

**File No.19-61/92-CZA(244)(NE)(Computer No.146985)**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY**

B-1 Wing, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 003,  
Telephone: +91-11-24367846/51/52, E-mail: [cza@nic.in](mailto:cza@nic.in)  
Dated **January 5, 2022**

**ORDER**  
**[UNDER SUB-SECTION (6) OF SECTION 38-H**  
**OF THE WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972]**

Whereas, the Central Zoo Authority in its 32<sup>nd</sup> Meeting held on November 19, 2018, cancelled recognition of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, vide Order dated November 28, 2018. However, the Appellate Authority, on hearing the appeal filed by the zoo, set aside the CZA's Order. While setting aside the CZA's Order dated November 28, 2018, and disposal of the appeal filed by the zoo, issued following directives vide Order dated October 7, 2019:

- a. That the appellant VOC Park Mini Zoo will submit the Detailed Project Report to Central Zoo Authority by May 31, 2020.*
- b. That the Min Zoo will intimate the development of every stage in the zoo and the Central Zoo Authority will periodically monitor the progress.*
- c. If the VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu fails in complying with the current guidelines, Central Zoo Authority may take appropriate action.*

2. And whereas, pending compliance report from the zoo and due to the restrictions imposed for Covid-19 pandemic, evaluation of the zoo by CZA could not be undertaken immediately. However, on perusal of records, following was observed:

- a. The application for the establishment of zoo at the new site has not been received at this office till date.
- b. No information on the corrective measures against the plea made to the Appellate Authority by the Zoo Operator has been furnished to this office.
- c. Non-compliance to statutory requirements pertaining to submission of inventory of animals and annual report of activities. The annual reports for the financial year 2019-20 and 2020-21 have not been submitted. Further, a gross delay in the submission of annual inventory of animals was observed for the financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20.

3. And whereas, compliance reported by the zoo was placed before the Technical Committee in its 101<sup>st</sup> Meeting wherein, after due deliberation, recommended to the CZA to take up action as per provisions laid down under the Sub-section (6) of Section 38-H in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and serve a notice upon the respective Zoo Operator to show cause why recognition of the zoo should not be suspended or cancelled, with an opportunity of hearing before the Member Secretary of the Central Zoo Authority.

4. And whereas, evaluation of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, was carried out on July 17 and 18, 2021, by Shri Lakshminarasimha R, Scientific Officer, from this office. Given the repetitive nature of the noncompliance and status noted at the time of evaluation, the evaluator recommended for the cancellation of recognition of the said zoo citing the following:

a. The zoo operator has failed to comply with the rules and guidelines prescribed by the Central Zoo Authority for the scientific management of zoos.

b. Several gross violations of the extant statutory provisions were observed and they are repetitive for 20 years:

i. Housing conditions not meeting the guidelines prescribed by the CZA.

ii. Display of domestic species.

iii. Lack of access to fresh food and water to the captive animals

iv. No records-maintained pertaining to the captive animal

v. No health monitoring of the captive animals.

vi. Failure to create basic ancillary infrastructure (e.g. carcass disposal, PM room, treatment room etc.) in the zoo premises.

vii. Reporting of falsified information as part of statutory inventory submitted to the CZA.

c. Nearly two decades have elapsed and the zoo authorities still continue to contravene the conditions stipulated by this Authority and operate the said zoo in a sub-standard manner which is against the principles of modern zoo management.

d. No defined timeline or plan of action has been informed to this office regarding the establishment of the zoo in a new location.

e. Further, for fulfilment of several conditions, major revamping is required which would lead to undue stress to animals already housed. Due to lack of financial resources and non-availability of land, only minor changes could be implemented and hence ensuring satisfactory compliance to the stipulated conditions may not be possible.

5. And whereas, detailed evaluation report was circulated to the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State and the Zoo Operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, respectively on September 14, 2021, for reply within three working days. However, reply was not received.

6. And whereas, evaluation report of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, was placed before the Central Zoo Authority in its 38<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on November 16, 2021. The Central Zoo Authority, after detailed deliberation, decided to serve notice to the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, under sub-section (6) of Section 38-H under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Accordingly, notice dated November 30, 2021, was served upon the Zoo Operator. In the said notice dated November 30, 2021, the Zoo Operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, was directed to show cause as to why recognition of the zoo, under Section 38-H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, should not be suspended or cancelled and asked to close down. Also, period of seven days was granted to the Zoo Operator, to file reply to the said notice. Further, the Zoo Operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore / authorised representative, was provided an opportunity of hearing before the Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority on December 8, 2021. The Zoo Operator was advised to specify whether the said hearing is desired in person or virtual mode through Cisco-webex platform.

7. And whereas, in response to this office notice dated November 30, 2021, the Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu, Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MC.2), has authorised Shri Raja Gopal Sunkara, IAS, Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, as his representative to attend hearing. Further, there is no written submission from the Zoo Operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore in response to the said Notice. Following are proceedings of hearing:

(a) During hearing, serious constraint faced by the zoo in terms of land was raised. Further, with reference to non-compliance with directives of the Appellate Authority issued in the Order dated October 7, 2019, Shri Raja Gopal Sunkara, IAS, Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, has informed that land acquisition for establishment of a modern zoo on new site is under process. Records indicate that this matter was pending for compliance since February 26, 1996. In response, the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, has informed that the matter remained pending with change of the Government and the incumbent Government is inclined to pursue the matter. As establishment of a zoo is a time-taking process and would be dealt independently as a separate entity when such application is made, it was informed not to link it with existing zoo. In the interest of captive animals, the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, has been advised to close the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, and to transfer captive animals to recognized zoos preferably within the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, has requested the CZA to depute experts for field appraisal of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore. Evaluating Officer deputed by office of the CZA has evaluated the zoo on July 17 and 18, 2021 and detailed report was shared with the zoo management.

(c) The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, has cited zoo being an attraction and of emotional value to local residents and proposed to scale down operations of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore. It was informed that such proposal would not be tenable as it would compromise welfare of captive animals housed therein due to lack of supporting infrastructure and required human resources and advised to close the zoo. It was pointed out that requisite technical and scientific manpower in the zoo, as mentioned under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, has not been posted in spite of repeated directives from this Authority since February 26, 1996. Further, advised to pursue establishment of zoo as and when adequately qualified manpower and resources can be ensured.

(d) The Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, has requested to grant time of six months to one year to which it was opined not feasible in the given condition since 1992. Also, it was advised to the Commissioner, Coimbatore Corporation, that continuing operation of zoo in such condition may also invite bad press. Also, it was clarified that a facility exclusively housing species not listed in Schedules of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, does not come under purview of the Central Zoo Authority.

8. Details of non-compliance with conditions stipulated by the CZA and violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009, committed by the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, are as follows:

Sl.	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Particulars of non-compliance	compliance pending since
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>1. General requirements</b>			
1	10.1(2)	The Zoo Operator has not provided near natural condition to animals housed in the zoo. Most of the enclosures are barren without a single blade of vegetation and completely concretised. The animals do not have even have access to natural ground substrate. The enclosures are quite primitive in their design and do not conform to the standards prescribed by the Central Zoo Authority. Perching birds are provided iron bars as perch. Not even a single enclosure provisions for the expression of species-typical behaviours resulting in stereotypic behaviours. Therefore, the zoo operator has failed to provide naturalistic environment to the captive animals.	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
2	10.1(3)	Not regulated movement of visitors. It is observed that visitors' path exceeds 25% of the periphery of all the animal enclosures. Since 1996 nothing has been done to address this observation. During evaluation, no arrangement for manual regulation of visitor movement was explained. In case of most of the enclosures, every inch of the enclosure is visible from the visitor's viewpoint. Therefore, the zoo authorities are keeping animals in enclosures that do not offer them any undisturbed areas to retreat thus causing undue stress and disturbance.	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
3	10.1(3)	Not separated visitors' path and service path. Most of the service paths still are accessed through the visitor path. Service paths where available are narrow, difficult to use and hence serve no purpose. Most of the enclosures have single door access. Therefore, the zoo authorities have failed to create a safe passage for visitors and animal keepers.	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
4	10.1(8)	Displayed injured Peafowl and infirm Jackal to visitors. It might be the case the Peafowl pointed out in earlier evaluation has died. But there were still infirm Indian Peafowl (females) that were in the display enclosures. Though they were isolated from the rest, they could still be seen from the visitor's viewpoint. A lone Asiatic Golden Jackal is housed in an enclosure without any retreat area and was pacing for most of the duration of the evaluation. Terming it healthy is not acceptable as the zoo management have caused relentless stress to the animal as a result of poor housing conditions. Therefore, the zoo authorities still continue to display sick and infirm animals to visitors.	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
5	10.1(9)	Housed domestic animals (Domestic ducks, Guinea fowl, Guinea pigs, etc.) in the zoo. All the domestic animals should be removed from the Zoo collection immediately. During evaluation five species of domestic animals	26.02.1996 followed by 23.11.2007 & 22.06.2016 and violation observed

Sl.	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Particulars of non-compliance	compliance pending since
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		(pigeon, goose, guinea pigs, rabbits, chicken) were housed in the enclosures meant of display to the public. None of the animals moved were observed in the nearby children park. Nearly more than two decades have elapsed and the said zoo has still failed to remove domestic animals from the collection. No action for the transfer of the animals have been initiated and availability of alternative housing outside the zoo premises was not shown during the evaluation. Therefore, it is likely that the animals will be housed within the zoo premises. Therefore, the zoo authorities are presenting falsified facts when stating compliance. The zoo has continued to house and display domestic animals to the public.	during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
<b>2. Administrative and Staffing Pattern</b>			
6	10.2(1) & 10.2(2)	The Zoo Operator failed to post “whole time officer in-charge” for the zoo. During evaluation, it is informed that in addition to the zoo, the Officer in-charge also attends duties at two slaughter houses, Animal Birth Control Programme at two NGO shelters and other responsibilities handed over by the Municipal Corporation. The Officer in-charge also acts as Veterinarian of the Zoo. The Officer In-charge of the zoo is the acting veterinarian of the zoo. It was mentioned during the evaluation that Dr. E.Senthilnathan, the Officer In-charge & Veterinarian is now given the sole charge of the zoo with no additional responsibilities. No official orders were shown to this end. Therefore, although it was verbally informed that the Officer In-charge has no additional responsibilities, it is still not clear how a single person can fulfil the role of Officer Incharge and veterinarian.	26.02.1996 followed by 26.10.2006, 23.08.2007 & 22.06.2016 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
<b>3. Development and Planning</b>			
7	10.3(3)	The Zoo Operator has failed to ensure that the infrastructure for housing, upkeep and veterinary care of captive animals is provided in accordance with the Animal Collection of the Zoo. Almost none of the enclosures fulfil the guidelines prescribed by the Central Zoo Authority. Enclosures for Jackal, Raptors, Reptiles, Birds capable of flight are in gross violation of the guidelines. More than two decades have elapsed and still the zoo authorities have failed to upgrade the infrastructural conditions to meet CZA guidelines to align with modern zoo practices.	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
8	10.3(6)	The Zoo Operator has failed to prepare the Animal Collection Plan of the Zoo. The Zoo Operator has been directed vide letter dated 23.11.2007 to operate as a Mini Zoo. However, the zoo is operating as Medium category zoo. The zoo has failed to obtain approval of the Master Plan from the Central Zoo Authority. Citing reasons of	23.11.2007 followed by 09.02.2009, 29.01.2010, 01.11.2010,

Sl.	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Particulars of non-compliance	compliance pending since
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		relocation, the zoo has repetitively deferred obtaining approval of the Master Plan. Further, as per conditions stipulated for reconsideration of application for recognition dated 7/10/2019, the zoo authorities have also failed to submit DPR by the stipulated date i.e. 31/5/2020.	22.06.2016 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
9	10.3(7) & 10.3(8)	Not produced record during evaluation on acquisition of animals by way of rescue. However, informed that animals not reported in the Inventory submitted to CZA are acquired by way of rescue. During evaluation it was noticed that the zoo officials were not aware of extant provisions for the operation of zoos recognised by the CZA. The compliance stated here does not justify either acceptance without permission or further transfer without permission. No records were shown to this end. Further, the zoo continues to house species that were either accepted upon rescue (Spot-billed Pelican) and animals received by means of donation/gift (Gray Parrot, Conure sp. etc.) and species such as Emu, Red-eared Slider and not report them in Inventory. The zoo has repeatedly falsified statutory inventory reports submitted to the Central Zoo Authority and continues to do so.	04.05.2005 followed by 22.06.2016 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
<b>4. Animal housing, display of animals and animal enclosures</b>			
10	10.4(2)	Failed to provide animals with enclosures of size and dimensions in accordance with specification of the CZA. Due to unavailability of adequate area in the zoo, the Central Zoo Authority has directed to explore relocation of the Zoo to alternate larger area. Almost none of the enclosures fulfil the guidelines prescribed by the Central Zoo Authority. Enclosures for Jackal, Raptors, Reptiles, Birds Capable of flight are in gross violation of the guidelines. More than two decades have elapsed and still the zoo authorities have failed to upgrade the infrastructural conditions to meet CZA guidelines to align with modern zoo practices. Further, as per conditions stipulated for reconsideration of application for recognition dated 7/10/2019, the zoo authorities have also failed to submit DPR by the stipulated date i.e. 31/5/2020.	26.02.1996 followed by 16.07.2003, 13.02.2004, 12.10.2004, 06.06.2006, 26.10.2006, 23.08.2007, 23.11.2007, 07.07.2010, 03.03.2011, 09.03.2011, 13.07.2011, 31.07.2012 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
11	10.4(3)	Failed to ensure safety of animals, keepers and visitors. Did not provide footbath with disinfectant solution at entry to houses of animal enclosures. The zoo authorities have failed to provide disinfectant foot-dips at the enclosure entry points for five years. The request for additional six months to provide the same is nothing but amusing!	22.06.2016 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
12	10.4(3)	The Zoo Operator has not provided adequate number of retiring cells for animals. It is observed that three retiring cells in enclosure of Bonnet macaque are severely damaged and non-functional.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017 and violation

Sl.	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Particulars of non-compliance	compliance pending since
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		Nearly all the retiring cells provisioned do not conform CZA prescribed guidelines. Several enclosures are without any retiring cells. During the evaluation, it was informed that the major construction activities were not possible due to space crunch and lack of financial resources. The retiring cell for bonnet macaque does not conform to CZA guidelines and hence it cannot be considered as retiring cell. Further the space regarded as retiring cells does not fulfil any functions of a 'real retiring cell'. The zoo authorities have failed to provide any retreat areas to the animals either from a welfare point of view or management.	observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
13	10.4(3)	Compromised with safety of animals by housing them in enclosures with rusted and damaged doors and fence of the animal feeding / retiring cells. Based on visual examination during the evaluation, it was evident that maintenance works have not be taken up in none of the enclosures since several years. This was concluded from the rust, wear and tear of the enclosures, dirty walls etc. Nearly four years have elapsed since maintenance of the enclosures was stipulated and till date it has not been carried out. Further, the zoo authorities are not proceeding without any defined time frame to take this up. It is highly likely that the zoo authorities will continue to operate in the same say	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
14	10.4(3)	Not provided double door entry to animal enclosures. It should be rectified. As per previous observations during the evaluation, nearly none of the enclosures have double door access to ensure safety. No defined timeframe was provided to take this up. Further, realistically for most of the enclosures provisioning of double door access is not possible and the zoo authorities have been assuring something that cannot be fulfilled. Therefore, the zoo authorities have no motivation or intent to implement this as they have failed to achieve the same in nearly 4 years. Further, in several cases, given the placement of enclosures, the same cannot be implemented unless major remodelling is taken up. Hence, it is unlikely that this condition will be complied with in future also.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
15	10.4(9)	No stand-off barrier at aviary. The aviary offers viewing areas that is in gross violation of the prescribed guidelines. Only on one of the sides, barrier is provided. For conditions that could have been easily complied with, the zoo authorities have failed to achieve the same in nearly four years. The assurance that the same will be achieved in six months is unreliable. The zoo authorities have failed to offer safe enclosures for animals which cannot be	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021

Sl.	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Particulars of non-compliance	compliance pending since
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		approached by visitors such that they unnecessarily provoke animals.	
16	10.4(10)	Not provided signage at all the animal enclosures. Signage with information on biology, behaviour and the population status of the species in the wild should be ensured at all enclosures. Only a few enclosures have infographic signages that are bilingual. The information about the zoo provided at the entrance is only available in local language. No directional arrows are provided. Warning signages are not provided. The zoo authorities have failed to even label building names correctly. E.g. POST MORTAM ROOM. The zoo has not satisfactorily complied to the said conditions and neither has there been an earnest effort to fulfil the conditions	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
<b>5. Upkeep and healthcare of animals</b>			
17	10.5(2)	Not prepared and implemented Animal Diet Schedule. The same should be rectified. A printed diet chart of animals was available in the office records and the same was checked. However, the diet schedule followed is highly unscientific and does not correspond with the feeding ecology of the species (e.g. Asian Plam Civet fed 500g Beef and 1 Banana).	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
18	10.5(2)	Not controlled rodent population in the zoo. Animal enclosures are badly infested by rodents to the extent that groups of rodents are able to drive away captive animals while feeding. During the evaluation, no evident measures (repair of mesh, trapping or any other method) of rodent control were observed. Rodent droppings were observed in and around areas where animals were fed. Hence, the claim that rodent population is controlled is not sufficiently justified and unverifiable.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
19	10.5(5)	The Zoo Operator has not declared and disposed shed antlers. Three bags of shed antlers and feathers of Peafowl stocked in scrap store. They should be declared and disposed as per legal provisions in the matter. During evaluation, shed antlers and Indian Peafowl feathers were stocked inside a makeshift store. Although it was informed that it is regularly handed over to the forest department, no documentary evidence was furnished. Further, it was cited that due to Covid situation it could not be timely disposed. There was no record of any kind regarding the stock, hence it cannot be ascertained that these wild animal articles are well accounted for. Given the haphazard storage and no accounting, the claim that the wild animal articles are disposed following due procedures cannot be ascertained.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021

Sl.	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Particulars of non-compliance	compliance pending since
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
20	10.5(8)	The faecal samples from animals housed in the zoo are not being tested periodically. Schedule for de-worming is not prepared and implemented. During evaluation it was verbally informed that deworming is done every three months. However, there were no records of regular testing for endoparasites and correlation of results with deworming regime. No documentary evidence of regular examination for endoparasites was available. Therefore, it can be fairly assumed that no regular testing of endoparasites is being undertaken and the results are not used to draw up a deworming regime.	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
21	10.5(9)	Not screened staff involved with upkeep and healthcare of Zoo animals against zoonotic diseases. Not complied and no records were available for checking during evaluation	26.02.1996 followed by 22.06.2016 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
22	10.5(10)	Not maintained animal records namely Animal History Card, Keeper's Diary, Daily Report and Treatment Card. Observed that copies of blank format dumped in the store of the zoo. During evaluation, only PM reports were available in the office records. No Animal History Card, Keeper Diary, Daily Report, Treatment Card, Feed Register were being maintained. It was fairly evident that the zoo personnel did not have any knowledge of the fact that these records had to be maintained. For two decades and in spite of repeated reminders, the zoo authorities have failed to maintain any records of captive animals.	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
<b>6. Veterinary and infrastructure facilities</b>			
23	10.6(1)	Not provided veterinary facilities including Operation Theatre and in-patient wards. Stocked expired drugs in the Veterinary Hospital. No treatment room was available as per observations made during the evaluation. A single room is used as veterinary hospital with an examination table, medicine storage, record storage, OT table and storage of articles meant of worship. No expired drugs were noted. The mechanism of transporting zoo animals outside the zoo premises for treatment to Govt. Veterinary Polyclinic was neither explained during evaluation nor is acceptable. The zoo authorities have failed to create basic veterinary infrastructure for management of captive animals even after two decades of the zoos' operation.	26.02.1996 followed by 23.11.2007 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
24	10.6(3)	Not provided Post-mortem Room. As the existing facility is being used as additional feed store. The Post-mortem Room should not be used for any other purpose. It was quite astonishing to note that Post-mortem is conducted on the floor of a room on a plastic sheet. The same room is used as a store of various items, keeping old records and feed for ungulates. The current post-mortem room is	26.02.1996 followed by 23.11.2007 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021

Sl.	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Particulars of non-compliance	compliance pending since
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		located right next animal enclosures and has no facilities for disinfection purposes. Following two decades of operation, the zoo has failed to create a standalone post-mortem room.	
25	10.6(3)	The Quarantine / Isolation Area is not provided in the Zoo. Not available. The zoo authorities do not have a definite timeline for the creation of the same and hence it cannot be ascertained when it will be executed.	23.08.2007 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
<b>7.Post-mortem and disposal of carcasses of animals</b>			
26	10.7(4)	Not provided well defined burial site in the zoo. Animal carcass disposal is being done beside the enclosure in case of herbivores and at a distance of 10Kms away from zoo in case of rest of animals. The practice of taking dead animals from the zoo is corporation crematorium is precarious. The incineration is further not supervised by any zoo staff. Disease transmission, possible misappropriation are not suitably addressed. Following two decades of operation, the zoo has failed to create a carcass disposal area within the zoo premises	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
<b>9.Acquisition and breeding of animals</b>			
27	10.9(1)	Not controlled population of the Spotted deer within the carrying capacity. No defined plan or timeline has been conveyed or provided during evaluation and hence this claim cannot be ascertained. Since the zoo authorities have failed to implement any population control measures for ungulates since over two decades, it has resulted in densities more than three times the optimum.	26.02.1996 followed by 22.06.2016 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
28	10.9(4)	Not paired singly housed animals in the Zoo. No defined plan or timeline has been conveyed or provided during evaluation and hence this claim cannot be ascertained. The zoo authorities have failed to comply with the RZR, 2009 and take suitable action within six months to pair unpaired animals since 2016.	26.02.1996 followed by 22.06.2016 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
29	10.9(9)	Not implemented population control measures in prolific breeding species. No defined plan or timeline has been conveyed or provided during evaluation and hence this claim cannot be ascertained. Since the zoo authorities have failed to implement any population control measures for ungulates since over two decades, it has results in densities more than three times the optimum.	26.02.1996 followed by 23.10.2003, 18.11.2003, 19.11.2003 & 22.06.2016 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
<b>12.Visitors' facilities</b>			
30	10.12(2)	The zoo has failed to comply with the norms of RZR, 2009 by not having snake anti-venom and lifesaving drugs, readily available in the zoo premises.	26.02.1996 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021
31	10.12(3)	No ramps to facilitate wheelchair bound visitors to visit the animal enclosures. Only partially complied.	23.08.2007 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021


Sl.	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Particulars of non-compliance	compliance pending since
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
32		The zoo has purchased animals since 2006-2007 upto 2010-2011 as per Animal Stock Register in violation of the statutory provisions. Afterwards the animal stock register has not been updated to ascertain the source of animals. Inventory records were available in the office. As stated by zoo authorities, they have accepted purchase of animals prior to 2011.	2006-2007 and violation observed during evaluation on July 17 and 18, 2021

9. And whereas, proceedings of the said hearing under Sub-section (6) of Section 38-H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, were circulated to members of the Central Zoo Authority. In view of the failure of the Zoo Operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, to comply with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority that are specified above, the members of the Central Zoo Authority, in exercise of powers conferred under Sub-section (6) of Section 38-H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, concurred to action proposed by this Secretariat and decided to cancel recognition of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore.

10. Now, therefore, having been given sufficient opportunity, the recognition of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, is hereby cancelled as per provisions of Sub-section (6) of Section 38-H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, with a provision to prefer an appeal before the Central Government, under Sub-section (7) and (8) of Section 38-H of the Act, within thirty days of issuance of this Order.

11. Appropriate transfer and rehabilitation of animals housed in the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, following the prescribed protocol should be ensured by the Zoo Operator in consultation with the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State and the zoo should be physically closed to visitors under intimation to this Office.

This is issued with approval of the Competent Authority.

  
 (Akanksha Mahajan)  
 Deputy Inspector General of Forests (HQ)


**To**

The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu,  
 Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MC.2).  
 Secretariat, Chennai – 9, E-mail: [mawsmc2@gmail.com](mailto:mawsmc2@gmail.com)

[Zoo Operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, under Rule 2(m)(III) of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009]

**Copy forwarded for information / necessary action to:**

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forest, Panagal Maligai, Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015, Tamil Nadu, E-mail: [thforest@tn.nic.in](mailto:thforest@tn.nic.in) ;  
[cwlv\\_wildlife3@yahoo.in](mailto:cwlv_wildlife3@yahoo.in)
2. The Commissioner, Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore - 641 001, Tamil Nadu, Email : [commr.coimbatore@tn.gov.in](mailto:commr.coimbatore@tn.gov.in)
3. The Officer in-charge, V.O.C. Park Zoo, Nehru Stadium, Coimbatore – 641 001, Tamil Nadu, E-mail: [voczooce@gmail.com](mailto:voczooce@gmail.com)
4. The DPA, O/o CZA – to update database and to upload on official website of the CZA.

  
(Akanksha Mahajan)  
Deputy Inspector General of Forests (HQ)

**F.No.26-1/2019-CZA**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi – 110 003.

**ORDER**

Whereas, the appeal dated 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 filed by the VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu against order no. F. No 19-61/92-CZA (244) (Vol. IV) (NS)/4668/2010 dated 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 issued by the Central Zoo Authority cancelling recognition of the, VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu as per provisions laid under Section 38-H (6) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, for non-compliance of standard and norms laid under the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 and Guidelines there under.

And whereas, a hearing was held by the undersigned as Appellate Authority in the capacity of the Secretary to the Government of India (Environment, Forest and Climate Change) as per provisions laid under Section 38-H (7) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, on 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 at Conference Hall in the Office of the undersigned in Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, New Delhi. During the hearing, following were present:

**Petitioner: VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu**

Representatives of the VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,

1. Sh. S.Prasanna Ramaswamy
2. Dr.K Santosh Kumar, City Health Officer Coimbatore Corporation
3. SPR Romain, Consultant.

**Respondent: Central Zoo Authority**

Dr. S.P. Yadav, Member Secretary, Mr. T. Ajay Kumar, Evaluation and Monitoring Assistant, Mr. Kunal Kulbhaskar, Law officer represented the Central Zoo Authority.

Mr. Soumitra Das Gupta, Inspector General Wildlife Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change moderated the hearing.

And whereas, during hearing of the appeal, Dr. S.P. Yadav, Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority appraised following as prominent grounds for cancellation of recognition of the VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu:

1. Did not comply with condition stipulated by the CZA to operate as Mini Zoo in view of severe constraint of space and other infrastructure. Operated as Medium category zoo
2. Zoo has not been relocated to larger area despite repeated directives of the CZA in view of unavailability of adequate area in the zoo to have animal enclosures of prescribed minimum dimension.

3. Zoo Operator did not deploy manpower in the Zoo as per provisions of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.
4. Not implemented population control measures in prolific breeding species.
5. Not paired singly housed animals in the Zoo.
6. Poor Record-keeping of the zoo. Not maintained Animal Diet Schedule and animal records namely Animal History Card, Keeper's Diary, Daily Report and Treatment Card.
7. Animal Stock Register of the Zoo indicates commercial transaction of animals from 2006-07 to 2010-11. Further, the Register is not updated subsequently.
8. Displayed injured Peafowl and infirm Jackal to visitors.
9. Housed domestic animals (Domestic ducks, Guinea fowl, Guinea pigs, etc.) in the zoo. All the domestic animals should be removed from the Zoo collection immediately.
10. Severe disturbance to captive animals in the zoo due to operation of 'Toy-train' in violation of the Guidelines issued by the CZA.
11. Not regulated movement of visitors. It is observed that visitors' path exceeds 25% of the periphery of all the animal enclosures and not separated visitors' path and service path.
12. Acquired wild animals by way of rescue and housed in the zoo without requisite permission under Section 38-1 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, for their long-term care. Not reported such animals in the Inventory and also displayed rescued wild animals to public.
13. Not provided signage at all the animal enclosures with information on biology, behaviour and the population status of the species in the wild.
14. Quarantine / Isolation Area is not provided in the Zoo.
15. Not screened staff involved with upkeep and healthcare of Zoo animals against zoonotic diseases.
16. Not provided veterinary facilities including Operation Theatre and in-patient wards. Stocked expired drugs in the Veterinary Hospital.
17. Improper disposal of animal carcass due to lack of designated burial site in the zoo premises.

And whereas, the VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu pleaded following in the appeal the following:

1. That the VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu has approval of additional 29 acres at the cost of 82 Crore.
2. That a Detailed project report is being prepared.
3. That the Mini Zoo has addition and enough man power for the zoo now.
4. That they have taken all possible measures against the observations of the CZA.

Now, therefore, after going through the pleadings of the parties. I set aside the Central Zoo Authority's Order dated 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 and dispose the appeal filed by the Zoo with following directives:

- a) That the appellant VOC Park Mini Zoo will submit the Detailed Project Report to Central Zoo Authority by 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2020.
- b) That the Mini Zoo will intimate the development of every stage in the Zoo and the Central Zoo Authority will periodically monitor the progress.

- c) If the VOC Park Mini Zoo Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu fails in complying with the current guidelines, Central Zoo Authority may take appropriate action.

All concerned be informed accordingly.

  
(C.K. Mishra)

**Secretary to the Government of India**  
**(Environment, Forest and Climate Change)**

**Place : New Delhi**

**Date :**



भारत सरकार  
Government of India  
पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change



केंद्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण  
Central Zoo Authority

पंजीकृत डाक  
REGISTERED POST

By Post/ E-mail

F. No. 19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol. IV)(NS)/4866/2018

Date: 28.11.2018

ORDER

**Sub:-** Cancellation of recognition to the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu under Section 38H(6) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 – reg.

**Ref:-**

1. This office letter F. No. 19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol. III)(AK)/982/2016, dated 22.06.2016.
2. This office Show Cause Notice F. No. 19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol. IV)(AK)/2986/2018, dated 26.04.2018

Whereas, the recognition of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu under Section 38H(1) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 vide letter F. No. 19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol. III)(AK)/982/2016, dated 22.06.2016 was valid up to 05.05.2017 subject to the compliance with the conditions specified therein under Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.

Whereas, the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu was evaluated by Shri T. Ajay Kumar, Evaluation and Monitoring Assistant, CZA on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

Whereas, the evaluation report of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu was placed before the Technical Committee of the CZA in its 85<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23.03.2018.

Whereas, the Technical Committee of the CZA after detailed deliberations recommended to issue a Show Cause Notice to the operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

Whereas, the CZA vide its letter F. No. 19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol. IV)(AK)/2986/2018, dated 26.04.2018 issued Show Cause Notice to the Operator of V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu under the provisions of Section 38H(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and provided an opportunity of hearing to the Operator of the Zoo under Section 38-H(6) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Whereas, Dr. E. Senthilnathan, Zoo Director, V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu availed the opportunity of hearing provided as per provisions laid down under Section 38H(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The hearing was conducted by the Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 in the office of the CZA at B-1 Wing, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi – 110 003 as authorised by the CZA.

Whereas, Dr. E. Senthilnathan, Zoo Director, V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu attended the hearing and admitted violation of provision as mentioned in the notice served by the CZA on 26.04.2018.

-1-

Continued

The proceedings of the hearing are given below:-

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/Observation
<b>1. General requirements</b>					
1	10.1(2)	The Zoo Operator has not provided near natural condition to animals housed in the zoo.	26.02.1996	Master Plan has been submitted to CZA According to the plan near natural condition will be provided	Complied
2	10.1(3)	Not regulated movement of visitors. It is observed that visitors' path exceeds 25% of the periphery of all the animal enclosures.	26.02.1996	Movement of visitor will be regulated according to the newly submitted master plan.	Not complied since 26.02.1996 as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules
3	10.1(3)	Not separated visitors' path and service path.	26.02.1996	Provision for visitor and service path will be made according to the master plan.	Not complied since 26.02.1996 as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules
4	10.1(8)	Displayed injured Peafowl and infirm Jackal to visitors.	26.02.1996	The records pertaining to acquisition of Peafowl and Jackal has not been produced at the time of hearing. Injured peafowl was treated in a transit enclosure and was realized back into the peafowl enclosure. Continuous monitoring has been done. Health status of jackal being monitor continuously soon the animal will be hand over neighboring Zoo.	Not complied since 26.02.1996 as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/Observation
5	10.1(9)	Housed domestic animals (Domestic ducks, Guinea fowl, Guinea pigs, etc.) in the zoo. All the domestic animals should be removed from the Zoo collection immediately.	26.02.1996 followed by 23.11.2007 & 22.06.2016	The domestic animals are still in the Zoo and they are in the process of removal in consultation with Zoo experts.	Not complied since 26.02.1996 as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules
<b>2. Administrative and Staffing Pattern</b>					
6	10.2(1) & 10.2(2)	The Zoo Operator failed to post "whole time officer in-charge" for the zoo. During evaluation, it is informed that in addition to the zoo, the Officer in-charge also attends duties at two slaughter houses, Animal Birth Control Programme at two NGO shelters and other responsibilities handed over by the Municipal Corporation. The Officer in-charge also acts as Veterinarian of the Zoo.	26.02.1996 followed by 26.10.2006, 23.08.2007 & 22.06.2016	<p>The Officer in-charge of the Zoo (Dr. Senthilnathan) is not holding any other charge or assigned any duty other than that of OIC of the Zoo. Manpower posted in the Zoo is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Veterinary Officer – No full-time Veterinarian is posted</li> <li>&gt; Curator – No Curator is posted</li> <li>&gt; Education Officer – No Education Officer is posted</li> <li>&gt; Biologist – No Biologist is posted</li> <li>&gt; Lab Assistant – No Lab Assistant is posted</li> <li>&gt; Compounder – No Compounder is posted</li> <li>&gt; Animal Keepers - 15</li> </ul> <p>Whole time officer in charge who act as a Director of a Zoo he came from veterinary and Wild life veterinary background.</p>	The technical and scientific manpower mentioned under the Recognition of Zoo Rules has not been posted in spite of repeated directives from this Authority since 26.02.1996..

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/Observation
<b>3.Development and Planning</b>					
7	10.3(3)	The Zoo Operator has failed to ensure that the infrastructure for housing, upkeep and veterinary care of captive animals is provided in accordance with the Animal Collection of the Zoo.	26.02.1996	We do not have the infrastructure for housing upkeep and veterinary care of captive animals as per the specification under Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 and CZA's Guidelines.  There is no Veterinary Hospital in the Zoo. There are no diagnostic facilities inside the zoo.	The zoo is housing endangered species of captive animals but it does not have Veterinary Hospital or diagnostic facilities as per provisions of the Recognition of Zoo Rules and also in spite of the directives of the CZA
8	10.3(6)	The Zoo Operator has failed to prepare the Animal Collection Plan of the Zoo. The Zoo Operator has been directed vide letter dated 23.11.2007 to operate as a Mini Zoo. However, the zoo is operating as Medium category zoo.	23.11.2007 followed by 09.02.2009, 29.01.2010, 01.11.2010 & 22.06.2016,	We would like to operate the zoo in the mini category hence the animal collection plan of the zoo is being prepared because domestic animal and rescued animal will be moved out.	Not complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 in spite of repeated directive from this Authority since 23.11.2007.
9	10.3(7) & 10.3(8)	Not produced record during evaluation on acquisition of animals by way of rescue. However, informed that animals not reported in the Inventory submitted to CZA are acquired by way of rescue.	04.05.2005 followed by 22.06.2016	We shall send by email within next seven days the legal record of acquisitions of all animals housed in the zoo.	No e-mail has been received till date. Not complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules in spite of directives since 04.05.2005.

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/Observation
<b>4. Animal housing, display of animals and animal enclosures</b>					
10	10.4(2)	Failed to provide animals with enclosures of size and dimensions in accordance with specification of the CZA. Due to unavailability of adequate area in the zoo, the Central Zoo Authority has directed to explore relocation of the Zoo to alternate larger area.	26.02.1996 followed by 16.07.2003, 13.02.2004, 12.10.2004, 06.06.2006, 26.10.2006, 23.08.2007, 23.11.2007, 07.07.2010, 03.03.2011, 09.03.2011, 13.07.2011 & 31.07.2012	The Size and dimension of enclosure with CZA specification will be followed as per the submitted new master plan since alternate larger area was not available the zoo was planned to expanded including park area which adds another 4 plus acre to the existing zoo area.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules in spite of repeated directives since 26.02.1996. No e-mail has been received till date.
11	10.4(3)	Failed to ensure safety of animals, keepers and visitors. Did not provide footbath with disinfectant solution at entry to houses of animal enclosures.	22.06.2016	Temporary footbath with disinfectant solution provided to the enclosures.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules in spite of directive from this Authority.
12	10.4(3)	The Zoo Operator has not provided adequate number of retiring cells for animals. It is observed that three retiring cells in enclosure of Bonnet macaque are severely damaged and non-functional.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017	All the enclosures will be provided with near natural condition even the retiring cells according to newly submitted master plan.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules.

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/ Observation
13	Section 38J of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Rule 10.4(3)	Toy Train ride with loud horn is causing severe disturbance to animals in the zoo by noise. This has specific reference to Pariah kites and Spotted deer. The extent of disturbance can be easily appreciated from the animals getting agitated with movement of train with loud horn and running all across the enclosure. As per the 'Additional Guidelines incorporating prohibitory provisions for the preparation of Master Plan for the long term development of the zoos' circulated by the Central Zoo Authority vide Circular F.No.7-16/2009-CZA(M) dated 05.07.2010, zoos with area less than 50 Hectares are not permitted to have the facility of train in the zoo.	23.11.2007	Orders have been passed to remove the toy train instead the battery car are being planned to operate according to the newly submitted to the master plan.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules and the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
14	10.4(3)	Compromised with safety of animals by housing them in enclosures with rusted and damaged doors and fence of the animal feeding / retiring cells.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017	Temporary repair work of all enclosures has been carried out during the last financial year.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules.

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/Observation
15	10.4(3)	Not provided double door entry to animal enclosures. It should be rectified.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017	It will be planned to rectify during this financial year but all these has been covered under newly submitted master plan.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules.
16	10.4(9)	No stand-off barrier at aviary.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017	Standoff barrier at aviary has been planned to be constructed this financial year but anyway all this have been covered under newly submitted master plan.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules.
17	10.4(10)	Not provided signage at all the animal enclosures. Signage with information on biology, behaviour and the population status of the species in the wild should be ensured at all enclosures.	26.02.1996	Interpretation signage and education aspect have been planned by forestry and wild life consultancy named field work environs. It will be designed and developed by them.	No e-mail has been received till date. Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules.
<b>5. Upkeep and healthcare of animals</b>					
18	10.5(2)	Not prepared and implemented Animal Diet Schedule. The same should be rectified.	26.02.1996	New healthy diet schedule is being prepared in consultation with wild life expert shortly it will be implemented till then old diet will be followed.	Not complied since 26.02.1996 in spite of directive of this Authority as per provisions under the Recognition of Zoo Rules
19	10.5(2)	Not controlled rodent population in the zoo. Animal enclosures are badly infested by rodents to the extent that groups of rodents are able to drive away captive animals while feeding.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017	Rodent menace is being managed by capturing them care is being for the interference of rodents while captive animals feeding.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/Observation
20	10.5(5)	The Zoo Operator has not declared and disposed shed antlers. Three bags of shed antlers and feathers of Peafowl stocked in scrap store. They should be declared and disposed as per legal provisions in the matter.	Violation observed during present evaluation on 19/20.11.2017	Shed antlers has been handed over to forest department during May, 2018. Necessary document shall be submitted to CZA by email within 7 days. The shed feathers of peafowl are being disposed along with solid waste.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.
21	10.5(5)	Disinfection of animal enclosures and replacement of top soil in enclosure for Spotted deer is not done.	<b>26.02.1996</b>	Replacement of top soil carried out. Photographs shall be submitted within 7 days through email as well as by post.	Not Complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009. No photograph submitted till date.
22	10.5(8)	The faecal samples from animals housed in the zoo are not being tested periodically. Schedule for de-worming is not prepared and implemented.	<b>26.02.1996</b>	There is no schedule for de-worming of animals. Help upkeep of animal are planned to tested periodically according to the newly submitted master plan with well established zoo hospital.	Not Complied since 26.02.2016 as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009. No photograph submitted till date.
23	10.5(9)	Not screened staff involved with upkeep and healthcare of Zoo animals against zoonotic diseases.	<b>26.02.1996 followed by 22.06.2016</b>	The staff involved in upkeep and health care of animals are not being screened for zoonotic disease. Zoonotic disease screening is being planned under newly submitted master plan.	Not Complied since 26.02.1996 in spite of reminder as per the provisions under the Recognition of Zoo Rules.

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/Observation
24	10.5(10)	Not maintained animal records namely Animal History Card, Keeper's Diary, Daily Report and Treatment Card. Observed that copies of blank format dumped in the store of the zoo.	26.02.1996	The records as mentioned are not being maintained at present. In future animal record will be maintained and records available are being developed into a database.	Not complied since 26.02.1996 in spite of directive from this Authority as per the provisions under the Recognition of Zoo Rules.
<b>6. Veterinary and infrastructure facilities</b>					
25	10.6(1)	Not provided veterinary facilities including Operation Theatre and in-patient wards. Stocked expired drugs in the Veterinary Hospital.	26.02.1996 followed by 23.11.2007	As per the newly submitted the master plan a well established zoo hospital is being planned with multi specialty.	Not Complied since 26.02.1996 in spite of repeated directive from this Authority as per the provisions under the Recognition of Zoo Rules.
26	10.6(3)	Not provided Post-mortem Room. As the existing facility is being used as additional feed store. The Post-mortem Room should not be used for any other purpose.	26.02.1996 followed by 23.11.2007	The post mortem room is exclusively for it. It is not used for any other purpose.	As per the evaluation report and the photograph shown to the representative of the operator of the zoo at the time of hearing, the Post Mortem Room is being used to store feed items. This is violation of the provisions under the Recognition of Zoo Rules.

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/Observation
27	10.6(3)	The Quarantine / Isolation Area is not provided in the Zoo.	23.08.2007	There is no quarantine and isolation area at present. In the layout plan of the zoo area mentioned has transit green phase it meant for quarantine and isolation.	Not complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules since 23.08.2007 in spite of directive from this Authority.
<b>7.Post-mortem and disposal of carcasses of animals</b>					
28	10.7(4)	Not provided well defined burial site in the zoo. Animal carcass disposal is being done beside the enclosure in case of herbivores and at a distance of 10Kms away from zoo in case of rest of animals.	26.02.1996	As special burning cum burial site is designated at Vellalore waste management area. It is around 12 kms away from the Zoo Campus.	Not complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules in spite of directive since 26.02.1996.
<b>9.Acquisition and breeding of animals</b>					
29	10.9(1)	Not controlled population of the Spotted deer within the carrying capacity.	26.02.1996 followed by 22.06.2016	Population control measure has been planned spotted deer excess animal have been planned to transferred to the neighboring zoo.	Not complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules in spite of directive from this Authority since 26.02.1996.
30	10.9(4)	Not paired singly housed animals in the Zoo.	26.02.1996 followed by 22.06.2016	Monogamous and single animal are planned to paired according to the newly submitted to the master plan. If pair not available it will be transfer to neighboring zoo.	Not complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules in spite of directive from this Authority since 26.02.1996.
31	10.9(9)	Not implemented population control measures in prolific breeding species.	26.02.1996 followed by 23.10.2003, 18.11.2003, 19.11.2003 & 22.06.2016	Proper population control measures will be implemented in prolific breeding species.	Not complied as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules in spite of repeated directives from this Authority since 26.02.1996.

Sl.	Norm No. Under RZR	Particulars of violation of the Recognition of Zoo Rules	Since when pending	Submission by Zoo Operator/Representative	Remarks/ Observation
<b>12. Visitors' facilities</b>					
32	10.12(2)	The Zoo Operator has not provided first aid facilities including snake anti-venom and life saving drugs, readily available in the zoo premises.	26.02.1996	First aid facility will be implemented according to the newly submitted master plan temporarily all the facilities are available in government hospital which is 2 kms away from the Zoo premises.	Complied.
33	10.12(3)	No ramps to facilitate wheel chair bound visitors to visit the animal enclosures.	23.08.2007	Wheel chair bound visitors and Senior citizen will have an easy pathway in the proposed zoo as per the submitted the master plan.	Not complied since 23.08.2007 as per the Recognition of Zoo Rules in spite of directive of this Authority.
34.		The zoo has purchased animals since 2006-2007 upto 2010-2011 as per Animal Stock Register in violation of the statutory provisions. Afterwards the animal stock register has not been updated to ascertain the source of animals.	2006-2007	I am not aware of this matter since I joined this zoo in August, 2017. The information in this regard including the copy of animal stock register after 2010-2011 shall be submitted to CZA within 20 days through email as well as by post.	The operator of the zoo has committed an offence under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and instructions of the GOI by purchase of the animals for housing in the zoo.

Whereas, the Technical Committee in its 86<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 after due deliberation on the proceedings of the opportunity of hearing provided to the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu recommended to the Central Zoo Authority to cancel recognition to the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu as per provisions of Section 38H(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 keeping in view the welfare of the captive animals.

Whereas, the Central Zoo Authority in its 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, in view of the failure of the operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu to comply with conditions stipulated by the CZA, approved the recommendation of the Technical Committee and decided to cancel the recognition of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu under Section 38H(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Now, therefore, having been given sufficient opportunity, the recognition of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu is hereby cancelled as per provisions laid down in Section 38H(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 with a provision to file an appeal before the Central Government as per provisions laid down in Section 38H(7) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Yours Sincerely,



(Dr. D.N. Singh)  
Member Secretary

To

The Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Department of Municipal Administration and Water Supply,  
Secretariat, Namakkal Kavignar Maaligai,  
Fort St. George, Chennai- 600 009. (Tamil Nadu)  
Email: mawssec@tn.gov.in

[operator of the V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu under Rule 2m(III) of the Recognition of the Zoo Rules, 2009]

Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Tamil Nadu, Panagal Maligai, Saidapet, Chennai- 600 015 (Tamil Nadu). Email: tnforest@tn.nic.in
2. The Commissioner, Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore- 641 001 (Tamil Nadu). Email: commr.coimbatore@tn.gov.in
3. The Director cum Veterinary Officer, V.O.C. Park Zoo, Nehru Stadium, Coimbatore- 641 001. (Tamil Nadu). Email: senthil.e2004@gmail.com



(Dr. D.N. Singh)  
Member Secretary



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE

## Central Zoo Authority



**BY POST/E-MAIL**

F.No.19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol.III)(AK)/982/2016

**DATE: 22.06.2016**

To

The Commissioner,  
Coimbatore Municipal Corporation,  
Coimbatore - 641 001. (Tamil Nadu)  
E-mail: commr.coimbatore@tn.gov.in,  
commissioner@ccmc.gov.in

*Noted  
Date  
22/6/16*

**Subject:- Grant of renewal of recognition as per the provisions of Section 38H of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore for period beyond 31.07.2013 - regarding**

**Reference:-**

1. Your application vide letter Roc No.4181/2015/ME2 dated 30.06.2015
2. This office letter F.No.19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol.III)(M)/198 dated 13.07.2011
3. This office letter F.No.19-61/92-CZA(Vol.III)(244)(M) dated 23.08.2007

Sir,

Reference is invited to above cited correspondence. It is to inform that the evaluation of the V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore was carried out by Shri B.G. Mugadur on 28.02.2016. The evaluation report of the V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore as submitted by the evaluating officer was considered by the Technical Committee in its 78<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2016.

The Technical Committee of the Central Zoo Authority has decided to issue Show Cause Notice under Section 38H (5&6) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore for non-compliance with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority in violation of Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 (amended in 2013), to provide time period of six months to the zoo to submit a compliance report on the issues mentioned in the Show Cause Notice. Show Cause Notice is being sent separately.

The Committee has decided to grant conditional renewal for recognition for a period of one year. The renewal of recognition of V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore as "a Mini Category Zoo" as per the provisions of Section 38H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 is for a period up to 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 subject to the compliance of the following directives under Rule 10 of Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 (Amended in 2013) and mid-term evaluation of the zoo:-

*Continued...*

-2-

S. No.	Norm No.	Conditions Stipulated	Time Period to Comply
<b>1. General requirements</b>			
1.	1(9)	Authorities of the zoo should avoid practice of housing domestic animals. The domestic animals should be removed from the zoo collection immediately.	Immediately
<b>2. Administrative and Staffing Pattern</b>			
2.	2(1)	Director / whole time in-charge of the zoo should be appointed with adequate financial and administrative powers.	Immediately
<b>3. Development and Planning</b>			
3.	3(1)	Authorities should submit Master Plan for site reportedly selected for relocation at Ettimalai near Coimbatore in compliance with the directives of the Central Zoo Authority issued vide letters F.No.19-61/92-CZA(Vol.III)(244)(M) dated 23.08.2007 and F.No.19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol.III) (M)/198 dated 13.07.2011.	Within one year
4.	3(7)& (8)	Should maintain records on approval obtained from the Chief Wildlife Warden to house rescued animals. No rescued wild animals should be accepted / housed in the zoo without approval from the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State.	Immediately
<b>4. Animal housing, display of animals and animal enclosures</b>			
5.	4(3)	Should maintain footbath of adequate size with proper disinfectant at entry and exit of animal houses.	Immediately
<b>5. Upkeep and Healthcare of animals</b>			
6.	5(9)	Staff involved with upkeep and healthcare of zoo animals be screened against zoonotic diseases once every year and those found positive to any communicable disease be provided appropriate treatment.	Immediately
<b>9. Acquisition and breeding of animals</b>			
7.	9(1)	Deer species be kept within carrying capacity.	Immediately
8.	9(4)	Single animals housed at the zoo should be paired. Else the single animals be transferred or exchanged or given on breeding loan to any other zoo.	Six months
9.	9(7)	Surplus animals from the breeding group be spared to other zoos	Immediately
10.	9(9)	Should implement appropriate population control measures.	Immediately

Continued...

A half yearly report regarding progress made in implementation of the aforesaid conditions should be submitted to the Central Zoo Authority.

The renewal of recognition to V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore for period beyond 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 as "a Mini Category Zoo" would be considered on the basis of compliance of the conditions stated above and general performance of the zoo.

The recognition to the V.O.C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore 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 faithfully



(Dr. D.N. Singh)  
Member Secretary

**Copy to:-**

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Tamil Nadu, No.1 Jeenis Road, Panagal Buildings, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015. (Tamil Nadu), E-mail:- cwlw@tm.nic.in – for information and with a request that the conditions stipulated may be got implemented.
2. DPA, CZA – to update database



(Dr. D.N. Singh)  
Member Secretary





जहाँ है हरियाली।  
वहाँ है खुशहाली।।



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

**Central Zoo Authority**

SPEED 1001



**THROUGH REGISTERED POST**

**F. No. 19-61/92-CZA(244)(Vol. III)(M)/198**

**DATE: 12.07.2011**

13

To

The Commissioner  
Coimbatore Municipal Corporation,  
Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)

**Sub:- Renewal of recognition to V. O. C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore beyond the period of 31.08.2009 under Section 38H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 - Regarding.**

Sir,

Reference is invited to your letter No. 7765/2009/ME4 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2009, seeking renewal of recognition for the V. O. C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore beyond the period of 31.08.2009 under Section 38H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

The evaluation of the State Museum and Zoo, Thrissur was carried out by Sh. S. C. Sharma and Dr. Brij Kishor Gupta on 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2011. The evaluation report of the V. O. C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore as submitted by the evaluating officers was considered by the Technical Committee in its 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2011.

The Central Zoo Authority has decided to grant of recognition to State V. O. C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore as a Mini category Zoo under Section 38H of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, for a period up to 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2013 subject to the compliance of the conditions stipulated vide letter of even number dated 23.08.2007, compliance of the standards and norms laid in Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009 (Rule 10 & 11), mid-term evaluation of the zoo and subject to its relocation to the new site.

The Master plan for the long-term development of the zoo at the new site should be submitted, immediately to the Central Zoo Authority for its approval.

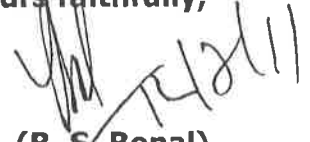
*[Handwritten signature and date]*

A half yearly report regarding progress made in implementation of the aforesaid conditions should be submitted to the Central Zoo Authority.

Grant of recognition to V. O. C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore beyond 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2013 as "a Mini category zoo" would be considered on the basis of compliance of the conditions stated above and general performance of the zoo.

The recognition to the V. O. C. Park Mini Zoo, Coimbatore 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 faithfully,**



**(B. S. Bonal)**  
**Member Secretary**

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai for favour of information and with a request that the stipulated conditions may be got implemented.
2. The Director, V. O. C. Park, Mini Zoo, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
3. Mr. Vivek Goel, DPA, CZA.



केन्द्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण  
**Central Zoo Authority**

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

Bikaner House Annexe VI,  
Shahjahan Road, New Delhi - 110011  
website : <http://www.cza.nic.in>

**BY REGISTERED POST**

**F. No. 19-61/92-CZA(Vol. III)(244)(M)**

**DATE: 23.8.2007**

To

The Commissioner  
City Municipal Corporation  
Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)

**Sub:- Permission for continuation of existing VOC Park Zoo,  
Coimbatore in the State of Tamil Nadu.**

Sir,

Please refer to your letter No. 27581/2004/ME/4, dated 28.06.2006 seeking renewal of recognition from the Central Zoo Authority at the existing site till it is being relocated to the new site.

The matter was discussed during the Technical Meeting of the Central Zoo Authority held on 16.07.2007. It was decided by the Central Zoo Authority to allow the V.O.C. Park Zoo at Coimbatore to operate at the existing site till 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2009 subject to the following conditions:-

1. The Municipal Corporation of Coimbatore should submit the detailed master layout plan of the proposed site for relocation, year-wise plan of shifting of animals in the format as circulated by this Authority vide letter No. 27-1/2005-CZA(M), dated 03.02.2006.
2. The Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore should start creation of the facility within the given period time i.e. 31.08.2009.
3. Prior to the construction of animal enclosures for Schedule I & II species, the authorities should have obtained approval of Sub-committee of Zoo Designing of the Central Zoo Authority.
4. The Central Zoo Authority will not provide any grants of development of zoos at the existing sites.

.....2/-



5. The State Government should ensure that zoos at new site shall have a full time Curator with Masters Degree in Wildlife Science/ Zoology, solely responsible for looking after the upkeep of animals and maintenance of animal enclosures.
6. The zoo should also have atleast two full time veterinarians with minimum qualification of B.V.Sc. & A.H. or equivalent with a minimum of 5 years experience of working in a zoo recognized by the Central Zoo Authority and should be duly registered with the State Veterinary Council or Veterinary Council of India.
7. The zoos at new site should follow the norms and standards as laid down in the "Recognition of Zoo Rules".

A half yearly report regarding progress made in implementation of the aforesaid conditions should be submitted to the Central Zoo Authority.

The further permission to operate the V.O.C. Park Zoo at Coimbatore as a 'zoo' beyond 31.8.2009 would be considered on the progress made by the Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore in relocation of existing zoos to the new sites.

**Yours faithfully,  
for Member Secretary  
sd/-  
(Brij Kishor Gupta)  
Scientific Officer**

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Tamil Nadu – for favour of information.
2. The Director, V.O.C. Park Zoo, Coimbatore – for favour of information and necessary action.

  
**(Brij Kishor Gupta)  
Scientific Officer**