

**MINUTES OF THE 15TH THCHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17TH
FEBRUARY 2017 IN THE MEMBERS ROOM OF WEST BENGAL ZOO
AUTHORITY, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA.**

15th Meeting of the Technical Committee of the West Bengal Zoo Authority was held on 17th February 2017 in the Members Room of West Bengal Zoo Authority. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Pradeep Vyas, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wild Life & CWLW, West Bengal and Chairman of the Technical Committee of West Bengal Zoo Authority. The following Members/Officers attended the meeting:

- (1) Dr. B. R. Sharma, IFS, Member, Technical Committee, WBZA.
- (2) Sri V. K. Yadav, IFS, Member Secretary, WBZA
- (2) Sri A. K. Samanta, IFS, Director, Zoological Garden, Alipore (Kolkata) and Member, Technical Committee, WBZA.

Dr.(Capt.) A.G. Bandhopadhyay, Director, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, West Bengal and Member, Technical Committee, WBZA and Sri Piar Chand, IFS, Director, Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park and Member, Technical Committee, WBZA could not attend the meeting because of pre- occupation and granted leave of absence.

Agenda 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 14th meeting of the Technical Committee of the West Bengal Zoo Authority held on 11th May, 2016

Minutes of the 14th meeting of the Technical Committee of the West Bengal Zoo Authority held on 11th May, 2016 were confirmed after brief discussion.

Agenda 2: Action Taken Report (ATR) on the minutes / decision taken in the 14th Meeting of the Technical Committee

Member Secretary, West Bengal Zoo Authority and Convenor of the Technical Committee, West Bengal Zoo Authority presented the Action Taken Report (ATR) on the minutes / decision taken in the 14th Meeting of the Technical Committee. ATR was noted by the Members present. Following modifications have been made.

- (1) The Conservation Breeding Programme is to be initiated for those endangered species found in the state for release in the wild.
- (2) The Captive Breeding Programme of Satyr Tragopan is to be taken up

at Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling. Parental stock of Satyr Tragopan may be obtained from the wild with prior permission of the Chief Wildlife Warden and the State Govt.

- (3) Feasibility Study for release of Red Panda in Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary and Neora Valley N.P is to be initiated for rehabilitation and restocking of these endangered species.
- (4) Bhutan Grey Peacock Pheasant Captive Breeding Programme is to be initiated.
- (5) Surplus stock of Kalij Pheasant of Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling may be released in the wild after status survey in suitable habitat in consultation with Wildlife Wing.

Agenda 3: Present status of Master Plan /Master Lay Out Plan of different Zoos under West Bengal Zoo Authority.

The Committee noted the present status of Master Plan and Master Layout Plan of West Bengal Zoo Authority with a decision to exclude Tiger Enclosure from Bardhaman Zoological Park, Bardhaman. The revised Master Layout Plan of the following Zoo was approved by the Technical Committee for sending to the Central Zoo Authority for approval.

- 1) Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali
- 2) Surulia Mini Zoo, Purulia
- 3) South Khairbari Leopard Safari & Rehabilitation Centre (South Khairbari Rescue Centre) (Mini Zoo), Alipurduar.
- 4) Garchumuk Deer Park, Howrah

Agenda 4 : Procurement of Rescue Vehicles for Zoos

After prolonged discussion the Technical Committee recommended the purchase of 9 nos. vehicle for use in different zoos for day to day Zoo Management, transfer of food to the enclosures and safari as well as for transportation of rescued and sick animals.

Agenda 5: Exchange of animals between zoos.

Animal Exchange Programme between different zoos has been approved subject to the approval of Central Zoo Authority. Detailed proposal for exchange of Snow Leopard between Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park,

Darjeeling and Himalayan Nature Park, Kufri is to be submitted to Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal.

Agenda 6 : Prevention of Avian Influenza

Technical Committee approved and recommended the proposal to draw up a suitable contingency plan in consultation with the Animal Husbandry Department, Govt. of West Bengal and Govt. of India as a precautionary measure to tackle any eventuality before the outbreak of avian influenza (Bird Flu).

Agenda 7 : Approval of different Research Projects

The Technical Committee approved the Research Projects - (a) "Genetic analysis of captive stock of Giraffe" & (b) "Study of visitors at Zoological Garden, Alipore" placed in the meeting with a decision for determination of carrying capacity of Zoological Garden, Alipore.

Agenda 8 : Workshop on Enrichment of Zoo Enclosures

The Technical Committee approved the proposal of conducting the workshop of 'Enrichment of Zoo Enclosure' during April 2017.

Agenda 9 : Two days' Workshop on "Identification and Marking of Animals in Captivity" with Zoo Officials of different Zoos

The Technical Committee approved the proposal for conducting workshop on " Identification and Marking of Animals in Captivity" in Zoos and Deer Park on 16th & 17th March 2017 at Zoological Garden, Alipore.

Agenda 10 : Training of Veterinary Surgeons & Compounders at IVRI / Belgatchia

The Technical Committee approved the proposal for organising training programme for Laboratory Technicians, Veterinary Assistants and Veterinary Officers in the month of August 2017.

Agenda 11: Conservation Breeding Programme of Swamp Deer at Jaldapara, Salt Water Crocodile at Bhagatpur, Hog Deer & Sambar Deer at Kunjanagar, Goral at Dawhill

After detail discussions it has been resolved that the Conservation Breeding Programme of Sambar Deer will be initiated at Jaldapara and Kunjanagar where facilities are available. After successful breeding Sambar Deer will be released in the wild in Jaldapara National Park & Buxa Tiger Reserve to increase prey base of the protected area.

The existing Swamp Deer stock at Jaldapara will be translocated to zoos as exhibits after rapid assessment of health within two months. Status report of Salt Water Crocodile is to be submitted to Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal.

It is also resolved that availability of Newt (Salamandar) in other areas is to be assessed within the target period and said areas may be declared as "**Community Reserve**" by the State Govt.

Agenda 12 : Elephant Ride in mixed Herbivore Safari at Bengal Safari, Siliguri

Proposal for elephant ride in mixed Herbivore Safari at Bengal Safari has been approved. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & CWLW, West Bengal should be approached for posting two departmental elephants for this purpose.

Agenda 13: Proposal for establishment of Leopard Safari at South Khairbari , Alipurduar

The proposal for making comprehensive plan for Leopard Safari as well as other Animals and Bird Enclosures at South Khairbari Rescue Centre for sending the same to Central Zoo Authority for approval has been approved and recommended by the Technical Committee.

Agenda 14 : Progress of Works related to Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali

The Technical Committee noted and approved after discussions the status of progress of works related to Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali.

Supplementary Agenda No. 1:

Developmental works at Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling and the breeding centre at Topkedara and Dow Hill, Kurseong

The Technical Committee noted and approved the developmental work proposal by Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling.

Supplementary Agenda No. 2:

Exposure visits :

The Technical Committee noted and approved the proposed exposure visits for zoo officials for visit to best managed zoo and some protected area.

Supplementary Agenda No. 3:

Training Programme

The Technical Committee noted and approved the proposal for workshop on Amphibians found in and around Darjeeling District at Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park.

Supplementary Agenda No. 4 :

The Technical Committee has suggested to develop the expert team of West Bengal Zoo Authority and to procure required materials for translocation of surplus spotted deer from zoos into the wild/zoos.

It has been resolved that Directors of Zoo may be empowered to upgrade the Zoo Enclosure, Veterinary Hospital etc. as per approved Master Plan.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and all the Members.

Member Secretary,
West Bengal Zoo Authority

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife &
CWLW, West Bengal & Chairman, Technical Committee
West Bengal Zoo Authority