

May 2024

Maharashtra, India  
www.resqct.org

# RESQ NEWSLETTER

Helping animals, people and the places we call home, since 2007.

Monthly Newsletter

#199 pg. 01

RESQ Charitable Trust



Alexandrine parakeet (*Psittacula eupatria*) © RESQ Charitable Trust

*The flight to freedom!* Freedom isn't just a word; it's a state of being. At RESQ, we do more than open cages. Through meticulous rehabilitation, we equip animals to survive and embrace their freedom, strengthening their chances of experiencing true wilderness. Take this Alexandrine parakeet. Once confined, it's now soaring in the skies, its wings beating with resilience and joy.

## Statistics May '24



1,839 Helpline Calls Received



🚑 Rescue, rehabilitate animals, reach people.

Ambulances Travelled 32,304 Kms



PUNE 28,007 Kms



NASHIK 4,297 Kms



462

Wildlife currently admitted under veterinary treatment & rehabilitation care in Pune TTC & Nashik centre.



Awareness sessions, education programs & training conducted for 1,159 individuals.

1,025

Community (large animals) provided support to viz. animal feed and vaccines.



1,142 Wildlife provided aid to



Wildlife

Pune Units + TTC

1077

Nashik Division

65



Birds

789

46



Mammals

139


15



Reptiles

149

13

 [Click to view videos!](#)

# Updates

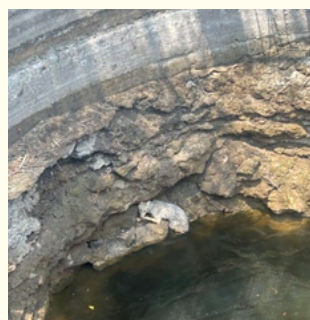
## RESQ team on field

**Leopard checks in at the wrong hospital!** An adult leopard was reported to have entered the premises of MUHS Hospital in Nashik. It had been locked inside an area in the basement, prompting a call to the RESQ Nashik team for rescue. Using chemical immobilization techniques, the leopard was safely tranquilized and captured by the RESQ Team in collaboration with the Forest Department, ensuring the safety of both humans and the animal. The leopard is currently under observation at the RESQ Nashik Centre, awaiting further instructions from the Forest Department.



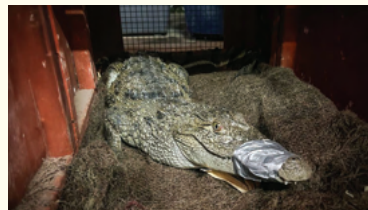
**Hip hip hyena!** Two hyena pups were found on the premises of a petrol pump near Nashik. The RESQ Nashik team safely rescued them and quickly attempted a reunion in a nearby secluded area. The mother soon appeared and took both pups, filling the team with immense satisfaction.

**Well rescued!** Open wells pose as traps for hundreds of wildlife annually. Particularly in the summers, when animals are naturally attracted to water sources, they stumble into these wells, unable to escape on their own, requiring technical rescues by our team. This month, our teams successfully rescued a peafowl, seven jackals, and two small Indian civets from such wells.



**Tree-mendous rescue of the civet!**

An Asian palm civet was rescued from a perilous predicament high in the branches. The civet had been followed and surrounded by a pack of aggressive free-ranging dogs, preventing it from descending. The RESQ team intervened, safely rescued the civet, and found it to be healthy. They released it into a safe area nearby, enabling it to promptly return to its natural habitat.



**Mugged by fate: a crocodile's rescue story!**

The RESQ Team successfully rescued a mugger crocodile from a farm near Solapur. The crocodile had been stuck in farmland, unable to find its way out for nearly two months. Despite showing no external injuries or sickness during a medical assessment, the crocodile was extremely weak and needed stabilization.

It was admitted to the RESQ Centre for observation and rehabilitation, with the goal of releasing it back into a suitable habitat once fully recovered. After being closely monitored at the RESQ Centre, the crocodile was safely released in a suitable habitat.



**Egrets soar above the storm!** 12 cattle egrets were grounded by heavy storms near Baramati, unable to take flight. Our team swiftly assessed the situation, rescuing and relocating them to a safe area nearby. Once they had dried off and regained their bearings, they all flew away, highlighting the importance of immediate on-site assistance over unnecessary admission into care.

**Kingfisher's sticky situation!** A white-throated kingfisher was reported stuck on a glue trap to our helpline. These rescues are tricky, as the bird risks losing many feathers and suffering distress. Despite this, our RESQ team safely rescued it. Now at the RESQ Centre, the kingfisher is being meticulously cleaned and medically stabilized, with the goal of releasing it back into the wild..



# At the RESQ Centre

**Progress spotted for this leopard!** A leopard, weakened and unable to run fast, particularly due to issues with its hind legs, was captured by the Forest Department and admitted to the RESQ Centre in Nashik.



Currently receiving treatment, the leopard is already showing progress by attempting to move in its enclosure. Once it achieves a satisfactory level of movement and is deemed fit by RESQ vets, it will be released back into its habitat.

**Clear vision ahead for this jackal!** Over the past few months, we have been caring for a sub-adult jackal with compromised vision. Through a series of tests, we diagnosed the



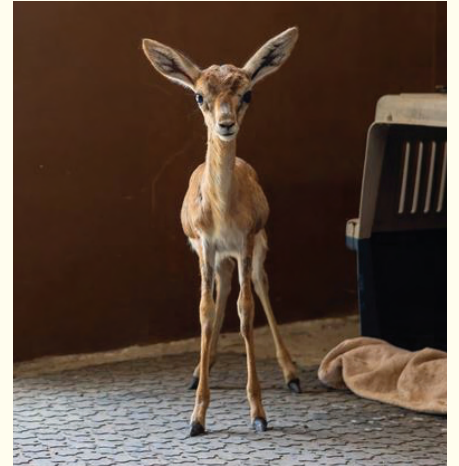
jackal with juvenile cataracts. Recently, we performed successful surgery on its right eye, and the jackal is responding well to the treatment. Once we are confident in the results, we plan to operate on its left eye. Our ultimate goal is to fully restore its vision and release it back into its natural habitat.



**Fawn-tastic and new lease on life for these chinkaras!** Two chinkara fawns have been admitted to our care after one was found orphaned near Baramati, with no mother in

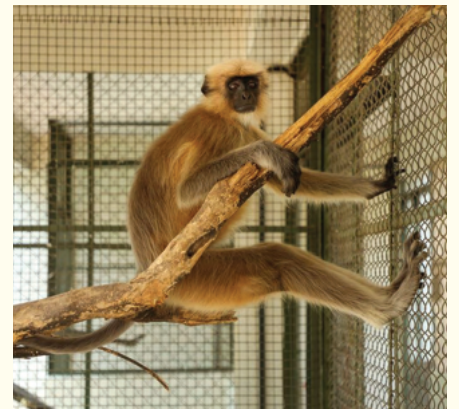


sight, and the other was rescued from a human settlement near Daund after being chased by free-ranging dogs. Both fawns will undergo meticulous rehabilitation to prepare them for a return to the wild.



## Primate paradox!

**No grey area for this grey langur!** A grey langur has been captured and brought to the RESQ Centre for thorough examination & rehabilitation. This langur was reported for attacking locals near Kadegaon, Sangli, necessitating its capture. While we don't know what might have triggered this behavior in



the primate, we are optimistic that meticulous rehabilitation will help reinstate inherent primate behavior required to peacefully coexist with humans in its natural habitat.

**Macaque makeover!** A bonnet macaque undergoing intensive rehabilitation has a challenging path ahead. Although medically and physically sound, this primate has developed habits from living closely with humans, such as consuming human food,



drinking only from bottles, and even chewing tobacco. Reversing these behaviors and reintroducing natural habits will be a significant and lengthy challenge. Our aim is to prepare the macaque for a successful return to a wild primate life upon release.

**Shell-tered and safe: turtles begin their recovery journey!** Two sub-adult Indian roofed turtles, seized from illegal captivity, have been admitted to the RESQ Centre. Although the



journey of recovery and rehabilitation for chelonians is often lengthy, we are hopeful that our meticulously planned rehabilitation efforts will soon facilitate their return to a suitable habitat.



**Shelling out hope for this tent turtle!** An Indian tent turtle, kept illegally as a pet for nearly four years, was recently surrendered by a family to the Forest Department and admitted to the RESQ Centre. Now under meticulous rehabilitation, this turtle faces a lengthy recovery process. Years of captivity have left it highly dependent on humans for food and other needs, making it challenging to reignite its natural instincts.



Additionally, the turtle suffers from severe nutritional deficiencies that require time and care to reverse. Despite these challenges, we are hopeful that it will achieve all its rehabilitation milestones and eventually thrive free and wild.

**Shell-shocked turtle!** A flapshell turtle is undergoing a detailed medical assessment to address a range of issues. Discovered in a residential parking lot in Pune and brought to the RESQ Centre,



it is clear the turtle has been mishandled and abandoned, leading to multiple disorders. With a deformed shell and peeling skin, we are treating it to the best of our ability, hoping for a full recovery.

**Safe passage to this sand boa!** This red sand boa was discovered straying into a residential area in Pune and swiftly rescued by the RESQ Team. It was then admitted to the RESQ Centre for rehabilitation. Red sand boas are among the most trafficked snakes, making it crucial to ensure they are in good health before release to ensure their safety in the wild.



**Beak-on of hope for the winged patients!** 182 critically injured birds, comprising 146 parakeets, 30 bayas, 3 painted storks, 2 cattle egrets, 1 sun bird, poured into RESQ Wildlife TTC on the 23rd of May. Disastrously strong winds and rain took several trees and hundreds of birds down near Baramati, Pune. The RESQ team spent the entire night recovering the ones alive. In the aftermath of nature's fury, there is still hope



in the resilience of life. 60 of these have already been released back to a safe habitat after getting a clean chit from the veterinarians, but the fight to save the rest has just begun.



**Vulture venture!** A long billed vulture was reported to the RESQ Nashik Team after it was found recumbent, unable to fly. Upon its admission, the medical assessment revealed a severe wing damage for which it is receiving treatment at the RESQ Centre in Nashik. We're hoping for a full recovery and a release back into the skies real soon.



**Grey herons weathering the storm!** In a recent storm, a tree housing multiple grey heron nests collapsed, displacing numerous birds, nestlings, and fledglings. Our team managed to rescue most of them, with 13 birds surviving and admitted to



the RESQ Centre for treatment and care. Additionally, we currently have seven adult grey herons and four juveniles under rehabilitation, bringing the total to 24. We are hopeful that all of them will make a full recovery and be able to return to their natural habitats soon.

**Storks survive the storms!** Four juvenile painted storks were found fallen from a tree, their nest destroyed by the stormy rains. All four storks have been admitted to the RESQ Centre for treatment and rehabilitation. Two more juvenile painted storks were brought in the same week due to a similar situation. We're hoping for a full recovery and release of all six of them soon.



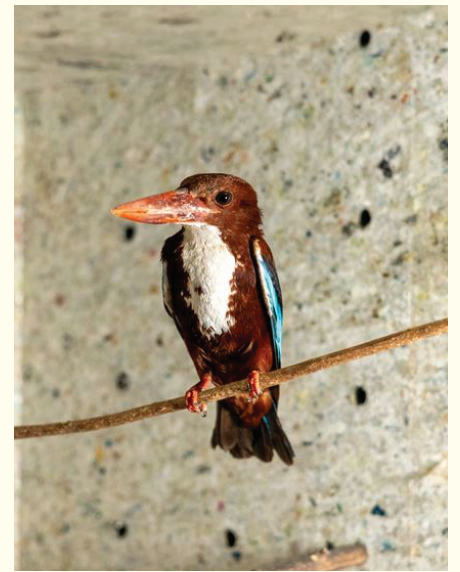
**Rescued raptors- shikras under orphan care!** Two juvenile shikras have been admitted to the RESQ Centre for orphan care after being found on the ground without their nest or parents in sight. While nothing can replace parental care, orphan care comes a close second providing these little ones with a second chance at life.



**Egret wading to wellness!** A common egret reported recumbent, unable to fly was safely rescued and admitted to the RESQ Centre where a detailed medical assessment revealed a fractured leg. Treatment is currently underway, but it appears to be a long road to recovery for the egret.



**Kingfisher grounded no more!** Rescued after being found fallen to the ground, this white-throated kingfisher was safely admitted to the RESQ Centre, where it received treatment for its inability to fly or perch. It miraculously made a full recovery and was immediately released where it assumed its rightful place in the skies.



## Community Outreach & Education

**Leopard awareness!** Our teams conducted nine sessions on safely coexisting with leopards this month, out of which four were conducted to mark the International Leopard Day which falls on the 3rd of May each year.

**Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai:** three sessions were conducted in three Adivasi Padas, namely Kamlacha Pada, Chafyacha Pada and Vanicha Pada, by RESQ Team members Vaibhav Bhogale and Manasi Warde and volunteer Sanchit More for a total of 130 children.

**Oberoi International School, Mumbai:** session conducted by RESQ Team members Sonia Gandhi Limaye, Manasi Warde and Vaibhav Bhogale and volunteer Sanchit More for 40 students.

**Dandeli, Uttara Kannada, Karnataka:** session conducted by RESQ Team members Nachiket Utpat and Kiran Rahalkar for 220 of the College students and Forest Department staff of 6 divisions.



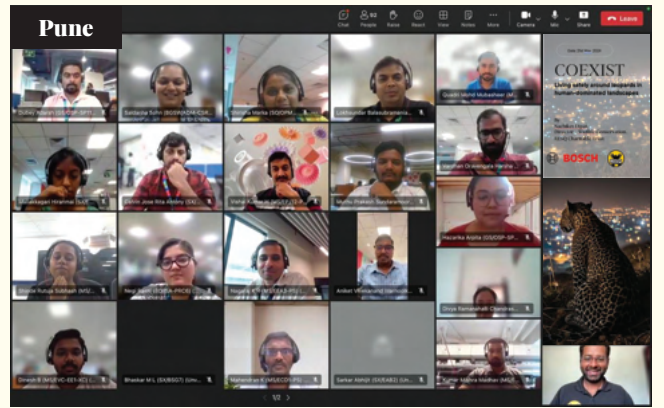
**Nandgaon, Nashik:** sessions conducted by RESQ Team member Vaibhav Bhogale for 50 local villagers and farmers.



**Gunaware, Phaltan, Satara District:** session conducted by RESQ Team member Nachiket Awadhani for 250 locals.



**Patas, Daund, Pune District:** session conducted by RESQ Team member Nachiket Awadhani for 60 locals.



# Capacity Building & Training

## Human-leopard Interaction Management!

**Dandeli, Uttara Kannada, Karnataka:** a training session on this topic was conducted by RESQ Team members Nachiket Utpat and Kiran Rahalkar for 120 frontline staff of six divisions of Karnataka Forest Department, Kanara circle.



## Effective Response to Wildlife Emergencies!

**Kundal, Sangli District-** a training session on this topic was conducted by RESQ Team member Nachiket Utpat for 42 trainee RFOs from across Maharashtra.



## Snake-Human Conflict Management!

**Kundal, Sangli District-** a training session on this topic was conducted by RESQ Team member Nachiket Utpat for 42 trainee RFOs from across Maharashtra.



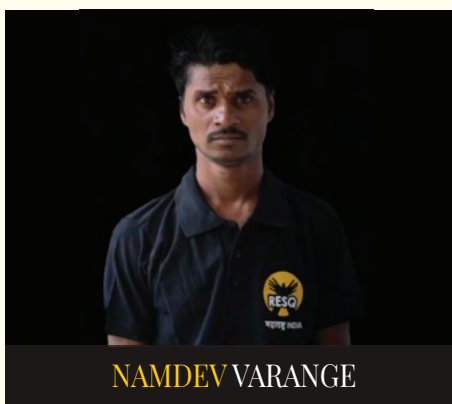




UPCOMING EVENT

**SJ VRUKSHATHON 2024**

Organised by the Pune Forest Department, Fitness First and RESQ Charitable Trust, this is a unique event that combines environmental awareness with health, aimed at fostering a greener Pune for its community and wildlife - who both share the same ecosystem. More info: [🔗](#)



**Performing at their maximum potential, lauded for their dedication, innovation and hardwork, Namdev Varange is our star RESQ employee of the month.** Namdev, the most recent addition to our team, has quickly become a valuable part of the organization through his dedication and sincerity. He is responsible for overall cleanliness, orderliness, and creating enrichment for enclosures, which he achieves with utmost efficiency. His calm and quiet demeanor allows him to focus intently on every task and maintain a harmonious environment among his colleagues.

# Thank you for being a RESQ Supporter!

If we share the same vision, there's so much we can do together. The RESQ team continues its work for animals with purpose and passion only because of your generous contributions and support - today, and everyday.



“We are happy to share our **Annual Report 2022-2023** [🔗](#) which captures the work and activities done by the RESQ team during the last financial year. On behalf of all the team members of RESQ and its board of trustees, I express our deepest gratitude to our donors, supporters, partners and well-wishers for supporting our mission to rescue and rehabilitate animals, and to reach people in our endeavors to protect animals and their habitats. **You can become a RESQ supporter** [📺](#) and join us in working towards a shared vision of conservation and coexistence between wildlife, communities, and their animals. Becoming a member is easy, click on this link. [🔗](#) Your annual contribution and belief in our vision helps us to provide medical treatment and care to thousands of animals every single year. Thank you!”

- **Neha Panchamiya** (Founder & President, RESQ CT)

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