

15-Year Scheme for Protection of wild life in Bihar.

(1)

(Ann: Minimum preservation of wild life in the province) Area Expenditure
 1950=51. (i) Enaction of the amended wild life Protection Act (draft enclosed) Nil

(ii) Declaration of "Old Reserve" in Santal Parganas Forest Division as a permanent sanctuary 40 sq.mils Nil

~~1951=52~~ (iii) Declaration of Parasnath Hill forests as permanent sanctuary (Bhindik Forest Division) 200 sq. miles Nil
 No objection is likely from the Jain owners

1951=52 (iv) Declaration of Netarhat Plateau as a permanent sanctuary (Rauchi Forest Division) 10 " " Nil

(v) Declaration of Horhap Reserve (Rauchi Forest Division) 7 " " Nil

(vi) Declaration after negotiation with the ~~area~~ with the proprietor of Banaili Estate of Karmugh area as permanent sanctuary (Monghyr Forest Division) 50 " " Nil

(vii) Declaration after negotiations with the proprietors of Bellich and Romnagar Estates of a permanent sanctuary enclosing both plains and hill areas in a triangle Bagaha-Bhaicabotan (Harnabaur) = Fort Someshwar in Champaran District 50 " " Nil

~~1953=54~~ (viii) Notification of forest areas via Total of new permanent sanctuaries 357 sq. miles

Existing sanctuaries 272 sq. miles

Total of sanctuary area 629 sq. miles Nil

1953=54 (viii) Notification of forest areas in Purua District under Bihar Private Forests Act and the extension of ^{ordinary} shooting control to those areas - total extent estimated at 100 sq. miles

Expenditure same as in other forest areas taken over by Government. The scheme might be productive of revenue.

1954=55 (ix) Constitution of fuel, bamboo and construction timber reserves and commercially exploitable Kalth coupes in Kosi reclamation area, and extension of ordinary shooting control. Total area 308 sq. miles with ~~at~~ at least one single block of 10 sq. miles
 Additional Plains area to which ordinary shooting control would be extended 130 sq. miles

This scheme might also be productive of revenue

Part II = Water Supply In Sanctuaries.

(Aim: To confine wild animals to forest areas)

1955 = 56. (i) Increase in size of water-storages at the fishpond and swimming pool at Bamiabura (Kolhandion). Expenditure (non-recurring) Rs 1,000

1956 = 57 (ii) Provision of a big water storage in the Songra block (Porahat divn), which should be such that it can be also ~~use~~ useful for irrigation to villagers, may be possible by putting a dam across Hemi river. Rs 10,000

~~1956 = 57~~ (iii) (In absence case the above is considered too expensive a smaller ~~purely game~~ water-storage for game purposes ^{only} may be constructed at a cost of Rs 1,000)

~~1957~~ 1957 = 58 (iii) Water-storage in Bareoand block at a suitable site (Palamau Divn). 1,000

1958 = 59 (iv) water-storage in Kodarna Reserves at a suitable site (Hazaribagh Divn) 1,000

(v) water-storage in 'Old Reserve' proposed to be converted into a sanctuary at a suitable site (Seital Parganas Divn) 1,000

1959 = 60 (vi) water-storage in Hoshap Reserve, proposed sanctuary, Rauchi Divn. 1,000

1959 = 60 (vii) water-storage on the drier western slopes of Parasnath Hill, proposed sanctuary (Girdih Divn.) 1,000

(viii) water-storage in the Banskalhi Mahal proposed sanctuary (Shehabad Dist) 1,000

(ix) water-storage in Kermegh area proposed Sanctuary (Monghyr Divn) 1,000

Provision of water-storages in the other proposed sanctuaries may be taken after 1960. Maximum Rs 18,000 in 5 years.

It might be mentioned that the Kodama and Baresand
blocks and the Banakatti Mahal areas are very
dry. Even in Bamiabern in particular years
of drought (eg. 1948) there is little water in
summer.

Declaration of Large Areas as Temporary Sanctuaries For Periods of 5 years

- (Aim: Replenishment of ⁸⁹ ~~5 to 10 years~~ Palamau with livestock)
- | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 1960 = 65 | (i) | Saranda Forest Division | 350 sq. miles | 1760 = 70 | negligible |
| 1965 = 70 | (ii) | Santal Parganas
Saranda | | | " |
| 1970 = 75 | (iii) | Santal Parganas | | | " |
| 1975 = 80 | (iv) | Kolhan | | | " |

From 1980 onwards the scheme might be extended to include Private Protected Forests, which ~~might~~ have will have become state-owned long before then.

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15 Years Scheme For P-rotection.

of Wild Life In Bihar.

PART I = Constitution of New Sanotuaries.

	(Aim: Minimum preservation of wild life in the province.)	Area	Expenditure
74-75 1950-51	(i) Enaction of the amended wild life Protection Act. (draft enclosed)		Nil.
	(ii) Declaration of "Old Reserve" in Santhal Parganas Forest Division as a permanent sanchirry.	40 Sq.miles	Nil.
	(iii) Declaration of Parashnath Hill forests as permanent sanctuary. (Giridih Forest Division) No objection is likely from the Jain owners.	200 Sq.miles	Nil.
75-76 1951-52	(iv) Declaration of Netarhat Plateau as a permanent sanctuary. (Ranchi Forest Divisi-on)	10 -do-	Nil.
	(v) Declaration of Horhap Reserve. (Ranchi Forest Division)	50 7-do-	Nil.
	(vi) Declaration after negotiation with the proprietor of Banaili Estate of Karmegh area as permanent sanctuary. (Monghyr Forest Divis-ion)	50 -do-	Nil.
	(vii) Declaration after negotiations with the proprietors of Bettiah and Ramnagar Estates of a permanent sanctuary enclosing both plains and hill are areas in a triangle Bagaha-Bhaisalotan (Harnataur) = Fort Someshwar in Champaran District.	50 -do-	Nil.
	Total of new permanent sanctuaries.	357 Sq.miles.	
	Existing sanctuaries.	<u>272 Sq.miles</u>	
	Total of sanctuary area	629 Sq.miles	
76-78 1953-54	(viii) Notification of forest areas in Purnea District under Bihar Private Forests Act and the extension of ordinary shooting control to those areas-total extent estimated at 100 sq. miles.		Expenditure same as in other forest areas taken over by Government. The scheme might be productive of revenue.
Included in Afforestation programme of 2nd 5-year Plan.	1954-(ix) Constitution of fule, ba-mboo and construction timber reserves and commercially exploitable <u>kath</u> coupes in Kosi reclamation area, and extension of ordinary shooting control. Total area with atleast one single bloc-k of 10 sq. miles.	30 Sq.miles.	This scheme might also be <u>productive</u> productive of revenue.
	Additional Plains area to which ordinary shooting co-ntrol would be extended.	130 Sq.miles	

PART II.

Water Supply in Sanctuaries.

(Aim: To confine wild animals to forest areas.) Expenditure

79-80			
1955-56.	(i)	Increase in size of water-storages at the fishpond and swimming pool at Bamiaburn. (Kolhar Division.)	Rs. 1,000
80-81			
1956-57	(ii)	Provision of a big water storage in the Songra block (Porhat Division), which should be such that it can be also useful for irrigation to villagers, may be possible by putting a dam across Hirni river.	Rs. 10,000
		(In case the above is considered too expensive a smaller water-storage for game purposes only may be constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,000).	
81-82			
1957-58	(iii)	Water-storage in Baresand block at a suitable site. (Palamau Division)	Rs. 1,000
82-83			
1958-59	(iv)	Water-storage in Kodarma Reserves at a suitable site. (Hazaribagh Division)	Rs. 1,000
83-84			
1959-60	(v)	Water-storage in "Old Reserve" proposed to be converted into a sanctuary at a suitable site. (Santhal Praganas Dn)	Rs. 1,000
	(vi)	Water-storage in Horhap Reserve, proposed sanctuary. (Ranchi Division.)	Rs. 1,000
	(vii)	Water-storage on the drier western slopes of Parasnath Hill, proposed sanctuary. (Giridih Dn).	Rs. 1,000
	(viii)	Water-storage in the Banskathi Mahal proposed sanctuary. (Shahabad Distt.)	Rs. 1,000
	(ix)	Water-storage in Karmegh area proposed sanctuary (Monghyr Dn)	Rs. 1,000

Maximum

Rs. 18,000

in 5 Years.

Provision of water-storage in the other proposed sanctuaries may be taken after 1960. It might be mentioned that the Kodarma and Baresand blocks and the Banskathi Mahal areas are very dry. Even in Bamiaburn in years of drought (e.g. 1948) there is little water in summer.

PART III -

Declaration of Large A-reas
as Temporary Sanctuaries For periods of 5 years.

(Aim: Replenishment of wild livestock) Loss in revenue.

84-85
1960-65

(I) Palamau Forest Divisio-n

Negligible

85-86
1965-70

(II) Saranda Forest Division

-do-

86-87
1970-75

(III) Santal Praganas Forest Division

-do-

87-88
1975-80

(IV) Kolhan Forest Division

-do-

From 1980 onwards the scheme might be extended to include Private Protected Forests, which will have become state-owned long before then.

90 Sami Ahmad Esq
Sub-Divisional Forest Officer
Garhwa, Dist Palamau.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your encouraging letter of 6.1.50 acknowledging receipt of a ~~copy~~ reprint of my article on wild life Reserves of Bihar. I am particularly grateful for your assurance that the suggestions ~~are~~ being contained therein are being examined especially in regard to grant of shooting permits.

Since the article was written as early as October, 1948, I might be ~~and I have been during the period~~ ~~giving~~ ~~there~~ ~~are~~ ~~have~~ ~~been~~ ~~permitted~~ ~~to~~ ~~read~~ ~~subsequent~~ ~~further~~ developments. In March, 1949, Mr. Sami Ahmad prepared a draft ^{for a} Bill ~~for~~ to amending the wild life Protection Act. The draft was approved by the Bombay Natural History Society people and I am enclosing a copy of it for your kind perusal. The Bombay people have sent in return a draft of ^a ~~an~~ ~~unofficial~~ Bill on the subject being proposed unofficially there, which would also be sent to you later, with Mr. Ahmad's comments made at the instance on the invitation of the Bombay sponsors.

The ~~valuable~~ observation made by you in regard to food and wild animals is valuable. It will be folly to endanger ~~human life~~ ~~for~~ or jeopardise human life or the means of its sustenance for a romantic preservation of wild life, but wild life and human interests are not in such direct competition as they superficially seem to be. I might illustrate the point from your own efforts in regard to forest conservation. Increasing human population brings about land hunger, and obviously agriculture and ~~forest~~ afforestation are direct competitors for acreage. But satisfy that land hunger beyond a certain limit and soil erosion wipes off all the increase in arable acreage. Similarly, there is a bionomic balance. Depletion of wild life (such animals that can be easily destroyed ~~by the sportsmen~~ ~~for~~ the massacres ~~of~~ euphemistically called sports and ~~is~~ by short-sighted crop protection) are bound to lead to such increase in insect-population that food supply would be much more devastatingly reduced.

I confess that ~~the determination of~~ the optimum limit ~~is~~ cannot be determined with the knowledge at

human health and life. More intensive ecological study of
antibiotic uses, especially in regard to food habits and
destroy what we may desperately need later for
existence and what is beyond our
means to recreate once destroyed.

The above is the essence of my conservation
and I would humbly submit that destruction of
wild life should only be permitted when human
food supply is threatened.

life in forest areas and remote sections does
not affect food supply and would leave us
with a nucleus for multiplication of those
species whose increase would threaten human
interests according to information.

present day gains in a province like Bihar
from life, life, protection.

I am enclosing herewith a 15-year scheme
for wild life conservation for forest examination.

I shall be grateful for any comments that
you might make on it.

Yours sincerely

Note on
15-Year Scheme For Protection
and Replenishment of
Wild Life in the
Forested Areas
of Bihar

1. Preliminary: (a) The scheme has been confined to Government-owned Reserved and Protected (and Private Protected) forests of Bihar because in these areas alone State management is possible.

(b) The scheme has been deliberately made very cautious in order to, in the first instance, ~~not~~ remove grounds for public anxiety about damage to ~~human life~~, ~~and crops~~ and human and cattle life and crops from increased number of wild animals, and, also, not entail public revenues in ~~any excessive~~ expenditure or loss.

(c) The scheme is divided into three quinquennial stages, each complete by itself, so that the first stage in which no expenditure or loss of revenue is involved could be implemented at once. The second stage involves very little expenditure, only of the ~~no~~ or items and of the magnitude that in the past have been incurred by the forest department under the head "Game Improvement." ~~The third stage~~ Public opinion should ~~be~~ matured in the next 10 years to approve of the ~~the~~ comparatively more ambitious third stage.

2. Main aims: (a) The main aim of the scheme is to secure adequate wild life protection and replenishment in the province not out of any romantic impulse, but as part of a prudent and enlightened policy of conservation of natural resources.

(a) No species ~~is~~ killed for sport or as part of crop protection should be allowed to be totally exterminated ~~but~~ lest accruing knowledge of ~~biometrics~~ ^{later} may prove its utility to man in the primary occupation of food production;

(b) Small nuclei stocks ~~must~~ of all species must be maintained ^{in sanctuaries} for ~~use~~ multiplication and distribution, wherever required, should such a step become necessary ~~later~~ subsequently;

(c) Following from (a) and (b) species threatened with extermination must be assured protection in sanctuaries and in extreme cases enabled to multiply to some extent

by direct management;

(c) Species not threatened with extermination must be assured general protection through ~~the~~ change in shooting rules to at least continue in their present numbers;

(d) Beautiful and interesting species must be exploited as a resource in developing a tourist industry in Bihar;

(e) Lastly, the needs of science require the survival of all species of wild life now inhabiting this province.

3. Dangers from wild life: (a) To human life. Only tigers, leopards and wild pigs cause loss of human life. Tigers and leopards do so only when they become man-eaters — this development is rare ~~unless~~ in a well-stocked area. Only animals wounded by human beings and rendered lame or otherwise unfit to hunt ~~the~~ ~~fast-running~~ fast-running animals, like deer, turn ~~to~~ man-eaters. ~~Their number should~~ The frequency of their incidence, already low, should decline as a result of wild life protection. Pigs must ~~be~~ ~~be~~ be destroyed more frequently but food prejudices prevent the reduction in their numbers for most shikaris kill what they eat. Propaganda ~~is~~ about the excellent food value of pigs is required to reduce their numbers especially because they are very destructive of crops.
- ~~Occasionally~~ Occasionally an elephant or a bison turns "rogue", but this too is rare. When shooting ^{of harmless animals} is restricted more shikaris should be available to shoot man-eating carnivores, pigs, and rogue elephants and bisons.
- (b) To cattle: Only when deer in the forests are shot very frequently and reduced in numbers, ~~to~~ and the normal food resources of ~~the~~ ~~the~~ the carnivores depleted do they turn to the hazardous life of becoming ~~to~~ cattle-lifters. Wild life protection should reduce such ~~development~~ ^{degeneration} ~~development~~ too.
- (c) To Crops: Deer and pigs do damage to crops. Reduction in the number of pigs is necessary, but too much shooting of deer tends to drive carnivores into cattle-lifters and man-eaters. Deer should receive protection. They can be confined to forest areas by provision of adequate food and water-supply in the forest. This is easy of accomplishment, and the present forest conservation policy of government should achieve this desirable end. Whenever deer tend to stray out of forest

areas and do damage to crops the question of adequate perennial water-storage and food supply within the forest must be examined. Locally it might be necessary in one or two places to impound water in the forest and to encourage the growth of berry-bearing shrubs on which deer feed.

4. Question of Management, and balance: By increasing water and food supply in the forest deer can be confined to the forests and their number increased. This would keep the carnivores also to the forests and prevent them turning cattle-lifters or man-eaters.

During the last 50 years destruction of forests, shifting cultivation, patchy distribution of forests and scrub jungle within agricultural areas, and ~~continuous~~ frequent shooting of animals within the forest had contributed to drive both deer and carnivores to village areas.

The present forest conservation policy of Government would rectify most of the above-mentioned causes of damage to human life and property by wild animals. In addition such conservation should increase ~~water~~ natural water storage within the forest and growth of deer-feed.

Locally, however, especially in sanctuaries and other special areas, management of these resources may become necessary. In the absence of a proper protection policy, management is hardly possible.

5. Animals as a Resource: There is a human interest in wild life. We all like to watch beautiful animals and plants; we would like them to be less shy of us so that we could see them from close quarters. In the American National Parks, a large number of visitors find their main attraction in being able to see wild life. In Yellowstone National Park feeding of bears by visitors is a regular pastime. Animals ~~have~~ have become here a capital ~~investment~~ for the tourist industry earning regular dividends. Similar developments are now taking place in other countries too, especially in South and East Africa.

6. ^{Wildlife} ~~Wildlife~~ and Tourist Industry: ~~Animal protection~~ Wild life protection is a part of general nature conservation and management of scenery. If Bihar's wonderful scenery — whose ~~protection~~ ^{preservation} is now largely dependant on the Forest Department — is to be exploited to build a tourist industry, wild life must be protected and ~~not~~ exhibited. This means development of sanctuaries where wild life can be watched ~~and~~ at close quarters, and realisation of revenue for the provision of this additional service. It must, however, be borne in mind that exhibition of animals as a source of revenue and ~~the~~ killing can not both go on in the same area. And ^{all} those who kill must pay without any exemptions.

The development of exhibition areas, therefore, becomes necessary. These must be sanctuaries at places with good scenery. Parasnath Hill, Natarhat, Hundru-Janka Falls area, Rajgir Hills and the triangle between Bagaha, Bhaisalotan and Fort Soneshwar are the obvious places. These sanctuaries can later be developed into National Parks. Even without such development some revenue can be earned by putting a small fee for entry into these sanctuaries — the Falls should ~~be~~ ^{especially} ~~be~~ paying.

Let it might be supposed that ~~such~~ development of a tourist traffic in Bihar based on interest in its wild life is not possible, the case of Darjeeling, Sikkim and the Andamans might be cited. These areas had a fair number of visitors who came ^{only} to see either the butterflies or orchids. ~~of the area~~ In Kashmir quite a number of people visit the trout hatcheries at Dochchigam. Why should this not happen in Bihar which has scenery as good as any elsewhere in India.

7. Wider Policy of Nature Conservation: Neither forest conservation nor preservation of wild life should be viewed in a limited sense. These are parts of a

wider, though yet unrecognized, policy of nature conservation. ~~By~~^{From} the intimate connection between forest, water and soil conservation is realized, but so far the role of biotic elements in accelerating those processes is not generally appreciated. The role is there and it is vital to the success of any of those policies. Hence the need for a complete policy of integrated nature conservation. The present scheme seeks to fill in the gap.

8. Scenery and wild life: Preservation of scenery is now becoming a major Government activity. In U.S.A. national parks were developed. In Britain, the movement started as a non-official venture for preservation of rural scenery; now it is a state-activity. In India too, Bombay has made a beginning with a national park.

Wild life is the animate element of scenery — water is its life blood ^{and} trees are its flesh. Protection of wild life itself requires supply of water and trees and a policy of wild life protection will have logical corollaries in forest ~~policy~~ and water conservation, which in their turn secure soil conservation.

9. Wild life As Means to Propaganda: Because of the human interest — essentially romantic — in wild life, popular opinion can be easily mobilized in support of the present policy of forest conservation. Forestry began as an economic enterprise — growing and selling of timber yielding a higher return for bad lands than impoverished agriculture. It had existed like that for the last 400 years, but the recently increasing interest in it is non-economic, because of its benefits in conserving soil and water, preventing flood and preserving scenery. Even in Bihar, the general support that has been forthcoming for the forest policy of the present Government is not on account of revenue possibilities but because of a wider appreciation of soil and water conserving benefits of an adequate tree cover. Wild life could be similarly used as a means to popularise forest policy. In every forested locality people are vain about their wild animals — even non-existent tigers — especially when outsiders start taking interest. If a large number of visitors could be attracted to watch out

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wild life, everywhere people would start taking interest in the forests of their locality.

10. "Invisible" Forest Revenue: Wild life can be a major source of invisible forest revenue, if only these are preserved and publicised. Bihar is situated very close to the metropolitan areas of Calcutta, and to the industrial areas of Bengal and Bihar coalfields and Patanagar. Now that porcupine to Darjeeling are across Pakistan, the Bihar hills are the only convenient health-resorts in Eastern India. The possibilities of Rauchi, Hazaribagh and Parasnath Hills are immense. Wild life sanctuaries should contribute to such development. In Mysore some amount of tourist traffic was based on its wild life. Bihar has as rich a wild life, it has as many waterfalls, all accessible during the rains, beautiful showy orchids in its forests in summer, and a glorious display of wildflowers in spring and summer comparable to any Himalayan ^{hill} station.

H. V.
Sharma

The direct revenues ^{from} tollages to enter sanctuaries, shooting licences or rest-house rents would always be small, but the indirect revenues can be considerable. The following heads of taxation should show increase: (i) Sales tax, (ii) tax on retail sales of ~~motor~~ petrol, (iii) taxes on motor vehicles, ~~and~~ and (iv) taxes on income of hotels and transport agencies.

The only direct revenue can be terminal taxes levied at several stations in Patanagar, but since this levy is a central subject any contribution to provincial revenues can only be after negotiation.

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