

CZA MOEF Government of India -- Zoo Legislation: Implementation

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Brij Kishor Gupta gave two presentations full of information. We are conveying the information without putting it in article form.

Achievements of Central Zoo Authority included

- .. Recognition of Zoo Rules 1992 formulated for fixing up the standards and norms for management of zoos in the country.
- .. National Zoo Policy - 1998 adopted.
- .. Guidelines on better upkeep, housing and health care of wild animals in zoos prescribed.

Improvement of Zoos

- .. MoEF, GoI provides grants-in-aid to Central Zoo Authority for its functioning.
- .. Central Zoo Authority provide financial assistance for improvement of recognized public sector Zoos in the country.
- .. Central Zoo Authority meant for help improved zoos and help management know how to improve.
- .. Regular evaluation & monitoring.
- .. Evaluation is carried out by working zoo directors, ex. zoo directors, CZA members, Forest Officials.
- .. There are 51 standards and norms against which the each zoo is evaluated.
- .. The report submitted by the evaluating members scrutinized by the CZA members and decision is taken for its recognition (conditional), derecognition or closure or show cause notice.
- .. While granting recognition, the zoos are requested to submit quarterly/half year progress report on the conditions stipulated by the CZA.
- .. It is mandatory for zoo submit inventory (stock) of animals of schedule I & II animals every quarter and inventory of all animals on every financial year i.e. 31st March.
- .. The death report for endangered species is being sought within 24 hours and for others they have to submit along with inventory details.

Financial Assistance

CZA provides financial assistance to zoos for: Creation of better animal housing, veterinary facilities, research and training related activities are financed on 100% basis by Central Zoo Authority, whereas development of infrastructure like boundary wall, electricity network, water distribution, road / footpaths, sewage disposal, signage and visitors facilities are shared with zoo operator on 50:50 basis.

Health care of animals vide CZA

All the zoos in India are equipped with basic veterinary facilities along with veterinary personnel as prescribed in Recognition of Zoo Rules 1992.

CZA is providing access to better veterinary facilities and services with

- .. Health Advisory Committees.
- .. Mechanism with local Veterinary Colleges at the State/ Regional level.
- .. National Referral Centre at Indian Veterinary Research Institute.

Conservation Breeding

- .. It has been decided to take up the planned *ex-situ* conservation breeding programmes of the endangered species with wild population within few hundreds/ thousands and less than 100 animals in captivity in Indian zoos.
- .. Two to four zoos in the range area of the targeted species take part in the breeding programme, whereas off-display conservation breeding facilities are created only in one or two zoos of the region.
- .. The protected areas having wild population/ proposed reintroduction site in the vicinity of the *ex-situ* conservation breeding facility are identified so that the corrective measures can also be initiated to address to the cause of decline/ extinction of wild population of the species in its natural habitat in the meantime.
- .. There are many ongoing conservation breeding programmes in off-display conservation breeding centres of the zoos or specially created facilities for the purposes in the country. Some of them are: Conservation breeding of Snow leopard and Red panda in Darjeeling zoo, Asiatic lion in Junagadh, Lion-tailed macaque in Chennai, Pygmy hog in Guwahati and Western Tragopan in Himachal Pradesh.

Research-National Level Studies

- .. To bring in holistic development of zoos in India and to infuse more technical and scientific culture in operation of our zoos, the CZA has decided to initiate scientific studies in some areas of zoo management involving scientists/ institutions working in the field of wildlife conservation or related fields of animal science.
- .. Areas/ field/ institutions dealing with the issues taken up for conducting such studies are:
 - a. Zoo design and architecture – School of planning & architecture, New Delhi
 - b. Standardization of animal diet in captive conditions – National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore
 - c. Disease diagnosis & cure - Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly
 - d. Use of bio-technological interventions – Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology, Hyderabad

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e. Zoo education & interpretation – Centre for Environmental Education, Ahmedabad.
 .. Training for zoo personnels, stakeholders and policymakers – Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun.
 .. Studbook cell for maintenance of National Studbooks for the endangered animal species kept in Indian zoos – WII, Dehradun

Research: Small Grant Fellowships

The Central Zoo Authority is also providing funds in the form of Small Grant Fellowships to the zoo to organize studies to address to the local issues related to *ex-situ* wildlife conservation at the Zoo level.

Research: LaCONES

In order to infuse new technology in the field of *ex-situ* wildlife conservation, a Laboratory for Conservation of Endangered species (LaCONES) has been established at Hyderabad in collaboration with the Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, Department of Forests, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Department of Bio-technology, Government of India and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research. The facility is working on genetic analysis of captive

stock, frozen zoo and assisted reproduction techniques.

Education

.. CZA has also initiated a programme for developing National Zoo Education Master Plan and individual Zoo Education Master Plan including giving training to zoo educators.
 .. CZA providing 50% sharing basis financial assistance to the zoos for developing signage etc.

Human Resource Development

.. Central Zoo Authority regularly organize short term training programmes for different level zoo personnel in India and abroad.
 .. Theme based workshops and seminars are also organized by the authority from time to time.

Rescue centre for circus animals

.. When the Hon'ble Supreme Court imposed ban on performance of five species of wild animals namely lion, tiger, leopard, bear and monkey vide Govt. of India notification No. 395, dated 14.10.1998. The ban was imposed due to the fact that these wild animals were addressed to unnecessary pain caused due to the method of extraction of performance by the circuses, life-long

Workshops & Seminars conducted by CZA (1995-2005)

S.No.	Date	Workshop/Training	Objective
1	April, 1995	Workshop on management and husbandry of Red Panda (Darjeeling)	Planned breeding of Red Panda
2	July, 1995	PHVA of Swamp Deer (Dehradun)	Coordination of <i>ex situ</i> and <i>in situ</i> activities for Swamp Deer
3	May, 1996	Workshop on disease diagnoses and treatment of zoo animals (IVRI)	Improvement of health care for zoo animals
4	October, 1996	Upkeep and husbandry of Lion-tailed Macaque (Coimbatore)	Planned breeding of Lion-tailed Macaque
5	April, 1999	Workshop on National Zoo Policy (Kanpur)	To decide on the <i>modus-operandi</i> on implementation of the policy in zoos
6	October, 1999	Workshop of health and management of zoo animals (Guwahati)	Improvement of health care and population control for zoo animals
7	December, 1999	Future search workshop	Develop a national consensus on a strategy to be adopted for the management of the zoos in India – Vision 2010
8	27 November-3 December, 2000	Short- term course on zoo planning: design and landscape architecture	New perspective in zoo design
9	2000	Expert consultation on blood borne diseases	To take prophylactic measures after Nandankanan tragedy
10	7-9 May, 2003	Health care management of wild animals in captivity	Management of wild animals in captivity
11	November, 2003	Animal collection planning in zoos	
12	February, 2004	Developing skills in restrain and translocation of animals in zoos	Restrain/ Translocation
13	24-25 October, 2005	Indian Zoo Veterinarians meeting at Guwahati	Utilization of regional wildlife health centres by the zoos in various regions.

imprisonment in small cages and the stress they were experiencing during transportation from one place to another.

Rescue & Rehabilitation of Circus Animals

Central Zoo Authority has established seven rescue centres for rehabilitation of wild animals whose performance has been banned in circuses at Chennai, Bangalore, Tirupati, Vishakapatnam, Jaipur, Bhopal and South Khairabri. More than 500 lions and tigers have been rehabilitated in these rescue centres. The authority is also funding the maintenance including food in these centres.

Specialized rehabilitation centres created

- .. For Himalayan black bears, Pakke Tiger Reserve, Arunachal Pradesh.
- .. For Sloth bears at Agra.
- .. For Vulture rescue cum conservation breeding centre at Pinjore, Haryana.
- .. Temporary rescue centre cum treatment centres for Adjutant stork, Nagaon, Assam.

Rescue and rehabilitation initiative taken by Indian Zoos of animals seized from traders

The CZA took initiative and coordinated with the CITES Authorities in India and Southeast Asia in rescue operation of around 2,000 Star tortoises, which were smuggled out of the country.

- .. These tortoises were initially rehabilitated in the Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad.
- .. Strategy for their final rehabilitation in the wild has also been drawn up as per the IUCN protocol.
- .. Help of CCMB/LaCONES was obtained in locating the habitat from where these animals were poached. After ascertaining the exact habitat, around 375 Tortoises were released in their natural habitat.

Publications of the Central Zoo Authority

1. Handbook of the management of animals in captivity
2. Zoos of India
3. Restraint and translocation of wild animals
4. Dietary husbandry of wild mammalian species
5. Techniques and procedure for post-mortem of elephants
6. Management of elephants in captivity
7. Musth in Asian elephant
8. A compendium of publication from Indian Zoos - Volume I – Health & Disease management
9. A compendium of publication from Indian Zoos - Volume – II – Animal Biology and conservation
10. A Compendium of Publication from Indian Zoos - Volume III- Health & Disease Management
11. Indian Zoo Year Book Volume - 1/1996, Volume - II/1997 and Volume - III/1998
12. Indian Wildlife Year Book, Volume - I, 2002
13. Zoos - Instrument for Conservation
14. Studbook of Bengal Tiger and Asiatic Lion.
15. Inventory of animals in Indian Zoos (yearly publication)

Central Zoo Authority Centre for Zoo Sciences

.. On initiative of the Central Zoo Authority, MoEF, GoI has approved creation of Centre for Zoo Science in National Zoological Park. The modalities for the creation of the Centre for Zoo Science are being finalized.

Central Website & MIS Zoo Authority

You can visit us at our Website www.cza.nic.in to know more about us.

A Management Information System (MIS) has been developed in the Authority Office for more efficiency and transparency in the functioning of the Central Zoo Authority.

CZA sponsored Zoo personnel trained abroad

Year	Directors	Veterinarian	Supervisors	Keepers
1993-94	2	-	1	-
1994-95	1	-	-	-
1995-96	1	1	-	1
1996-97	2	1	-	-
1997-98	2	1	-	-
1998-99	1	1	-	-
1999-2000	1	1	-	-
2000-01	1	1	-	-
2001-02	1	1	-	-
2002-03	1	1	-	-
2003-04	1	1	-	-
2004-05	1	1	-	-
2005-06	1	1	-	-
Total	16	11	1	1