

Narsampathi Lake, Nagarajapuram near Sugarcane Breeding Centre, Coimbatore. Since they are omnivorous in diet and prefers insects; it is very difficult to feed them in captivity. During the observation period, they were fed with fruits, minced beef and groundnut. Except groundnut the animal preferred nothing. The second author in his two years of tenure at the zoo, received more than 10 animals from the public, but he released all of them back in to wild.

Earlier in 2004, they received an individual from Karumathampatti, (11.1167°N 77.1833°E) another suburb of Coimbatore, 28kms away from the city on the NH47. This was rescued by a farmer in his farm, mistaken as a strange animal of rodent species and stoned but he saved and brought to the zoo.

This shows that the Coimbatore rural district is potential habitat for this species and further field studies are needed to ascertain its ecology, distribution, population status and threats.

#### Hedgehogs kept in Indian Zoos:

The Central Zoo Authority's animal inventory database documents the following zoos in India have kept *Hemiechinus auritus* (Long-eared Hedgehog) from time to time since 1995. Alipore Zoological Gardens-Kolkata, Kamala Nehru Zoological Gardens-Ahmedabad, Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden-Gauhati, Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park-Patna, National Zoological Park-New Delhi, Sundervan Nature Discovery Centre-Ahmedabad, Jodhpur Zoo, Manipur Zoological Gardens and Thiruvananthapuram Zoo. But as per the latest 2012-2013 inventory only the Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park is keeping one unidentified specimen of this species. But the reality is *Hemiechinus auritus* is not having distribution range in India and they only found in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The identification of these specimens needs verification. The species kept in South Indian zoos could be *P. nudiventris*, and collection in other zoos in India may be *H. collaris* or *P. micropus*. The animal stock register of the zoos should be checked for their origin to ensure the correct identity of the species.

#### Bibliography

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## Announcement

### University School of Environment Management GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY

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A Grade NAAC-Accredited & ISO 9001:2000 Certified (Govt of NCT, Delhi) Website : [www.ipu.ac.in](http://www.ipu.ac.in)

#### JRF Position in DST-SERB Funded Project

Applications are invited for purely time bound position of **Junior Research Fellow** under Department of Science & Technology, Science & Engineering Research Board (DST-SERB) funded research project entitled "**Ecology and habitat-suitability of Indian spiny-tailed lizard *Saara hardwickii* (Gray, 1827) in Rajasthan, India**".

**Duration of project:** Three years (wef date of start of project)

**Name of the post:** Junior Research Fellow (JRF) – **two posts**.

**Qualification:** M.Sc. (Animal Sciences/Zoology/Life Sciences/Wildlife/ Biodiversity & Conservation/Any other branch of Biological Sciences/Environmental Studies/Geoinformatics) and NET (including LS) qualified. The person to be considered must have second class master degree with a minimum of 55% marks (50% in case of SC/ST/PH)

**Desirable:** Persons who are highly motivated towards extensive field survey in desert conditions.

**Salary:** NET Qualified-Rs 16,000 p.m. plus HRA as applicable (for first two years), Rs 18,000 p.m. plus HRA as applicable (for third year); NET Qualified for Lectureship-Rs 12,000 p.m. plus HRA as applicable (for first two years), Rs 14,000 p.m. plus HRA as applicable (for third year).

If suitable NET (including LS) qualified candidates are not available, non-NET qualified candidates will be considered, but their appointment and emoluments will be as per rules of the funding agency.

Application on plain paper along with CV supported by one passport size photograph and other supporting documents may be sent by post or e-mail to the following address on or before **12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014**. Short-listed candidates will be called for interview by phone or e-mail. No TA/DA will be paid for appearing in the interview.

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