



Red Panda at Zoo Quarantine

Arrival of Red Panda in Zoo

The female red panda (*Ailurus fulgens*) about two years of age was rescued from Ramechaap, Eastern Nepal in March 2013 and was brought to Central Zoo she was found in the wounded state and was very weak but now has recovered fully. The species was housed in the Zoo almost 24 years back, with the past experience the vet team has taken a good care of red panda and now she is in good health and is enjoying in quarantine. This endemic and vulnerable species will add more attraction to the collection of the Zoo.

Red panda is a small arboreal mammal native to the eastern Himalayas. Body has a reddish-brown fur, a long, shaggy tail, and a waddling gait due to its shorter front legs. Red pandas are very skillful and acrobatic animals that predominantly stay in trees. It feeds mainly on bamboo, but is omnivorous. The name "Habre" is the Nepalese word for red panda. It is solitary in nature, mainly active from dusk to dawn. The main threat and decline in Red panda populations is habitat destruction and poaching for their fur, with the number less than 2500 in the wild.

Celebration of World Environment Day

The World Environment Day was celebrated on June 5, 2013 with the theme for this year **Think. Eat. Save.** Think. Eat. Save is an

anti-food waste and food loss campaign that encourages one to reduce the food print.

The National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)- Central Zoo, Lalitpur sub-metropolitan city, IUCN, WWF Nepal Program and Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN) jointly celebrated the event with various programs. A decorated elephant took a lead of the rally along with the traditional Dhime baja, rally comprises of guest from Department of Forest, Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation and various environment organizations and partners along with Miss World Nepal, Miss Earth Nepal 2013 and a mass of 2500 students, took part in a green walk which passed



Honorable Minister Distributing the Prize to Winners

through various thoroughfares before converging to a function in Jawalakhel football ground.

The program was chaired by Honorable Minister of Forest and Soil Conservation and Chairman of NTNC Mr Tek Bahadur Thapa Gharti, speaking on the occasion Honorable minister emphasize on the need and role of young generation in wildlife and environment conservation. He also said the government is committed to developing eco-friendly measures in natural resource management for sustainable development activities.

To mark the occasion the FOZ Inter-school Environmental Song competition was held where 25 different FOZ member schools participated. The Shuvatara School, Lalitpur, Reliance International School, Kathmandu, Chelsea International Academy, Kathmandu and Third Eye Academy, Kathmandu bagged First, Second, Third and Consolation prize respectively. Likewise banner competition on the theme was held where Little Angels, Lalitpur, Lalitpur M.V. School, Lalitpur, Chelsea International School, Kathmandu, bagged First, Second and Third prize and two schools AVM School and Excelsior School were awarded consolation prizes. Similarly the Chief guest awarded the prize to the winners of various annual FOZ programs.

On the occasion Honorable Minister launch the posters of **Tree Fern** and **Vulture Conservation** published by IUCN, BCN and Himalaya Nature respectively.

NTNC and CZA joined hands

The National trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) and Central Zoo Authority (CZA), India signed an MOU on May 28, 2013. The three year MOU was signed jointly by Mr. Juddha Gurung Member Secretary NTNC and Mr. Bishan Singh Bonal, Member secretary, CZA. The agreement of this kind will help both the parties especially for animal exchange of surplus animals to promote species diversity and strengthen cooperation between the two organizations working in the zoo management sector.



NTNC MS and CZA MS exchanging the documents



FOZ Member Examining the Animal

and how to identify the health status of animals. The program was held on May 12, 2013 where 72 students from 36 FOZ member schools participated in the program and enjoyed a lot as they themselves took a temperature of the animal with general health check-up. Anusha Khanal of St. Mary's High School bagged the award for best report.

"It was wonderful opportunity being a vet for a day, being an animal lover myself, I liked the concept of the program, it proved very beneficial for me"

Anusha Khanal,
St. Mary's High School.

Animal feeding Program for Media Personnel

It was an amazing experience for the media personnel's to get a chance to feed the wild animals in captivity. The program was attended by the media personnels from the leading television and publication house like Kantipur television, publication, Image channel Nagarik, Rastriya Samachar Samiti, Himalayn television, FM stations like Ujjayalo, Kantipur etc.

The participants were briefed about the feeding behavior of wild animals in captivity and were taken to central kitchen to aware about the food quality and the hygiene and sanitation maintained at the Zoo for the animals.



Participants Briefed At the Central Kitchen

FOZ Coordinator Interaction Meeting

The annual FOZ coordinator interaction meeting was held on 29th March, 2013. The main agenda of the meeting was to discuss and get a feedback on the annual educational program. The FOZ coordinators gave their inputs towards the yearly educational program of the zoo and few other programs were discussed. A total of 40 co-coordinators attended the meeting.



Discussion in Progress

As the two year tenure ship of FOZ coordinator committee has come to end the new FOZ teachers committee was reformed for two years (2013-2015). The member of newly formed committee are Ms Anupama Mukhiya, St. Xaviers' School, Ms Udaya Devi Sedhai, Amar Jyoti School, Mr. Mohan Niroula, Shuvatara School, Mr. Tek B. Paija, Himalayan Int'l School, Mr. Pradeep Maharjan, Gyan Shikha School. The NTNC-Central Zoo would like to congratulate the new committee and wish them all the luck for their tenure and would like to extend its sincere thanks to outgoing committee for their continuous support in smooth conduction of the education program.

Awareness Program on Climate Change



FOZ Members Learning Biodiversity through Game

Climate Change being a very sensitive and hot topic as it poses potential threat to all the life on earth. An awareness program was organized for FOZ members on May 10, 2013 where 77 FOZ members from 39 schools participated in the program. The talk program was delivered by Mr. Dipesh Chapagain Program Coordinator of Energy and Climate Change, Kathmandu.

The various activities related with different issues of climate change like weather, climate, impacts of climate were done for the students. Ms Abhikshya Basnet from St Mary's school bagged an award for submitting the best report.

Day with a Vet

The name itself explains spending a day with a vet. It was for the first time the program was organized for FOZ members. The idea behind was to brief the students about the care taken for the captive animals. The students took hands on training about the animal handling and treatment. Zoo veteraniarian Bal Krishna Giri explained the members about the animal treatment, handling

Zoo staff visit to Darjeeling Zoo, India

The team of 6 staff comprising of Assistant curator, Keeper, and account visited the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling India. The main purpose of the visit was to explore and learn about the overall Zoo management and specially focus on the Red Panda management and its husbandry.



Staff At Darjeeling Zoo

Staff retreat

The Central Zoo being the oldest Zoo of Nepal has its own history, and has a dedicated team of staff who has contributed for animal welfare and conservation for more than 25 years so in order to refresh the staff and motivate and encourage them towards conservation staff retreat program was organized for the Zoo staff. The main theme for the program was "Team Building" the program was facilitated by Mr. Min Ghale from Nalma Academy, Lalitpur. Altogether 65 staff participated in the program.



Staff Participating in the Game

Zoo Networking Meeting (June 17, 2013)

The Zoo networking meeting was held on June 17, 2013. The meeting was attended by representatives from various mini Zoos of Nepal and the breeding centre along with the government officials of Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC).

The Chief guest for the meeting was Deputy Director General Mr Tika Ram Adhikari of Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC). The meeting was attended by Dr. Brij Kishor Gupta, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer of Central Zoo authority, India and Mr. Moin Ahmed, Regional coordinator of ISIS for India/ Middle East Regional.

Ms. Sarita Jnawali Project Manager, Central Zoo highlighted the fact sheets about the different mini Zoos, breeding centers and the need of Zoo policy and legislation and its importance for smooth conduction of all the animal facilities in Nepal. The various issues regarding common problem faced by all the Zoos were discussed.



Zoo Networking Meet

Dr. Chiranjibi Pokharel, Senior Conservation Officer of NTNC- Biodiversity Conservation Centre, Chitwan, briefed about the breeding facilities (Gharial, Elephant and Vulture breeding centers) and the issues pertaining them. Dr. Gupta highlighted on the criteria required for the establishment of the Zoo and to keep the wild animal in the animal facilities, the examples were given of the Indian Zoos.

Talking on the occasion the Chief Guest, Mr. Adhikari addressed the immediate need of Zoo policy and legislation and emphasized on the networking among all animal facilities and coordination and collaboration at the regional level.

Breeding of Pheasants

The bird collection at the Zoo has varieties of species which includes exotic as well as endemic. Central Zoo has been successful in the breeding of few of its exotic species like Lady Amherst, Golden pheasant, Silver pheasant etc. This year also 19 Lady Amherst and Golden pheasant chick has hatched. This has added attraction to the collection.

New arrival

The Central Zoo has been assisting the Wildlife department in rescuing and managing the wild animals. Few of the species which were rescued and brought to Central Zoo are Red giant flying squirrel, Burmese ferret badger from Dolakha district, Nepal, and three sub adult Jackals were rescued from sundarijal near to Kathmandu valley.



Bear Enjoying the New Den

Zoo Pond Cleaning

The Zoo pond which was built during the rule of King Siddhi Narsingh Malla and at one time was the source of water for Lalitpur district.

The Central Zoo pond every year faces the problem of eutrophication due to which it is covered with duck weed thereby

destroying the beauty of the pond. The only means of removal of the weeds is manually, so to save the aquatic biodiversity the Central Zoo staff cleaned the pond and now pond has regained its old beauty.



Zoo Pond Clean-up Campaign

International Zoo Educators Association Membership

The NTNC- Central Zoo acquired an institutional membership of International Zoo Educators Association. The membership will help the Central Zoo to access to the latest thinking, techniques and information on conservation education worldwide and will open an opportunities for international networking and professional development.

Grant Support from WWF Nepal

NTNC- Central Zoo extends its sincere thanks and gratitude to WWF Nepal program for providing the grant support to **Produce and disseminate conservation awareness** for developing the animal information boards. As the information board is one of the effective ways of delivering the knowledge about the animals of the Zoo, the new boards with additional information will help the Zoo to accomplish its objective of imparting conservation education to its visitors.

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**Notice : * The Zoo opening hours are
10 A.M. to 5 P.M.(Summer) 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.(Winter)**

Tune in to

SAMPADA

on Image F.M. 97.9
at 7:45 to 8:00 A.M.



First Saturday of Nepali Month