



Research Article

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Survey on Existing Status of the Animals in Rangpur Zoo of Bangladesh

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Abstract

Rangpur Zoo of Bangladesh is the second government zoo after Dhaka Mirpur Zoo (National Zoo of Bangladesh). Its area is 20.75 acre which was established in the year 1989. This zoo was opened for the people at 14 September 1991. Due to the exhibition of various animals and for increasing animal research, this Zoo and Recreational Park has been established. Here, total animals were 184 including reptiles, aves, and mammals. According to the results of this study, proper manpower and shortages of medical facilities in this zoo is hampered. Animals are suffered by indigestion, catch cold and tuberculosis. Immediately need to provide animals' hospital, isolation room, and veterinary surgeon in this zoo. Out of 30 animals the reptilian were 3(10%), aves 17(56.67%), and mammals 10(33.33%) respectively. A great problem is continuing here that in case of Lion, Hyena, Hippopotamus, Cassowary, and Ass all were male and Tiger and Bear were female. Same sex fighting and in Monkey, they were suffering sexual problems. Need to maintain male female ratio of Deer 1:6. One Indian Peafowl is male, and another is albino male. Already an application was submitted to the concern authority to collect those animals for their paring. If some rare animals like Zebra, Giraffe, Elephant, Leopard, Ostrich, Chimpanzee, and Gibbon being introduced it would be an excellent zoo of the country. Vitamin deficiency is common in zoo animals especially in Tiger and Lion.

Keywords: Animal; Existing status; Rangpur zoo

Introduction

Zoos are primarily such facilities where animals are confined within enclosures, and in which they may also be bred. Such facilities include safari park, aviaries, butterfly park, and reptile center as well as wildlife sanctuaries and nature reserves. In Bangladesh zoos are- Chittagong Zoo, Comilla Zoo, Dhaka Zoo, Dulahazra Safari Park, Bhawal National Park, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Safari Park, Nijhum Dip Park, Rajshahi Zoo, and Rangpur Zoo. Within these only Dhaka and Rangpur is the government zoo and others are private. Safari parks are good for observing the animals with biodiversity in a natural state where animals live freely and can perform natural breeding. Many of today's zoos hope to stop or slow the decline of many endangered species. Many zoos see their primary purpose as breeding endangered species in captivity and reintroducing them into the wild. However, zoo advocates argue that their efforts make a difference in wildlife conservation and education [1]. Bangladesh zoos are associated to donate or exchange of the animals with Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, and Bahrain. In any zoos need an animal museum, vet hospital, investigation and research

section [2]. Shortages of manpower, supply of feed, care, enclosure maintenance, various establishments, protection, conservation, guidelines for common visitors, and administration all are not positive in this zoo. There is no vet hospital, isolation room, and vet surgeon so it is being burden to detect the diseases of zoo animals. Immediately need to establish new buildings. Present administrative office of the zoo is under the place of horticulture. There is no vehicle of this zoo. This zoo earns a lot of revenue from various sources- pond lease, canteen, children park, parking, and garden. Sex identification of some animals and exchange male or female is urgent in this zoo. The objective of this study is to solve above adverse situations.

Materials and Methods

Observed animals: In Rangpur Zoo there were total 30 animals. In reptilian group animals are- Rock Python (*Python molurus*), Gaviel (*Gavialis gangeticus*), Saltwater Crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*), in birds- Greater and Lesser Adjutant (*Leptoptilos dubius* and *L. javanicus*), Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), Indian Pond

Heron (*Ardeola grayii*), Intermediate Egret (*Mesophoyx intermedia*), Purple Moorhen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*), Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*), Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur indus*), Long-billed Vulture (*Gyps indica*), Rose-ringed Parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*), Alexandrine Parakeet (*Psittacula eupatria*), Common Peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*), Demoiselle Crane (*Grus virgo*), Grey-headed Fish Eagle (*Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*), Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Aquila pomarina*), Barn Owl

(*Tyto alba*), Southern Cassowary (*Casuarius casuarius*), and mammals are-African Lion (*Panthera leo*), Indian Tiger (*Panthera t. tigris*), Asian Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), Striped Hyena (*Hyaena striata*), Rhesus Monkey (*Macaca mulatta*), Olive Baboon (*Papio anubis*), Hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibious*), Spotted Deer (*Axis axis*), and Indian Crested Porcupine (*Hystrix indica*) (Table 1).

Table 1: Present organogram.

Manpower

Sl. No	Name of Post	Authorized Post	In Service	Empty Post	Comments
1	Deputy Curator	1	1	None	-
2	Zoo Officer	1	-	1	-
3	Higher Assistant Cum Accountant	1	1	None	-
4	Office Assistant	1	-	1	-
5	Carpenter	1	1	None	-
6	Gardener	2	2	None	-
7	Guard	6	5	1	Transferred
8	MLSS	2	2	None	-
9	Animal Caretaker	1	2	None	From Dhaka Zoo
10	Master roll worker	5	5	None	-

*updated 19 March 2014 by Deputy Curator of Rangpur Zoo.

Interview, Questionnaire and Survey

Huge visitors' come in zoo with their family. It has a great value to collect information from them about animals. Its safety measure for the public and cleanliness of the cages all are very important

for a perfect zoo. After entering the people in zoo, a survey type questionnaire, MCQ and short type answer script was provided to collect information. Sometimes a short interview was completed within the zoo as a pilot program (Table 2).

Table 2: Comments sheet of the visitors.

Questions	Comments (put ✓ mark)	
Main entrance	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Ticket price	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Environment of zoo	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Animals are getting enough space and privacy	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Condition of animals	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Health of animals	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Cleanliness within the zoo	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Information sign about animals	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Condition of plants in zoo	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Cafeteria inside the zoo is okay?	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Food quality of cafeteria in the zoo	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Photographic places	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Condition of washroom	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
With family, it is	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
How children felt?	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Road/Passage within this zoo	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Any bad incident has happened?	Yes	No
Your profession/occupation		
Which cage is beautiful?		
Any suggestions for the improvement of this zoo?		
Compare this zoo with another zoos home and abroad.		
Where from you knew about this zoo?		

NB Please fill-up this form and put in the comment box when you will leave this zoo.

Result

In this zoo, for the heavy weight of python snake its egg cannot hatch. For avoiding this incident need to buy an incubator machine

immediately. All Gharials are female here; need to exchange these reptiles with other zoos. Greater Adjutant, Purple Moorhen, Parakeet, Demoiselle Crane, Cassowary, Lion, Hyena, Baboon, Hippopotamus, Porcupine, and Donkey needs female (Table 3).

Table 3: Present status of the animal in Rangpur Zoo.

English Name	Scientific Name	Distribution	Global Status	Comments
Rock Python	<i>Python molurus</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	MEF, S	LR	problem for hatching
Gavial	<i>Gavialis gangeticus</i> (Gmelin, 1789)	Padma River	CR	not seen mating
Saltwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i> , Schneider 1801	S	LC	need to sex identify
Greater Adjutant-stork	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i> , Gmelin 1789	IS	EN	need female
Lesser Adjutant-stork	<i>L. javanicus</i> , Horsfield 1821	W	VU	okay
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	IS	LC	okay
Purple Moorhen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	IS	LC	need female
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i> , Boddaert 1783	IS	LC	need more
Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i> , Boddaert 1783	IS	LC	need more
Long-billed Vulture	<i>Gyps indica</i> (Scopoli 1786)	IS	CR	okay
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i> (Scopoli 1769)	IS	LC	need female
Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i> (Linnaeus 1766)	IS	NT	need female
Indian Peafowl (one is albino)	<i>Pavo cristatus</i> , Linnaeus 1758	IS	LC	need female
Demoiselle Crane	<i>Grus virgo</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	IS	LC	need female
Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i> (Horsfield 1824)	IS	NT	okay
Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i> (Brehm 1831)	AEA	LC	need sex identify
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i> (Scopoli 1769)	W	LC	okay
Southern Cassowary	<i>Casuarius casuarius</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	Papua New Guinea (Australia)	VU	need female
African Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	Africa	VU	need female
Indian Tiger	<i>Panthera t. tigris</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	S	EN	need male
Asian Black Bear	<i>Ursus thibetanus</i> , G. Cuvier 1823	MEF	VU	need male
Striped Hyena	<i>Hyaena striata</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	Africa, Asia	NT	need female
Rhesus Monkey	<i>Macaca mulatta</i> (Zimmermann, 1780)	W	LC	okay
Olive Baboon	<i>Papio anubis</i> (Lesson 1827)	Africa	LC	need female
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i> , Linnaeus 1758	Africa	VU	need female
Spotted Deer/Chital	<i>Axis axis</i> (Erxleben, 1777)	S	LC	okay
Indian Crested Porcupine	<i>Hystrix indica</i> , Kerr 1792	W	LC	need female
Domesticated European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	Europe, Africa	D/P	okay
Donkey	<i>Equus africanus asinus</i> , Linnaeus 1758	AC	D	need female
Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i> (Sykes 1832)	IS	LC	need more
Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i> (Wagler 1827)	IS	LC	need more

*LR=Least Risk; LC=Least Critical; EN=Endangered; NT=Near Threatened; VU=Vulnerable; D/P=Domestic/Pet; MEF=Mixed Evergreen Forest; W=Widely distributed; S=Sundarbans; AC=Asian Countries; IS=Indian Subcontinent; AEA=Asia Europe Africa.

Discussion

In safari park riding on animals especially horse and elephant are sometimes another major causes for attack. Need to handle in circus animals while it is performing [3]. Zoo also remains opens to the visitors during government holidays [2]. Wildlife tourism [4-7] and ecotourism [8] have been published which were the best guide to the beginners. Finucane and Dowling [3] made a study on perception of ecotourism operations in Western Australia. Distribution of ecotourism services of Bangladesh and its potentials

with development were described by [9,10]. Anorexia and vitamin deficiency are very common to the zoo animals. Elephants usually travel around 30 miles each day and sometimes perform head-bobbing, bears sometimes pace the surrounds of their enclosure, wild cats sometimes groom themselves obsessively, and parrots have been known to pluck themselves. Elephants have been recorded displaying stereotypical [HYPERLINK](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stereotypy_%28non-human%29)

“http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stereotypy_%28non-human%29”behaviours in the form of swaying back and forth,

trunk swaying or route tracing. This has been observed in 54% of individuals in UK zoos [11]. Elephants in European zoos have shorter lifespan than their wild counterparts at only 17 years, although other studies suggest that zoo elephants live as long those in the wild [12]. There are animals that are injured in wild but live healthy and happy life in zoo.

Conclusion

During feeding the zoo animals and poor enclosure can be dangerous for visitors in zoo. If zoos are concerned with recreation park causes problem of zoo animals. In some mini zoos, some authority's free adjutant-stork and emu but it can be fatal to people. Safari park can be a good way for conservation of animals. Research is must for the welfare zoo animals but need to maintain huge scientific precautions. In breeding season, most zoo animals always show anger. For avoiding such conflicts with the human or among them, we should know their exact breeding season. For the purpose of treatment of the zoo animals especially carnivorous animals their careful handling is very important. Experienced animal trainer should appoint in zoos. Newly introduced animals in zoos are suffered some common illness with anxiety and depression. Visitors should apply their sympathy to all animals. Serve the leaflets to visitors before entering in zoos. Ensure a job for a Zoology student/Wildlife Researcher in any zoos. Maintain a register and comment box for the future prospects of the zoo. Weekly seminar is important for sharing the current status of all animals and establishments. Make a special list of carnivorous or man-eating animals. Zoo can be a key point to the practitioners and academics for research [13,14].

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Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest.

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