

Computer No. 163920
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY

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Date: 30-12-2022

To,

The Chief Wildlife Warden,
Department of Wildlife Protection,
Near Council Office Leh,
Union Territory of Ladakh.
(E-mail: cwlwladakh@gmail.com)

Subject:- Recognition of the Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Leh, Ladakh, under Section 38-H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972- regarding.

Reference:

1. This office letter no. 21-1/2021-CZA, Computer no. 158516 dated 31.03.2022
2. Application dated December 13, 2021, from Wildlife Warden, Leh

Sir/Madam,

With reference to above, this is to inform that the application for the recognition of Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Leh, Ladakh was received by this office vide reference no. 2 above.

Shri R.K. Shukla, IFS (Retd.) was deputed by this office to carry out the evaluation of the Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Leh, Ladakh vide CZA letter at reference no. 1 above. The Zoo was accordingly evaluated on June 13, 2022.

The evaluation report (copy enclosed) as submitted by the evaluation officer was deliberated in the 106th meeting of the Technical Committee of the Central Zoo Authority held on September 27th, 2022. The Technical Committee after detailed deliberations recommended to the Central Zoo Authority for the recognition of Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Leh, Ladakh for a period of two years and, subject to compliance with observation/ recommendation in the table below and mid-term evaluation. The members also recommended that the Zoo Operator may be directed to submit half-yearly compliance report with respect to observation/ recommendation stipulated while recognition.

Subsequently, the recommendation of 106th Technical Committee Meeting was approved by the Chairperson, Central Zoo Authority. Accordingly, the Central Zoo Authority has granted the recognition of Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Leh, Ladakh for a period up to December 29, 2024 under Section 38-Hof the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. This is subject to the ratification of this decision in the next meeting of the Central Zoo Authority.

Sl.	Norm No.	Particulars suggestions/recommendation	Time Period to Comply
1.General Requirements			
1.	10.1(7)	The Rescue Centre should carry out its operations in a manner that causes minimum stress on natural resources and produces the minimum of solid wastes and effluents. The rescue centre should also endeavour to put in place the practices of effective waste management through reducing, reusing and recycling and disposing the effluents and the solid wastes in a manner that causes least adverse environmental impact.	Within three months
2. Administrative and Staffing Pattern			
2.	10.2(2)	The rescue centre should have adequate scientific and technical staff.	Within six months
3. Development and Planning			
3.	10.3(1)	The rescue centre should prepare and get the Master Plan approved by the Central Zoo Authority.	Six months
4.	10.3(3)	The Master Plan including the all round development of the rescue centre for a period of twenty years which shall be revised every ten years along with a detailed layout plan should be prepared.	Six months
5.	10.3(10)	Whenever rescue centre decides to accept any rescued animal, a detailed report regarding the source from which the animal has been received, legality of its acquisition and the facilities available for housing, upkeep and healthcare should be sent to the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State. In case the rescued animal pertains to an endangered species the copy of the report shall also be sent to the Central Zoo Authority.	Immediately
4. Animal housing, display of animals and animal enclosures			
6.	10.4(1)	Animals to be displayed in nature immersing enclosures	Three months

7.	10.4(2)	The design and dimensions of every enclosure shall be determined having due regard to the biological behavior of the species and as per the standards specified by the CZA.	Six months
8.	10.4(3)	The rescue centre should ensure that the enclosure is safe and secure for the animals, animal keepers and has requisite space for free movement, exercise and expression of natural behavior by the animals.	Six months
9.	10.4(5)	Animals should be housed in the enclosures that are in accordance with the standards specified by the CZA in this regard.	Six months
10.	10.4(6)	Efforts should be made to enrich the environment of the enclosures to meet the species specific behavioural requirements of the animals in accordance with the standards specified by the CZA.	Six months
11.	10.4(8)	No new enclosures for endangered species shall be constructed without prior approval of the Central Zoo Authority.	Immediately
5. Upkeep and healthcare of animals			
12.	10.5(1)	Rescue center should house and maintain the animals in its collection in socially and behaviourally viable groups. No animal shall be separated from the group unless doing so is necessary for the security and welfare of the animal/ other animals in the group.	Immediately
13.	10.5(2)	All the animals should be given timely supply of quality food of such a composition and in such quantities that nutritional and behavioural requirement of each animal are fully met. The Rescue center should also ensure round the clock supply of potable water to all the animals.	Immediately
14.	10.5(3)	Timing of distribution of food, placement of food and way of distribution of food to the animals shall be regulated in such a manner that the animals get maximum opportunity to express natural instincts/ skills and behaviour related to feeding.	Immediately
15.	10.5(5)	Rescue center to ensure that the left over feed, excreta of animals and all other wastes are removed promptly from the feeding cells and kraals.	Immediately

		Feeding cells and kraals shall be washed and disinfected according to the advice of the authorized veterinary officers with proposer waste management techniques.	
16.	10.5(6)	The curatorial and the veterinary staff shall keep a close watch on the general behaviour and health parameters of the animals.	Immediately
17.	10.5(7)	Any animal that shows any sign of dullness, loss of appetite, injury or abnormal behaviour shall be thoroughly assessed and provided medical attention promptly in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Central Zoo Authority and the direction of the Zoo administration.	Immediately
18.	10.5(8)	Animals should be screened for parasitic loads as per written schedule prepared by the rescue center in consultation with the veterinary officer and prophylactic medicines administered as per clinical requirements. Vaccination of animals against infectious diseases shall also be done, as per the schedule prescribed by the Veterinary Officer.	Regularly
19.	10.5(9)	All the staff involved with upkeep and healthcare of animals should be screened against zoonotic diseases once every year	Within a year
20.	10.5(10)	Rescue centre should maintain detailed records of observations of biological and social behaviour and health status of the animals including feed intake, medication and treatment provided in the keeper's diary, daily reports, animal history cards and treatment cards, as per guidelines of the Central Zoo Authority.	Within three months
6. Veterinary and Infrastructure facilities			
21.	10.6(1) & (5)	Rescue Centre needs more strengthening with specialised rescue vehicle, cages, satellite centres with support equipment and drugs and veterinarians and other staffs in order to mitigate the situation and improve response time.	Six months
22.	10.6(6)	Rescue centre shall have linkage with the eminent institution and organizations working in the field of wild animal healthcare.	Six months

7. Post-mortem and disposal of carcasses of animals			
23.	10.7(1)	Every animal that dies should be subjected to a detailed postmortem examination by registered veterinarian(s) to determine conclusively the cause of the death.	Immediately
24.	10.7(2)	The findings of such examination shall be recorded in such format as may be prescribed by Central Zoo Authority and maintained for a period of at least six years.	Immediately
25.	10.7(3)	In the event of the post mortem being inconclusive and no specific reason for death being identified, the zoo authorities shall send the samples of the tissues/ organs, blood, viscera etc. for further examination to the qualified diagnostic laboratory having adequate specialization for further investigation and identifying the cause of death.	Immediately
26.	10.7(4)	Rescue centre should ensure that the carcasses of the animals after the post-mortem has been conducted, is disposed off by burying or burning in a manner that does not have any adverse impact on the hygiene and cleanliness of the center.	Immediately
Rule 11 Maintenance of Records and Submission of Inventory			
27.	11	Rescue center should maintain an inventory register for all the animals in stock. Separate set of pages should be assigned to different animal species. Any change in number of acquisition, birth, death or disposal should immediately be made in the inventory register. Annual and quarterly inventory reports of the animals in the rescue center as prescribed should be submitted to the CZA in the prescribed format.	Three months
Other Observations			
28.		Feed items should be stored for future due to the harsh weather of the place.	Immediately
29.		With high occurrence of Man animal conflict, a proposal for new centre of 14 hac is proposed as informed by the Wildlife Warden Leh. The same may be submitted to the CZA.	Six months

A compliance report to the Central Zoo Authority on implementation of the aforesaid observation/ recommendation shall be submitted by the zoo

within three months of issue of this letter. Further, half yearly report regarding progress made in the implementation of the aforesaid conditions should also be submitted to the Central Zoo Authority.

The recognition of Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Leh, Ladakh for the period beyond December 29, 2024 would be considered on the basis of compliance of the conditions stated above, mid-term evaluation and general performance of the zoo.

The recognition of Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Leh, Ladakh shall be revoked by the Central Zoo Authority, at any point of time, if the zoo operator is found not complying with the stipulated conditions.

Yours sincerely,

Encl: as above

**(SANJAY KUMAR SHUKLA)
MEMBER SECRETARY**

Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. The Wildlife Warden, Leh/ Hemis and Officer in-charge, Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Badami Bagh, Skara, Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh (E-mail:lehforestdivision@gmail.com).
2. The DPA, O/o CZA, (E-mail: dpa-cza@nic.in) - to update database and to upload on official website of the CZA.