

**BALASAHEB THACKERAY
GOREWADA INTERNATIONAL
ZOOLOGICAL PARK,
NAGPUR**

Annual Report
2020-21



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1. Report of the Officer-in-charge:

Gorewada International Zoo was inaugurated on 26th January 2021 at the hands of Hon. Mr. Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray, Chief Minister, Maharashtra State and was renamed as Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park, Nagpur. The park was opened to public from 27th January 2021. The park has attained its fame and stature for a major tourist attraction in city of Nagpur from the day of inception.

Like the world all over the park has faced huge challenge due to Covid-19 pandemic in its first year.



Hon. Chief Minister Shri. Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray at Gorewada Zoo



Hon. Chief Minister Shri. Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray at Gorewada Zoo

2. History of the Zoo:

Gorewada Reserve Forest was received for compensatory afforestation and protection of Gorewada lake which is drinking water source to city of Nagpur. The total area of 1914Ha is bisected by Nagpur-Katol Highway into 2 zones, viz North or Unit1 and South as Unit 2. This area is located at 10km from Nagpur Railway station and easily accessible from city. An international standard zoo was proposed on this land to attract tourists from all over the world.

Government of Maharashtra had declared its intention for an International standard zoo at Nagpur in year 2006. In year 2008, Forest Department appointed Mr. Bernard Harrison from Singapore as consultant for creating the concept and DPR of this project. In 2009, the land and project were handed over to Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra (FDCM) for faster implementation of Project. An area of 564Ha was proposed for development of zoo in Unit 2 of Gorewada Forest. This area is comparatively degraded and had scanty vegetation. A proposal was submitted under FCA for the proposed zoo activity and tenders were called for appointment of consultant for preparing Master Plan of the zoo. M/s. Ashfaq Ahmad Architectural Associates was selected as consultant for developing Masterplan for Zoo in year 2013-14. The first Masterplan was approved in year 2014.

The FDCM build a 29km boundary wall for protection of this land which enhanced the biodiversity of the region. In year 2015, Unit 2 of the region was opened for tourists through Gorewada Jungle Drive. Unit 2 of the region is good quality Forest with presence of wildlife like Leopard, Spotted deer, Sambar, Neelgai and more than 200 spp. of birds. In year 2016, Central India's largest Rescue Centre became operational at Gorewada.

In same year, Government decided to establish a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with private investor for development and operations of the zoo. An EOI was published to attract private investor into project. After several rounds of selection process Esselworld Tourism Infra Pvt Ltd was selected as a Private investor and a Joint Venture company was established for design, development and operations of Gorewada Zoo. The private investor demanded revision of approved Master Plan for better economic viability and international appeal of the project. The founding principles for developing new zoo were decided upon following factors -

- Environmentally sound
- Aesthetically pleasing
- Both ecologically and financially sustainable
- Operationally practical

The revised Master Plan was designed by M/s. Bernard Harrison and Co. and Phase-I of the project got approval in March 2019. Phase-I i.e. Indian Safari was completed and operationalised in January 2021.

3. Vision:

A journey through the forests with animals and birds is a compliment to conservation, education, awareness and recreation. The Gorewada International Zoo, Nagpur is of international standards which will house various animal species in innovatively created areas thus attempting to establish one of its kinds Zoo thereby making the sightseer's visit a rewarding experience. This zoo will be a showcase of nature for the visitors.

4. Mission

The Park will volunteer natural conservation, scientific research, and public education of the Floral and Faunal species of great importance of Gondwana land. The place will conduct enlightening activities for the visitors to bring betterment in their outlook towards animals. The Gorewada Zoo will be a combination of entertainment, education and science of zoos, aquariums, botanical gardens, museums, etc. all put at one place.

5. Objective

1. Promote wildlife conservation (Undertaking breeding program of endangered species).
2. Care and rehabilitation of injured, sick and orphan wild animals.
3. To collect and collate the scientific data on the biology, behaviour and health care of various species of wild animals housed in the zoo and use the same in future management.
4. To assist in conservation of the in-situ population of various species of endangered animals and their habitat by sensitizing the people.
5. To promote research and education on wildlife conservation
6. To create amongst the visitors empathy towards wild animals through appreciation and better understanding.
7. To promote international eco-tourism.
8. To create the opportunities of employment / self-employment.



6. About us

S. No.	Particulars	Information
Basic Information about the Zoo		
1	Name of the Zoo	Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park, Nagpur
2	Year of Establishment	2021
3	Address of the Zoo	Kalmeshwar Road, Fetri - 441501
4	State	Maharashtra
5	Telephone Number	0712- 297 1268
6	Fax Number	-
7	E-mail address	gorewadazoo@gmail.com
8	Website	www.wildgorewada.com
9	Distance from nearest	Airport: 15km
		Railway Station: 10km
		Bus Stand: City bus access: 100m Inter-State bus terminus: 14km
10	Recognition Valid upto (Date)	28-08-2022
11	Category of zoo	Mini Zoo
12	Area (in Hectares)	564 Ha
13	Number of Visitors (Financial Year)	Adult: 13297
		Children: Not available
		Total Indian: Not available
		Total Foreigners: Not available
		Total Visitors: 13297
14	Visitors' Facilities Available in Zoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient no of toilets • Sufficient drinking water • Restaurant • Souvenir Shop • Emergency telephone facility • First Aid • Wheelchair and ramps • Anti-venom
15	Weekly Closure Day of the Zoo	Monday

S. No.	Particulars	Information
Management Personnel of the zoo		
16	Name with designation of the Officer in-charge	Mr. P. B. Panchbhai, Divisional Manager and Zoo Director
	Name of the Veterinary Officer	Dr. Mayur Pawashe
	Name of the Curator	Mr. Dipak Sawant
	Name of the Biologist	Mr. Shubham Chhapekar
	Name of the Education Officer	-
	Name of the Compounder/ Lab Assistant	-
Owner / Operator of the Zoo		
17	*Name of the Operator	FDCM ESSELWORLD GOREWADA ZOO PVT LTD. NAGPUR
18	Address of the Operator	Chairman, FEGZ and Managing Director, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra, 5th Floor, FDCM Bhavan, 359/B, Hingna Rd, Ambazari, Nagpur, Maharashtra 440036
19	Contact details/Phone number of Operator	0712 281 1965
20	E-mail address of Operator	md@fdcm.nic.in

* Rule 2(m) of the Recognition of Zoo Rules, 2009.

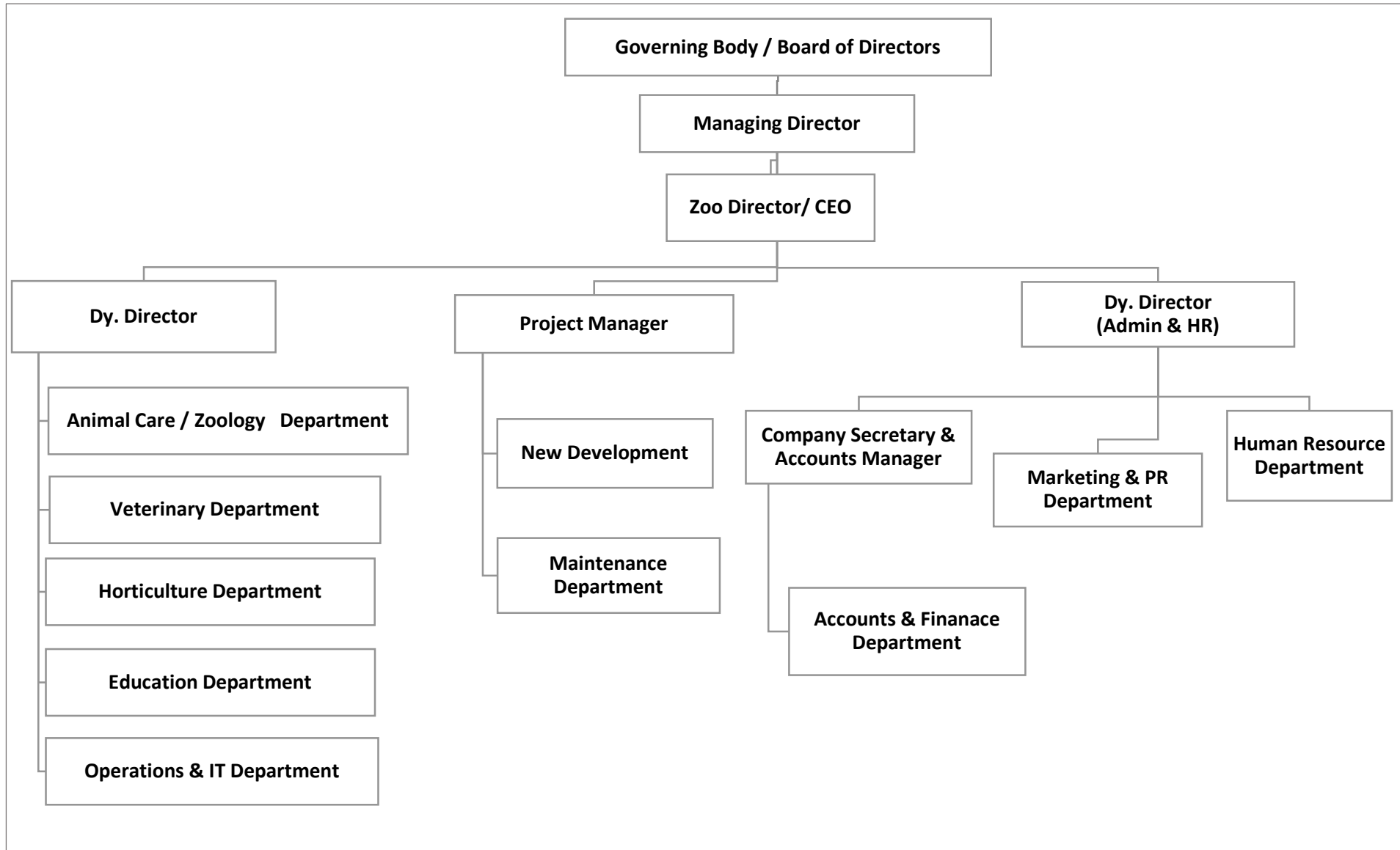
“Zoo Operator” means the person who has ultimate control over the affairs of the zoos provided that_____

I. in the case of a firm or other association of individuals, any one of the individual partners or members thereof; or

II. in the case of a company, any director, manager, secretary or other officer, who is in-charge of and responsible to the company for the affairs of the zoo; or

III. In case of zoo owned or controlled by the Central Government or any State Government or Union Territory Administration or any Trust or Society funded by the Central Government or a State Government or a Union Territory Administration, the Secretary of the concerned Department of that Government, or as the case may be the Union Territory Administration, shall be deemed to be the Zoo Operator.

7. Organizational Chart



8. Human Resources

Manpower of the Zoo (Phase-1) *

Sl.No.	Designation	Number of Sanctioned Posts	Names of the incumbent
1	Zoo Director	1	1
2	General Curator	1	1
3	Veterinary Officer	1	1
4	Biologist	1	1
5	Education Officer	1	0
6	Head Animal Keeper	1	0
7	Animal Keeper	4	0
8	Asst Animal Keeper	24	23

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

9. Capacity Building of zoo personnel-

Sl.No.	Name and designation of the zoo personnel	Subject matter of Training	Period of Training	Name of the Institution where the Training attended
1	All Keepers	Introduction to Zoo and ethics of zoo works and Capacity building	3 days	In house training
2	Zoo Guides, Drivers, ticket vendors, Security guards and all frontline staff	Personality development, and Communication skills	3 days	In house training

10. Zoo Advisory Committee – Not Constituted

- Date of constitution
- Members
- Dates on which Meetings held during the year

11. Health Advisory Committee– Not Constituted

- Date of constitution
- Members
- Dates on which Meetings held during the year

12. Statement of income and expenditure of the Zoo

- Total days of Operation – 37 (Lockdown restrictions due to Covid -19)
- No of Visitors - 13,257
- Total Revenue - Rs. 35,96,410/-

12. Daily feed Schedule of animals

Sl.No.	Species	Feed item	Quantity		Day of fasting
			Winter	Summer	
1	Tiger	Beef	10-12Kg per day	9-11 kg per day	Saturday
2	Leopard	Beef and/or Chicken	2.5 to 3.5kg per day	2 to 3 kg per day	Saturday
3	Sloth Bear	Mixed Fruits, honey, jaggery, Suji halwa with dry fruits, Boiled Eggs, occasionally fish	13-16 kg per day	11-14 kg per day	No fasting
4	Herbivores Chital, Nilgai,	Greed fodder- maize / kadamu/ lucern / edible grasses	Ad lib	Ad lib	No fasting

13. Vaccination Schedule of animals

Sl.No.	Species	Disease vaccinated for	Name of the Vaccine and dosage/ quantity used	Periodicity	Remarks

Since all animals were vaccinated before bringing to zoo, no vaccine was given in this period.

14. De-worming Schedule of animals

Sl.No.	Species	Drug used	Month

Since all animals were dewormed just before bringing to the zoo, no deworming was conducted in this period.

15. Disinfection Schedule

Sl.No.	Species	Type of enclosure	Disinfectant used and method	Frequency of disinfection
1	All species	Night shelter & Feeding cell	Liq. Potassium permanganate for Foot bath	Alternate day disinfectant is changed
2	All species	Night shelter, Feeding cell and Kraal	Fumigation – open flame	Occasionally as per the need and instructions of veterinarian.

16. Health Check-up of employees for zoonotic diseases

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Date of Health Check up	Findings of Health Check up
1	All keepers were tested for zoonotic and other infectious diseases at the time of joining	Asst. Keeper and animal related staff	November 2020	Negative

17. Development Works carried out in the zoo during the year:

Indian Safari of Gorewada Zoo is only phase-I. As an extension to Indian Safari a small walking zoo of 10 enclosures is under construction. The development may require up to a year.

18. Education and Awareness programmes during the year

Every safari at Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoo is assisted by a trained nature interpreter. The guides are trained for visitor interaction and conservation education. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, no special education programs were conducted in the year.

19. Important Events and happenings

Gorewada International Zoo was inaugurated on 26th January 2021 at the hands of Hon. Shri. Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray, Chief Minister, Maharashtra State and was renamed as Balasaheb Thackeray Gorewada International Zoological Park, Nagpur.

20. Seasonal special arrangements for upkeep of animals:

Animals are provided with desert Coolers during summer. The safari enclosures are endowed with large water pools for animal dipping in hot weather.

During winter, oil based electric room heaters are provided in addition to grass bedding in every night shelter.

21. Research Work carried out and publications

Nil

22. Conservation Breeding Programme of the Zoo

Nil

23. Animal acquisition / transfer / exchange during the year

A. Animals arriving in the Zoo						
H.NO.	Species	Number (M:F)	From which Zoo		Date of arrival in the zoo	
Tiger Safari	Tiger	1:1	Gorewada Centre	Rescue	22-11-2020	
Leopard Safari	Leopard	2:5	Gorewada Centre	Rescue	21-11-2020	
Sloth Bear Safari	Sloth Bear	3:3	Gorewada Centre	Rescue	23-11-2020	
Herbivore Safari	Nilgai	7:7	Gorewada Centre	Rescue	19-11-2020	
Herbivore Safari	Spotted Deer	2:2	Gorewada Centre	Rescue	19-11-2020	
B. Animals going from the zoo						
H.NO.	Species	Number (M:F)	Going to which Zoo		Date of deposition from the zoo	
	Nil					

24. Rescue and Rehabilitation of wild animals carried out by the Zoo - Nil

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

25. Annual Inventory of animals

Form – II

[See Rule 11(1)]

Part – A

Inventory Report for the Year: 2020-21

Endangered Species*

S.No.	Animal Name	Scientific Name	Opening Stock (01-Apr-2020)				Births			Acquisitions			Disposals			Deaths			Closing Stock (31-Mar-2021)				
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T	
Mammalia																							
1.	Sloth Bear	<i>Melursus ursinus</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	6
2.	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	7
3.	# Bengal Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Total Mammalia	3		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	9	0	15	
Total			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	9	0	15	

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

Part – B

Other than Endangered Species

S.No.	Animal Name	Scientific Name	Opening Stock (01-Apr-2020)				Births			Acquisitions			Disposals			Deaths			Closing Stock (31-Mar-2021)				
			M	F	U	T	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	M	F	U	T	
Mammalia																							
1.	Chital/ Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	5
2.	Nilgai	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	0	14
Total Mammalia	2		0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	9	2	19
Total			0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	9	2	19
Grand Total			0	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	14	18	2	34

26. Mortality of animals:

Sl.No.	Animal Name (with individual identification mark, if any)	Scientific Name	Sex	Date of Death	Reason of Death as per the Post-mortem report
1	Spotted Deer	<i>Cervus axis</i>	Female	10/02/21	Cardio-respiratory Failure

27. Compliance with conditions stipulated by the Central Zoo Authority

Sr. No	Norm No. under RZR, 2009	Condition Stipulated	Time Period to Comply	Since When Pending	Status with regard to compliance of the conditions
1	10.1.(8)	Zoo should not acquire sick, injured infirm animals for display, animals should be acquired after permission under sec 38(i)	With immediate effect		Complied. Zoo shall never display sick, injured and infirm animals.
2	10.2.(1)	The zoo should post a full-time officer in-charge with adequate financial and administrative powers.	With immediate effect		The Divisional Manager, Gorewada Project is designated as full-time officer-in charge and Zoo Director with adequate financial and administrative powers.
3	10.2.2	Zoo should post full time Veterinary Officer, Education Officer/ Biologist	With immediate effect		Dr Mayur Pawashe, has been appointed as Veterinarian for the zoo.
4	10.2.3	Zoo should appoint Keeper, head keeper with adequate experience in work	With immediate effect		Keepers currently appointed at the zoo have prior experience of working with animals at the Rescue Centre, Gorewada.
5	10.3.1	Zoo should submit Master Plan for all the phases to CZA for approval.	3 months		Phase- I and II of the master plans along with detailed drawings of each component were submitted to CZA. Preparation of Master Plan for entire zoo is in process.
6	10.3.5	Feeding and Retiring cells should be camouflaged by suitable plantations.	With immediate effect		Night shelter have been painted in shades of green for better camouflage. Suitable plantation is provided for the purpose. Additional plantation will be considered as per requirement.
7	10.4.2, 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The design of the Leopard and Sloth Bear Safari should be as per the standards. These safaris should house animals only after they are fully audited for safety and security of animals, visitors and keepers and structural stability. The safari area should be free from all the debris, metal pieces, sharp corners which may injure the animal. 	With immediate effect		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Complied. Complied

		<p>3. The functionality of double gate system should be verified for electro-mechanical and manual operations.</p> <p>4. The zoo operator should ensure that, adequate amount of soil is compacted along the safari fence so that animal does not escape through burrows.</p> <p>5. The overhang steel plate expansion joints of leopard and sloth bear safari should be properly affixed in such a way that it does not allow any space for animal escape.</p> <p>6. The drop gates in the animal houses should have a U-shaped channel frame to prevent any animal escape as well as the pully of the drop gate should have a proper cover. The cable running for sliding door should be covered in Steel pipe and have locking system.</p> <p>7. All gates opening in keeper gallery in feeding and retiring cell should have locking systems.</p> <p>8. The strength of cable used for pulling drop gate should be checked periodically and should be maintained properly.</p> <p>9. Feeding and retiring cells in leopard safari shall have meat drop windows.</p> <p>10. The kraal provided for leopard and sloth bear shall have easy access for animals and keepers for cleaning and maintenance. Its design should be animal and management friendly.</p> <p>11. There should be provision of squeeze cage in Leopard and Sloth Bear Cage.</p>			<p>3. Complied.</p> <p>4. Complied</p> <p>5. Complied</p> <p>6. Complied</p> <p>7. Complied</p> <p>8. Complied. Cable for pulling gates have been changed for better strength. Its maintenance is observed periodically.</p> <p>9. Complied.</p> <p>10. Suitable changes have been made during the construction for animal and management friendly access.</p> <p>11. A mobile squeeze cage has been provided in every night shelter.</p>
8	10.4.6	Zoo should make efforts to enrich feeding and retiring cells	With immediate effect		Wooden tables and water pots have been provided in every feeding cells. Necessary changes in enrichment are considered time-to time.
9	10.4.10	The zoo should provide appropriate signages with relevant information at suitable locations.	With immediate effect		Appropriate signages are provided at suitable locations.

10	10.5.2	The zoo should ensure to provide all animals timely supply of quality food and water.	With immediate effect		Food protocols are prepared and strictly followed.
11	10.5.5	The zoo shall provide tyre bath (as a bio security measure) at appropriate entry point.	3 months		Tyre bath has been provided at the beginning of safari.
12	10.6.1	As per the provision under Zoo Rules, 2009 the zoo should have a full-fledged Veterinary unit with diagnostic facility. Though the Rescue Centre, across the road in front of zoo has all these facilities. The Zoo operator has assured that these facilities will used for zoo as well. However, it is suggested that zoo may have a bare minimum veterinary facility in zoo premises.	6 months		A small veterinary unit and quarantine block is proposed for construction in zoo premises.
13	10.12.1	The zoo operator should provide adequate civic facilities for visitors at appropriate and convenient places in the zoo including for physically disabled.	With immediate effect		Civic facilities like toilets, drinking water, and cafeteria is provided at appropriate location. All entry and pathways are designed for easy access of physically disabled.
14	10.12.2	The zoo should have a first aid facility and emergency medicines at suitable location inclusive of Anti Snake Venom.	With immediate effect		First aid facility is available in admin block and ticketing building.
Non-Statutory Recommendations					
1		The water tank near the parking area and night shelter buildings attached to safari enclosures should be painted in olive green or camouflaged with surrounding area.	3 months		A sky landscape has been selected for painting on the tank. It will be complied soon.
2		Labours living in the safari area should be shifted before the safari is made functional.	With immediate effect		All labours living in safari area were removed from safari before the park was operational.
3		Substrates in kraal should have soft soil.	With immediate effect		Complied.

28. List of free-living wild animals within the zoo premises

- a. Mammals
 - i. Nilgai
 - ii. Sambar
 - iii. Leopard
 - iv. Jungle Cat
 - v. Grey Mongoose
 - vi. Common Palm Civet etc

- b. Birds
 - i. Indian Peafowl
 - ii. Grey Francolin
 - iii. Painted Francolin
 - iv. Little Brown Dove
 - v. Ring Dove
 - vi. Black-winged Kite
 - vii. White-eyed Buzzard
 - viii. Honey Buzzard
 - ix. Eagle Owl
 - x. Barn Owl
 - xi. Spotted Owlet
 -more than 200spp of birds

- c. Reptiles
 - i. Indian Rat Snake
 - ii. Russell's Viper
 - iii. Saw-scaled Viper
 - iv. Indian Cobra
 - v. Common Trinket
 - vi. Wolf Snake
 - vii. Indian Rock Python
 - viii. Common Cat Snake
 - ix. Stout sand Snake
 - x. Bronze-backed Tree Snake
 - xi. Indian Egg-Eater
 - xii. Monitor Lizard
 - xiii. Garden Lizard
 -many more

List of free-living wild animals in zoo premises is tentative and based on daily observations; a detailed documentation of free living wildlife is under process.

