OBJECTIVES

- 1. Environmental & Ecological Conservation
- 2. Ecological Research 3. Education and Awareness
- 4. Tourism and Recreation 5. Aesthetic Value

PROPOSED FACILITIES FOR KEEPING BIRDS

 Research Centre, Bird Hospital, Conservation Breeding and Rescue Centre 2. Walk-through Aviary
 Nocturnal House 4. Pheasant Paradise 5. Bird Pet Area & Bird Song Garden 6. Bird Ecosystem / Bird Trails 7. Facility Centre 8. Botanical Park & Nursery
 Entrance Plaza, 10. Information Centre



Contact Details:

Chief Wildlife Warden
Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department
Government of Sikkim, Deorali, Gangtok 737102

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SIDKEONG TULKU **BIRD PARK**

FLIGHTS OF FANCY

Welcome to a land of birdsong and beautiful landscapes, set atop the scenic second capital of Sikkim, Rabdentse. Perhaps the most historical site in Sikkim after Yuksom. the Sidkeong Tulku Bird Park is planned as a naturally landscaped and water-scaped open concept bird



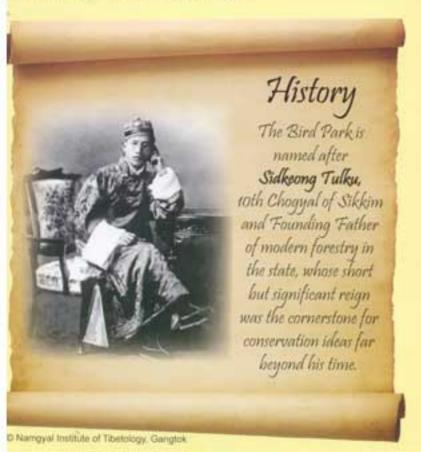
Ars. Gould's Sunbird Anthopyga gouldlas

park incorporating the wilderness of the area, resident birds and



omon HII Partidge Artoriphile torqueous of wild birds.

other fauna with the existing tourist / archaeological attraction of the old Palace ruins. Prepare to experience the ambience of lush green Himalayan forest, where the botanical luxuriance provides sanctuary to over 200 species



CONCEPT

Early mornings are alight with the cacophonous crackling calls of the Grey Treepie, perhaps the dominant resident bird of this forest. Varied birdsongs drowning out the sounds of civilization together with the harmonious humming from the adjacent Pemayangtse Monastery, makes it a must-see destination for ornithologists and nature lovers. At present a purely wilderness haven for birds, the park is to be augmented by a free-flight walk-in aviary, breeding, research and veterinary facilities among others. The main



Grey Treepie Dendrocitta formosa

White-browed Piculet Saxil ochracea

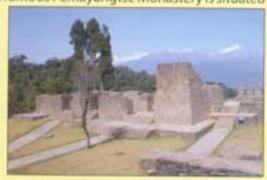
concept of this park "Environment Education through Recreation" where visitors experience the thrills of close encounters with their feathered friends, their sights and sounds, and learn about their roles in keeping our species alive and maintaining our

LOCATION

planet's health.

Sidkeong Tulku Bird Park is located at Rabdentse in West Sikkim on the road between Pelling and West District Headquater Gyalsing about 10 km away. The famous Pernayangtse Monastery is situated

north of the Bird Park site whereas the nearest large town Gyalsing is to its south. The famous archaeological ruins of the ancient second capital of Sikkim are located adjacent to the site



with present access through the site. A thickly wooded moist temperate Oak-Chestnut forest in the past abounding in mosses,

Distance from:

- · Gangtok, capital of Sikkim: 110 km
- · Bagdogra Airport, West Bengal: 180 km
- · Nearest Railhead Siliguri: 160 km

Long. 88° 15' 16" E; Lat. 27° 18' 5" N

Average Elevation: 1950m above mean sea level

lichens and many other epiphytes it attracts a rich bird life, both resident and migratory. The region provides breath-taking views of the Singalila range, our international border with Nepal.

BIRDING KALEIDOSCOPE



Common Cuckoo Cuculus canoras (Juvenile)



Asian-barred Owlet Glaucidium cuculoides



Oriental Turtle-Dove Streptopelia orientalis



Green Imperial Pigeon Ducada aenea



Crested Serpent Eagle Spilomis cheela



Long-tailed Shrike Lanius schaeh



Grey Drongo Dicrurus leucophaeus



Blue Whistling Thrush Myophonus caeruleus



White-collared Blackhird Turdus albocinetus



Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher Culicapa ceylonensis



Plumbeous Redstart Rhyacornix fuliginosses



White-crested Laughingthrush Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush Garrulax Jeucolophus



Garnulax erythrocephalus.



Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler Pomatorhimes ruficollis



Red-billed Leiothrix Leiothrix lutea



Whiskered Yuhina Yuhina flavicollis



Golden-breasted Fulvetta Alcippe chrysotis



Mrs. Gould's Sunbird Aethopyga gouldiae



Yellow-breasted Greenfinch Carduelis spinoides



Durk-breasted Rosefinch Carpodacus nipalensis

FLORA

Sikkim is very rich in floristic diversity. The Bird Park has undulating slopes with wild undergrowth and dense tree cover. The region falls within the transitional zone of Sub Tropical Mixed Broad Leaved Hill Forests (900 m to 1800 m) and Himalayan Wet Temperate



Forests (1800 m to 2700 m). The Bird Park site is dominated with trees, wild herbs and shrubs. The forests include various tree species like Castanopsis, Engelhardia, Michelia, Quercus, and Acer. The secondary growth consists of Girardinia, Boehmeria, Maesa, Ardisia, Melastoma, Edgeworthia. Existing vegetation includes a top canopy of Chestnut trees interspersed with Michelia



and Quercus, Open forest patches have been invaded by Eupatorium and Tridax. Shrubs like Rubus, Daphne, Berberis and ferns, epiphytic plants provide a distinctive character to the forest. It also has climbers like Pathos, Vitis, Rhaphidophora, Smilax etc.

BIRDS



Rufous Sibia Heterophasia capistrata

Sikkim is very rich in avifauna. Among over 8000 species of birds found worldwide, over 1200 species are found in the Indian Subcontinent. Eastern Himalayas shelter rich biodiversity and Sikkim is known to have over 550 species of colourful and rare birds using different habitats like temperate forests to alpine meadows.

The Bird Park region has been occupied by typical avifauna of Middle Hills Forests of Eastern Himalayas. The families of Timalinae and Turdinae seem to be abundant in the region. They include Owls, Eagles, Pheasant, Barbets, Treepies, Minivets, Bulbuls, Flycatchers, Babblers, Thrushes and Warblers etc. These birds are resident as well as migratory. Out of over 550 bird species recorded in Sikkim over 200 species have been

recorded in this area in different seasons.



Striated Bulbul Pycnonotus striatus

The moist forests Rabdentse hold birds like Rufous-breasted Accentors, Green-tailed Sunbirds, Rufous-gorgeted Flycatchers, Blue-fronted Redstarts. Brownish-flanked Bush Warblers, Scarlet and Longtailed Minivets, Coal, Greenbacked and Black-throated



Blue Whistling Thrush Myophonus caeruleus

Tits, various Yuhinas, Fulvettas, Shrike Babblers, Scimitar Babblers, Laughingthrushes and Babblers. The rare and spectacular Fire-

tailed Myzornis can easily be sighted here.

Overhead, the resident Crested Eagle, migrating Serpent Steppe Eagles, Greater Spotted Eagles and Oriental Honey Buzzards add raptor diversity in cold November.



Fire-tailed Myzomis Myzornis pyerhoura

Rabdentse has a heterogenous

habitat with a diversity of microhabitats, quality of vegetation, availability of food / shelter plants and suitability of the location for growing more such plants. The Park has a variety of nature trails awaiting discovery from dense bushy undergrowth to greenlit patches dense with trees.



Pemayangtse Monastery on Bird Park Skyline



Blue-fronted Redstart Phoenicurus frontalis



White-throated Fantail Rhipidura albicoltis



Area designated for Walk-in Aviary