GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE

Central Zoo Authority

F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(AK) DATE: 23.03.2020

To,
The Chief Wildlife Warden of all States/UTs

Sub: Upkeep and healthcare of captive animals housed in zoos in the wake of measures taken for containment of COVID-19 – regarding

Ref: This office Circular No.19-115/93-CZA(53)(Vol.XIV)(Pt.)/2427/2020 dated 13th March, 2020

Sir,

In continuation with this office Circular cited above, I am directed to inform you that the Government of India in coordination with State Governments has taken several measures to manage and contain the spread of Coronavirus COVID-19. The said measures include lockdown in certain places. However, essential services are excluded from the restrictions imposed in this regard.

2. The scientific management of wild animals in captivity and display of captive animals under conditions congenial to them resulting in welfare of captive animals housed in the Zoos was highlighted in the National Zoo Policy, 1998. Also, as per the National Zoo Policy,

3.4 Upkeep of Animal Collections:

3.4.1 Zoos shall provide diet to each species which is similar to its feed in nature. Where for unavoidable reasons any ingredients have to be substituted, due care will be taken to ensure that the substitute fulfills the nutritional requirement of the species.

3.4.2 For the well-being of the animals, round the clock supply of potable drinking water shall be made available to all animals kept in the zoo.

3. Now, all the zoos are hereby advised to be vigilant over prevailing circumstances and take requisite measures to ensure supply of potable drinking water round the clock and timely supply of good quality food to all animals housed therein besides their proper health upkeep. Procurement, storage and distribution of food may be carried out in view of the locally prevailing conditions in consultation with respective State Government.

4. Any urgent matter that requires attention of this office in this regard may please be communicated over email to cza@nic.in / mobile number of the undersigned at +91-9412051211.

(Dr. Sonali Ghosh)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests

Copy for information and necessary action to:
1. PS to Hon’ble Minister (EF&CC), Government of India
2. PS to Hon’ble Minister of State (EF&CC), Government of India
3. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary
4. The Officer in charge of all recognised zoos,
5. The Municipal Commissioner of Ahmedabad, Cuttack, Gwalior, Indore, Mumbai, Pune, Rajkot, Surat and Vadodara,
6. The Managing Director of Steel Plants at Bhilai, Bokaro, Jamshedpur & Rourkela

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