

Guidelines for establishing Safari Parks in the existing Zoos

The Zoos may establish Safari Parks within its premises subjects to they follow the guidelines of the Central Zoo Authority laid in this regard as well as the same forms part of its Master Plan and prior approval of the Central Zoo Authority.

The following are the detailed guidelines for the Safari Parks:-

- (i) The area of the outdoor enclosures for herbivore safari and carnivore safari should not be less than 30 hectares and 20 hectares respectively. Mini zoos being operated as Deer Parks and displaying mega species should not be of less than five hectares.
- (ii) Entry and exit to every drive through enclosure should be through a system of double gates. There should be sufficient space in between the two gates, to allow the gates to be securely locked at the front and the rear of every vehicle that enters the drive through enclosure.
- (iii) The gates for drive through enclosure should be so designed and located that the person operating the gates can see and ensure that no animal is standing near the gate at that time when the gate is being opened for the vehicle getting into the enclosure.
- (iv) Arrangement should be in place to ensure that the two gates provided under the double gate entry and exit system do not open simultaneously. The 2nd gate should open when the first gate has been securely locked.
- (v) Design of the double gates should be such that the same can be operated conveniently by one person only.
- (vi) Visitors should be allowed to enter in the enclosure of large cats and Bears only in closed top vehicle and the windows and glasses of the vehicle should be kept securely locked during the period the vehicle remains in the drive through enclosure.
- (vii) Supervisory staff accompanying the vehicle should be armed with appropriate weapons and communication equipment and should be authorized to use the same effectively, if required to do so, to save the visitor from attack by the animals.
- (viii) Trained personnel shall be suitably positioned over the entire drive through enclosure, on appropriately designed watch towers to keep a watch on the movement of vehicles, the animals and intruders, if any

and to provide necessary guidance to gate staff, the vehicle drivers and the animal keepers in carrying out the jobs assigned to them safely and effectively.

- (ix) A rescue vehicle capable of affecting recovery of the vehicles from the drive through enclosure should always be available at the command of supervisory staff as long as there are any vehicles within the drive through enclosures.
- (x) The layout of roads in the drive through enclosure should be such that the visitors can be shown all the highlights of the enclosure without disturbing the animals in their withdrawal areas.

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