

Justification for Selection of Area:

- The area is historical natural area of wildlife and best suited for tiger, herbivores and other fauna species. The microclimate of the area fulfills all natural demands of a zoo. There are already Bear, Chital, Chinkara, Sambhar, Neelgai, Wild Boar, Langur, Monkey and small mammals available in the area which is sometimes frequented by Leopard also.
- The area is best suited for a zoo as all the basic requirement of a model zoo is available in the proposed site, i.e. water availability round the year, teak with mixed forest, greenery, availability of land for future extension of the area.
- Proposed area is largely semi-plain in nature.
- The woodland is a mixed deciduous forest, which have, *Teak, Saja, Lendia, Palas, Baheda*, etc. as over wood. It is the mosaic of various habitat types in which woodland part shall be useful for zoo and housing other rescued animals whereas the open grassland will cater to the needs of the herbivore population.
- The area is situated near Sagar town therefore, chances of its financial viability is very high. Sagar is big and very old town, which will further enhance the financial viability of the zoo cum rescue center.
- The proposed site is situated near the Bhopal-Sanchi-Khajuraho highway making the approach easy and smooth.
- This site have some more leisure points nearby which are very popular amongst the local people as it has following prominent features:

- Sagar Lake
 - Boating Area
 - Rahatgarh Fort
 - Nauradeshi Wildlife Sanctuary
- These features attract more than two lac visitors every year. To make it more popular a Sagar zoo is being proposed in the area. Area is already an ecotourism destination route which will provide added attraction in the form of zoo to lakhs of visitors, thereby help in disseminating the message of environment, forest and wild life conservation.
 - Apart from Van Vihar at Bhopal there are no zoo and rescue center in the vicinity of the proposed site. Van Vihar which is 200 km away, is already overburdened as a rescue center therefore, there is an urgent need for an alternative place.


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