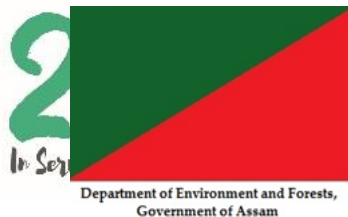


Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC), Kaziranga National Park, Assam



Annual Report 2018-19



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1. Report of the Officer-in-charge

CWRC was established in 2002 to support the efforts of the Assam Forest Department in responding to wildlife emergencies reported in the region especially during the annual floods in the River Brahmaputra. Since then, for the past 18 years, CWRC has effectively forged a strong collaboration with the forest department and have assisted them in providing emergency relief to displaced animals through trained and qualified veterinarians and animal keepers. Apart from providing veterinary and husbandry care to the four non-releasable leopards CWRC also admits temporarily displaced animals and release them back to the wild after necessary treatment. CWRC through its experience in the field of wildlife rescue and rehabilitation has developed protocols for rehabilitation of more than 8 species of wildlife, trained more than 300 vets and demonstrating biodiversity conservation through returning the animal back to the wild. It is one of a kind of rehabilitation centre that aims at releasing maximum number of animals back to the wild and reduce the load on overcrowded zoos to accommodate the displaced animals.

2. History of the Rescue Centre

Kaziranga National Park

Kaziranga National Park (KNP) (26°35'–26°45'N and 93°05'–93°40'E) is situated in the floodplain of the Brahmaputra river in the Nagaon and Golaghat districts of Assam, India. Covering an area of 430 km² it is the largest protected area on the southern bank of the Brahmaputra River spreading from Brahmaputra in the north to National Highway 37 in South (figure 1). The conservation effort at Kaziranga was begun in 1908, when it was made into a 'Reserve Forest', with the primary aim of protecting the Indian Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) and its habitat. It was subsequently declared a 'Game Reserve' in 1916, made into a 'Wildlife Sanctuary' in 1950 and, finally, declared a 'National Park' on 1 January 1974. It was also proclaimed a UNESCO 'World Heritage Site' in 1985. Due to more than 80 years of serious conservation effort in the park, the rhino population has increased from just a few to the present 1,200 individuals.

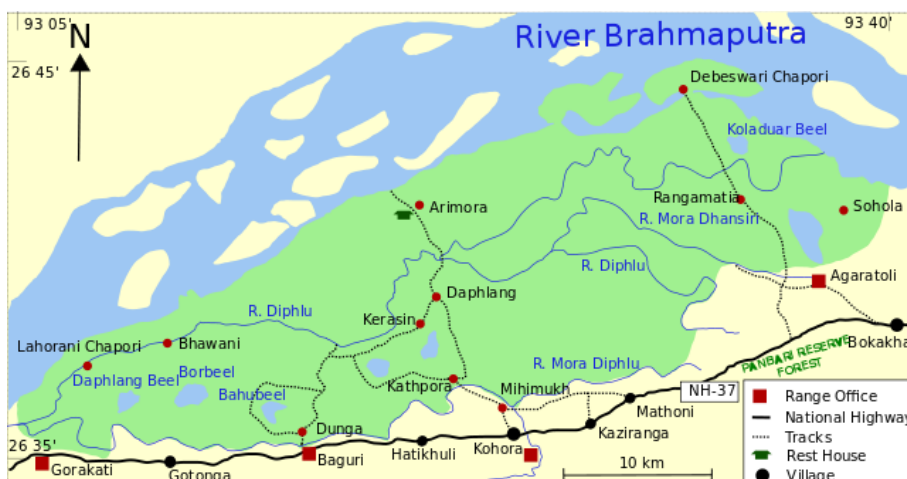


Figure 1: Map of Kaziranga National Park, with Brahmaputra River in the north and NH 37 in the south (L) with two mega-herbivores of KNP (Asian elephant and Greater one-horned rhinoceros) (R)

The mention of Kaziranga National Park, is incomplete if one does not consider the mighty Brahmaputra River in the north and The Karbi Anglong hills and the associated plateau in the south. Brahmaputra River, an immense river famed for its annual floods that unveil as a major social and economic natural disaster. However, the same river also makes

the Brahmaputra valley one of the most fertile stretches of land, while replenishes the wetlands and allowing the grasslands to flourish including the Kaziranga National Park. The Karbi Anglong hills and its associated plateaus covering a total area of 10,434 sq. km mostly consists of undulating and hilly terrain with numerous rivers and streams. There are four vital corridors in the Kaziranga - Karbi Anglong elephant reserve, which allow elephant to migrate from Kaziranga to different PAs of Karbi Anglong and even to others state. Karbi Anglong also becomes an important landscape during flooding season for the animals migrating from the Kaziranga Landscape to higher grounds. This important landscape in the form of grasslands, floodplains, beels and highlands provide ideal habitat for a wide array of species. Kaziranga National Park, alone supports 35 mammalian species (includes 18 threatened species) and close to 500 species of birds. The park is home to about 60% of the world population of the Indian one-horned rhinoceros, about 50% of the endangered Asiatic wild water buffalo and has the only viable population of eastern swamp deer in the north-eastern region; about 400 animals. Karbi Anglong apart from being home to about two thousand elephants is also home to gaur, tiger, leopard, sambar, hog deer, hoolock gibbon, capped langur, Asiatic black bear, large Indian civet, clouded leopard and many species of birds and reptiles.

Threats to Kaziranga National Park

Kaziranga landscape witnesses' different types of disasters that cause a huge influx of animals to come under distress due to displacement (temporary or permanent) injury and conflict. Floods submerges the area, covering 50-70 per cent of the total landmass causing



Figure 2: Elephant calf stick in mud after floods

widespread displacements of wild animals including elephant calves. They get stranded or sometimes stuck in a marshland/bog when they are unable to swim across the current (Figure 2). Additionally, during floods, when the animals are forced to moved southwards towards Karbi Anglong hills, they not only end up getting killed or injured by vehicular traffic on the NH37 (that forms the southern boundary of the park) but also come dangerously close to human habitations causing human-wildlife conflict. The estimated population of more than 70000

people living in 23 villages bordering Kaziranga and 30 villages nearby are dependent on these agricultural activities and this puts additional pressure on the wildlife for resources mainly space. Large scale habitat changes in the Karbi Anglong plateau (tea garden conversions, settlements, mining, logging and *jhum* (shifting cultivation) have serious implications on the wildlife populations in Kaziranga NP. Poaching of rhinos for their horns is also becoming an increasingly difficult problem. Due to poaching, not only the population of the rhinos can dwindle, but many calves can also get orphaned, further augmenting the problem. However, despite all these issues and conservation threats, the 100 years of efforts from the State of Assam has been able to secure the habitat of several endangered species like rhino, elephant, tiger, wild buffalo and swamp deer. The park managers, frontline staff, local communities and civil society representatives have, under the guidance of the administrative as well as political leadership in the State of Assam, played a vital role in achieving this conservation success.

Further, to assist the Assam State Forest Department in addressing these threats and to promote conservation through rehabilitation of displaced wildlife, Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) and International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) has collaborated with Assam Forest Department by setting up Wildlife Rescue Centres and Mobile Veterinary Service (MVS) units.

Wildlife Trust of India (WTI)

Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) is a leading Indian nature conservation organization committed to the service of nature. Its mission is to conserve wildlife and its habitat and to work for the welfare of individual wild animals, in partnership with communities and governments. WTI's team of 150 dedicated professionals work towards achieving its vision of a secure natural heritage of India, in six priority landscapes, knit holistically together by nine key strategies or Big Ideas. "Wild Rescue" is one of these nine Big Ideas that aims at increasing the welfare of individual displaced animals while enhancing conservation and pioneering science-based rehabilitation and wildlife health across India, and in doing so to save at least 5000 lives in the decade (2010-2020). Wild Rescue functions by conducting rescue, rehabilitation and release of temporarily displaced wild animals, through appropriate veterinary services and operates either by direct action (establishment of rehabilitation centres and mobile veterinary service (MVS) units or indirectly through involvement of members from Emergency Relief Network (ERN).

In 2000, WTI with support from the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and in collaboration with the state forest department started providing emergency relief and veterinary care to wildlife displaced due to floods thorough deployment of MVS units in Assam. This effort was further augmented by establishment of two dedicated centres for wildlife rehabilitation namely: Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC), Kaziranga National Park, Assam and Centre for Bear Rehabilitation and Conservation (CBRC), Pakke Tiger Reserve, Arunachal Pradesh. The project directly contributed to improving the conservation and welfare of more than 250 species of wildlife including elephants, rhinoceros, Asiatic black bears, clouded leopards, vultures, etc.

With the support from the Government of India, "The Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC)" was established by Government of Assam, Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) and International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) in 2002. CWRC is also recognized by the Central Zoo Authority under the provisions of section 38H of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 up to 23rd August 2018 as per the letter no 22-9/2004-CZA(429)(Vol.1)(AK)/2663/2016.

3. Vision

The vision of the rescue centre aligns to the vision of the organization which is "A secure natural heritage of India"

4. Mission

The mission of the rescue centre also aligns with the mission statement of the organization which is "To conserve wildlife and its habitat and to work for the welfare of individual wild animals, in partnership with communities and governments"

5. Objective

The rescue centre fits into the Big Idea of 'Wild Rescue' which aims "To increase the welfare of individual displaced animals while enhancing conservation and pioneering science-based

rehabilitation and wildlife health across India, and in doing so to save at least 5000 lives in the decade.” This is realized through three main objectives:

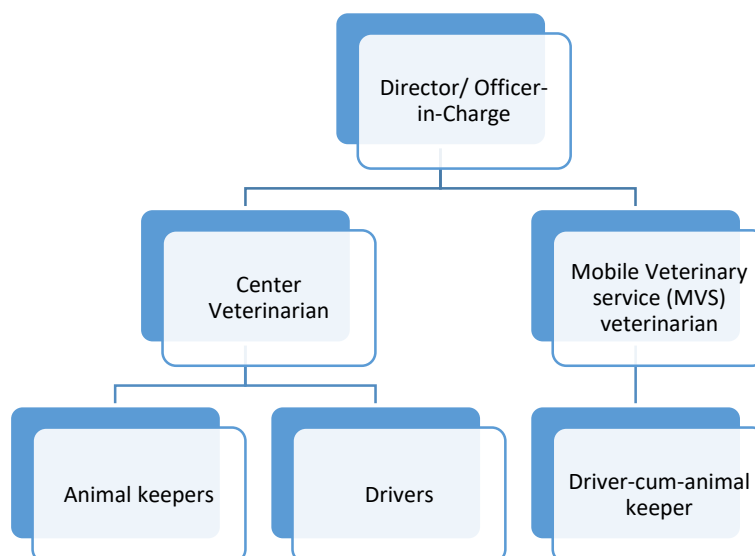
- a. To provide ethical and humane treatment to wild animals in captivity
- b. To rehabilitate wild animals displaced due to various reasons
- c. To provide veterinary expertise to manage free ranging wildlife

6. About us

S.No.	Particulars	Information
Basic Information about the Rescue Centre		
1	Name of the Rescue Centre	Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC)
2	Year of Establishment	2002
3	Address of the Rescue Centre	Borjuri, Bokakhat, Near Kaziranga National Park, Assam
4	State	Assam
5	Telephone Number	07002944244/0120-4143900
6	Fax Number	0120-4143933
7	E-mail address	rathin@wti.org.in
8	Website	http://www.wti.org.in/projects/centre-for-wildlife-rehabilitation-and-conservation-cwrc/
9	Distance from nearest	Airport: Guwahati (250 km)
		Railway Station: Furkating (75 km)
		Bus Stand: Bokakhat (10 km)
10	Recognition Valid upto (Date)	23rd August 2018
11	Area (in Hectares)	10 ha
Management Personnel of the Rescue Centre		
12	Name with designation of the Officer in-charge	Dr. Rathin Barman, Joint Director, WTI
	Name of the Veterinary Officer	Dr. Panjit Basumatary/ Dr. Samshul Ali
	Name of the Curator	NA
	Name of the Biologist	Dr. Rathin Barman
	Name of the Compounder/ Lab Assistant	NA
Owner / Operator of the Rescue Centre		
13	*Name of the Operator	Dr. N.V.K. Ashraf
14	Address of the Operator	F-13, Sector-8, NOIDA – 201301
15	Contact details/Phone number of Operator	9810568428

S.No.	Particulars	Information
16	E-mail address of Operator	ashraf@wti.org.in

7. Organizational Chart of the Rescue Centre



8. Human Resources deployment for management of Rescue Centre (Officer in-charge to Animal Keeper - Sanctioned posts, in-position and vacant posts)

Sl.No.	Designation	Number of Sanctioned Posts	Names of the incumbent
1	Centre In-charge/Officer In-charge	1	1
2	Centre veterinarian	1	1
3	Mobile Veterinarian	1	1
4	MVS Driver-cum-keeper	1	1
5	Animal keepers-cum-grass cutters	10	10
6	Night chowkidar	1	1

9. Capacity Building of Rescue Centre personnel (in FY 2018-19)

Sl. No.	Name and designation of the Rescue Centre personnel	Subject matter of Training	Period of Training	Name of the Institution where the Training attended
1.	Dr. Panjit Basumatary, Centre Veterinarian	Exposure training for orphan elephant care and	13 days (March'2019)	Sri Lanka Elephant transit Home, Udawalwe

		management		
2.	Panjit Basumatary	Orientation workshop on Wildlife issues for veterinary officials.	11 TH June'2018	Kohora Kaziranga National Park

10. Rescue Centre Advisory Committee –

Administratively, CWRC is managed by a “Governing Council” headed by Additional Chief Secretary, Environment and Forest, Government of Assam.

a. Date of constitution: 12th December 2016

b. Members: Other than the members from WTI and Assam Forest Department, representative from College of Veterinary Sciences, Assam Agricultural University, Khanapara, Guwahati, and a member from local NGO experienced in animal rescue and rehabilitation are also enlisted as member of CWRC governing council. CWRC governing council meets at least once in a year. Since the inauguration of CWRC in August, 2002, this governing council has met seventeen times so far.

c. Dates on which Meetings held during the year: 30th May 2018

11. Health Advisory Committee of the Rescue Centre –

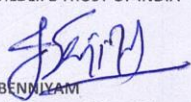

a. Date of constitution: 3rd December 2017

b. Members:

The members of the health advisory committee were subject experts mainly from the College of veterinary Science, Khanapara, Guwahati. These included:

- a. Dr. N.N. Barman, Centre for Veterinary Science, Khanapara (for microbiology and viral diseases)
 - b. Dr. K.K. Sarma, Centre for Veterinary Science, Khanapara (for elephant management)
 - c. Dr. Bhupen Sarma, Centre for Veterinary Science, Khanapara (for anaesthesia, surgery and critical care)
 - d. Dr. Saidul Islam, Centre for Veterinary Science, Khanapara (for parasitology)
- c. Dates on which Meetings held during the year:** No meeting was held this year

12. Statement of income and expenditure of the Rescue Centre

WILDLIFE TRUST OF INDIA			
INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR CENTER FOR WILDLIFE REHABILITATION AND CONSERVATION PROJECT			
EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
Particulars	For Period of 1st Apr 2018- 31st Mar 2019 Amount (Rs.)	Particulars	For Period of 1st Apr 2018- 31st Mar 2019 Amount (Rs.)
Construction, Equiping and maintainance Expenditure	2,997,592	Grant brought forward from Fy 2017-18	1701343.44
Animal Management & Veterinary care Expenditure	4,105,083	Total Donations received for Fy-2018-19	12570507
Media, events and communications expenditure	103,821		
Staff capacity building expenditure	68,721		
Photocopy, Stationary & Telephone expenditure	105,280		
Staff welfare expenditure	176,062		
Travel & Subsistence expenditure	576,853		
Salaries & professional fees	5,479,505		
Office/Field Office Maintenance Expenses	178,011		
Balance grant C/F to Fy- 2019-20	480,922		
TOTAL	14,271,850	TOTAL	14271850
Notes: 1) Since the Accounts for the FY.2018-19 is not yet Audited (We are in the process of Audit Now) This report is a draft not the final report			
<p>FOR WILDLIFE TRUST OF INDIA</p> <p></p> <p>SAJI P BENNYAM General Manager & Head-Finance Date: 14th Jun 2019</p> 			

13. Daily feed Schedule of animals

Sl. No.	Species	Feed item	Quantity		Day of fasting
			Winter	Summer	
1.	Common Leopard	Beef and chevon	30-40% of body weight	20-30% of body weight	Once a week

14. Vaccination Schedule of animals

Sl. No.	Species	Disease vaccinated for	Name of the Vaccine and dosage/ quantity used	Periodicity	Remarks
1	Common leopard	Tetanus	Tetanus toxoid	Every six months	<i>The area is not an endemic zone for feline disease as it is a controlled environment. Prophylactic vaccinations against other diseases are thus not given</i>

15. De-worming Schedule of animals

Sl.No.	Species	Drug used	Month
1	Common leopard	Fenbendazole, Praziquantal, pyrantel palmoate (depending on the identity and load of the endo-parasites)	Every six months after faecal examination

16. Disinfection Schedule

Sl.No.	Species	Type of enclosure	Disinfectant used and method	Frequency of disinfection
1.	Common leopard	Chain-link mesh Enclosure	Chlorinated lime and/or Burning	Once a month

17. Health Check-up of employees for zoonotic diseases

Sl.No.	Name	Designation	Date of Health Check up	Findings of Health Check up
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01	Dr. Panjit Basumatary	Veterinary surgeon	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
02	Dr. Samshul Ali	Veterinary surgeon	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
03	Mohadeo Das	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
04	Horeswar Das	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
05	Lakhiram Das	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
06	Prasanta Das	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
07	Raju Kutum	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
08	Romen Das	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
09	Hemanta Das	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
10	Amal Das	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
11	Tarun Gogoi	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
12	Hemakhanta Nath	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD
13	Chandra Sworgayari	Animal keeper	18 th Nov' 2018	Healthy and NAD

18. Development Works carried out in the Rescue Centre during the year

No new construction was undertaken in the reporting period (Apr'18 – Mar'19). However, some minor renovations, repair and painting was undertaken as follows:

- i. Replacement of bamboos of the paddock, turn over and disinfection of soil, replacement of select netlon screening and
- ii. Dredging of small water bodies for wallowing and bathing of rhino and elephant calves
- iii. Painting of main office building, small animal nursery, etc.
- iv. Repair and painting of chain-link mesh of the leopard enclosure
- v. Construction of vehicular footbath at the entrance of the centre

19. Important Events and happenings

Date	Event	Type of event	Attended by
20 th May 2018	Wildlife Rescue Training for the Kaziranga Frontline Staff	Training	Thirty-five (35) frontline forest officials and field staff of Kaziranga National Park

8 th June 2018	SDRF, FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES training	Training	35 participants from State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and Fire & Emergency Services, Assam and
11 th June 2018	Orientation workshop on wildlife issues for Veterinary officials	Orientation	Veterinarians from Jorhat, Bokakhat, Karbi Anglong, Sonitpur and Biswanath districts

20. Seasonal special arrangements for upkeep of animals

NA

21. Research Work carried out and publications

None

22. Rescue and Rehabilitation of wild animals.

Sl. No.	Date of rescue	Species with number of animals rescued with their sex (M:F:U:T)	Received from	Date of submission of report to CWLW	Action taken	
					Date of release	Place of rehabilitation
QUARTER 1 (April – June 2018)						
1	25-04-18	Collared Scops Owl (0:0:1:1)	Tezpur	10 th July 2018	02-05-18	Tezpur
2	01-05-18	Common leopard (1:0:0:1)	Golaghat		01-05-18	Kaziranga
4	20-05-18	Bengal Monitor (1:0:0:1)	Kaziranga		23-05-18	Kaziranga
3	30-05-18	Tokay Gecko (0:0:1:1)	Bokakhat		31-05-18	Bokakhat
4	30-05-18	Spotted Owlet (0:0:4:4)	Bokakhat		15-06-18	Bokakhat
5	20-06-18	Asian Koel (0:0:1:1)	Numaligarh		17-07-18	Numaligarh
6	30-06-18	Collared Owlet (0:0:1:1)	Bokakhat		18-07-18	Bokakhat
QUARTER 2 (July– September 2018)						
7	04-07-18	Brown Headed Barbet (0:0:1:1)	Panbari	10 th Oct 2018	17-07-18	Panbari
8	21-07-18	Crested Serpent Eagle (0:0:1:1)	Golaghat		31-07-18	Golaghat
9	09-08-18	Indian Hare (1:0:0:1)	Bokakhat		10-08-18	Bokakhat
10	23-08-18	Woolly Necked Stork(0:0:1:1)	Numaligarh		28-08-18	Numaligarh
11	24-08-18	Collared Owlet (0:0:1:1)	Panbari		27-08-18	Panbari

12	19-09-18	Common leopard (0:1:0:1)	Golaghat		21-09-18	Golaghat
THIRD QUARTER (OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2018)						
13	03-10-18	Rhesus macaque (0:1:0:1)	Kaziranga	10 th January 2019	20-10-18	Kaziranga
14	22-10-18	Changeable Hawk Eagle(0:0:1:1)	Golaghat		25-10-18	Golaghat
15	01-12-18	Burmese Rock Python (1:0:0:1)	Kaziranga		14-12-18	Kaziranga
16	11-12-18	Oriental Pied Hornbill (0:0:1:1)	Kaziranga		19-12-18	Kaziranga
17	16-12-18	Oriental Pied Hornbill (2:0:0:0)	Kaziranga		10-01-19	Kaziranga
18	22-12-18	Oriental Pied Hornbill (0:1:0:1)	Agoratoli		19-01-19	Kaziranga
FOURTH QUARTER (JANUARY – MARCH 2019)						
19	02-01-19	Burmese Rock Python	Borjuri	10 th April 2019	02-01-19	Borjuri
20	16-01-19	Burmese Rock Python	Kaziranga		16-01-19	Kaziranga
21	20-01-19	Small Indian Civet	Rongajan		23-01-19	Rongajan
22	26-01-19	Spotted Owlet	Kaziranga		26-01-19	Kaziranga
23	01-02-19	Burmese Rock Python	Kaziranga		20-02-19	Kaziranga
24	23-02-19	Common leopard	Golaghat		24-02-19	Golaghat
25	24-02-19	Hog Deer	Kaziranga		25-03-19	Kaziranga
26	28-02-19	Hog Deer	Kaziranga		28-02-19	Kaziranga
27	04-03-19	Spot Bellied Eagle Owl	Golaghat		08-03-19	Golaghat
28	19-03-19	Hog Deer	Kaziranga		25-03-19	Kaziranga
29	30-03-19	Himalayan Griffon (0:32:0:32)	Demow, Bamaraja bari		09-04-19	Demow, Bamarajabari
30	30-03-19	Slender Billed (0:2:0:2)	Demow, Bamaraja bari		09-04-19	Demow, Bamarajabari

23. Annual Inventory of animals

Form – II

[See Rule 11(1)]

Part – A

Inventory Report for the Year:

Endangered Species*

S. No.	Animal Name	Scientific name	Opening Stock as on April 2018				Births			Acquisition			Disposal			Death			Closing Stock as on March 2019			
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T

1	Common leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4

*Animals under Schedule I and Schedule II of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

Part – B

Other than Endangered Species

S.N o.	Animal Name	Scientific name	Opening Stock as on				Births			Acquisition			Disposal			Death			Closing Stock as on			
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T

24. Mortality of animals

Sl. No.	Animal Name (with individual identification mark, if any)	Scientific Name	Sex	Date of Death	Reason of Death as per the Post-mortem findings

25. Compliance with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority

Enclosed with this document as an annexure