



भारत सरकार

Government of India

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change



## केंद्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण Central Zoo Authority

BY EMAIL

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### CIRCULAR

**Subject: Advisory for the submitting proposals for acquisition/transfer of animals to the Central Zoo Authority.**

The undersigned is directed to inform you that as per Section 38-I of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972,

- Subject to the other provisions of this Act, no zoo shall acquire, sell or transfer any wild animal or captive animal specified in Schedules I and II except with the previous permission of the Authority.*
- No zoo shall acquire, sell or transfer any wild or captive animal except from or to a recognised zoo.*

2. The detailed guidelines for the acquisition/transfer of animals is provided in the 'Guidelines for establishment and scientific management of zoos', which is available on the website of the CZA (<http://cza.nic.in/uploads/documents/guidelines/english/G-1.pdf>).

3. This updated advisory intends to facilitate swift processing of animal acquisition/transfer proposals received from zoos. Inclusively, although not exhaustively, proposals may include acquisition/transfer of animals between zoo(s), acquisition of rescued animals by zoos and release of surplus animals.

4. Henceforth, it is advised that all proposals for animal acquisition/transfer follow these steps:

**Step 1: Initiation:** While submitting proposals for animal acquisition/transfer to the CZA the zoos involved shall ensure that the checklist in Annexure-I and formats in Annexure-II and Annexure-III are duly signed by the Zoo Director(s).

**Step 2: Implementation:** The steps described in Annexure-IV shall be followed during the implementation of approved animal acquisition/transfer proposals.

**Step 3: Completion:** Following execution, a concise completion report should be sent to the office of the Central Zoo Authority as per point.9 in Annexure-IV.

sd/-

(Dr. Sonali Ghosh)  
Deputy Inspector General  
of Forest (Hq. CZA)

### **Distribution:**

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden of all States/UTs.
2. The Director/Officer in charge of all recognized zoos.

**Annexure I: Checklist of conditions for submitting proposals for animal acquisition/transfer by zoos to the Central Zoo Authority**

No.	Condition	Yes	No
1	The zoo is recognized by the Central Zoo Authority as per the statutory provisions mentioned in 38-H of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 up to [date].	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	The zoo has climatically suitable conditions and required facility to house and breed the species that is being acquisitioned.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	The zoo has an approved Master Plan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	The species proposed for exchange is part of the approved Animal Collection Plan of the zoo.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	The animal exchange proposal includes the details of the animals identified for exchange in Format - I as mentioned in <u>Guidelines for Establishment &amp; Scientific Management of Zoos in India, 2008</u> (Annexure-VI B) and Format – II. The Common Name and Scientific name of the species (and sub-species wherever relevant) are provided.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Following removal of the identified animals, the long-term viability of the captive stock at the donor zoo is not affected.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Is the species proposed for exchange identified for conservation breeding by the Central Zoo Authority?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If yes, what is the role assigned to the zoo?	Coordinating Zoo <input type="checkbox"/>	Participating Zoo <input type="checkbox"/>
8	If the species proposed for animal exchange is prioritized for conservation breeding by the Central Zoo Authority, the removal of animals identified for exchange should not compromise the viability of the breeding stock at the coordinating zoo.	Please specify details:	
9	If the species proposed for animal exchange is prioritized for conservation breeding by the Central Zoo Authority, the priority order for the recipient zoo should follow: 1. Coordinating zoo 2. Participating Indian zoo 3. Participating foreign zoo 4. Other Indian zoos having appropriate upkeep and healthcare facilities and required technical expertise.	Please specify details:	
10	If the species proposed for animal exchange is prioritized for conservation breeding by the Central Zoo Authority, are individuals identified for exchange marked (e.g. leg rings, transponder etc.) and have known pedigree.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Prior to exchange, the taxonomic classification of the species (to the sub-species level) should be ascertained.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	In the case of exchange proposal with a foreign zoo, the following aspects should be verified: 1. Regional recognition/accreditation of the zoo with associations or statutory bodies of the respective country. 2. In case, this cannot be verified, the background of the zoo and captive management at the zoo were verified from the Zoo Operator. 3. Purpose for the transfer of animals. 4. Corroboration of the studbook records proposed for exchange with international studbook records.	Please specify details:	

(Name & Signature)

(Date)

(Designation)

(Seal)

**Annexure – II: Proforma for animal acquisition/transfer**

Details of species to be given <sup>#</sup>	Details of the species to be acquired
<p><b>A. General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name of the species</li> <li>• Number of individuals in stock and sex ratio</li> <li>• Number of individuals to be given and sex ratio</li> </ul>	<p><b>A. General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name of the species</li> <li>• Number of individuals already in stock and sex ratio</li> <li>• Number of individuals to be acquired and sex ratio</li> </ul>
<p><b>B. Animal Details</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Age/ Date of birth</li> <li>2. Specify whether wild origin/captive bred and generation( F1,F2)</li> <li>3. Breeding record (whether sired/ given birth)</li> <li>4. Studbook number (national/international)</li> <li>5. Whether marked, then specify</li> <li>6. ( Transponder no./ring/tag etc)</li> </ol>	<p><b>B. Animal Details</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Age/ Date of birth</li> <li>2. Specify whether wild origin/captive bred and generation( F1,F2)</li> <li>3. Breeding record (whether sired/ given birth)</li> <li>4. Studbook number (national/international)</li> <li>5. Whether marked, then specify</li> <li>6. ( Transponder no./ring/tag etc)</li> </ol>
<p><b>C. Purpose</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Breeding</li> <li>2. Over crowding/surplus</li> <li>3. Single or unpaired</li> <li>4. Others</li> </ol>	<p><b>C. Purpose</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Breeding/introduce new blood</li> <li>2. Pairing/Provide mate</li> <li>3. Forming social group/viable population</li> <li>4. Others</li> </ol>
<p><b>D. Nature of housing</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open air/ Closed (specify area in sq.m)</li> <li>2. Feeding cells/ kraal ( specify dimension in m) and number of cells/kraals</li> </ol>	<p><b>D. Nature of housing</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open air/ Closed (specify area in sq.m)</li> <li>2. Feeding cells/ kraal ( specify dimension in m) and number of cells/kraals</li> </ol>
<p><b>E. History of the zoo in:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upkeep</li> <li>2. Breeding</li> <li>3. Infant care</li> <li>4. Mortality</li> </ol>	<p><b>E. History of the zoo in:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upkeep</li> <li>2. Breeding</li> <li>3. Infant care</li> <li>4. 4. Mortality</li> </ol>

<sup>#</sup> In case of surplus release to the wild, only ‘Details of species to be given’ should be filled.

**(Name & Signature)**  
**(Date)**  
**(Designation)**  
**(Seal)**

**Annexure – III: Proforma for animal acquisition/transfer**

[Zoo Name] to give:					[Zoo Name] to give:				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SPECIES TO BE GIVEN	PRESENT STOCK M:F:U	NUMBER TO BE GIVEN M:F:U	STOCK WITH THE RECIPIENT ZOO M:F:U	REMARKS/ PURPOSE OF EXCHANGE	SPECIES TO BE GIVEN	PRESENT STOCK M:F:U	NUMBER TO BE GIVEN M:F:U	STOCK WITH THE RECIPIENT ZOO M:F:U	REMARKS/ PURPOSE OF EXCHANGE

**(Name & Signature)**  
**(Date)**  
**(Designation)**  
**(Seal)**

**Annexure-IV: Conditions for the implementation of approved animal acquisition/transfer proposals.**

1. The donor zoo should ensure the following points during the identification of the animal(s) to be transported:
  - a. The animal(s) identified should not be a part of a successful breeding pair/group.
  - b. The removal of animal(s) should not disrupt the integrity of an already established social system in the zoo.
  - c. In case of females, it should be ensured that they are not pregnant or have bred recently (e.g. birds with unfledged young, mammals with dependent/un-weaned litter).
  - d. Preferably sub-adults shall be identified for exchange/transfer.
  - e. Aged/infirm animals should not be identified for exchange.
  - f. In case of species part of conservation breeding, animals identified generally should not include wild-born individuals, founders and F<sub>1</sub> lineage, unless it entails a valid reason from the perspective of population management. Additional emphasis should be given to genetic representation of individuals, retaining founders and wild-born individuals, compatible pairs and group composition.
  - g. Animals identified for exchange in general should not include single, non-paired animals and animals in non-viable groups, unless it entails a valid reason from the perspective of population management.
  - h. Unplanned removal of individuals which includes instances like removal of important breeding individuals, disproportional removal of individuals of a particular sex resulting in a population with either more males or females (sex-skewed animal stock) and removal of individuals from a group (e.g. primate groups) should be avoided.
2. The donor zoo should provide following documents to the recipient zoo one week in advance so that the recipient zoo can prepare for the husbandry and management of the animals:
  - a. A copy of animal history record including studbook and pedigree information.
  - b. A copy of deworming register.
  - c. The details of marking used for the identification of animals.
  - d. A copy of feeding chart with details of food items and weights offered per animal per day.
  - e. Veterinary history of six months prior to transport date.
  - f. Keeper instructions including individual-specific predispositions.
3. The donor zoo should deworm the animals identified for transport at least a fortnight in advance and provide an endoparasite examination report to the recipient zoo at the time of transporting the animals.
4. The donor zoo should screen the animals identified for transport for ectoparasites (e.g. mites, ticks, fleas etc.) at least a fortnight in advance and provide an ectoparasite examination report to the recipient zoo at the time of transporting the animals.
5. The donor zoo should screen and ensure that the animals identified for transport are free from diseases that are prevalent/likely to occur in that region.
6. If the animals identified for transport are unmarked, the donor zoo should ensure appropriate species-specific permanent marking prior to transport of the animals.
7. The zoos should follow the protocols provided in Guidelines for Establishment & Scientific Management of Zoos in India, 2008 during exchange and transport of animals between the zoos. Special care should be taken that the transport of animals should take place at a time when climate-induced stress on the animals is minimal (e.g. peak summers).

8. Following acquisition, the recipient zoo should quarantine the animals for a minimum of 30 days in general, up to 90 days for primates and 180 days or beyond in the case of wild caught carnivores (Reference: Standard, Guidelines and Protocol on Disease Diagnosis and cure of wild animals in Indian zoos 2009 published by IVRI & CZA, IUCN guidelines <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/7971>). Quarantine should involve isolation from the established collection in such a manner as to prohibit physical contact, to prevent disease transmission, and to avoid aerosol and drainage contamination. In addition, the recipient zoo may follow any specific quarantine protocols developed by the zoo or any government. After completion of the quarantine, following health certification by the concerned veterinarian, the zoo may shift the animal to its enclosure.
9. The recipient zoo should send a concise completion report to the office of the Central Zoo Authority within one month of transfer of animals with the following details:
  - a. Protocol (with photographs) followed during transport of animals including duration, mode of transport, type of transport boxes, care during transport, etc.
  - b. Quarantine measures followed by the zoo.
  - c. Breeding of animals following transport.
  - d. Mortality, if any.