



## **ABSTRACT**

Forests – Wildlife – Announcement Conservation of Bengal Fox and Jackal for the ecological balance of habitat - Sanctioned – Orders Issued.

### **Environment, Climate Change and Forests (FR.5) Department**

G.O.(D)No.166

Dated: 09.07.2025

விசுவாச வரும், ஆனி 25

திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு - 2056

### **Read:**

1. Announcement made by the Hon'ble Minister (Forests and Khadi) on 28.03.2025.
2. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden Letter Ref. No. WL6/7606/2025, dated. 14.05.2025.\*\*\*\*\*

### **ORDER:-**

The Hon'ble Minister (Forests and Khadi) has made the following announcement among others on the floor of Assembly on 28.03.2025:-

"சூழல் சமநிலையை உறுதிப்படுத்துவதில் பெரும் பங்கு வகிக்கும் குள்ள நரிகள் தற்போது அழிவின் விளிம்பில் உள்ளன. எனவே இந்த குள்ள நரிகளை பாதுகாப்பதற்கென குள்ளநரி பாதுகாப்பு திட்டம் செயல்படுத்தப்படும்".

2. In his letter second read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden has sent a proposal for Conservation of Bengal Fox and Jackal, critical to ensure the ecological balance of habitat at a total cost of Rs. 2.00 crore. The details are as follows :-

Tamil Nadu is renowned for its exceptional biodiversity, encompassing a rich mosaic of flora and fauna across diverse ecosystems-from coastal plains to mountainous terrains. Among the many species that inhabit these landscapes are the Indian Bengal fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*) and the golden jackal (*Canis aureus*), both of which play vital roles in maintaining ecological balance as predators and scavengers. Both species are presently listed under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, affording them the highest level of legal protection in India. The level of their decline in the recent past can be made out from the fact that the Indian Bengal fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*) and the golden jackal (*Canis aureus*) were both listed in Schedule V (Vermin category) when the Wildlife (Protection) Act was enacted in 1972.

Given their ecological importance and the growing threats faced by them, immediate conservation interventions are necessary. A comprehensive understanding of



current threats, habitat use, and distribution patterns is essential to develop an effective, long-term conservation roadmap for these species in Tamil Nadu. A targeted conservation initiative should be launched to safeguard these species.

#### **Objectives:**

- Identification of critical habitats in and outside Protected Areas (PA) and Reserved Forests.
- Habitat protection & improvement measures and control of poaching.
- Creation of awareness on the need to conserve these species amongst the various stakeholders.
- Establishment of a captive breeding centre in Kurumbapatti Zoo, Salem.

#### **Quarantine and Isolation Units:**

- New rescues, translocated individuals, or sick animals.
- Each unit fitted with independent drainage, airflow systems, and disinfection protocols.
- Individualized feeding regimens based on health status (bland diets, nutritional supplements, etc.).
- Behavioural observation setups to assess stress or abnormal activity before integration.
- Provision for quiet, low-stimulus environments to aid recovery and acclimatization.

#### **Veterinary Clinic :**

- Examination and surgical tables, anesthesia equipment, and recovery pens.
- Diagnostic tools: Digital X-ray, ultrasound, basic blood and faecal test kits.
- Pathology lab for sample analysis (skin scrapes, bloodwork, parasites, etc.).
- Cold storage units for vaccine and medicine preservation.
- Diet and nutrition consultation area, with weigh scales and record-keeping for diet adjustments.
- Space for rehabilitation feeding, including special diets (e.g.. protein-boosted meals, recovery formulas).

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden has requested to sanction an amount of Rs. 2.00 crore for the project of Conservation of Bengal Fox and Jackal for the ecological balance of habitat. The details are as follows:-

<b>Objective / Component</b>	<b>Budget (Rs. In lakh)</b>
<b>Objective 1: Identification of critical habitats in and outside Protected Areas (PA) and Reserved Forests</b>	
Manpower	3
Field Habitat Identification	1
Mapping & GIS Equipment (Laptop, Software, GPS)	3
Report preparation and publications	1



<b>Objective 2: Habitat protection &amp; improvement measures and control of poaching</b>	
Habitat Protection Measures (patrolling and surveillance, etc.,)	5
Habitat Improvement Measures (scrubland, grassland and wetland restoration, Corridor improvement, etc)	5
Community Engagement	3
<b>Objective 3: Education, Outreach &amp; Training</b>	
Manpower	6
Awareness Programs in Field Areas	10
Workshops & Training Sessions	12
Media Kits & Printed Materials	5
Educational Equipments (Laptops, Projector, etc.)	6
Outreach Van (Mobile Education Unit)	10
<b>Objective 4: Establishment of Conservation Breeding Centre</b>	
Manpower	15
Infrastructure Setup	30
Species – Specific Enclosures	25
Breeding, Observation & Research	20
Veterinary Care & Health Equipment	20
Quarantine & Isolation Units	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

4. The Government, after careful examination of the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden have decided to accord administrative and financial sanction for Rs.2,00,00,000/- (Rupees two crore only) towards the project of Conservation of Bengal Fox and Jackal for the ecological balance of habitat.

5. The expenditure sanctioned in para 4 above shall be debited into the following Head of Account:-

(Rs. in thousands)

S.No	HOA	AMOUNT
	2406 FORESTRY AND WILD LIFE - 02 Environmental Forestry and Wild life - 110 Wild Life Preservation State's Expenditure - BE Conservation of Endangered Species	
1	305 Office Expenses - 02 - Other Contingencies (DPC 2406 02 110 BE 305 02)	1300
2	317 Minor Works 01 Minor Works (DPC 2406 02 110 BE 317 01)	5000
3	319 Machinery and Equipments 01 – Purchase (DPC 2406 02 110 BE 319 01)	2000
4	321 Motor Vehicles 01 Purchase (DPC 2406 02 110 BE 321 01)	1000
5	333 Payments for professionals and Special Services 04 Contract Payment (DPC 2406 02 110 BE 33304)	8300



6	372 Training 01 Training (DPC 2406 02 110 BE 37201)	1800
7	376 Computer and Accessories 01 – Purchase (DPC 2406 02 110 BE 37601)	600
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20000</b>

6. The expenditure sanctioned in para 4 above shall constitute an item of "**New Instrument of Service**" and the approval of the Legislature shall be obtained in due course of time by an inclusion in the revised Supplementary Estimates for the year 2025-2026. Pending approval of the Legislature, the expenditure may be initially met by drawl of an advance from the Contingency Fund. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) is directed to calculate the actual amount required for the period upto next Supplementary Estimates and apply for sanction of the same as advance from the Contingency Fund to Finance (BG.I) Department directly in Form "A" appended to the Contingency Fund Rules, 1963 along with a copy of this order. Orders for sanction of an advance from the Contingency Fund will be issued from Finance (BG.I) Department. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) shall also send necessary draft explanatory notes for inclusion of this expenditure in the Supplementary Estimates for the year 2025-2026 to Government in Finance (AHDF&FW / BG-I) Department at an appropriate time without fail.

7. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide e.file No.642/Finance(AHDF&FW)/2025, dated.08.07.2025 and ASL No.0730 (Seven Hundred and Thirty) (IFHRMS ASL No.2025070730)

**(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)**

**SUPRIYA SAHU**  
**ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Head of Forest Force), Chennai-32.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Chennai-32.

The Accountant General, Chennai-18.

The Pay and Accounts Officer, Chennai-35.

The Treasury Officer concerned.

**Copy to:-**

The Special Personal Assistant to

Hon'ble Minister (Finance and Environment & Climate Change), Chennai-9.

The Special Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister (Forests and Khadi), Chennai-9.

The Finance (E.CC&F/BG.I/BG.II/W & M-1) Department, Chennai-9.

The Private Secretary to Additional Secretary to Government,

Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department, Chennai-9.

Environment, Climate Change and Forests (FR.7)Department, Chennai-9.

SF/SC.

//FORWARDED BY ORDER//

**SECTION OFFICER**

62.2025  
09/07/2025  
9/7/25