

AGENDA NOTES FOR 20TH GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF THE WEST BENGAL ZOO AUTHORITY

Agenda 1 :

Approval of the Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Governing Board of the West Bengal Zoo Authority held on 8th December, 2020

The 19th meeting of the Governing Board of the West Bengal Zoo Authority was held on 08.12.2020. Copies of the approved minutes of the meeting have been circulated to all the Members. The Zoo Authority has not received any comments or suggestions from the Members and so it is proposed to confirm the Minutes of the 19th Governing Board Meeting of West Bengal Zoo Authority. Copy of the approved minutes is enclosed as **Annexure I**.

Agenda 2 :

'Action Taken Report' on the decisions taken in the 19th meeting of the Governing Board of the West Bengal Zoo Authority held on 8th December, 2020

The 'Action Taken Report' is presented before the Governing Board as **Annexure II**. The Governing Board may like to take note and approve the same.

Agenda 3 :

Annual Plan of Operation (APO) of West Bengal Zoo Authority and all its constituent units for the year 2021-22

The Annual Plan of Operation of West Bengal Zoo Authority and all its constituent units for the year 2021-22 is placed before the Members of West Bengal Zoo Authority for approval (**as per Annexure III**).

Agenda 4 :

Appointment of Internal Auditor, Statutory Auditor & Tax Consultant for the year 2020-21 of West Bengal Zoo Authority

The following Firms have been selected through tender/quotation & observance of the attendant procedures:

(1) Internal Auditor – Kedia Dhandharia & Co., Chartered Accountants, BC 266, Sector I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700064.

(2) Statutory Auditor - K. K. Chanani & Associates, Chartered Accountants, 5/1, Clive Row, 3rd Floor, Kolkata - 700001.

(3) Tax Consultant – Kedia Dhandharia & Co., Chartered Accountants, BC 266, Sector I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700064.

The Governing Board is requested to grant approval.

Agenda 5:

Scientific Research Programme, Animal Exchange programmes, Zoo Education, Procurement of Equipments and Machines for better Management of the Zoo as approved by the 19th and 20th meeting of the Technical Committee, West Bengal Zoo Authority.

The Central Zoo Authority of India, the nodal institution for scientific zoo management in India, in the recent years, has been giving higher emphasis on scientific research work in zoos and to develop conservation breeding programmes. The performance evaluation of zoos by the CZA is currently done on the basis of scientific research & zoo outreach in the form of zoo education. The Technical Committee headed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & Chief Wild Life Warden, West Bengal, has approved a list of Scientific Research Programmes including the conservation breeding programme of the State animal, the Fishing Cat. Animal exchange programmes, both inside the state's zoos and zoos in India and abroad, procurement of equipment and machines, approval of Lay out plans of Harinalaya, Garchumuk and revised layout plan of Alipore Zoological Garden have been approved by the Technical Committee in its 19th & 20th meetings held on 03.12.2020 & 28.04.2021.

The proposals are placed before the Governing Board for approval **(as per Annexure IV)**

Agenda 6:

Remuneration of contractual staff of Group "A" category & Research Assistants/Project Fellows

The remuneration of contractual Group A & B staff, engaged through WTL, has not been revised for the last 8 years. The following proposal of enhancement of remuneration of contractual staff of Group 'A' category, Group B category & Research Assistant /Project Fellow was placed and approved in the last (20th) meeting of the Technical Committee of West Bengal Zoo Authority held on 28.04.2021 and is now placed before the Governing Board for approval.

Sl.No	Name of the Post	Present Strength	*Current Consolidated Remuneration (Rs. /Month)	Proposed Consolidated Remuneration (Rs. /Month)	increase in annual outgo (Rs)
1	Scientific Officer	1	25000	40000	1,80,000/-
2	FA & CAO	-	-	50000	6,00,000/-
3	Finance Officer	1	25000	40000	1,80,000/-
4	Assistant Engineer Civil	1	25000	40000	1,80,000/-
5	Assistant Engineer Mechanical	-	-	40000	4,80,000/-
6	Zoo Biologist	2	19800	31700	2,85,600/-
7	Zoo Educator	2	19800	31700	2,85,600/-
8	Sub Assistant Engineer	5	19800	31700	7,14,000/-
9	Project Fellow	-	-	22400	2,68,800/-
10	Assistant zoo educator/Zoo Dietician	1	15400	24640	1,10,880/-
11	Research Assistant	2	14000	22400	2,01,600/-
	Total				34,86,480/-

*Approved in the 4th GB meeting on 24th March, 2012.

The historic inflation India (CPI) from 2011 to 2020 shows a cumulative inflation of about 60%

The Governing Board may like to approve the above proposal.

Agenda 7:**Requirement of additional manpower in medium & small zoos engaged through Webel Technology Limited under West Bengal Zoo Authority.**

In the recent past, all the 12 zoos and 12 breeding centres under the management of WBZA have expanded in terms of number of animals and animal enclosures. 10 medium & small zoos other than the Alipore Zoological Garden & the Padmaja Naidu Zoological Park Darjeeling, have been developed scientifically and expanded over last 5 years (North Bengal Wild Animals Park (Bengal Safari), Siliguri, Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali, Junglemahal Zoological Park, Jhargram, Bardhaman Zoological Park, Bardhaman, Surulia Mini Zoo, Purulia, Garhchumuk Deer Park, Howrah, Adina Deer Park ,Malda, Rasikbeel Mini Zoo, Coochbehar, South Khairbari Mini Zoo, Leopard Safari & Rehabilitation Centre, Alipurduar, Harinalaya Deer Park, New Town). For intensive scientific management and animal welfare, it is proposed that certain personnel essential for zoo management such as Zoo Biologist, Zoo Educator, Research Assistant, Animal Attendant, etc. need to be engaged on contractual basis. The Technical Committee of West Bengal Zoo Authority its meeting held on 28.04.2021 has recommended the additional requirement of manpower in different zoos through *Webel Technology Ltd*, a Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking. Their establishment cost will be met entirely from the WBZA's own fund/revenues.

The Governing Board may like to approve the following proposal.

Sl. No	Name and Number of the Posts	Educational Qualification/ Desirable Qualification	Proposed consolidated remunerations per month	WBZA	JMZP	BZP	RMZ	SM Z	GD P	AD P	SKRC	HDP	Total
1	Assistant Engineer (Mechanical)	B.E./B.Tech in Mechanical or equivalent	40000	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2	Research Assistant	M.S.Cin Bio Sciences Desirable: Experience of the related field	22400	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
3	Animal Attendant	Class VIII pass with 2 years knowledge of Animal handling (semi-skilled)	9795	-	2	1		1	2			2	8
	Grand Total			2	3	2	1	2	3	1	1	3	18

Agenda 8:**Special Allowance to contractual Zoo Keepers, Animal Attendants in Different Zoos under West Bengal Zoo Authority**

Daily handling of live wild animals involves high risk for life & limb. This high-risk job done by these staff is actually keeping our zoos and conservation breeding centre going. It is proposed that for such a high-risk work zoo keepers & animal attendants may be allowed to draw Rs.2000 per month as risk allowance considering their high risk duties. The proposal has been recommended by the Technical Committee in its 20th meeting and is placed before the Governing Board for approval.

Agenda 9:

The Rise in the operational costs of zoos and proposals for Additional Revenue Generation

a. Revision of Entry Fee for Zoos under West Bengal Zoo Authority

The revised list of Entry Fee for Zoos was placed and recommended by the Technical Committee of West Bengal Zoo Authority in its 20th Technical Committee Meeting held on 28.04.2021 as **Annexure V**.

The Governing Board may like to approve the same.

b. Revision of Animal Adoption Rate

The revised list of Animal Adoption Fee was placed and recommended by the Technical Committee of West Bengal Zoo Authority in its 20th Technical Committee Meeting held on 28.04.2021 as **Annexure VI**. WBZA is also taking necessary step to popularize Animal Adoption in Online platform.

The Governing Board may like to approve the same.

c. Development and Operation of Restaurant/Fast Food Centre at Alipore Zoo by West Bengal Forest Development Corporation.

Pursuant to the official visit of HMIC, Forests to the Alipore Zoological Garden on 14.06.2021 and decision taken thereafter, the Managing Director, West Bengal Forest Development Corporation sent a proposal to develop Restaurant/Fast Food Centre at Zoological Garden, Alipore and take the responsibility of the operation & maintenance. Lease/rental will be paid to West Bengal Zoo Authority as mutually decided. Member Secretary, West Bengal Zoo Authority may be authorised to sign a MOU with Forest Development Corporation Ltd.

The Governing Board may like to approve the same.

d. Setting up of one 12/3D-Auditorium/Zoo Centre at Zoological Garden, Alipore and North Bengal Wild Animal Park

Managing Director, West Bengal Forest Development Corporation has sent a proposal to develop one 12D-Auditorium /Zoo Centre just opposite of Zoological Garden, Alipore and at the auditorium North Bengal Wild Animal Park from their own fund and take the responsibility of operation. In this auditorium, virtual shows on Zoo Animals, Wildlife will be run. The cost of setting up of the auditorium and running the show will be done by the West Bengal Forest Development Corporation. The revenue earned will be shared between the WBZA and WBFDC. The proposal has been approved by the HMIC Dept of Forest. Member Secretary, West Bengal Zoo Authority may be authorised to sign the MOU with Forest Development Corporation Ltd. Kindly refer **Annexure VIII**

e. Setting up of LED Display Boards at Alipore Zoo premises & North Bengal Wild Animal Park

The proposal for setting up of LED Display Boards to enhance revenue earning by these 2 zoos were approved by the GB in its 19th meeting with the advice that WBZA should not spend its own fund in setting up these LED boards: "The matter was discussed and the members were of the view that capital expenditure for this purpose should not be done. It was

suggested that appropriate space in locations of Zoos should be given on rent for installation of such LED boards through tender as it will add to the revenue of the zoos". Tender process for the same was initiated twice by the Director, Alipore Zoological Garden but was not successful. Now, the Managing Director, West Bengal Forest Development Corporation has sent a proposal to set up LED Display boards at the Alipore Zoo & the North Bengal Wild Animal Park at their own cost. This would be a win-win proposition for the Alipore Zoo as it would get steady revenue without having to invest anything from its own resources. The proposal has been approved by the HMIC, Dept of Forest. Member Secretary, West Bengal Zoo Authority may be authorised to sign a MOU with Forest Development Corporation Ltd.

The Governing Board may like to approve the same.

Agenda 10 :

Miscellaneous, if any, with the permission of the Chair.

a. MOU with Prague Zoo and PNHZP

The Central Zoo Authority envisages to bring Indian Zoos to global standards and create a technology driven connect through its 10 years Vision Plan. Fifteen Zoos in India have been selected as part of the Vision Plan exercise and the Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling has been selected by Central Zoo Authority for twinning with the Prague Zoo to help it attain global standards.

The GB is requested to approve the proposal and authorise the Member Secretary WBZA to move the proposal for a MoU through proper channel for formalisation of the bilateral MoU between Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling and International Counterpart, Prague Zoo. Kindly refer **Annexure X** draft MoU

- b.** Proposal to waive rent of Souvenir shop, Canteen, Kiosk and animal adoption payment adoption money / Rent etc in all zoos in the State on account of Covid-19 pandemic related restrictions and lock downs from 1st April 2021 till the zoos open and resume normalcy.

The Governing Board may like to approve the same.