

MOST IMMEDIATE

F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(AK)/1753/2017
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
Central Zoo Authority

Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 23rd October, 2017

To,

The Director/Curator/Officer in charge of all Large, Medium, Small and Mini category zoos

CIRCULAR

Subject: Preparedness of zoos to combat spread of communicable diseases in captive animals – regarding

Reference:

1. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(Vol.II)(AK)/2831/2016 dated 21.10.2016
2. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2000-CZA(290)(M) dated 20.09.2005
3. This office Circular F. No. 25-1/2002-CZA(290)(M), dated 20.02.2006
4. This office Circular F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(M) dated 18.11.2004

Sir,

All zoos in the country recognized under Section 38H of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 are mandated to take steps to combat spread of communicable diseases under Schedule 5(6), 5(7) and 5(8) of Rule 10 under the Recognition of Zoo rules, 2009.

In this regard, this Office has circulated "Suggested Health Monitoring Protocol for Zoos" vide letter F.No.25-1/2002-CZA(M) dated 18.11.2004 (copy enclosed). It is advised that the recommendations mentioned therein be strictly followed. Strict quarantine be followed for each animal entering in the collection of the Zoo animals.

The Health Advisory Committee of the Zoo be consulted for necessary action. If required, the authority of the concerned zoo may seek advice from the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly (National Referral Centre).

Further, to avoid spread of any communicable diseases and eventual mortality of zoo animals, it is advised that the curatorial and the veterinary staff shall keep a close watch on the general behaviour and health parameters of the zoo animals. All prophylactic measures be taken as per schedule drawn in consultation with the Veterinarian.

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The migratory birds arrive in India with the onset of winter season. In the past, the reports were received about the incidence of Avian Influenza from few zoos in the country. The Central Zoo Authority in its 30th Meeting held on 28th September, 2017 desired that the management of the zoos be alerted to keep a close watch on their resident, migratory and captive birds' population within the zoo campus.

In case of any incidence of Avian Influenza, the concerned authorities shall be notified immediately and necessary measures be taken up as per the 'Action Plan on Preparedness, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza' issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India. In case any incidence of Avian Influenza is observed among the birds in the zoo, the Animal Husbandry Department of the concerned State and the local officer of the Animal Husbandry Department should be contacted immediately and a Contingency Plan be prepared and implemented, as mentioned in the Action Plan.


The sanitation / hygiene / disinfection of personnel, animal enclosures and campus be maintained at the highest standards. All bio-security and safety measures have to be adopted strictly.

In this regard, this office Circulars dated 20.09.2005, 20.02.2006 and 21.10.2016 may please be also perused.

This is for your information and guidance please.

Yours sincerely,

Encls. As above


(Dr. D. N. Singh)
Member Secretary

Copy for information and necessary action 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