

WEST BENGAL ZOO AUTHORITY
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Minutes of the 7th Technical Committee Meeting held on 26th June, 2013.

The meeting was attended by :

Sri N.C.Bahuguna, I.F.S, PCCF (WL) & CWLW HoFF, West Bengal & Chairman
Sri Alankar Jha, I.F.S, Director, PNHZP, Darjeeling.
Sri B. R. Sharma, I.F.S., Member Secretary, West Bengal Zoo Authority
Sri V. K. Yadav, I.F.S., Director, Zoological Garden, Alipore
Sri Subhas Bose, Director, Animal Resources Development Deptt., GoWB
Sk. Md. Saidul Haque, Chief Engineer, WBZA
Sri Ujjal Bhattacharya, Technical Officer, WBZA

The following are the deliberations & decisions taken :

Agenda -1

Sub. : Status report and draft DPR of North Bengal Animals Park at Siliguri.

Ashfaque Ahmed Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur, Consultant of the project had given a power point presentation before the Technical Committee, regarding the draft DPR of the proposed North Bengal Animals Park at Siliguri. After elaborate discussion draft DPR of the project was accepted in principle by the committee with the following suggestions and modifications :-

1. Theme of the project should be narrated elaborately ; the park should be a showcase of flora and fauna of North Bengal.
2. The mode of use of elephants in elephant safari should be as per the norms of elephant use.
3. Area of the parking should have the capacity to accommodate all vehicles in peak tourist season.
4. Unnecessary cement construction work should be avoided; locally available materials should be used to keep the safari natural.
5. Population of Rhino should be 3:5.
6. Golden Cat to be included in smaller cat trail, including mongoose and porcupine.
7. Protection work of river embankment and rain water harvesting scope to be included.

Agenda -2

Sub. : Master layout plans for Surulia, Adina and Jhargram Mini Zoos.

MS explained the present status of Master Layout Plan of Surulia, Adina and Jhargram Mini Zoos. It was decided to take follow up action to get the approval from CZA.

Agenda -3

Sub. : Master Plan recommendations of CZA for Rasikbeel, Kunjanagar and Garchumuk.

MS explained the status of Master Layout Plan of Rasikbeel, Kunjanagar and Garchumuk Mini Zoos. It was decided to take follow up action to get the approval from CZA.

Agenda -4

Sub. : Design of Lesser Cat enclosure at Alipore Zoo.

Director, Alipore Zoo explained that the modified design of Lesser Cat enclosure at Alipore Zoo has been approved by CZA, after discussion it was decided to complete the remaining work of the enclosure early for commission the same.

Agenda -5

Sub. : Transfer of Leopard from Khairbari/Rasikbeel to Alipore Zoo.

After due consideration it was decided to shift 1:1 Leopard from Rasikbeel Mini Zoo/South Khairbari Rescue Centre to PNHZP, Darjeeling and shifting of Leopard to Alipore Zoological Garden, Alipore from Rasikbeel Mini Zoo/South Khairbari Rescue Centre shall be taken up after completion of new Leopard enclosures in Alipore Zoo.

Agenda -6

Sub. : Exchange of animal between zoos of West Bengal.

After detailed deliberation it was decided that Exchange of animal between zoos in West Bengal may be carried out as per the needs.

Agenda -7

Sub. : Status report of Jharkhali Transit Facility.

After detailed deliberation in the Technical Committee the proposal for maintaining Jharkhali as a transit facility only was approved. The proposed constructional work should be finished early. DFO, South 24-Parganas Division shall supervise the construction work as well as its later maintenance and upkeep.

Agenda -8

Sub. : Release of Red Pandas in Singalila National Park from Darjeeling Zoo.

After detailed discussion, proposal for release of 2 nos. Red Panda in Singalila N.P. from PNHZP, Darjeeling was not approved by the Technical Committee and kept pending for further discussion.

Agenda -9

Sub. : Status report for commissioning incomplete Leopard enclosure in Alipore Zoo.

After detailed discussion the modified plan of Leopard enclosures in Zoological Garden, Alipore has been approved. The modification has been made as per the suggestion of CZA. Approved plan need to be sent to CZA for approval prior to taking up execution of modification work. All the surplus iron structures of the under construction Leopard Enclosures would be used for the other constructional works of Alipore Zoo.

Agenda -10

Sub. : Preparation of manual of Pug Mark of zoo animals, proposed by Nature Environment & Wildlife Society, Kolkata.

Proposal of Nature Environment & Wildlife Society, Kolkata regarding preparation of manual of life size pug mark of animals of Zoological Park, Alipore and PNHZP, Darjeeling along with the opinion of Director, Alipore Zoo and Director, Darjeeling Zoo was placed before the Technical Committee. After elaborate discussion the proposal was approved. NEWS may be asked to pay the charges of daily labour provided by the PNHZP, Darjeeling during their field visit.

Agenda -11

Sub. : Modification of Elephant enclosure in Alipore Zoo.

MS explained the present status of elephant enclosure of Alipore Zoo and the decision of stakeholder consultative meeting on "elephant upkeep in zoo" of CZA. After detailed deliberation decision has been taken to shift existing 3 nos. elephants of Alipore Zoo to Jaldapara WLS/Gorumara NP, and 2 nos. elephant will be brought from Gorumara NP/Jaldapara WLS along with trained Mahuts after modification/extension of existing elephant enclosure of Alipore Zoo as per guideline of CZA.

Agenda -12

Sub. : Release of excess Spotted Deer of different zoos.

After detailed discussion it was decided that the possibility of translocation and release of huge quantity of Spotted Deer from different mini zoos into the wild as decided in the 5th and 6th Technical Committee meeting will be explored.

Agenda -13

Sub. : Animal exchange programme of Darjeeling Zoo.

After detailed discussion the proposal of animal exchange programme of PNHZP, Darjeeling was approved by the Technical Committee for taking further actions by the Director, PNHZP.

Agenda -14

Sub. : Proposed organisational chart of Zoological Garden, Alipore, Kolkata.

MS explained the necessity for organisational modification of Zoological Garden, Alipore for better and effective zoo management. A chart was placed before the committee. It was decided that "Bahuguna Committee" Report of reorganisation of Zoological Garden, Alipore and PNHZP, Darjeeling also needed to be considered for finalisation of the same.

Agenda -15

Sub. : Engagement of Zoo Volunteers.

After detailed discussion it was decided to explore the possibility of engagement of zoo volunteers in zoos as per the guideline of CZA (if any).

Agenda -16

Sub. : Training of animal handler.

Director, PNHZP, Darjeeling explained the needs of training of animal handler for better management. It was decided that the training will be conducted by the Director, PNHZP, Darjeeling for all zoos and mini zoos of North Bengal and Director, ZGA, Alipore for all zoos and mini zoos of South Bengal.

Agenda -17

Sub. : Tranquilisation of animals.

Director, Alipore Zoo explained that due to want of skilled tranquilisation person, management of the zoos face problem during the treatment of animals. He also suggested to arrange training of some zoo staff for this purpose. Technical Committee decided that Wildlife Institute of India may be requested to provide training on the subject to the zoo staff. MS requested to chalk out a programme.

Agenda -18

Sub. : Conservation of Marble Palace Zoo, Kolkata into heritage zoo.

MS explained that Marble Palace Zoo, Kolkata is one of the oldest zoo of India which was established in the year 1854 and still functioning from the same site. Being the oldest one with a beautiful museum in the palace, it has heritage value. This zoo may be converted into heritage zoo. CZA also intends to convert this zoo into heritage zoo and ready to provide all financial assistance. WBZA will provide all technical support for the purpose. After elaborate discussion Technical Committee principally approved the proposal with direction to explore the possibility.

Agenda -19

Sub. : Management of Bethuadahari Deer Park and other similar facilities in State.

Chairman, Technical Committee, explained the needs of handing over the management of Bethuadahari Deer Park and other similar facilities in West Bengal to WBZA for better management. Technical Committee agreed in principle and asked MS/WBZA to explore the possibilities regarding the same.

Agenda -20

Sub. : Adoption of zoo animals.

The adoption of zoo animals was approved in 6th Governing Board Meeting of WBZA. MS expressed the need of framing rules and terms and conditions of adoption. After discussion it was decided that rules and norms as framed would be placed in Technical Committee for approval.

The meeting ended with note of thanks,

The minutes may be approved.

Sd/-
Member Secretary,
WBZA

Sd/-
Chairman, WBZA Technical Committee, &
C. W. L. W, West Bengal