To
1. The Chief Wildlife Warden of all States/UTs
2. The Municipal Commissioner of Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Coimbatore, Cuttack, Gwalior, Indore, Mumbai, Pune, Rajkot, Solapur, Surat, Thanjavur & Vadodara,
3. The Managing Director of Steel Plants at Bhilai, Bokaro, Jamshedpur & Rourkela
4. The Director/Curator/Officer in charge of all Large, Medium, Small, Mini category zoos

CIRCULAR

Subject: Incidence of Trypanosomiasis and Spleenomegaly in Wild dog at the Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam – regarding

Reference:
1. This office Circular F.No.7-12/2000-CZA(126)(N), dated 18.07.2002
2. This office Circular F.No.7-12/2000-CZA(N), dated 20.06.2003

Sir,

It is to inform that this authority has received information about death of a Wild dog at the Indira Gandhi Zoological Park, Visakhapatnam due to Trypanosomiasis and Spleenomegaly. In the past, the Central Zoo Authority has issued advisories in this regard vide letters cited above at reference 1 and 2. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith.

It is again to advise the management of all recognized zoos to go through the advisory issued by the Central Zoo Authority and also to carry out following measures:

1. Improvement of hygiene of the animal enclosures and its surrounding viz. removal of weeds and bush cutting to reduce the vector load, cleaning of moats and sewer lines and proper disposal of solid wastes.
2. Screening of animals against infestation of ecto and endo parasites.
3. Carrying out blood tests of animals in a planned and systemic manner, without causing undue stress to the animals, with a view to identify incidence of blood borne parasites and take appropriate prophylactic/remedial measures.

Continued...
4. Procurement of medicines of essential nature in reasonable quantities to meet emergencies.
5. Constitution of Health Advisory Committee comprising experienced Veterinarians with a mandate to advise management of the zoos in the State, on animal health care and related matters. The Committee should visit zoos at least once every three months and monitor the compliance of the healthcare standards prescribed under Schedule 5 in Rule 10 of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.

The zoo personnel handling animals should take all precautionary measures while they are working in the zoo like use of safety gear / clothes / aprons / gloves / face mask / mask with filter / cover over head / gum-boots etc. The sanitation / hygiene / disinfection of personnel, animal enclosures and campus be maintained of highest standards. All safety measures should be adopted strictly.

Above measures are part of the preventive measures for disease control and health care of animals in zoos, particularly Carnivores. A report on action taken in this regard may be sent to this authority for information.

Yours sincerely,

Enclosure: as above

(Dr. D.N. Singh)
Member Secretary
Central Zoo Authority

F.No. 7-12/2000-CZA(126)(N)

To

The Secretary (Forest)
of All States.

Sir,

You are aware that Recognition of Zoo Rules prescribes standards and norms for health care, hygiene and upkeep of animals under Rule 10 (Norm Nos. 21 to 30). Central Zoo Authority carries out evaluation of Zoos with respect to compliance of these norms periodically, which is generally every second year. However, there is no mechanism for regular monitoring of compliance of these norms at the State level (except Orissa and National Zoological Park, New Delhi).

The State Government is, therefore, requested to constitute Health Advisory Committee comprising of experienced Veterinarians with a mandate to advise the zoo managements in the state on animal health care and related matters. The Committee should visit zoos at least once every three months and monitor the compliance of the health care standards prescribed under the Recognition of Zoo Rules referred to above.

Action taken on the lines suggested above should be communicated to Central Zoo Authority at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

(P.R. Sinha)

Copy to: 1. The Chief Wild Life Warden of all States - for necessary action.

(P.R. Sinha)
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Monitoring of Hygiene and Incidence of Blood Borne Disease in Zoos*

In the wake of the death of large number of Tigers at Nandankanan Zoo, Bhubaneswar in June-July, 2000, instructions were issued vide Reference N. 1 for carrying out measures for improvement of hygiene within the zoo around the animal enclosures and adopting preventive measures for diseases control and health care of carnivores, particularly tigers, lions and leopards. The aforesaid instructions have been repeated vide Reference No. 2&3 above in subsequent years.

Compliance of aforesaid guidelines as indicated in the circulars referred to above has helped in reduction of the overall mortalities of carnivores in zoos in the country during the last two years.

The measures suggested in the guidelines are:

(i) Improvement of hygiene of the animal enclosures and its surrounding viz removal of weeds and bush cutting to reduce the vector load, cleaning of moats and sewer liens and proper disposal of solid wastes.

(ii) Screening of animals against ecto & endo-parasite infestation.

(iii) Carrying out blood tests of animals of important species in a planned and systemic manner, without causing undue stress to the animals, with a view to identify incidence of blood borne parasites & take appropriate prophylactic/remedial measures.

(iv) Medicines of essential nature to be procured in reasonable quantities and kept in zoo hospitals to meet emergencies.

*Issued to all Director of Large, Medium, Small and Mini Zoos having lions, tigers and leopards in their collection vide CZA's letter no. 7-12/2000-CZA(N), dated 20-06-2003.