

LION SAFARI VASONA

**Annual Report for the year
2021-22**





Prepared by
FOREST DEPARTMENT
WILDLIFE DIVISION
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI
SILVASSA
LION SAFARI VASONA

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1. Report of the Officer-in-charge

The Lion Safari Vasona Dadra and Nagar Haveli is one of the centre of wildlife conservation through which recreation and environmental education is imparted. Every effort has been made to provide required housing, feed and health care to all the animals in the zoo. The number of visitors visiting to the Lion Safari, Vasona is increasing year after year. Adequate measures are carried out to provide required visitor amenities like Resting Shelters, Drinking Water, and Toilets. Awareness programmes are conducted regularly to educate the visitors especially students and teachers about the significance of wildlife conservation for the general well being of the people and the role played by the zoos in this regard. Top priority is given to animal health care. It is our endeavour to ensure that the animals are screened regularly for preventing the occurrence of any disease by adopting prophylactic measures timely. The animal sanitation and hygiene is also maintained well. During the year 2021-22 all the zoo staffs worked sincerely, shown devotion towards their job and ensured a healthy environment for the animals.

2. History of the Zoo

The UT of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu has a history starting from 1779 when the Marathas gave the revenue of these 72 villages to the Portuguese. Portuguese rule continued till 1954 when they were driven out of the territory by rebellion. Then followed a Dadra & Nagar Haveli Free Administration till 1961 after which this territory merged with the union of India. The UT has 72 villages spread over an area of 491 sq.kms in 2 enclaves in “Dadra” and “Nagar Haveli” areas. The population was 2, 20,452 as per the 2001 census with 62% of the population tribal with Varli, Dhodia, Kokna, Kathodi, Koli, Dhorand Naik tribes. Now the population increased and as per details from Census 2011 the total population was 343709 of which male and female is 193760 and 121666 respectively. The recorded forest area 204 sq.km which is 41.55 % of Geographical area.

The continuing existence of zoos and their role in conservation, science, education, and recreation are recognized worldwide. Realizing the importance of zoos, the UT Administration of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu decided in 1987 to establish Lion Safari at Vasona in Dadra & Nagar Haveli by adopting innovative methods of display of zoo animals that is congenial to the welfare of the animals and motivates the visitors for conservation by providing highest standards of housing, upkeep and healthcare to significant number of animals.

The proposal to create a Lion Safari at Vasona was initiated in 1987-88 due to the proximity of the site adjacent to Gujarat State and owing to its favourable locality factors. Major works were accomplished in the year 1999-2001 and the CZA gave permission for functioning of mini-zoo in the year 2002. In 2017-18 three lions (one male and two female) were kept in the Safari. But due to illness two of them (one male and one female) died and presently only one lioness namely Girija is available in the Zoo.

3. Vision

CARE (Conservation, Awareness, Research & Education)

4. Mission

To promote wildlife conservation through quality recreation and educational environment (i.e. to provide conducive facility to promote captive breeding of Asiatic Lion and to advance wildlife conservation through research, by creating general awareness, while simultaneously serving as a quality eco-educational facility, for the visitors).

Climate – The climate is warm humid and equitable due to the proximity to the Arabian Sea. The diurnal range variation in temperature normally does not exceed 17°C. The months of October and November are warm, cloudy and humid followed by wintery December, January, and February. The summer is severe from March to June and the monsoons are from July to September. The average annual rainfall is about 100-120 inches. There is no frost occurrence in the area; however dew is observed till the end of Jan. Dew in the non-rainy months significantly contributes to precipitation. The humidity varies from 30% to 85% throughout the year.

Demography of the surrounding area – Village Vasona – The existing land use pattern is 0.04 sq. km. as Gaathan/hamlet area, 0.08 sq. km is industrial area, 3.96 sq. km. is irrigation command area, 0.55 sq. km is reserves forest area, 0.18 is road, and 0.04 is water body. The population of Vasona is 4707 (2011 census). There is no urban center in Vasona,

Legal status of the land – The Lion Safari is a part of the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Wildlife Sanctuary as notified by Gazette number 7-2/30-FD/WL/133, dated 23-11-2000. The Lion Safari is situated 10 km away from Silvassa and is well connected by road. The UT is visited by more than 1 (one) lakh tourists per year and the lion safari is one of the sources for tourist attraction where nearly 70 thousand tourists visit per year.

The habitats inside the Lion Safari have been especially created and maintained as per the natural habitat of the Asiatic lion. Lion Safari was opened for public w.e.f. 04th October 2005. The Forest Department had initiated the lion safari project at village Vasona survey No. 147 and 148 by initially enclosing 6.68 hector area of Reserve Forest on 04/07/88 in the first phase. This area was expanded to the present area in the second phase of expansion.

Collection Plan- The Lion Safari is dedicated to the pure Asiatic lion and the overall collection plan is with the objective of maintaining a viable population level of the lion. Breeding programmes with other zoos will be executed after checking their pedigrees for pure breeds only. The DCF (WL) is the authority to deal with the CZA correspondence assisted by ACF (WL).

Conservation breeding- The Lion Safari is a part of in-situ captive breeding of Asiatic lion, however breeding of two cubs are on record but there was mortality. Efforts are being made by the Wildlife Division in

coordination with the Junagad Veterinary facility and the CCMB, Hyderabad, Anand Vet College to carry out scientific investigation into the reasons for this failure and the means to rectify the same.

5. Objective

The objectives of the Lion Safari (Mini Zoo) are given below:-

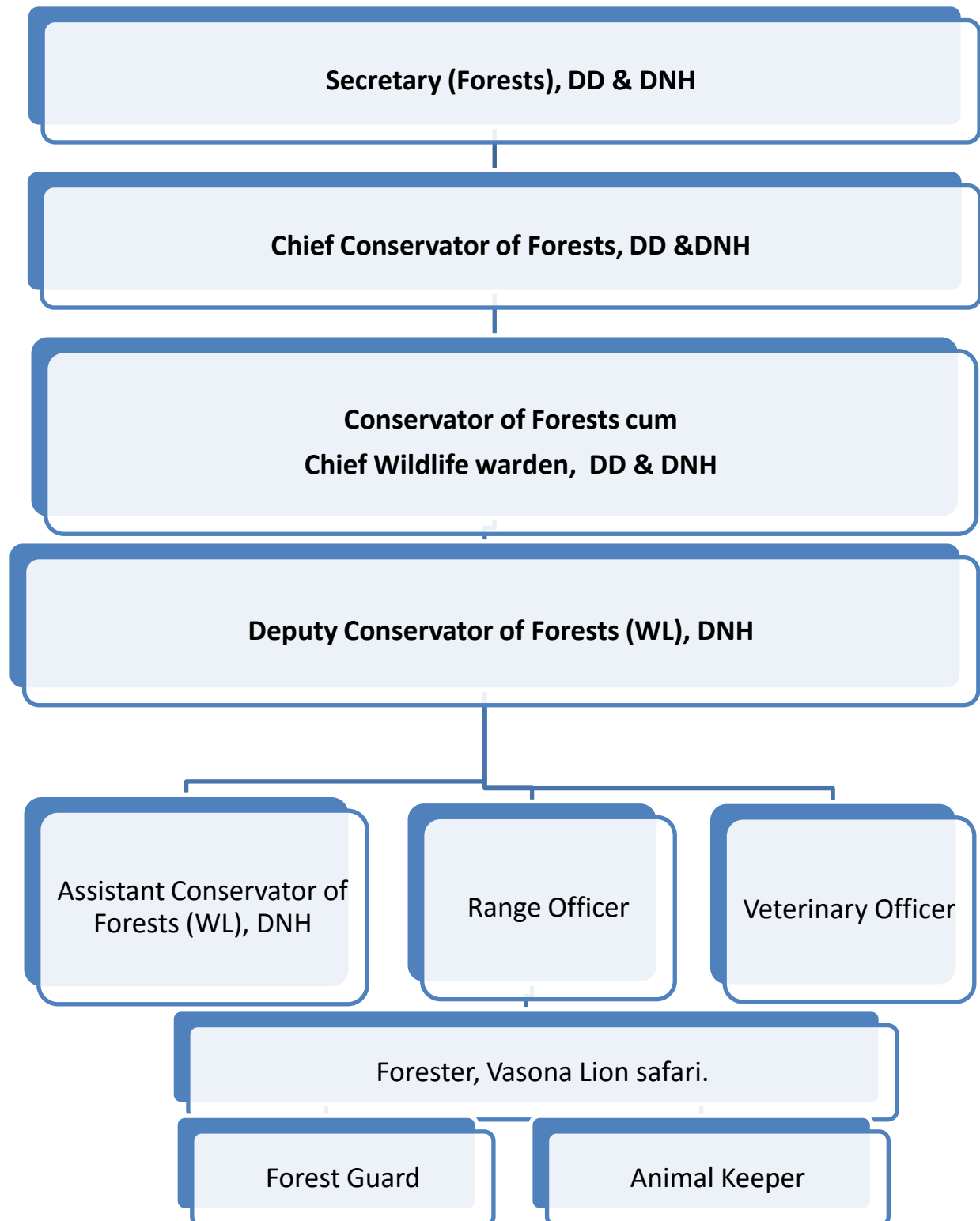
- 1) Conservation of an endangered species – The lion available in this Lion Safari is of pure breed of Asiatic lion (*Panthera leo persica*). Now action is being taken to procure few lions from Junagad and Rajkot where the Zoos are presently maintaining the breeding stocks of purebred Asiatic lions.
- 2) To develop eco-education facilities and general awareness regarding the importance and conservation of wildlife and its natural habitat through interpretation at the adjoining Nature Education Center.
- 3) To provide an opportunity for scientific study and creation of a database useful for ex-situ conservation.
- 4) To increase the ecotourism potential of the Union Territory by establishment of the Zoo.

6. About us

Sl. No.	Particulars	Information
A. Basic Information about the Zoo		
1	Name of the Zoo	Vasona Lion Safari
2	Year of Establishment	04/10/2002
3	Address of the Zoo	Vasona Lion Safari, Vasona village Road, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, PIN 396230
4	State	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu (UT)
5	Telephone Number	0260-2963693
6	Fax Number	--
7	E-mail address	dcfwl-dnh@nic.in
8	Distance from nearest Airport	Surat- 147 km & Mumbai-149 km
9 (a)	Distance from nearest Railway Station	Vapi- 26 km
(b)	Distance from nearest Bus Stand	Silvassa 10 km
10	Recognition Valid up to Date)	19 th August, 2021.
11	Category of zoo	Mini Zoo
12	Area (in Hectares)	19.64 Ha
13	Number of Visitors (2021-22)	Adult:13566
		Children:2681
		Total Indian:16247
		Total Foreigners: 07
		Total Visitors:16256

14	Visitors Facilities Available in Zoo	Parking Area, Reception/waiting area, Kiosk, Ticket Window, Wheel chair for Divyang Visitors, Garden area, Tree Shade sit out, Drinking Water Facility, Wash Rooms, First Aid Kit, Vehicles for Safari.
15	Weekly Closure Day of the Zoo	Every Monday
B. Management Personnel of the zoo		
16	Name with designation of the Officer In-charge	Shri Thomas Varghese, IFS DCF(WL)
	Name of the Veterinary Officer	Dr Vijay B Parmar, I/C V.O
	Name of the Curator	--
	Name of the Biologist	--
	Name of the Education Officer	--
	Name of the Compounder/Lab Assistant	--
C. Owner /Operator of the Zoo		
17	Name of the Operator	Shri. Vikas Anand, IAS, Secretary (Forests), DNH&DD
18	Address of the Operator	The Secretary (Forests), Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu, Vidyut Bhavan, Daman
19	Contact details/Phone number of Operator	0260-2963693
20	E-mail address of Operator	dcfwl-dnh@gov.in

7. Organizational Chart



8. Human Resources

Manpower of the Zoo*

Sl. No.	Designation	Number of Posts	Names of the incumbent	Remark
1	Deputy Conservator of Forests (WL)	01	Shri Thomas Varghese, IFS	All the posts at (Sl. No. 1, 2.3, 4 &7) are functioning from existing strength of the Wildlife Division.
2	Assistant Conservator of Forests (WL)	01	Shri. Vijay Kumar Anil Kumar Patel	
3	Forest Ranger	01	Shri. Kiran Kumar Balvantsinh Parmar	
4	Forester	01	Shri. Rajendra Kumar Karsandas Parmar	
5	Veterinary Officer	01	Dr. Vijay B Parmar, I/C V.O	Posts at Sl.No.5&6 are managed by the Officer/ Staff of Govt. Veterinary Department.
6	Stockman	01	Shri. N.D.Bhandari.	
7	Forest Guard	02	Shri. Udaynath Magansihn Yadav	Posts at Sl.No. 8&9 is managed by Experienced Mazdoor (DW)
			Shri. Hemendra Pravindas.	
8	Animal Keeper cum attendant	03	Shri Jitesh Kashi Mahala	
			Shri Somu Bablu Bhoya	
			Shri Suresh Arjun Boba	
9	Driver	02	Shri. Pankaj Devu Tumbda	
			Shri. Bediya Tumbda	
	Total	13	-	

*Please give above mentioned information in respect all zoo personnel, from the Office In-charge up to the Animal Keeper.

9. Capacity Building of zoo personnel

Sl. No.	Name and designation of the zoo personnel	Subject matter of Training	Period of Training	Name of the Institution where the Training attended
1	-	-	-	-

Note: Training to manage the Zoo and its animals are provided to the Zoo personnel regularly by the Veterinary officer at local level.

10. Zoo Advisory Committee –

- a. Date of constitution: --NIL--
 b. Members
 c. Dates on which Meetings held during the year

11. Health Advisory Committee –

- a. Date of constitution: 20/09/2004
 b. Members: 06
 c. Dates on which Meetings held during the year : No

12. Statement of income and expenditure of the Zoo

1. Income Rs. 3,67,960.00
 2. Expenditure Rs. 35,26,040.00

13. Daily feeding Schedule of animals

Sl. No.	Species	Feed item	Quantity (per day)		Day of fasting
			Winter	Summer	
1	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	Buffalo Meat	8 Kg per Animal		Monday

14. Vaccination Schedule of animals

Sl. No.	Species	Disease vaccinated for	Name of the Vaccine and dosage/ quantity used	Periodicity	Remarks
1	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	Against feline pan leucopenia, herpes virus, calici virus, rabies virus.	Biofel PCHR (1 ml per Animal)	Annual	Vaccinated on 25.12.2021

15. De-worming Schedule of animals

Sl. No.	Species	Drug used	Month	Remarks
1	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	Albendazole Fenbendazole (Fentas plus, Albomar, Panacur, aloxy bolus, all clear tab)	April (06/04/2021) July (06/07/2021) October (07/10/2021) February (08/02/2022)	De-worming by changing of drug on Quarterly basis.

16. Disinfection Schedule

Sl. No.	Species	Type of enclosure	Disinfectant used and method	Frequency of disinfection
1	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	1. RCC with Iron Cages 2. Secondary Cages 3. Krawl	1. Kohrsolin is used for as Disinfectant 2. Gas fire treatment to floor and walls /corner	Daily Every Fifteen (15) days

17. Health Check-up of employees for zoonotic diseases

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Date of Health Check up	Findings of Health Check up
1	ShriJiteshKashiMahala	Zoo Keeper	29/04/2022	Normal
2	Shri Somu Bablu Bhoya	Zoo Keeper	29/04/2022	Normal
3	Shri Suresh Arjun Boba	Zoo Keeper	29/04/2022	Normal

18. Development works carried out in the zoo during the year

The major works like Tree shade, Children playing area, Visitors Parking area, Shade in the Bus waiting area and Automation of Main Gate works are done and maintained.



19. Education and Awareness programmes during the year

Education awareness Programme carried out during celebration of wildlife week 2021. Students and Children from different localities of territory visited the safari and the Zoo- In charge briefed them about the importance of zoo and animals. Safai Abhiyan awareness works were carried out with people's participation in the nearby villages.

20. Important Events and happenings

No such events and happenings

21. Seasonal special arrangements for upkeep of animals

Arrangements for the cooler cum heater are made for summer and winter respectively.

During summer to protect the animals from heat wave jute cloth are placed from outside the cages and moistened by sprinkling water regularly.

In summer during early morning and evening hrs water is sprinkled on land area near the cage area to keep down the temperature of the area.

Sand bed arrangements made in advance in the lioness cage.

22. Research work carried out and publications

Although no such research and publication works carried out during the period but monitoring of the Zoo animals are carried out on regular basis.

23. Conservation Breeding Programme of the Zoo

Process of procurement of Male Lion is under way.

24. Animal acquisition / transfer / exchange during the year

A.	Animals arriving in the Zoo				
	H. No.	Species	Number (M:F)	From which Zoo	Date arrival in the zoo
-NIL-					
B.	Animal going from the zoo				
	H. No.	Species	Number (M:F)	Going to which Zoo	Date of deposition from the zoo
-NIL-					

25. Rescue and Rehabilitation of wild animals carried out by the Zoo

Sl. No.	Date of Rescue	Species with number of animals rescued with their sex(M:F:U:T)	Received from	Date of Submission of Report to the CWLW/CZA	Action taken	
					Date and place of rehabilitation in their habitat	Reasons for housing in the zoo, if not released in their habitat
-NIL-						

26. Annual Inventory of Animals

Form-II [See Rule 11(1)] Part – A

Inventory Report for the Year: 2021-22

Endangered Species*

Sr. No	Animal Name	Scientific Name	Opening Stock as on 01.04.2021				Births			Acquisitions			Disposals			Deaths			Closing Stock as on 31.03.2022			
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T
I	Mammal:																					
1.	Lion	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total	Lion	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

*Animals under Sch. I and II of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

Note: Presently Lion Safari (Mini Zoo) having only one Lion.

Part – B

Other than Endangered Species

Sr. No	Animal Name	Scientific Name	Opening Stock as on				Births			Acquisitions			Disposals			Deaths			Closing Stock as on			
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T
1.	-----NIL-----																					

27. Mortality of animals

Sl. No.	Animal Name (with individual identification mark, if any)	Scientific Name	Sex	Date of Death	Reason of Death as per the post-mortem report
1	---- NIL----				

28. Compliance with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority

Sl. No	Norm No under RZR, 2009	Condition Stipulated	Time Period to Comply	Since when pending	Status with regard to compliance of the conditions
1	General requirements				
	1.2	The complex containing night houses, administrative building etc. should be camouflaged by planting the suitable plant species like bamboo etc so they are not visible to the visitors inside the safari to create natural environment inside the safari. The animal houses should be painted with camouflaging colour with the nature. The present colour of the complex is prominently visible from a distance while taking round inside the safari.	Within one year	-	Complied and Reported
	1.7	The Safari should make proper arrangement for managing solid and liquid waste and storm water.	Within a year	-	Complied and Reported
2	Administrative and Staffing pattern				
	2.2	The Safari should appoint full time veterinary office to look after the upkeep and health of animals.	Within a year	Since beginning	Not yet made but the Work is being taken care of by Govt. Veterinary doctor,

					Silvassa. Proposal to sanction the post is already submitted to the MoEF, GOI New Delhi.
	2.3	The scientific and technical posts should be created and filled up by direct recruitment. The recruitment Rules for such posts should provide for their career progression including the benefit of flexible complementing scheme for their promotions.	Within a year	-do-	Matter under correspondence with Competent Authority of State Govt.
3	Development and Planning				
	3.1	The Master Plan for the future long-term development of safari should be prepared and got approved from CZA	Within two month	-do-	Complied and submitted the Plan to the CZA for approval.
4	Animal housing, display of animal enclosures				
	4.3	The operation of the doors of the enclosures should be made safe and secure for the animal. At present the animal is not visible at the point from which it is operated.	Within six month	-	Complied and reported.
5	Upkeep and healthcare of animal				
	5.2 (1) (a)	The calcium carbonate powder should be mixed in the diet in appropriate quantity to meet the nutritional need of the animal.	With immediate effect	-	Complied and the arrangement is made.
	5.1 (5)	The beef should be necessarily checked by the vet on daily basis for its quality.	With immediate effect	-	Complied and the beef is checked regularly.
	5.2 (6)	The Safari should start testing random food and water sample for microbiological and toxicological parameters.	With immediate effect	-	The tests are done regularly.
	5.3(4)	The safari should	With	-	Complied.

		maintain written schedule of vaccination and de-worming of each of the animals and it should be displayed at the enclosure of the animal.	immediate effect		
	5.3 (5)	The safari should maintain detailed records of observations of biological and social behavior and health status of the animals including feed intake, medication and treatment in the Keeper's Diary, Daily Reports, animal History Cards and Treatment Cards, as per standards specified by the CZA.	With immediate effect	-	Records are maintained.
	5.3 (8)	The safari should have formal linkages with Veterinary College through an MoU on healthcare, preventive medicine, surgical interventions, clinical tests, diagnosis and consultation etc.	Within a year	-	Formal linkages are in progress with NAU and drawing MoU is yet to be done.
6	Veterinary and infrastructure facilities				
	6.1 (b)	Life saving drugs for animals should be readily made available in the stock.	With immediate effect	-	The drugs are made available under the supervision of Govt. Veterinary Department.
	6.1 (e)	The safari should have basic health monitoring equipment in the hospital.	With immediate effect	-	Yes, provided.
	6.3	The veterinary support personal should be recruited or engaged on contract.	With immediate effect	-	Presently managed by the Govt. Veterinary Department and Consulting veterinary doctor visits

					periodically within 3 month.
	6.4	The veterinary officer should be imparted requisite training/education in wildlife medicine/health through proper exposure/visit and orientation courses.	Within a year	-	The present Veterinary doctor used to visit other Centres and used to consult the experts as per requirement.
7	Post Mortem and disposal of carcasses of animals				
	7.1	The post-mortem should be conducted of every animal that die in the safari and finding be recorded and maintained as per the format prescribed by CZA for a period of six years.	With immediate effect	-	This is in practice
12	Visitors Facilities				
	12.1 & 12.3	The Safari should provide ramps and wheel chairs for the divyang visitors in the bus meant to take visitors on a round of safari.	With immediate effect	-	Complied and reported.

29. List of free living wild animals within the zoo premises

- a. Mammals: - No such free ranging mammal has been seen in the area.
- b. Birds: -Peacock, kingfisher, Crow pheasant, Woodpecker etc, commonly sighted in the forests.
- c. Reptiles: -Cobra, Russel Vipers, Rat Snake, Water Snake, and Indian rock python, frog, tortoise, are sighted in the area.

