# CHENNAI SNAKE PARK

# Annual Report for the year 2019-20



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#### Report of the Officer-in-charge

# 1. <u>History of the Zoo</u>

The Chennai Snake Park Trust (Madras Snake Park Trust as it was known till 1997) was established in the year 1972, a group of wildlifers including Mr. Romulus Whitaker, Mr. M. Krishnan, Mr. A.V. Jagannatha Rao, Dr. M.V. Rajendran, Mr. S. Meenakshisundaram, Mr. Harry Miller and Mrs. Doris N. Chatopadhyay who were its initial office bearers.

A major activity of the Trust is to run a Snake Park. Though called a 'Snake Park' it houses not only snakes but also crocodilians, the larger lizards and turtles and tortoises. It is called a 'snake park' instead of 'reptile park' only for the reason that the term 'reptile' does not convey much to the lay-public.

The Park is run as a means of education of the public on snakes and other reptiles of which the public know so little and have little chance to know enough in the normal course. This ignorance leads to aversion and fear resulting in their wanton killing.

The Snake Park is located in a corner of the Guindy National Park on an extent of one acre of land ownedby the Government of Tamil Nadu and leased by it to the Trust. The lease is renewed from time to time and the present period of lease will expire in the year 2026. It is 13 km away from Chennai Central Railway station and 10 km away from Chennai Airport. It is well-served by the public transport system.

The Chennai Snake Park Trust is a not-for-profit NGO under an elected Board of Trustees consisting mostly of non-officials experienced in administration, wildlife management, financial management, veterinary care and zoo education, some of whom are officers retired from the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Forest Service having experience in these areas. There are also official nominees on the Board representing the Government of Tamil Nadu (Wildlife Warden, Tamil Nadu Forest Dept. and Joint Director, Tamil Nadu Tourism Dept.), the Government of India (Officer-in-charge, Zoological Survey of India and the Regional Deputy Director, Wildlife Regional Office (SR)) and the University of Madras (Head, Department of Zoology).

# 2. Vision / Mission/Objective

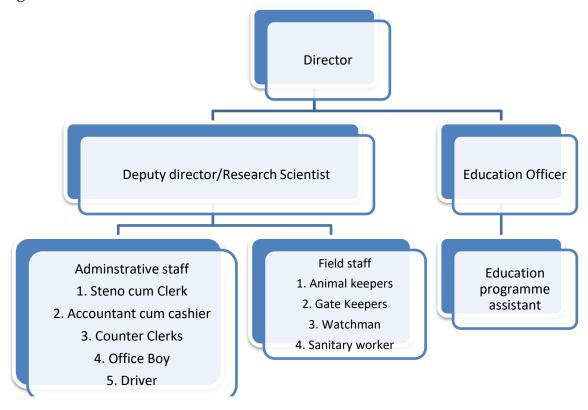
- i) To maintain and display a captive collection of snakes and other reptiles as a means of eliciting public interest in them and prompting the public to empathize with them.
- ii) To promote knowledge among the public on reptiles and amphibians and dispel the widespread erroneous beliefs about snakes in particular and, to this end, conduct awareness programmes targeting students primarily and also teachers and bring out low-priced publications with technical, semi-technical and popular content
- iii) To aid and assist research on reptiles and amphibians including the conduct of surveys to assess their status and distribution;
- iv) To undertake captive breeding of endangered species of reptiles
- v) To canvass public support for the protection and conservation of reptiles and amphibians.

# 3. About us

| S.No. | Particulars                         | Information  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Basic | Information about the Zoo           |  |
| 1     | Name of the Zoo                     | CHENNAI SNAKE PARK                                   |
| 2     | Year of Establishment               | 1972   |
| 3     | Address of the Zoo                  | RAJBHAVAN POST,CHENNAI<br>PINCODE: 600022            |
| 4     | State                               | TAMIL NADU   |
| 5     | Telephone Number                    | 044-22353623   |
| 6     | Fax Number                          |  |
| 7     | E-mail address                      | cspt1972@gmail.com                                   |
| 8     | Website                             | chennaisnakepark.org                                 |
| 9     | Distance from nearest               | Airport:10 km.                                       |
|       |                                     | Railway Station: Guindy 3 km<br>Kasturbai Nagar 2 km |
|       |                                     | Bus Stand:CMBT 14 KM.                                |
| 10    | Recognition Valid upto (Date)       | 19th August 2022                                     |
| 11    | Category of zoo                     | SMALL ZOO  |
| 12    | Area (in Hectares)                  | 0.4 HECTARES   |
| 13    | Number of Visitors (Financial Year) | Adult: 3,07,738                                      |
|       |                                     | Children: 96,568                                     |
|       |                                     |  |

| S.No. | Particulars                                    | Information  |
|-------|--|--|
|       |  | Total Indian: 4,03,736   |
|       |  | Total Foreigners : 570   |
|       |  | Total Visitors: 4,04,306   |
| 14    | Visitors' Facilities Available in Zoo          | Visitors rest room, rest area, drinking water facilities,                      |
| 15    | Weekly Closure Day of the Zoo                  | Tuesday  |
| Mana  | gement Personnel of the zoo                    |  |
| 16    | Name with designation of the Officer in-charge | Mr. R. Rajarathinam  |
|       | Name of the Veterinary Officer                 | Dr. M.G. Jayathangaraj, Dr.K.Senthilkumar – Trustees cum Honorary veterinarian |
|       | Name of the Curator                            | Dr.S.R.Ganesh  |
|       | Name of the Biologist                          |  |
|       | Name of the Education Officer                  | Dr.N. Sivaganesan  |
|       | Name of the Compounder/ Lab<br>Assistant       | K. Chooramani – Animal Keeper cum lab attender                                 |
| Owne  | r / Operator of the Zoo                        |  |
| 17    | *Name of the Operator                          | CHENNAI SNAKE PARK TRUST   |
| 18    | Address of the Operator                        | RAJBAVAN POST, CHENNAI - 600022  |
| 19    | Contact details/Phone number of Operator       | 044 22353623   |
| 20    | E-mail address of Operator                     | cspt1972@gmail.com   |

# 4. Organizational Chart



# 5. Human Resources

# Manpower of the Zoo\*

| Sl.No. | Designation              | Number of  | Names of the incumbent |
|--------|--------------------------|------------|------------------------|
|        |                          | Sanctioned |                        |
|        |                          | Posts      |                        |
| 1.     | Director                 | 1          | Mr. R.Rajarathinam     |
| 2.     | Dy. Director / Scientist | 1          | Dr. S.R.Ganesh         |
| 3.     | Education Officer        | 1          | Dr. N. Sivaganesan     |
| 4.     | Estate Manager           | 1          | S. Parkavi             |
| 5.     | Steno-cum-clerk          | 1          | P. Ushakumari          |
| 6.     | Accountant-cum-Cashier   | 1          | K. Murali              |
| 7.     | Counter clerk            | 2          | P. Babu Chatla         |
|        | Souvenir shop clerk      |            | M. Sasikala            |
| 8.     | Drivers                  | 2          | M. Siva                |
|        |                          |            | S. Vinoth Kumar        |
| 9.     | Office Boy               | 1          | N. Mani                |
| 10.    | Sanitary worker          | 1          | S. Valli               |
| 11.    | Animal Keepers           | 6          | M. Mani                |
|        | _                        |            | S. Ravi                |
|        |                          |            | V. Selvam              |

|     |                |   | K. Chooramani      |
|-----|----------------|---|--------------------|
|     |                |   | K. Prabakaran      |
|     |                |   | M.K. Haneef        |
| 12. | Gate Keeper    | 1 | Y. Manbahadurthapa |
| 13. | Night watchmen | 2 | E. Nagarajan       |
|     | _              |   | G. Murugan         |

<sup>\*</sup>Please give above mentioned information in respect of all zoo personnel, from the Officer incharge upto the Animal Keeper.

# 6. Capacity Building of zoo personnel

| Sl.No. | Name and designation | Subject matter | Period of Training | Name of the           |
|--------|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
|        | of the zoo personnel | of Training    |                    | Institution where the |
|        | _                    |                |                    | Training attended     |

# 7. Zoo Advisory Committee –

- a. Date of constitution
- **b.** Members
- **c.** Dates on which Meetings held during the year Board meeting of the trustees of the Chennai Snake Park held on

28.06.2019, 09.08.2019, 28.09.2019, 27.12.2019 & 29.02.2020

# 8. Health Advisory Committee–

- **a.** Date of constitution
- **b.** Members
- **c.** Dates on which Meetings held during the year same as above

# 9. Statement of income and expenditure of the Zoo

1. Income - Rs.1,05,34,081/-2. Expenditure - Rs.1,18,91,880/-

# 10. Daily feed Schedule of animals

| S.No | Species                        | Feed item             | Winter | Summer | Day of  |
|------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|---------|
|      |                                |                       |        |        | fasting |
| 1    | Indian rock python (Adult)     | 1 Chicken weekly once | N.A.   | N.A.   | N.A.    |
|      | Indian rock python(Sub Adult)  | 10 Chicks weekly once |        |        |         |
|      |                                |                       |        |        |         |
| 2    | Reticulated python (Adult)     | 1 Chicken weekly once |        |        |         |
|      | Reticulated python (sub Adult) | 10 Chicks weekly once |        |        |         |
|      |                                | ·                     |        |        |         |
|      | Common sand boa                | 3 rats/week           |        |        |         |

| Red sand boa            | 3 rats/week             |  |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Whitaker's boa          | 3 rats/week             |  |
| Common trinket snake    | 3 rats/week             |  |
| Common kukri snake      | 5 mice/week             |  |
| Common wolf snake       | 5 mice/week             |  |
| Common cat snake        | 5 mice/week             |  |
| Saw-scaled viper        | 5 mice/week             |  |
| Common krait            | 10mice/week             |  |
| Spectacled cobra        | 5 rats or chicks / week |  |
| Indian rat snake        | 5 rats or chicks / week |  |
| Russell's viper         | 5 rats or chicks / week |  |
| Checkeredkeelback       | 5 small fish/week       |  |
| Olive keelback          | 5 small fish/week       |  |
| Striped keelback        | 3 small fish/week       |  |
| Common vine snake       | 5 lizards/week          |  |
| Common bronzeback       | 5 lizards/week          |  |
| Marsh crocodile         | Beef 1 kg/animal/week   |  |
|                         | Fish 1 kg/animal/week   |  |
| Saltwater crocodile     | Beef 1 kg/animal/week   |  |
|                         | Fish 1 kg/animal/week   |  |
| Gharial                 | Fish 3 kg/animal/week   |  |
| Nile crocodile          | Fish 0.3kg / animal /   |  |
|                         | week Beef 0.3 kg /      |  |
|                         | animal / week           |  |
| Siamese crocodile       | Fish 0.5kg / animal /   |  |
|                         | week Beef 0.5 kg /      |  |
|                         | animal / week           |  |
| Indian black turtle     | Fish                    |  |
| Indian flapshell turtle | Fish                    |  |
| Star tortoise           | Vegetables and fruits   |  |
|                         | alternate days          |  |
| Green iguanas           | Greens, spinach &       |  |
|                         | fruits, vegetables on   |  |
|                         | alternate days          |  |
| Spotted rock gecko      | Insects, daily          |  |
| Indian rock agama       | Insects, daily          |  |
| Chameleon               | Insects, daily          |  |

#### 11. Vaccination Schedule of animals

| Sl.No. | Species | Disease        | Name of the   | Periodicity | Remarks |
|--------|---------|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------|
|        |         | vaccinated for | Vaccine and   |             |         |
|        |         |                | dosage/       |             |         |
|        |         |                | quantity used |             |         |
|        | NA      |                |               |             |         |

# 12. De-worming Schedule of animals

| Sl.No. | Species | Drug used                            | Month                   |
|--------|---------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
|        |         | Pyrate. As directed by Veterinary co | nsultant (Dr.P. Balaji) |

# 13. Disinfection Schedule

| Sl.No. | Species  | Type of enclosure | Disinfectant    | Frequency of |  |
|--------|--|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
|        |  |                   | used and method | disinfection |  |
|        | Povidine iodine. As directed by Veterinary consultant (Dr.P. Balaji) |                   |                 |              |  |

# 14. Health Check-up of employees for zoonotic diseases

| Sl.No. | Name          | Designation    | Date of Health | Findings of |
|--------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
|        |               |                | Check up       | Health      |
|        |               |                |                | Check up    |
|        | M.Mani        | Animal keepers |                |             |
|        | S.Ravi        |                |                |             |
|        | V. Selvam     |                |                |             |
|        | K. Chooramani |                |                |             |
|        | M. Siva       |                |                |             |
|        | K. Prabakaran |                |                |             |
|        | M.K. Haneef   |                |                |             |
|        | S.Rajesh      |                |                |             |

## 15. Development Works carried out in the zoo during the year

## a. Modernization of the Existing Interpretation Centre:

The several modernization and improvement works were taken up in the 'Interactive Learning Center' (Interpretation Centre).

A new, large screen for use during presentation / slide talks etc. is now erected in the interpretation centre. A new, high-end projector has also been put in place. The large wall-mounted flat-screen monitor television set that was there in the interpretation centre thus far, has now been hug in the board meeting room, for use during discussions / special occasions.

A new touch-screen system was also erected in the interpretation centre. New one with updated modern communication technology was purchased and installed. The installation of software and programmed content including slide shows, documentaries and virtual tour of our zoo are all under preparation and will be thrown open for the public shortly. Apart from interactive learning programmes, periodical screening of wildlife movies will also be done with this new venture.

The existing seating arrangement present in the interpretation centre consisting of three-seater steel chairs was changed. This was done because many of chairs were found to be old, corroded and damaged and had caused discomfort to the visitors. Instead, new bench-like seating arrangements made of wood and steel were put in place. There has not been any change in the overall carrying capacity of the centre and the no. Of chairs permissible inside a closed room is now in accordance with WHO guidelines (personal safety). The present seating capacity is 60 persons.

These works were carried out at a cost of Rs.1.89 lakhs under the approved maintenance budget head.

It is planned to engage the visitors all the time inside the Center. An interactive pay and learn system is also planned as has been provided in la zoo. A model picture is shown in the PPT presentation.

# b. Establishment of a "Frog Awareness" exhibit:

Creating more awareness of the amphibians is being under taken by this Park as a novel venture during recent times. In continuation of this, an interpretive exhibit on frogs is being undertaken. This will have a small semi permanent Frog exhibit with colorful interpretive messages on amphibians.

#### c. Modernization of CSPT website

The existing CSPT website has been modernized with latest technology including virtual park theme. Website of Chennai Snake Park Trust has now been transferred from soft source technologies to a new, modern, web developer bitlock online solutions. Apart from website their works also include a virtual tour facility and improvements in the interpretation centre.

# d. Outsourcing work by Children's Park

The Wildlife Warden, Chennai has offered outsourcing work for the preparation of "interpretive planning" for children's' park with budget of 1.00 lakh. Dr. S. Paulraj, the Executive Chairman will take up the work on behalf of CSPT.

#### e. Grants from the CZA

We have submitted a proposal for construction new Python enclosure in lieu of an existing enclosure, for total estimate of Rs. 13 Lakhs and seeking financial assistance of Rs. 7.80 lakhs from CZA in our letter dated 12.05.2019 i.e. 60% of the estimate. In the

letter dated.30.08.2019, they sanctioned Rs. 7.80 lakhs. We have to spend Rs. 5.20 lakhs i.e. 40% of the estimate. Work on this front is almost complete. We are expecting the sanctioned amount to be released by the CZA.

# f. Donation Received from the Director of Environment, TN for CSPT Research activities

As a result of persistent efforts by the Executive Chairman for the collection of fund under donation/ CSR, the Department of Environment was pleased to release Rs. 5.00 lakhs as grant under CSR. The Executive Chairman, on behalf of the CSPT, thanked the Director, Environment for this assistance. Other departments and agencies are being addressed / tried to get donations for the development of the Institutions under CSPT.

# g. Seasonal special arrangements for upkeep of animals

During peak summer (April-May) roof tops erected in crocodile enclosure for shade; water-soaked leaf litter sprayed on enclosure flooring for heat reduction. In most enclosures water sprayed periodically, on the enclosure substrates and on the animals. During peak winter (Dec-Jan.) heat pot bulbs switched on during night time for apt warmth for the reptiles.

# 16. Education and Awareness programmes during the year

#### a. Lectures and Talks Delivered

| Sl.<br>No. | Date(s) | Target Audience  | Venue                 | Remarks   |
|------------|---------|--|-----------------------|---|
| 11         | 2.4.19  | Forest Ranger trainees from Telangana Forest<br>Academy, Hyderabad   | Snake Park            | Extempore visit; part of field tour               |
| 12         | 6.5.19  | UG and PG Environmental Sciences students from Krea Univ., Andhra Pradesh  | Snake Park            | Extempore visit; part of field tour               |
| 13         | 12.5.19 | IFS Trainees of Tamil Nadu Cadre coordinated by AAZP   | Snake Park            | Extempore visit; part of field tour               |
| 14         | 31.5.19 | General public   | Kattupali,<br>Pulicat | CZA awareness programme                           |
| 15         | 5.6.19  | UG, PG zoology students & M.Phil. scholars<br>and faculty members from Univ. of Madras,<br>Stella Maris College, Loyola College and<br>Madras Christian College. | Snake Park            | Part of World<br>Environment Day<br>Special Event |
| 16         | 6.6.19  | HCL employees ECO club named 'HOPE'  | Snake Park            | Rs.10,000/-                                       |
| 17         | 13.6.19 | Watch & ward and security staff from HIMT College, Kalpakkam   | HIMT college campus   | CZA awareness programme                           |

## b. Education /Awareness programme conducted under "Captive to Wild" event

| Date                        | Details              | Participants attended | Activity                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 18.9.2019                   | About Elephants      | Special Interview in  | Creating awareness among      |
|                             |                      | SUN-TV Programme      | public                        |
| 19.8.2019 Asian Paint-Snake |                      | 11 Staff & 2 Staff    | Park Visit, Orientation in    |
|                             | Mitigating Programme |                       | Park, Introductory Talk about |

|            | - SMP - CSPT         |                       | CSPT.                           |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 23.08.2019 | Asian Paint – Snake  | 20 members & 2 staff  | Awareness programme to          |
|            | Mitigating Programme |                       | ward staff in the field and     |
|            | - SMP $-$            |                       | assessment of field to identify |
|            | Sriperumbuthur-      |                       | habitats of snakes              |
|            | Client Site          |                       |                                 |
| 24.8.2019  | Chennai North Fire   | 45 Trainees & 2 Staff | Park visit, regular Live        |
|            | Department Fresh     |                       | demonstration of snakes,        |
|            | Batch Trainees (Ist  |                       | Videos and snake hatching       |
|            | Batch)               |                       | methods                         |
| 25.8.219   | Madras Naturalist    | 30 members            | Explore – CSPT campus           |
|            | Society              |                       |                                 |
|            | Madras Naturalist    | 30 members            | Explore - CSPT                  |
|            | Society – Explore    |                       |                                 |
|            | CSPT                 |                       |                                 |
| 30.8.2019  | Chennai North Fire   | 45 Trainees & 2 Staff | Park visit, regular Live        |
|            | Department Fresh     |                       | demonstration of snakes,        |
|            | Batch Trainees (IInd |                       | Videos and snake hatching       |
|            | Batch)               |                       | methods                         |
| Vinayaka   | World Elephant Day   | Article published in  |                                 |
| Chaturthi  |                      | Daily Thanthi News    |                                 |
| Edition    |                      | Paper                 |                                 |

**c. A Day with Snakes:** From 20<sup>th</sup> April to 26<sup>th</sup> May, 6 batches of participants took part in the summer programme "A Day with Snakes", totalling to 102 in all.

# d. Awareness Programme In Pallikaranai Marsh Land And Chennai Snake Park

| Date     | Awareness Programme   | No. of<br>Participants | No. of days |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| 23/05/19 | World Turtle Day      | Visitors               | 1           |
| 04/06/19 | World Environment Day | 80                     | 1           |
| 05/06/19 | World Environment Day | 20                     | 1           |
| 06/06/19 | World Environment Day | TCS staff (60)         | 1           |

# e. Tamil Nadu Open University – Diploma in Wildlife Tourism – Enrolment of students

On 4<sup>th</sup> Sep., the Executive Secretary along with the EEO visited the Dharmapuri Forest Circle for enrolment of forest field staff. More than 75 staff interacted and follow up action is being initiated for their enrolment shortly.

# f. Special Events Organized (Training for Uniformed Staff, Snake Mitigating Programme and Others)

| Date                             | Details  | Participants attended                               | Activity  |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 18.9.2019                        | About Elephants  | Special Interview in SUN-TV Programme               | Creating awareness among public   |
| 19.8.2019                        | Asian Paint-Snake Mitigating Programme - SMP - CSPT                          | 11 Staff & 2 Staff                                  | Park Visit, Orientation in Park, Introductory Talk about CSPT.  |
| 23.08.2019                       | Asian Paint – Snake Mitigating Programme – SMP – Sriperumbuthur- Client Site | 20 members & 2 staff                                | Awareness programme<br>to ward staff in the field<br>and assessment of field<br>to identify habitats of<br>snakes |
| 24.8.2019                        | Chennai North Fire Department Fresh Batch Trainees (Ist Batch)               | 45 Trainees & 2 Staff                               | Park visit, regular Live demonstration of snakes, Videos and snake hatching methods                               |
| 25.8.219                         | Madras Naturalist Society  | 30 members  | Explore – CSPT campus   |
|                                  | Madras Naturalist<br>Society – Explore<br>CSPT                               | 30 members  | Explore – CSPT  |
| 30.8.2019                        | Chennai North Fire Department Fresh Batch Trainees (IInd Batch)              | 45 Trainees & 2 Staff                               | Park visit, regular Live demonstration of snakes, Videos and snake hatching methods                               |
| Vinayaka<br>Chaturthi<br>Edition | World Elephant Day   | Article published in<br>Daily Thanthi News<br>Paper | J   |

#### g. TNOU Study Centre

As a special move to increase the enrolment for the Wildlife Tourism Guide Diploma course with the TNOU, the Environmental Education Officer visited and interacted with 131 forest field staff members of Hosur FD, Tirunelveli FD, and Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve who volunteered for enrollment. College students and public were also enrolled in the course.

The activities of the Extension Education of the TNOU is shown in appendix. There is a substantial increase in the number of candidates submitted for enrolment for the Wildlife Tourism distance education programme due to personal enrolment campaign conducted by the EEO *cum* Coordinator of the TNOU study Centre at CSP. More than 100 candidates mostly from the Forest Department got enrolled during the past two months alone as against only six for the past two year period. Further, field level enrolment activities are going on by deputing the EEO and planned to enroll further 200 during this financial year.

Field Programme to Protected Areas for TNOU 2018 batch of enrolled students are scheduled from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> December at Anamalai Tiger Reserve (Attakatti).

#### h. Wildlife Week Celebration

During the first week of October, in connection with the Wildlife Week for the year 2019, the following special activities were conducted by our zoo:

On 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2019, 45 UG and PG students from the Dept. of Agadathantra, Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Ayurveda Hospital & College, visited the zoo and underwent special programmes. Then, a group of 50 UG students studying various disciplines from Navarasam Arts and Science College, Erode participated. As for the schools, 60 students and 4 staff members from the Chennai Middle School, Vinayakapuram and Padma Prakash Matriculation Hr. Sec. School, Kodungaiyur, Chennai participated. On 5<sup>th</sup> Oct., 20 watch and ward staff of the American International School and Academy underwent training on man-snake conflict mitigation. Then, a class of 38 students from Arumuga Nadar Girls Higher Sec. School visited the zoo. On 8th, the final day of the wildlife week, in conjunction with the adjacent Children's Park, we participated in the Govt. organized special function. The Executive Chairman of CSPT was one of the dignitaries of the function and prizes organized by Chennai Snake Park, were given to the best scorers during the course of the event.

# 17. Research and Training wing activities

#### a. CZA-sponsored snake awareness project

The snake awareness project taken up by the Chennai Snake Park was sponsored by the CZA with a grant to the tune of Rs. 5.10 Lakhs. The six month interim report along with the utilization certificate, of the CZA sponsored, snake-awareness project was submitted by last week of November. A communication regarding the release of the second instalment has been sent to their office on 19<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2019.

By early March the second and final installment was released by the CZA. The one year final report, its associated files and accessories such as posters, booklets, brochures, Q & A pamphlets, etc. developed during the project, along with the utilization certificate including the second installment have all been submitted to the CZA by the end of March 2020. Acknowledgment of receipt of all the files was received from the CZA for the same.

# b. Snake venom project:

On 12<sup>th</sup> Nov., permission order from the PCCF, TNFD was received for conducting CSPT's project titled "Intra-specific variation in venom composition of the Big Four venomous snakes in Tamil Nadu with special reference to geographic differences and effect of captivity".

Based on PCCF permit, as per the G.O., Rs. 5,000/- towards refundable caution deposit and Rs. 5,000/- towards research fees were remitted to KMTR Field Director Office, Tirunelveli on 30.11.2019.

Subsequently, after technical discussions, on 19.12.2019, a letter requesting to raise the sample size of snakes to be used for venom extraction from 2 to 5, was sent to the PCCF office.

However, due to the Corona virus curfew, no progress could be made on this work.

c. Herpetofauna and Loris surveys in Nanmangalam: On 18.10.2019, we obtained PCCF permit for conducting night surveys on herpetofauna and loris in Nanmangalam Forest. While the CSPT team handled the herpetofauna component, as per office advice, an external expert (Mrs. G. Smitha Daniel of Prof. Mewa Singh's lab) was involved to take care of the loris component. After a series of night surveys during Nov.-early Dec. its interim report was submitted to PCCF office. Simultaneously an extension request for three more months was also submitted, on 18.12.2019. On 21.12.2019, the extension permit was accorded to us by the PCCF. From 1.1.2020 to 2.3.2020, further series of surveys were conducted a consolidated report furnished to the Forest Dept.

# d. IUCN-SSC- CPSG meeting in Argentina and visit of the Los Angeles Zoo

The Executive Chairman, Dr.S.Paulraj, as a member of the CPSG, attended the annual meeting held at Buenos Aires, Argentina and also made a study visit of the Los Angeles Zoo. The Chairman's discussion with the member secretary, Dr.Yadav, IFS who also attended the meeting was useful. The visit of the Chairman to the modern reptile house in la zoo is more useful for redesigning our reptile enclosures. Some of the reptile enclosure designs are shown in the ppt presentation. Efforts will be taken to modernize all our snake enclosures in line with la zoo in a phased manner.

#### e. CAMP workshop for reptiles IUCN status assessments

Based on the sponsored invite from Zoo Outreach Organisation, Dr. S.R.Ganesh, Dy. Director & Scientist was deputed to attend CAMP workshop for reptiles IUCN status assessments during September 2019. The first phase concentrated on Indian reptiles and happened in Coimbatore, Tamilnadu. The second phase was on Srilankan reptiles and happened in Kandy, Sri Lanka.

## f. International snakebite symposium in T.C.R. Hospital Krishnagiri

Based on an invite from the T.C.R. Hospital, Krishnagiri On 15<sup>th</sup> Dec., Dr. S.R.Ganesh, Dy. Director & Scientist was deputed to attend International Snakebite Symposium. This one day symposium was convened by medical practitioners specializing in snakebite treatment, including two foreign experts from Univ. of Reading, UK. His attending the symposium will be of good help in our conducting a similar one, in coming March, as part of CZA snake awareness project.

#### g. Internship programmes

One M.Phil. zoology scholar from Madras Christian College conducted internship project work at CSPT from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019. One II yr. M.Sc. Zool. student

from Loyola college studied the hatchling iguana feeding behaviour during June 2019 (2 weeks).

# h. Special talks to Vepery Veterinary College students

On 13<sup>th</sup> Aug. and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep. 2019 two sets of B.V.Sc. students from Vepery Vetrinary Hospital & College (TANUVAS) visited CSPT. Special lectures on Indian snakes and guided tours were arranged by DD & Scientist and EEO for the visiting students and faculty members.

# i. Snake Survey and Awareness Programme in Institution/ Factory/Colleges:

On 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, Sept. 2019 a two day field visit to Siemens-Gamesa Company in Tirunelveli, Kayathar was undertaken by CSPT team consisting of Dy. Dir. & Scientist along with animal keepers. We have received a sum of Rs. 35,000/- as programme fee.

**j. Factory site inspections for man-snake conflict mitigation:** The Dy. Director & Scientist along with two animal keepers conducted the following factory visits:

i.23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 in HIMT College, Kalpakkam

ii.13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in HIMT College, Kalpakkam

iii.23<sup>rd</sup> Nov. 19 in HIMT College, Kalpakkam

iv.28th Nov. 19 in DLF Garden city, Chemmencherry

v.12<sup>th</sup> Dec. 19 in Campus K School, Sozhinganallur

vi.21st Dec. 19 in CLAPS Community Centre, Thiruvallur

vii.30<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2019 in CLAPS Community Centre, Thiruvallur

viii.03<sup>rd</sup> Jan. 2020 in MFF Co., Kattupalli Thiruvallur Dist.,

ix.10<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2020 in Ganesan Builders field site Padur-Vengaivasal

x.09th Feb. 2020 in Kumaran Systems field site SIPCOT IT Park, Siruseri

# **18.** Conservation Breeding Programme of the Zoo

None during the said period.

## 19. Animal acquisition / transfer / exchange during the year

| A. | Animal | s arriving to the Zoo |              |            |                    |
|----|--------|-----------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|
|    | H.     | Species (All are      | Number (M:F) | From which | Date of arrival in |
|    | NO.    | exotic species)       |              | Zoo        | the zoo            |
|    |        | Nil                   |              |            |                    |
| B. | Animal | s going from the zoo  |              |            |                    |
|    | H.NO.  | Species               | Number (M:F) | Going to   | Date of deposition |
|    |        |                       |              | which Zoo  | from the zoo       |
|    |        | Common Sand Boa       | - 2 Nos      | Dehradun   | 14.09.2019         |
|    |        |                       |              | Z00        |                    |

|  | Green vine Snake    | - 2 Nos         | -do- |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|------|
|  | Checkered Keel Back | -2Nos           |      |
|  | Reticulated Python  | - 2Nos (Babies) |      |
|  | Common Krait        | -2Nos           |      |

# 20. Rescue and Rehabilitation of wild animals carried out by the ${\bf Zoo}$

| Sl.No. | Date of | Species with    | Receiv | Date of       | Action taken   |              |
|--------|---------|-----------------|--------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
|        | Rescue  | number of       | ed     | Submission of |                |              |
|        |         | animals rescued | from   | Report to the |                |              |
|        |         | with their sex  |        | CWLW / CZA    |                |              |
|        |         |                 |        |               | Date and       | Reasons for  |
|        |         |                 |        |               | Place of       | housing in   |
|        |         |                 |        |               | rehabilitation | the zoo, if  |
|        |         |                 |        |               | in their       | not released |
|        |         | Nil             |        |               | habitat        | in their     |
|        |         |                 |        |               |                | habitat      |

# 21. Annual Inventory of animals

 $Form-II \\ [See Rule 11(1)] \\ Part-A \\ Inventory Report for the Year:$ 

# **Endangered Species\***

| S.No |   | SCIENTIFIC                       | OPENING      | BIRTHS   | ACQUISITIONS | DISPOSALS | DEATHS    | CLOSING      |
|------|---|----------------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
|      | ANIMAL NAME                                 | NAME                             | STOCK        |          |              |           |           | STOCK        |
|      |   |                                  | M F UT       | M   F  U | M   F   U    | M   F   U | M   F   U | M   F   U T  |
| 1    | Chameleon Indian                            | Chamaeleo<br>zeylanicus          | 0  0  5  5   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  5  5   |
| 2    | Cobra Indian                                | Naja naja                        | 0  0  11  11 | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  11  11 |
| 3    | Crocodile Long<br>Snouted (Gharial)         | Gavialis<br>gangeticus           | 0  0  6  6   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  6  6   |
| 4    | Crocodile Marsh (<br>Mugger )               | Crocodylus<br>palustris          | 0  0  29  29 | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  29  29 |
| 5    | Crocodile Salt Water                        | Crocodylus<br>porosus            | 0  0  2  2   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  2  2   |
| 6    | Monitor Lizard /<br>Common Indian           | Varanus<br>bengalensis           | 0  0  3  3   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  3  3   |
| 7    | Python Indian - Rock                        | Python molurus                   | 0  0  6  6   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  1   | 0  0  5  5   |
| 8    | Python Regal /<br>Reticulated               | Python<br>reticulatus            | 0  0  7  7   | 0  0  15 | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  22  22 |
| 9    | Snake Keelback<br>Checkered                 | Xenochrophis<br>piscator         | 0  0  8  8   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  8  8   |
| 10   | Snake Keelback<br>Olivaceous                | Atretium<br>schistosum           | 0  0  6  6   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  6  6   |
| 11   | Snake Rat / Dhaman                          | Ptyas mucosus                    | 0  0  6  6   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  6  6   |
| 12   | Turtle Fresh Water /<br>Indian Soft-shelled | Lissemys<br>punctata<br>punctata | 0  0  7  7   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  7  7   |
| 13   | Viper Russells                              | Daboia russelii                  | 0  0  6  6   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  6  6   |

| Total o<br>Endan | _ | 0  0  15 | 0  0  0 | 0  0  0 | 0  0  1 | 0  0  115  116 |
|------------------|---|----------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Specie           | s |          |         |         |         |                |

<sup>\*</sup>Animals under Schedule I and Schedule II of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

Part-B

# Other than Endangered Species

|       |  |                                      | OPENING        | BIRTHS   | ACQUISITIONS | DISPOSALS | DEATHS    | CLOSING       |
|-------|--|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| S.No. | ANIMAL NAME                              | SCIENTIFIC<br>NAME                   | STOCK          |          |              |           |           | STOCK         |
|       |  |                                      | M   F   U   T  | M   F  U | M   F   U    | M   F   U | M   F   U | M F U T       |
| 1     | Gecko Emerald                            | Gekko gecko                          | 0  0  5  5     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  5  5    |
| 2     | Krait Common<br>Indian                   | Bungarus<br>caeruleus                | 0  0  6  6     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  6  6    |
| 3     | Lizard Rock                              | Psammophilus<br>blandfordanus        | 0  0  4  4     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  4  4    |
| 4     | Sand Boa Common                          | Eryx conicus                         | 0  0  6  6     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  6  6    |
| 5     | Sand Boa Red                             | Eryx johnii                          | 0  0  8  8     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  8  8    |
| 6     | Sand Boa Whitakers                       | Eryx whitakerii                      | 0  0  1  1     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  1  1    |
| 7     | Snake Banded Kukri                       | Oligodon arnensis                    | 0  0  1  1     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  1  1    |
| 8     | Snake Cat                                | Boiga trigonata                      | 0  0  2  2     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  2  2    |
| 9     | Snake Keelback<br>Stripped               | Amphiesma stolata                    | 0  0  4  4     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  4  4    |
| 10    | Snake Tree /<br>Common Indian<br>Bronzeb | Dendrelaphis<br>tristis              | 0  0  4  4     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  4  4    |
| 11    | Snake Trinket                            | Coelognathus<br>helena               | 0  0  3  3     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  3  3    |
| 12    | Snake Vine                               | Ahaetulla nasuta                     | 0  0  9  9     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  9  9    |
| 13    | Snake Water Dog<br>Faced                 | Cerberus rynchops                    | 0  0  4  4     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0   0   0 | 0  0  4  4    |
| 14    | Snake Wolf<br>Common                     | Lycodon aulicus                      | 0  0  3  3     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  3  3    |
| 15    | Tortoise Star Back                       | Geochelone<br>elegans                | 0  0  7  7     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  7  7    |
| 16    | Turtle (Unidentified)                    | 3                                    | 0  0  11  11   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  11  11  |
| 17    | Turtle Pond                              | Melanochelys<br>trijuga              | 0  0  27  27   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  27  27  |
| 18    | Viper Saw Scaled                         | Echis carinatus                      | 0  0  9  9     | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  9  9    |
|       |  |                                      |                |          | <b>.</b>     |           | 1         | ·             |
|       |  | Total of Species<br>(Sch III and IV) | 0  0  114  114 | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0   | 0  0  114 114 |

# Total of Exotic Species

|       |                |                      | OPENING    | BIRTHS   | ACQUISITIONS | DISPOSALS | DEATHS    | CLOSING      |
|-------|----------------|----------------------|------------|----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| S.No. | ANIMAL NAME    | SCIENTIFIC NAME      | STOCK      |          |              |           |           | STOCK        |
|       |                |                      | M F UT     | M   F  U | M F U        | M   F   U | M   F   U | M   F   U  T |
|       |                |                      | 0  0  2  2 | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0      | 0   0   0 | 0  0  0   | 0  0  2  2   |
| 1     | Crocodile Nile | Crocodylus niloticus |            |          |              |           |           |              |

| 2 | Crocodile Siamensis   | Crocodylus siamensis | 0  0  2  2    | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0  | 0  0  0   | 0  0  0 | 0  0  2  2   |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|--------------|
|   | Crocodiic Staticiisis | Crocoayius siamensis | 0  0  6  6    | 0  0  10  | 0  0  0  | 0   0   0 | 0  0  0 | 0  0  16  16 |
| 3 | Iguana Green          | Iguana iguana        | טן טן טן ט    | 0  0  10  | 0 00 0   | 0 0 0     | 0 0 0   | 0  0  10  10 |
|   |                       |                      | 0  0  0  0    | 0   0   0 | 0  0  3  | 0  0  0   | 0  0  3 | 0  0  0  0   |
| 4 | Tortoise Burmese      | Geochelone sp.       |               |           |          |           |         |              |
|   | Snake Spitting        |                      | 0   0   0   0 | 0   0   0 | 0  0  4  | 0   0   0 | 0  0  0 | 0  0  4  4   |
| 5 | Cobra                 | Naja sp.             | - 1- 1- 1-    | - 1- 1-   | - 1- 1   | - 1- 1-   | - 1- 1- | - 1- 1       |
|   |                       |                      | 0  0  0  0    | 0   0   0 | 0  0  1  | 0   0   0 | 0  0  0 | 0  0  1  1   |
| 6 | Snake Pitviper        | Trimeresurus sp.     |               | ' '       |          |           |         |              |
|   | Snake Pythons         |                      | 0   0   0   0 | 0   0   0 | 0  0  6  | 0  0  0   | 0  0  2 | 0  0  4  4   |
| 7 | albino                | Python sp.           | - 1- 1- 1-    | - 1- 1-   | - 1- 1-  | - 1- 1-   | - 1- 1  | - 1- 1       |
|   |                       | Total of Exotic      | 0  0  10  10  | 0  0  10  | 0  0  14 | 0   0   0 | 0  0  5 | 0  0  29  29 |
|   |                       | Species              |               |           |          |           |         |              |

# 22. Mortality of animals

| Sl.No. | Animal Name    | Scientific Name    | Sex        | Date of   | Reason of    |
|--------|----------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
|        | (with          |                    |            | Death     | Death as per |
|        | individual     |                    |            |           | the Post-    |
|        | identification |                    |            |           | mortem       |
|        | mark, if any)  |                    |            |           | report       |
| 1      | Reticulated    | Python reticulatus | Unknown    | Dec. 2019 |              |
|        | python         |                    | (subadult) |           |              |
| 2      | Russell's      | Daboia russellii   | Unknown    | Dec. 2019 |              |
|        | viper          |                    | (subadult) |           |              |
| 3      | Green iguana   | Iguana iguana      | Unknown    | Mar. 2020 |              |
|        | _              |                    | (subadult) |           |              |

# 23. Compliance with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority

Time to time compliance is being done as per the instructions of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi.

# 24. List of free living wild animals within the zoo premises

**a.** Mammals : Palm squirrel, Bonnet monkeys

**b.** Birds : Crows

**c.** Reptiles : House geckos, garden lizards

# 25. CZA renewal of recognition to Chennai Snake Park

Dr. A.V. Joseph IFS, Evaluation and Monitoring Officer, CZA inspected Chennai Snake Park on 19.02.2020 based our renewal application. Based on his observation the CZA gave one year extension with some conditions. The letter received from CZA and our reply has been sent to CZA.