

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change**  
**(Wildlife Division)**

**Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,**  
**Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,**  
**New Delhi-110003**



F. No. 2-9/2014/WL  
Dated: 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2014

**The Chief Wildlife Warden**  
**All States/UTs**

**Sub: Custody of live wildlife species seized/detained at exit points – reg.**

Sir,

You are aware that the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) is assisting Customs authorities on inspection of import/export consignments under the provision of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Often wildlife/exotic species are detected during such inspections and the same are handed over to the officials of the WCCB for custody. Additionally, the WCCB officials also seize wild animals/articles during raids conducted by them.

The live animals so received by the WCCB are required to be kept in safe custody and upkeep. They may also be required to be kept in quarantine. The facilities for quarantine and keeping the live animals etc are not available within the WCCB.

The WCCB has been charged with the responsibility of assisting the states in prosecution related to wildlife crimes. State/UTs being mandated for management of Wildlife, they should take the custody of such live animals whenever they are sought to be handed over by the officials of the WCCB, especially when received by them from Customs officials, or otherwise. Facilities for such custody need to be made available accordingly.

It is therefore requested that all the officers in your State/Union Territory including those managing zoos or rescue centres may kindly be directed to take immediate custody of live animals/birds whenever they are sought to be handed over by the officials of the WCCB. It is also requested that a suitable officer in each of the zoo/rescue centre may be nominated as nodal officer for this purpose and the name and contact number of such officers be communicated to WCCB under intimation to this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

*Shiv Pal Singh*  
(Shiv Pal Singh)

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