

Minutes of the 10th meeting of the Technical Committee of the West Bengal Zoo Authority held on 23rd. April, 2014 at Bikash Bhawan, Kolkata.

10th meeting of the Technical Committee of the West Bengal Zoo Authority was held on 23rd April 2014 in the office chamber of the PCCF, Wildlife & CWLW, West Bengal. The meeting was chaired by Shri Ujjwal Bhattacharya, IFS; PCCF, Wildlife & CWLW, West Bengal and Chairman, Technical Committee, West Bengal Zoo Authority. Following members/officers attended the meeting.

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| 1. Shri Ujjwal Bhattacharya, IFS,
PCCF, Wildlife & CWLW, WB &
Chairman, Technical Committee,
West Bengal Zoo Authority | - | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. S.C.Bose,
Director, Animal Husbandry &
Veterinary Services, West Bengal | - | Member |
| 3. Shri A K Jha, IFS,
Director,
Padmaja Naidu Himalayan
Zoological Park | - | Member |
| 4. Dr. K L Ghosh, IFS,
Director,
Zoological Garden, Alipore | - | Member |
| 5. Dr. B R Sharma, IFS
Addl.PCCF/PGLI & Member Secretary,
West Bengal Zoo Authority | - | Convenor |
| 6. Shri U K Bhattacharjee,
Technical Officer,
West Bengal Zoo Authority | - | Member |
| 7. Md. S Haque,
Chief Engineer,
West Bengal Zoo Authority | - | Member |

Confirmation of the minutes of the 9th meeting of the Technical Committee, West Bengal Zoo Authority held on 19.11.2013.

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the Technical Committee, West Bengal Zoo Authority held on 19.11.2013 were confirmed after brief discussion.

Action Taken Report (ATR) on the minutes decisions taken in the 9th meeting of the Technical Committee, West Bengal Zoo Authority.

Action Taken Report on the minutes/decisions taken in 9th meeting of the Technical Committee, West Bengal Zoo Authority was discussed in details and noted by the members. Copy of the ATR is also enclosed as **annexure -I**.

Agenda 1

Sanction strength and actual requirement of manpower in WBZA and different zoos in West Bengal.

The need for complete relook on engagement/requirement of manpower in the WBZA and all the Zoos under its control was strongly felt by the Committee. After detailed discussion it was decided to form a Three Member Committee with Member Secretary, WBZA as Chairman and Director, ZGA and Director, PNHZP as members to come out with detailed recommendations on the issue and submit the report to the Chairman, Technical Committee, West Bengal Zoo Authority within 26th. May, 2014. If approved the report shall be placed in the next General Body

Meeting of the West Bengal Zoo Authority for final approval and taking further action.

Agenda 2

Different issues related to services and allowances to staff of WBZA and different zoos under its control.

The proposal was discussed in details. Following recommendations have been finalised for placing the same in the next General Body Meeting of the West Bengal Zoo Authority for final approval/decision.

Sl. No.	Issue related to services & allowances to the staff of West Bengal Zoo Authority	Recommendations
1.	Payment of Cash compensation to the staff called for duty on Govt. declared holidays/off days.	Shall be calculated on the formula $\frac{BP+GP+DA}{30}$ during the month for the concerned staff. Cash compensation shall not be applicable in case of Group A & B Officers/Staffs.
2.	Payment of overtime allowance in case of extra duty performed in emergent situations/exigencies	Shall be calculated based on the formula $\frac{BP+GP+DA}{30 \times 8}$ during the month for the concerned staff. This shall again not be available to Group A & B Officers/Staffs. Overtime allowance shall not be in addition to the Cash compensation made available.
3.	Hazard Allowance (to the staff directly handling animals)	As per the G.O. applicable in such cases.
4.	Availability of Uniform and Washing Allowance	As per the G.O. (as available to staff of the Directorate of Forests)
5.	Leave Travel Concession	As per the G.O. (applicable to the place of posting)
6.	Career Advancement Scheme	As per the G.O. (applicable in fully Govt. of West Bengal controlled statutory/autonomous organisations).
7.	Compensatory Provident Fund/EPF	As per the G.O. and the Provident Fund Commissioner's orders/guidelines.
8.	Die-in-harness	As per the G.O. (applicable to the staff of the Directorate of Forests).
9.	Garden/Zoo Allowance	To be decided by the General Body, West Bengal Zoo Authority. Staff of the Zoological Garden, Alipore is getting at the rate of Rs.180/- p.m. at the moment.
10.	Transfer and posting	(a) The staff upto the rank of Zookeeper (and below) shall be treated as Zoo Cadre and shall not be transferred, (except on complain/punishment and representation). (b) All the Officer and staff above (a) shall be treated as WBZA Cadre and can be transferred posted anywhere within the State of West Bengal.
11.	Essential Services	Posts with following designations i.e. Director, Deputy Director, Assistant Director, Veterinary Officer, Zoo Supervisors, Security Supervisor, Asstt. Zoo Supervisor, Asstt. Security Supervisor, Veterinary Assistant/Compounder, Driver, Zoo Keeper, Mahout, Cook shall be treated as essential services. It shall be mandatory for them to stay in Zoo premises in the residence/accommodation provided by the Zoos. Efforts shall be made to provide earmarked accommodation for them in each recognised Zoo.

Agenda 3

Different facilities having wild animals in captivity and/or functioning as zoos in West Bengal.

(a) After detailed discussion it was decided that the West Bengal Zoo Authority shall develop the following recognised (by the Central Zoo Authority) Zoos under its control (as per the details given) on scientific lines.

1. Zoological Garden, Alipore (Kolkata) : Large Zoo.
2. Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling (with its satellite facilities at Daw Hill and Topkedara) : Small Zoo.
3. North Bengal Wild Animals Park, Siliguri in lieu of Kunjanagar Nature Park/Rescue Centre which shall be converted into Hog Deer Conservation Breeding Centre) : Small Zoo.
4. Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali (in lieu of Kumari-Kangsabati Deer Park which shall be converted into Spotted Deer Captive Breeding Facility) : Small Zoo.
5. Jhargram Zoo, Jhargram : Small Zoo.
6. Ramnabagan Zoo, Burdwan : Small Zoo.
7. Rasikbill Mini Zoo, Coochbehar(Kholta facility shall be closed) : Mini Zoo.
8. Adina Deer Park, Malda : Mini Zoo/Deer Park.
9. Garchumuk Deer Park, Howrah : Mini Zoo/Deer Park.
10. Surulia Mini Zoo, Purulia : Mini Zoo.
11. South Khairbari Rescue Centre, Jalpaiguri : Rescue Centre (for large Cats).

(b) It was decided to keep track and provide all technical assistance (by the West Bengal Zoo Authority) to all the following private Zoos/Rescue Centres/Circuses (recognised as Zoos by the CZA) in the State of West Bengal.

1. Marble Palace Zoo, Kolkata : Small Zoo (to be developed as heritage Zoo).
2. Kolkata Snake Park, Badu (24-Prgs.(S) : Small Zoo.
3. West Bengal Snake Park and Laboratory, Kathore (South 24-Prgs.) : Mini Zoo.
4. Taratala Nature Park, Taratala (Kolkata) : Mini Zoo.
5. Pugmark PFA Rescue Centre Shantiniketan (Birbhum) : Rescue Centre for small animals.
6. Weston Circus.
7. Asiad Circus.
8. Asian Circus.

9. Ajanta Circus.
10. Olympic Circus.
11. Famous Circus.
12. Kohinoor Circus.
13. Natraj Circus.
14. Empire Circus.

(c) It was also decided to operate/develop following captive wild animals holding facilities in the State as Captive Breeding Facilities (CBF) only. The facilities shall formally not be open to the visitors and shall not function as Zoos. The facilities shall continue to be managed by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer. The West Bengal Zoo Authority shall provide all technical and financial assistance (to the extent possible) for their development (only) on scientific line.

1. Spotted Deer Captive Breeding facility, Bhallavpur.
2. Spotted Deer Captive Breeding facility, Parmadan.
3. Spotted Deer Captive Breeding facility, Bethuadahari.
4. Spotted Deer Captive Breeding facility, Hizli (Kharagpur).
5. Spotted Deer Captive Breeding facility, Bakkhali (Sundarban).
6. Spotted Deer Captive Breeding facility, Banpukuria, Kumari-Kangsabati (Bankura) (instead of a regular recognised Zoo).
7. Spotted Deer Captive Breeding facility, Deoli (Burdwan).

Agenda 4

Different facilities having wild animals in captivity and functioning as Conservation Breeding Centres in West Bengal.

After brief discussion it was decided to provide all possible technical and financial assistance to the following established (and in pipeline) Conservation Breeding Centres (of the endangered species) for their scientific development and management (from the expertise and resources available with the WBZA). The centres shall continue to be managed by the present controlling/managing authorities only.

1. Vultures Conservation Breeding Centre, Rajabhatkhawa (Buxa Tiger Reserve).
2. Swamp Deer Conservation Breeding Centre (Jaldapara National Park).
3. Hog Deer Conservation Breeding Centre, Kunjanagar (Jalpaiguri).
4. Sundarban Crocodilian Species Conservation Breeding Centre, Bhagabatpur (Sundarban Biosphere Reserve).
5. Pygmy Hog Conservation Breeding Centre, Garanti (Gorumara National Park) (to be established).

Agenda 5

Development works proposed in different zoos during 2014-15.

Budget Proposal of developmental work under State Plan (Annual Plan) for the year 2014-15 of Rs.643 lacs. in different Zoos has been approved.(Annexure-II).

Agenda 6

Status report of North Bengal Wild Animals Park, Siliguri and directive from CZA for closure of certain captive animal facilities as a condition for approval.

The Technical Committee appreciated the development and following decisions were taken.

- (a) South Khairbari Facility shall continue to be a regular (recognised by the CZA) Rescue Centre mainly dealing with large Cats. Paid entry of the visitors shall be discontinued with immediate effect.
- (b) Leopard Safari at South Khairbari is not functional at the moment and shall not be revived.
- (c) Kunjanagar Rescue Centre (Jaldapara) shall be developed as Hog Deer Conservation Breeding Centre. Presently it is not formally open (as Rescue Centre) to the visitors and no paid visitation shall be allowed in the Centre (as Hog Deer Conservation Breeding Centre).
- (d) Kholta facility (as Satellite facility of Rasikbeel Mini Zoo) shall be closed by translocating of all the animals to other recognised zoos in the State.
- (e) PCCF (HOFF) shall be requested to discontinue operation of captive wild animals facilities at Hizli and Bakkhali as zoos. The facilities shall be developed and managed as Spotted Deer Captive Breeding Facility, Hizli (Kharagpur) and Spotted Deer Captive Breeding Facility, Bakkhali respectively only. No paid visitation shall be allowed to the facilities.

Agenda 7

Status report of Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali.

Considering the importance and need for a ex-situ for mangrove forests, it was decided to develop the proposed facility at Jharkhali as Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali. This shall be a regular recognised (not as Satellite facility of Zoological Garden, Alipore or ex-situ transit facility for tiger only) Zoological Park. Proper DPR for the same is under preparation. The DPR shall be submitted to the Central Zoo Authority for approval. Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali shall be developed in lieu of Kumari-Kangsabati Deer Park which shall only be managed and developed as Spotted Deer Captive Breeding Facility, Banpukuria. Sundarban Wild Animal Park, Jharkhali on completion shall be first and only mangrove Zoo in the World.

Agenda 8

Status report of elephant enclosure in Alipore Zoo.

Status report of Elephant enclosure in Alipore Zoo was discussed elaborately. It was decided that the Director, ZGA will take follow up action for obtaining approval of the design of Elephant enclosure from CZA.

Agenda 9

Translocation of excess deer from zoos to the wild for releases.

It was felt that the spotted deers kept at different zoos and captive breeding facilities in the State have not been planned bred. The present stock is of very uncertain genetic and physical health. So it was decided not to release these deer to any of the established protected area (National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary) in the State.

Concerned zoos and other spotted deer captive breeding facilities need to initiate and take up spotted deer breeding afresh with proper (genetically and physically) founders (in case required for establishment of prey base in identified PAs).

Existing stock of spotted deer need to be phased out by controlled breeding (by sterilization and segregation of sexes). At the same time effort need to be taken up for capture and release of existing stock of spotted deer in the big forested patches in South West Bengal including Majurjharna Elephant Reserve. All release protocol (of the Central Zoo Authority) for the same including soft releases shall be followed while doing the exercise. The West Bengal Zoo Authority shall provide all finances for the operation, whereas the exercise shall be conducted by the Wildlife Wing of the Directorate of forests.

Agenda 10

Revision of rate of adoption of zoo animals in zoos.

Revision of rates for adoption of zoo animals was discussed elaborately. It was decided to defer the revision for the time being.

Agenda 11

Selection criteria for empanelment of clearing agent for transportation of animals from abroad.

Engagement of clearing agent for transportation of animals from abroad was discussed. Committee felt the necessity of engagement of clearing agent. Selection criteria for empanelment of clearing agent as proposed was approved. Selection will be made through wide publicity in the newspapers. No licence will be issued to any individual/organisation for the same. Selected clearing agent would work as agent of the concerned zoo.

Agenda 12

Training of zoo staff.

Committee felt the necessity for providing training to the Officers and staffs of zoos for scientific management of zoo. It was decided that the training of Zookeepers of zoos will be organised in North Bengal & South Bengal. The duration of training may be 7 seven days. Member Secretary, WBZA was requested to plan the training schedule, date & venue.

Agenda 13

Animal exchange proposal of different zoos. Director, PNHZP has submitted proposal as detailed below for approval.

Animal exchange proposal as proposed by the Director, PNHZP was discussed and approved.

Agenda 14

Research project of different zoos. Research proposal submitted by Director/PNHZP.

Proposed Research Projects (3 Nos.) of Director/PNHZP were placed in Technical Committee Meeting. After detailed discussion Technical Committee approved all the 3 Research Projects of PNHZP.

Agenda 15

Collaborative research programme as proposed by Techno India University and other University.

Proposal for collaborative Research Project of Techno India Universities was placed and discussed in the Technical Committee Meeting. It was decided that Techno India University may be requested to provide the details of expertise and infrastructure of the related field available and small note on the activities taken up in the University for taking decision on the proposal.

Agenda 16

Proposal of the Times Group for encouragement of Friends of Zoo.

The proposal of Times Group for encouragement of Friends of the Zoo was placed and discussed in the Technical Committee Meeting. After thorough discussion proposal was not approved.

Agenda 17

Approval of Logo of WBZA.

Technical Committee advised to prepare some more sample of Logo of WBZA engaging artist, out of which one design of Logo would be approve through circulation.

Supplementary Agenda:1

Annual WAZA Conference to be held in November 2014 at Delhi.

Director/PNHZP expressed his views about the participation. Director, Zoological Garden, Alipore was also asked to prepare a presentation on Zoological Garden, Alipore & Marble Palace Zoo, and Kolkata on their heritage values for WAZA Conference.

Supplementary Agenda:2

Posting of Veterinary Officer on deputation in Zoological Garden Alipore.

Director/Zoological Garden informed that Director/Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Service was requested for posting of Veterinary Officer on deputation from AR department to Zoological Garden, Alipore for looking after animal health & welfare of the Zoo. Director, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Service expressed his inability for posting of Veterinary Officer on deputation in ZGA due to shortage of Veterinary Officers in the department, but assured to entertain request after filling up the vacant posts in his department through recruitment. It was decided to engage the Veterinary Officer on contract in ZGA for the time being.

Supplementary Agenda:3

Posting of Elephant specialist (Veterinary Officer) at Jalpaiguri.

There is a post of Elephant specialist (V.O.) under department of Animal Resource at Jalpaiguri. There is an established Elephant Reserve viz. Eastern Doars Elephant Reserve, in North Bengal. It was decided that a proposal may be initiated by the CWLW, so that above said post of Elephant specialist is placed at the disposal of Wildlife Wing of Forest Department, Govt. of West Bengal to deal with all elephant related issues in the State.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

Sd/-
Member Secretary
West Bengal Zoo Authority

Approved

Sd/-
PCCF, Wildlife & CWLW, WB &
Chairman, Technical Committee
WBZA

Annexure-I
Action Taken Report on
Resolutions of 9th Technical Committee Meeting
held on 19.11.2013.

Agenda 1. Release of excess spotted deer of zoos into the wild.

ATR - There has been no progress towards the segregation/sterilization of deer in mini zoos. The issue has been again placed as an agenda item in the 10th Technical Committee Meeting.

Agenda 2. Status report of elephant in Alipore Zoo.

Two members of Zoo Designing Committee of CZA visited Zoological Garden, Alipore. As per their suggestion the plan of elephant enclosure of ZGA has been modified and submitted to CZA vide WBZA memo. No. 499, dt.19.12.14. Approval of the plan is still awaited.

Agenda 3. Proposal for breeding programme at Alipore Zoo.

ATR- Breed pair of the tiger has already been identified and shifted to the same enclosure in adjoining cell. Mating shall be taken up as the female is in heat.

Agenda 4. Exchange of animals at Alipore and Hyderabad Zoo.

ATR- The matter has not been pursued further as the exchange proposal was not found to be favourable for Zoological Garden, Alipore.

Agenda 5. Exchange of animals proposed by PNHZP.

ATR- All the exchange proposal have been expedited.

Agenda 6. Engagement of Scientific Officer & Education Officer.

ATR- One Education Officer & One Scientific Officer has been appointed on contractual basis for a period of one year through walk in interview.

Agenda 7. Transfer of birds from PNHZP to mini zoo.

ATR- Transfer of birds as proposed by the Director, PNHZP has been materialised.

Development works proposed in different zoos during 2014-15 financial year under State Plan (Annual Plan) approved in the 10th Technical Committee Meeting of WBZA held on 23.04.2014.

Surulia Mini Zoo, Purulia:

(a)	Renovation & extension of Deer Enclosure	...	20 Lakhs.
(b)	Making of Signages	...	1 lakhs.
(c)	Construction of Toilet	...	3 lakhs.
(d)	Installation of drinking water facility	...	<u>2 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>26 lakhs.</u>

Kumari Kangsabati Deer Park:

(a)	Installation of drinking water facility	...	2 lakhs.
(b)	Making of Signages	...	1 lakhs.
(c)	Construction of Entry Gate	...	2 lakhs.
(d)	Construction of Toilet	...	<u>3 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>8 lakhs.</u>

Adina Deer Park:

(a)	Extension of enclosure for Nilgai	...	5 lakhs.
(b)	Making of sitting arrangements for tourists.	...	<u>2 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>7 lakhs.</u>

Jhargram Zoo:

(a)	Making of enclosure for Sambar.	...	12 lakhs.
(b)	Establishment of Enclosure for Leopard	...	<u>40 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>52 lakhs.</u>

Garchumuk Deer Park:

(a)	Making of aviary for exotic birds.	...	5 lakhs.
(b)	Installation of fencing & development of Crocodile pond.	...	4 lakhs.
(c)	Installation of fencing & development of Turtle pond.	...	<u>4 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>13 lakhs.</u>

Kunjanagar Rescue Centre:

(a)	Installation of barbed wire fencing	...	6 lakhs.
(b)	Deer enclosure segregation	...	<u>3 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>9 lakhs.</u>

South Khairbari Rescue Centre:

(a)	Construction of Post Mortem room	...	6 lakhs.
(b)	Installation of CCTV	...	3 lakhs.
(c)	Construction of toilet	...	<u>3 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>12 lakhs.</u>

Ramnabagan Mini Zoo :

(a)	Installation of Spotted deer enclosure	...	20 lakhs.
(b)	Installation of Barking deer enclosure	...	15 lakhs.
(c)	Installation of Sambar deer enclosure	...	23 lakhs.
(d)	Construction of Peasantry	...	<u>10 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>68 lakhs.</u>

Rasikbeel Rescue Centre:

(a)	Installation of drinking water facility	...	3 lakhs.
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TOTAL ... 3 lakhs.

Zoological Garden, Alipore:

(a)	Extension & improvement of elephant enclosure	...	75 lakhs.
(b)	Improvement & extension of Hippo enclosure	...	<u>42 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>117 lakhs.</u>

Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling :

(a)	Well equipped Artificial Incubation cum Chick hatching House at Darjeeling and Satellite Facility at Dowhill at the Cost of Rs.15.00 lakhs each	...	30 lakhs.
(b)	Repairing and renovation of old enclosure of Snow Leopard at Conservation Breeding at PNHZ Park, Darjeeling	...	25 lakhs.
(c)	Motor Installation, cabling, main control panel and feeder pillar at Satellite Facility at Dowhill, Kurseong	...	04 lakhs.
(d)	Construction of Medical Unit cum Research Unit at Topkeydara	...	27 lakhs.
(e)	Construction of 4 Unit enclosures (with six nos. of night shelter cells) for Snow Leopard at Topkeydara	...	60 lakhs.
(f)	Butterfly Garden/Park at Topkeydara	...	<u>04 lakhs.</u>
	TOTAL	...	<u>150 lakhs.</u>

Jharkhali Animal Park/Tiger Rescue Centre :

(a)	Construction of CC Bridge and Canopy path (68 mtr.) at Tiger Rescue Enclosure.	...	60 lakhs.
(b)	Installation of chain link fencing (part) along the periphery of the proposed site of Wild Animals Park, at Jharkhali.	...	33 lakhs.
(c)	Construction of Interpretation Centre at Jharkhali	...	<u>85 lakhs.</u>

TOTAL : 178 lakhs.

GRAND TOTAL: Rs. 643 lakhs.

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(Rupees Six hundred forty three lakhs only).