

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS (see Map 3)

The following recommendations are made :—

(1) That the present Mahendra National Park be enlarged and extended (a) Southwards to include the migration routes and rhinoceros areas as far as the Reu valley, and (b) North-westwards to include the scenic area in the north-west. See Sections V and VI and Map 3. And that this national park be fully protected with buffer belts where possible.

(2) That the riverain tracts of the Narayani, Rapti and Reu rivers which contain rhinoceros be designated as National Park Extension Areas or Protected Areas, with rights of local villagers for grazing, cutting firewood and cutting thatch to continue as before, but to remain free of settlement and cultivation.

(3) That a wild life sanctuary or national park be created in a suitable area in the Morang District of south-east Nepal in order to preserve the few remaining wild buffalo there ; and that a few pairs of rhinoceros be re-introduced into that area so that there will be a second locality for the preservation of the rhinoceros in Nepal.

(4) That the Rhinoceros Protection Department be strengthened, chiefly by reorganization and by improvement of service conditions, as noted in Section VII. And that a suitably qualified officer be appointed, who could assume complete charge of wild life preservation in the rhinoceros area, including the national park.

(5) That a Nepal Board for Wild Life be constituted which would be the authority for all matters pertaining to wild life preservation in the country.

(6) That education and publicity be undertaken in order to develop consciousness among the people of the cultural and economic value of wild life and nature conservation, and to develop tourism as an important economic factor in support of wild life preservation.

IX. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In conclusion, I must record my deepest appreciation of the help given to me in Nepal by officials and non-officials. First and foremost, to General Kiran Shumshere Jung Bahadur Rana who gave me his fullest moral support and advice as well as much information ; to the Chief Forest Officer, Mr. Balarama Paul Baidya, who kindly made his departmental information available to me and allotted an officer to take me round the

rhinoceros area ; to Circle Officer Captain Tej Jung Thapa, an experienced sportsman and naturalist ; to Major Lok Bikram, who helped me to obtain elephants in the Rapti Valley ; to Mr. K. B. Malla, Chief of the Rapti Valley Multi-Purpose Project, who kindly allowed me camping facilities and transport to Dadrahani ; to Mr. Boris Lissanevitch, of the Hotel Royal in Katmandu, who very kindly made available to me some camping equipment as well as much information ; to Colonel and Mrs. Proud of the British Embassy, Mr. Sen of the Indian Embassy, and Mr. N. Pal of the India Aid Mission, all of whom showed much interest in my mission.

In particular I want to offer my thanks and appreciation to Mr. Sudhir Jung Thapa, Divisional Forest Officer of Chitawan, who accompanied me during most of my tour in the rhinoceros areas, and without whose patient help and never failing supply of information my work could not have been successful. To Captain Gyan Bahadur Basnayt and Lieutenant Gaj Raj Joshi, officers in charge of the Rhinoceros Protection Department, I owe my gratitude for making all the local arrangements, including camping, elephant trips, etc.

X. LITERATURE CONSULTED

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XI. GLOSSARY OF LOCAL TERMS

- Bhabar : dry country, with a subsoil of boulders, at the foot of the Himalayas.
Bhangala : a channel of a river.
Bheel : a small lake (in Assam).
Chowki : a post, or a hut (for a forest guard, etc.).
Dans : horse-fly or gad-fly.
Dun : a plateau in a valley or a flat valley in the foothills of the Himalayas.
Hatisar : an elephant station.
Khola : a stream.
Sal : a hardwood species of tree of great commercial value.
Savannah : tropical or sub-tropical grassland containing scattered trees or shrubs.
Shikar : shooting, or sport.
Tal : a small lake.
Tand : look-out tower for frightening away crop-raiding rhinoceros and other animals.
Tapoo : an island in a river.
Terai : moist country a few miles from the base of the Himalayas, at the edge of the *bhabar*.
Tongi : the Assam equivalent of *tand*.