Anonymous*

**Week 15** The Wild water buffalo (*Bubalus arnee*) and the Nandanvan Jungle safari, Naya Raipur were the species and zoo in focus for week 15. The Wild water buffalo, the state animal of Chhattisgarh are strong and formidable mammals with an urgent need for on-ground conservation action. This species will strongly benefit from coordinated ex-situ and in-situ conservation programs. The Nandanvan Jungle Safari, Naya Raipur has taken on the task of conservation breeding of this species and has set up a modern breeding center spread over 2.5 ha. Activities for the week included talks on the only conservation and breeding center for the wild water buffalo and the translocation of the species from Assam to Chhattisgarh. This monumental species translocation effort was a step in the direction of saving a species from local extinction.



# Week 15

June 21<sup>st</sup> to June 27<sup>th</sup> 2021

## WILD WATER BUFFALO

*Bubalus arnee*



**Nandanvan Jungle Safari, Nava Raipur,  
Chhattisgarh**

©Saket Badola

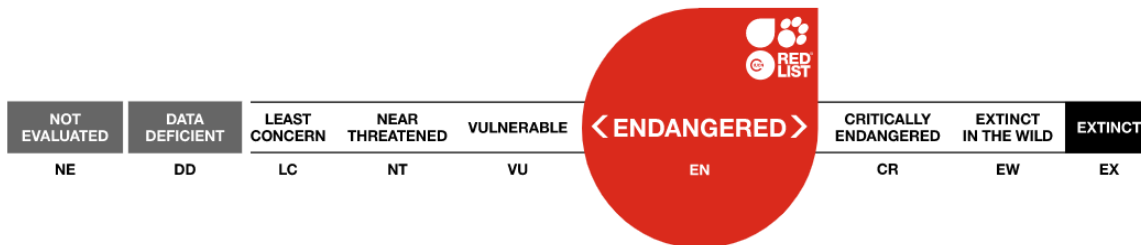
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## WILD WATER BUFFALO

*Bubalus arnee*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Endangered**



**Distribution Range:** The Wild buffalo is an important wild ancestor of domesticated breeds of livestock. Historically it occurred in the vast terai floodplains of India, Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand, and Cambodia. In India, now it is limited to the Protected Areas in Assam, parts of Arunachal Pradesh, and West Bengal. A disjointed population also occurs in Chhattisgarh. Preferred habitat for the species includes low-lying alluvial grasslands, riparian forests, and woodlands. In central India, they thrive in dry deciduous forests with grass.

**Diet:** Grazers by preference they feed mainly on grasses but also eat other herbs, fruits, and bark, as well as by browsing on trees and shrubs.

**Priority status:** Owing to threats due to habitat loss, hybridization with domestic cattle, and disease transmission from domestic breeds, the species has been accorded priority for ex-situ conservation. It is also listed as Endangered as per IUCN Red List as the remaining population is less than 4,000 and is declining.

**Presence in Zoos:** Currently housed in a conservation breeding center with a purpose to serve as founder population for future restocking in the wild.

## Nandanvan Jungle Safari

**Location:** The zoo is located in Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

**Establishment:** The zoo was established in the year 2016.

**Information:** The Nandanvan jungle safari was inaugurated on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016. It has been widely celebrated and applauded for its aesthetically built enclosures within a short span of time and has found a promising place amongst the best wildlife and biodiversity conservation centers in the country. The lush green landscape together with the indigenous plant species adds up to the vegetation and enables natural habitat for the animals. It houses a 130-acre water body named 'Khandwa Reservoir' which attracts many migratory bird species. The zoo has four safaris namely, herbivore, Bear, tiger & Lion. Presently, it houses 22 species of mammals, 13 species of birds, and 7 species of reptiles.





# NANDANVAN ZOO & SAFARI

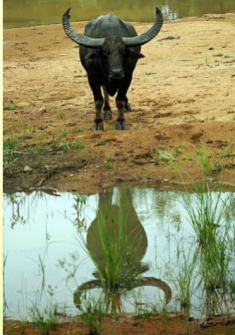
Nava Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Conservation to co-existence: The people's connect

15th week #75Weeks75Species75Zoos

# 75 India

Schedule for CZA "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" Species in Focus : Wild Water Buffalo (*Bubalus arnee*)



**WILD WATER BUFFALO**  
(*Bubalus arnee*)

Date	Time	Online Events
21 <sup>st</sup> June 2021	4 PM to 5 PM	Inaugural Session
22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2021	12 PM to 1 PM	Special Talk on "Wild Buffalo Conservation & Breeding Centre, Chhattisgarh"
23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2021	4 PM to 5 PM	Know about the species Know about the Zoo
24 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	11 AM to 5 PM	Drawing & Painting competition <b>Topic-</b> Wild Buffalo and its suitable habitat
25 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	12 PM to 1 PM	Special talk on translocation of Wild Buffalo from Assam to Chhattisgarh
26 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	11 AM to 5 PM	Essay writing competition <b>Topic-</b> Indian Wild Buffalo – Importance & conservation perspective
27 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	12 PM to 1 PM	Closing Ceremony & Prize distribution



All entries should be mailed at [nandanvanjunglesafari@gmail.com](mailto:nandanvanjunglesafari@gmail.com)  
Watch live on **YouTube**

**21st to 27th June 2021**

**CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE**

**WILD BUFFALO CONSERVATION**

THE POPULATION OF WILD BUFFALO HAS DECLINED DRASTICALLY IN THE LAST THREE DECADES. THE SPECIES IS NOW RESTRICTED TO SMALL AREA IN NORTH-EAST INDIA (CEG). THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 3000-4000 INDIVIDUALS IN NORTH-EAST REGION AND SOME 50 AROUND INDIVIDUALS IN OG. THE WILD BUFFALO IS LISTED IN SCHEDULE I OF THE INDIAN WILD-LIFE ACT, 1972. IT IS KEPT UNDER ENDANGERED CATEGORY IN THE IUCN RED DATA BOOK, AS LESS THAN 4000 INDIVIDUALS ARE LEFT IN THE WILD..... APART FROM THESE ACTIVITIES AND OTHER AWARENESS PROGRAMS FOR WILD BUFFALOS ARE ALSO BEING TAKEN BY AUTHORITIES.

## Know all about the Species **Week 15**

The Wild buffalo is an important wild ancestor of domesticated breeds of livestock. Historically it occurred in the vast terai floodplains of India, Nepal, Bhutan, Thailand, and Cambodia. In India, now it is limited to the Protected Areas in Assam, parts of Arunachal Pradesh, and West Bengal. A disjointed population also occurs in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra. Preferred habitat for the species includes low-lying alluvial grasslands, riparian forests, and woodlands. In central India, they thrive in dry deciduous forests with grass.

They have an ash-grey to blackish skin, the tip of the tail is bushy and their hooves are large and splayed. Both sexes carry horns that are heavy at the base and widely spreading (up to 2 m) along the outer edges. They are distinguished from domestic buffaloes by being a sleeker and heavier version with a flat back without a dewlap or a ridge, the horn shape also differs.

Owing to threats due to habitat loss, hybridization with domestic cattle, and disease transmission from domestic breeds, the species has been accorded priority for ex-situ conservation. It is also listed as Endangered as per IUCN Red List as the remaining population is less than 5,000 and is declining.

Currently housed in a conservation breeding center with a purpose to serve as founder



**Dr Anwaruddin Choudhury**, Ph.D, DSc, IAS (Retired), The Rhino foundation for Nature in North East India.



**Ms Mercy Bella, IFS**, Director, Nandanvan Jungle Safari, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

## Wild Water Buffalo *Bubalus arnee*



**Forest & Climate Change Department**  
**Government Of Chhattisgarh**

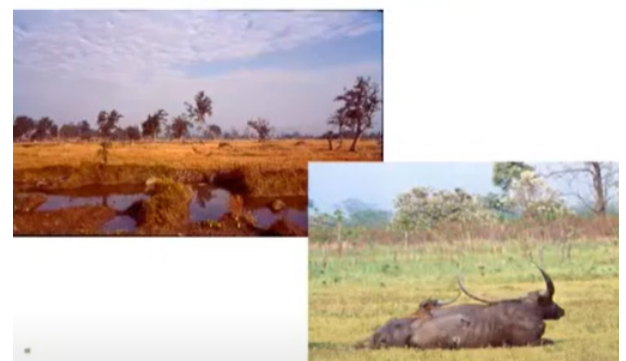
### Know all about the Zoo

The Nandanvan jungle safari was inaugurated on 1st November 2016 and is one of the premier human-made jungle safari and zoos in India. It has been widely celebrated and applauded for its aesthetically built enclosures within a short span of time and has found a promising place amongst the best wildlife and biodiversity conservation centers in the country. As a modern and emerging safari, Nandanvan safari has spearheaded providing the finest animal-friendly housing in natural ambiance, husbandry, and health care. The lush green landscape together with the indigenous plant species adds up to the vegetation and enables natural habitat for the animals. It houses a 130-acre water body named 'Khandwa Reservoir' which attracts many migratory bird species. The zoo has four safaris namely, herbivore, Bear, tiger & Lion. Presently, it houses 22 species of mammals, 13 species of birds, and 7 species of reptiles.

**Wild Water Buffalo**  
*Bubalus arnee (= bubalis)*

By Dr Anwaruddin Choudhury, PhD, DSc IAS (ret'd)

## Conservation issues



**Watch Live!**  
CZA's YouTube Channel

**23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 at 04:00 pm**



“ ಸ್ವಾವಲಂಬನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯುತ ಸಹಬಾಳ್ವೆ- ಇದು ನಿಸರ್ಗದ ಮೂಲತತ್ವ ”

- ಅನಾಮಿಕ

*“Self-reliance and responsible co-existence -This is the basic principle of nature”*

*-Anonymous*

**Week 16** featured The Malabar banded swallowtail (*Papilio liomedon*) a species legally protected in India under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The species is generally found in the semi-evergreen and evergreen tropical forests of the Western Ghats where it flies mainly during the monsoon months. The zoo in focus was the Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru situated on the northern terminal point of Mysuru Elephant Reserve. The Park plays a major role in the conservation of rich floral, faunal diversity, sequester carbon, and sustaining regional hydrology. Talks on the endemic and associated butterfly species and the butterfly garden of the zoo were organized throughout the week. Drawing, craft, photography, and quiz competitions focusing on the order Lepidoptera, specifically butterflies, were organized for students.



# Week 16

June 28<sup>th</sup> to July 4<sup>th</sup> 2021

## MALABAR BANDED SWALLOWTAIL

*Papilio liomedon*



**Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru,  
Karnataka**

© Balakrishnan Valappil

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## MALABAR BANDED SWALLOWTAIL

*Papilio liomedon*

### Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I

**Distribution Range:** The Malabar banded swallowtail is a member of the swallowtail family, endemic to the Western Ghats. The forked appearance in some of the swallowtails' hindwings, which can be seen when the butterfly is resting with its wings spread, gave rise to the common name swallowtail.

**Habitat:** A large dazzling, brownish-black butterfly with a prominent cream-yellow band on its hind wing, it inhabits semi-evergreen and evergreen rain forests. Both sexes have a preference for heavily forested areas, the only difference being in their favored strata.

The Malabar banded swallowtail's life cycle consists of four phases; Egg, Larva, Pupa, and Imago. The female lays 10-16 eggs one over the other in a sequence resembling a stick. The color of the eggs gradually fades from orange to yellow. Pale black markings appear on the upper side of the eggshells by the fourth day and larvae hatch by the fifth day. Pupation starts after around 22 days of larval duration and lasts for about 15 days. Indian Aspen (*Achrotychia laurifolia*) is one of the recorded larval food plants of the butterfly.

**Priority status:** The species is placed in Schedule I of the Wild Life Protection act according to highest protection in India. Forest fragmentation, and reduction in pure evergreen species of host plants are some of the impending threats.

**Presence in Zoos:** Due to its high endemicity and limited knowledge on its husbandry practices, the species is currently not housed in any zoo. However, zoos in India are now experimenting with establishing butterfly parks with common species that are popular with visitors and children alike.

## Bannerghatta Biological Park

**Location:** It is located in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

**Establishment:** The zoo was established in 1974.

**Information:** The zoo was initially established as a small category zoo in 1974 within the Bannerghatta National Park mainly for recreational purposes. The biological park as we know it today was established in 2002 over an area of 731.88 hectares. The area includes a butterfly park, tiger, lion and herbivore safari. Presently, the zoo houses 48 species of birds, 34 species of mammals, and 22 species of reptiles. The zoo also houses a well managed butterfly park that is spread over an area of 7.5 acres. A total of 48 species of butterflies in various seasons have been reported out of which 30 species belonging to five families viz., Papilionidae, Pieridae, Nymphalidae, Lycaenidae and Hesperidae are known to be breeding in different seasons in the conservatory dome of the Butterfly Park.





Date & Time	Event
28th June	Virtual Innauguration of Week 16 of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
29th June	Online Quiz on Malabar Banded Swallow Tail Online Webinar: Know your Zoo, Know Your Species Smt. Vanashree Vipin Singh, IFS, CCF & Executive Director, Bannerghatta Biological Park
30th June 4 pm	Dr. Krushnamegh Kunte, Associate Professor, National Centre for Biological Sciences
1st July	Drawing and Craft Competition
2nd July 11:00 am	Virtual Talk on Butterfly Species by Sri Sammilan S Shetty Founder of Butterfly Park, Belvai
3rd July	Photography & Elocution Competition
4th July	Closing event and announcement of winners



**Week 16 Conservation Talk**  
Hosted by Bengaluru Bannerghatta Biological Park  
**My unending journey with butterflies & the Malabar Banded Swallowtail story**  
by Sammilan S Shetty



Quiz Winners will be announced during the talk!  
ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ರಸಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ವಿಜೇತರನ್ನು ಘೋಷಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ!

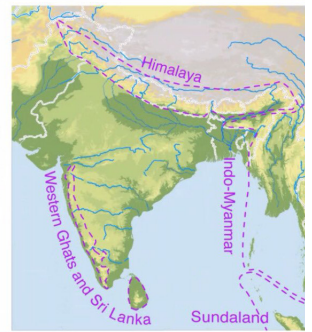
Time: 12 pm Date: 2nd July 2021

Zoom Meeting ID: 865 5738 8268 Password: butterfly

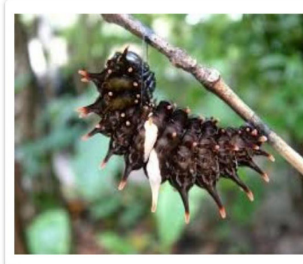


IUCN Species Survival Commission's Butterfly Specialist Group (2019-2023), South Asian Invertebrate Specialist Group (2013-2020): Assess status and conservation needs of India's endemic butterflies

State Forest Departments: Management plans and biodiversity surveys for several national parks and wildlife sanctuaries



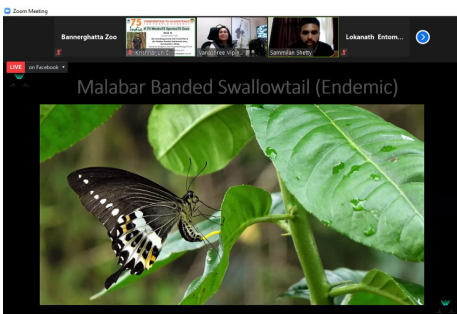
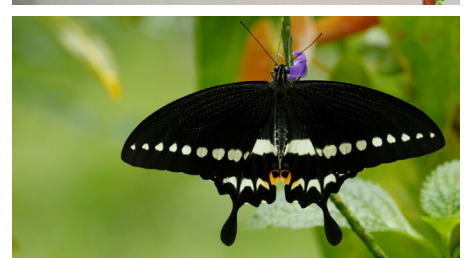
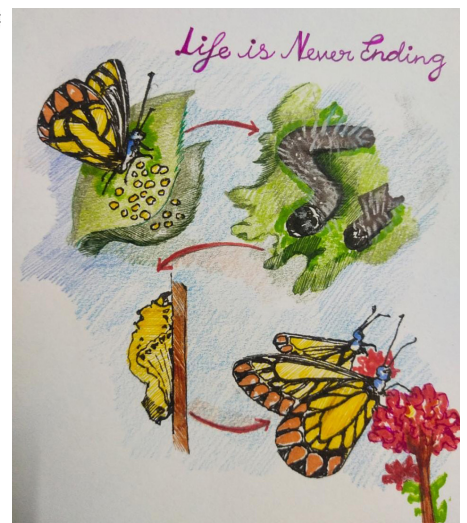
Identify the larva of a Malabar Banded Swallowtail



Option 1



Option 2



“ महुवाक बोने गोंठइला हिंदे  
ताता ताही आदिबासी ।  
माटिक रइखा खातिर  
किरिया खइला बनबासी ॥ ”

- अज्ञात

*“The traditional settlers live in the forest with  
Mahua (Madhuca indica) trees and they have  
taken an oath to protect these forests”*

- Anonymous

**Week 17** highlighted the species Barasingha or Swamp Deer (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), a deer species with antlers having more than three times and the Van Vihar National Park and zoo, Bhopal. The zoo is part of a national park situated within the city limits of Bhopal and it tries to set an example in the field of conservation and eco-restoration. Activities throughout the week included photo exhibitions, story writing competitions, quiz competitions, guided zoo tours, and birding tours. Talks on species biology and the conservation of the species in Madhya Pradesh including a translocation exercise for the swamp deer were organized.



# Week 17

July 5<sup>th</sup> to July 11<sup>th</sup> 2021

## SWAMP DEER

*Rucervus duvaucelii*



**Van Vihar National Park and Zoo,  
Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**

© David Raju

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## SWAMP DEER

*Rucervus duvaucelii*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Vulnerable**



**Distribution Range:** The Barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), also called swamp deer, is a deer species found in India (northern, northeastern, and central), and south-western Nepal. It differs from other deer species owing to the unique structure of its antlers; it has 5-6 tined antlers. Swamp deers are creatures of habit and use the same tracks for movement across habitats.

**Diet:** Herbivorous by diet, they largely feed on grasses, leaves, and aquatic plants with varying diet compositions based on the season. Their feeding time is also governed by the season; in summer it usually peaks during early mornings and late evenings whereas in winters they feed throughout the day.

**Priority status:** Loss of their habitat due to deforestation, draining of swamps and marshes for farming, poaching for its antlers, and diseases transmitted by domestic cattle are some of the threats the species face that have led to its prioritization for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** 280 individuals are housed in 20 zoos across India.

## Van Vihar National Park Zoo

**Location:** The zoo is located in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

**Establishment:** It was established in 1994.

**Information:** The Van Vihar National Park Zoo was conceptualized over an area that was fragmented and denuded for eco-restoration and conservation in the heart of Bhopal city. It is an amalgamation of a National Park, Zoological Garden, Rescue center and Conservation Breeding Centre spread over an area of 445.21 hectares contributing to both in-situ and ex-situ conservation activities. The mosaic of plains, grasslands, shrubby vegetation, water pools, rugged slopes, mixed bamboo forest, grass-covered plateau, and patches of mixed plantations enrich the floral and faunal diversity of the area. The area serves as a repository for free-ranging mammals, avifauna, and botanical species from Central India.

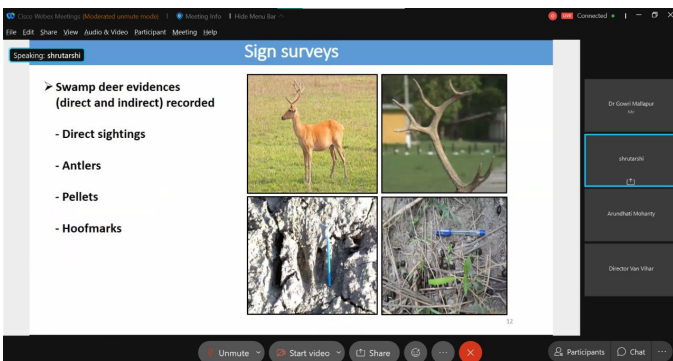
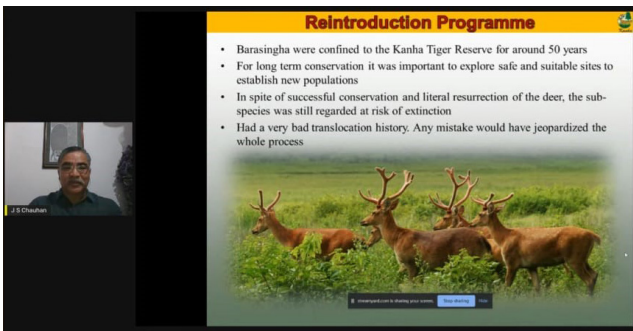


# वन विहार में 5 से 11 जुलाई तक विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन

- Day 1** | चित्रकला प्रतियोगिता
- Day 2** | ऑनलाइन कहानी प्रतियोगिता
- Day 3 & Day 4** | पक्षी दर्शन, वन्य-प्राणी दर्शन एवं वार्तालाप शिविर
- Day 5** | "वन विहार एवं बारासिंगा" विषय पर क्विज प्रतियोगिता
- Day 6** | वन्य-प्राणी फोटो प्रतियोगिता/प्रदर्शनी  
Note-फोटो प्रिंट कराकर 4 जुलाई तक जमा करना अनिवार्य होगा।



**Read More** <https://bit.ly/3yi9on6>



“ ସମସ୍ତ ଧନ ସମ୍ପତ୍ତିର ଉଦ୍ଧରେ ବନ୍ୟପ୍ରାଣୀ  
ସୁରକ୍ଷାରେ ସହଭାଗିତା ମହାନତର ଆସନ୍ତୁ  
ବନ୍ୟପ୍ରାଣୀ ସୁରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ଶପଥ ନେବା । ”

ସୁଦର୍ଶନ ମହାରଣା, ଲେଖକ ଏବଂ ସାମ୍ବାଦିକ ।

*“Apart from all worldly possession, contribution to Wildlife  
Conservation makes one richer. Let's pledge conserve  
wildlife.”*

*- Sudarsan Maharana, Writer & Journalist*

**Week 18** The Indian Pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*) and the Nandankanan Biological Park, Bhubaneswar were highlighted in Week 18. The species in focus is native to the Indian subcontinent and is not common anywhere in its range. This solitary, shy, slow-moving, nocturnal mammal has become a conservation priority due to the increasing incidences of trade in the species. The Nandankanan Biological Park houses the only conservation breeding center of Indian Pangolins in the world. During the week, sessions were organized on different aspects of species conservation at a national and international level; species biology, issues of illegal trade, and countermeasures were discussed during the talks. Competitions such as photography, logo designing, poster making, quizzes, and drawing were also conducted during the week. Additionally, a field guide for the rehabilitation of Indian Pangolin was released.



# Week 18

July 12<sup>th</sup> to July 18<sup>th</sup> 2021

## INDIAN PANGOLIN

*Manis crassicaudata*



**Nandankanan Biological Park, Odisha**

© Zeeshan Merchant

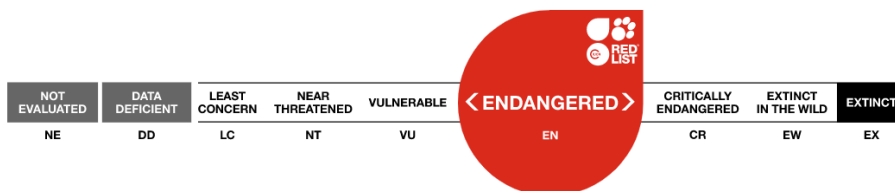
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## INDIAN PANGOLIN

*Manis crassicaudata*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Endangered**



**Distribution Range:** The Indian Pangolin is a toothless mammal distributed from eastern Pakistan through India to southern Nepal and Sri Lanka. They are found through most of India except arid deserts, the Himalayas, and the northeast. Open grasslands, scrub forests, urban cultivation and deciduous and evergreen forests are their preferred habitats.

Very little is known about their vocalization and communication. They are known to hiss when disturbed.

**Diet:** Pangolins are specialist feeders with their diet consisting mainly of termites and ants. This kind of feeding behavior is known as Myrmecophagy. Adaptations in the species for this particular behavior include the absence of teeth, a long protrusible and sticky tongue, conical head, and nose. They rely on their sense of smell to locate the nests of termites or ants.

**Priority status:** The species is the most trafficked animal in the world for its meat and scales. The loss of suitable habitat conditions has also led to their population decline. Due to these raging threats, the species has been accorded priority for ex-situ conservation.

**Presence in Zoos:** The species is currently housed in the coordinating zoo for its conservation breeding in India.

## Nandankanan Biological Park

**Location:** The zoo is located in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

**Establishment:** It was established in the year 1960.

**Information:** Over the years, Nandankanan has emerged as a prominent and vibrant centre for biodiversity conservation and environmental education with significant improvements to provide the highest standards in housing, husbandry, and health care to the animals. It became the first zoo in the country to be a member of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) in 2009. The Zoological Park together with the Kanjia lake and the Botanical Garden has been declared as Nandankanan Wildlife Sanctuary over an area of 4.37 sq. km on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1979.



**Zoo in focus: NANDANKANAN BIOLOGICAL PARK**  
**Species in focus: INDIAN PANGOLIN (*Manis crassicaudata*)**  
**from 12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2021**

**75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE:  
 THE PEOPLE CONNECT**  
**India # 75 Weeks 75 Species 75 Zoos**

**12.07.2021**

**11:00am-12:00pm:** Inauguration ceremony  
**3:00pm-4:00pm:** Expert talk on "Present status and future strategy of pangolin conservation: the big picture" by Dr Dan Challenger

**13.07.2021**

**11:00am-11:30am:** Expert talk on "Indian Pangolin: rescue, rehabilitation and community awareness" by Mr Bhau Katdare  
**11:30am-12:00pm:** Expert talk on "First response and emergency procedures in confiscate Indian pangolins" by Dr Chetan D. Vanjari  
**3:00pm-4:00pm:** Photography competition on Indian pangolin

**14.07.2021**

**11:00am-11:30am:** Expert talk on "Conservation Breeding of Indian pangolin" by Dr Rajesh Kumar Mohapatra  
**11:30am-12:00pm:** Expert talk on "Standardization of health care practices for Indian pangolin" by Dr Sarat Kumar Sahu  
**3:00pm-4:00pm:** Logo designing competition on Indian pangolin  
**04:00pm-5:00pm:** "Know your species known your zoo" by Dr Manoj V. Nair and Mr Manoj Mahapatra

**15.07.2021**

**11:00am-12:00pm:** Expert talk on "Ecological research on Indian pangolin at Sri Lanka" by Dr Priyan Perera  
**3:00pm-4:00pm:** Poster making competition on "Conservation status of Indian pangolin"

**16.07.2021**

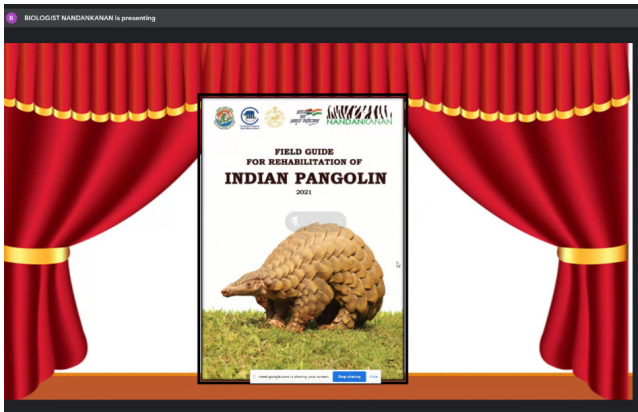
**11:00am-12:00pm:** Expert talk on "Detection and prosecution of wildlife offences in Odisha-with a special reference to Indian pangolin" by Mrs Bilasini Nayak  
**3:00pm-4:00pm:** Quiz competition on pangolin

**17.07.2021**

**11:00am-11:30am:** Expert talk on "Community hunting practices in the Eastern ghats- impacts on pangolins" by Dr Vikram Aditya  
**11:30am-12:00pm:** Expert talk on "Up scaling pangolin conservation with wildlife forensics" by Dr Mukesh Kanti Thakur  
**3:00pm-4:00pm:** "Drawing competition on "Conservation of Indian pangolin"

**18.07.2021**

**11:00am-11:30am:** Expert talk on "Illegal pangolin trade in India during Pandemic" by Mr Aristo Mendis  
**11:30am-12:00pm:** Expert talk on "Conservation awareness programme with special reference to Indian pangolin" by Mr Sri Milan Kumar Panda  
**3:00pm-4:00pm:** Virtual tour of Pangolin Conservation Breeding Centre, Nandankanan



### Contemporary use in Asia

- Scales - used in China, Viet Nam
- Legal market in China.
  - "Chuan Shan Jia" (穿山甲)
  - ~26t released from stockpiles/year.
  - Sold through designated hospitals.
- Included in TCM pharmacopeia
  - Patented medicines.
  - Lactation, skin diseases, improve circulation.
  - Texts suggest use as part of cancer treatment.
- Literature mixed on efficacy of scales.
- Apparently widely used (e.g., Guangdong).

Dan Challenger



“ मरतु प्यास पिंजरा - पस्यौ , सुआ समै के फेर ।  
आदरु दै दै बोलियतु , बायसु बलि की बेर ”

बिहारी लाल चौबे -बिहारी सतसाई (700 छंदों का संग्रह)

*“Just see the vagaries of time;  
No one cares for the laudable parrot  
Lying thirsty in his cage,  
While the wretched crow is hailed in respect  
To accept the offerings.”*

- *Bihari Lal Chaube -Bihari Satasai (collection of 700 verses)*

**Week 19** highlighted the Sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*) and the Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, Ranchi. The shaggy-coated, bumbling sloth bear is native to India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. Sloth bears primarily eat termites and ants, and unlike other bear species, they routinely carry their cubs on their backs. The Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park is spread over 104 ha of mildly undulating topography with natural dry deciduous Sal forests & water bodies in and around it. The zoo focused on the Sloth Bear for the week and the activities conducted included painting and quiz competitions for students. Awareness sessions on the species in focus were also conducted within the zoo premises for the visitors using pamphlets and posters and talks on the species by the zoo personnel.



# Week 19

July 19<sup>th</sup> to July 25<sup>th</sup> 2021

## SLOTH BEAR

*Melursus ursinus*



**Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, Ranchi**

© [www.bearbiology.org](http://www.bearbiology.org)

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## SLOTH BEAR

*Melursus ursinus*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Vulnerable**



**Distribution Range:** The Sloth bear is a bear species native to the Indian subcontinent (India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka) and is named so because of its lumbering gait. It has a long cream to muddy yellow muzzle, V-shaped white-colored chest marking, off-white patches at the ends of the limbs, ivory-colored claws, and long, matted black hair covering its entire body. It is also called 'labiated bear' because of its long lower lip and palate for sucking up insects.

**Communication:** Sloth bears use a variety of vocalizations for communication. They subsist primarily on termites, ants, and fruits and are the only species of bear adapted specifically for myrmecophagy (ant and termite-eating). Their olfactory sense is well developed allowing them to detect grubs 3 ft. below the ground. They do not congregate in groups while feeding.

**Priority status:** Sloth bears are primarily threatened due to habitat loss and poaching. Long time persecution for the pet trade (as dancing bears) is now banned and several of such individuals are rescued and rehabilitated in lifetime care facilities. The species has been accorded the highest protection under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

**Presence in Zoos:** 446 individuals are housed in 49 zoos and rescue centers across India.

## Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park

**Location:** The zoo is located in Ranchi, Jharkhand.

**Establishment:** It was opened to the public in 1994.

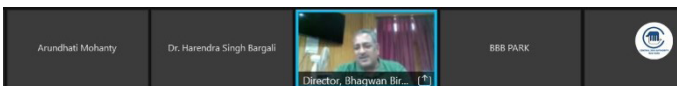
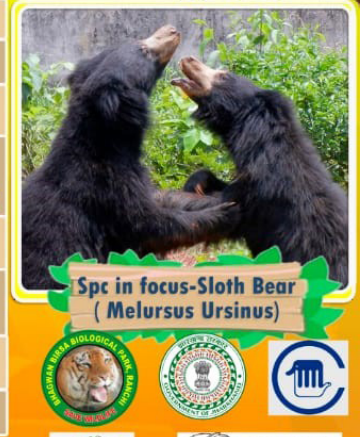
**Information:** Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park was established in undivided Bihar to cover an area of 104 Ha. of notified Protected Forest in Chakla village, Ormanjhi block, Ranchi district. It is situated on the Ranchi-Ramgarh section of National Highway (NH) 33, on the outskirts of Ranchi. It was established with the objective of conservation of endangered and threatened flora and fauna and spreading awareness. The zoo has been named after 'Birsa Munda', a legendary tribal freedom fighter from the region. The park has mildly undulating topography with natural dry deciduous Sal (*Shorea robusta*) forests & water bodies in and around. Presently, the zoo houses 40 species of birds, 28 species of mammals, and 16 species of reptiles.





**BHAGWAN BIRSA BIOLOGICAL PARK, RANCHI**

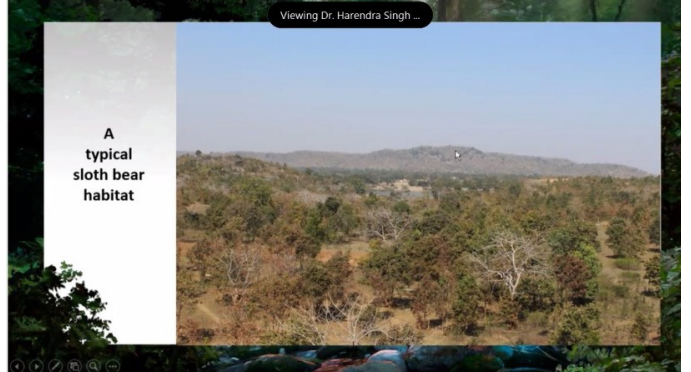
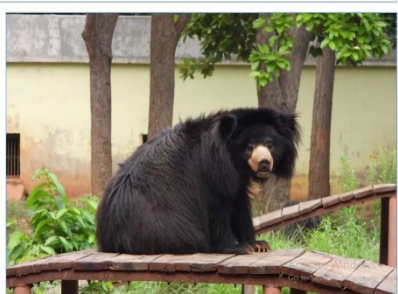
Date/Time	Event Details
19 July 2021, 04:00 PM	Inauguration (Venue : Library cum Interpretation centre)
20 July 2021, 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Poster awareness campaign inside zoo
21 July 2021, 04:00 to 05:00 PM	Talk by Dr.Harendra Bargali, Deputy Director, (The Corbett foundation) Sri Y.K Das, Director(Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park,Ranchi)
22 July 2021, 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Online Painting Competition (Human Bear Interaction) <a href="https://birsazoojharkhand.in/kids_zone.php">https://birsazoojharkhand.in/kids_zone.php</a> (KG to 10 <sup>th</sup> )
23 July 2021, 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Online Quiz Competition (Bear around us) <a href="https://birsazoojharkhand.in/kids_zone.php">https://birsazoojharkhand.in/kids_zone.php</a> (KG to 10 <sup>th</sup> )
24 July 2021, 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Bird Watching & Open talk on Sloth Bear
25 July 2021, 02:00 PM to 04:00 PM	Certificate Distribution Sent on E-mail



First time brought in zoo on 1994

Two bear has been recued from Chaibasa

Age of the Bears was only 20 days



“ जंगलेक महतम के नाय जाने  
बड़का बड़का बुइधलग माने ।  
जंगलही तो मंगल होवे  
जंगलेक खातिर दंगल होवे ॥”

- अज्ञात

*“Who does not understand the importance of forests?  
Respected intellectuals also acknowledge this. All happiness is  
linked to forests as is all the strife.”*

-Anonymous

**Week 20** The Blackbuck (*Antelope cervicapra*) and the Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur were the species and zoo in focus respectively for week 20. The blackbuck, also known as the Indian antelope, is native to India and Nepal. It inhabits grassy plains and lightly forested areas with perennial water sources. The species is highly represented in Indian Mythology and has a strong connection with our culture. It is also seen as a heraldry symbol of some princely states of India. The zoo’s vision is to provide Natural Habitats to various animals suitable for their conservation and propagation and act as a facilitator to spread the message of nature conservation through awareness and educational programs. The activities during the week included competitions such as poster making, slogan writing, quizzes for students of different age groups. Talks on species biology and a virtual tour of the Blackbuck enclosure were organized.



# Week 20

July 26<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> 2021

## **BLACKBUCK**

*Antilope cervicapra*



**Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur**

© <https://animalia.bio/blackbuck>

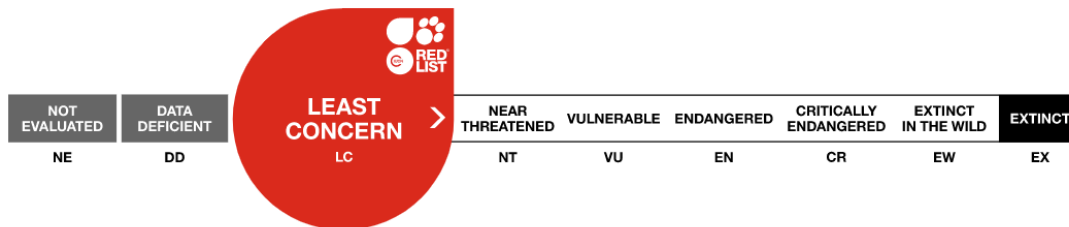
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## BLACKBUCK

*Antelope cervicapra*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Least Concern**



**Distribution Range:** The Blackbuck is an antelope native to the Indian subcontinent. In India, as per studies, they are widely distributed and in large numbers in the states of Rajasthan, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat. They inhabit arid grasslands, scrublands, marshy coastal plains, open woodlands, and agricultural margins.

**Diet:** Blackbuck diurnal by habit and are primarily grazers but browse when a lack of grasses forces a greater dependency on leaf litter, flowers, and fruits. Predominantly solitary, they may also move in groups with fluctuating sizes depending on the availability of food resources and water, on which they are highly dependent. During the rut, males often adopt lekking as a strategy for mating wherein the males gather to engage in competitive displays and courtship rituals to entice females. The gestation period is usually six months with the birth of a single calf.

**Communication:** They mark territories by scent using their preorbital gland and interdigital gland secretions, and by using communal latrine sites routinely.

**Priority status:** Blackbuck population is threatened by habitat loss and the species has been accorded the highest protection under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

**Presence in Zoos:** 1935 individuals are housed in 67 zoos and rescue centers across India.

## Tata Steel Zoological Park

**Location:** It is located in Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.

**Establishment:** The zoo was opened to the public in 1994.

**Information:** The Tata steel zoological park was established in the year 1990 over an area of 25 hectares. It is nestled between two wetlands on either side; the Subarnarekha River to the north and the Jayanti Sarovar to the south. The Park is housed within the Jubilee Park site with landscaped gardens that are interspersed with small forest patches that host a large number of free-ranging faunal species. The zoo was established with the vision of conserving the indigenous flora and fauna in a pristine environment. Presently the zoo houses 19 species of mammals, 26 species of birds, and 4 reptile species.





आजदी का अमृत महोत्सव



75 CONSERVATION TO CO-EXISTENCE: THE PEOPLE CONNECT  
India # 75 Weeks 75 Species 75 Zoos



Eligible Classes

**Tata Steel Zoological Park**  
in association with  
**Central Zoo Authority**  
#75Weeks75Species75Zoos  
**26th July-1st Aug, 2021**

Date	Event	Time	Eligible Classes
26/07/2021	Inaugration Ceremony	10:30 am - 12:30pm	All
27/07/2021	Poster Making Comp. Theme: Deer Habitat/ हिरण निवास	10:30 am - 12:30pm	6th - 10th
28/07/2021	Expert Talk	4 pm - 5 pm	All
29/07/2021	ZooStorm (Wildlife Quiz) Animal in focus: Tiger and Black Buck	10:30 am - 12:30pm	8th - 12th
30/07/2021	Slogan Writing -Theme: Nature Conservation/ प्रकृति संरक्षण	10:30 am - 12:30pm	6th - 12th
31/07/2021	Virtual Tour of Black buck enclosure @Tata Zoo	10:30 am onwards	All
01/08/2021	Closing Ceremony & Result Declaration	10:30 am - 12:30pm	All

- All the events have separate links
- The links for each event will be shared on allotted date for the event over the Zoo's official facebook page
- make sure to follow @tatazoo over facebook

Research & Education Team, Tata Steel Zoological Park  
Dedicately working towards spreading awareness and wildlife conservation

for any queries mail us @ [tatazoo.nec@gmail.com](mailto:tatazoo.nec@gmail.com)



Cave painting of blackbuck, Bhopal. Late Mesolithic Period (Circa 4000 BC)



75 आजदी का अमृत महोत्सव  
Week 20

**Know all about the Species**

The Blackbuck is an antelope native to the Indian subcontinent. In India, as per studies, they are widely distributed and in large numbers in the states of Rajasthan, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat. They inhabit arid grasslands, scrublands, mostly coastal plains, open woodlands, and agricultural margins.

The male blackbuck is characterized by the trademark spiral horns that resemble a corkscrew and dark brown to black colored coat with a white underside. Their coat color is believed to be directly linked to the individual's testosterone levels. Female blackbuck and fawns, on the other hand, have a fawn or tan-colored coat.

They mark territories by scent using their preorbital gland and interdigital gland secretions, and by using communal latrine sites routinely. They display a behavior known as "pronging" which is a spring leap when alarmed.

Blackbuck population is threatened by habitat loss and the species has been accorded the highest protection under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. 1935 individuals are housed in 67 zoos and rescue centers across India.



Blackbuck  
*Antelope cervicapra*

**Know all about the Zoo**

The Tata steel zoological park was established in the year 1990 over an area of 25 hectares. It is nestled between two wetlands on either side; the Subarnarekha River to the north and the Jayanti Sarovar to the south. The Park is housed within the Jubilee Park site with landscaped gardens that are interspersed with small forest patches that host a large number of free-ranging faunal species. The zoo was established with the vision of conserving the indigenous flora and fauna in a pristine environment. Presently the zoo houses 19 species of mammals, 26 species of birds, and 4 reptile species.



**Dr. M K Ranjitsinh,**  
IAS (Retired),  
Government of India

**Mr. Bijul Chakravarty**  
Director,  
Tata Steel Zoological Park,  
Jharkhand.

Watch Live!  
CZA's YouTube Channel  
28th July 2021  
04:00 pm



Tata Steel's Journey on Biodiversity

- 2013 Partnership with IUCN
- 2016 Release of Biodiversity Policy
- 2018 Coverage of all RM Sites (8 nos) under BMPs
- 2019-2020 CoE for Biodiversity Management constituted Coverage of BMP extended to Operating sites
- 2021 Till date 11 Sites Covered under BMPs
- 2025 Plan to cover 100% (21) Sites under BMPs

**Tata Steel Biodiversity Policy:** The goal is to achieve no net loss on biodiversity in long term. Key tenets of Policy:

- Avoiding unacceptable impacts to biodiversity
- Reducing the impacts that may occur
- Restoring impacted ecosystems
- Seeking additional opportunities to contribute to local conservation

**Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Biodiversity Management**  
Chaired by VP RM & VP CS

**Key Objectives of CoE**

- Development of biodiversity management plans
- Support in biodiversity management plans
- Implementation & review BMPs
- Training, Awareness & Capacity Building

**Biodiversity Working Group**  
CFT with representation from across locations

BMP: Biodiversity Management Plan, CoE: Center of Excellence, CFT: Cross Functional Team



“ ब॒॒ने बाघेक वास नाय तो,  
मने ब॒॒नेक आस नाय।। ”

- अज्ञात

*“Forests need to be protected as as a safe haven for  
wild animals, with the Tiger as the flagship species.”*

*-Anonymous*

**Week 21** highlighted the Chinkara (*Gazella bennettii*), with soft, expressive eyes, a glossy, tan coat and a slender body, the graceful chinkara is a conservation icon of the desert. The Machia Biological Park, Jodhpur is the zoo is focus. The zoo was first established by Maharaja of Jodhpur H.H. Umaid Singh Ji in 1935. The current establishment is spread over 41 Ha of the Machia Forest Block, near Kaylana Lake. This zoo is uniquely placed to aid ex-situ conservation of fauna from the desert ecosystem. The activities for the week included photography competitions and talks on species biology, veterinary interventions, rescue, rehabilitation specifically oriented to the Chinkara and Blackbuck, and conservation challenges.



# Week 21

August 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup> 2021

**CHINKARA**

*Gazella bennettii*



**Machia Biological Park, Jodhpur**

© <https://naturerules1.fandom.com/wiki/Chinkara>

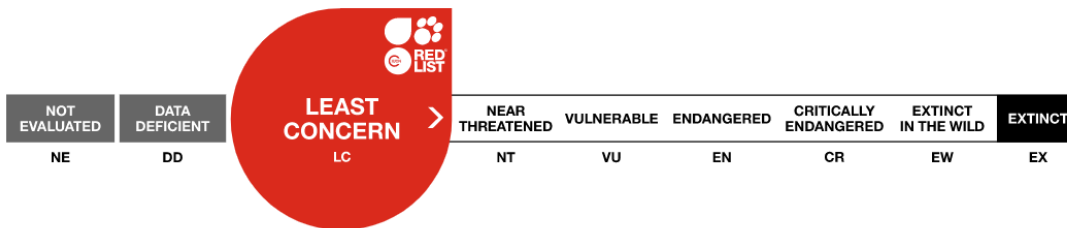
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## CHINKARA

*Gazella bennettii*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Least Concern**



**Distribution Range:** Chinkara is a medium-sized antelope with a tawny brown coat color. In India, it is distributed through the arid and semi-arid parts of western and central India with the highest densities recorded from the Thar Desert. The southern boundary of its distribution range is the Krishna River at the border of Karnataka-Telangana states and the north-eastern limit is in Bihar.

**Habitat:** Its habitat ranges from arid desert and semi-arid to dry scrub and deciduous forests.

**Diet:** Chinkaras are selective feeders preferring plants and plant parts that are rich in water and nutrients. They also ingest soil while foraging to meet their mineral requirements.

**Communication:** Communication within herds in the face of threats is done using a variety of displays that include stamping on the ground, pronging, tail movements, and calls.

**Priority status:** The population is more or less stabilized in its preferred arid and semi-arid habitats. Desert communities have a high tolerance for peaceful co-existence with the species. It is also accorded the highest protection under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

**Presence in Zoos:** 113 individuals are housed in 17 zoos across India.

## Machia Biological Park

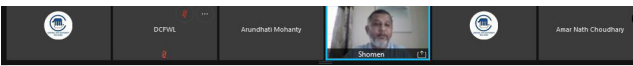
**Location:** The zoo is located in Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

**Establishment:** It was opened to the public in 2016.

**Information:** The Machia Biological Park is spread over 41 hectares and is located in the Machia forest block. It encompasses the Machia fort which was constructed by Maharaja Takhat Singhji of Jodhpur State in 1850. The zoo aims to aid and supplement efforts for flora and fauna of the Aravalli and desert ecosystems. Presently the zoo houses 13 species of birds, 15 species of mammals, and 3 species of reptiles.



Event	Date & Time	Theme		Expert
Webinar	Day-01: 02 August, 2021 9:00 to 9:40 AM	Know about species		Prof G R Jakher Ex-Vice Chancellor MGSU Bikaner
Webinar	Day-02: 03 August, 2021 9:00 to 9:40 AM	Rescue and Rehabilitation	 	Dr S S Rathore Veterinary Scientist WII Dr Hemant Joshi Assistant Professor CVAS Navania, Udaipur
Webinar	Day-02: 03 August, 2021 10:00 to 10:40 AM	Veterinary Intervention		Dr Gyan Prakash Veterinary officer Machia Biological Park
Webinar	Day-03: 04 August, 2021 11:00 to 11:40 AM	Chinkara: Past, Present and Future		Dr Sumit Dookia Assistant Professor GGS Indraprastha University Delhi
Webinar	Day-03: 04 August, 2021 4:00 to 4:40 PM	Know about species / Brief about Zoo	 	Dr Ambika Assistant Professor IIT Gandhinagar Mr Vijay Borana DCF (wildlife) Jodhpur
Webinar	Day-04: 05 August, 2021 9:00 to 9:40 AM	Challenges and Threats to Survival of Chinkara		Dr Hemsingh Gehlot Director, WRAC J N V U Jodhpur
Webinar	Day-04: 05 August, 2021 12:00 to 12:40 PM	Photography Competition - Result & Discussion		Mr Sharad Purohit Naturalist
Webinar	Day-05: 06 August, 2021 10:00 to 10:40 AM	Role of Rescue Centre and Bishnoi Community in Conservation of Chinkara		Mr G S Bhardwaj (IFS) Member Secretary RSPCB
Webinar	Day-05: 06 August, 2021 05:00 to 5:40 PM	Exhibiting the species in focus with associated fauna		Mr Vijay Borana DCF (Wildlife) Jodhpur Mr K K Vyas ACF Machia Park Mr Param & Team
Training	Day-06: 07 August, 2021 10:00 to 1:00 PM	Role of Veterinary Doctors for wildlife rescue		Dr Gyan Prakash & Team
Training	Day-07: 08 August, 2021 10:00 to 1:00 PM	Role of field staff for wildlife rescue		Dr Gyan Prakash & Team



Viewing Shomen's applicat...

**Gazella bennettii** (Chinkara)  
(5 subspecies: elevated to full species, Castello 2016)

- *G. bennettii* (Deccan Chinkara)
- *G. christyi* (Gujarat Chinkara)
- *G. salinarum* (Salt Range Chinkara)
- *G. fuscolans* (Eastern Jebel – Afghanistan, S & SE Iran, SW Pakistan)
- *G. shikari* (Western Jebel – N and W Iran)

IUCN - least concern



## वन्यजीव संरक्षण एवं जागरूकता अभियान के तहत आज से 8 अगस्त तक आयोजित होंगे अनेक कार्यक्रम जो



नवम्बोति/जोधपुर। स्वतंत्रता के 75 वर्ष पूर्ण होने के उपलक्ष्य में भारत सरकार की ओर से आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव बैनर तले माचिया सफारी पार्क में सोमवा 2 से 8 अगस्त तक वन्यजीवों की सुरक्षा से जुड़े कार्यक्रम आयोजित होंगे। वन्यजीव संरक्षण एवं जागरूकता अभियान के तहत माचिया बायोलॉजिकल पार्क में वन्यजीवों की सुरक्षा, संरक्षण एवं संवर्धन संबंधित विभिन्न कार्यक्रम आयोजित होंगे।

के संरक्षण को लेकर वर्तमान एवं भविष्य के बारे में जानकारी देगा। अक्सिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर डॉ. अंबिका व वन्यजीव उपवन संरक्षक विजय बोरणा 4 अगस्त को चिकारा प्रजाति तथा बायोलॉजिकल पार्क के बारे में चर्चा करेंगे। साप्ताहिक कार्यक्रम के तहत सोमवार से 04 अगस्त तक फोटोग्राफी प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन होगा। जिसमें प्रतिभागी चिकारा से संबंधित अपने फोटोज ऑनलाइन अपलोड कर सकेंगे। शरद पुरोहित फोटोग्राफी कॉन्फिडेंस को रिजल्ट तथा फोटोग्राफी टैलिनक के बारे में चर्चा की जाएगी। एपीसीवीएफ-फोवैन्ड-सहार भास्करज 6 अगस्त को चिकारा प्रजाति के संरक्षण में रेस्क्यू सेंटर व विश्वीई समाज के योगदान के बारे में चर्चा करेंगे। विजय बोरणा तथा वन्यजीव प्रेमो परम माधुर द्वारा 6 अगस्त को ऑनलाइन माचिया बायोलॉजिकल पार्क का भ्रमण करवाया जाएगा। साप्ताहिक प्रोग्राम के अंतिम दो दिन डॉ. ज्ञान प्रकाश व टीम द्वारा 07 व 08 अगस्त को वेडनरी डेवटर्स व वन-विभाग के स्टाफ का वाइल्ड लाईफ रेस्क्यू प्रशिक्षण देना।



### Capture Myopathy

- Need of proper rescue
- Proper handling
- Timely treatment
- Post release into wild habitat

**75 आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव**

**Week 21**

**Chinkara**  
*Gazella bennettii*

**Know all about the Species**

Chinkara is a medium-sized antelope with tawny brown coat color. In India, it is distributed through the arid and semi-arid parts of western and central India with the highest densities recorded from the Thar Desert. The southern boundary of its distribution range is the Krishna River at the border of Karnataka-Telangana states and the north-eastern limit is in Bihar. Its habitat ranges from arid desert and semi-arid to dry scrubs and deciduous forests.

They live either solitary or in groups with family units consisting of a pair of adult males and females while sub-adults live in small groups or solitary. Studies have reported two types of groups; all-male and mixed herds.

Chinkaras are selective feeders preferring plants and plant parts that are rich in water and nutrients. They also ingest soil while foraging to meet their mineral requirements.

The population is more or less stabilized in its preferred arid and semi-arid habitats. Desert communities have a high tolerance for peaceful co-existence with the species. It is also accorded the highest protection under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. 113 individuals are housed in 17 zoos across India.

**Know all about the Zoo**

The Machia Biological Park is spread over 41 hectares and is located in the Machia forest block. The zoo aims to aid and supplement efforts for flora and fauna of the Aravalli and desert ecosystems. Presently the zoo houses 13 species of birds, 15 species of mammals, and 3 species of reptiles.

**Watch Live!**  
CZA's YouTube Channel

4<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 04:00 pm

**Dr Shomen Mukherjee**, Assistant Professor, Azim Premji University, Bengaluru.

**Mr Vijay Borana**, Director, Machia Biological Park, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

**AZADI KA AMRIT MAHOTSAV**

92

“ मधु वाता ऋतायते मधु क्षरन्ति सिन्धवः ।  
माध्वीर्नः सन्त्वोषधीः ॥ ”

- ऋग्वेद, 1/90/6

*“Environment provides bliss to people leading their life perfectly. Rivers bliss us with sacred water and provide us health, night, morning, vegetation. Sun bliss us with peaceful life. Our cows provide us milk.”*

- Rigveda, 1/90/6

**Week 22** The Indian Wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*) and the Nahargarh Biological Park, Jaipur were highlighted during week 22. Elusive, phantomlike, these adjectives will fit in nicely with a description of the Indian Grey Wolf (or Indian wolf, *Canis lupus pallipes*). They live close to human-dominated landscapes and have adapted to the habitat in terms of use for travel through the landscape, the capture of prey, and even den sites. Adding survivors to the list of epithets will not be a fallacy. The zoo in focus was established in the year 1896 by the ruler of Jaipur state, Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh. The old zoo has since then been relocated to the Nahargarh Biological Park in 2016. The zoo adjoins the Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary that houses the historic fort and the Ram Sagar Lake. The entire landscape is an idyllic weekend getaway and nature’s retreat for the city dwellers. The activities during the week included talks on the captive breeding of the species in the zoo, management practices, and the biology of the species. Painting and quiz competitions centered around the species in focus and nature conservation were organized for students.



# Week 22

August 9<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup> 2021

**INDIAN GREY WOLF**

*Canis lupus pallipes*



**Nahargarh Biological Park, Jaipur**

© Rushikesh Deshmukh

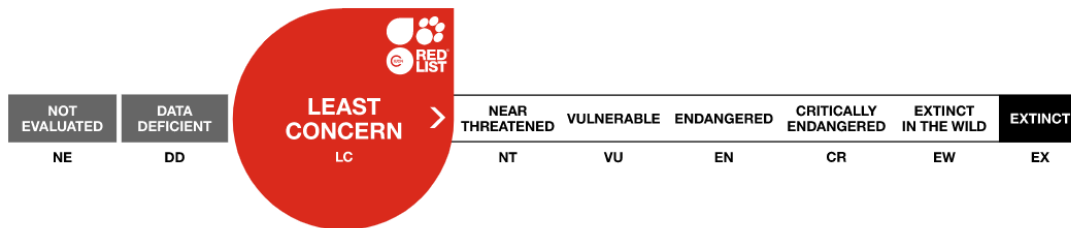
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## INDIAN GREY WOLF

*Canis lupus pallipes*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status: Least Concern**



**Distribution Range:** The Indian wolf is a subspecies of the grey wolf inhabiting arid and semi-arid areas in India. Their habitats are usually dominated by scrub, grasslands, pastoral agro-ecosystems, and low-density forests. Their selection of habitat relies heavily on the availability of undisturbed patches that offer shade and protection.

**Communication:** Wolves communicate by howling and using gestures involving the ears, tail, and facial muscles. These indicate hierarchical disputes and play.

**Priority status:** The species is threatened by habitat fragmentation, disease transmission from domestic animals, and revenge persecution for their supposed livestock depredation in forest fringe villages. It has been accorded the highest protection as per the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

**Presence in Zoos:** 145 individuals are housed in 22 zoos across India.

## Nahargarh Biological Park

**Location:** The zoo is located in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

**Establishment:** It was opened to the public in 2016

**Information:** The Jaipur zoo was initially established in the year 1896 by the ruler of Jaipur state, Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh. The old zoo animals have since then been relocated to a satellite facility in Nahargarh Biological Park in 2016 to provide a more spacious and naturalistic environment. The zoo also adjoins the Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary that houses the historic fort and the Ram Sagar lake. More than 200 species of birds and 10 species of free ranging mammals have been recorded from this area. Presently, the zoo houses 21 species of birds, 22 species of mammals, and 5 species of reptiles. The entire landscape is an idyllic weekend getaway and nature's retreat for the city dwellers.



# Species in Focus - Indian Wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*)

Date: 09.08.2021  
Timing: 10:50 am to 11:00 am

Date: 09.08.2021  
Timing: 11:00 am to 11:20 am

Date: 09.08.2021  
Timing: 11:20 am to 11:50 am

Date: 10.08.2021  
Timing: 11:00 am to 11:30 am

Date: 11.08.2021  
Timing: 04:00 pm to 05:00 pm

Date: 12.08.2021  
Timing: 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Date: 13.08.2021  
Timing: 11:00 am to 11:30 am

Date: 13.08.2021  
Timing: 12:30 pm to 1:15 pm

Date: 14.08.2021  
Timing: 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Date: 15.08.2021  
Timing: 7:30 am to 8:30 am

Date: 15.08.2021  
Timing: 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Inauguration**

**Expert Talk**  
Brief overview of captive breeding of Indian Wolf in Jaipur Zoo & NBP

**Expert Talk**  
Veterinary Perspective of Indian Wolf

**Online Quiz Competition Class 6 to 8 & Class 9 to 12**

**Expert Talk**  
Know Your Species, Know Your Zoo

**Online Painting Competition on Indian Wolf Class 6 to 8 & Class 9 to 12**

**Expert Talk**  
Management of Indian Wolves  
-An important tool for exchange of Animals for Nahargarh Biological Park

**Expert Talk**  
Indian Wolf & It's conservation

**Expert Talk**  
Indian Wolf-An Indian Perspective

**Cleaning Drive**

**Result Declaration & Award Ceremony**

Shri Ajay Chittora, IFS, DCF (Wildlife), Zoo, Jaipur

Smt. Akanksha Mahajan, IFS  
Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife, Jaipur

Dr. Arvind Mathur, SVO (NBP)

Shri Ajay Chittora, IFS, DCF (Wildlife), Zoo, Jaipur  
&  
Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist-E, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

Dr. Arvind Mathur, SVO (NBP)

Dr. Satish Sharma (Retd.) RFS

Sanjeev Kumar, Scientist (Retd.), ZSI, Jodhpur

Staff & EDC Member

Shri Ajay Chittora, IFS, DCF (Wildlife), Zoo, Jaipur

Arundhati Mohanty, Ajay, ajit, Bilal Habib

Viewing Bilal Habib's applic...

*Wolves are not our brothers; they are not our sub-ordinates, either. They are another notion, caught up just like us in complex web of time and life*

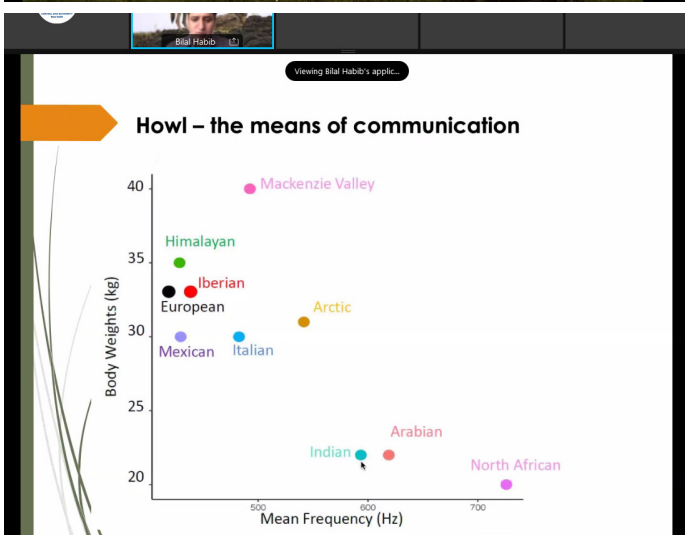
*The best wolf habitat resides in human heart. You have to leave a little space for them to live.*



Arvind Mathur, Satish Sharma, Jagdish Gupta, vikram singh shekhawat, You

**BREEDING ASPECTS OF INDIAN GREY WOLF**

- Winter breeder
- Generally once a year
- Knot formation during copulation
- Gestation: 62-63 days
- Litter size: 3-9 whelps
- Eye opening of pups: 10-13 days
- Eye color of pups: Bluish up to 8-16 week, later become yellow golden
- Weaning: About 2 months
- Feeding to pups: Milk, regurgitation



Jagdish Gupta is presenting

Nahargarh Biological Park is among few parks of India where successful breeding program of Indian wolf is going on in captivity since last 10 years

Jagdish Gupta, BANWATI LAL CHAUHAN, Arundhati Mohanty, Akanksha Mahajan, Dr. Arvind Mathur, Param Mathur Wildlife Law...

Jagdish Gupta, vikram singh shek...

**Health screening of wolves**

- Any deviation from their characteristic behavior, Physical state, Food, Water consumption, Urination, Defecation, alertness and other physiological activities
- Ensure fitness for transportation
- Vaccination & Deworming at least 3 weeks prior to transportation
- Human contact—minimized to avoid cross infection
- Monitoring throughout transportation
- Emergency drugs & equipment's

Akanksha Mahajan is presenting

Arundhati Mohanty, Jagdish Gupta, Dr. Arvind Mathur, Param Mathur Wildlife Law..., Ajay Chittora, BANWATI LAL CHAUHAN

“ यहाँ प्रकृति की सभी चीजों में  
कुछ ना कुछ अद्भुत है । ”

- अज्ञात

*“There is something novel and wonderful in  
every aspect of nature”*

- Anonymous

**Week 23** highlighted the Indian Crested Porcupine (*Hystrix indica*) and the Sajjangarh Biological Park, Udaipur. The Indian crested porcupine is best known and well recognized for its quills. The quill is multiple layers of modified dorsal hair that is thick and stiff, coated with keratin. Each quill is connected to a muscle at its base which allows the species to raise them when threatened. The Sajjangarh Biological Park is a major attraction in the City of Lakes, Udaipur. It is located in the foothills of the Monsoon Palace (Sajjangarh Palace) in an area of 36 hectares and is home to a wide variety of wildlife. The activities for the week included talks on the species biology, conservation status, trends in wildlife crime specifically in reference to porcupines. Apart from talks, competitions such as essay writing, slogan writing, painting, and quiz were also organized. Students were also taken on a guided tour of the zoo.



# Week 23

August 16<sup>th</sup> to August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021

## INDIAN CRESTED PORCUPINE

*Hystrix indica*



**Sajjangerh Biological Park, Udaipur**

© Janet and Phil, some rights reserved (CC BY-NC-ND)

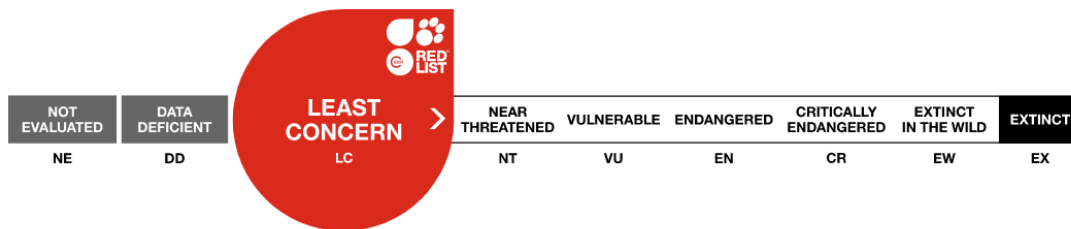
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## INDIAN CRESTED PORCUPINE

*Hystrix indica*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule IV**

**IUCN Red list status: Least Concern**



**Distribution Range:** The Indian crested porcupine is a rodent species widely distributed in the Indian subcontinent except in the North-East region. They occupy a broad range of habitats including rocky hillsides, tropical and temperate shrublands, grasslands, forests, plantations, and gardens.

**Diet:** Indian crested porcupines are mostly herbivorous, consuming different parts of the plant (root, bulbs, fruits, grains, drupe, tree bark and tubers) and may also forage on insects and small vertebrates. They are also known to chew on bones for mineral requirements.

**Habitat:** They have flexible environmental tolerance ranges as they are adapted to form substantial fat reserves. This adaptability enables them to survive in a broad range of habitats and seasonal fluctuations. Their breeding season varies to coincide with the seasons of maximum food availability.

**Priority status:** Due to its adaptability to a wide range of habitats it is listed as Least concern as per the IUCN Red List. However, it is threatened due to habitat loss and hunting for bushmeat. It has been accorded protection under Schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

**Presence in Zoos:** 310 individuals are housed in 37 zoos across India.

## Sajjagarh Biological Park

**Location:** The zoo is located in Udaipur, Rajasthan.

**Establishment:** It was opened to the public in the year 2015.

**Information:** Sajjagarh Biological Park, popularly known as the Udaipur zoo is a modern manifestation of the older version (Gulab Bagh). The former zoo was established in 1878 by Maharana Sajjan Singh for the preservation and display of wild animals. The zoo animals were subsequently moved to the new location at Sajjagarh Biological Park in 2015 to provide the animals with a more natural environment. The vision of the zoo is to emphasize on conservation of endangered and native species of the Aravalli ecosystem. Presently the zoo houses 15 species of birds, 17 species of mammals, and 2 species of reptiles.



Date : 16.08.2021

Time : 11.00 AM To 11.45 AM  
Activities : Webinar - Porcupine :  
What, Why And How  
Speakers : Dr. Satish Sharma

Time : 12 PM To 12.45 PM  
Activities : Webinar - Our Rodents, With  
Respect To Porcupine.  
Speakers : Dr. Vijay Koli, MLSU Udaipur

Time : 1.00 PM To 1.45 PM  
Activities : Webinar - Current Trends In  
Wildlife Crime With Respect To  
Indian Crested Porcupine  
Speakers : Dr. A. Pragatheesh, Wildlife  
Inspector WCCB, New Dehli

Date : 17.08.2021

Time : 3.00 PM To 4.00 PM  
Activities : Essay Competition

Date : 18.08.2021

Time : 3.00 PM To 5.00 PM  
Activities : Story writing  
Competition

Date : 18.08.2021

Time : 4.00 PM To 4.30 PM  
Activities : Know Your Species  
Speakers : Dr. Diwakar Sharma, Director  
National Conservation  
Program WWF- India

Date : 18.08.2021

Time : 4.30 PM To 5.00 PM  
Activities : Know Your Zoo  
Speakers : Dr. Ajit Uchoi  
DCF Wildlife Udaipur

Date : 19.08.2021

Time : 3.00 PM To 3.30 PM  
Activities : Slogan Writing  
Competition

Date : 19.08.2021

Time : 4.00 PM To 6.00 PM  
Activities : Painting Competition

Date : 20.08.2021

Time : 3.00 PM To 3.20 PM  
Activities : Quiz Competition

Date : 21.08.2021


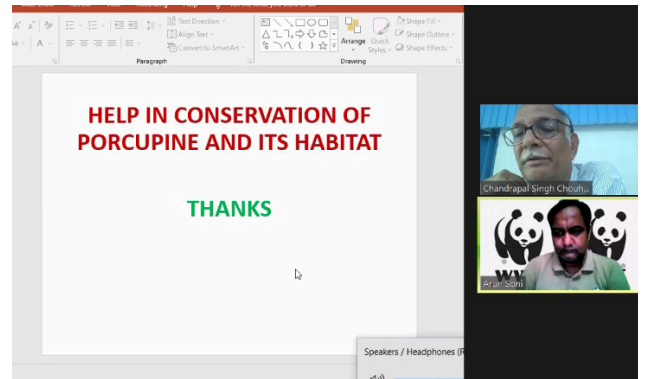
Time : 10.00 AM To 5.00 PM  
Activities : Free Entry Of Winners And  
Their Parents To Sajjangarh  
Biological Park

Date : 22.08.2021  
**Closing Cermony**

Via Cisco Webex

### Indian Crested Porcupine: Description

- Nocturnal and the largest rodent in Central and South Asia, weighs 17-27 kg in India. Females are heavier than males.
- The shoulders and belly are covered with coarse bristles, while the entire back is covered with long and well-developed quills.
- Quills may reach a length of about 30 cm and are frequently shed, and to regrow them porcupines need calcium.
- The short tail is covered with several short sturdy white quills mixed with hollow rattle quills. When alarmed, the animal rattles and shakes them together.

HELP IN CONSERVATION OF PORCUPINE AND ITS HABITAT


THANKS

Participants: Chandrapal Singh Choubh, Dr. Arun Prasad

Via Cisco Webex

### What are *Hystrix* Porcupines?

- Porcupines (genus *Hystrix*), are among the largest, Old World terrestrial rodents.
- Important features of porcupines:
  - Their chewing apparatus has evolved to assist in gnawing
  - Body hairs in these animals are modified to form spines or quills
- These are nocturnal and shy of human beings.



WILDLIFE CRIME CONTROL BUREAU  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

### Recent Trends in Wildlife Crime

Dr. A. Pragatheesh  
Wildlife Inspector  
Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (NR)  
New Delhi

Via Cisco Webex

Vijay Koli

## Conservation Problem

They are important prey of leopard, tigers, hyenas, wolves and wild dogs.



75 **आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव** India

Week 23

### Indian Crested Porcupine

*Hystrix indica*

**Know all about the Species**

The Indian crested porcupine is a rodent species widely distributed in the Indian subcontinent except in the North-East region. They occupy a broad range of habitats including rocky hillsides, tropical and temperate shrublands, grasslands, forests, plantations, and gardens.

They are nocturnal and live in caves, between rocks or excavated burrows dig by them. Burrows are usually with a long entrance tunnel, multiple exits, and a large inner chamber. Porcupines are covered in multiple layers of modified dorsal hair that is thick and stiff, coated with keratin and called quills. Each quill is connected to a muscle at its base which allows the species to raise them when threatened.

Indian crested porcupines are mostly herbivorous, consuming different parts of the plant (root, bulbs, fruits, grains, drupe, tree bark and tubers) and may also forage on insects and small vertebrates. They are also known to chew on bones for mineral requirements.

Due to its adaptability to a wide range of habitats it is listed as Least concern as per the IUCN Red List. However, it is threatened due to habitat loss and hunting for bushmeat. It has been accorded protection under Schedule IV of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. 310 individuals are housed in 37 zoos across India.

**Know all about the Zoo**

Sajjangarh Biological Park, popularly known as the Udaipur zoo is a modern manifestation of the older version (Gulab Bagh). The former zoo was established in 1873 by Maharana Sajjan Singh for the preservation and display of wild animals. The zoo animals were subsequently moved to the new location at Sajjangarh Biological Park in 2015 to provide the animals with a more natural environment. The vision of the zoo is to emphasize on conservation of endangered and native species of the Aravalli ecosystem. Presently the zoo houses 15 species of birds, 17 species of mammals, and 2 species of reptiles.

Dr. Diwakar Sharma, Director, National Conservation Programme, WWF India.

Dr. Ajit Uchoi IFS, DCF, Sajjangarh Biological Park, Rajasthan.

Logos: Government of India, WWF, BNHS India, and Sajjangarh Biological Park.

Watch Live! CZA's YouTube Channel

18th August 2021 at 04:00 pm



“ कुछ तो बात है इन हवाओं में,  
वरना साथ इन्हें पंछियों का ना  
मिलता । ”

- अज्ञात

*“There is something special about the wind in  
the skies above, if not we would not see birds  
flying so high.”*

*-Anonymous*

**Week 24** highlighted the Striped Hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*) and the Kota zoo, Kota. The attempt this week was to create awareness about the species in focus which, due to its personality and associated myths, loses out to the more glamorous carnivore species. Though the myths are being busted, the change is slow. The Kota zoo is a small zoo established in 1905 and spread over just 2.2. Ha and cares for some valuable species like the lion, tiger, crocodiles, and tortoises. The activities for the week included talks on species biology, behavior, ecology, human-wildlife conflict, and veterinary interventions. Apart from this, a drawing, photography competition for students, guided zoo tour, and cycle rally was organized.



# Week 24

August 23<sup>rd</sup> to August 29<sup>th</sup> 2021

## STRIPED HYAENA

*Hyaena hyaena*



**Kota Zoo, Rajasthan**

© <https://animalia.bio/striped-hyena>

# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## STRIPED HYAENA

*Hyaena hyaena*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule III**

**IUCN Red list status: Vulnerable**



**Distribution Range:** The striped hyaena is distributed across the arid and semi-arid tracts of India. It inhabits open scrub and dry thorn forest areas and has also been recorded close to human settlements.

**Habitat:** Their preference of habitat is directly linked with the availability of denning sites such as caves and burrows.

**Diet:** Scavengers by diet, hyaenas feed on carrion in different stages of decomposition. They frequently scavenge from kills made by felid species such as tigers, leopards and caracals and from the carcass of wild animals/cattle that die from natural causes.

**Communication:** Vocalization is not prominent and is limited to a loud chattering (long laughing call that ends in a cackle) and howling.

**Priority status:** It is threatened by habitat loss, a decline in natural sources of carrion, persecution and illegal trade. It has been accorded priority under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and CITES.

**Presence in Zoos:** 136 individuals are housed in 34 zoos across India.

## Kota Zoo

**Location:** It is located in Kota, Rajasthan.

**Establishment:** It was established in the year 1905.

**Information:** Kota Zoo was established in the year 1905 by the then Maharaja of Kota. The forest area of the Hadoti region where the zoo is located is rich in free-ranging flora and fauna such as Leopard, Sloth bear, Hyena, Chinkara, Blue bull, Sambar, Blackbuck, Jackal, Indian Wolf, Otter and a variety of reptiles and birds. The initial enclosures were built amidst the garden and fountain areas for entertainment purposes but now a relocation of the current exhibits to Abheda Biological Park is planned for providing a more naturalistic environment to the animals. Presently, the zoo houses 9 species of birds, 9 species of mammals and 3 species of reptiles.



Time	Event Name	Concern Authorised Person
<b>Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021</b>		
11.00 A.M. to 11.30 A.M.	Inauguration	Dr. Alok Nath Gupta IFS, DCF (Wildlife), Kota
11.30 A.M. to 12.00 P.M.	Expert Talk <b>Topic- Hyena : An Introduction</b>	Dr. Krishnendra Singh Nama, Assist. Prof. (Botany), Kota
<b>Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b>		
11.00 A.M. to 11.30 A.M.	Online Quiz Competition (Class 6 <sup>th</sup> to 9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> )	Sh. Anurag Kumar Bhatnagar, ACF (ABP), Kota
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 question based paper has been prepared for each class category.</li> <li>All questions are objective type.</li> <li>Each question will be of 01 mark.</li> <li>There is no any kind of -ve marking.</li> <li>Question papers can be obtained on the given link from 011.00 A.M. to 11.30 A.M. (Link will be provided on same day)</li> <li>Answers of which can be submitted online only.</li> </ul>	
11.30 A.M. to 12.30 P.M.	Expert Talk <b>Topic- Hyena in Forest Hierarchy</b> Expert Talk <b>Topic- Hyena : Habitat &amp; Ecology</b>	Sh. S. R. Yadav IFS, CCF (Wildlife) & FD, MHTR, Kota Dr. Surabhi Shrivastava, Co-ordinator, Dept. of Wildlife
		Science, UOK (Kota)
<b>Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b>		
07.00 A.M. to 09.00 A.M.	Visit to Zoo & Abhedha Biological Park, Kota (for College Students)	Sh. Anurag Kumar Bhatnagar ACF (ABP), Kota
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates willing to visit Kota Zoo and Abhedha Biological Park should reach the Zoo located at Nayapura by 06.45 am.</li> </ul>	
11.00 A.M. to 11.30 A.M.	Online Photography Competition	Sh. Anurag Kumar Bhatnagar ACF (ABP), Kota
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interested participants can send the photo taken by themselves (by mobile or camera) to the given mail id by 25 August, 05.30 pm with their full Name, Class, Postal Address and Contact Number.</li> <li>The photo should be related to Habit, Habitat or Ecology of <i>Hyaena</i> and other wildlife.</li> </ul>	
11.30 A.M. to 12.00 P.M.	Expert Talk <b>Topic- Man-Animal conflict &amp; other threats in reference to Hyena population in India</b>	Dr. Fatima Sultana, HoD, Dept. of Zoology, JDB Science College, Kota
04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M.	Expert Talk <b>Know Your Species</b> <b>Know Your Zoo</b>	Dr. I. P. Bopanna, Landscape Coordinator WWF-India Dr. Alok Nath Gupta IFS, DCF (Wildlife), Kota
<b>Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b>		
11.00 A.M. to 11.30 A.M.	Drawing Competition (Class 6 <sup>th</sup> to College Level)	Sh. Anurag Kumar Bhatnagar ACF (ABP), Kota
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The theme of the competition is "<i>Hyaena</i>".</li> <li>Participants, after completion drawing on the legal (A3) sheet, scan it, and mail it to the given mail id by 05.00 PM on 26th August with their full Name, Class, Postal Address and Contact Number.</li> </ul>	
11.30 A.M. to 12.00 P.M.	Expert Talk	Dr. Gulhane, SVO, Kota Zoo
		Dr. Arvind Mathur, SVO, NBP, Jaipur
<b>Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b>		
07.00 A.M. to 10.00 A.M.	Cycle Rally (to & fro Zoo to ABP)	Sh. Tarun Mehra ACF (Wildlife), Kota
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates willing to visit Kota Zoo and Abhedha Biological Park should reach the Zoo located at Nayapura by 06.45 am.</li> <li>Interested participants will have to arrange the cycle at their own level.</li> </ul>	
11.00 A.M. to 11.30 A.M.	Expert Talk <b>Topic- Hyena &amp; its conservation</b>	Dr. Satish Sharma, (Retd.) RFS, Dept. of Forest
<b>Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b>		
07.00 A.M. to 09.00 A.M.	Guided Trip to ABP & Zoo (for School Students of Class 6 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> )	Sh. Anurag Kumar Bhatnagar, ACF (ABP), Kota
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates willing to visit Kota Zoo and Abhedha Biological Park should reach the Zoo located at Nayapura by 06.45 am.</li> </ul>	
11.00 P.M. to 11.30 P.M.	Expert Talk <b>Topic- Hyena in Human Culture</b>	Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Scientist, ZSI, Jodhpur
<b>Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b>		
07.30 A.M. to 08.30 A.M.	Cleanliness drive in ABP & Zoo	Staff & EDC Members
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates willing to visit Kota Zoo and Abhedha Biological Park should reach the Zoo located at Nayapura by 07.15 am.</li> </ul>	
11.00 A.M. to 12.00 A.M.	Result Declaration & Award Ceremony	Dr. Alok Nath Gupta IFS, DCF (Wildlife), Kota



Week 24



**Know all about the Species**

The striped hyena is distributed across the arid and semi-arid tracts of India. It inhabits open scrub and dry thorn forest areas and has also been recorded close to human settlements. Their preference of habitat is directly linked with the availability of denning sites such as caves and burrows.

The coat of the hyena is buff-coloured with forelimbs longer than the hind, giving it a slightly slouched appearance. Males are slightly larger than females but sexual dimorphism is absent.

Primarily nocturnal, striped hyenas live either solitary or in pairs. They mark territories by scent using the paste from their anal pouch. Scavengers by diet, hyenas feed on carrion in different stages of decomposition. They frequently scavenge from kills made by feline species such as tigers, leopards and caracals and from the carcasses of wild animals/cattle that die from natural causes.

It is threatened by habitat loss, a decline in natural sources of carrion, persecution and illegal trade. It has been accorded priority under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and CITES. 136 individuals are housed in 34 zoos across India.



Dr. I. P. Bopanna, Landscape Co-ordinator, WWF India.



Dr. Alok Nath Gupta IFS, DCF, Kota, Rajasthan.

**Know all about the Zoo**

Kota Zoo was established in the year 1905 by the then Maharaja of Kota. The forest area of the Hadoli region where the zoo is located is rich in free-ranging flora and fauna such as Leopard, Sloth bear, Hyena, Chinkara, Blue bull, Sambar, Blackbuck, Jackal, Indian Wolf, Otter and a variety of reptiles and birds. The initial enclosures were built amidst the garden and fountain areas for entertainment purposes but now a relocation of the current exhibits to Abhedha Biological Park is planned for providing a more naturalistic environment to the animals. Presently, the zoo houses 9 species of birds, 9 species of mammals and 3 species of reptiles.

**Watch Live!**  
CZA's YouTube Channel

25<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 04:00 pm



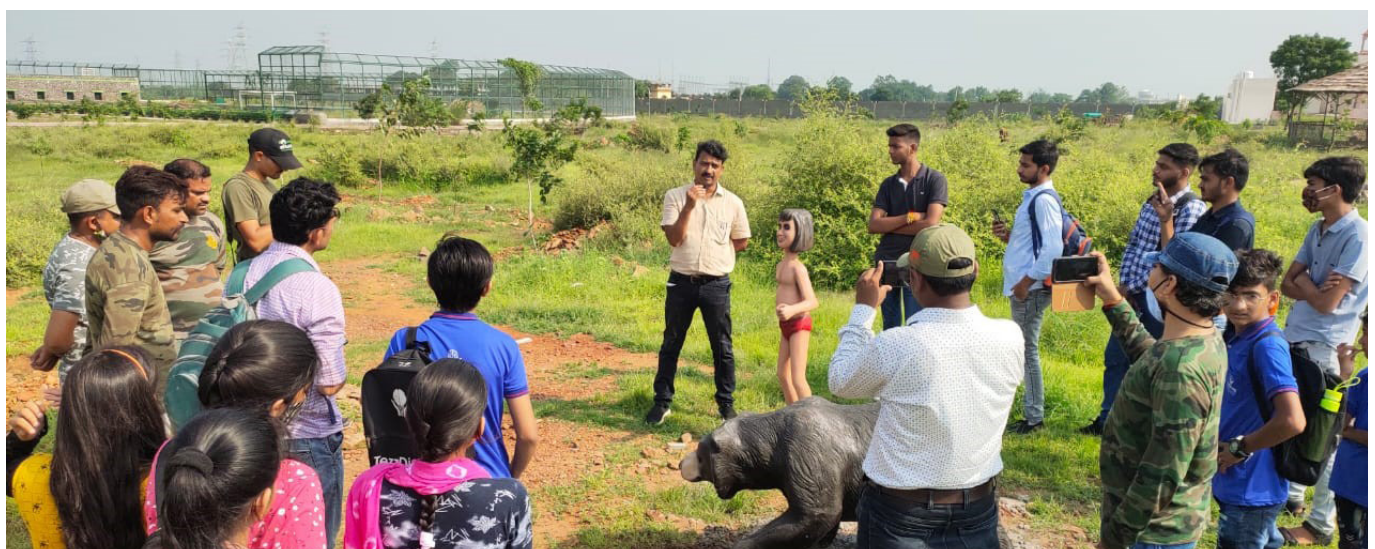
**HYENA: STRONG MANDIBLES**

Dr. Arvind Mathur, SVO, Nahargarh Biological Park, Jaipur's screen

recent molecular analysis agrees on the phylogenetic relationship between the 4 extant Hyaenidae species (Koeplli et al, 2006)

- Proteles cristatus* ( aardwolf )
- Crocuta crocuta* ( spotted hyena )
- Parahyaena brunnea* ( brown hyena )
- Hyaena hyaena* ( striped hyena )

Dr. Arvind Mathur, SVO, Nahargarh Biological Park, Jaipur's screen



“ થોડો વગડાનો શ્વાસ મારા શ્વાસમાં,  
પહાડોનાં હાડ મારા પિંડમાં ને  
નાડીમાં નાનેરી નદીઓનાં નીર;  
છાતીમાં બુલબુલનો માળો ને  
આંગળીમાં આદિવાસીનું તીણું તીર;  
રોમ મારાં ફરકે છે ઘાસમાં,  
થોડો વગડાનો શ્વાસ મારા શ્વાસમાં.”

- જયંત પાઠક, કવિ અને સાહિત્ય વિવેચક

*“A breeze of the forests I breath everyday,  
My bones are built from the mountains,  
Little rivulets run in my veins,  
Nest of a bird is held at my core,  
Arrows in my fingers,  
My soul floats in grasses,  
A breeze of the forests I breath everyday...”*

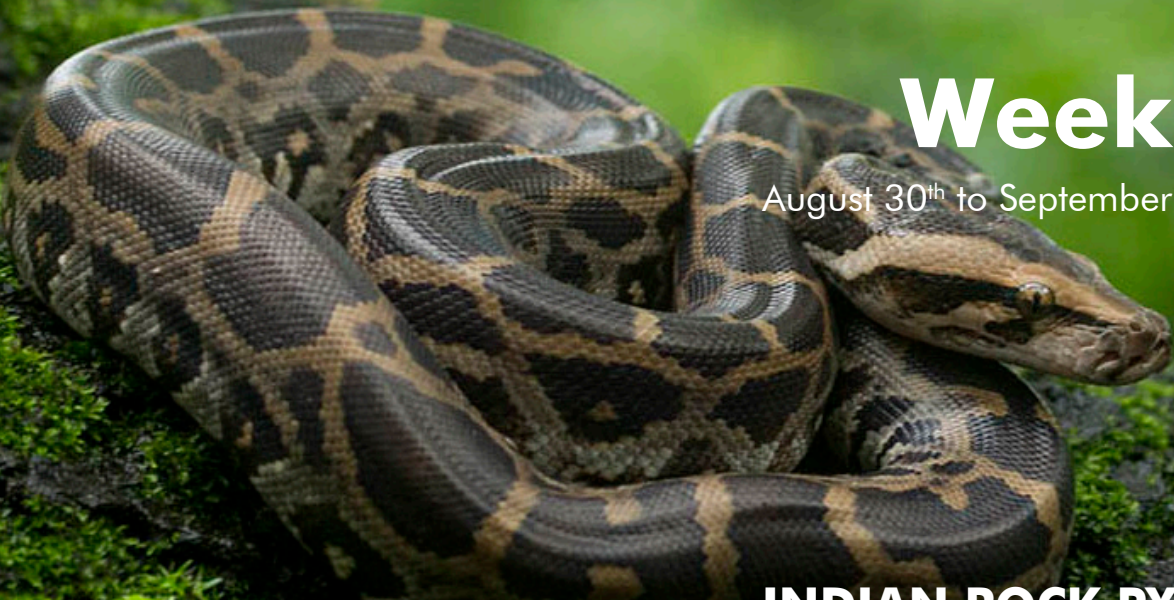
*-Jayant Pathak, Poet and Literary critic*

**Week 25** highlighted the three python species (Indian Rock Python-*Python molurus*, Reticulated Python *Malayopython reticulatus*, and Burmese Python- *Python bivittatus*) found in India and the Rajkot Zoological Park, Rajkot. It was important to address the pythons in the awareness cycle due to myths associated with the species. Though the law gives it the highest level of protection, stigma and fear continue to threaten their survival. The Rajkot Zoological Park addressed the issue with aplomb. The zoo in focus is spread across a sprawling 137 acres and is also known as the Pradhyuman Zoological Park or the Rajkot Prani Sangrahalaya. Located near Lalpari Lake on the outskirts of the city, the zoo is maintained by Rajkot Municipal Corporation. The zoo is home to various rare animals, birds, and trees in a natural environment. Activities during the week included talks on species biology, rescue, rehabilitation, and conservation challenges. Competitions such as drawing and photography were organized for students. Guided zoo tours were organized for students from Marwadi University.



# Week 25

August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 5<sup>th</sup> 2021



**INDIAN ROCK PYTHON**  
*Python molurus*



**RETICULATED PYTHON**  
*Malyaptyhon reticulatus*



**BURMESE PYTHON**  
*Python bivittatus*

**Rajkot Municipal Zoo, Gujarat**

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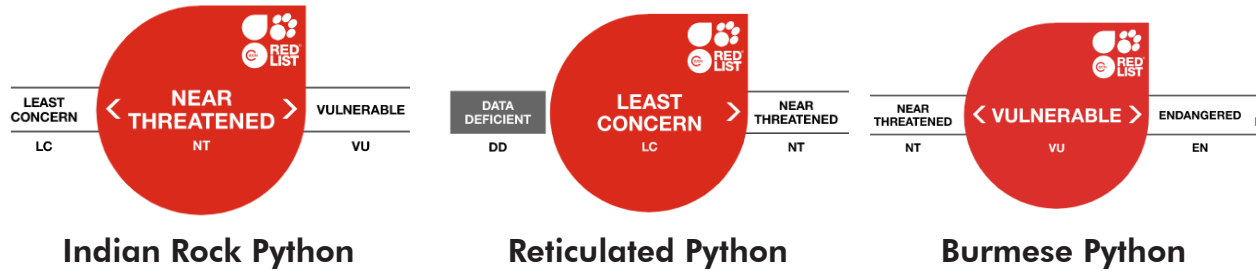
# SPECIES & ZOO IN FOCUS

## PYTHONS

*Python sp.*

**Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972: Schedule I**

**IUCN Red list status:**



**Distribution Range:** The family Pythonidae contains some of the largest snakes in the world. The colouration and size of the different species of python depend on their local habitats and need for camouflage. The colouring can range from elaborately patterned scales to solid colours. Most species in this genus have labial pits that help in sensing heat and finding warm-blooded animals, the ones that do not have labial pits forage on cold-blooded prey.

**Habitat:** Within Asia, pythons stay in relatively warm and wet climates. They mainly inhabit rain forests, grasslands, woodlands, swamps, rocky outcrops, dunes, and shrubs. Depending on the species, pythons shelter in hollows, under rocks, in abandoned mammal burrows and tree branches.

**Priority status:** Habitat loss, hunting and destruction of eggs by feral dogs, wild pigs, jackals, pose a threat to the survival of pythons. All species of pythons have been accorded the highest protection under the Wildlife Protection Act (1972).

**Presence in Zoos:** 500 individuals of 6 species are housed across 60 zoos in India.

## Rajkot Zoological Park

**Location:** The zoo is located in Rajkot, Gujarat.

**Establishment:** 14<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

**Operator:** Rajkot Municipal Corporation

**Information:** The area adjoining the water reservoir on river Aji in the outskirts of Rajkot city was developed as a public park by the Municipal Corporation of Rajkot. In 1987, a deer enclosure was constructed in the area to provide further impetus to the tourist footfall in the area. A new and modern zoological park (Rajkot zoological park) in a larger area known as Pradyuman Park was conceptualized to be established about four kilometres away from the old Mini zoo in 2009. Today, the Pradyuman Park covers about 55.37-hectare area and has undulating terrain replete with ridges, valleys and rocky outcrops. The zoo as we know it today was inaugurated in 2010 and presently houses 24 species of birds, 23 species of mammals and 7 species of reptiles.



**Know all about the Species**

The family Pythonidae contains some of the largest snakes in the world. The colouration and size of the different species of python depend on their local habitats and need for camouflage. The colouring can range from elaborately patterned scales to solid colours. Most species in this genus have labial pits that help in sensing heat and finding warm-blooded animals, the ones that do not have labial pits forage on cold-blooded prey.

Pythonidae is also considered a primitive family of snakes mainly because pythons have remnants of a pelvis and small vestigial hind limbs, called spurs, located on either side of their cloaca. The spurs of males are larger than that of females. They also have two lungs; a primitive characteristic (most snakes have evolved to have only one lung).

Habitat loss, hunting and destruction of eggs by feral dogs, wild pigs, jackals, pose a threat to the survival of pythons. All species of pythons have been accorded the highest protection under the Wildlife Protection Act (1972). 500 individuals of 6 species are housed across 60 zoos in India.

**Pythons (Rock, Reticulate, Burmese)**  
*Python molurus*, *Python bivittatus*,  
*Malyaptyhon reticulatus*



**Know all about the Zoo**

**Week 25**

The area adjoining the water reservoir on river Aji in the outskirts of Rajkot city was developed as a public park by the Municipal Corporation of Rajkot. In 1987, a deer enclosure was constructed in the area to provide further impetus to the tourist footfall in the area. Subsequently, a mini zoo known as Aji Dam was set up as an adjunct to the public park in February 1992, where Asiatic lion, Tiger, Leopard, Himalayan Black Bear, Black Buck & Crocodile were housed. A new and modern zoological park (Rajkot zoological park) in a larger area known as Pradyuman Park was conceptualized to be established about four kilometres away from the old Mini zoo in 2009. Today, the Pradyuman Park covers about 55.37-ha area and has undulating terrain replete with ridges, valleys and rocky outcrops. The area is also well-drained and is surrounded by two big lakes - Lalpari and Randarda. The zoo as we know it today was inaugurated in 2010 and presently houses 24 species of birds, 23 species of mammals and 7 species of reptiles.



**Dr. C. Ramesh**,  
Scientist - C

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Capture & Rehabilitation  
Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.

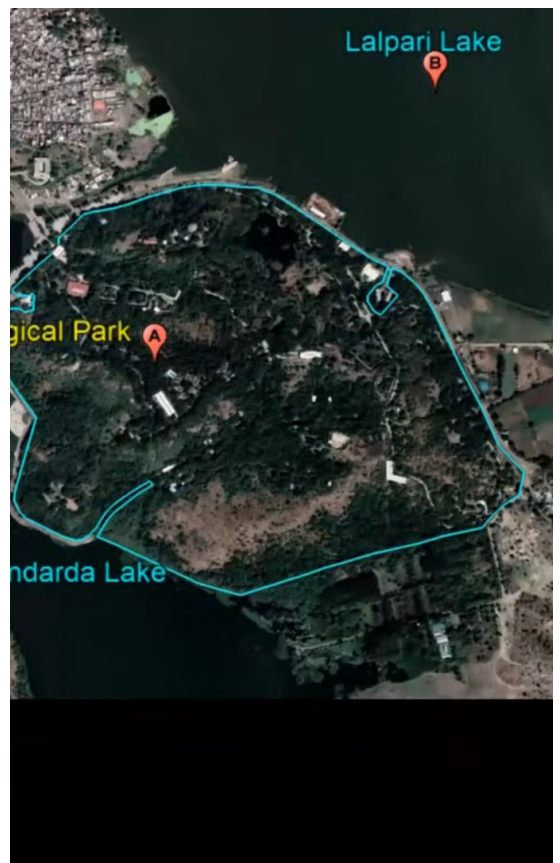
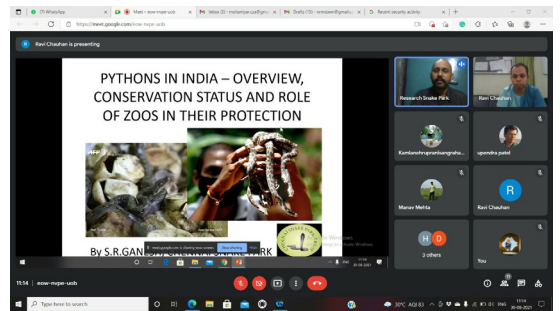


**Dr. R.K. Hirpara**,  
Zoo Superintendent

Rajkot Zoological Park  
Rajkot Municipal Corporation  
Rajkot, Gujarat.



1<sup>st</sup>  
September  
2021  
at  
04:00 pm





## **CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY**

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