



# PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

## SECTION II

State of Conservation of specific World Heritage properties

State Party: His Majesty's Government of Nepal,  
Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation,  
Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation  
Property Name: Royal Chitwan National Park (#284)

## PERIODIC REPORTING FOR WELL PLANNED HERITAGE PRESERVATION

### Background

The twenty-ninth General Conference of UNESCO, held in 1997, decided to activate Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention concerning the submission of periodic reports on the state of implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Section I) and the State of Conservation of World Heritage properties (Section II). The national authorities are invited to report on Section I, while Section II shall be prepared for each property inscribed on the World Heritage list by the person(s) directly in charge of the property's management.

The periodic reports prepared by the States Parties will serve a three-fold purpose:

- ❖ to assess the current state of all World Heritage related issues in a State Party,
- ❖ to help focus the Committee's as well as the State Party's future activities and funds,
- ❖ to strengthen sub-regional and regional co-operation between States Parties.

### The Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

In 1998, at its twenty-second session, the World Heritage Committee approved *Explanatory Notes*, designed to be read in conjunction with the *Periodic Reporting Format*, in order to outline the information expected to flow from the periodic reporting exercise. To facilitate the preparation of the report, a *Questionnaire* was developed that the States Parties are encouraged to use. It closely follows the subjects referred to in the *Explanatory Notes*, but in contrast to the latter splits the subjects up into short questions to be answered in a few sentences or paragraphs. A second type of question requires the indication of YES or NO by circling or underlining the appropriate answer. All questions are clearly identified with a little number in the right hand column of the *Questionnaire*. To make the reporting results meaningful every one of these questions has to be answered. If no answer is possible, the reasons should be given. If the available space is not sufficient for the answer, the response should be continued on a separate sheet of paper, clearly indicating the number of the question the text refers to (e.g. 006).

### Benefits for the States Parties

The *Questionnaire* was developed in such a way as to allow to extract and compile or compare relevant information from different States Parties or properties, facilitating the process of preparing the regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. The YES / NO questions make it possible to evaluate the reports quantitatively, but only the details that should be supplied in the related 'open question' make the answers meaningful and can be the basis for concerted actions to preserve a State Party's most valuable heritage for its transmission to future generations.

The information collected in this way will help the States Parties to assess their own strengths and weaknesses concerning the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, putting them in a position to (re)define policies and to request assistance in order to finance projects and / or training. On the other hand it allows the World Heritage Committee to collect information needed to devise *Regional Action Plans*, give well-informed advice to States Parties and to focus funds as well as attention on the region(s), States Parties and / or properties that need the collective support of the international community.

The preparation process of the regional periodic report will furthermore enhance regional co-operation through information meetings as well as through the better availability of regularly up-dated information on activities as well as contact addresses etc. The identification of the State Party's strengths makes it possible to exchange experiences and look for solutions to problems (e.g. of site conservation) within the region.

### **Conclusion**

Periodic Reporting is a participatory exercise, aiming to collect information on World Heritage related issues on a national as well as on the property level. The individual State Party reports will be collated into a regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. This information will enhance cooperation between the Committee and the States Parties and allow to focus funds and activities more efficiently, allowing the States Parties to protect their most valuable heritage more effectively for transmission to future generations.

**PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE  
WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION  
(FORMAT)**

**SECTION II: STATE OF CONSERVATION OF SPECIFIC WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**II.1 Introduction**

- a. State Party
- b. Name of World Heritage property
- c. Geographical coordinates to the nearest second
- d. Date of inscription on the World Heritage List
- e. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report
- f. Date of report
- g. Signature on behalf of State Party

**II.2. Statement of significance**

**II.3. Statement of authenticity/integrity**

**II.4. Management**

**II.5. Factors affecting the property**

**II.6. Monitoring**

**II.7. Conclusions and recommended action**

- a. Main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above)
- b. Main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see Items II.4 and II.5. above)
- c. Proposed future action/actions
- d. Responsible implementing agency/agencies
- e. Timeframe for implementation
- f. Needs for international assistance.

**II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II**

**II.9. Documentation attached**

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

**II.1. Introduction**

a.	Country (and State Party if different): <b>Nepal</b>	001
b.	Name of World Heritage property: <b>Royal Chitwan National Park</b>	002
c.	<p>In order to locate the property precisely, please attach a topographic map showing scale, orientation, projection, datum, site name, date and graticule. The map should be an original print and not be trimmed. The site boundaries should be shown on the map. In addition they can be submitted in a detailed description, indicating topographic and other legally defined national, regional, or international boundaries followed by the site boundaries.</p> <p>The State Parties are encouraged to submit the geographic information in digital form so that it can be integrated into a Geographic Information System (GIS).</p> <p>On this questionnaire indicate the geographical co-ordinates to the nearest second (in the case of large sites, towns, areas etc., give at least 3 sets of geographical co-ordinates):</p> <p>Centre point: North-west corner: South-east corner:</p> <p><b>The Royal Chitwan National Park is located between:</b>                    <b>27°20'32" to 27°41'23" North latitudes</b>                    <b>83°52'40" to 84°44'34" East longitudes</b></p> <p><b>The buffer zone is located between:</b>                    <b>27°16'56" to 27°42'13" North latitudes</b>                    <b>83°50'23" to 84°46'25" East longitudes</b></p>	003
d.	Give the date of inscription on the World Heritage List and subsequent extension (if applicable): <b>November 2, 1984</b>	004
e.	<p>Organisation(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report. <b>Royal Chitwan National Park Headquarters, and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</b></p> <p>Organisation(s) / entity(ies): <b>Royal Chitwan National Park Headquarters and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</b></p> <p>Person(s) responsible: <b>Mr Puran Bhakta Shrestha, Chief Warden, RCNP and Mr Shyam Sundar Bajimaya, Chief Ecologist, DNPWC</b></p> <p>Address: <b>Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Babar Mahal</b></p> <p>City and post code: <b>GPO Box 860, Kathmandu</b></p> <p>Telephone: <b>++ 977 1 220912</b></p> <p>Fax: <b>++ 977 1 227675</b></p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np">dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np</a></p>	005
f.	Date of preparation of the report: <b>December 27, 2002</b>	006
g.	<p>Signature on behalf of the State Party</p> <p>Signature: .....</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Function:</p>	007

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.2. Statement of significance**

<p>At the time of inscribing a property on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee indicates its outstanding universal value(s), or World Heritage value(s), by deciding on the criteria for which the property deserved to be included on the World Heritage List. Circle the criteria retained for the inscription:</p>	008
<p>Cultural criteria: i – ii – iii – iv – v – vi  <b>Natural</b> criteria: i – <b>ii</b> – <b>iii</b> – <b>iv</b></p>	
<p>Were new criteria added by re-nominating and/or extending the property after the original inscription?  <span style="float: right;">(√)YES / NO</span></p>	009
<p>If YES, please explain:   <span style="color: blue;">Buffer Zone (766.1 square kilometer) was extended with a gazette notification in March 1997</span></p>	010
<p>Please quote observations concerning the property made by the Advisory Body(ies) during the evaluation of the nomination:</p>	011
<p>The following observations were made at the time of nomination in 1984:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chitwan is the largest and least disturbed example of natural Sal hill forest and associated communities of the Terai.</li> <li>• Chitwan is managed to a high standard with professional staff and armed guards</li> <li>• Thatch collection is well controlled and not seen as a negative impact.</li> <li>• The national park office addresses the problems of crop damage by the wildlife through education programs</li> <li>• Tourism provides a significant economic justification for the park and facilities developed</li> <li>• Major threat is from the proposed paper/pulp mill in the Narayani river upstream</li> <li>• The park's western border should be extended</li> </ul>	
<p>Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable):</p>	012
<p>Decision of the World Heritage Committee              8<sup>th</sup> Session  <span style="color: blue;">“The Committee noted that there was only a remote possibility that the proposed pulp mills be constructed on the Narayani River but requested that the Nepalese authorities keep it informed of any developments in this respect which could affect the Park.”</span></p> <p>Brief Discussion  <span style="color: blue;">“At the foot of the Himalayas, Chitwan is one of the few undisturbed areas of the Terai region which formerly extended over the foothills of Indian and Nepal, with its very rich flora and fauna. One of the last populations of single-horned Asiatic rhinoceros lives in the park, which is also among the last refuges for the Bengal tiger.”</span></p>	

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.2. continued**

	<p>Identify the actions taken as follow-up to these observations and/or decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KMTNC protested against the effluent discharged by the Bhrikuti Paper and Pulp Mill in the Narayani river</li> <li>• DNPWC and RCNP officials made demands at meetings to the Ministry of Population and Environment to depute environmental inspectors in Chitwan</li> <li>• DNPWC voiced against the Kasara bridge construction</li> </ul>	013
	<p>Please propose a statement of significance by providing a description of the World Heritage value(s) for which the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List. This description should reflect the criterion (criteria) on the basis of which the Committee inscribed the property on the World Heritage List and it should also detail what the property represents, what makes it outstanding, what the specific values are that distinguish the property as well as what its relationship with its setting is, etc.:</p> <p>The Royal Chitwan National Park (RCNP) meets <b>three</b> criteria for the World heritage natural properties. The park is an outstanding example of geological processes and biological evolution as the last major surviving example of the natural ecosystems of the Terai region (<b>Criteria ii</b>). The research on the natural history ecosystems of the area has been an important contribution to man's knowledge of ecological systems in the Terai.</p> <p>The park also contains superlative natural features of exceptional natural beauty in terms of its scenic attractions of forested hills, grasslands, great rivers and views of the distant Himalaya (<b>Criteria iii</b>). Additionally, the park provides critical and viable habitat for significant populations of several rare and endangered species, especially the one horned Asian rhinoceros and the Gharial crocodile (<b>Criteria iv</b>). The current management of the park and the buffer zone is an excellent example of government and community commitments for the protection of the heritage site.</p>	014
	<p>For the extension of a property or the inclusion of additional criteria a re-submission of the property may be considered. This might be regarded as necessary in order to recognize cultural values of a natural World Heritage property, or vice-versa, become desirable following the substantive revision of the criteria by the World Heritage Committee or due to better identification or knowledge of specific outstanding universal values of the property. Should a re-nomination of the property be considered?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / <b>NO</b>(√)</p>	015
	<p>If YES, please explain:</p>	016
	<p>Are the borders of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone (still) adequate to ensure the protection and conservation of the property's World Heritage values:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / <b>NO</b> (√)</p>	017
	<p>If NO, please explain why not, and indicate what changes should be made to the boundaries of the property and / or its buffer zone (please indicate these changes also on a map to be attached to this report):</p> <p>In general, the combined area totalling 2,181 sq km of RCNP, its buffer zone and the adjoining Parsa Wildlife Reserve is considered to be adequate for the current status of the wildlife populations. The Parsa Wildlife Reserve (499 square kilometer) established in 1984 serves as an extension of the RCNP to its eastern boundary.</p> <p>Initially RCNP area was only 544 sq km, later extended to 932 sq km in 1977. <b>The</b></p>	018

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

	<p><b>recent data indicate that the area of RCNP is 1,182 sq km which is larger by 250 sq km compared to 932 sq km that is based on previous calculations.</b></p> <p>Evacuation of the village of Padampur (population 11,208 living in 1,704 households in 17.82 square kilometer) is under completion. The Padampur dwellers are relocated to Saguntole further north of the park. The local community in Sauraha has also demanded that a patch of natural forests (approximately 100 hectares) at Bodreni comprising wetland of the <i>Beeshazari tal</i> be included in the park boundary.</p> <p>Considering the increasing populations of mega fauna like rhinoceros, elephants and tigers, scientists have realised that in order to continue the existence of the RCNP in the long future, its surroundings and biological corridors linking other protected areas should be protected. There are visible signs of spill over effects of increasing wildlife populations in the park, such as crop damage by rhinoceros and elephants, and tigers sightings outside the park. Some of the important corridors are Barandabhar forests (approximately 200 square kilometer) linking the park to the foothills of the Mahabharat range in the north, Daunne hill forests linking the western continuity of the Churia hills forest corridors. The important projects that have been launched to maintain these corridors around RCNP are the Tiger Rhino Conservation Project, the Chitwan Habitat Restoration Project and the Terai Arc Landscape Project. However, His Majesty's Government of Nepal has considered maintaining of the existing park boundary at the current level, and protecting the biological corridors under the aegis of the Department of Forests through community participation without declaring a protected area. Both the Department of Forests and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation are under the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation.</p>	
	<p>Is the State Party actively considering a revision of the property boundaries or the buffer zone?</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>(√)YES</b> / NO</p> <p>If YES, indicate what is being done to that end:</p> <p>As mentioned above, His Majesty's Government of Nepal has already revised the boundary by declaring a buffer zone (766.1 square kilometer) in March 1997.</p> <p>Evacuation of the Padampur village is under completion. Once completed this program will add excellent habitat (17.82 square kilometer) for the wildlife including rhinoceros.</p> <p>Similarly, the government has considered inclusion of 100 hectares of Bodreni forests comprising wetland of the <i>Beeshazari tal</i> under park administration.</p> <p>DNPWC is actively involved in the conservation of the corridors linking RCNP with the other protected areas. However, the Department of Forests will manage the biological corridors linking the RCNP with the other protected areas. Already DNPWC and the Department of Forests have launched a program of Terai Arc Landscape under the supplementary agreement between MFSC and WWF. The two departments of the ministry used to complement each other on various conservation activities, such as antipoaching operations, CITES implementation</p>	<p>019</p> <p>020</p>

### II.3. Statement of authenticity / integrity

	<p>Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since the property's</p>	<p>021</p>
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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>inscription?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√)YES / NO</p> <p>If NO, please describe the changes and name the causes:</p> <p>In general the WHS values of RCNP has increased with the increase in the population of endangered species such as rhinoceros and tigers. The buffer zone has been brought under forest coverage by plantation and natural forest regeneration.</p> <p>However, there are some issues of encroachment of habitats such as grasslands are encroached upon by the fire resistant tree species, and the wetlands are continuously covered with water hyacinth and other weed species. Similarly, in several spots alien species like <i>Michenia macrantha</i> has colonised over the herbs, shrubs and trees.</p> <p>There have also been slight changes in land use pattern of the park. During the period of 18 years (1978 to 1996), forest area has decreased by 250 ha (0.21%) and grassland by 1,679 ha (1.43%). The shrub land has increased by 558 ha (0.47%). The figures in the following table reveal that the land was converted mostly into others (rivers/sand) due to various causes including floods and soil erosion.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Land Use Change in Royal Chitwan National Park (1978-1996) (area in sq km)</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Land Cover</th> <th>1978</th> <th>1996</th> <th>Change</th> <th>Change %</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Forest</td> <td>1002.86</td> <td>1000.36</td> <td>2.50</td> <td>-0.21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grass</td> <td>70.51</td> <td>55.21</td> <td>16.79</td> <td>-1.43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shrub</td> <td>0</td> <td>5.58</td> <td>5.58</td> <td>0.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Others (River/Sand)</td> <td>108.63</td> <td>120.84</td> <td>12.21</td> <td>1.04</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The increasing number of hotels outside the park but in the buffer zone (Sauraha for example), increasing number of visitors, and the expanding industries in the Chitwan valley are the issues that may create threats to the WHS values in the future. Number of visitors has increased from below 1,000 in 1974-75 to over 117,000 in 1999-2000. There are 7 concessionaires operating lodges in the park with their 68 elephants. There are 71 hotels (60 in Sauraha only) and 16 privately kept elephants. There are 9 major mills/distilleries that directly/indirectly affect the park's WHS values.</p>	Land Cover	1978	1996	Change	Change %	Forest	1002.86	1000.36	2.50	-0.21	Grass	70.51	55.21	16.79	-1.43	Shrub	0	5.58	5.58	0.47	Others (River/Sand)	108.63	120.84	12.21	1.04	022
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<p>What was the evaluation of the authenticity / integrity of the property at the time of inscription? (Please quote from the ICOMOS / IUCN evaluation):</p> <p>As quoted in the World Heritage Nomination – IUCN Technical Evaluation for 284 Royal Chitwan National Park (Nepal).</p> <p>“Royal Chitwan is managed to a high standard with a staff that includes a professional warden and 450 armed guards. Indexes of the success of the national park program have been the four-fold increase in the rhino population and the re-vegetation and stabilisation of the banks of the Rapti river which has had important erosion and flood control benefits. Boundaries are well defined and the park has a management plan, although it needs updating. Extensions to the park are being considered by the government.</p>	023																									

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<p>Threats to the park include some subsistence poaching of vegetation and fuelwood along the boundaries and intensive fishing in the bordering rivers. Collection of thatch grass in the park by villagers is well controlled and is not seen as a negative impact. Local villagers harbour a significant resentment to the existence of the park primarily due to crop damage by wildlife. By allowing thatch grass collection and by provision of conservation education and other public relations programmes, these problems are being addressed by the National Park Office.</p> <p>Currently, some 8000 tourists visit the park annually with an average stay of 3 days. This provides a significant economic justification for the park and the facilities developed are a model of appropriate park accommodation.</p> <p>The major threat to the integrity of the park is proposed establishment of two pulp mills on the Narayani River upstream of the park. Apart from the park being a potential source of raw materials, the effluent could seriously affect the riverine ecology, particularly for the endangered <i>Gharial</i>.”</p>	
	<p>Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription? YES / <b>NO (√)</b></p> <p>If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?</p>	024 025
	<p>Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the near future? YES / <b>NO (√)</b></p> <p>If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:</p>	026 027

#### II.4. Management

	<p>How could the arrangements for the protection and the management of the property best be defined (more than one indication possible)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Legal (√)</b> Contractual ( ) Traditional ( )</p> <p>The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation is the legal entity for the park and the buffer zone. The park administration and the protection units of the Royal Nepal Army operate under the jurisdiction of the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its subsequent amendments, and the Royal Chitwan National Park Regulations 1974, the Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996, and the Buffer Zone Management Guidelines 1999.</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal has contracted the 7 concessionaires to operate tourism activities as well as limited management works in support of the park administration such as tiger monitoring, antipoaching, maintaining wildlife</p>	028
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<p>checklists etc. The current contract will expire in 2008.</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal has handed over buffer zone forests to the Buffer Zone user committees/groups for management and sustainable utilisation.</p>							
	<p>Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for the preservation of the values described under item II.2 at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:</p> <p>Under the NPWC Act 1973 and its subsequent amendments, the park authority is a legal entity responsible for the protection and management of the property. The park management has a network of 4 sectors and 56 guard posts which are supervised under three different modalities, such as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. direct supervision under park administration: 45 guard posts *</li> <li>II. joint supervision under park administration and RNA: 7</li> <li>III. direct supervision under RNA: 4</li> </ol> <p>(* The 10 posts marked with (*) are not listed in the organisational chart of the park administration). Similarly, the strength of the manpower in different guard posts fluctuates with the urgency of the issues and availability of human resources. Depending on the urgency of the problems, the MFSC makes arrangements to depute forests guards under the Department of Forests as and when necessary.</p> <p>The list of guard posts in the RCNP is as follows:</p>	029						
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"><i>Posts under park administration</i></td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18. Kujauli</li> <li>19. Lamichour</li> <li>20. Sehri</li> <li>21. Sukhibhar</li> <li>22. Sunachari</li> <li>23. Tamaspur*</li> <li>24. Thori</li> <li>25. Valmiki-asram</li> <li>26. Amuwa</li> <li>27. Bhawanipur</li> <li>28. Bote-Simara</li> <li>29. Brahmanagar*</li> <li>30. Khorsor*</li> <li>31. Liglige</li> <li>32. Magarkot*</li> <li>33. Mukundapur*</li> <li>34. Phulbari</li> <li>35. Shikaribas</li> </ol> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p><i>Posts under park administration and RNA</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bagai</li> <li>2. Bankatta</li> <li>3. Bhimle</li> <li>4. Kasara</li> <li>5. Khagendra malli</li> <li>6. Laukhani</li> <li>7. Sauraha</li> </ol> <p><i>Posts under RNA only</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bhimpur</li> <li>2. Dumaria</li> <li>3. Gajapur</li> <li>4. Nandapur</li> </ol> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amaltari</li> <li>2. Amrite</li> <li>3. Baghmara</li> <li>4. Bagwan*</li> <li>5. Bandarjhula*</li> <li>6. Bhimphedi shedghar*</li> <li>7. Dadreni</li> <li>8. Deepaknagar</li> <li>9. Devnagar*</li> <li>10. Dhoba</li> <li>11. Dhruva</li> <li>12. Ghangar</li> <li>13. Ghatgain</li> <li>14. Icharni</li> <li>15. Janakpur*</li> <li>16. Jarneli</li> <li>17. Khoriamuhan</li> </ol> </td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<i>Posts under park administration</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18. Kujauli</li> <li>19. Lamichour</li> <li>20. Sehri</li> <li>21. Sukhibhar</li> <li>22. Sunachari</li> <li>23. Tamaspur*</li> <li>24. Thori</li> <li>25. Valmiki-asram</li> <li>26. Amuwa</li> <li>27. Bhawanipur</li> <li>28. Bote-Simara</li> <li>29. Brahmanagar*</li> <li>30. Khorsor*</li> <li>31. Liglige</li> <li>32. Magarkot*</li> <li>33. Mukundapur*</li> <li>34. Phulbari</li> <li>35. Shikaribas</li> </ol>	<p><i>Posts under park administration and RNA</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bagai</li> <li>2. Bankatta</li> <li>3. Bhimle</li> <li>4. Kasara</li> <li>5. Khagendra malli</li> <li>6. Laukhani</li> <li>7. Sauraha</li> </ol> <p><i>Posts under RNA only</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bhimpur</li> <li>2. Dumaria</li> <li>3. Gajapur</li> <li>4. Nandapur</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amaltari</li> <li>2. Amrite</li> <li>3. Baghmara</li> <li>4. Bagwan*</li> <li>5. Bandarjhula*</li> <li>6. Bhimphedi shedghar*</li> <li>7. Dadreni</li> <li>8. Deepaknagar</li> <li>9. Devnagar*</li> <li>10. Dhoba</li> <li>11. Dhruva</li> <li>12. Ghangar</li> <li>13. Ghatgain</li> <li>14. Icharni</li> <li>15. Janakpur*</li> <li>16. Jarneli</li> <li>17. Khoriamuhan</li> </ol>			
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>The Royal Nepal Army is responsible mainly for the protection of the property. The RNA operates its activities in coordination and cooperation with the park authority. A battalion of RNA is stationed at the Kasara headquarters and its 3 companies at Sauraha, Bankatta and Nandapur. Since November 2001, RNA's network of 32 posts has been merged into 11 posts of RNA alone operates posts at Bhimpur, Gajapur, Nandapur and Dumaria, and the RNA and the park administration jointly operate 7 posts at Kasara, Bhimle, Khagendra malli, Sauraha, Bankatta, Laukhani and Bagai. The strength of the RNA in RCNP is around 792 men. Since its establishment in 1973, presence of the RNA itself has been one of the major factors in the protection of the property.</p>	
<p>KMTNC enjoys legal rights to undertake research activities in the park and the buffer zone. KMTNC has established a permanent research station, Biodiversity Conservation Centre (BCC) that facilitates and conducts research activities in the park.</p>	
<p>Under the NPWC Act 1973 as amended in 1993 and the Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1997, His Majesty's Government of Nepal has empowered the Buffer Zone Management Committee of RCNP with an authority to protect and manage the natural resources in the buffer zone (766.1 square kilometer). Under the regulations, the Management Committee receives 30% to 50% of the park revenue for the implementation of conservation and community development programs in the buffer zone.</p>	
<p>Through a long term contract, the government has given a special permission for the operation of 7 concessionaire hotels/lodges. One of the concessionaires, the Tiger Tops Jungle Lodge, conducts tiger monitoring program as well as administer a charity called International Trust for Nature Conservation that is registered in the United Kingdoms. Directly or indirectly, the other concessionaires support the antipoaching operations in the park. On top of regular tax and fees, conservation fees donated by the 7 concessionaires have been accumulated to form an endowment that provides the park authority with emergency "donations" for the protection and management of the property as well as community development.</p>	
<p>In general terms, can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient?</p>	030
<p style="text-align: right;">YES / <b>NO</b> (✓)</p>	
<p>Please explain:</p>	031
<p>The current legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection need to be reviewed and revised as necessary to address the issues as follows:</p>	
<p>The NPWC Act 1973 and the RCNP Regulations 1974 and the Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 need to be reviewed and revised to address the issues of pollution in the rivers bordering the park namely the Narayani, Rapti and Reu;</p>	
<p>As outlined in the draft tourism plan, the contracts of the 7 concessionaires that operate hotels/lodges in the park need to be reviewed and revised to reflect the values of the WHS and the voice raised by the buffer zone residents. Their current contract will expire in 2008.</p>	
<p>The traditional rights of way of the people in the Madi valley have been considered. The current state of confusion with the Kasara bridge will be resolved.</p>	

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

*II.4. continued*

<p>Provide a list and summaries of laws and regulations concerning cultural and natural properties protection and management (including extracts of relevant articles from the Constitution, Criminal Law, Law/Regulations on Land-use, Environment Law and Forestry Law, amongst others). Please also attach any documentation available concerning these points:</p> <p>Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990</p> <p><i>Article 26 State Policies</i></p> <p><i>“ (4) The State shall give priority to the protection of the environment and also to the prevention of its further damage due to physical development activities by increasing the awareness of the general public about environmental cleanliness, and the State shall also make arrangements for the protection of the rare wildlife, the forests and the vegetation.”</i></p> <p>The Acts and Regulations pertinent to RCNP are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its 4 amendments in 1975, 1983, 1990, 1993</li> <li>• Royal Chitwan National Park Regulations 1974</li> <li>• Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996</li> <li>• Buffer Zone Management Guidelines 1999</li> </ul> <p>The Act laid the strong foundation for biodiversity conservation under which RCNP was declared as the first national park in the country adopting the IUCN Category II of Protected Area. The Act with its four amendments and the Regulations give special power to the Chief Warden for the protection of the park. The Act and the amendments clearly mention various arrangements for the protection of endangered species of wildlife and their consumptive and non-consumptive uses of biodiversity so that the welfare of the people is sustained. Several bye laws have been promulgated under this Act which gives HMG the authority to create parks and reserves, give complete protection of species as listed in the Schedule 1. The Act also promotes regulated tourism and designate harvest fees and regulations for selected common species outside the protected areas.</p> <p>The fourth amendment of the Act in 1993 has made a provision to declare buffer zone in area surrounding a park. The Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 provides authority to the Chief Warden to design programs in consultation with local community in the buffer zone that are compatible with the national park management.</p> <p>It allows ploughing back 30% to 50% of the park generated revenues for community development activities in buffer zone. The Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996 and Guidelines 1999 outlines procedure for managing buffer zone including the formation of user groups, user committees, Buffer Zone Management Committee, disbursement of revenue, and settlement of compensation.</p> <p>Strategy and Plans</p> <p>Under the aegis of the HMG/UNDP/FAO National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Project, the first management plan for the park was prepared for the period 1975-</p>	<p>032</p>
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

79. The recent management plan covers the national park and its buffer zone for the period of 2001-05.

The National Conservation Strategy for Nepal 1988 has formally shaped conservation efforts in the country. It has emphasised on the sustainable use of land and natural resources.

The Master Plan for the Forestry Sector 1988 has identified the conservation of ecosystem and genetic resources as one of its long term objectives. The plan has stated that meeting the basic needs of the people is a pre-requisite to reduce park people conflict. Almost all the five-year national development plans of Nepal have stressed on the conservation of biodiversity. His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, with the cooperation of GEF and UNDP, has prepared the Nepal Biodiversity Strategy in 2002.

King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation Act of 1982.

According to the Act, the KMTNC is mandated to:

- Conserve, promote and manage natural resources;
- Undertake the development of national parks and wildlife reserves
- carry out scientific studies and research on natural resources.

Based on the KMTNC Rules, 1984, the Trust carries out various works related to:

- afforestation
- soil and water conservation
- management studies on protected areas and the conservation of wildlife
- public awareness programmes on conservation
- scientific studies and research on natural resources.

KMTNC also advises the government during policy formulation on nature and natural resource conservation and management.

The other relevant Acts and Conventions are:

- Environment Protection Act 1996
- Forest Act 1993 and its amendments
- Water Resources Act 1992
- Soil and Water Conservation Act 1982
- Aquatic Animal Protection Act 1961
- Ramsar Convention 1971
- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage 1972
- CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora 1975
- Convention on Biological Diversity 1992

*II.4. continued*

<p>Describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organisations that have management authority over the property as well as of the arrangements that are in place for the coordination of their actions:</p> <p>The property is directly under the administration of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation. Its line ministry is the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation.</p> <p>The RNA battalion and its 3 companies are under the command of Lieutenant Colonel who is under the Ministry of Defence through its Directorate of the National Parks and Reserves. The protection function of the park is conducted under a close coordination between the Chief Warden and the Lieutenant Colonel. At the central level, the Director General of the DNPWC and the head of Directorate of the National Parks and Reserves communicate on a regular basis.</p> <p>KMTNC has its own administration with its headquarters in Kathmandu and the field office in Sauraha. Both the offices keep in contact with the DNPWC and the RCNP respectively. KMTNC operates its research and other activities on the basis of agreements with the DNPWC.</p> <p>The Department of Forests is responsible for the cases/actions outside the boundary of the park and the buffer zone. The two departments operating under the same Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MFSC) complement their actions in the field.</p> <p>In case of the tourism entrepreneurs, the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, and the Nepal Tourism Board are the line agencies. There is an association of the hotels in Chitwan. The association directly communicates with the chief warden of the park.</p> <p>The office of the Buffer Zone Management Committee is housed in the park headquarters at Kasara. The Management Committee and its user committees are elected for 5 years term. The 37 user committee offices are based in the respective field sites. Upon the instruction of the DNPWC/MFSC on the basis of the Buffer Zone Management Guidelines 1999, the number of user committees will be reduced to 21 in the next election scheduled in 2003. The article 4 and sub-article (2) of the guidelines states as follows:</p> <p>“4. Arrangement of Unit Division</p> <p>(1) While making unit division in accordance with rules 4 (1) and 4 (2), social, geographical, natural resource of such area and conservation biodiversity should be the basis as well as the following issues are to be considered.</p> <p>(2) While dividing the buffer zone into units with due consideration on the issues mentioned in sub-section (1), the unit division should be made with 21 at the most in a buffer zone.”</p> <p>As stipulated in the Buffer Zone Management Regulations, Chief Warden serves as a member–secretary of the Buffer Zone Management Committee.</p>	033
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).



Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>The office of the RCNP is manned with the following posts at present:</p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Chief Warden</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Assistant Warden</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Assistant Veterinary Doctor</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Rangers</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>Overseer</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Veterinary Assistant</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Administrative Assistant</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>Accountant</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Storekeeper</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>Sub Accountant</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Senior Game Scouts</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>Priest</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Game Scouts</td><td>79</td></tr> <tr><td>Helpers</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Drivers</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Boat driver</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Administrative Sub Assistant</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>Assistant Storekeeper</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Chief of Elephant Staff</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>Elephant keepers</td><td>128</td></tr> <tr><td><b>Total staff members</b></td><td><b>278</b></td></tr> </table>	Chief Warden	1	Assistant Warden	4	Assistant Veterinary Doctor	1	Rangers	18	Overseer	1	Veterinary Assistant	1	Administrative Assistant	3	Accountant	1	Storekeeper	9	Sub Accountant	1	Senior Game Scouts	19	Priest	1	Game Scouts	79	Helpers	2	Drivers	2	Boat driver	2	Administrative Sub Assistant	3	Assistant Storekeeper	1	Chief of Elephant Staff	1	Elephant keepers	128	<b>Total staff members</b>	<b>278</b>	
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<p>Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed:</p> <p>Property ( )</p> <p>Regional ( )</p> <p><b>National (√)</b></p> <p>Other (please describe):</p> <p>In overall, the property is managed at the national level that is under the direct supervision of the DNPWC under MFSC. The buffer zone user committees/groups are given responsibilities to locally manage some patches of forests as community forests in the buffer zone.</p> <p>Similarly the RCNP has been identified as a pivotal area under the broader vision of landscape level management and biological corridors connecting the protected areas (such as the Terai Arc Landscape linking 11 protected areas in Nepal and India). Such landscape level activities included rhino translocation from RCNP to the Royal Bardia National Park and the Royal Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve; release of crocodiles reared in RCNP in the rivers like Narayani, Karnali and Babai; monitoring of tigers, wild elephants, migratory birds and aquatic animals; and antipoaching operations.</p>	034																																										
<p>Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly responsible for the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the property:</p> <p>Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation PO Box 860 Babar Mahal, Kathmandu Tel: ++ 977 1 220912 Fax: ++ 977 1 227675 Email: <a href="mailto:dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np">dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np</a></p>	035																																										

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*II.4. continued*

<p>Is it necessary to revise the administrative and management arrangements for the property? (√) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, explain why this is the case:</p> <p>The three main revisions to be made in the administrative and management for the property are as follows:</p> <p>i. Reorganising the number of buffer zone user committees: Similarly, the number of units in the buffer zone will be limited to 21 as per the Article 4 (1) and 4 (2) of the Buffer Zone Management Guidelines. Currently, there are 37 units.</p> <p>ii. Upgrading the post of the chief warden: Considering the present challenges and issues such as expanding responsibilities of buffer zone management and the continuous threats of poaching and increasing activities of tourism, the post of the chief warden is proposed to be upgraded to a director level.</p> <p>iii. Appointment of environmental inspectors: Considering the increasing level of pollution in the bordering rivers around the park, the chief warden has suggested that environmental inspectors should be fielded in Chitwan.</p>	<p>036</p> <p>037</p>
<p>Is there a management plan for the property? (√) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please summarise, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when:</p> <p>The first management plan for the period of 1975-1979 contained 7 main components such as management for conservation, management for research, management for education, management for recreation, estate management, administration, records/reports. It has also prescribed for the east west extension from 544 sq km to 932 sq km.</p> <p>The recent management plan for the period 2001-2005 was approved by the government on November 29, 2001 (Mangsir 14, 2058 BS). An executive summary is as follows:</p> <p><i>Introduction and background</i></p> <p>RCNP is an important habitat for a large number of endangered mammals like One horned Rhinoceros, Royal; Bengal Tiger, Asiatic Elephant, sloth Bear, Gaur and a number of birds like the Giant Hornbill, Bengal florican, lesser florican, and reptiles like the Gharial and the Mugger crocodiles. The park has over seven types of forests, six types of grasslands, three main rivers systems, a number of oxbow lakes and wetlands which support 50 species of mammals, 526 species of birds, 49 species of reptiles and amphibians and 120 species of fishes. Floral diversity encompasses over 600 species of which 50 are grasses, 16 orchids and 73 ferns. A complete inventory of biological diversity in RCNP has not yet been</p>	<p>038</p> <p>039</p>

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accomplished. Whatever little is known today is enough to indicate that there is not another Chitwan in the world, and it needs to be protected.

RCNP provides a natural linkage to the Mahabharat range on its north, the Siwaliks hills and the Terai forests towards the south and the Parsa Wildlife Reserve in the east. The Terai of Chitwan bordered with Indian territory making the transboundary linkage with the Valmiki Tiger Sanctuary, Udaipur Sanctuary and Sohagibarwa Sanctuary. The contiguous surface area of these five protected areas makes it one of the largest protected area over 2000 sq km in the Indian sub-continent.

RCNP is the last remnant of Nepal's glorious game sanctuary where 120 tigers, 38 rhinoceros and a hoard of bears, boars and deer were amassed in a single hunting event just over 60 years ago. The RCNP is also a World Heritage Site of Nepal. Tourism in RCNP was started by Tiger Tops was back in 1962 from a few individuals which has now grown up to over 100,000 visitors annually. RCNP has thus developed a noticeable growing alliance between conservation and tourism where the economics of tourism have become central in the overall development of the area. Declared in 1973 as the first national park of Nepal, the park is managed by the DNPWC with active support of the Royal Nepal Army.

Main issues of the park management remain to be human pressure for natural resources (thatch grass, firewood, logs, NTFPs etc), crop and livestock depredation by wildlife in the park vicinity, poaching of animals for rhino horns and tiger bones, livestock grazing, unplanned growth of tourism and associated infrastructures, pollution of water courses by increasing number of industries (distilleries, beer factories, bottlers, steel factory and paper mill), negative impacts of infrastructure development (Rapti Bridge and Dhruba Bankatta postal road, 33 KV high tension line between Dhriva - Bankatta, East Rapti Irrigation Project and Vaisalotan Hydroelectric Dam), and resettlement of Padampur village to Saguntole and so on. Issues related to scientific research and monitoring have not yet been adequately addressed to strengthen the management and to broaden its knowledge base. The RCNP has a buffer of 35 Village Development Committees and 2 Municipalities covering 766.1 sq km of area in the park vicinity. Progressive mechanism for resolving parks and people conflict and also for community development have been developed in recent years. The management plan has therefore aimed to deal with the park management and the buffer zone management in the holistic approach for maintaining the RCNP ecosystem for sustainable biodiversity conservation.

#### *Rationale of Management plan*

Overall goal is to maintain RCNP ecosystem for sustainable biodiversity conservation.

The goal of park management is to conserve and enhance the unique representative biodiversity of the area with the support of the local and global communities. The park management has been prescribed under a set of 17 specific objectives and 16 program components to ensure adequate skilled human resources, infrastructure and logistics necessary for habitat and species conservation.

The goal of buffer zone management is to develop CBOs for forging government community partnership for self sufficient supply of forest resources in the buffer

zone and conservation of biodiversity in and around the park. The buffer zone management has been prescribed under a set of 17 specific objectives and 17 program components to ensure people's participation in resource management and community development contributing to biodiversity conservation in and around the park.

The RCNP is envisioned as an outstanding landscape managed primarily for biodiversity conservation and secondarily for recreational tourism with people's participation for a significant contribution in national economy.

The management plan is guided by the policy statement enshrined in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, IUCN 1994 system of PA, National 5 year Plan, Master Plan for the Forestry Sector 1988 for biodiversity conservation through user group participation.

The overall management approach is to prepare an integrated management plan of RCNP and the buffer zone through a participatory process and encompassing the area on ecosystem basis as well as to reinvigorate existing framework and reinvestigate new opportunities for international cooperation in management, research, training, education, information sharing, community development and awareness.

The major outputs from the implementation of this plan result in better coordination, increase in endangered species, ecotourism development, scientific land use and zoning, MIS establishment, sustainable human resources development, adoption of alternative energy sources, income generation enhancement, forest resources developed in buffer zone area and loss caused by wildlife reduced considerably.

#### *Park management*

The major park management prescriptions are as follows:

- Delineate the park into 3 management zones i. Core zone, ii. Utility zone, and iii. Management facility zone. Develop strict code of conducts for each zone.
- Regulate the use and management of three major habitats (grasslands, forest lands and wetlands) on the basis of periodic inventory and monitoring. Invasive species of plants and animals should be strictly controlled.
- Prepare specific action plans for Nepal's protected wildlife species; designate habitat corridors keeping in view with transboundary cooperation and collaboration.
- Strengthen antipoaching units through public support and technical back up; initiate joint patrolling system (armed guards, park staff and buffer zone people) and improve patrolling accesses.
- In view of the impacts of ever growing tourism, strict measures are to be taken immediately. Some of the recommended steps are summarised as following:
  - Review terms and conditions of concessionaire hotels and other provisions inside the park. Reduce pressures on park environment by restricting activities within utility zone, prescribing practical guides and codes of conduct, closing the park during monsoon season, adhering to the prescribed limit of guest numbers per day, and introduce scientific system for monitoring tourist visitation impacts (natural and socio-economical).

- Prepare a long term comprehensive plan for tourism development in RCNP.
- Establish a conservation education system to promote informal education and awareness programmes for local stakeholders as well as park visitors. Interpretative facilities (Sauraha and Kasara) should be upgraded and broadened.
- Harmonise park administrative sectors with those of buffer zone sectors for effective coordination with buffer zone activities.
- Improve living conditions for domesticated elephants and Hattisar staff providing better/additional facilities. Introduce innovate schemes such as introducing insurance policy for elephants and their staff and operational guidelines for management.
- Prepare standards and guidelines for physical constructions (roads, trails, buildings etc)
- Establish a multi disciplinary committee for research prioritisation, research protocol development and information management through modern information technology and database. Studies and researches should be linked closely with monitoring of incidences like poaching, illegal harvest of resources, crop/livestock depredation, wildlife encounter and so on.
- Park management should ensure inter sectoral linkages and coordination with various line agencies, NGOs and local public besides other stake holders especially in the field of tourist operation.
- Park management should regularly review the human resources development aspect and provide opportunities for academic pursuits and specialised training.
- Park management should adopt a sound system of monitoring and evaluation of wildlife habitat and species.

#### *Buffer zone management*

The major buffer zone management prescriptions are as follows:

- Strengthen institutional capacity of the Buffer Zone Management Committee and CBOs to handle the range of issues relating to conservation and community development
- Demarcate the buffer zone into 4 administrative sectors corresponding to the park administration sectors (Sauraha, Kasara, Amaltati and Bagai).
- Maintain grasslands for productive use and introduce biological enhancement programmes in certain portion of forests.
- Promote recreational use of wetlands and wise use of their biotic resources.
- Promote community forestry and private forests for sustainable harvest of biomass as well as for enhancing nature tourism (wildlife watching, bird watching etc).
- Promote alternate energy to reduce pressure on forests and grasslands.
- Restore/develop potential wildlife habitats, corridors and wildlife orphanage as tourism assets and conservation support.
- Develop culling system of excess wild animal through definitive scientific information and monitoring.
- Provide training and technical services to encourage cash crops which are unpalatable to wild animals and birds.
- Preserve the cultural heritage sites and popularise their heritage value through

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>awareness programmes, performing arts and fine arts of indigenous cultures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intensify conservation awareness through outreach programmes, excursion tours and exchange programmes, audio-visual teaching aids, conservation fairs (<i>Batabaran Saamrachhan Mela</i>), community journals (<i>Samudayik Bhitte Patrika</i>), and also through local cultural events.</li> <li>• Devise programmes that raise awareness and understanding as regards to the interrelationship between socio-economic development and conservation of nature.</li> <li>• Coordinate with HMG program, NGO activities, private sector for technical and financial support to establish and sustain community based micro/green enterprises.</li> <li>• Strengthen women and special target groups for their participation in user groups and user committees and in the process of benefit sharing of the buffer zone development programme.</li> <li>• Establish scientific research and participatory monitoring and evaluation system for balancing development and conservation in the buffer zone.</li> </ul> <p><i>Budget</i></p> <p>To objectively manage the park a total budget of Rs 623.3 million (equivalent to US\$8.9 million) based on year 2000 price has been estimated for a period of 5 years. Of the total budget, park management requires 56.9% and buffer zone management 43.1%. There is evidently a large deficit of about Rs 359.7 million (58%) between the budget estimated by this plan and allocation from HMG. Therefore, priority has to be given for reviewing the current pattern of budget disbursement by HMG and DNPWC must seek external support in implementing some of the program activities.</p> <p>Following is the budget structure for 5 year plan period (Rupees in millions):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="303 1276 1276 1456"> <thead> <tr> <th>Component</th> <th>Total</th> <th>Year 1</th> <th>Year 2</th> <th>Year 3</th> <th>Year 4</th> <th>Year 5</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Park</td> <td>355</td> <td>83</td> <td>79</td> <td>73</td> <td>64</td> <td>56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Buffer Zone</td> <td>268</td> <td>63</td> <td>60</td> <td>55</td> <td>48</td> <td>42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>623</td> <td>146</td> <td>140</td> <td>128</td> <td>112</td> <td>97</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Component	Total	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Park	355	83	79	73	64	56	Buffer Zone	268	63	60	55	48	42	Total	623	146	140	128	112	97	
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<p>Please report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for the future, to preserve the values described under item II.2 (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and management arrangements, implementing or drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.):</p> <p><i>Legislation</i></p> <p>In order to complement the existing wildlife acts and regulations, DNPWC has drafted out a bill for the effective implementation of CITES in the country to control illegal trade in wildlife and its derivatives. Similarly, DNPWC has proposed for the 5<sup>th</sup> amendment of the NPWC Act 1973 to incorporate wildlife farming and international conventions. The draft bills are under scrutiny by the Ministry of Laws and Justice.</p> <p><i>Rights of way</i></p>	040																												

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>Over the time, different stakeholders are interacting on the issues of broadening the traditional rights of ways especially between the Madi valley connecting the rest of the Chitwan district. This issue will be resolved by allowing traditional rights of way but considering the WHS values of the park.</p> <p><b>Pollution control</b> DNPWC is coordinating with the Ministry of Population and Environment to control the water pollution in the Narayani, and Rapti rivers due to various industries in Chitwan, Makwanpur and Nawalparasi.</p> <p><b>Concessionaires</b> As stipulated in the management plan and the draft tourism plan, the park administration is in the process of reviewing the status of concessionaires.</p> <p><b>Implementation of management plan</b> The management plan has been approved. The park administration is implementing it on priority basis as per the availability of funds.</p> <p><b>Finalisation and approval of tourism plan</b> The park administration and the DNPWC are in a process of finalising the tourism plan.</p>	
<p>Please provide detailed information, particularly in cases where changes have occurred since the inscription of the property, on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Conservation</u> Make reference to all major interventions at the property and describe its present state of conservation:</li> </ul> <p><b>Buffer zone</b> The buffer zone implementation since March 1997 was the major intervention to protect the core area of the park through community based natural resource management in the periphery. The most conspicuous intervention of buffer zone promoted encouraging results in mobilising public participation. The local inhabitants have turned from foes to friends of the park in about 25 years of time.</p> <p><b>Government administration</b> The park administration is fully operational with a senior conservation officer as a chief warden. The office of the chief warden and the other field offices are fully established. They have a strength of 46 domestic elephants, 5 vehicles, communication network with a base stations, hand-held sets and telephones, buildings (10 at Kasara, 4 at Sauraha). The Chief Warden administers the park with a network of 4 sectors and 56 guard posts (See box #029).</p> <p><b>Protection by the Royal Nepal Army</b> Since 1975, the presence of the Royal Nepal Army (RNA) has been one of the major factors for the protection of the property. The RNA operates its activities within the boundary of the park in coordination and cooperation with the park administration. Under the command of the Lieutenant Colonel, the RNA battalion is</p>	041

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<p>stationed at the Kasara headquarters and 3 companies at Sauraha, Bankatta and Nandapur. Since November 2001, its network of 32 posts has been confined into 11 posts of which RNA operates 4 posts at Bhimpur, Gajapur, Nandapur and Dumaria, and the RNA and the park administration jointly operate 7 posts at Kasara, Bhimle, Khagendra malli, Sauraha, Bankatta, Laukhani and Bagai. The strength of the RNA in the park is 792 men.</p> <p><b>Habitat management</b></p> <p>The annual activities of habitat management include grassland management 50ha/year since 1996, and rehabilitation of 2 wetland sites per year, plantation and habitat rehabilitation in the buffer zone, relocation of human settlements such as Padampur village.</p> <p>As a part of the park management the physical infrastructures have been developed, such as over 300 km roads, 50 bridges, 4 watchtowers, visitors centre and souvenir shop at Sauraha, and a museum at Kasara.</p> <p><b>Species management:</b></p> <p>The park has carried out dozens of significant research works (See box #063 below). The most significant species related works are translocation of 76 rhinoceros (72 to Bardia and 4 to Shuklaphanta). Of them 38 rhinos were translocated during 1986-96, and the rest 38 after 1997. The rhino population has significantly increased from below 100 in 1960s to 446 to 466 in 1994, and 544 in 2000.</p> <p>The tiger monitoring has been a regular work in the park. The trend of tiger population is also very encouraging. The total population of tiger has increased from 46 in 1977 to 110 in 1995.</p> <p>Due to conservation efforts, the population of terrestrial endangered species has improved. The population of sloth bear is 200-250 excluding cubs, and that of Gaur is 300 in the park. However, the status of aquatic species has become bleak. The sightings of Gangetic dolphins have become rare in the Narayani river. Although the population of <i>Gharial</i> crocodile was close to extinction, the breeding effort has revived its population. The <i>Gharial</i> breeding centre was established in 1978 at Kasara. Already over 500 captive bred <i>Gharials</i> have been released into various rivers of Nepal.</p> <p>Elephant breeding has been a successful program. The Khorsor centre has been established in 1985 with the 16 elephants received from India in an exchange for 4 rhinoceros from Nepal. At present there are 20 elephants.</p>	
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**II.4. continued**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Ownership</u>                  Make reference to all major changes in ownership of the property and describe the present state of ownership:                   The ultimate ownership of the property remains with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.</li> </ul>	042
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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<p>The buffer zone policy adopted since 1993 and implemented since 1997 gives special rights to the buffer zone user committees/groups and the Buffer Zone Management Committee for the natural resources for management and utilisation.</p> <p>The 7 concessionaires operating tourism activities in the park own their buildings established and equipment. They also get special privilege to use the park resources as per the contract. Their total capacity is 420 beds. They maintain 68 elephants for their guests.</p> <p>KMTNC has established a complex of 1 concrete building and 9 wooden buildings equipped with GIS and other facilities at Sauraha research station. They also manage their own elephant stable (including 10 elephants).</p>	
	<p>Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:</p> <p>The Chief Warden heads park administration with the headquarters at Kasara. There are four sectors each headed by Assistant Wardens except at Kasara that is under the direct supervision of the Chief Warden. The sectors are Sauraha, Bagai Madi and Amaltari.</p> <p>The Kasara sector under the Chief Warden supervises Crocodile Breeding Centre, Planning Unit, Administration Unit and Finance Unit for the park. The Kasara sector also supervises 8 guard posts.</p> <p>The Sauraha sector supervises Elephant Breeding Centre, Elephant stable, Technical and Administration Unit with veterinary service. The Sauraha sector supervises 9 guard posts.</p> <p>The Bagai Madi sector supervises 8 guard posts, and the Amaltari sector 10 guard posts.</p> <p>There are 10 other posts not shown in the organisational chart (See box #029).</p> <p>The office of the RCNP is manned with 278 positions. Of are 6 conservation professionals, 20 mid level conservation technicians, 99 park scouts, 129 elephant staff, the rest 22 administrative staff (See box # 033).</p> <p>Since 1975, the presence of the Royal Nepal Army (RNA) has been a major factor for the protection of the property. The RNA operates its activities within the boundary of the park in coordination and cooperation with the park administration. Under the command of the Lieutenant Colonel, the RNA battalion is stationed at the Kasara headquarters and 3 companies at Sauraha, Bankatta and Nandapur. Since November 2001, its network of 32 posts has been confined into 11 posts of which RNA operates 4 posts at Bhimpur, Gajapur, Nandapur and Dumaria, and the RNA and the park administration jointly operate 7 posts at Kasara, Bhimle, Khagendra malli, Sauraha, Bankatta, Laukhani and Bagai. The strength of the RNA in the park is 792 men.</p> <p>Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property? YES / <b>NO</b> (✓)</p> <p>If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?</p> <p>As also mentioned above (See box #037), considering the present challenges and issues such as expanding responsibilities of buffer zone management and the</p>	<p>043</p> <p>044</p> <p>045</p>

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<p>continuous threats of poaching and increasing activities of tourism, the following improvements have to be made for adequate management for the property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade the post of chief warden from the current level of a senior conservation officer (Gazetted Class II) to a director level (Gazetted Class I)</li> <li>• Recruit two senior conservation officers (Gazetted Class II) each responsible for the park management and buffer zone management to be hired</li> <li>• Recruit the vacant post of conservation officer</li> <li>• Recruit 4 community forestry officers each to be deputed to the 4 sectors of buffer zone</li> <li>• Recruit 21 rangers each to be attached with the 21 user committees</li> <li>• Recruit proportionate number of scouts and administration assistants.</li> <li>• Arrange for environmental inspectors (to be responsible to the Ministry of Population and Environment)</li> </ul>	
	<p>Does the staff need additional training?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?</p> <p>The followings are the training needs at present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Antipoaching operation</i> (the field staff need state-of-the-art training in intelligence on a regular basis to overcome poachers who come up with new techniques of killing animals.)</li> <li>• <i>Habitat management and research techniques</i> (the field staff need orientation and hands on training in the recent management techniques on habitat management as well as research techniques)</li> <li>• <i>Community development and conservation awareness</i> (to respond the needs of the buffer zone user committees/groups and the management committee. The buffer zone residents are very demanding as they are also exposed to open market and have strong desire to help protect the park.)</li> <li>• <i>Information technology</i> (to enhance the planning, monitoring, reporting system of the park. The DNPWC has developed a digital system of monitoring, however, the field staff in RCNP need orientation training to cope with the technology.)</li> <li>• <i>Tourism</i> (Tourism is the major source of income of the park. In 2001/02, tourism brought Rs 38,021,352 that were nearly 91% of the total park revenue.)</li> <li>• <i>Elephant management</i> (Elephants are the major vehicles for patrolling in the terrain where no other machinery vehicles are appropriate. In 2001/02, they earned Rs 5,429,100 that is 13% of the total revenue.)</li> </ul>	<p>046</p> <p>047</p>

*II.4. continued*

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Describe the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:	048																																				
<p>His Majesty's Government is the main source of funding for the regular administration and protection of the park. The expenditure of the park has increased from less than Rs10 million in 1995-96 to over Rs14 million in 2001-02. The administrative expenditures fluctuated between 60% and 84% of the total expenditure. The remaining 40% to 16% expenditures were spent on development works such as buildings, roads etc.</p>																																					
Expenditure in Development and Administration of RCNP (1995-2003) (Rs in million)																																					
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Fiscal year</th> <th>Development</th> <th>Administration</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1995-96</td> <td>3.8</td> <td>6.0</td> <td>9.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1996-97</td> <td>3.6</td> <td>5.4</td> <td>9.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1997-98</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>5.6</td> <td>7.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1998-99</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>6.4</td> <td>8.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1999-2000</td> <td>1.7</td> <td>8.5</td> <td>10.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2000-01</td> <td>2.4</td> <td>9.2</td> <td>11.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2001-02</td> <td>3.1</td> <td>11.5</td> <td>14.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2002-03</td> <td>2.8</td> <td>11.3</td> <td>14.1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Fiscal year	Development	Administration	Total	1995-96	3.8	6.0	9.8	1996-97	3.6	5.4	9.0	1997-98	1.5	5.6	7.1	1998-99	1.8	6.4	8.2	1999-2000	1.7	8.5	10.2	2000-01	2.4	9.2	11.6	2001-02	3.1	11.5	14.6	2002-03	2.8	11.3	14.1	
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(US\$ 1 = Rs 77.75 on December 27, 2002)																																					
<p>The expenditure of the Royal Nepal Army in the protected areas is Rs420 million in 2002-03. The portion of the budget for the RCNP is approximately 24% of the total RNA budget for the protected areas. The total government expenditure including RNA component for the RCNP in the year 2002-03 was approximately Rs113 million. Details of RNA budget are as follows:</p>																																					
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Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property?	049																																				
YES / <b>NO</b> (✓)																																					
If NOT, describe the financial resources that would be required for the management of the property:	050																																				
<p>Given the country's current situation of economic recession, the park gets subsistence budget to operate the basic programs. Already in the financial year 2001/02, due to budget cut the park administration dropped the following three activities that were otherwise included in the plan:</p>																																					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conservation education (public coordination meeting, school program, world environment day),</li> <li>• custody house construction, and</li> <li>• drinking water scheme.</li> </ul>																																					
<p>Similarly, management of several roads and bridges have been left out from maintenance due to lack of funds. Computers and accessories are not in full function. The elephant stables have subsistence facilities. The grassland and wetland habitats are facing ecological problems like tree encroachment and weed growth.</p>																																					
The park needs financial resources in the following areas:																																					

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure development and maintenance</li> <li>• Grasslands and wetlands management</li> <li>• Information technology (equipment and training)</li> <li>• Improvement in visitors centre/museum</li> <li>• Elephant stable improvement</li> </ul> <p>As estimated in the Management Plan, the total budget required for the 5 years (2001-2005) is Rs 623.3 million, and there is large deficit of Rs359.7 million (58%) between the estimated budget and government allocation.</p>	
	<p>Indicate International Assistance from which the property has benefited: At present, the park has received financial funds from the following sources World Heritage Fund: for the establishment and improvement of a visitor centre at Sauraha, and a museum at Kasara</p>	051
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNESCO International Campaign: NA</li> </ul>	052
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National and/or regional projects of UNDP, the World Bank or other agencies:  UNDP/United Nations Foundation/Global Environmental Facility (GEF) through KMTNC: Tiger/Rhino Conservation Project</li> </ul> <p>ADB provided loan amounting to Rs 9,647,000 for the period of 3 years (1992-95).</p>	053
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bilateral co-operation: NA</li> </ul>	054
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other assistance:</li> <li>• UNDP assisted Parks and People Program (1995-2001) and Participatory Conservation Program (May 2002 – April 2004)</li> <li>• US National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Save the Tiger Fund through KMTNC: Chitwan Habitat Restoration Project initiated since July 2002</li> <li>• WWF: antipoaching operations, and some grasslands management</li> <li>• Zoological Society of London: Wildlife and Domestic Veterinary Project (1998-2001)</li> <li>• ITNC: reward money for antipoaching operations</li> </ul>	055
	<p>Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness:</p> <p>The park office is equipped with 3 sets of computer and a printer. The facility has been limited to wordprocessing, spreadsheet and powerpoint presentation.</p>	056

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

**II.4. continued**

	<p>Are you using (multiple indications are possible):</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PC (✓) Apple ( ) Mainframe ( )</p> <p>Please, give the number of available computers: 3 sets</p> <p>Does an operational access to the Internet exist? <span style="float: right;">YES / NO (✓)</span></p> <p>Due to incompatibility of local telephone system, the intranet and email although installed by DNPWC are not in operation.</p>	<p>057</p> <p>058</p> <p>059</p>
	<p>Is e-mail used for daily correspondence? <span style="float: right;">YES / NO (✓)</span></p>	<p>060</p>
	<p>Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site? <span style="float: right;">(✓) YES / NO</span></p> <p>If YES, what software do you have and how is the GIS used?  ARCVIEW 3.1 has been installed, but not in operation</p>	<p>061</p> <p>062</p>
	<p>List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site:</p> <p>During 1970s and 1980s, majority of the research works was concentrated on the species studies. In the recent years when the buffer zone has been conceived, research works have focussed also on socio-economic aspects. Altogether there are about 50 major research works of which some are still continuing. The following list is compiled in a chronological order:</p> <p>Laurie, W Andrew. PhD research, University of Edinburgh, Ecology and Behaviour of Onehorned Rhinoceros. 1972-1974, 3 field seasons</p> <p>Tamang, Kirti Man. PhD research, Smithsonian Institute/Michigan State University, Dynamics of Tiger Prey Population in Royal Chitwan National Park. 1973-1976, 4 field seasons</p> <p>Seidensticker, John. Post Graduate research, Smithsonian Institute, Ecological Separation between Tigers and Leopards 1973-1974, 4 months</p> <p>Sunquist, Mel. PhD research, Smithsonian Institute/ University of Minnesota, The Social Organization of Tigers. 1974-1976, 2 field seasons</p> <p>Smith, JL David. PhD research, Smithsonian Institute/ University of Minnesota, Dispersal, Communication, and Conservation Strategies for the Tigers. 1977-1980, 4 field seasons</p> <p>Mishra, Hemanta R. PhD research, HMG/University of Edinburgh, The Ecology and Behaviour of Chital, <i>Axis axis</i>. 1978-1981, 3 field seasons</p> <p>Smith, JL David and McDougal Charles, Smithsonian Institute/ University of Minnesota, Scent Marketing in Free Ranging Tigers. 1979-1982, 3 field seasons</p> <p>McDougal Charles and Smith, JL David. ITNC/ University of Minnesota, Tiger Monitoring in Chitwan and other Protected Areas. 1980 ongoing</p>	<p>063</p>

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>Dhungel, Sanat K., PhD research, Smithsonian Institute/ University of Montana, The Ecology and Behaviour of Hog Deer, <i>Axis porcinus</i>. 1982-1983, 2 field seasons</p> <p>Dinerstein, Eric. Post Graduate research, Smithsonian Institute, Ecology of Rhinos and the Influence of Rhinos in landscape Processes 1984-1987, 2 field seasons</p> <p>Joshi, Anup, Msc research, KMTNC/Tribhuvan University, the Role of the Greater One-horned Rhinoceros in the Ecology and Dispersal of the Weed, <i>Cassia tora</i> in Chitwan valley 1984-1986, 2 field seasons</p> <p>Jnawali, Shanta R. MSc research, KMTNC/Tribhuvan University, Diet Analysis of the Greater One-horned Rhinoceros by Faecal Analysis 1984-1986, 2 field seasons</p> <p>Lehmkul, John, PhD research, University of Washington, Ecology of a South Asian Tall Grass Community 1985-1987, 2 field seasons</p> <p>Maskey, Tirtha Man PhD research. HMG/University of Florida, Movement and Survival of Captive reared Gharial (<i>Gavialis gangeticus</i>) in the Narayani river, Nepal 1987-1988, 1 field season</p> <p>Smith, JL David, McDougal Charles, and Joshi AR. HMG/ITNC/KMTNC/University of Minnesota, Survey of Tiger Distribution in Nepal 1987-1997, 2 months each year</p> <p>Jnawali, Shanta R. MS research, KMTNC/Agricultural University of Norway, Conflict between Rhinos and People Adjacent to the Park Emphasising on Crop Damage and Local Harassment 1988-1989, 1 field season</p> <p>Smith, JL David. University of Minnesota, Small Carnivore Survey 1988-1990, 3 months each year</p> <p>Hulbert, IAR. HMG/FAO/University of Edinburgh, Tourism and Waterfowl A Potential Conflict 1988, 1 field season</p> <p>Sharma, Uday R. PhD research, HMG/University of Arizona, Opark-People Interaction 1989-1991, 1 field season</p> <p>Joshi, Anup R. MS research, KMTNC/Agricultural University of Norway, Social Organisation of the Palm Civet, <i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i> 1988-1990, 1 field seasons</p> <p>Mishra, Hemanta R. and Margaret Jefferies. Royal Chitwan National Park: World Heritaeg of Nepal. Seattle, USA: The Mountaineers in association with David Bateman, 1991.</p> <p>Jnawali, Shanta R. PhD research, KMTNC/Agricultural University of Norway, Population and Ecology of Greater One-horned Rhinoceros (<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>) with particular emphasis on Habitat Preference, Food Ecology and ranging Behaviour of a Reintroduced Population 1990-1992, 3 field seasons</p> <p>Joshi, Anup R. PhD research, KMTNC/ University of Minnesota, Factor Limiting the Abundance and Distribution of a Tropical Myrmecophage: the Sloth Bear, <i>Melursus ursinus</i> 1990-1993, 3 field seasons</p> <p>Nepal, Sanjaya K., MS research, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand, Resolving the Park-People Conflict: Socio-Economic and Environmental Considerations 1990-1991, 1 field season</p> <p>Upadhyay, Gopal P., MS research, HMG/Lincoln University, New Zealand, Charactersitics and Satisfaction of International Visitors. 1992, 1 field season</p> <p>Yonzon, PB et al. HMG/WWF Nepal Program/KMTNC/Resources Nepal, Count Rhino 1994, 1 field season</p> <p>Peet, N., AR Watkinson, DJ Bell and K Brown. HMG/Darwin Initiative for the Surviuval of Species, East Anglia University, UK Research on the Management of Tall Grasslands for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Utilisation</p>	
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

<p>1994-1996, 3 field seasons</p> <p>Banskota, K., B Sharma, U Sharma and A Rijal. KMTNC/WWF. Royal Chitwan National Park after Twenty Years: An Assessment of Values, Threats and Opportunities. 1994-1996, 2 field seasons</p> <p>Chapagain, Durga Nidhi. MS Thesis, Central Department of Zoology, Tribhuvan University, Insect Diversity. March 1998-October 1999</p> <p>Shrestha, MK. PhD research, HMG/University of Minnesota/National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Biodiversity Assessment of Terai with Focus on Tigers and Other Large Mammals June 1998-ongoing</p> <p>Poudyal, Sushil. MS Thesis, Central Department of Zoology, Tribhuvan University, Ethnobotanical Study of Royal Chitwan National Park: An Approach Toward Reducing Park Dependency. May 1999- ongoing</p> <p>Pokharel, Bishnu Prasad. BS Thesis, Patan Campus, Tribhuvan University, Development of Participatory Model for Fund Distribution and Benefit Sharing. April –October 1999</p> <p>Kayastha, Pankaj Kumar. BS thesis, Institute of Forestry, Effectiveness of Training Program on Income Generation Launched by Park and People Program in the Buffer Zone of RCNP. April 1999 – ongoing</p> <p>Bhattarai, Thakur Prasad. BS thesis, Institute of Forestry, Livestock Depredation and Human Harassment by Wildlife and Its Control. May-October 1999</p> <p>Shrestha, Anil. BS thesis, Institute of Forestry, Study of Bengal Florican on Grassland of RCNP. 1999 – ongoing</p> <p>Yonzon, PB et al. HMG/WWF Nepal Program/KMTNC/Resources Nepal, Count Rhino 2000, 1 field season</p> <p>MFSC/DNPWC/RCNP. Royal Chitwan National and Buffer Zone Management Plan 2001-2005. DNPWC/MFSC, UNDP, Parks and People Program September 2000.</p> <p>Gurung, H, Shrestha; PM, Gurung; GS, Shrestha, PB (eds). Royal Chitwan National and Buffer Zone Tourism Plan 2001-2005. DNPWC/MFSC, WWF Nepal Program March 2001 (unpublished document)</p> <p>Misra, Nilambur. MS Thesis, Agriculture University of Norway, Study on Gharial and Maggar Crocodiles, November 2001 – January 2002</p> <p>Joshi, Mahendra Raj and Indra Kumar Shrestha. Organisation and Management Survey of the DNPWC covering the RCNP. July-August 2002</p> <p>Kunwar, Narayan Nath. MS Thesis, Central Department of Zoology, Tribhuvan University, Behavioural Study of Gharial at Gharial Conservation Project, Kasara. October 2002- ongoing</p> <p>Gairhe, Janma Jaya and Lal Prasad Amgai. MS Thesis, Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science, Tribhuvan University, Carbon Sequestration Study. October 2002</p> <p>Cadi, Antoine. Study on Gharials of Nepal. November 2002 – ongoing</p> <p>KMTNC's Biodiversity Conservation Centre has undertaken several significant research and related works in the park since its establishment in 1989. Earlier the centre was known as NECTARI (Nepal Conservation Research and Training Institute) and NCRTC (Nepal Conservation Research and Training Centre). A summary of the works are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medication of over 100 rhinoceros</li><li>• Capture of 15 man-eaters (tigers)</li><li>• Radio collar of tiger, rhino and sloth bears</li><li>• Assisted for 6 PhD dissertations (included in the list above)</li></ul>	
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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Published about 40 research papers</li> <li>• Over 100 students from the Nepal's Institute of Forestry trained in wildlife research</li> <li>• Over 350 local nature guides trained in ecotourism</li> <li>• 616 personnel of DNPWC and RNA trained in park management</li> <li>• 25 community members trained in medicinal herbs</li> <li>• established over 4,300 hectares of community forests</li> </ul> <p>The current research activities of the Biodiversity Conservation Centre are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bird population monitoring</li> <li>• blue bull study and translocation</li> <li>• camera trapping of tigers</li> <li>• crop damage by wildlife</li> <li>• ecotourism study</li> <li>• grassland ecology and management</li> <li>• inventory within community forests</li> <li>• park people conflict</li> <li>• rhino and tiger count</li> <li>• rhino translocation and monitoring</li> <li>• sloth bear study</li> </ul>	
	<p>Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programmes and or facilities:</p> <p>Park staff are primarily assigned for management including elephant breeding, crocodile rearing and releasing, tiger monitoring, rhino translocating, orphan and problem animals handling and other research related works. They assist researchers in field works.</p> <p>The expenditure of the park has increased from less than Rs10 million in 1995-96 to over Rs14 million in 2001-02. The administrative expenditures fluctuated between 60% and 84% of the total expenditure. The remaining 40% to 16% expenditures were spent on development works such as buildings, roads etc. The government budget does not cover for research works. The research activities are in built within the budgets of the projects supported by the donor agencies (See box #048).</p> <p>KMTNC's Biodiversity Conservation Centre is manned with 62 staff members among them are 13 officers. Field technicians assist researchers in field works.</p> <p>Describe how the information / results are disseminated?</p> <p>The park administration and the DNPWC have practised multiple ways of disseminating information to the audience. Some examples are as follows:</p> <p>News release and through spokesperson at the MFSC</p> <p>Journalists are invited at ceremonies and special programs for the dissemination of</p>	<p>064</p> <p>065</p>

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<p>news</p> <p>From time to time, journalists are also invited to visit the park and make independent reporting.</p> <p>The park disseminates its information through the following newsletters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Samrakshan Samacharpatra</i> bi-monthly newsletter in Nepali published by DNPWC since 1980</li> <li>• <i>Wildlife Nepal</i> bi-monthly newsletter in English published by DNPWC since 1988</li> <li>• <i>Prakriti</i> monthly newsletter published by KMTNC headquarters, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur since 1996</li> <li>• <i>Sarasi</i> monthly newsletter in Nepali and English published by Biodiversity Conservation Centre, KMTNC, Sauraha, Chitwan since 1995</li> <li>• Buffer Zone Management Committee published a souvenir in 2000.</li> <li>• Nepal's national radio, Radio Nepal, air "Naso" radio program</li> </ul> <p>The park gets supports from DNPWC's conservation education section for the publication and dissemination of brochures, pamphlets, posters and other educational materials</p> <p>Websites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park information is housed in the DNPWC's website: <a href="http://www.dnpwc.gov.np">www.dnpwc.gov.np</a></li> <li>• The activities of KMTNC's BCC are housed in the KMTNC's website: <a href="http://www.kmtnc.org.np">www.kmtnc.org.np</a></li> <li>• There are other websites also highlight the park.</li> <li>• During special events like rhino translocation, instant updates of websites are arranged.</li> </ul> <p>Meetings are the major platforms for the buffer zone residents to receive and disseminate information in the community.</p> <p>The park disseminates its information and messages through various educational documentary films.</p> <p>The visitor centre at Sauraha and the museum at Kasara are also used for the dissemination of WHS messages to the visitors, students and the public.</p> <p>The tourism entrepreneurs also use the park for the promotion of their business</p>	
	<p>Are there any visitor statistics for the site?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) YES / NO</p>	<p>066</p>

**II.4. continued**

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).



Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>If YES, please summarise the statistics and attach to this report:</p> <p>The statistics reveal that the number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 117,000 within a period of 25 years between 1974-75 and 1999-2000. The decreasing trend in the period from the year 2000 has been attributed mainly to the global turmoil like the Twin Tower incidents of September 11, 2001 and the Afghanistan war. The domestic troubles of Maoists insurgents have been another factor that affected the drop in the visitor number. From the year 2001-02, the number of visitors has been documented as one person for one entry per day.</p>	067																																																																		
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Visitors</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Visitors</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Visitors</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1974-75</td> <td>836</td> <td>1983-84</td> <td>11,774</td> <td>1992-93</td> <td>55,442</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1975-76</td> <td>2,206</td> <td>1984-85</td> <td>14,606</td> <td>1993-94</td> <td>58,994</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1976-77</td> <td>5,021</td> <td>1985-86</td> <td>14,156</td> <td>1994-95</td> <td>64,749</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1977-78</td> <td>5,547</td> <td>1986-87</td> <td>25,440</td> <td>1995-96</td> <td>83,898</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1978-79</td> <td>8,325</td> <td>1987-88</td> <td>38,565</td> <td>1996-97</td> <td>96,062</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1979-80</td> <td>6,290</td> <td>1988-89</td> <td>44,887</td> <td>1997-98</td> <td>104,046</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1980-81</td> <td>12,503</td> <td>1989-90</td> <td>45,602</td> <td>1998-99</td> <td>105,884</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1981-82</td> <td>11,218</td> <td>1990-91</td> <td>43,750</td> <td>1999-2000</td> <td>117,512</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1982-83</td> <td>1,602</td> <td>1991-92</td> <td>55,335</td> <td>2000-01</td> <td>106,254</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>2001-02*</td> <td>58,317</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Visitors	Year	Visitors	Year	Visitors	1974-75	836	1983-84	11,774	1992-93	55,442	1975-76	2,206	1984-85	14,606	1993-94	58,994	1976-77	5,021	1985-86	14,156	1994-95	64,749	1977-78	5,547	1986-87	25,440	1995-96	83,898	1978-79	8,325	1987-88	38,565	1996-97	96,062	1979-80	6,290	1988-89	44,887	1997-98	104,046	1980-81	12,503	1989-90	45,602	1998-99	105,884	1981-82	11,218	1990-91	43,750	1999-2000	117,512	1982-83	1,602	1991-92	55,335	2000-01	106,254					2001-02*	58,317	
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<p>What visitor facilities do you have at the property?</p> <p>The learning and recreational facilities within the park are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitors centre at Sauraha (accommodate around 100 visitors at a time)</li> <li>• Community Souvenir shop</li> <li>• Wildlife museum at Kasara</li> <li>• Crocodile breeding centre at Kasara</li> <li>• Elephant breeding centre at Khorsor</li> <li>• Watch towers at <i>Gaur phanta</i> and Sukhibhar</li> </ul> <p>Infrastructure facilities include 308 km roads network of which 150 km is opened to the visitors for jungle drive and jungle walk. There are 12 vehicles run by the 7 concessionaires. There are 6 major points in the rivers with a total length of 25 km that are open for canoeing facilities. There are communication facilities in the park and the buffer zone. There are two airports (Meghauri and Bharatpur) that can handle middle size aircrafts like Twin Otters and Avros. The park is well connected with the major highways.</p> <p>The 7 concessionaires have maintained a total of 420 beds (60 beds each). They have kept 68 elephants for riding facilities. Similarly, there are 800 beds managed by 60 hotels/lodges at Sauraha, and 220 beds in about 11 hotels/lodges operated in Meghauri, Jagatpur, Ghatgain and Nawalparasi. Similarly, there are 16 elephants kept by private owners, and 10 elephants set aside by the park administration for the purpose of visitors' riding. The Park administration has kept 46 elephants (16 at Sauraha, 2 each at Kasara, Khagendra malli, Bhimle, Amrite and Kujauri, and 20 at Khorsor).</p>	068																																																																		

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*II.4. continued*

<p>What visitor facilities are you in need of?</p> <p>The following facilities need to be developed/improved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve telephone facilities compatible for information technology</li> <li>• Maintenance of roads and bridges in the park</li> <li>• Watchtowers in the park</li> <li>• Signage and interpretative sign posts</li> </ul>	069
<p>Is a public use plan (tourism / visitor management plan) in existence for the property? (√) YES / NO</p>	070
<p>If YES, please summarise, if NO explain if one is needed:</p> <p>A tourism plan has been drafted out in March 2001. The plan is in the process of formal endorsement by the government before implementation. An executive summary of the tourism plan is as follows:</p> <p>The Royal Chitwan National Park presents a case of intricate link between conservation, tourism and development. It is also experiencing a transition in management philosophy from one of “people against park” of the past to “participatory development” of recent. The objective of conservation in the RCNP is negatively affected by both the poverty of surrounding population and increasing tourism pressure. Therefore, the concept of buffer zone has been put into practice with the application of appropriate management regulations. It provides the park authority to devise community development programs compatible with park management by allocating part of the park revenue.</p> <p>Situation analysis of the RCNP and its buffer zone has shown threats to its biodiversity due to natural causes of soil erosion, flood, plant succession and anthropogenic causes of natural resource extraction, over-grazing, industrial pollution, and unregulated tourism. This tourism plan has attempted to address these issues. Tourism needs special focus due to its significance both for conservation and development of the RCNP and its buffer zone. Tourists arrival in the RCNP has recorded a steady growth since its designation as a national park in 1973. The growth rate in the last decade has stabilised around nine percent per annum with 1,05,884 tourists in the year 1998/99. There has been oversupply of beds with accommodation capacity of 1,800 persons operated by more than 60 hotel/lodges including 7 concessionaires.</p> <p>Spatial disparity and seasonal variation are distinct features of tourism flows in the RCNP. Location of most entry points in the northern part of the park with no entry from south, and concentration of 65 percent of lodges at Sauraha have resulted in undercutting in tariff and pressure on environment quality.</p> <p>The RCNP is pre-eminent among protected areas in terms of revenue contributing nearly 82% of the total generation. Moreover, revenue growth from RCNP is three times to that of visitor growth. Park revenue per visitor had uneven trend and there has been only minor shift in the structure of revenue by sources. The contribution</p>	071

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>of tourism sources to the total revenue was significant (over 94%) in 1998/99 indicating tourism as the prime source to sustain the RCNP and buffer zone programs.</p> <p>It is necessary that issues related to conservation and community benefit, along with tourism development, be considered while planning the area's management. Some of the factors that affect conservation objective due to tourism are identified as poor linkage between conservation and tourism, spatial concentration, dependency on park resources, lack of effective institutions and impact monitoring, along with unregulated physical development in the buffer zone. Tourism has not been a strong force in providing benefit to the surrounding people due to the heterogeneous nature of community, poor tourism linkage with local economy, poor rapport of operators with community, and inexperience of buffer zone user committees. There is uncertainty among concessionaires, concentration of lodges at Sauraha, over supply of beds, conflict between concessionaires and operators in the buffer zone, limited tourism activities, and high seasonality.</p> <p>In order to address these multi faced issues relating to conservation, community benefit, and tourism development, six strategy areas are recommended for tourism management. These are institutional arrangement, deconcentration of facilities, regulatory measures, promotional measures, environmental management, and community involvement.</p>	
<p>Indicate how the property's World Heritage values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public (please attach examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-outs and/or the address of a web-page):</p> <p>The park administration has been communicating the World Heritage values of the park with the residents, visitors and the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letterhead carries a WHS emblem disseminating the value through every correspondence of the park</li> <li>• The signboards in various sites clearly indicate the WHS</li> <li>• The educational materials developed by the DNPWC carry the WHS message</li> </ul> <p>The other effective ways of communication adopted by the park administration are the public meetings and gatherings for buffer zone planning and decisions. The local residents and the representatives of the buffer zone expressed that they used to receive the WHS message from the park authorities during the meetings, workshops and training programs.</p> <p>For the general public, the DNPWC had developed a website <a href="http://www.dnpwc.gov.np">www.dnpwc.gov.np</a> that disseminates the WHS message. Similarly, KMTNC's website <a href="http://www.kmtnc.org.np">www.kmtnc.org.np</a> contains information about the projects implemented in the park and buffer zone.</p> <p>DNPWC and the MFSC releases news on the current issues and activities in the park.</p> <p>The park administration invites journalists to visit the park as well as to attend</p>	072

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Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>special ceremonies.</p> <p>The park has also utilised the following newsletters to disseminate the WHS message:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Samrakshan Samachar</i> bi-monthly newsletter in Nepali published by DNPWC since 1980</li> <li>• <i>Wildlife Nepal</i> bi-monthly newsletter in English published by DNPWC since 1988</li> <li>• <i>Prakriti</i> monthly newsletter published by KMTNC headquarters, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur since 1996</li> <li>• <i>Sarasi</i> monthly newsletter in Nepali and English published by Biodiversity Conservation Centre, KMTNC, Sauraha, Chitwan since 1995</li> </ul> <p>The tourism entrepreneurs operating business in Chitwan carry WHS messages in their promotional materials.</p>	
<p>Are there educational programmes concerning the property aimed at schools?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) YES / NO</p> <p>If yes, please describe:</p> <p>The park administration has been working with the KMTNC's BCC and other environmental organisations to promote environmental education in the schools within the buffer zone. Schools have formed eco clubs as part of their extracurricular activities. KMTNC's BCC has also prepared an environmental education manual for the teachers in the buffer zone.</p> <p>The park administration annually organises several awareness programs involving schools. They are Wildlife Week in the second week of April, World Environment Day on June 5, World Wetland Day, World Biodiversity Day, and other national and local events. The park administration invites students to participate in various contests such as quiz, essay writing, art drawing and other activities. In the buffer zone, there are 145 primary schools, 29 secondary schools, 27 higher secondary schools and 3 colleges.</p>	<p>073</p> <p>074</p>
<p>What role does World Heritage inscription play for the site concerning the visitor number, the research programmes and/or the awareness building activities?</p> <p>As discussed with the tourism entrepreneurs and the buffer zone user committee representatives, recognising the park as WHS has positively affected in the promotion of tourism business. The increasing number of visitors is the result of the publicity of the positive image of the park. In response to the WHS values, a tourism plan has been drafted out (<i>See Executive Summary in the box #071</i>).</p> <p>The park organised a "Planning Workshop on Enhancing Our Heritage: Monitoring for Success in Natural World Heritage Sites" on November 27-29, 2001 in Chitwan.</p> <p>The RCNP and Buffer Zone Management Plan 2001-2005 (<i>see executive summary in the box 039</i>) has outlined research policy and priority as well as public awareness to reflect the spirit of WHS. Its guiding policies start with the sentence</p>	<p>075</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

	<p>as below:</p> <p>“Safeguard the World Heritage through strengthening national/local capabilities”</p> <p>Part II Rationale of Management Plan, Chapter 2.3 Guiding policies</p> <p>The other chapters that are relevant to the WHS are as follows:</p> <p>Part III Park Management</p> <p>Chapter 3.6 Cultural Heritage Conservation</p> <p>Chapter 3.8 Conservation Education</p> <p>Chapter 3.15 Research and Development</p> <p>Part IV Buffer zone Management</p> <p>Chapter 4.7 Cultural Heritage Conservation</p> <p>Chapter 4.9 Conservation Education</p> <p>Chapter 4.16 Research and Development</p>	
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## II.5. Factors affecting the property

	<p>Please comment on the degree to which the property is threatened by particular problems and risks, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disasters and preparedness, visitor / tourism pressure, number of inhabitants. Also mention all other issues that you see as problematic.</p> <p><b>Development pressure</b></p> <p>Prior to the birth of the park in 1973, the government had launched multiple development activities in the Chitwan valley also known as Rapti Dun mainly to promote agricultural productions during the decades of the 1950s and 1960s. The activities included malaria eradication; expanding a network of roads, canals and high-tension lines; construction of airports, resettlement of hill migrants. With the completion of the East West highway and the north south highway by 1970s, Chitwan became a hub of industrial and business expansion. At present the RCNP has faced the development pressures such as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All weather concrete bridge over the Rapti river at Kasara linking the Madi valley and the rest of the Chitwan valley</li> <li>• Construction of a link road between Dhruva and Kasara bridge point (3.8 km)</li> <li>• Proposed transmission line of 8 km crossing the north south width of the park</li> <li>• Effluence produced by the industries like paper mill, beer factory, distilleries has contributed to water pollution in the Narayani and Rapti rivers. The major industries are:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bhrikuti Paper and Pulp Mill (also noted by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription)</li> <li>• Bottlers Nepal (Coca Cola) Company</li> <li>• Flour Mill</li> <li>• Gorkha Brewery</li> <li>• Kathmandu Milk Supply Scheme (dairy)</li> <li>• Nepal Steel Pvt Ltd</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	076
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- San Miguel Beer Factory
- Shree Distillery
- Sumo Distillery
- Among the industries, Bhrikuti Paper and Pulp Mill has aggravated the environment more seriously. Gorkha Brewery has established a waste management plant.
- Sewerage discharge of the municipalities (Bharatpur and Tandi) and villages in the Narayani and Rapti rivers
- Despite regular dialogue on the transboundary issues, a major development pressure is by the Gandak barrage that bar the migration and seasonal movements of aquatic animals like dolphins, crocodiles and fish. The barrage is built at the international boundary between Nepal and India.

#### **Environmental pressure**

- Poaching issues

Since the establishment of the park in 1973, poaching has been a major challenge for the park management. In the last decade, park administration with the support of WWF, KMTNC, ITNC, UNDP and other partners has rigorously carried out antipoaching operations in and around the park and the buffer zone. In spite of harsh punishment (15 years of imprisonment and Rs 100,000 fine for a rhino poacher), there has been poaching incidents. In the last tow years, the park administration and the RNA have arrested 40 poachers, and the security forces have killed 11 poachers during various encounters.

- Vegetation dynamics

There are four types of plant succession affecting the ecosystem of the park. They include:

- Displacement of short grass species such as *Imperata cylindrica*, *Cynodon dactylon* by tall grass species
- Colonisation of sandy grasslands with tall *Saccharam*
- Encroachment of fire resistant species like *Bombax ceiba*, *Cordia dicotoma*, *Ehretia laevis*, *Trewia nudiflora*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Xeromphis uliginoides*.
- Spread of a climber species, *Meconia chinensis*.
- Natural disasters
  - In monsoon season (June through September), the Rapti river experiences heavy floods in about 8 years cycle. The Rapti river keeps its course changing. Recently, its bed has risen and accordingly its span has also expanded. Similarly, the Reu river has also changed in terms of its span expansion.
  - In dry season (March April), hurricane destroys properties as well as trees in Chitwan
  - Also in dry season, forest fire is a major phenomenon
  - Pre-monsoon (April May) rains bring unusually heavy hailstorms damaging crops and vegetation.

	<p><b>Visitor / tourism pressure</b></p> <p><i>Overseas visitors:</i> The visitor statistics reveal that the number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 117,000 within a period of 25 years between 1974-75 and 1999-2000 (See the box 067).</p> <p><i>Students and government guests:</i> Moreover, the local visitors like students and government guests are normally not registered since their entry fees are waived. Considering all types of visitors, the number is estimated to exceed 150,000 annually.</p> <p><i>Pilgrims:</i> There are several religious shrines in and around the park, such as follows :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bikram baba shrine near Kasara</li> <li>• Shivaling, Parsuram kunda, Panch Pandav temple and Godakhnath near Bankatta</li> <li>• Siddhababa near Kujauli</li> <li>• Valmiki asram, Brahma chauri, Laxmi narayani temple in the western part of the park</li> <li>• Buddhist monastery near Sahapur on park boundary</li> </ul> <p>Thousands of pilgrims from Nepal and India visit these sites during annual festivals.</p> <p><b>Population pressure</b></p> <p>The buffer zone population is 223,260 with 49.8% male and 50.2% female. There is a large percentage (42%) of growing population below 15 years age with an almost equal ratio of boys and girls. Population density is highest in the Amaltari sector, and lowest in Kasara sector. The literacy rate in the buffer zone is 59% that are high in compared to the national figure (40%). The Chitwan and Nawalparasi districts have a couple of “pull-factors” affecting in-migration, such as availability of fertile land, abundance of uncultivated government land, and employment.</p> <p>There are approximately 150,000 heads of livestock (41% sheep and goats, 23% buffalo, 20% cow and 16% calves). The buffer zone residents have faced a high depredation of their livestock by wildlife. Of the 510 settlements, over one third suffers from high depredation and another one third from moderate depredation.</p>	
	<p>Is there an emergency plan and / or risk preparedness plan for the property in existence?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / <b>NO</b> (✓)</p> <p>If YES, please summarise the plan and provide a copy:</p>	<p>077</p> <p>078</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).



**II.5. continued**

<p>If NO, describe what is being done – and by whom – to counteract the dangers that threaten or may threaten the property:</p> <p>There is no in built risk management scheme in annual work plan. Similarly, the park guard posts are alerted during dry seasons for any fire incidents in the park. On any emergency incidents (such as widespread fire, heavy flood, man-eaters, poaching etc), the park administration immediately refer the matter to the DNPWC and MFSC for help and release of funds.</p>	079
<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and/or towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>The followings are the areas where improvement would be desirable:</p> <p><b>Development pressure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DNPWC will resolve confusion on the opening of Kasara bridge over the Rapti river, and link road between Dhruva and Kasara bridge point. DNPWC has to protect the value of the WHS as well as respect the traditional rights of way of the people. Once the Kasara bridge will be open, the other rights of way will be practically not in use.</li> <li>• DNPWC will advise the Nepal Electricity Authority to find out alternate of the proposed transmission line crossing the park</li> <li>• DNPWC will continue to coordinate with the Ministry of Population and Environment to resolve/mitigate the water pollution in the Narayani and Rapti rivers as created by the industries in Chitwan.</li> <li>• The park administration and the Buffer Zone Management Committee will mobilise with the municipalities (Bharatpur and Tandi) and villages to reduce pollution in the Narayani and Rapti rivers</li> <li>• DNPWC/MFSC will coordinate with the Indian counterparts to minimise the obstacles created by the Gandak barrage on the migration and movements of aquatic animals like dolphins, crocodiles and fish.</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental pressure</b></p> <p>DNPWC in cooperation with WWF, KMTNC, ITNC and UNDP has prepared and implemented antipoaching strategy. Under the coordination of the MFSC, DNPWC and the park administration closely work with the Department of Forests and the District Forest Office for antipoaching operations. The park administration and the RNA are primarily confined in the park and the buffer zone, whereas the District Forest Office operates outside the park and the buffer zone.</p> <p>DNPWC in cooperation with the conservation organisations like IUCN, WWF, KMTNC and others to develop a plan on controlling invasive species in the protected areas of Nepal.</p> <p>His Majesty's Government of Nepal has considered installation of an early warning system at Paridhap during flood season. DNPWC will advise on mitigating any environmental impacts of the system on the park.</p> <p><b>Visitor / tourism pressure</b></p>	080

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).



	<p>DNPWC will finalise the draft tourism plan to protect the park from unplanned growth of visitors. The Buffer Zone Management Committee as well as the local social clubs should continue to coordinate with the park administration to regularise the pilgrims and protect the park from any damage.</p> <p><b>Population pressure</b></p> <p>DNPWC in cooperation with the conservation organisations like KMTNC, WWF, IUCN and local bodies to launch massive public awareness programs to protect the park from the growing population and their livestock.</p>	
	<p>Give an indication if the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing or decreasing:</p> <p><b>Development pressure</b></p> <p>Development forces in Chitwan is increasing with the expanding road network, increasing number of vehicles plying on the highways, expanding infrastructures of telephone, electricity, water supply and other facilities. The villages in the buffer zone are well connected with roads. There is tendency to make these roads all weather by asphaltting and constructing culverts and bridges. The Bharatpur airport has become busier than before with the introduction of private airlines. Close to the buffer zone, larger institutions have come to exist, such as B P Koirala Memorial Cancer Hospital. Similarly, Chitwan valley is more convenient for industrial expansion. Once the Kasara bridge over the Rapti river is open, it is possible that the Madi valley may be developed as another destinations for the tourists.</p> <p><b>Environmental pressure</b></p> <p>The poaching incidents used to increase during politically volatile situation when the government mechanism is comparatively not effective, during monsoon when regular patrolling is difficult, and during long vacation of <i>Dasain</i> when office are closed for holidays. Since the 1970s, poaching incidents have a tendency to increase every 10 years, such as in the early period of a decade.</p> <p>There is tendency of expansion and dispersal of invasive species in the park. The wetlands and the grasslands are affected.</p> <p><b>Visitor / tourism pressure</b></p> <p>It is clear from the statistics that visitors and pilgrims have increased. With the expanding publicity, easier and convenient accessibility, economic facilities, the visitors and pilgrims will continue to increase in the future.</p> <p><b>Population pressure</b></p> <p>Since there is 42% of growing population below 15 years age, the population will grow in the future. Similarly, the buffer zone population may also face immigration flow because of economic opportunities from the park. However, by the evacuation of Padampur village, the park will have additional wildlife habitat and relief from human population pressure.</p>	081

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.5. continued**

<p>What actions have been effectively taken, or are planned for the future, to address the factors affecting the property?</p> <p><b>Development pressure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The DNPWC and MFSC have considered the cases of Kasara bridge over the Rapti river and the link road between Dhruva and Kasara bridge point as priority matters to protect the park. DNPWC has started consultations to protect the value of the WHS as well as respect the traditional rights of way of the people.</li> <li>• In the previous transboundary meetings at the field and national levels, DNPWC/MFSC have discussed with the Indian counterparts on the alternatives of minimising obstacles created by the Gandak barrage on the migration and movements of aquatic animals like dolphins, crocodiles and fish.</li> <li>• There is a provision of EIA prior to any development activities in the park</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental pressure</b></p> <p>DNPWC and IUCN have studied on the invasive species in the protected areas of Nepal.</p> <p><b>Visitor / tourism pressure</b></p> <p>DNPWC has prepared the draft tourism plan upon consultation with the stakeholders. The park administration has appreciated the cooperation extended by the Buffer Zone Management Committee, local social clubs to regularise the pilgrims and protect the park from any damage.</p> <p><b>Population pressure</b></p> <p>KMTNC's recent projects include public awareness programs to protect the park from the growing population and their livestock.</p>	082
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**II.6. Monitoring**

<p>If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous periodic or reactive monitoring exercises of the property:</p> <p>A Planning Workshop on “Enhancing Our Heritage: Monitoring and Managing for Success in World Natural Heritage Sites” was organised in the Royal Chitwan National Park on November 27-29, 2001. The workshop discussed on the management plan of the park. The participants were mostly the park staff members. The workshop concluded that the management plan and the monitoring system could be useful for the implementation of the Enhancing Our Heritage project. Wildlife Institute of India who had facilitated the workshop would help organise on site future workshops to carry out assessments.</p> <p>DNPWC with the cooperation of MFSC and WWF developed success indicators for the protected areas of Nepal. Indicators were developed through a series of exercises in the field and centre. The indicators include key indicators species such as rhinoceros, tiger, birds along with other items.</p>	083
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.6. continued**

<p>Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site? <span style="float: right;">(✓) <b>YES</b> / NO</span></p>	<p>084</p>
<p>If YES, please give details of its organisation: The Monitoring and Evaluation Division of the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation is the focal body that facilitates monitoring of departments and the protected areas. The format contains indicators, unit, progress of the previous year, progress of the current year, increase or decrease and justifications. The park administration submits a monitoring report in a given format to the DNPWC where the formats are compiled from all the protected areas to be sent to the MFSC. The format contains the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat Management: water holes, grassland, fire line, forest road, seedling production/distribution, wetland)</li> <li>• Endangered Species Conservation (Crocodile eggs collection, tiger, rhinoceros, gaur)</li> <li>• Conservation Education (programs, participants)</li> <li>• Buffer zone Management (area, population benefited, forest handed over, community development programs)</li> <li>• Tourists arrival (Nepalese, SAARC countries, other foreigners)</li> <li>• Royalty (entry fee, elephant fee, hotel/lodges, others)</li> </ul>	<p>085</p>
<p>If not already in place, is the establishment of a formal monitoring system planned? <span style="float: right;">YES / <b>NO</b> (✓)</span></p> <p>If YES, please outline the functioning of that system, taking into consideration the key indicators you will be asked to define below (see 089 / 090): <b>Not applicable (See box # 085)</b></p>	<p>086 087</p>
<p>Are there any indicators established for monitoring the state of conservation of the property? <span style="float: right;">(✓) <b>YES</b> / NO</span></p> <p>If YES, please provide up-to-date information with respect to each of the key indicators established and/or used. Care should be taken to ensure that this information is as accurate and reliable as possible, for example by carrying out observations in the same way, using similar equipment and methods at the same time of the year and day. Name and describe the key indicators for measuring the state of conservation of this property: The recent monitoring format as developed by MFSC/DNPWC contains the following indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat Management: water holes, grassland, fire line, forest road, seedling production/distribution, wetland)</li> <li>• Endangered Species Conservation (Crocodile eggs collection, tiger, rhinoceros, bison)</li> <li>• Conservation Education (programs, participants)</li> <li>• Buffer zone Management (area, population benefited, forest handed over, programs)</li> <li>• Tourists arrival (Nepalese, SAARC countries, other foreigners)</li> <li>• Royalty (entry fee, elephant fee, hotel/lodges, others)</li> </ul>	<p>088 089</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.6. continued**

<p>If NO indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring:</p> <p>Not applicable (see box #089)</p>	090
<p>Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise:</p> <p>The main partner who will be involved in monitoring are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buffer Zone Management Committee</li> <li>• ITNC</li> <li>• IUCN</li> <li>• KMTNC</li> <li>• MFSC</li> <li>• WWF</li> </ul> <p>Identify the administrative provisions for organising the regular monitoring of the property:</p> <p>The guard posts under the park administration collect information on their daily patrols. They submit their daily log records to their respective rangers in charge. The rangers then submit the reports to the respective Assistant Wardens on a weekly basis. The Chief Warden compiles all the reports received from the assistant wardens, and compile on a monthly basis to be submitted to the DNPWC. The DNPWC compiles all the reports from all the protected areas, and send them to MFSC. DNPWC also prepares and disseminates annual reports.</p>	091 092
<p>Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in improving the monitoring system:</p> <p>The Management Information System need to be improved by installing equipment at the park headquarters. The field staff need hands on training on data gathering, and interpretation for action.</p>	093
<p>In specific cases, the World Heritage Committee and/or its Bureau may have already examined the state of conservation of the property and made recommendations to the State Party, either at the time of inscription or afterwards. In such cases the State Party is requested to report on the actions that have been taken in response to the observations or decisions made by the Bureau or Committee. Give details, if applicable:</p> <p>In response to the Section VI Educational Programmes, Article 27 of the Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage, DNPWC has instructed the park administration to publicise the WHS emblems and message through appropriate media at sites. Consequently, the park administration has promoted the WHS messages by adopting the emblem in the letterhead, engraving the emblem in the park sign boards, carrying the WHS messages in the promotional materials.</p> <p>The DNPWC and the park administration have considered the cases of Kasara bridge and the high tension lines and other pressures on the park.</p>	094

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*(The cases were reported at the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee held in Helsinki, Finland from December 11 to 16, 2001. The reference to the Royal Chitwan National Park are III.66 to III.70. The Bureau of the World Heritage Committee had recommended that the State Party take into due consideration these suggestions and inform the Centre of its decision on the proposed transmission line and routing of the road and provide a detailed report on the status of the projects by February 1, 2002, for consideration at its 26<sup>th</sup> session in April 2002. The 26<sup>th</sup> Session held in Paris from April 8 to 13, 2002 made a decision (# XII.10) that Nepal would invite a monitoring mission to make field observations on Kasara bridge and high tension line. A reactive team made its visits to the site on December 16-19, 2002.)*

## II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions

Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above):

095

The Royal Chitwan National Park (RCNP) meets three criteria for the World heritage natural properties. The park is an outstanding example of geological processes and biological evolution as the last major surviving example of the natural ecosystems of the Terai region (Criteria ii). The research on the natural history ecosystems of the area has been an important contribution to man's knowledge of ecological systems in the Terai.

The park also contains superlative natural features of exceptional natural beauty in terms its scenic attractions of forested hills, grasslands, great rivers and views of the distant Himalaya (Criteria iii). Additionally, the park provides critical and viable habitat for significant populations of several rare and endangered species, especially the one horned Asian rhinoceros and the Gharial crocodile (Criteria iv). The current management of the park and the buffer zone is an excellent example of government and community commitments for the protection of the heritage site.

The Parsa Wildlife Reserve (499 square kilometer) established in 1984 serves as an extension of the RCNP to its eastern boundary. Initially the park area was only 544 sq km, later extended to 932 sq km in 1977. Similarly, evacuation of the Padampur village (population 11,208 living in 1,704 households in 17.82 square kilometer) is nearly completed. The Padampur dwellers are relocated to Saguntole further north of the park. The local community in Sauraha has also demanded that a patch of natural forests (approximately 100 hectares) at Bodreni be included in the park boundary.

A summary of the observations that were made at the time of nomination is as follows:

- the largest and least disturbed example of natural Sal hill forest and associated communities of the Terai.
- managed to a high standard with professional staff and armed guards
- Strong education program
- Tourism as a potential source of income to sustain the park
- Major threat to the water quality from industries.

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>Biological scientists have realised that in order to continue the existence of the RCNP in the future, its surroundings and biological corridors linking the other protected areas should be protected. Some of the important corridors are Barandabhar forests (approximately 200 square kilometer) linking the park to the foothills of the Mahabharat range in the north, Daunne hill forests linking the western continuity of the forest corridors. The important projects that have been launched to maintain these corridors around RCNP are Tiger Rhino Conservation Project and the Chitwan Habitat Restoration Project and the Terai Arc Landscape Project. UNDP assisted for the Park People Program and continued for the Participatory Conservation Program.</p>	
<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above):</p> <p><b>Administration/protection</b> Under the NPWC Act 1973 and its subsequent amendments, the Chief Warden administers the park with a network of 56 guard posts (25 under park administration, 7 under park administration and RNA, 4 under RNA, and 10 posts unguarded).</p> <p>The office of the RCNP is manned with 278 posts. Of are 6 conservation professionals, 20 mid level conservation technicians, 99 park scouts, 129 elephant staff, the rest 22 administrative staff (See box # 033).</p> <p>Under the command of Lieutenant Colonel, the Royal Nepal Army operates protection of the park with its 1 battalion and 3 companies in close coordination with the Chief Warden. KMTNC has a Biodiversity Conservation Centre that promotes research and community development activities on the basis of agreements with the DNPWC.</p> <p><b>Laws</b> The present Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990 states in the <i>Article 26 State Policies</i> as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>“ (4) The State shall give priority to the protection of the environment and also to the prevention of its further damage due to physical development activities by increasing the awareness of the general public about environmental cleanliness, and the State shall also make arrangements for the protection of the rare wildlife, the forests and the vegetation.”</i></p> <p>The major Acts and Regulations pertinent to RCNP are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and its 4 amendments</li> <li>• Royal Chitwan National Parks Regulations 1974 and its amendment</li> <li>• Buffer Zone Management Regulations 1996</li> <li>• Buffer Zone Management Guidelines 1999</li> <li>• King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation Act of 1982</li> </ul> <p><b>Management Plan</b> The three major improvements to be made in the park administration are: upgrading the post of the chief warden, reorganising the number of buffer zone</p>	096

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

user committees, and appointment of environmental inspectors.

The current management plan for the park has two major components: park and the buffer zone. Its twin goals are:

- to conserve and enhance the unique representative biodiversity of the area with the support of the local and global communities;
- to develop CBOs for forging government community partnership for self sufficient supply of forest resources in the buffer zone and conservation of biodiversity in and around the park.

The plan has outlined and 34 objectives and 33 program components to ensure adequate skilled human resources, infrastructure and logistics necessary for habitat and species conservation in the park and to ensure people's participation in resource management and community development in the buffer zone. A total budget estimated in the plan is Rs 623.3 million (US\$8.9 million) based on year 2000 for a period of 5 years (2001-05).

#### Habitat management

The annual activities of habitat management include grassland management 50ha/year since 1996, and rehabilitation of 2 wetland sites per year, plantation and habitat rehabilitation in the buffer zone, relocation of human settlements such as Padampur village. As a part of the park management the physical infrastructures have been developed, such as over 300 km roads, 50 bridges, 4 watchtowers, visitors centre and souvenir shop at Sauraha, and a museum at Kasara.

#### Species management:

The park has carried out dozens of significant research works (See box #063 below). The most significant specie related works are translocation of 76 rhinoceros (72 to Bardia and 4 to Shuklaphanta). Of them 38 rhinos were translocated during 1986-96, and the rest 38 after 1997. The rhino population has significantly increased from below 100 in 1960s to 446 to 466 in 1994, and 544 in 2000.

The tiger monitoring has been a regular work in the park. The trend of tiger population is also very encouraging. The total population of tiger has increased from 46 in 1977 to 110 in 1995.

Due to conservation efforts, the population of terrestrial endangered species has improved. The population of sloth bear is 200-250 excluding cubs, and that of Gaur bison is 300 in the park. However, the status of aquatic species has become bleak. The sightings of Gangetic dolphins have become rare in the Narayani river. Although the population of Gharial crocodile was close to extinction, the breeding effort has revived its population. Over 500 captive bred Gharials have been released into various rivers of Nepal.

#### Ownership

The ultimate ownership of the property remains with His Majesty's Government of Nepal.

#### Improvement in Administration



Given the increasing responsibility with the annexation of buffer zone and also increase in the volume of works related to tourism and protection, the management plan has outlined for upgrading the office of the park. The post of the Chief Warden has been proposed to upgrade at the director level.

#### Capacity building

The training needs of the park include Antipoaching operation, Community development and conservation awareness, Information technology, Tourism, Elephant management, and community development.

#### Donors

The donors who have played key roles in the park are ITNC, UNDP, United Nations Foundation, Global Environmental Facility (GEF), US National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Save the Tiger Fund, WWF, Zoological Society of London, Frankfurt Zoological Society, Smithsonian Intsitute and others.

#### Research

During 1970s and 1980s, majority of the research works was concentrated on the species studies. In the recent years when the buffer zone has been conceived, research works have focussed also on socio-economic aspects. Altogether there are about 50 major research works of which some are continuing.

#### Finance

The expenditure of the park has increased form less than Rs10 million in 1995-96 to over Rs14 million in 2001-02. The administrative expenditures fluctuated between 60% and 84% of the total expenditure. The remaining 40% to 16% expenditures were spent on development works such as buildings, roads etc. The government budget does not cover for research works. The research activities are in built within the budgets of the projects supported by the donor agencies.

#### Information dissemination

The park administration and the DNPWC have practised multiple ways of disseminating information to the audience. Some examples include newsletters, websites, promotional materials, visitor centres. The park administration also uses meetings as a platform for information dissemination.

#### Visitors

The statistics reveal that the number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 117,000 within a period of 25 years between 1974-75 and 1999-2000. The decreasing trend in the period from the year 2000 has been attributed mainly to the global turmoil like the twin tower incidents of September 11, 2001 and the Afghanistan war. The domestic troubles of Maoists insurgents have been another factor that affected the drop in the visitor number.

The learning and recreational facilities within the park are as follows:

- Visitors centre at Sauraha (accommodate around 100 visitors at a time)
- Souviner shop
- Museum at Kasara



- Crocodile rearing centre at Kasara
- Elephant breeding centre at Khorsor
- Watchtowers

There are nearly 1,500 beds maintained by 7 concessionaires in the park and 71 hotel/lodges in the buffer zone.

A tourism plan has been drafted out in March 2001. The plan is in the process of formal endorsement by the government before implementation.

#### Information dissemination

The park administration promotes the World Heritage values through various media including a letterhead, signboards and educational materials. The schools in the buffer zone participate in various activities in response to the programs launched by the park and KMTNC.

#### Pressures

There are factors affecting the WH values of the park. They are as follows:

- The development pressure is exerted by the network of infrastructures (road, canal, transmission etc). The current issue is about the Kasara bridge and its link road to Dhruva. The other pressures are from the effluence produced by the industries and the sewerage discharge of the municipalities and villages in the Narayani and Rapti rivers.
- Another major development pressure is by the Gandak barrage that bar the migration and movements of aquatic animals like dolphins, crocodiles and fish.

The major environmental pressure is experienced in the changing patterns of grass species. Natural disasters faced in the park and buffer zone are heavy floods, hurricane, hailstorms and fire.

The number of visitors in the park grew from below 1,000 to over 117,000 within a period of 25 years between 1974-75 and 1999-2000. Considering other visitors like students and government guests, the number is estimated to exceed 150,000 annually. Thousands of pilgrims from Nepal and India visit these sites during annual festivals in about a dozen religious shrines in and around the park

The buffer zone population of 223,260 (49.8% male and 50.2% female) is composed of 42% of growing population below 15 years age. The Chitwan and Nawalparasi districts have a couple of "pull-factors" affecting in-migration. There are approximately 150,000 heads of livestock (41% sheep and goats, 23% buffalo, 20% cow and 16% calves).

#### Monitoring

Monitoring system of the park should be improved by strengthening the park staff with training and equipment.

**II.7. continued**

<p>Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:</p> <p>The future actions include implementation of the management plan and finalisation of the draft tourism plan. In the meantime, the park administration and the DNPWC have to take initiatives to minimise the pressures of development to protect the WH value of the park. Coordination with the line agencies and public awareness will be major activities in this regard.</p>	097
<p>Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 005): Organisation(s) / entity(ies):</p> <p>(Same as in box #005)</p> <p>Organisation(s) / entity(ies): Royal Chitwan National Park Headquarters and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</p> <p>Person(s) responsible: Mr Puran Bhakta Shrestha, Chief Warden, RCNP and Mr Shyam Sundar Bajimaya, Chief Ecologist, DNPWC</p> <p>Address: DNPWC, Babar Mahal</p> <p>City and post code: GPO Box 860, Kathmandu</p> <p>Telephone: ++ 977 1 220912</p> <p>Fax: ++ 977 1 227675</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np">dnpwc@bdcin.wlink.com.np</a></p>	098
<p>Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:</p> <p>As outlined in the management plan, the time frame is 5 years starting from 2001 to 2005.</p>	099
<p>Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):</p> <p>The International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund and the other donors will be needed in the following activities as outlined in the management plan:</p> <p>Park management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation education Rs11.15 million</li> <li>• Cultural Heritage Conservation Rs2.3 million</li> <li>• Research and Development Rs11.6 million</li> <li>• Monitoring and Evaluation Rs4.5 million</li> </ul> <p>Buffer zone management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation education Rs20.35 million</li> <li>• Cultural Heritage Conservation Rs29.1 million</li> <li>• Research and Development Rs3.7 million</li> <li>• Monitoring and Evaluation Rs2.7 million</li> </ul>	100

**II.7. continued**

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention  
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<p>Are there any contacts with management units of other properties within or outside your country?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(√) <b>YES</b> / NO</p>	101
	<p>If YES, please explain:</p> <p>The Sagarmatha National Park is another WHS inscribed in 1979. The Sagarmatha comes under the jurisdiction of the DNPWC as well.</p> <p>The other WHS in the country are Lumbini (the birthplace of Lord Buddha), and the Kathmandu valley with its seven major cultural properties namely three ancient palaces of Hanuman dhoka of Kathmandu, Layaku of Bhaktapur and Mangal bazar of Lalitpur, and four religious shrines namely Changunarayan, Pashupatinath, Boudhnath, and Swoyambhunath. All the cultural heritage sites are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Archeology.</p>	102
	<p>Please indicate which experience made during the periodic reporting exercise and/or during the on-going conservation / protection efforts of the property could be shared with other States Parties dealing with similar problems or issues:</p> <p>The exercise is extremely fruitful in terms self assessment for the park administration, buffer zone residents, conservation partners, tourism entrepreneurs and the individuals who are involved in the conservation of the property. The process has created another public interest in favour of the property's WH value, realisation of the need for a code of conducts, and further commitments for conservation and protection.</p>	103
	<p>Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this purpose:</p> <p>Organisation(s)/entity(ies): <b>Royal Chitwan National Park Headquarters and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation</b></p> <p>Person(s) responsible: <b>Mr Puran Bhakta Shrestha, Chief Warden, RCNP and Mr Shyam Sundar Bajimaya, Chief Ecologist, DNPWC</b></p> <p>Address: <b>DNPWC, Babar Mahal</b></p> <p>City and post code: <b>GPO Box 860, Kathmandu</b></p> <p>Telephone: <b>++ 977 1 220912</b></p> <p>Fax: <b>++ 977 1 227675</b></p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:dnpsc@bdcin.wlink.com.np">dnpsc@bdcin.wlink.com.np</a></p>	104

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II**

<p>Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings etc.)?</p> <p>Yes, sufficient information was made available to the authorities. Several public consultation meetings were held to gather public voice and their sentiments.</p>	105
<p>Was the questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party?</p> <p>The questionnaires are completely different from the regular reporting format in use at the MFSC/DNPWC. The persons who are involved in filling up the questionnaires need to spend considerable amount of time to extract information from various documents/sources to fit in the boxes.</p>	106
<p>What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise?</p> <p>As indicated in the box #103, the exercise yielded awareness and commitments that are more than the outputs expected from the questionnaires. The exercise brought the park administration closer with the buffer zone residents, conservation partners, tourism entrepreneurs and the individuals. It helped stakeholders carry out informal self-assessment in respect to the property.</p>	107
<p>Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:</p> <p>The major expectations are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity of capacity building of the stakeholders for the protection of the WH value of the park</li> <li>• Establishment of physical facilities like computer and intranet system for regular monitoring</li> <li>• Improvement of information dissemination including visitors centre, website linkage, publications, school programs</li> </ul>	108

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

**II.9. Documentation attached**

The State Party is invited to supply the materials listed below. Please check those items that were attached.

1.  Maps and plans showing the general location of the property, its boundary and buffer zone as well as the necessary detail of the property itself (see question 003 for specifications)
2.  Photo of general view (aerial view) of the property
3.  Illustrations of the state of conservation of the site (photographs, slides and, if available, film/videos)
4.  Details of the important aspects of the property (landscapes, animal and vegetable species, monuments etc.)
5.  Photos illustrating the main threats to the site and its surroundings
6.  Extracts of relevant laws and regulations concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage at national, provincial and municipal levels
7.  Copies of the management plan of the site as well as extracts and/or copies of other plans relating to the site (e.g. emergency plan, use plan, etc.)
8.  Indicative bibliography

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).