To
The Principal Secretary / Secretary (Forests),
(All States / UTs).

Sub: Applicability of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for activities that are necessary for ex-situ conservation of wild animals including upkeep and management of animals through Zoological Parks / Zoos / Biological Parks over forest land.

Sir,

The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has been receiving number of representations seeking clarification in respect of applicability of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for activities that are necessary for ex-situ conservation of wild animals including upkeep and management of animals through Zoological Parks / Zoos / Biological Parks located in forest areas.

After careful examination of the proposal of the respective Chief Wildlife Wardens of various State Governments and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby conveys that activities required to be done in zoo as per the approved management plan will not attract the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 provided such activities are necessary for management of animals & imparting education and have the prior approval of CZA.

(C.D. Singh)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-
1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All States / UTs.
2. The Nodal Officer (FC), O/o the PCCFs, All States / UTs.
3. All Regional Offices of MoEF located at Bhopal, Shillong, Bangalore, Bhubaneshwar, Lucknow and Chandigarh.
4. The RO (HQ), MoEF, New Delhi.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.

(C.D. Singh)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests