



ZOO PRAHA



Central Zoo Authority
केन्द्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between The
Central Zoo Authority
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Govt. of the Republic of India
and
Prague Zoo, Czech Republic

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)
is made

between CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY (hereinafter referred to as CZA) a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Govt. of the Republic of India having its registered address at 25-29, Middle Wing, Hotel Janpath, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001, India

Represented by: Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority

AND

PRAGUE ZOO (referred to as "PZ"), having its registered address at U Trojskeho zamku 120/3, 171 00, Praha 7 Czech Republic

Represented by: Director, PRAGUE ZOO

The Above two agencies are referred to as 'the Parties'. The term "Party" hereinafter to one of CZA or PZ.

1. PREAMBLE

1.1 This Memorandum of Understanding is not legally binding but defines a statement of intent to collaborate and develop together the objectives set out below.

The parties are desirous to support biodiversity conservation efforts throughout India and in European zoos and implement the Zoo Conservation Program, hereinafter called "The Program".

This MoU relates to areas of interface between the Parties and sets out the potential roles, responsibilities and outlines mechanisms to provide an effective management and liaison structure. This MoU does not affect any existing statutory functions or amend any other policies or agreements relating to the activities of the Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change and Prague Zoo.

As the project develops, more detailed planning will be carried out by the Parties and further actions will be agreed. Some elements of the project will require due diligence, and appropriate legally binding contracts will be established, as necessary with prior written approvals from the Govt. of India.

2. FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT – CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY AND PRAGUE ZOO (the “Parties”)

2.1 CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY (CZA)

Central Zoo Authority is statutory body under the Ministry of Environment & Forests created by the Government of India under the provision of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, in 1992 to oversee the functioning of zoos and provide them technical and other assistance.

Zoos in India are regulated under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and are guided by the National Zoo Policy, 1998. The Central Zoo Authority, Government of India formulated Recognition of Zoo Rules, 1992 which were succeeded by Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 and fixed standards and norms for management of zoos in the country. Central Zoo Authority oversees the functioning of zoos in the country and provides them technical and other assistance for their improvement. The functions assigned to the Authority under Section 38 (C) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 are:

- (a) to specify the minimum standards for housing, upkeep and veterinary care of the animals kept in zoos;
- (b) to evaluate and assess the functioning of the zoos with respect to the prescribed standards or norms;
- (c) to recognize or derecognize zoos;
- (d) to identify endangered species of wild animals for purposes of captive breeding and assigning responsibility in this regard to a zoo;
- (e) to coordinate the acquisition, exchange and loaning of animals for breeding purpose;
- (f) to ensure maintenance of studbooks of endangered species of wild animals bred in captivity;
- (g) to identify priorities and themes with regard to display of captive animals in zoos;
- (h) to coordinate training of zoo personnel in India and outside India;
- (i) to coordinate research in captive breeding and educational programmes for the purposes of zoos;
- (j) to provide technical and other assistance to zoos for their proper management and development on scientific lines;
- (k) to perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act with regard to zoos.

CZA is also member of World Association of Zoos and Aquarium (WAZA), Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) and Trustee of International Species Information System.

2.2 PRAGUE ZOO (PZ) is an institution established by the City of Prague.

Prague Zoo was founded in 1931. Recently it is one of the top European zoos keeping over 700 animal species and receiving 1.2 Million of visitors per year.

PZ is a member of important Czech, European and international associations like WAZA, EAZA, EARAZA, UCSZoo (Union of the Czech and Slovak Zoos), and it follows the highest world standards in animal husbandry as well as qualities of visitor services. PZ is playing its role as a nature conservation organization aiming to inform and educate the public about the importance of biodiversity and educate the public about the importance of biodiversity and its conservation for the future.

PZ takes part in more than 50 EEP programs and recently keeps 9 international (ISB) or European (ESB) or European (ESB) studbooks, from which the most important is ISB of Przewalski Horse – the zoo flagship species. Other studbooks are kept for example *Oncilla*, Cuban Boa, Cuban Ground Iguana, Egyptian Vulture and Lesser Galagos.

PZ is very engaged in both ex-situ and in-situ conservation of endangered species. Within ex-situ programs the breeding groups are managed to produce offspring to be exported to another zoos or for reintroduction. PZ supports also selected in-situ programs, which are running in different parts of the world. In this way the zoo helps to support populations of many local or abroad living species, for example Przewalski Horse, Lowland Gorilla, Indian Gharial, European Bison, Ural Owl, Bearded Vulture, Western Derby Eland, Philippine Eagle-Owl or several species of Laughing Thrushes.

A very important and evolving activity is reintroduction of endangered species to their former habitats. The most important activity on this field is reintroduction of Przewalski Horses to nature reserves Takhin Tal and Khomiin Tal in Mongolia. In the years 2011-2013, PZ in cooperation with many national and international institutions realized three transports of altogether 12 horses, the only transports of this kind in recent years.

THIS MoU WITNESSES as follows:

3. PRINCIPLES OF UNDERSTANDING

The Prague Zoo (PZ) and Central Zoo Authority (CZA) will cooperate to develop and implement joint research studies focused on animal health and capacity building. The common understanding of this MoU is reflected by rules of partnership and long term engagement.

3.1 The parties aim to support the medical management of captive populations of endangered species for the staff (including veterinary, para veterinary and other staff) employed by Indian Zoos across the country in the below areas:

- 3.1.1 Preventive medicine, including vaccine and antihelminthic protocols.
- 3.1.2 Advanced diagnostics and therapeutics, including advanced imaging techniques ultrasound, radiography etc.
- 3.1.3 Anesthetic monitoring.
- 3.1.4 Clinical pathology evaluation and differential diagnosis.
- 3.1.5 Necropsy evaluation including gross and histopathological evaluation.
- 3.1.6 Comprehensive zoo animal nutrition and diet evaluation.

- 3.1.7 Zoonotic diseases and preventative care
- 3.1.8 Protective precautions to be taken by zoo staff to guard against zoonosis
- 3.2 The Parties agree that the above agreement is primarily to capacity build the Indian zoos with additional medical and veterinary training with an aim to improve the management of animals in captivity.
- 3.3 The Parties aim to improve and provide information regarding Occupational Health Surveillance programs by introducing protocols, mutually discussed and by capacity building of Indian zoo staff.
- 3.4 The necessary funding of all operations of this program will be split up according to the following schedule. Since the training and capacity building is to be done in India under Indian circumstances, it is understood that it would be beneficial for the PZ to send in their experts who can train a larger group of trainees thereby benefitting more people at a very economic cost. Moreover the training conducted in Indian conditions at the Indian zoos and institutions would be more realistic and closer to hands on situations that would add to training component.
- 3.5 PZ shall annually sponsor, food and lodging for two vets or two keepers or two middle level managers or two senior level management from selected Indian Zoos for a two week attachment at PZ for training in zoo management and two officials (resource persons/participants), and the CZA will annually sponsor, food and lodging for two vets or two keepers or two middle level managers and two officials (resource person/participant) from PZ to participate in workshops organized by the CZA for Zoo Director, Veterinarians, Biologists and Educators which are generally for four days of duration in India.
- 3.6 In addition to the above persons sponsored by parties, the CZA may sponsor 2 to 4 management officials/Keepers/Biologists/Veterinarians from Indian Zoos during the term of this MoU at its own cost and vice versa to attend workshops etc.
- 3.7 Terms and Conditions
 - 3.7.1 Travel costs will be covered as described in this MoU.
 - 3.7.2 Accommodation and local logistics will be covered by CZA for PZ and vice-versa.
 - 3.7.3 No salary/costs will be paid by CZA to PZ staff and vice-versa.
 - 3.7.4 Animal exchange would be done as per existing law & policy of the Government of both the counties.

4. AREAS OF COLLABORATION

- 4.1 Wildlife veterinary medicine, keeper management, keeper training, disease management, animal housing, enclosure design and education as and when requested by Indian zoos or CZA.
- 4.2 Both the parties shall promote Capacity building in the areas of zoo management, enclosure enrichment, animal management and sustainable captive breeding, stud book management, conservation management, veterinary wildlife medicine and scientific training.
- 4.3 To conduct programs related to zoological medicine, zoological nutrition and animal management and education as executed by both the parties.

- 4.4 Experimentation on any animals in Indian zoos will be permitted subject to the rules & laws of Government of India.
- 4.5 Long-term cooperation to ensure the highest possible standards, as stipulated by the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), in the keeping, husbandry, medical treatment and welfare of animals in zoos in Europe and India.
- 4.6 To improve access to international zoo conservation networks to ensure that animal population kept in zoos is integrated into international conservation breeding programmes.
- 4.7 To explore upon reintroduction techniques, if required.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES

5.1 The Central Zoo Authority (CZA)

- 5.1.1 is responsible for arranging accommodation and logistics for joint capacity training, research projects in India;
- 5.1.2 will select suitable zoo animal management staff including keepers, veterinarians, para vets, educators, biologists, curators and zoo directors from all Indian zoos and animal holding institutions to participate in training programs that will be conducted in India for capacity training and consultation. The purpose of holding all such training in India is to ensure that training is relevant to Indian conditions and to keep the training costs economic and affordable;
- 5.1.3 will provide a Co-ordinator (Official/Staff person), as assigned by Member Secretary, CZA who shall serve as a nodal co-ordinator for all Parties and works closely with PZ in implementing the jointly agreed training and capacity building programs;
- 5.1.4 will collect feedback from every participant of these training programs and use this feedback to assess the progress and impact of the training programs;
- 5.1.5 will conduct joint review of the progress and results of activities under the scope of this memorandum, and to resolve any outstanding issues. Evaluation and Monitoring Officer or Scientific Officer, DIG (HQ) and Member Secretary CZA will visit PZ once a year for discussions regarding the program as and when needed;

5.2 Prague Zoo (PZ)

- 5.2.1 will be responsible for arranging accommodation and logistics for visit of CZA Member Secretary, DIG(HQ) and EMO/SO as the case may be in PZ once a year;
- 5.2.2 will identify suitable project personnel (Zoo vets, Veterinary experts, Zoo keepers, Biologists, Curators, Educators and other professional staff from Zoos in Czech Republic) who have adequate expertise in their respective fields and will come to India from time to time as agreed between the Parties, for imparting training and capacity building;
- 5.2.3 will ensure standards of scientific excellence to apply to training programs;
- 5.2.4 will provide a project coordinator, Mr. Jaroslav Simek Ph.D who serves as a conduit for all Parties and works closely with CZA in implementing the training/capacity building programs;
- 5.2.5 will participate in periodic meetings between the parties, in order to review progress, inform each other once a year on progress of activities under the scope of this memorandum and to resolve any outstanding issues.

6. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARTIES

- 6.1 This MoU is not legally binding commitment but sets out the intentions and understanding between the parties.
- 6.2 The Parties are acting under this MoU as independent principals.

7. COMMENCEMENT, DURATION, TERMINATION AND MODIFICATIONS

- 7.1 This MoU shall commence on the date of the signature and shall remain in effect for a term of three years. Three months before the end of the three year term, the impact of the training conducted thus far will be reviewed and then if found beneficial to CZA it will be renewed on mutually agreeable terms by the parties.
- 7.2 This MoU may be terminated by any of the 'Parties' by giving a written notice of one month/four weeks in advance to the other party.

8. SUPPLEMENTATION

- 8.1 Once the MoU is signed and dated, it can be amended only with the written consent of both the parties after review of the impact, progress and results of the training program conducted thus far and with sufficient written justification and Government approval from the appropriate authorities.

9. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 9.1.1 Subject to the applicable laws, each party shall keep confidential any information including as veterinary information, original data, analyses and results from joint veterinary training and capacity building gathered during such training programs and soon.
- 9.1.2 The obligation of confidentiality shall not apply once the written permission from the CZA or PZ to disclose such info is obtained.

10. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The Parties shall abide by the laws, rules and regulations on intellectual property prevailing in the respective countries. Appropriate acknowledgement and credit shall be given for photos, videos, material, information gathered collectively or submitted individually and will be as Co-Author for any publication if any or handout action.

11. RECONCILIATION OF DISAGREEMENT

Any disagreements shall be normally resolved in an amicable way between both parties. In the event this is not possible, the parties shall approach the Chairman of CZA whose decision will be final and binding on both parties.

12. SUSPENSION

Each party reserves the rights for reasons of national security, national interest, public order or public health to suspend temporarily, either in whole or in part, the implementation of this MoU. Such suspension shall take effect immediately after notification has been given to other party.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

Each party shall bear its own respective legal costs and incidental expenses in connection with the preparation and execution of this MoU.

14. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES AND CONTACT DETAILS**Central Zoo Authority:**

Authorized representative: Member Secretary

Address: Central Zoo Authority, 25-29, Middle Wing, Hotel Janpath, Janpath, New Delhi 110 001, India. Tel No: 0091 11 23362390,91,92,94 Fax No: 0091 11 23362393

Prague Zoo:

Authorized representative: Mgr. Miroslav Bobek

Address: Zoo Praha, U Trojskeho zamku 120/3, 171 00 Praha, Czech Republic.
Tel No: 420-296 112 111, Fax No: 420-233 556 704

The Parties have herewith signed this Memorandum of Understanding on 9th January, 2015 at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in New Delhi in English language in two originals.

**SIGNED ON BEHALF OF
MEMBER SECRETARY
CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY
(with stamp)**

In
Date

New Delhi
9/1/2015

Member Secretary
Central Zoo Authority
(Ministry of Environment & Forests)
Govt. of India, New Delhi

[Signature]
9/1/2015

Mr. Inder Dhamija, IFS
Member Secretary In-charge
Central Zoo Authority

**SIGNED ON BEHALF OF
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PRAGUE ZOO
(with stamp)**

In
Date

New Delhi
9/1/2015

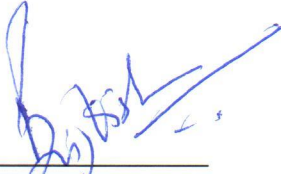


[Signature]

Mr. Miroslav Bobek
Director
Prague ZOO

Dated this

Witness 1)



Dr. Brij Kishor Gupta
Evaluation and Monitoring Officer
Central Zoo Authority
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Govt. of India

Witness 1)



H.E. Mr. Miloslav Stašek
Ambassador of the Czech
Republic

Witness 2)



Dr. Devender Kumar
Scientific Officer
Central Zoo Authority
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Govt. of India