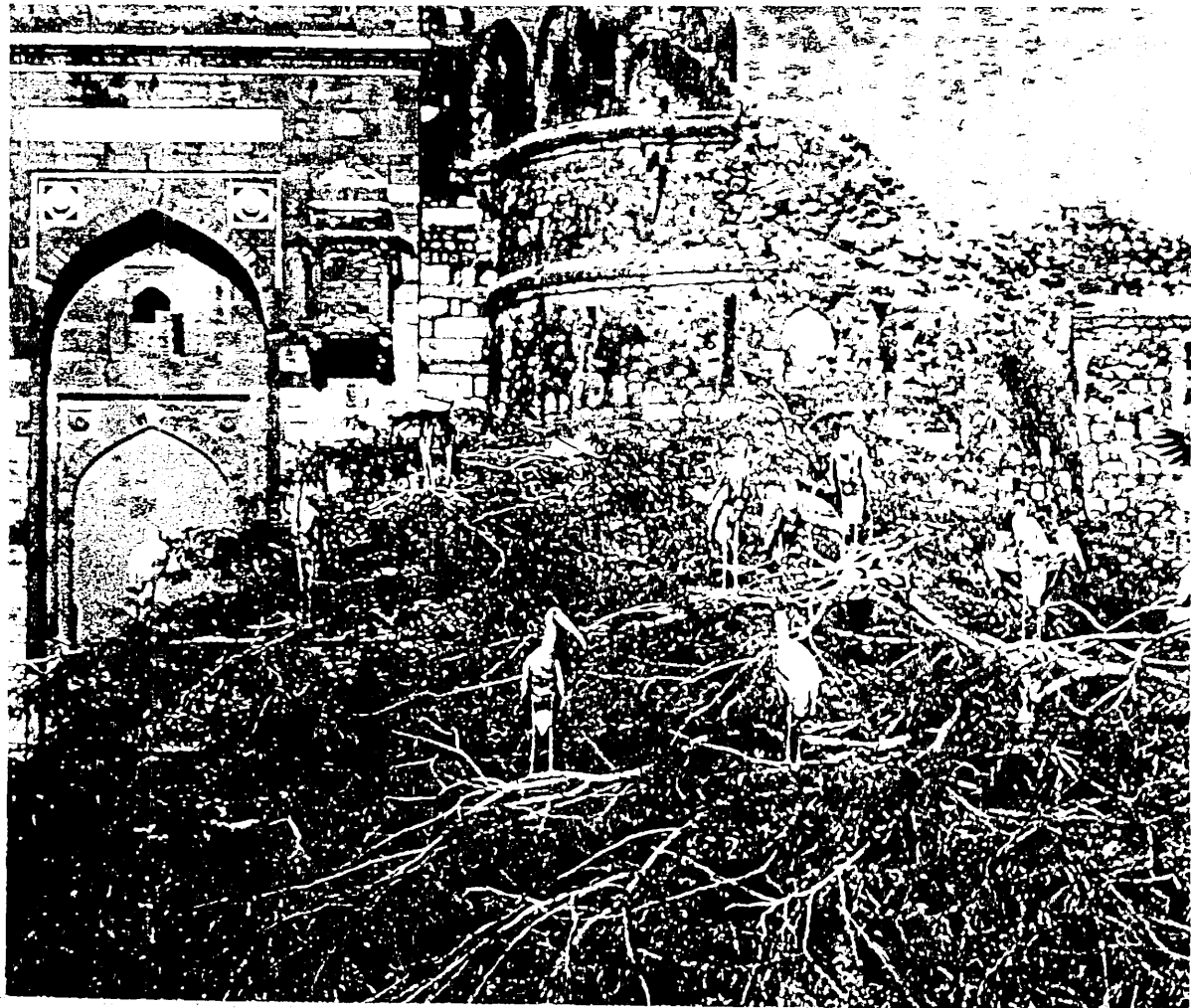


DELHI ZOO

Late last year, Philippa Scott and her husband, Peter Scott, spent several days in India for meetings on their way to Bangkok, to attend the Conference on Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in Tropical South-East Asia, sponsored by the IUCN. In Delhi, they were particularly interested in seeing the rare species in Delhi Zoo which are included in the World Wildlife Fund's list of rare and vanishing animals, and Mrs Scott took the photographs here and overleaf during their visit

**written and photographed
by Philippa Scott**



Above: Chital, or spotted deer, are found in India and Ceylon. Left: A colony of wild painted storks. Opposite: The rare Manipur brow-antlered deer

DELHI ZOO

continued

A beautiful lake, spacious grounds, and a background of the old city walls provide the attractive setting of Delhi Zoo.

Its large area allows for still further development, and the enclosures for the herbivorous animals are delightfully spacious. Water barriers are used for many enclosures, and the general impression is that of a modern zoo.

One of the most attractive features is a group of trees harbouring a sizeable colony of painted storks, egrets, and night herons, which are wild and take advantage of the Zoo's protection.

The rare Manipur brow-antlered deer (*Cervus eldi eldi*) are breeding well. In the wild, they are found only in a small area of 10 square miles in Manipur State, and in 1960 their numbers were estimated at about 100. Here they live on a floating mat of reeds on Logtak Lake.

The great Indian rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*), also very rare, is represented in Delhi Zoo, and this particular specimen—one of only 625 in the world—is said to be 70 years old.

The Zoo authorities are prevented at present by Government regulations from importing any animals unless they come in as an exchange. In spite of this, however, the Zoo has a really fine collection, and for the traveller from Europe the Indian species themselves are probably the most interesting.

Indian small-clawed otter
(*Amblonyx cinerea*)

