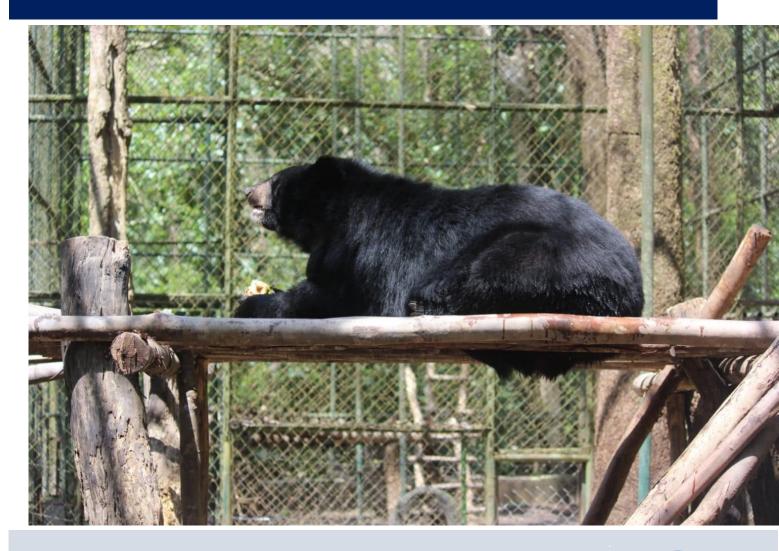
CENTRE FOR BEAR REHABILITATION AND CONSERVATION (CBRC)

Annual Report: 2019-20











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1. Report of the Officer-in-charge

This is the sixteenth year of CBRC being operational in Pakke Tiger Reserve, Arunachal Pradesh. The project has directly contributed to conservation of Asiatic black bears in the landscape by ensuring almost all the orphaned black bear cubs admitted to the centre are returned back to the wild where they serve the maximum conservation benefit.

The four of the five bears at the centre under lifetime care were brought as young 6 to 11-monthold bear cubs with the objective of rehabilitating them back to the wild. When the bear rehabilitation protocol was modified in 2004 and a new methodology was instituted, these bears were not considered young enough to be subjected to this revised method. As a result, they have ended up in lifetime care at CBRC. The fifth bear was a bear that had to be captured and put under lifetime care as it was often raiding the store and the kitchen of the forest campus.

The centre veterinarian also assists the Forest Department in providing veterinary care to some of the rescued animals. Most of the rescued wildlife species are released within a week and individuals requiring long-term care and non-releasable are moved to a lifetime care centres like zoos. Bear cubs undergoing rehabilitation at the release site are managed by a set of keepers supervised by a biologist. While cubs are hand-raised with a suitable milk formula for up to 5 months of age, adults under lifetime care are fed on concentrate mix supplemented with fruits, vegetables and tubers collected from the forest. The concentrate mixture comprises a porridge of cereal and pulse cemented together with jaggery and broken eggs. Nutritional supplements are added whenever the need arises.

The centre infrastructure is old and was built in 2004 to hold bears up to an age of 5-6 years. The bears now grown up and the cages now old and rusted. Weathering has also affected the foundation of the shelters and the main administrative office area. With the help of the Forest Department, a major renovation work of the shelter area (detailed under developmental works) was initiated and WTI with external funding support has also started rebuilding the administrative building.

2. History of the Rescue Centre

<u>Pakke Tiger Reserve</u>

Arunachal Pradesh is the largest state in the north-eastern region of India and forms 2.5% of the total geographical area of the country, 15.76% of the Indian Himalayan region and 43.62% of the biological hotspot of Eastern Himalaya. It is surrounded on three sides by international borders: Bhutan to the west, China to the north and Myanmar to the east. The bulk of the land area (around 64%) is still covered by forests and grasslands and still in its natural state, thus making forestry as the most important land use. However, despite this vast forest cover, the state is struggling to retain its forest cover owing to increasing demand for development activities. In the last three decades, population growth, agricultural practices (*jhuming*) and the development of towns have led to rapid fragmentation and degradation of forest and forest resources of the state. Many mammalian and avian species are threatened due to habitat loss and hunting.

The Pakke Tiger Reserve, once known as Pakhui Tiger Reserve (260 55' to 270 15' E; 920 35' to 930 10' N) is under the administrative control of the Seijosa Wildlife Division. In 1977 the area was demarcated as a wildlife sanctuary, renamed to Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary Division in 2001 and declared as a tiger reserve in 2002. It covers an area of 861.95 km², which is composed of 20% of the East Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh. The Tiger Reserve is

1



surrounded by contiguous protected area from all sides: Nameri National Park, Assam to south and south-east; Papum Reserve Forest to east; Doimara RF and Eaglenest WLS to the west and Shergaon Forest Division to the North (figure 1). Pakke has two ranges: Seijosa (540.79 km².) and Tipi (321.16 km².). Prior to 1980, the west bank of the Pakke River was leased to the Armed forces for firing practices and the east bank for settlement of retired army personnel, although currently the area has no leases.

Wildlife Trust of India

The park is almost completely hilly with altitudinal ranges starting from 100 to 2040 m above MSL. The terrain occupied by the forest is highly rugged with mountainous ranges, narrow plains and valleys with hill slopes, which

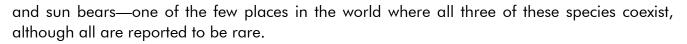
Figure 1: Pakke Tiger Reserve, Arunachal Pradesh

are moderate to steep. While the mountainous part of the reserve consists of temperate climate, that of the lower belt comprising narrow plains and valley is subtropical to tropical. Floods frequent peripheral zone and valleys. The annual average rainfall is approximately 2500 mm. In 1991, 3056 mm rainfall was recorded at Seijosa.

The Reserve has a great diversity of fauna with at least 40 species of mammals, 296 species of birds, 36 species of reptiles, 30 species of amphibians, over 500 species of butterflies and a high floral diversity as well. Some of the major important mammalian species of the sanctuary are Assamese macaque (*M. assamensis*), capped langur (*Trachypithecus pileatus*), sambar (*Cervus unicolor*), barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*), wild pig (*Sus scrofa*), Indian hare (*Lepus nigricollis*), gaur (*Bos gaurus*), elephant (*Elephas maximus*), tiger (*Panthera tigris*), leopard (*P. pardus*) clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*), wild dog (*Cuon alpinus*), jackal (*Canis aureus*), Asiatic black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), Himalayan yellow throated marten (*Martes flavigula*), Malayan giant squirrel (*Ratufa bicolor*), Eurasian otter (*Lutra lutra*), large Indian civet (*Viverra zibetha*), mongoose (*Herpestes spp.*) and Blanford's fruit bat (*Sphaerias blanford*). Several species of birds, reptiles and amphibians have also been reported in this region. The park is well known for its several species of hornbills and in fact in 2016 won the Indian Biodiversity Award in the category of "Conservation of threatened species" for hornbill nest adoption program

Asiatic black bears and rehabilitation of orphaned bear cubs

Asiatic black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*) is a medium sized bear earlier classified as moon bears (with the principal coat colour being black with a white/cream yellow "crescent moon" on the chest). Fossil remains of the Asiatic black bear have been found in various sites in Europe, as far north as the Ural Mountains and Germany and west to France, dating from the early Pliocene to late Pleistocene. But recent historical records show that the species is native to Asia with the western range limited by South-eastern Iran with some pocketed distributions in Northern Pakistan and Afghanistan. The distribution continues eastward along the foothills and south of the Himalayas across India, Nepal, Bhutan with increasing presence towards lower elevations in the hill states of north-eastern India including Pakke Tiger Reserve. In North Karbi Anglong wildlife sanctuary in Assam, northeast India, Asiatic black bear range overlaps both sloth bears



According to the IUCN Bear Conservation Action Plan, the bear populations at great risk include Asiatic black bear, sun bear, giant panda, sloth bear, brown bears of Mongolia, Tibet, France, Spain and Italy and the spectacled bear of Venezuela, Columbia and the Desert population in Peru. Asiatic black bear is classified as Vulnerable (VU - A1cd) on the IUCN Red List 2002 and listed on Appendix I of CITES since hunting for bear parts has been perceived as a major threat to their survival. The species is listed under Schedule II, Part II of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act (1972). The major threats include widespread illegal hunting for trade in parts combined with habitat loss. Bear cubs that end up in captivity, after the killing of their mothers, are maintained as pets for some time until they are grown up, when they are either confiscated by the Forest Department or voluntarily handed over to zoos for further care. In many temperate countries, where licensed hunting of bears is legalized, rehabilitation of orphaned bear cubs goes hand in hand. In tropical countries like India, where hunting is widespread though illegal, rehabilitation of bears has never been taken up as a project. Though 'surplus' captive bears have been occasionally released to the wild, no record of the success or failure of such attempts has been maintained.

The Asiatic black bear rehabilitation project, taken up jointly by the Department of Environment and Forests, Arunachal Pradesh and the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) in partnership with the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), is the only one of its kind to have been initiated in India. The project was largely an initiative of the then Deputy Chief Wildlife Warden of the state Mr. C. Loma, who was earlier the Divisional Forest Office of Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary where the centre was finally established in 2003.

Wildlife Trust of India (WTI)

Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) is a leading Indian nature conservation organization committed to the service of nature. WTI works 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 eight Big Ideas that 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 50000 lives in the decade." Wild Rescue strives to achieve this number in a threefold manner (Figure 2, next page):

With over 20 years of experience in the field of evidence-based conservation, WTI has developed expertise in rehabilitation and veterinary skills to address wildlife displacements due to conflicts and calamities, both natural and man-made. 1. Rescuing and rehabilitating temporarily displaced wild animals directly through rescue-rehabilitation centres and mobile veterinary service (MVS) units;

2. Responding to natural and man-made disasters and providing emergency relief to animals (both wild and domestic) through involvement of members from the Pan-India Emergency Relief Network (ERN); and

3. By building capacity of rehabilitators and rescuers across India on best management practices of wildlife rescue and rehabilitation



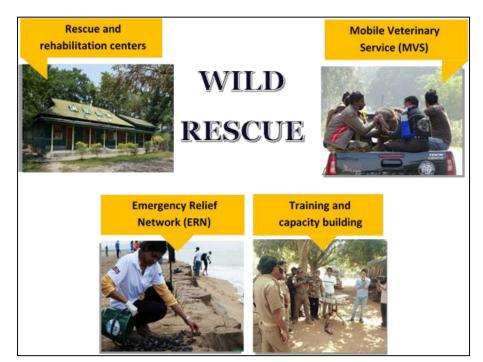


Figure 2: Operational arms of Wild Rescue division of WTI

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.

Center for Bear Rehabilitation and Conservation (CBRC)

Considering the tremendous potential that exists for rehabilitating bears back to the wild in Arunachal Pradesh, Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in March 2002 with the Department of Forests and Environment, Arunachal Pradesh, to establish a rehabilitation centre to address the issue of displaced bear cubs. The centre was planned to provide food, shelter, veterinary care and other rehabilitation measures to them until they are fit to be released back into their habitat. The Asiatic bear rehabilitation project was officially launched on the 15th of March 2002, following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Department of Environment and Forests, Arunachal Pradesh and Wildlife Trust of India. As per the MoU, the project is governed by a Governing Council, headed by the Forest Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh. While the Department provides all the logistics for the establishment and smooth running of the Centre in Arunachal, WTI ensures that the project is successfully run. The project has a Project Leader designated by the Forest Department and a point person appointed by WTI. The Governing Council members meet once a year and take review of the project's progress.

In March 2002, WTI submitted a proposal to the Animal Welfare Division, Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, Government of India, seeking funds for establishing a rehabilitation centre for Asiatic black bear cubs confiscated in Arunachal Pradesh. To expedite the initiation of the project, a temporary enclosure was built and two bear cubs were moved from Itanagar Zoo. The ministry meanwhile approved the project and released the first instalment of fund for construction in 2002. With additional support received from IFAW, the basic structures came up in 2003 and by 2004, most of the structures were complete. For the

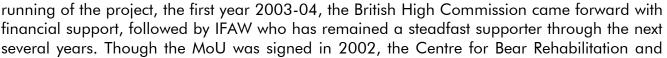




Figure 3: CBRC Being inaugurated by the then Forest Minister of Arunachal Pradesh

Conservation (CBRC) officially was inaugurated only in February 2005 by Shri Newlai, the then Forest Minister of Arunachal Pradesh (Fig 3). Apart from rehabilitating orphaned bears cubs and non-releasable holding bears under lifetime care, the MVS unit with the objective of rehabilitating displaced wildlife, attends to temporarily displaced animals, treated (if required), nursed and eventually released back to the wild. This is done as permitted Forest Department State by the of Arunachal Pradesh in accordance to Section 12 of the Wildlife Protection Act.

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 CBRC

S.No.	Particulars	Information				
Basic Inf	Basic Information about the Rescue Centre					
1	Name of the Rescue Centre	Centre for Bear Rehabilitation and				
		Conservation (CBRC)				
2	Year of Establishment	2004				
3	Address of the Rescue Centre	Pakke Tiger Reserve, Seijosa, west Bank,				
		East Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh				
4	State	Arunachal Pradesh				
5	Telephone Number	09838670181/0120-4143900				
6	Fax Number	0120-4143933				
7	E-mail address	po.pakke@wti.org.in				



S.No.	Particulars	Information
		info@wti.org.in
8	Website	http://www.wti.org.in/projects/pakke-
		conservation-project/
9	Distance from nearest	Airport: Tezpur (60 km)
		Railway Station: Tezpur (60 km)
		Bus Stand: Seijosa (2 km)
10	Recognition by CZA Valid upto (Date)	31 December 2017
11	Area (in Hectares)	1.1 hectares (2.74 acres)
Manage	ment Personnel of the Rescue Centre	
12	Name with designation of the Officer in-charge	Ayushman Singh, Project Officer, WTI
	Name of the Veterinary Officer	Dr. Madhurjya Bikash Borah, Vet, WTI
	Name of the Curator	NA
	Name of the Biologist	Akanksha Gogoi, Field Officer, WTI
	Name of the Compounder/ Lab Assistant	NA
Owner /	Operator of the Rescue Centre	
13	*Name of the Operator	Mr. Tana Tapi
14	Address of the Operator	O/o Field Director-cum-Divisional Forest
		Officer, Pakke Tiger Reserve, Seijosa,
		Arunachal Pradesh
15	Contact details/Phone number of Operator	08473099625/0436042859
16	E-mail address of Operator	dfopakke@gmail.com

7. Organizational Chart of the Rescue Centre

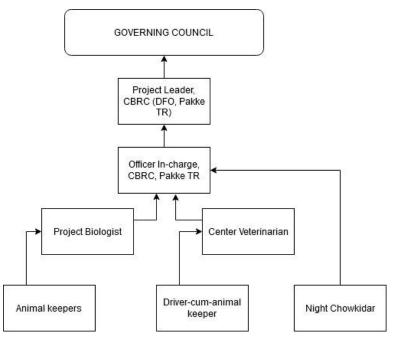


Figure 4: Organizational chart of CBRC

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

S.No.	Designation	Number of	Names of the
		Sanctioned Posts	incumbent



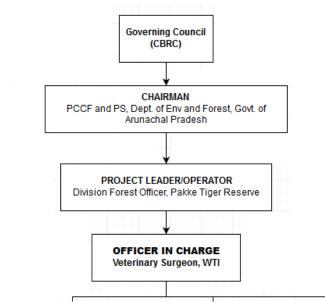
1	Centre In-charge/Officer In-charge	1	1
2	Centre veterinarian	1	1
3	Project Biologist	1	1
4	Centre driver-cum-keeper	1	1
5	Animal keepers	3	2
6	Night chowkidar	1	1

9. Capacity Building of Rescue Centre personnel (in FY 2019-20)

None

10. Rescue Centre Advisory Committee -

Administratively, CBRC is managed by a "Governing Council" headed by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Principal Secretary, Dept. of Environment and Forests, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh. This council itself is the advisory committee and normally meets every year to discuss the project progress, operations, etc. The constitution of the governing council is as shown below



- a. Date of last constitution: 12th December 2016
- b. **Members**: Other than the people mentioned above, the Chief Wildlife Warden of the state, Executive Director of WTI, Senior Director and Chief Veterinarian, WTI, Project head WTI, Director Itanagar biological park, and Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Itanagar Biological Park.
- c. Dates on which last meetings held during the year: None

11. Health Advisory Committee of the Rescue Centre -

None



12. Statement of income and expenditure of the Rescue Centre

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
Particulars	For Period of 1st Apr 2019- 31st Mar 2020 Amount (Rs.)		For Period of 1st Apr 2019- 31st Mar 2020 Amount (Rs.)
Construction,Equiping and maintainance Expenditure	772,036.00	Grant brought forward from Fy 2018-19	37546
Animal Management & ∀eterinary care Expenditure Cost for conducting Black bear occupancy survey in Pakke	551,944 109,052.00	Total Donations received for Fy-2019-20	554370
Project Coordination expenditure(Photocopy, Stationary, communication, mainetainance, Travel & subsistence Etc.)	341,806		
Salaries & professional fees	2,760,311.00		
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,384,016		
TOTAL	5,919,165	TOTAL	591916

Notes: 1)Since the Accounts for the FY.2019-20 is not yet Audited(We are in the process of Audit Now) This report is a draft not the final report

2)The income for the CBRC project has been accounted up to June 2019 as the project period as per the donor's (IFAW) Project funding terms and conditions. So the funds are carried forward to F.Y-2019-20

FOR WILDUFE TRUST OF INDIA

SATHYAN A.V (Chief of Management & CFO) Date: 30th April 2020



13. Daily feed Schedule of animals under lifetime care

SI.	Species	Feed item	Qu	uantity	Day of
No.			Winter	Summer	fasting
1.	Asiatic black bear (Ursus thibetanus	 Wheat=5.5Kg (individually=1.1kg), Gram=1.8kg (Individually=0.36g), Jaggery=1kg (individually=0.2gram) Egg=1egg each per day Banana, jackfruit, papaya, cucumber, pumpkin, sugarcane, coconut, and seasonal fruits are given on availability 	Same	same	Saturday no food Wednesday (just fruit)-
		 Naturally available (seasonal) 1. Torani malaccensis 2. Elephant apple Dillenia indica 3. Kanchan patta 4. Bauhinia purpurea 			



14. Vaccination Schedule of animals

SI. No.	Species	Vaccination	Month
1	Asiatic black bear (Ursus thibetanus)	Anti-rabies vaccination (booster)	December-January

15. De-worming Schedule of animals

SI. No.	Species	Drug used	Month
1	Asiatic black bear (Ursus thibetanus)	Fenbendazole	6-month interval after faecal examination

16. Disinfection Schedule

Sl. No.	Species	Type of enclosure	The disinfectant used and method	Frequency of disinfection
1.	Asiatic black bear (Ursus thibetanus	Chain link mesh	Fumigation and lime treatment of the floor	Dry season

17. Health Check-up of employees for zoonotic diseases

S.No.	Name	Designation	Date of Health Check-up	Findings of Health Check-up
1.	Ayushman Singh	Officer In- charge	Nov 2019	Screened for tuberculosis (negative) Vaccinated against rabies and
	Singn	churge		tetanus
2.	Chipra	Animal	Oct 2019	Screened for tuberculosis (negative)
	Mikola	keeper		Vaccinated against rabies and
				tetanus
3.	Duluk	Driver-cum-	Oct 2019	Screened for tuberculosis (negative)
	Dagang	keeper		Vaccinated against rabies and
				tetanus
4.	Aman Biri	Animal	Oct 2019	Screened for tuberculosis (negative)
		keeper		Vaccinated against rabies and
				tetanus
5.	Pinjar	Night	Oct 2019	Screened for tuberculosis (negative)
	Lagum	chowkidar		Vaccinated against rabies and
				tetanus

9



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

- i. The Major construction work that was initiated in the reporting period is of rebuilding of the main administrative office. As detailed above, the building was completely dilapidated due to termites and weathering. The whole structure was razed and fresh construction was initiated right from the foundation keeping the original design same with minor adjustments in the placement of the office, dedicated staff vehicle parking area and an additional toilet. The construction of one wing of the building was underway before the COVID-19 lockdown. The same will commence in 2020-21
- ii. The forest department undertook major renovation work of the shelter area for the bears under lifetime care. The foundation of the enclosure was re-laid, the chain-link mesh was reinforced and even replaced in select places and feeding troughs were fabricated and installed. The open enclosure was also split into two compartments by erecting a chain-link mesh (reinforced with a solar powered electric fence) fence in the middle, so that bears can be held in different enclosures. The overall layout of the bear enclosure area has been increased to accommodate a new treatment room, post-mortem room. These two are yet to be constructed. A dedicated quarantine area has also been planned to hold animals that are admitted with apparent signs and symptoms of an infectious diseases that is likely to affect the existing/resident animals.
- iii. In addition to this, wallowing ponds were created inside the enclosure, the mesh was painted, and additional feeding troughs were installed, a 2000 litre water tank for drinking water was installed along with a dedicated motor, electricity connection was restored after 5 years to both the administrative office as well as bear shelter.
- iv. A dedicated housing complex is being built by the forest department for accommodating the resident veterinarian, officers and animal keepers behind the main administrative office

Date	Event	Туре	Attended by				
	STUDENTS						
17 th January 2020	Visit of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Brig. B.D. Mishra (retd)	Visit					
19-21 st January 2020	Grain for Grain program	Relief	26 families living around Pakke TR were given 100 kg of rice (each) as a compensation to loss of crop due to elephant depredation				
20 March 2020	Immunization of livestock	Veterinary camp	800 animals from 15 villages around Pakke TR were vaccinated for major cattle, goat, swine, and canine diseases that have a potential to spread to wild counterparts in Pakke TR				

19. Important Events and happenings

20. Seasonal special arrangements for upkeep of animals

As mentioned above, two wallowing pools have been constructed to allow the bears to take a dip during hot summer days. Juicy fruits are given to them during the hotter months to prevent dehydration and also ensure nutrition

21. Research Work carried out and publication



None

11

22. Rescue and Rehabilitation of wild animals

None

23. Annual Inventory of animals

Form – II

[See Rule 11(1)]

Part – A

Inventory Report for the Year:

Endangered Species*

S.N	Animal	Scientific	Opening			Births A			Acquisition		Disposal		Death			Closing Stock						
о.	Name	name	Stock as on April 2019															as on Marc 2020			°ch	
			Μ	F	U	Т	М	F	U	М	F	U	м	F	U	М	F	U	М	F	U	Т
1	Asiatic black bear	Ursus thibetanu s	2	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	5

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

Part – B

Other than Endangered Species

S.No	Anim al Name	Scientif ic name	Opening Stock as on			Births			Acquisitio n			Disposa I			Death		Closing Stock as on					
			Μ	F	U	Т	Μ	F	U	Μ	F	U	Μ	F	U	Μ	F	U	Μ	F	U	Т

24. Mortality of animals

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

25. Compliance with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority

No condition for compliance has been sent for the FY 2019-20. The conditions for compliance was sent for 2018-19 which was responded to already in 2019.



26. Photographs of major activities undertaken in 2019-20



Figure a: One of the bears under LTC using the bamboo bridges



Figure b: Bear under LTC feeding on Elephant apple fruit



Figure c: The open outdoor enclosure partitioned into two by erecting a double row chainlink mesh barrier that permits keepers to walk in between.



Figure d: Disinfection of the enclosure being undertaken

Figure e: Newly installed feeding troughs





Figure f: The main administrative building being reconstructed



Figure g: Livestock immunization



Figure h: Grain for grain initiative



Figure i: Visit of the Governor, Arunachal Pradesh





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F-13, Sector-8

NOIDA-201301

Delhi - National Capital Region (NCR)

Uttar Pradesh