

CAPTIVE CARE

OF COMMON INDIAN FROGS AND TOADS

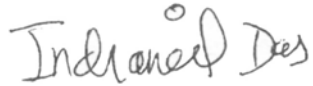
A photograph of a frog perched on a piece of wood against a dark background. The frog is the central focus, with its body and limbs clearly visible. The wood it is sitting on is light-colored and textured. The background is a solid, dark color, making the frog stand out.

Brij Kishor Gupta

PREFACE

Despite the great beauty and diversity shown by the 200 plus amphibian species recorded from India, no zoos in the country have attempted to display them. This admirable little book shows how this can be done with a little persistence and innovation.

Ex situ conservation techniques such as these have been shown to be often more successful with the so-called lower vertebrates (including amphibians) than for birds and mammals, and therefore the husbandry and captive breeding of amphibians are of great conservation importance. Identifying a set of best practices would in the long term fulfil the dual need to breed threatened species in captivity, for eventual reintroduction in the wild, and help zoos become self sufficient. Finally, frogs and toads make interesting exhibits, and amphibian exhibits would undoubtedly contribute to greater awareness for the need to study and protect these remarkable animals.



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