

INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION

WORLD CENTER FOR THE STUDY AND PRESERVATION OF CRANES



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April 6, 1983

Maj. Gen. E. D'Souza
WWF - India
c/o Godrej & Boyce Mfg.Co.Pvt.Ltd.
Lalbaug, Parel
Bombay 400 012 India

Dear Mr. D'Souza:

Thank you for your letter of March 24.

ICF does not have funds to disperse at such short notice to the proposed crane research by my good friend, Prakash Gole. However, I suggest you approach Anne Wright as to the possibility of securing aid from other sources in India, particularly since Anne has excellent contacts who might be able to contribute support to this worthwhile undertaking.

This April, May and June, under the direction of Mr. Inayet Ullah, Chief Wildlife Warden of Jammu-Kashmir, a team of State wildlife researchers are comprehensively examining the distribution of crane nests in Ladakh, the conservation problems facing each pair of breeding cranes, and biological information such as the date of egg laying, incubation period, etc. We are hopeful that in late May, seven to ten eggs will be collected from seven to ten crane nests that each contain two eggs. Then in company with one ICF research, Miss Shirley Russman, two Kashmiri researchers, Mr. Shakir Khan and Mr. Chering Norbu, will return to ICF with the hatching eggs to establish the Black-necked Crane in captivity. In 1984, we hope to repeat the same in Jammu-Kashmir at a captive crane propagation center proposed for construction this autumn near Srinagar.

Of course, Prakash Gole has a long and productive association with the Black-necked Cranes in Ladakh, he is a close friend of mine and a reliable correspondent with ICF. I do hope that he and Dr. Hussein will dovetail their research with that of the Kashmiries to minimize duplicity and cost.

Finally, 20-30 of my original color slides are in the possession of WWF-India under the agreement that they

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would be returned to me after the crane booklet was published. I asked Mr. Sawney for the slides but as yet, we have not received them. Consequently, I hope you will expedite this request in the near future.

Sincerely ever,

INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION

George Archibald

George Archibald, Ph.D.
Director

GA/jg

cc: Prakash Gole



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E-11376 SHADY LANE ROAD BARABOO, WI 53913-9778, USA
FAX 608-356-9465 TELEX 297778 ICF UR
TELE. 608-356-9462



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June 21, 1990

Dr. Prakash Gole
Ecological Society
1B Abhimanshree Society, Pashan Road
Pune 411 008, INDIA

Dear Prakash:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 3 and for your restoration report from Prune. I am glad that your work at the ICF was fruitful. I only wish that we had had more time to spend talking about restoration of communities, both plant and animal. I am very interested to learn more about the forest restoration near Prune. Each year should bring new lessons as new species in the forest community develop. We have found that even after ten growing seasons following the original planting our prairie vegetation is still changing. Both the number of species and their frequency relative to other species remains dynamic. Certainly the restoration of ecological communities does not allow for quick repairs.

I cannot find a copy of your letter requesting the publications from last summer. The letter was sent however. Do you have a copy of this request? If so, can you send it to me? Once the letter is in hand, I can find out what happened to your request.

Enclosed are several articles that might be useful to you. If these are still too general for your needs, please tell me more about the wetland system that you are working in and the bird species that you will be working with so that I can obtain more specialized information for you. Also, what are your research questions? One additional article on wetland restoration will be sent from the University of North Dakota.

Your letter did arrive with the blooming prairie. Another cycle of growth is upon us. As I witness these events I remember your visit fondly and hope that we can meet again soon. Please feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have. I will do my best to help.

Sincerely yours,

INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION

Jeb Barzen

Jeb Barzen
Wetland Ecologist



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HARRY CHABWELA

January 17, 1990

Mr. Chering Nurbu
Wildlife Ranger
Leh, Ladakh 19401
Jammu - Kashmir
INDIA

Dear Chering,

How absolutely delighted I am to receive your welcomed letter of November 15. My tardy response is attributed to my recent trip to Africa.

I will never forget our days together in Ladakh in 1984. Although I was not permitted to study the Black-necked Cranes in India, I have been able to work with this great species in China.

It is reassuring that in 1989, Black-necked Crane pairs successfully bred at Hanle, Chushul and Tsobuk, and that nine other cranes were reported. The population is clearly limited by breeding habitat. Might it be possible, in conjunction with BNHS, to run down prefledged chicks and fit them with bright plastic leg bands? Identification of the Ladakh cranes on their wintering grounds in China or Bhutan will help assure the protection of this population throughout its international range.

By sending a copy of this letter to Prakash Gole, I am recommending that you be placed on his mailing list for the ICF BUGLE.

The next International Crane Workshop will convene in Maun, Botswana, during the first two weeks of October, 1992. I would like to invite you to attend that meeting and to present a comprehensive report of the biology and conservation of Black-necked Cranes in Ladakh.

Kyoko and I are well. In 1987, we purchased a 1912 farmhouse in the Baraboo Hills. Vegetable gardening is my avocation. Please extend my very warmest greeting to your family.

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1 11376 SHADY LANE ROAD HAWAII, WI 53913 9778, USA
TEL. 608-356-9462 TELEX 297778 ICF UR



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August 31, 1989

Mr. F.L. Mathew
Junior Ornithologist
AICRP on Economic Ornithology
Gujarat Agricultural University
Anand, India, Pin 388110

Dear Mr. Mathew,

Thank you very much for your letter of July 21, and for the copy of your publication on Sarus Cranes. Crop depredations from cranes are increasing as cranes become concentrated at fewer regions and as the numbers of some populations continue to increase. Unfortunately, farmers in most other regions are not as kind to the cranes as are the residents of Gujarat.

Mr. Prakash Gole is the director of the Crane Study Group of India. Please contact Prakash and become an active member of the CSG. They have a meeting planned for late December in Gujarat. Prakash also has a supply of the Proceedings of the International Crane Workshop that convened in Bharatpur in 1983. The reports you requested are in that Proceedings. Prakash's address is:

Ecological Society
1B Abhimanshree Society
Pashan Road
Pune 411 008
India

Do you have plans to continue your study of Sarus Cranes? Are you interested in attending our International Workshop on Sarus Cranes? It will convene in Vietnam, January 11-18, 1990. If you are interested, please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it to ICF as soon as possible.