

Computer No. 189341
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY

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Date: 31-07-2023

To,

The Chief Wildlife Warden,
Department of Forests and Environment,
Sylvan House, Lower Lachumiere,
Shillong – 793 001, Meghalaya.
(E-mail: wildlifemegh@yahoo.com).

Subject:- Recognition of Meghalaya State Zoo, Umtrew, Shilong Meghalaya under Section 38-H (1,3,4) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972- regarding.

Reference:

1. Your office e-mail letter No.FWC/G/87-Pt-IX/1074 dated July 5, 2023.
2. This office letter issue no. I/47065/2023 dated 23.06.2023.
3. This office letter issue no. I/46628/2023 dated 17.06.2023.
4. Application vide E-mail correspondence dated September 30, 2022 received from the Divisional Forest Officer, Khasi Hills Wildlife Division, Shillong, Meghalaya.

Sir,

With reference to above, it is to inform that the application for the recognition of Meghalaya State Zoo, Umtrew, Shilong, Meghalaya as received by this office vide reference no. 2 above.

Dr. Devender Kumar, Evaluation and Monitoring Officer, Central Zoo Authority was deputed by this office to carry out the evaluation of the Meghalaya State Zoo, Umtrew, Shilong, Meghalaya vide CZA letter at reference no. 1 above. The Zoo was accordingly evaluated on June 18, 2023.

The evaluation report (copy enclosed) as submitted by the evaluation officer was deliberated in the 108th meeting of the Technical Committee of the Central Zoo Authority held on June 23rd, 2023. The Committee observed that finishing work is still going on at Meghalaya Biological Park, Umtrew, Meghalaya. Also, the CZA vide its letter issue no. I/47065/2023 dated 23.06.2023 has communicated the observation on revised application under Sub-section (2) of Section 38-H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for recognition of the zoo and reply is still awaited.

The Technical Committee after detailed deliberations recommended to the Central Zoo Authority for the recognition of Meghalaya State Zoo, Umtrew, Shilong, Meghalaya for a period of two years and, subject to compliance with observation/ recommendation in the table below and to the observation communicated vide letter issue no. 23.06.2023 and mid-term evaluation.

The Committee also recommended to the CZA for approval of closure of Lady Hydari Park cum Mini Zoo, Shillong, Meghalaya (old site) once the Meghalaya Biological Park, Umtrew, Meghalaya (new site) becomes operational and subsequent shifting of animals from old site to new site. 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.

Accordingly, the office of the Central Zoo Authority hereby communicate the grant of the recognition of Meghalaya State Zoo, Umtrew, Shilong, Meghalaya for a period up to July 30, 2025 under Section 38-H (1,3,4) of 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 of suggestions/recommendation	Time Period to Comply
1.	10 (1.1)	The plantation can be taken up the road site and in-between the adjacent enclosure to provide naturalistic environment	Three months.
2.	10 (1.4 & 1.9)	The remaining portion of the boundary wall shall be completed before opening the zoo to public.	Before operation of zoo.
3.	10(1.7)	A small gate opening is there, which needs to be shifted towards entrance away from zoo area.	Three months.
4.	10(2.1)	Whole time in-charge Officer shall be posted.	Immediately
5.	10(2.2)	The Scientific and Technical post shall be filled before the zoo is opened to public.	On operation of zoo
6.	10 (3.1)	The condition mentioned in the approval of Master Plan shall be complied.	Six months.
7.	10 (3.3 & 4.7)	More plantation is required in-between the adjacent enclosure that can act as visual barrier and vegetative buffer.	Three months.
8.	10(4.3)	The remaining finishing work in enclosure shall be completed and compliance shall be submitted to CZA for verification.	Before operation of the zoo.
9.	10(4.10 & 11.1)	The signage should be installed appropriately and compliance should be submitted to CZA.	before opening of Zoo to public.
10.	10 (5.1h)	Provision of footbath of adequate size with proper disinfectant at entry and exit points of animal house & hospital and commissary unit should be provided.	Immediately.
11.	10 (5.2)3	The zoo should have appropriate storage for meat, in case there is law and order problem in the city or pandemics like situation. The fly proof net shall be installed at door, window of feed store.	Immediately.
12.	10 (5.2)6	The random food and water samples shall test periodically for microbiological, toxicological and any other contaminants at recognized laboratory.	Six Months
13.	10 (5.3) 3	All animal arriving at the Zoo should be screened for parasitic loads as per written schedule prepared by the veterinary officer and prophylactic medicines administered as per clinical requirements and vaccination of animals against infectious diseases are done, as per the schedule prescribed by the Veterinary Officer.	Six Months.
14.	10 (5.3) 4	The Zoo should have written schedule of vaccination and deworming of different species of the zoo animals and displayed at the enclosure site.	With Immediate Effect
15.	10 (5.3) 5	The Veterinary Officer/ Biologist at the Zoo/ 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 standards specified by the Central Zoo Authority.	On arrival of the animals to the zoo.
16.	10(5.3)6	All staff involved with upkeep and healthcare of zoo animals shall be screened against zoonotic diseases once every year and those found positive to any communicable disease are provided appropriate treatment till, they get cured, the infected employees are kept away from the responsibility of upkeep and healthcare of the animals	On operation and arrival of the animals to the zoo.
17.	10 (5.3)8 10 (6.4)	The Zoo should have formal linkages through an MoU on healthcare, preventive, health management, surgical interventions, clinical tests, disease diagnosis and consultation in treatment and management during the period of convalescence, with some Veterinary University/Institution.	One Year

18.	10 (6.2) 1	The Zoo should have appropriate animal restraint equipment, accessories, and drugs.	On operation of the zoo.
19.	10 (6.3)	The Zoo should appoint support staff (Lab Assistant & Compounder) as specified by the CZA.	Three Months
20.	10 (8.1)	The Zoo Centre should not euthanize any animal unless doing so is essential for relieving from suffering from incurable disease/condition as per the norms of CZA.	With Immediate Effect
21.	10(12.1)	All the remaining finishing work of public amenities shall be completed and compliance shall be submitted for verification.	Before operation of the zoo.
Other Conditions communicated vide this office letter issue no. I/47065/2023 dated 23.06.2023			
22.		The zoo to amend the column 7 of Form – I with '0' entry.	Immediately.
23.		The Zoo to submit the copy of any permission obtained from the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State and/or from the CZA for the acquisition of rescued animals obtained if any or may share the format for 'Report on Rescued Animals accepted for Housing' with request to fill the same and to submit to the CZA.	Immediately
24.		The rescued animals who need long term care should be housed in off-display rescue centre at new site. Accordingly, the zoo should make its sincere efforts to construct the off-display rescue centre on priority at the new site as per CZA guidelines as the enclosure at old site are quite dingy.	As early as possible.
25.		The zoo shall submit a tabular status on the existing, sectioned, and proposed post at the new site	Immediately
26.		The zoo shall submit a report on release of Rhesus Macaques housed in the Lady Hydari Park cum Mini Zoo, Shillong, into the wild as per the laid down guidelines.	Immediately

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 Meghalaya State Zoo, Umtrew, Shilong, Meghalaya for the period beyond July 30, 2025 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 Meghalaya State Zoo, Umtrew, Shilong, Meghalaya 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.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours sincerely,

Encl.: As above.

(SANJAY KUMAR SHUKLA)
MEMBER SECRETARY

Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Department of Forests and Environment, Additional Secretariat Building, Room No. 507, Shillong, Meghalaya, email: analeeb.razi@nic.in - [The Zoo Operator of the Meghalaya Biological Park, Umtrew, Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya, under Rule 2(m)(III) of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009].
2. The Divisional Forest Officer, Khasi Hills Wildlife Division, Shillong, Meghalaya (E-mail: dfwildlifedivisionshillong@gmail.com).
3. The DPA, O/o CZA, (E-mail: dpa-cza@nic.in) – to update database and to upload on official website of the CZA.