

NOTICE FOR ENGAGEMENT & TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT
OF
FIELD ASSISTANT
FOR THE PROJECT TITLED “RELEASE AND POST RELEASE MONITORING
OF GORAL IN MAHANANDA WILDLIFE SANTUARY”

A. Background

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park is a medium sized, high-altitude zoo that specializes in the conservation breeding of endangered Eastern Himalayan fauna species, including the Himalayan goral.

As one of the most prominent herbivores of the Himalayan ecosystem, the H. Goral plays a crucial role as a keystone species in maintaining ecosystem balance and stability. They act as the carriers of natural selection by feeding upon the plants of the most abundant species, thus promoting genetic diversity and species diversity in the local flora. Genetic diversity plays a prominent role in the survival of a species. The population of H. Goral in the Himalayan ecosystem depends on the biotic and abiotic environmental stresses acting on the species during a given period. The feeding relationships present between Gorals and other species within a complex food web of the Himalayan ecosystem regulate the drastic fluctuations that may be present in the population status of a given species. As an herbivore, the H. Goral serves as a source of food for regional predators (snow leopards, Eurasian lynx, wolves, wild dogs) as well as acts as a primary consumer when feeding on leaves and grasses. Species diversity provides stability to the Himalayan ecosystem. If the goral population is wiped out, then this stability is affected, and it causes severe damage to the balanced state of the ecosystem in the long run. Thus, it is important that the population status of the H. Goral is maintained above a critical level locally and that breeding programmes are carried out to restore the number of Gorals in captivity as well as in the wild to further stabilize the delicate balance of the Himalayan ecosystem.

B. Previous Project on Himalayan Goral

The previous project on Himalayan goral titled “Status Survey of Himalayan Goral” was conducted by PNHZP from 2017 to 2018. The study area encompassed Neora Valley NP, Singalila NP, Sanchel WS, Kurseong Forest Division and Mahananda WS.

According to the study the presence of the Himalayan Goral was reported in all the study areas to varying frequencies. The most sightings have been reported from Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, followed by Kurseong Forest Division, Neora Valley National Park and Singalila National park. Very few reports of the presence of the species have been reported in Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary.

The highest frequency of reported sightings was from Rato Pairo, Kuhu Block, Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary (Temperate mixed wet deciduous forest).

The study recommended the release of Himalayan Goral from the captive population of PNHZP at Mahananda WS in its wild habitat to augment the population of the species.

C. Objective:

1. Monitoring and recording of data of the released gorals for eight months
2. To mobilise community support for strengthening Goral conservation initiative
3. To generate awareness among local people about importance of goral conservation

D. Place of Work-

Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, PNHZ Park and Dowhill Satellite Zoo

E. Scope of work for the Field Assistant

- You will review the available literature by referring articles from journals, books and conference proceedings and other available records related to the project.
- You will monitor the behaviour and activities of the released Gorals at Mahananda wildlife sanctuary. You will use camera traps, VHF collars and opportunistic visual encounter.
- Preparation of the vegetative composition of the study area or information on habitat and food habit of the animal with direct observations.
- Preparation of digital herbarium of the plants used by the animal for food and shelter
- Documentation of the habitat use and food habits through videos and photographs
- You will collect and analyse data
- You will maintain all related files, registers and other related documents
- Any other duties as assigned by the Director, PNHZ Park.

F. Other details

1. **Duration:** The employment/ contract is for a period maximum up to eight (8) months. The appointee will be engaged on probation for one (1) month, engagement may be extended for a further period. The Park may not extend the engagement after probation period of one (1) month, the park need not assign any reason in such case. The engagement may be periodically renewed maximum up to eight (8) months after the probation period, in case the Park & West Bengal Zoo Authority decide to continue with the engagement.
2. **Working hours:** The candidate will be expected to be on duty when in the field (Mahananda WS) at all hours. When working from PNHZ Park office, the working hours are from 10: 30 am to 5:30 pm with half an hour break for lunch for 5 days a week. The candidate may be required on off days and beyond duty hours on the discretion of The Director, PNHZ Park.
3. The candidate should be ready to stay in the field, which is a forest area (Mahananda WS) for almost all the period of the project and work from any offices/places within India in the interest of the project.
4. The Research Scholar will be required to travel a lot of distance daily in the forest for observation and data recording purposes. It requires him/her to be physically fit.
5. **Remuneration: Rs 12,000/- p.m.** Remuneration is all inclusive of House Rent Allowance and other benefits. Expenses for travel, and lodging will be paid by Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park as per the discretion of the Director for the project related travels.
6. The Park is under no obligation to continue the engagement and may discontinue the engagement with one (1) month notice without assigning any reason for discontinuation.
7. The Field Assistant will not use any data related to and collected for the study for commercial purposes. All scientific papers and reports will be owned by Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park. No outside publication in any short of online/offline platform is allowed unless specially approved by the Director, PNHZ Park.
8. The Field Assistant will not disclose any data related to and collected for the programme for commercial purposes. All scientific papers and reports will be owned by Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park and the park should be acknowledged in any publications/ presentation/ research articles made regarding the study. All

materials produced or acquired under the terms of engagement- written, digital, pictures, films, graphics or other forms, shall remain the property of PNHZ Park, West Bengal. The appointee shall not have any right to use such knowledge outside the engagement, without prior written permission of the Director, PNHZ Park. No such data should be copied by appointee without authorisation.

9. Any data in any form recorded in personal mobile phone/ camera should be immediately and as soon as possible transferred to a hard disk or computer of PNHZ Park and no data related to the Park and the project should be kept in personal mobile phones and cameras.
10. The Field Assistant will not disclose any information related to the Park and the research project to outside personnel. All knowledge and information not within the public domain which may be acquired during the project, shall be, for all time and for all purpose, regarded as strictly confidential and held in confidence, and shall not be directly or indirectly disclosed to any person whatsoever, except with the written permission of the Director, PNHZ Park.
11. The engagement is subject to the conditions specified in the agreement to be signed by the selected candidate.

G. Eligibility

1. **Educational Qualification:** The applicant must have BSc in Life Sciences/ Zoology/ Wildlife Science with minimum 60% marks or equivalent CGPA from a recognized University/ (attach a copy of the scorecard).
2. **Experience:** Candidates having exposure to wildlife research are encouraged to apply. Freshers may also apply.
3. Be proficient in English communication skills for report writing, presentations etc.
4. Be proficient in computer skills like Microsoft Office, use of GPS, camera trap, camera, and relate software.

H. Selection

The selection of the applicant will be based on the qualification, academic performance, experience, exposure and merit of the applicant. The shortlisted candidates will be interviewed on the above criteria and the best suited candidate will be engaged.

I. General Instructions:

1. Interested candidates may send their CV as per attached format with a passport size photograph along with signed photocopies of candidate's professional certificates to the following email address latest by **06.12.2021 (5 p.m)**

Email: pnhzp@yahoo.com

2. Only shortlisted candidates will be communicated to appear in the interview and no other communications in this regard will be entertained.
3. No TA/DA will be paid for appearing in the interview.

Application Format - “Application for Field Assistant for The Project Titled “Release and Post-release monitoring of Goral in Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, West Bengal”

1. Full Name:

2. Date and Place of Birth:

4. Sex: M/F

5. Marital Status:

6. Nationality:

9. Father’s Name:

10. Address for Correspondence:

11. Permanent Address:

11. Phone No.:

13. E-mail Address:

14. Academic Record:

A. GATE/CSIR/UGC/Other fellowship details: Mention examination name, discipline, score, and year appeared.

B. Qualifying degree

Examination (Mention Specialization where applicable)	Name of School/College/ Board/University/Institute with City & State	Year of Passing	Subjects	% of marks/ GPA obtained	Remarks
Class X					
Class XII					
Bachelors (Specialization)					
Masters (Specialization)					
Any other qualifications					

C. Details of project carried out with duration, place of work, area worked on, mentor/guide’s name, description of the project and contribution to the project (in not more than 5 sentences).

D. List of publications (if any):

E. Working Experience (if any):

F. Whether currently employed: Y/N

DECLARATION: I hereby declare that I have carefully read and understood the instructions and particulars on this application and that all entries in this form as well as in the attached sheets are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date :

Signature

Place: