



Bombay Natural History Society

HORNBILL HOUSE, (MUSEUM COMPOUND)
SHAHEED BHAGAT SINGH ROAD,
BOMBAY 400 023

Ref.No.3886/90

17th September 1990

To

Mr Prakash Gole
1 B, Abhimanshree Society
Off Pashan Road
Pune 411008

Dear Prakash,

Thank you for your compliments on my article on the grassland. The 'Sanctuary' magazine does not give offprints so I am unable to send the same to you.

Yes, the grassland project, which was in the pipe-line for a long time, has been sanctioned and soon we will start the work. I will visit the grassland mentioned by you. One of the field stations will be located at Solapur.

Recently, I was at Kota and met Manoj Kulsherasashtra. He has taken data on the Sarus for the last many years. Rainfall is very good this year, and all the ponds and jheels are full. From Kota I went to Bharatpur by train, and from one side of the train (left side) I saw Sarus between the following stations:

1. Kota-Lakheri : 3 pairs (two in paddy fields (?) and one in Soya bean fields)

From some distance (5-8 km) view was obstructed due to Eucalyptus plantation beside the rail track.

! 1 pair in a crop field

1 bird in a wetland near a village

In all the low-lying areas, paddy and soya bean was grown, while on the ridges, jowar was seen. Sarus mainly seen in low-lying areas.

After Lakheri station, rainfall was not good as the area was drier. (as far as I could make out from the train)

2. Lakheri-Sawai Madhpur

Rainfall inadequate. No waterbody beside rail track. Many fields not sown. Major crop was jowar. No Sarus.

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3. Sawai-Madhpur - Gangapur.

No Sarus. Few waterbodies. Terrain undulating.

4. Gangapur-Biyana

No Sarus, although good rainfall. Roadside pools full. Before Biyana, it became dark so could not do any observation.

These are notes taken from a running train, therefore may not be very useful.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Asad Rahmani

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AR/ld