To
The Chief Wildlife Warden of all States and Union Territories,

Sub: Intensive measures to be taken for welfare of captive animals housed in zoos in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic - regarding

Ref:
1. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(Pt.) dated 10th June, 2020
2. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(Pt.) dated 1st June, 2020
3. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(Pt.) dated 14th May, 2020
4. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(AK)/2469/C dated 24.03.2020
5. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(AK)/2469/B dated 23.03.2020
6. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(AK)/2469/A dated 24.03.2020
7. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(AK)/2469/2020 dated 24.03.2020
8. This office Circular F.No.19-115/93-CZA(53)(Vol.XIV)(Pt.)/2427/2020 dated 13.03.2020

Sir,

In continuation to the advisories issued by this office as cited above, the undersigned is directed to issue following advisory for better upkeep of animals and to ensure timely action.

2. As you are aware, the Central Government notified the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 under Clauses (f) and (g) of Sub-section (1) of Section 63 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in the interest and for the welfare of the wild animals kept in captivity. The standard and norms prescribed under Schedule of Rule 10 of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 are for the better management, housing, upkeep and healthcare of the wild animals kept in captivity.

3. The norms specified in the said Rules with respect to staffing pattern in zoos include deployment of Veterinarian and veterinary support staff in zoos which is of paramount importance in the prevailing situation to keep a close watch on the general behaviour and health parameters of the captive animals.

4. In view of the above, respective Zoo Operator must ensure deployment of Veterinarian in zoos as prescribed under the Recognition of Zoo rules, 2009.

5. Further, it must be ensured that the Officer in-charge of zoo resides in proximity to the zoo, to ensure round the clock availability in case of emergency.

Compliance in this regard may please be reported to this office at the earliest.

Yours sincerely

(Dr. Sonali Ghosh)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests

Continued...
Copy forwarded 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. Sr. PPS to the Secretary to the Government of India (EF&CC)
4. PPS to the Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, MoEF&CC
5. The ACS/Principal Secretary, All States & UTs
6. The Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar
7. The Member Secretary of State Zoo Authority wherever applicable
8. The Officer in-charge of all recognised zoos
9. The DPA, CZA – to upload on website of the CZA

Sd/-
(Dr. Sonali Ghosh)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests