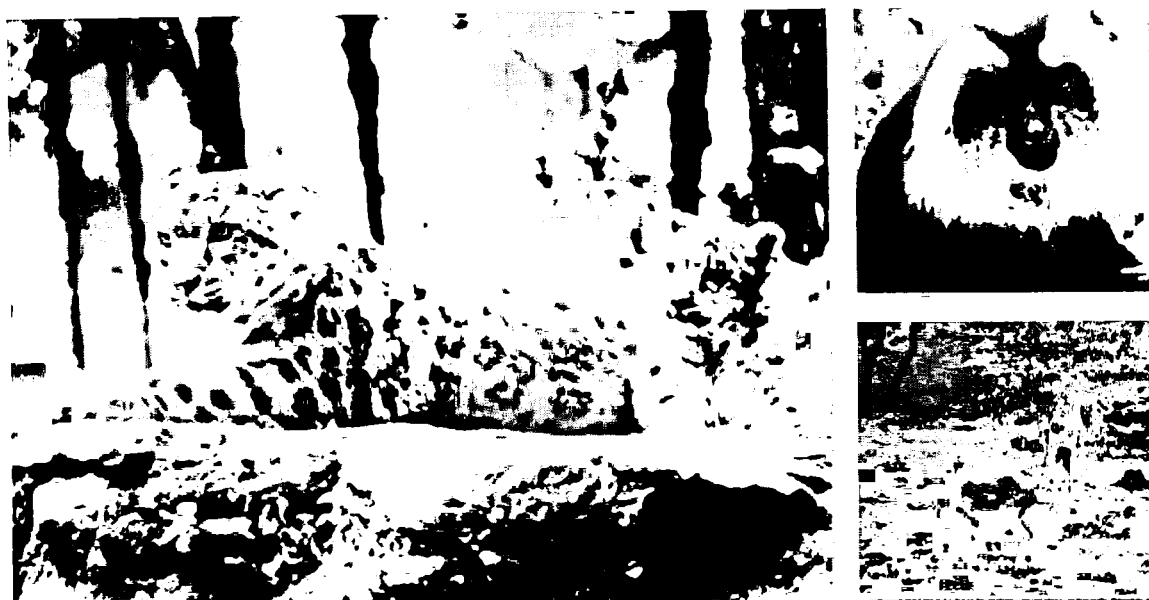


# Proceedings of International Conference on "India's Conservation Breeding Initiative"

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**CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY**

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The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Central Zoo Authority.

We regret errors or omissions, if any that we may have unintentionally made.

**13. Indian one-horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*)**

The population has been stagnating in various zoos because of the limited number of females. The breeding success has also been quite low. The species has bred successfully has been limited only to few zoos i.e. Patna, Kanpur and National Zoological Park, Delhi. The advantage of the breeding success have been lost to a great extent due to high rate of mortality. The group discussed at length the aspects of housing, feeding and husbandry of the species. A detailed power point presentation in this regard was made by the Basel Zoo. The species is definitely a candidate for a coordinate breeding programme at a global scale. But to begin with the Indian Zoos should concentrate to make optimal use of the breeding potential of the available females by providing them a compatible male and standardizing and upgrading the husbandry and health protocols for the species. Exchange programme of animals should be carried out in accordance with a scientific plan prepared in consultation with International Studbook Keeper for the species. Basel Zoo was interested in being a partner in the program and offered their expertise in husbandry and preparing a conservation breeding action plan of rhinos for Indian zoos. Cincinnati Zoo's centre for conservation and research of endangered wildlife (CREW) is working in collaboration with LaCONES in developing sperm banking and other scientific techniques that could benefit the breeding and management of this species.

**14. Wild ass (*Equus hemionus khur*)**

The species has been successfully bred by Sakkarbaug Zoo, Junagarh who 8:4 Wild ass. One pair was given by the Zoo to Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad. However, the pair has not bred successfully. The main priority for planned conservation breeding of the species, to have more breeding enclosure of the species and to decide the existing population to biologically and socially viable sub groups to be housed in appropriately designed enclosures. Nehru Zoological Park should acquire one or two additional males for being part of the group of the species housed at the Zoo. The feeding and upkeep protocols for the species should also be upgraded in consultation with Sakkarbaug Zoo.

**15. Indian bison (*Bos gaurus*)**

The species has been bred quite successfully by the Mysore Zoo and they have now 8:11 animals with them. The species has also bred successfully at Bondla Zoo at Goa who have 4:4 animals them. Arignar Anna Zoo has 2:2 Gaur with them. The main priorities for planned breeding of the species are:-

- (i) Genetic and health screening of the animals and taking out non viable animals out of the programme.
- (ii) Induction of new blood if so required.
- (iii) Providing animals housing in off the display area, within carrying capacity of the enclosure.
- (iv) Standardizing and upgrading the upkeep and husbandry protocol and healthcare practices at participating zoos under guidance of Mysore Zoo.