



Government of West Bengal
Directorate of Forests
Office of the Ex-Officio Director, Sundarban Wild Animal Park & Divisional Forest
Officer

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NO: 2129 /26C-13/SWAP

DATE: 15/09/2025

To
The Member Secretary
Central Zoo Authority
B1 Wing, 6th Floor
Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan
CGO Complex
New Delhi – 110003

Sub: Submission of Annual Report in respect of Sundarban Wild Animal Park, Jharkhali.

Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned subject, enclosed kindly find herewith the **Annual Report for the Financial Year 2022-2023 (from 01/04/2022-31/03/2023)** in respect of Sundarban Wild Animal Park, Jharkhali is sent herewith for your kind perusal.

Encl: As stated.


Ex-Officio Director
Sundarban Wild Animal Park, Jharkhali
&
Divisional Forest Officer
24 Parganas (South) Division

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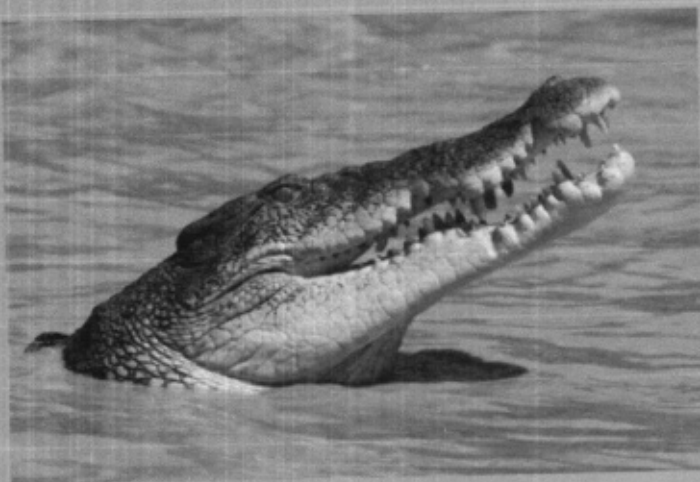
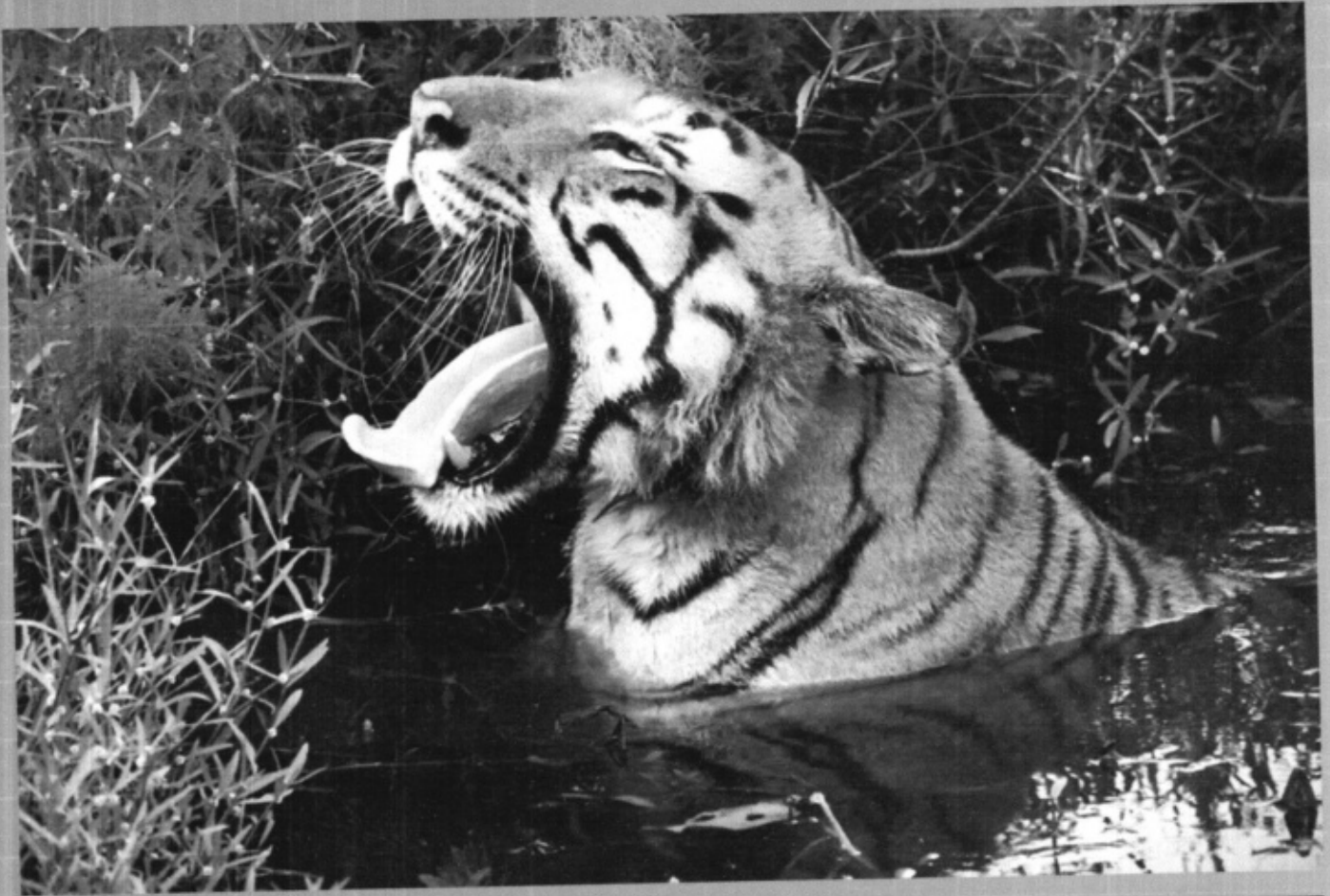
- 1) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal.
- 2) The APCCF & Member Secretary, West Bengal Zoo Authority, West Bengal.
- 3) The Joint Director & Conservator of Forests, Sundarban Biosphere Reserve, West Bengal.

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Ex-Officio Director
Sundarban Wild Animal Park, Jharkhali
&
Divisional Forest Officer
24 Parganas (South) Division



SUNDARBAN WILD ANIMAL PARK ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



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1. Report of the Officer-in-charge: The Sundarban is the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world. It is the deltaic area of lower Bengal and harbours a tropical estuarine swamp forest. Sundarban is a swampy land of distinct eco-system, which is very fragile. The tract is in a state of perpetual flux as a result of tidal rhythms superimposed with the cycle of seasons. The region is further subjected to vagaries of cyclonic storms often prevailing over the deltaic West Bengal. The forest is compact but criss-crossed by creeks and channels of varying widths and depths. The Sundarbans became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999, most of which is situated in Bangladesh and the remaining in India. The Indian part of Sundarban region is located between 21°30' to 22°30'N latitude and 87°25' to 89°10'E longitude. The inter-tidal zone of Sundarban is bounded in the north by an imaginary line known as Dampier — Hodges line. Bay of Bengal is in the south, Ichamati, Kalindi and Raimangal rivers are to the east and river Hooghly in the west.

Historically, Sundarbans originated about 6000 years ago, measuring around 16,700 sq. km. It was declared as a Reserve Forest in 1875. The Bengali word “ban” means forest and the name “Sundarbans” was coined either from the forests of “sundari” tree i.e. ‘Sundari-ban’, or from the forests of the “samudra” (sea) i.e., ‘samudra-ban’, or from its association with the primitive tribe ‘chandra-bandhe’ of Sundarban. The generally accepted explanation, however, is its derivation from the ‘sundari’ tree.

Sundarban mangrove eco-system in the state of West Bengal, India is the estuarine phase of the Ganga as well as of the Brahmaputra River systems. The littoral forest is the only ecological habitat of the Tiger of its kind not only in India but also in the world, except in Bangladesh. The typical littoral forest of the Sundarbans comprises a host of tree species adapted to the peculiar estuarine condition of high salinity, lack of soil erosion and daily inundation by high tides.

There is a rich assembly of faunal elements with the Indian Tiger being the flagship species. 2585 sq. km. forests in the eastern front form the Sundarban Tiger Reserve and 1679sq. km. on the western side comprises of the South 24 Parganas Forest Division. The protection of the Sundarban mangrove ecosystem will have important significance for the future survival of the Bengal Tiger and other major species in the wild.

2. History of the Zoo: The Sundarban Wild Animal Park is the only mangrove zoo present in the World. The earliest proposal for creation of SWAP at Jharkhali as satellite facility of Zoological Garden, Alipore, submitted in the year 2009-10 for setting up a Tiger Rescue Centre. That time it was known as “Jharkhali Tiger Rescue Centre”. From April, 2012 this Tiger Rescue Centre was brought under the management control of West Bengal Zoo Authority as “Jharkhali Satellite Zoo” and The Divisional Forest Officer, 24 Parganas (South) Division took the charge of this zoo as Ex-Officio Director. On 08/12/2014 it was inaugurated by Hon’ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, Shrimati Mamata Banerjee as “Sundarban Wild Animal Park” and after that it is well known to us as “Sundarban wild Animal Park (SWAP), Jharkhali”. The main governing body of SWAP is the West Bengal Zoo Authority. At present it covers 40.46 ha (99.98 Acres) of the land at Lot. No. 26, Jharkhali, intends to complement the national effort in conservation of wildlife through breeding of endangered species of Sundarban & to develop empathy among visitors for wild animals. It follows

all the norms and conditions applied by CZA.

3. Vision: The Sundarban Wild Animals Park, Jharkhali (South 24 Parganas, West Bengal) will provide rewarding experience to the visitors about the wildlife of this region. The display, care and awareness will be of such level to promote conservation of wildlife. The Sundarban Animals Park will endeavor to breed the endangered species for display, exchange and rehabilitation in the wild. This animal park will be a showcase of rich biodiversity of Sundarban mangrove in the state of West Bengal. As such the flora and fauna exist in their natural pristine glory, unhindered and unaffected.

4. Mission The Sundarban Wild Animals' Park, Jharkhali (South 24 Parganas, West Bengal) intends to complement the national efforts in conservation of wildlife through breeding of endangered species of the region, develop empathy among visitors for wild animals and education and research for sustainable conservation of Wild fauna of Sundarbans.

5. Objectives

- a. A professionally run Park will serve a great variety of roles to benefit both the animals in display and the visiting public.
- b. Conservation breeding programmes can help propagate endangered species and continue gene pools for species whose habitats have been obliterated.
- c. Educational programmes can help foster the respect that wild animals deserve and familiarize the visitors with the important role these animals play in the ecosystem.
- d. The park may have to serve as the last bastion for threatened and endangered species.
- e. The objective of the park shall be the conservation of the rich biodiversity of the region i.e. Sundarban, as the animal species displayed shall be from the Sundarban mangrove ecosystem only.
- f. To reduce the tourist pressure on the National Parks/Protected Areas.
- g. To create amongst the visitors empathy towards wild animals through appreciation and better understanding.
- h. To collect and collate the scientific data on the biology, behavior and health care of various species of wild animals displayed in the park and use the same in future management of the animals park.
- i. Recreation for the purpose of providing wholesome, healthy and educational activity to a large number of people by utilizing the outdoor natural setting without detriment to any of the preceding objectives.

6. About Us:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Information
Basic Information about the Zoo		
1	Name of the Zoo	SUNDARBAN WILD ANIMAL PARK
2	Year of Establishment	2011 (Rescue Centre for Tiger established)
3	Address of the Zoo	Herobhanga Camp-III, Jharkhali (45Km

		from Canning), Block-Basanti, 24-Parganas (South)
4	State	West Bengal
5	Telephone Number	(033) 2479 9032
6	Fax Number	(033) 2479 9032
7	E-mail address	dfo24pgss.fd-wb@gov.in sundarbanwildanimalpark@gmail.com
8	Website	NA
9	Distance from nearest	Airport: 150 Km (Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Dunn Dunn) Railway Station: 45 Km (Canning) Bus Stand: Jharkhali (5 Km)
10	Recognition Valid up to (Date)	5 th June, 2025
11	Category of zoo	'Mini Category Zoo'
12	Area (in Hectares)	40.46 Ha
13	Number of Visitors Allowed (Financial Year 2022-23)	Adult: 2,01426 Minor: 5,440
14	Visitors' Facilities	Sitting Arrangements Visitor Rest Shed Toilet Garden Mangrove Nursery First-AIDS Wheelchair for Physically Challenged Directional Signages.
15.	Weekly Closure Day of Zoo	Thursday
Management Personnel of the Zoo		
16	Name with designation of the Officer in-Charge	Shri Milan Kanti Mandal Ex-Officio Director, Sundarban Wild Animal Park & Divisional Forest Officer, 24-Parganas (South) Division
	Name of the Veterinary Officer	Dr. Asutosh Kumar Biswas
	Name of the Curator	NA
	Name of Research Assistant/ Biologist	Mr. Soham Mitra
	Name of the Education Officer	NA
	Name of the Compounder/ Lab Assistant	NA
	Name of the Veterinary Assistant	Mr. Supravat Samui
Owner/Operator of the Zoo		
17	Name of the Operator	West Bengal Zoo Authority
18	Address of the Operator	2 nd Floor, KB-19, Sector — III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata — 700 098, West Bengal
19	Contact details/Phone number of Operator	+91 33 23355010 (Direct), 23355011 (EPABX), FAX: +91 33 23350012

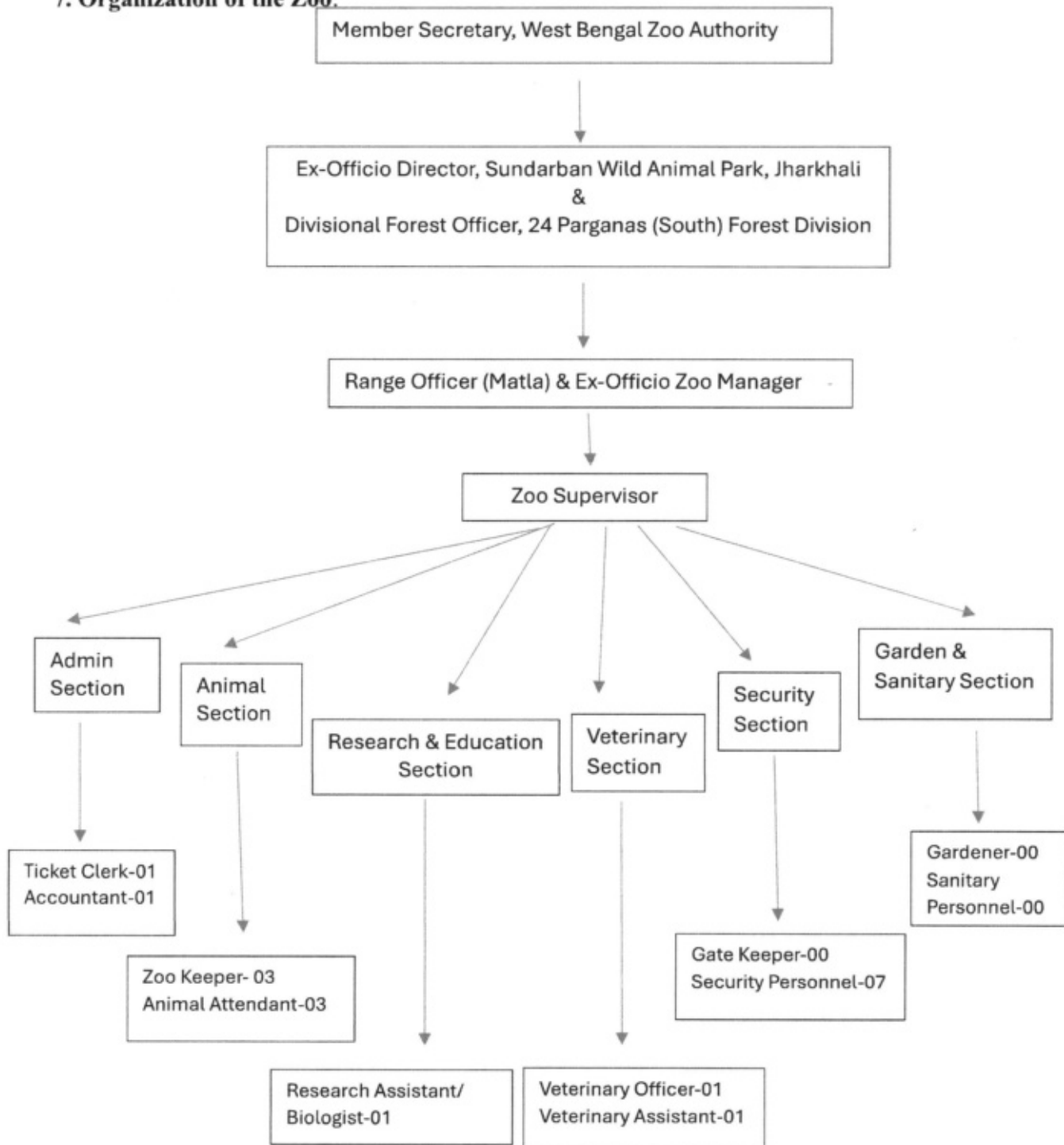
20	E-mail address of Operator	mswbza@smail.com , wbzooauthority@yahoo.in
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* Rule 2(m) of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.

“Zoo Operator” means the person who has ultimate control over the affairs of the zoos provided that _____

- i.* in the case of a firm or other association of individuals, any one of the individual partners or members thereof; or
- ii.* in the case of a company, any director, manager, secretary or other officer, who is in-charge of and responsible to the company for the affairs of the zoo, or
- iii.* In case of zoo owned or controlled by the Central Government or any State Government or Union Territory Administration or any Trust or Society funded by the Central Government or a State Government or a Union Territory Administration, the Secretary of the concerned Department of that Government, or as the case may be the Union Territory Administration, shall be deemed to be the Zoo Operator.

7. Organization of the Zoo:



8. Human Resource of the Zoo:**Manpower of the Zoo**

Sl. No.	Designation	Number of Sanctioned Post	Name of Incumbent
1.	Zoo Supervisor	01	Shri. Ranjit Biswas
2.	Veterinary Officer	01	Dr. Asutosh Kumar Biswas
3.	Research Assistant	01	Shri. Soham Mitra
4.	Veterinary Assistant	01	Shri. Supravat Samui
5.	Accountant	01	Shri. Swarup Das
6.	Ticket Clerk	01	Smt. Debjani Das Gupta
7.	Zoo Keeper	03	Shri. Nirmal Halder Shri. Anadi Sarkar Shri. Bibekananda Sardar
8.	Animal Attendant	03	Shri. Alope Pal Shri. Ramen Mondal Shri. Piyush Barui
9.	Security Personnel	07	Shri. Nihar Mondal Shri. Govinda Sardar Shri. Animesh Mondal Shri. Krishnapada Mondal Shri. Krishna Mahato Shri. Arindam Sharma Shri. Palash Mondal

9. Capacity Building of Zoo Personnel:

Sl. No.	Name & Designation of the Zoo Personnel	Subject matter of Training	Period of Training	Name of the Institution where the training attend
1.	Mr. Soham Mitra, Zoo Biologist/RA	Skill Development Training Workshop for Scientific Staffs	17-18 th March, 2023	Zoological Garden, Alipore
2.	Mr. Soham Mitra, Zoo Biologist/RA	Capacity Enhancement Workshop for Zoo Biologist	21-23 rd March, 2023	GZRRC, Jamnagar

10. Zoo Advisory Committee –

As per the directives of the Central Zoo Authority is governed by a 14 Member Body headed by the Chief Secretary, West Bengal as Chairman and Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary, Department of Forests, Govt. of West Bengal the Vice Chairman. Member Secretary is the responsible for the management of the Zoo Authority. Detailed list of Governing Body of West Bengal Zoo Authority is appended below:

- The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal Chairman
- Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Dept. of Forests Vice-Chairman
- Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal Dept. of Finance Member
- Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, West Bengal Member
- Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal Member
- Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, Member
- Member Secretary, West Bengal Zoo Authority Convenor
- Director, Animal Husbandry & Vet. Services, West Bengal, Member
- Director, Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling Member
- Director, Zoological Garden, Alipore, Kolkata Member
- A Person from North Bengal to be nominated Member
- NGO from North Bengal to be nominated Member
- NGO from South Bengal to be nominated Member
- A Person from South Bengal to be nominated Member

11. Health Advisory Committee

As per the directives of the Central Zoo Authority, one Health Advisory Committee has been constituted (ref. 1106/1(9)/5M-85/2005(Pt.-2), dated. 07.03.2018).

Details of the Health Advisory Committee: -

Sl. No.	Name of the member	Designation
1.	Joint Director, ARD IAH & VB (R&T) Belgachia, Kolkata-37,	Chairman
2.	Dr. Joyjit Mitra, Specialist (Sero-Epidemiology), RDDDL(ER), IAH&VB Belgachia, Kolkata-37	Member
3.	Dr. Debasish Chatterjee, Asst. Director, ARD(Vety), (Disease Investigation, IAH&VB Belgachia, Kolkata-37	Member

4.	Dr. Proloy Mandal, Asst. Director,ARD (Vety), IAH&VB Belgachia, Kolkata-37	Member
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12. Statement of income and expenditure of the Zoo –

Income during the year 2024-25

- From Entry Fee Collection: 61,33,710

Expenditure during the year 2024-25

- Direct Expenditure: 70,04,562
- Indirect Expenditure: 42,43,891

13. Daily feed Schedule of animals

Sl.No.	Species	Feed item	Quantity / Per day		Day of fasting
			Winter	Summer	
1.	Male Tiger (Sohan)	Beef with Bone	5 Kg	5 Kg	Thursday
		Beef without bone	1 Kg	1 Kg	Thursday
	Male Tiger (Sundar)	Beef with Bone	6 Kg	6 Kg	Thursday
		Beef without bone	1 Kg	1 Kg	Thursday
	Female Tiger (Sohini)	Beef with Bone	5 Kg	5 Kg	Thursday
		Beef without bone	00	00	Thursday
2.	Crocodiles	Fish	11 Kg	11 Kg	Thursday

14. Vaccination Schedule of Animals:

Sl.No.	Species	Disease vaccinated for	Name of the Vaccine and dosage/ quantity used	Periodicity	Remarks
1.	Tiger (02 Males, 01 Female)	Canine Distemper	Distemper Vaccine	Yearly	Booster dose given on 14/12/22,

15. De-Worming Schedule of Animals

Sl. No.	Tiger Name	Name of Drug Applied	Last Date of De-worming
1.	Sohan (Old Male Tiger)	Hitek Injection	16/04/22
		Wormtrap Tab.	31/08/22
		Drontal plus	15/03/23
2.	Sohini (Old Female Tiger)	Hitek Injection	16/04/22
		Wormtrap Tab.	31/08/22
		Drontal plus	15/03/23
3.	Sundar (New Male Tiger)	Hitek Injection	16/04/22
		Wormtrap Tab.	31/08/22
		Drontal plus	15/03/23
4.	All Deer	Albomar	28/01/23

16. Disinfection Schedule

Sl.No.	Species	Type of Enclosure	Disinfectant Used and Methods	Frequency of Disinfection
1.	Tiger	Cemented Floor	Nymile/Pheynile	Everyday
		Foot Bath	Potassium Parmanganate	Everyday
		Disinfection with disinfectant	Formalin/Kohrsin	Every 7 days interval

17. Developmental Work carried out in the zoo during the year 2022-23

- Flower Garden
- Signages
- Maintenance of restaurant
- Drinking water RO Plant
- CCTV Camera installation
- Internet and Wi-fi Connection

18. Education and Awareness Programmes during this year:

- On 3rd March 2024 Sundarban Wild Animal Park celebrated the “World Wildlife Day, 2022.”
- Sundarban Wild Animal Park wholeheartedly celebrated “Banmahotshov” with staffs of Zoo and zoo visitors on 18th July 2022.
- World Mangrove Day, 26th July 2022.

- On 29th July Sundarban Wild Animal Park has successfully organized The Global Tiger Day, 2022 at Jharkhali.
- Sundarban Wild Animal Park organized a cleanliness programme at the zoo premises and surrounding area to mark the massive cleanliness drive – “Swachhata Hi Seva” on 26th September, 2022.
- World wildlife week has been successfully organized by Sundarban Wild Animal Park under 24 Parganas South Forest Division from 2nd-8th October 2022.

19. Important Events & Happenings:

- Celebration of “World Wildlife Day, 2022.”
- Celebration of “Global Tiger Day, 2022”
- Celebration of Zoo Inauguration Day, 2022
- Cleaness Drive Programme- “Swachhata Hi Seva”

20. Seasonal Special Arrangement for upkeep of Animals:

- Usage of pedestal fan during summer season.
- ORS given daily for 2 times in a day in summer season.

21. **Research Work carried out and Publication:** Basic level research work done.

22. **Conservation Breeding Programme:** Nil

23. **Animal Acquisition/Transfer/Exchange/Release during this year:** Nil

24. Rescue & Rehabilitation of Wild Animals carried out by the Zoo (Financial Year 2022-23)

S · N O ·	Date of rescue	Species with nos. of animals rescued (M:F:U:T)	Received from	Date of submission of report to the CWLW/CZA	Action taken	
					Date and place of rehabilitation	Reason for housing in the zoo, if not released
1.	12/04/2022	Jungle Cat (0:1:0:1)	Basanti	-	22/04/2022, Herobhanga Jungle	-
2.	14/05/2022	Python (0:0:1:1)	Maslipara		14/05/2022, Suryamani Khal	-
3.	24/05/2022	Olive Ridley Turtle (0:1:0:1)	Herobhanga River	-	27/05/2022, Kalas Beach	-
4.	26/05/2022	Monocled Cobra (0:0:3:3)		-	26/05/2022, Herobhanga Jungle	-
5.	26/06/2022	Hawkbill Sea Turtle (0:1:0:1)	Caning	-	28/06/2022, Kalas Beach	-
6.	29/01/2023	Jungle Cat	Herobhanga Beat		11/02/2023,	-

		(3:2:0:5)				Kanmari Forest	
7.	06/02/2023	Barn Owl (1:2:0:3)	Matla Range	-		10/02/2023, Kanmari Forest	-
8.	17/02/2023	Jungle Cat (0:1:0:1)	Shivganj	-		17/02/2023, Kanmari Forest	-
9.	14/03/2023	Barn Owl (1:0:0:1)	Shivganj, Basanti	-		19/03/2023, Kanmari Forest	-

25. Annual Inventory of the Year 2022-23:

Sl. No	Animal Name	Scientific Name	Opening Stock				Births				Acquisition				Disposal				Death				Closing Stock				
			(01/04/2022)																(31/03/23)								
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	T	M	F	U	T	M	F	U	T	M	F	U	T	M	F	U	T	
1	Royal Bengal Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	2	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	
2	Saltwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodilus porosus</i>	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	
3.	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	1	0	6	7	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	8	2	6	6	1	2	0	3	1	2	3	6

26. Animal Mortality:

- One male Spotted Deer (6yrs) died on 17/05/22
- One female Spotted Deer (5yrs) died on 17/05/22
- One female Spotted Deer (8yrs) died on 15/06/22

27. Compliance with condition stipulated by Central Zoo Authority:

Renewal of recognition of the Sundarban Wild Animal Park, Jharkhali, West Bengal under Section -38-H(1), (3) & (4) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for the period beyond 19th August, 2021

Compliance Report Vide letter No: 21-1/2021/CZA, Computer no.158516 dated 31.03.2022 on conditions stipulated by CZA during grant of recognition based on the zoo evaluation on 04/05/202

Sl. No.	Norms	Particular suggestion/recommendation	Time Period to Comply	Compliance Remark
1	General requirement			
1.	10.1(7)	Dustbin should be placed appropriately at suitable regular interval in the Deer Park	Immediately	Complied with
9.	Acquisition and breeding of animals			
2.	10.9(6)	Breeding programme for Royal Bengal Tiger & Estuarine Crocodile should be initiated with the aim to conserve the endangered species after taking prior permission from the CZA	Within six months	Noted
3.	10.12(1)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safe Drinking water should be available on multiple places. 2. No. of benches in the zoo are very less, it is difficult and stressful for visitor to remain standing or moving position, this situation compounds in case of children, old age and ailing persons. At least 50-60 benches should be provided at the interval of 20-30m. 3. No visitor shed is available in the zoo, it's very difficult for visitors to save themselves from rains, scorching heat and sun. At least 4 visitors shed should be installed. 4. Canteen facility is also required to facilitate visitors for tea, snacks and other edible requirements. 	Within three months	<p>Complied</p> <p>Complied</p> <p>Complied</p> <p>Complied</p>
Other observation				
4.		Location of this zoo is unique and attractive at the shore of huge river and practically at the "End of Land". This zoo has immense potential to be evolved as estuarine zoo with objective to house marine animals including fishes, molluscs, reptiles, aves, mammals and other animals harbouring mainly on	Prior approval shall be sought from the CZA.	Noted

		marine/backwater/seashore animals. Huge area, suitable climate and sparsely populated region may be helpful for early success. Zoo administration should seriously ponder over in this direction.	
5.		Aquarium can be established to house all possible varieties of marine fishes and molluscs.	Noted

29. List of free-living animals within the zoo premises:

- **Mammals:** Fishing Cat, Jungle Cat, Rhesus Macaque, Squirrel, Mongoose, Civet Cat, Wild Boar etc.
- **Birds:** Fulvus Breasted Wood Pecker, Common Flame back, Barbet, Common Hoopoe, Asian Openbill, Black Headed Ibis, Pond Heron, Little Egret, Little Cormorant, Goliath Heron, Gull, Common Sand Piper, Little Tern, Spotted Dove, Yellow Footed Green Pегion, Black Caped Kingfisher, Collated Kingfisher, Pied Kingfisher, Common Kingfisher, Green Bee Eater, Small Minivet, Black Drongo, Black Hooded Oriole, Mangrove Whistler, Large-billed Crow, Red-vented Bulbul, Jungle Myna, Flycatcher, Purple Sunbird, Indian Roller, Red Wattled Lapwing, Brahmini Kite etc.
- **Reptiles:** Water Monitor Lizard, Bengal Monitor Lizard, Indian Garden Lizard, Gecko, Kind Cobra, Monocled Cobra, Banded Krait, Common Krait, Buff- striped Keelback, Indian Rat Snake, Checkered Keelback, Common Wolf Snake, Russel Viper etc.
- **Others:** Fiddler Crab, Rosy Fiddler Crab, Harmit Crab, Grapeseed Crab etc.


Ex-Officio Director,
Sundarban Wild Animal Park,
Jharkhali
 &
Divisional Forest Officer,
24 Parganas (South), Division
Govt. of Forest, West Bengal