

SARAHAN PHEASANTRY

Annual Report for the year
2023-24



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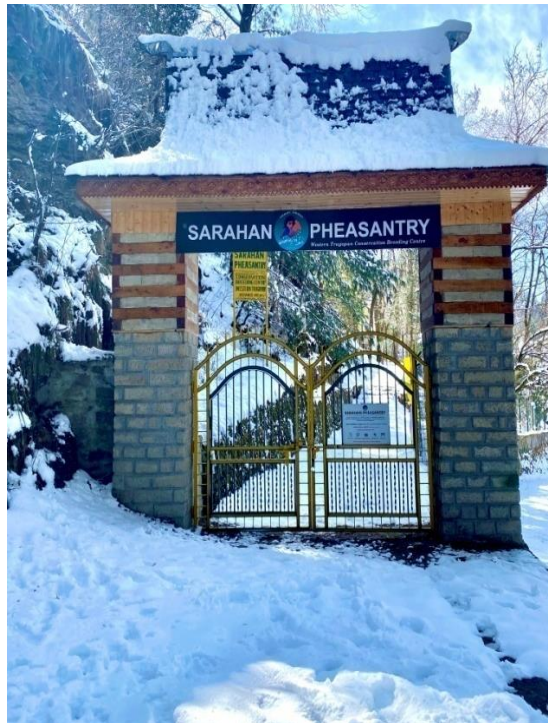
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1. Report of the Officer-in-charge

Conservation of bio diversity, both in its natural habitats and outside, has perhaps never received as much attention as it is receiving today. India has a great tradition of conserving the natural resources as is evident from various references on the subject found in the ancient scriptures. India due to its varied climatic, topographic and social settings is considered one of the major biodiversity region in the world. This richness is not only limited to the plants but also to animals, birds and many other lower taxa. A large number of this biodiversity is found in Himachal Pradesh, a small hill state nested in the western Himalaya. The state takes pride in its lush green forests, vast meadows, dry trans-Himalayan range, perennial streams, water bodies and a large variety of flora and fauna.

It gives me immense pleasure to present annual report of 2023-24 for wild life Division Sarahan for western Tragopan conservation breeding Programme (Sarahan Pheasantry). The programme has always being an area of focus for the wild life wing of Himachal Pradesh Forest Department. Starting in late 1980s, the Pheasantry has undergone its share of revolution. On the process the wildlife wing also learned a great deal of conservation breeding. It is also happy to see that notable number off chicks that we have added successfully to the programme during last breeding season For this, Pheasantry team deserves applause for their efforts. I hope that the team will continue to the same zeal come back with even better results and innovative interventions. Not just technically, but infrastructure wise as well the breeding programme is undergoing changes.



2. History of the Zoo

The Western Tragopan conservation breeding center is situated in Sarahan, which is located in the Shimla district of the Himachal Pradesh state. The center is positioned within a fenced forest land, which is located at a considerable distance from human settlements and has an elevation of approximately 2300msl. The forest land covers an area of almost 12 hectares (0.12 km²). The location's geographic coordinates are 31° 30' 25.53" N, 77° 47' 46.95" E, and it is situated within the natural distributional range of the species. Additionally, wild Western Tragopans have been observed in the pheasantry in past.

During the early 1990s, the initial efforts to maintain and breed Western Tragopan in captivity were carried out. The first successful captive breeding of the species was reported in 1993, which involved a pair of wild-born rescued birds. Subsequently, additional attempts were made to breed the species, with varying degrees of success. Eventually, in 2003-04, the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department (HPFD) submitted a conservation breeding project proposal for the Western Tragopan, which was approved by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA). In 2007, the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) identified the Western Tragopan as a species requiring priority attention for conservation breeding (Bonafant, 2010). As a result, Sarahan Pheasantry was selected as the "Coordinating Zoo" for the conservation breeding program of the Western Tragopan.

3. Vision

The vision of the zoo is to captive{breed and establish a reserve population of Western tragopan in captivity to eventually support in-situ species restoration

4. Mission

To establish a state-of-the-art facility with naturalistic enclosures for the conservation breeding of Western tragopan allowing expression of species-specific behaviours. Developing husbandry know-how and protocols for the reintroduction of Western tragopan are proximate goals. In the long-run, our efforts are to develop the conservation breeding centre as a model for other breeding programs in India. The target at the centre is have 100 birds towards the end of the plan period.

5. Objective

The overarching goal of the centre is *conservation-oriented captive propagation of Western tragopan*. Accordingly, the objectives are:

- a) To provide naturalistic captive habitat to the birds housed at the centre, allowing them to express the full range of species-specific behaviours, and consequently, encourage natural breeding by the birds.
- b) To initiate research activities to understand the behavioural ecology and physiology of the threatened Western tragopan, which is otherwise difficult to study in the wild.
- c) To undertake experimental reintroduction efforts to develop reintroduction guidelines.
- d) To educate public and create conservation awareness about endemic western Himalayan pheasants and their threats.
- e) To develop Sarahan Conservation Breeding Centre as a Centre of Excellence for the conservation breeding of Western tragopan.
- f) To impart training to zoo staff working with breeding programs in India concerning conservation breeding of pheasants.
- g) To support in-situ conservation of endemic western Himalayan mainly through conducting field surveys.

6. About us

S.No.	Particulars	Information
Basic Information about the Zoo		
1	Name of the Zoo	Sarahan Pheasantry
2	Year of Establishment	1987-88
3	Address of the Zoo	Sarahan Bushahr Teh. Rampur Distt. Shimla 172102

S.No.	Particulars	Information
4	State	Himachal Pradesh
5	Telephone Number	09643043160
6	Fax Number	
7	E-mail address	dfowlsarahan@gmail.com / sarahanpheasantry@outlook.com
8	Website	www.wildlifesarahan.in
9	Distance from nearest	Airport:Jubbarhatti 200 kms (approx.)
		Railway Station: Shimla 170 kms
		Bus Stand: 500 mtr
10	Recognition Valid upto (Date)	
11	Category of zoo	Mini Zoo
12	Area (in Hectares)	11.12 hectare
13	Number of Visitors (Financial Year)	Adult :508
		Children :540
		Total Indian : 1048
		Total Foreigners : 0
		Total Visitors: 1048

S.No.	Particulars	Information
14	Visitors' Facilities Available in Zoo	Public convenience, Rest shelter and First Aid,
15	Weekly Closure Day of the Zoo	Monday and Breeding Season (April to August)
Management Personnel of the zoo		
16	Name with designation of the Officer in-charge	Divisional Forest Officer, Sarahan Wildlife Division, Sarahan.
	Name of the Veterinary Officer	-
	Name of the Curator	-
	Name of the Biologist	-
	Name of the Education Officer	-
	Name of the Compounder/ Lab Assistant	-
Owner / Operator of the Zoo		
17	*Name of the Operator	Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Forest, Government of Himachal Pradesh.
18	Address of the Operator	H.P. Secretariat, Shimla.
19	Contact details/Phone number of Operator	(0177) 2621877/2880782

S.No.	Particulars	Information
20	E-mail address of Operator	forestsecy-hp@nic.in

* Rule 2(m) of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.

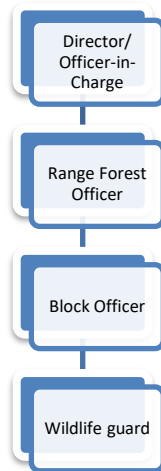
“Zoo Operator” means the person who has ultimate control over the affairs of the zoos provided that_____

I. in the case of a firm or other association of individuals, any one of the individual partners or members thereof; or

II. in the case of a company, any director, manager, secretary or other officer, who is in-charge of and responsible to the company for the affairs of the zoo; or

III. In case of zoo owned or controlled by the Central Government or any State Government or Union Territory Administration or any Trust or Society funded by the Central Government or a State Government or a Union Territory Administration, the Secretary of the concerned Department of that Government, or as the case may be the Union Territory Administration, shall be deemed to be the Zoo Operator.

7. Organizational Chart



8. Human Resources

Manpower of the Zoo*

Sl.No.	Designation	Number of	Names of the
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		Sanctioned Posts	incumbent
1	Wildlife Guard	2	Smt. Kajal Joshi,
2	Animal Attendant	1	Sh. Ishwar Singh
3	Forest Worker	1	Sh. Roshan Lal
4	Part time worker	-	Sh. Yangchin Lama, Sh. Ankush, Sh. Virender, Smt. Reeta
5	Mali	1	-

*Please give above mentioned information in respect of all zoo personnel, from the Officer in-charge upto the Animal Keeper.

9. Capacity Building of zoo personnel

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

10. Zoo Advisory Committee – Not constituted.

11. Health Advisory Committee– Not constituted.

12. Statement of income and expenditure of the Zoo: Income=Rs. 21380/- Expenditure =Rs. 3340000/-.

13. Feed provided daily and the composition of the daily diet of a breeding pair is provided below:

Diet Particulars		Time
Food items	Quantity	
Fruits (pomegranate/apple/banana /mango/pear/papaya)	50 grams	Year round feed time: 0630-0700h
Vegetables		
(carrot/cucumber/broccoli/pumpkin)	50 grams	
Greens (mustard/turnip/fenugreek/lettuce)	50 grams	
Sprouts (50% chickpea + 50% green gram)	20 grams	
Seed mix (20% wheat + 30% maize + 20% millets + 10% fennel, fenugreek, sesame)	50 grams	
Hard-boiled egg yellow	5 grams	
Egg shell grit	<i>Ad libi- tum</i>	
Food items from natural habitat (e.g. fruits, berries, leaves)	<i>Ad libi- tum</i>	Randomly offered

14. Vaccination Schedule of animals:-

Not prescribed.

15. De-worming Schedule of animals

Based on fecal examination, either of the following drugs are generally administered following recommendation of the veterinarian, if fecal tests are found positive for endoparasites:

- 1) **Piperazine** – Effective against ascarids (roundworms)
 - a. **Dosage and administration:**
 - i. For nematodes: Piperazine citrate: 60 mg/kg; repeat in 12-14 days
 - ii. Piperazine citrate/adipate: Given in feed
 - iii. Piperazine hexahydrate: Given in water
- 2) **Albendazole** – nematodes (roundworms like *Ascaris* sp. *Heterakis* sp.) & cestodes (tapeworms)
 - a. Not administered during breeding season
 - b. Dosage and administration: 20mg/kg; repeated in 12-14 days

16. Disinfection Schedule

Sl.No.	Species	Type of enclosure	Disinfectant used and method	Frequency of disinfection
	Western Tragopan	Closed chain-link enclosures with natural ground cover	Each enclosure has a separate foot bath with Safeguard of suitable dilution. Enclosure are spot-cleaned on alternate days. Top soil (~6") is replaced annually.	

17. Health Check-up of employees for zoonotic diseases

S.No.	Name	Designation	Date of Health Check up	Findings of Health Check up
1	Smt. Kajal Joshi	Forest Guard	30.03.2024	Normal
2	Sh. Ishwar Singh	Animal Attendant	17.03.2024	Normal
3	Sh. Roshan Lal	Forest Worker	28.03.2024	Normal
4	Sh. Neela Dutt	Part time worker	27.03.2024	Normal
5	Sh. Yangchin Lama	Part time worker	30.03.2024	Normal
6	Sh. Ankush	Part time worker	27.03.2024	Normal
7	Sh. Virender	Part time worker	30.03.2024	Normal
8	Smt. Reeta	Part time worker	27.03.2024	Normal

18. Development Works carried out in the zoo during the year :-

Redevelopment of Old Enclosure no. 4 and 5 and construction of Watch tower.

19. Education and Awareness programmes during the year:-

Short outdoor awareness sessions are held for school children/forest guard trainees/range forest officer trainees are held in the pheasantry premises.

20. Important Events and happenings:-

Wildlife week celebrated on first week of October in which school students were participated in awareness program and bird walk.

21. Seasonal special arrangements for upkeep of animals

- 1) Gas brooders are available for use in enclosures during winters.
- 2) As per requirement, enclosures roofs are covered with PVC materials to offer additional shelter during inclement weather.
- 3) Perches and cement surfaces are mud plastered to provide natural perching and walking surfaces to the birds.

22. Research Work carried out and publications:-

None .

23. Conservation Breeding Programme of the Zoo:-

The zoo is designated as the coordinating zoo for the conservation breeding of Western Tragopan (*Tragopan melanocephalus*).

24. Animal acquisition / transfer / exchange during the year:-

None.

A.	Animals arriving in the Zoo				
	H.NO.	Species	Number (M:F)	From which Zoo	Date of arrival in the zoo

			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T
1	Western Tragopan	Tragopan Melanocephalus	21	24	0	45	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	22	23	0	45
2	Kalij Pheasant	Lophura leucomelanos	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total Birds:-			21	24	0	45	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	22	23	0	46

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

Part – B

Other than Endangered Species

S.No.	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	

27. 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 report
1	Western Tragopan	Tragopan melanocephalus	Female	26.06.2023	As per post mortem report
2	Western	Tragopan	Chick	30.06.2023	As per post

	Tragopan	melanocephalus			mortem report
5	Western Tragopan	Tragopan melanocephalus	Female	10.07.2023	As per post mortem report
3	Western Tragopan	Tragopan melanocephalus	Chick	16.07.2023	As per post mortem report.
4	Western Tragopan	Tragopan melanocephalus	Chick	17.07.2023	As per post mortem report
5	Western Tragopan	Tragopan melanocephalus	Chick	06.08.2023	As per post mortem report
6	Western Tragopan	Tragopan melanocephalus	Male	30.01.2024	As per post mortem report

28. Compliance with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority

Sr. No	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Condition Stipulated	Time Period to Comply	Since when pending	Status with regard to compliance of the conditions

29. List of free living wild animals within the zoo premises

- a. **Mammals** :- Himalayan Black Bear, Common Leopard, Jackal, Himalayan Weasel, Leopard Cat, Yellow throated Martin
- b. **Birds**:- Mountain Scopsowl, Rufous-bellied Niltava ,Booted Eagle ,Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher, Long-tailed Minivet ,Western Crowned Warbler ,Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher ,Gray Wagtail, Himalayan Bluetail, Gray-winged Blackbird ,Black Bulbul ,Lemon-rumped Warbler, Mrs Gould's Sunbird, Blue whistling thrush, Eurasian nutcracker, Yellow billed blue magpie, Oriental turtle dove, Green backed tit, Black throated Tit, Himalayan bulbul, Whiskered yuhina, Streaked laughing thrush, Rock bunting, Large billed crow, Rufous sibia, Brown fronted woodpecker, Asian barred owlet, Chestnut crowned Laughingthrush, White collared blackbird, White crested kalij.

30. Others:

Report an Outreach activity:

Conducted nature awareness program and bird walk for school students of Sarahan area, and also organised orientation program for Forest Guard trainees from FTI Chail on the management practices regarding conservation breeding program for Western Tragopan.