

Forests - Wildlife – Announcements made by Government of Tamil Nadu during 2021 – 2022 – Setting up Rescue, Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (RTRCs) at Coimbatore/ Mudumalai, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli Districts – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTS (FR.5) DEPARTMENT.

G.O.(Ms) No.93

Dated: 29.10.2021 பிலவ, ஐப்பசி**–12** திருவள்ளுவர் ஆண்டு– 2052 Read:

- 1. Announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister (Forests) on the floor of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 03.09.2021
- 2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden letter No. WL6/17338/2021, dated: 09.10.2021.

ORDER: -

Rescue, treatment and rehabilitation of wildlife is one of the most important core activities of Forest Department. The department is presently providing treatment to injured and rescued wild animals with assistance of veterinarians from Animal Husbandry Department. The existing treatment facilities are however not adequate and do not meet the standards of wildlife treatment requirements. The lack of dedicated and modern veterinary care facilities lead to delayed or lesser than desired medical treatment to wild animals. In this context, it is important to set up State of the Art, Rescue, Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres in Tamil Nadu to treat sick, injured and orphaned wild animals, with the goal to release them into the wild as per approved Government protocols.

2. Government had made an announcement on the floor of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 03rd September 2021,that three Rescue, Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (RTRCs) shall be set up with following objectives.

- (1) Rescue injured, orphaned and sick wild animals including those that get strayed in habitations.
- (2) Provide expertise and service for scientific quarantine, rehabilitation and release of wild animals in identified habitats.

- (3) Function as leading institutions for consultation and guidance for addressing man-animal conflict issues.
- (4) Develop and standardize protocols for rescue and rehabilitation of wild animals in their traditional habitats.

3. These RTRCs shall be equipped with the State-of-the-Art facilities and well-trained manpower to provide specialized treatment to wild animals. These Centres shall also be well equipped with operation theatres, laboratories and all other essential diagnostic equipment to provide the best possible treatment and care. These Centres shall also train rescue teams for conducting swift and smooth rescue operations of distressed wildlife.

4. As these centres are being set up as the first of their kind, all efforts must be taken, to set them up in consultation with national and international experts. A Detailed Project Report shall be prepared in consultation with experts and field teams before commencing works in field.

5. The Government, after careful examination, accord administrative sanction for setting up of three "Rescue, Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (RTRCs) at Coimbatore / Mudumalai, Tiruchirappalli and Tirunelveli Districts". The Government also accord financial sanction for Rs. 4.00 lakhs (Rupees Four lakhs only) to start the preparation of Detailed Project Report. This fund shall be met from the Zoo Authority of Tamil Nadu.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

SUPRIYA SAHU PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

То

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD), Chennai-15.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &

Chief Wildlife Warden, Chennai-15

The Director, Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur, Chennai -48

The Accountant General, Chennai-18 (BN).

The Accountant General (CA), Chennai-18 (BN).

The Director of Treasuries and Accounts, Chennai-35.

Copy to:

The Finance Department, Chennai-09.

Senior Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister (Forests), Chennai-9 Private Secretary to Principal Secretary (ECC&F). Department, Chennai-9.

SECTION OFFICER