



WORLD WILDLIFE FUND-INDIA

MEMO

COPY

To: Dr Salim Ali

Copies Gen. De Souza

Date: 13-4-83

From: Prakash Gole, Poona-7

Ref.

Dear Doctorsahib,

Yesterday (Tuesday) I was in Bombay hoping to see you in connection with the survey of Blacknecked Crane in Ladakh. I met Hussain who showed me the letters yourself and Dr Nanavati had written to WWF-I where in you have indicated a total budget of Rs.45,000/-. When I went to Ladakh in 1978 and 1980 the army provided transportation, messing and other facilities free of charge. Therefore, at that time my expenses were quite small. I am hoping that the army may provide the same facilities this time also. However, it will be a good idea to make provision for a larger amount in case we have to pay for transport etc.

I also talked to Adm. Awati who was of the opinion that the army would give all facilities free of charge. He is going to Delhi on 17th April and will talk the matter over with the army bosses.

Gen. De Souza of WWF-I informed me that the Trustees have sanctioned an amount of Rs.9000/- for this project. If the Salim Ali Nature Conservation Fund could sanction the rest, it will enable us to proceed to the field without delay. The rest of the amount if available, may be kept in reserve. I feel confident that our budget will not exceed the amount already sanctioned.

I also feel that we should reach the field by end of May. The nesting sites are dispersed and to survey all the sites will take a long time. Further, I prefer to reach the sites when cranes are incubating eggs. Only in that way we will know the exact size of the clutch at each place. In mid-June the eggs start hatching; the Chushul eggs normally hatch out by 10-11th June, the Hanle eggs by 20-21st June. Once the chicks are out, the crane pair leaves the nest and goes to a safer place where chicks can hide very well. I therefore, propose the following itinerary:

277 Sindh Housing Society
Poona 411 007

April 20, 1983

Dr Salim Ali
46 Pali Hills
Bandra (w)
Bombay 400 050

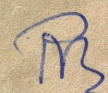
Dear Doctorsahib,

This is further to my letter dated 13th April.

Today I had a talk with Admiral Awati who has recently returned from Delhi. He told me that he had a talk with the Corps Commander in Srinagar and also with the G. O. C-in-C, Northern Command. Both the officers have offered every kind of assistance to the expedition. Transport, messing, tentage, high-altitude clothing will all be arranged by the army without any charge. The Admiral has also made arrangements for obtaining security permits to travel in the 'inner line area'.

General Desouza of WWF-I has also written to the Commander in Leh requesting his assistance and is confident of getting a favourable reply.

May I therefore, request you to give the expedition the green signal to enable us to leave for Srinagar on 15th May. This will give us enough time to survey all the nesting sites when crane pairs are actually incubating. Also we will be able to acclimatize ourselves in Kashmir before flying on to Leh.


(Prakash Gole.)

Copy to: Admiral Awati, Colaba, Bombay-5

Gen. Desouza, WWF-I, Bombay-12

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Dear Doctorsahib,

This is further to my letter dated 13th April. Today I had a talk with Admiral Awati who has recently returned from New Delhi. He told me that he had a talk with the Corps Commander in Srinagar and also with the G O C-in-C, Northern Command. Both the officers have offered every kind of assistance to the expedition. Transport, messing, tentage, high-altitude clothing will all be arranged by the army without any charge. The Admiral has also made arrangements for obtaining security permits to travel in the 'inner line area'.

Both of us therefore, feel that the expedition can be successfully completed in the modest budgeted amount.

General Desouza of WWF-I has also written to the Commander in Leh requesting his assistance and is confident of getting a favourable reply.

May I therefore, request you to give the expedition the green signal to enable us to leave for Srinagar on 15th May. This will give us enough time to survey all the nesting sites when crane pairs are actually incubating. Also we will be able to acclimatize ourselves in Kashmir before flying on to Leh.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,
Prakash
(PRAKASH GOLE)

Copy to: Admiral Awati, Colaba, Bombay-5

Gen. Desouza, WWF-I, Bombay-12

Dear General,

Will you kindly get in touch with Dr Salim Ali to obtain his confirmation? If he confirms air tickets for both of us may be booked for 15th May.

Thanking you,

Yours
Prakash