

**GUIDELINES FOR
PRIORITIZING
GRANT OF FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE TO ZOOS**



Central Zoo Authority
केन्द्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण

(STATUTORY BODY UNDER THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS, GOVT. OF INDIA)

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Preface

The Central Zoo Authority is statutory body under the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, constituted in 1992 through amendment in Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to oversee the functioning of zoos and provide them technical and other assistance.

During the 56th meeting of the Technical Committee of the CZA held on the 22nd December 2010, it was desired that the CZA prioritize criteria for funding of zoos. A sub-committee comprising Dr. E. Bharucha and Sh. S. K. Patnaik was constituted for framing the said criteria/guidelines. The committee was requested to submit the report latest by 31st January 2011.

The draft copy of the criteria/guidelines as submitted by the sub-committee members was placed before the 57th meeting of the Technical Committee of the CZA held on the 24th March 2011. The Chairman, Technical Committee desired that the CZA study the same and place it again before the members.

The said guidelines were further discussed at the 58th meeting of the Technical Committee of the CZA held on the 8th June 2011. During the meeting, the Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India suggested that all important stakeholders be involved and decided to invite the Chief Wildlife wardens of Nagaland, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Karnataka, along with Shri S. K. Patnaik and Dr. Erach Bharucha.

The guidelines were, *inter alia*, to address the issue of providing grants to cover the transportation of animals from one zoo to another zoo or other zoos in the context of conservation breeding programmes or general exchanges. The guidelines were submitted to the Wildlife Wing of the MoEF for revision in consultation with the IFD.

Keeping in view the above, a meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of Sh. S. K. Patnaik on the 5th September 2011 in the office of the Central Zoo Authority. The draft guidelines/criteria drafted earlier were also circulated to all concerned. After detailed deliberations guidelines for prioritizing the grant of financial assistance to zoos were finalized.

I hope these guidelines will help the zoos in developing proposal seeking financial assistance from the CZA.



(B.S. Bonal)

Member Secretary

GUIDELINES FOR PRIORITIZING GRANT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ZOOS

Considering the large number of zoos now operating in the country and the limited funds available with the CZA for supporting them, the technical committee decided to form a sub-committee to suggest modalities to prioritize zoos and activities that should be supported by the CZA in order to bring in a quantum improvement in the general condition of important zoos, to facilitate conservation breeding and management of endangered species and to stimulate research and education.

Although the primary responsibility of the management of zoos is with state governments, municipal corporations, zoo owners and zoo operators. Over the period, the CZA has been providing financial assistance to recognized zoos willing to be developed as modern zoos subject to the availability of funds and EFC approval.

Two broad categories of prioritization were identified for providing financial assistance to zoos:

- (A) Activity-wise prioritization
- (B) Institution-wise (zoo-wise) prioritization.

[A] ACTIVITY-WISE PRIORITIZATION

In 2007, before the commencement of the 11th 5-year plan, it was decided that 100% assistance would be provided for some activities (category-A), and 50% assistance was envisaged for the activities mentioned under category-B in the following.

Category-A (100% assistance)

Construction of new animal enclosures/modernization of existing animal enclosures for endangered species, creation/upgradation of veterinary facilities, conducting research activities (under Small Grant Fellowship Programme) and providing training of zoo personnel.

Category-B (50% assistance)

Development/improvement of infrastructure in zoos, such as footpaths, electricity network, water distribution network, drainage/ sewage system, security fence/boundary wall and educational facilities.

Category-C (proposed for consideration of 50% assistance)

Development of visitors' facilities (of non-commercial use), Construction of administrative buildings, residential quarters for staff, ticket counters and structures of commercial use will continue to be the sole responsibility of the zoo operators. No financial assistance will be provided for creation of new zoos. However, existing zoos which are being relocated to new sites shall be provided assistance on the pattern of existing zoos.

Various major activities identified are listed below in order of priority:

Activities

- A 1. Enclosure/housing facilities for endangered species
- A 2. Veterinary care
- A 3. Preparation of master plan
- A 4. Conservation breeding
- A 5. Creation of rescue centres
- A 6. Environment enrichment
- A 7. Zoo research
- A 8. Zoo education
- A 9. Visitors' facilities (non-commercial)
- A 10. Infrastructure (perimeter wall, sewer, drainage, pathways etc.)

A3. Preparation of master plan

Long term master plans are essential for the planned development of any zoo. Hence all zoos preparing master plans

should be assisted by the CZA up to the limit prescribed for each category. However, this quantum needs upward revision for obtaining the services of professionals in surveying, mapping, designing, etc. The present limits as fixed by the CZA are the following: large Zoos, ₹ 4.00 lakhs; medium sized zoos, ₹ 3.00 lakhs; small zoos, ₹ 2.00 lakhs; and mini zoos, ₹ 1.00 lakh.

A6. Environment enrichment

Most zoos in the country suffer from a lack of environment enrichment of enclosures. This causes monotony and psychological problems in zoo animals. Environment enrichment can be supported by the CZA up to the following limits if the concerned zoo provides a broad plan of action and cost.

Large enclosures (> 500 m ²)	Approx. ₹ 50,000.00
Medium sized enclosures (100-500 m ²)	Max. ₹ 20,000.00
Small enclosures (< 100 m ²)	Max. ₹ 10,000.00

However, the maximum limits may be reviewed in specific cases on the basis of realistic enrichment plans.

A7. Zoo research

Funding for research shall be according to the pattern in column A7 of the Table II.

A8. Zoo education

Expenditure for signage and interpretative material and for setting up interpretation centres is included in this item, and 50% of the cost shall be borne by the first four categories of zoos as indicated in the above table.

A9. Visitors' facilities

Visitors' facilities such as toilets, drinking water points, places for resting and shaded places/shelters, cloak rooms and transport for physically challenged persons shall be funded under

this head subject to a maximum of 50% of the total cost. No construction for commercial activities shall be funded by the CZA.

Besides, as it is mandatory to earmark 15% of the Central Plan funds for North-east states, at least the same percentage of CZA funding should go to those states.

[B] ZOO-WISE/INSTITUTION-WISE PRIORITIZATION

But considering the availability of funds with the CZA, if all the zoos are supported for all the activities mentioned above, the essential activities in the major zoos of the country, which play or can play a crucial role in conservation, research, public awareness and education, may not get the desired attention, and the funding will be spread too thin to make any tangible impact.

Hence it is absolutely essential to prioritize funding to selected zoos that can be improved to international standards and make positive contributions to achieve the stated objectives of the zoos. This is more important and urgent in view of the fact that India has been assigned the task of hosting the WAZA (World Association of Zoos and Aquariums) in 2014.

The Central Zoo Authority has also prepared 'Vision 2020' for ex-situ conservation and planning and improvement of zoos and has worked out the financial involvement involved in carrying out such works by 2020. This has also been taken into consideration in prioritizing funding support.

The prioritization of support shall be as follows:

B. I. Improvement of zoos

B. I. (a) Development of model zoos

The following zoos, in different regions of the country, should be given attention to improve them significantly in order to support conservation breeding and zoo education and research.

Table I. Region-wise list of zoos to be developed as model zoos

S. No.	Northeast	East	North	West	South	Central	Islands
1	Assam State Zoo, Guwahati (Assam)	Nandankanan Zoo, Bhubaneswar (Orissa)	M. C. Zoological Park, Chhatbir (Punjab)	Sakkarbaug Zoo, Junagadh (Gujarat)	Nehru Zoological Park, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	Van Vihar National Park Zoo, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)	Biological Park, Chidiyatapu (A & N Islands)
2	Sepahijala Zoological Park, Sepahijala (Tripura)	Zoological Garden, Alipore, Kolkata (West Bengal)	National Zoological Park, New Delhi (Delhi)	Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park & Wildlife Research Centre, Pune (Maharashtra)	Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur, Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	Kanan Pendari Zoo, Bilaspur (Chattisgarh)	
3	Biological Park, Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)	Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park, Patna (Bihar)	Kanpur Zoological Park, Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)	Bondla Zoo, Bondla (Goa)	Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens, Mysore (Karnataka)		
4	Aizawl Zoo, Aizawl (Mizoram)	Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling (West Bengal)	Pt. Govind Ballabh Pant Zoo, Nainital (Uttarakhand)	Jaipur Zoo, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	Thiruvananthapuram Zoo, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)		
5	Dimapur Zoo, Dimapur (Nagaland)	Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park, Ranchi (Jharkhand)					
6	Himalayan Zoological Park, Gangtok (Sikkim)						

GRAND TOTAL: 26 zoos

Each state is to identify one zoo as a model state zoo. Some of the other important zoos are:

1. Lion Safari, Vasona, Dadra & Nagar Haveli
2. Rohtak Zoo, Rohtak, Haryana
3. Himalayan Nature Park, Kufri, Himachal Pradesh
4. Jammu Zoo, Jammu, J & K
5. Manipur Zoological Park, Imphal, Manipur
6. Lady Hydari Park Animal Land, Shillong, Meghalaya
(new zoo site)
7. Lucknow Zoological Garden, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
8. Malsi Deer Park, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Considering their importance, these zoos need to be developed as model zoos to bring them to international standards. Assistance is to be provided to them for all eligible activities for which they need assistance, depending on the availability of funds with the CZA.

B. I (b) North-eastern zoos

All other zoos of the North-eastern states (other than those of categories 1, 2 and 4 of Table II) should be supported for other proposed activities if they can be accommodated within the balance of 15% as allocated for North-eastern states or funds remaining unutilized from rest of the country.

B. I (c) Small and medium sized zoos other than private zoos

These zoos shall be supported in the scale of zoos in category A, subject to the following maximum limitss:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------|
| (i) Large and medium sized zoos | - | ₹ 15.00 lakhs |
| (ii) Small zoos | - | ₹ 10.00 lakhs |
| (iii) Mini zoos | - | ₹ 5.00 lakhs |

B. I (d) Zoos to be relocated

Some very old, cramped zoos with old fashioned cage-type enclosures do not serve any conservation objective and send a very negative message to visitors. The CZA has recommended that they be

upgraded to modern zoos at large spacious sites. The zoo operators have accepted this and are developing them in new, spacious sites. No funding shall be provided by the CZA for species other than those that are housed at the original location, subject to the condition that these zoos strictly adhere to plans/detailed designs approved by the CZA for all identified activities.

B. I (e) Mini zoos

Mini zoos shall not normally be supported, but in exceptional cases, subject to the availability of funds, the Technical Committee of the CZA may decide to provide support for selected works up to a maximum limit of ₹ 5.00 lakhs per annum.

B. I (f) Zoos and rescue centres run by private bodies/registered societies/trusts

Private zoos and zoos of corporate bodies other than public undertakings should ordinarily not be preferred. However, in special cases the Technical Committee may decide to provide such support if it can contribute to conservation breeding or conservation education, research, etc.

B. II Rescue and rehabilitation

B. II (a) Rescue centres for circus animals

All such centres operated due to the CZA's initiatives shall continue to be fully supported as long as they continue to operate for the purpose of rescuing circus animals.

B. II (b) Rescue centres for wildlife (within existing zoos)

Rescue centres which are being operated within existing zoos shall be supported fully for items B1, B2, B5, B6 and B7 of Table II only.

B. II (c) New rescue centres outside existing zoos

No funding support shall be provided for such centres by the Central Zoo Authority.

B. III Conservation breeding centres

Many centers have been identified by the CZA for conservation breeding of endangered species as either coordinating or participating zoos. All funds required by such zoos for such purposes

Table II. Pattern of funding of various activities against various institutions (figures are percentages of financial assistance)

Type of institution	Activities									
	Enclosures/ housing facilities for endangered species	Veterinary care	Preparation of master plan	Conservation breeding	Creation of rescue centres	Environment enrichment	Zoo research	Zoo education	Visitors' facilities (non- commercial) & Infrastructure (perimeter wall, sewers, drains, pathways, etc.)	
	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9 & 10	
B I (a)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	50	50	
B I (b)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	50	50	
B I (c)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	50	50	
B I (d)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	50	50	
B II (a)	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
B II (b)	100	100	0	0	100	100	100	0	0	
B II (c)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
B III	100	100	0	100	0	100	100	0	0	
B IV	As per approved project reports									
B I (e)	Subject to special consideration by the Technical Committee of the CZA and availability of funds									
B I (f)	Subject to special consideration by the Technical Committee of the CZA and availability of funds									

should be provided to them on the basis of approved plans.

B. IV Research and human resource development

B. IV (a) Collaborative institutions/agencies (WII, Dehradun, IVRI, Bareilly, CCMB, Hyderabad, SPA, New Delhi, CEE, Ahmedabad and other institutions and organizations on a case-to-case basis and on the basis of approved project reports) and special programmes of the CZA

The above organizations shall be supported on a case-to-case basis and on the basis of approved project reports.

Table II indicates the pattern of funding to be adopted by the Central Zoo Authority for supporting institutions (zoos).

C. Process of invitation of proposals

Zoos should be asked to submit site specific and item specific proposals by the 15th March of the preceding year and the 10th of June and October of the ongoing financial year so as to process and complete the scrutiny/evaluation for final allotment of funds according to the prioritization.

The Utilization Certificate should be submitted to the Central Zoo Authority in the prescribed format, provided in Annexure I.

D. Expenditure on transport of endangered animals

If funds are available, the Central Zoo Authority shall reimburse the expenditures incurred on the transfer of those animals (between zoos) that are identified as being part of ongoing conservation breeding programmes of the Central Zoo Authority.

NOTE:

- (I) The Central Zoo Authority will scrutinize the proposals submitted by the zoos through its various committees/groups, such as the Expert Group on Zoo Designing and Expert Group on Conservation Breeding, to avoid duplication of items before they are placed before the Technical Committee for approval as per the TOR (Annexure II).
- (II) Execution of the proposals that are provided financial assistance by the CZA will be monitored and evaluated by a team of members deputed by the CZA time to time.

Annexure-I**FORM GFR 19 – A**

[See Rule 212 (1)]

Form of Utilization Certificate

Sl. No.	Letter No. and date	Amount
1.		
	Total	

Certified that out of _____ of grants-in-aid sanctioned during the year _____ in favour of _____ by Central Zoo Authority, Ministry of Environment & Forests vide Letter No. given in the margin _____ has been utilized for the purpose of _____ for which it was sanctioned and that the balance of ₹ _____ remaining unutilized at the end of the year has been surrendered to Government (vide No. _____, dated _____)/ will be adjusted towards the grants-in-aid payable during the next year _____

Certified that I have satisfied myself that the conditions on which the grants-in-aid was sanctioned have been duly fulfilled/are being fulfilled and that I have exercised the following checks to see that the money was actually utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

Signature.....

Designation.....

Date.....

Annexure II**Terms of the Reference (ToR) of the Technical Committee
of the Central Zoo Authority**

The main functions of the Technical Committee would be:

- (a) To make recommendations regarding specifying the minimum standards for housing, upkeep and veterinary care of the animals kept in a Zoo.
- (b) To approve the grant of recognition or de-recognition to the Zoos and to make recommendations for the applications received for the creation of new Zoos.
- (c) Identify endangered species of wild animals for purpose of captive breeding and assigning responsibility in this regard to a Zoo.
- (d) To make recommendations regarding exchange of animals with foreign Zoos, accepting gift of animals from foreign Zoos and to gift animals to foreign Zoos.
- (e) To approve exchange of animals which are part of coordinated conservation breeding programme between Indian Zoos.
- (f) Identify priorities, themes and approval of Master Plan with regards to display of captive animals in a Zoo.
- (g) To approve proposals for organizing training programmes, workshops and meeting in India on various aspects of Zoo management.
- (h) To approve research projects on issues related with the Zoos for funding by the Authority.
- (i) Provide technical assistance to Zoos for their proper management and development on scientific lines.
- (j) To approve proposals for release of financial assistance to various Zoos and other organizations.
- (k) Any other function that may be assigned to it by the Central Zoo Authority.



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