

**AGENDA NOTES FOR 19TH GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF THE  
WEST BENGAL ZOO AUTHORITY**

**Agenda 1 : 'Action Taken Report' on the decisions taken in the 17th and 18th meetings of the Governing Board of the West Bengal Zoo Authority .**

The 'Action Taken Reports' are presented before the Governing Board as **Annexure I**. The Governing Board may like to note the same.

**Agenda 2 : Approval of Annual Report and Consolidated Audited Accounts for the year 2019-20 of West Bengal Zoo Authority and all the Zoos under its control**

The Annual Report and consolidated Audited Accounts of West Bengal Zoo Authority for the year 2019-20 is put up before all the Members of West Bengal Zoo Authority for approval (**Annexure II**).

**Agenda 3 : Annual Plan of Operation of West Bengal Zoo Authority and all its units for the year 2020-21**

Annual Plan of Operation of West Bengal Zoo Authority and all its units for the year 2020-21 is put up before all the Members of West Bengal Zoo Authority for approval (**as per Annexure III**).

**Agenda 4 : Appointment of Internal Auditors & Statutory Auditors and Tax Consultant.**

The following Firms have been selected through tender/quotation :

- (1) **Internal Auditor & Tax Consultant** - Kedia Dhandharia & Co., Chartered Accountants, BC 266, Sector I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700064.
- (2) **Statutory Auditor** - Span & Associates, Chartered Accountants, 14/28, Golf Club Road, Ground Floor, Kolkata - 700 033.

The Governing Board is requested to accord approval.

**Agenda 5 : Revised Salary/Remuneration of different categories of staff engaged on contractual basis.**

The Manpower of different Zoos under West Bengal Zoo Authority and its Secretariat was approved by the Governing Board of West Bengal Zoo Authority in its 9th Meeting held on 11th July 2014 and 15th Meeting held on 9th April 2018 taking into consideration the different aspects of management and requirement of manpower in the field. The Forest Department, Govt. of West Bengal also approved the reorganization of establishment in West Bengal Zoo Authority and 12 Zoos under its control vide its letter dated 16th June 2015.

The Finance Department, Govt. of West Bengal has approved the engagement of 852 nos. of staff on contractual basis and fixed their remuneration of staff engaged on contractual basis as given below (copy enclosed) :

Group 'B'	Rs.12,000/-
Group 'C'	Rs.10,000/-
Group 'D'	Rs. 8,000/-

The Finance Department, Govt. of West Bengal vide its Notification No. 3998-F(P2) dated 15.07.2019 has fixed the consolidated remuneration per month of Group 'C' and Group 'D' category of workers engaged on contractual/casual/piece rated/daily rated workers (copy enclosed).

The consolidated remuneration per month of different categories of worker engaged by West Bengal Zoo Authority and its units on contractual basis is quite low and in case of Group 'D' category it is even lower than the monthly minimum rate of wages fixed by the Labour Department, Govt. of West Bengal. It is to be mentioned that many workers are engaged on contractual basis to perform different works in the zoos.

Under the circumstances, it is proposed that the consolidated remuneration per month of such contractual workers may be fixed as given below :

#### **Group 'B' Category**

<b>Present Remuneration</b>	<b>Proposed Remuneration</b>
Rs.12,000/-	Rs.16,000/-

#### **Group 'C' Category**

<b>Present Remuneration</b>	<b>Proposed Remuneration</b>
Rs.10,000/-	Rs.13,500/-

#### **Group 'D' Category & Security Staff**

The monthly charges will be based on minimum wages as declared by Labour Department of the State Government from time to time and will be automatically revised as per Order No. 3687-F(Y) dated 02.05.2012 of the Finance Department, Govt. of West Bengal.

- (a) **Annual increment** is proposed to be 3% of consolidated remuneration.
- (b) There will be no provision of Pension and Gratuity by the West Bengal Zoo Authority to such contractual staff.

The proposed wage rate is below than the salary of permanent staff as per 6th Pay Commission. There will be no additional financial burden on the State Government in this regard.

**Agenda 6 : Empanelment of Architect Firms for preparation of DPRs, detailed drawing and supervision of various projects.**

West Bengal Zoo Authority has to implement various projects as per the specifications of the Central Zoo Authority, Govt. of India. It is proposed that Empanelment of Architect Firms for this purpose is essential. The Finance Department, Govt. of West Bengal has approved 19 nos. of Architect Firms for West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation Limited with certain terms and conditions including fees.

It is proposed that West Bengal Zoo Authority also adopt the same empanelment of Architect Firms for planning, design, preparation of DPR, supervision and ensure quality of work at different zoos.

**Agenda 7 : Installation of Integrated Display Information Message Sign (IDIMS) LED Board at Zoological Garden, Alipore and Bengal Safari, Siliguri.**

The Zoological Garden, Alipore, and Bengal Safari, Siliguri attract lots of visitor and they can be educated of wildlife conservation through installation of Integrated Display Information Message Sign (IDIMS) LED Board. These Boards will be strategically placed so that all the conservation messages, achievement of the Forest Department and the State Govt. can be displayed for the visitors. Additionally, the zoo can earn revenue for renting this space for commercial advertisement.

It is proposed to install one such LED Board at Zoological Garden, Alipore and one at Bengal Safari, Siliguri. The total cost of such two units will be Rs.140.0 lakh + GST including Annual Maintenance. The expenditure for this purpose will be from West Bengal Zoo Authority Corpus Fund without any additional financial burden on the Govt. exchequer.

The matter is placed before the Board for approval.

**Agenda 8 : Waiving Rent of Souvenir Shops/Canteen/Kiosk in all Zoos due to Covid-19 Pandemic.**

All the Zoos in West Bengal were closed for the visitors from 17th March 2020 vide Order No. 531-For/FR/O/N/6M-10/2020 dated 16.03.2020, in view of the Novel Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) which is highly infectious disease. Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling, Bengal Safari, Siliguri and Zoological Garden, Alipore have rented various Souvenir Shops /Canteen / Kiosks which were closed accordingly. Most of the shops operators are depended on these shops for their livelihood and do not have means to pay the rent and other user charges to Zoo for the closure period.

The matter is placed before the Governing Board with the prayer of the shops operators to waive the rent, drinking water charges, toilet user charges etc. from 01.04.2020 till the Park reopens for the visitors.

**Agenda 9 : Miscellaneous Items with the permission of the Chair.**