

To  
Shri Sudhakar S. Dole  
Member Secretary  
The Zoo Authority of Maharashtra  
B-Wing, 3rd Floor  
Administrative Building no.2  
Commissioner Office Area  
Civil Lines  
Nagpur- 440001

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

Respected Shri Sudhakar S Dole ji,,

**Subject: Appeal against introduction of giraffes and zebras in Katraj Zoo, Pune**

I write to you from the Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations (FIAPO). We are India's apex animal rights group. As the collective voice of the animal rights movement in India, FIAPO enables education, research, mobilisation, networking, training and direct action. Created for the movement, by the movement, FIAPO has 83 members and over 200 supporter organisations, active in 70 cities across the country.

It has been learnt that the Katraj Zoo in Pune is preparing to receive two pairs of giraffes and zebra from their native land of Africa.<sup>1</sup> The main purpose of this seems to education. However, I would like to highlight how with advanced technologies and education methods, there are various alternatives for such education without causing mental and physical pain to the animals. The long travel from Africa to India and the non-natural surroundings here in India means just unnecessary torture for these animals. There exist various methods of in situ conservation which do not require putting the wild animals in captivity.

Moreover, giraffes and Zebras are known to be free ranging and social animals. A zoo that too in a non-native land will be not able to cater to their basic natural instincts and needs thereby depriving them of having a quality life.

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://thehitavada.com/Encyc/2018/5/20/Maharashtra-to-get-Giraffe-and-Zebra-at-Pune-zoo.aspx>

I therefore urge you to reconsider this decision of introducing these giraffes and zebras in an environment which is not naturally suitable for them and to not import or introduce such non-native species in a space which is unnatural for them.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,



Bhavya Pande  
Campaign Coordinator  
Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations (FIAPO)  
Email id: [bhavya@fiapo.org](mailto:bhavya@fiapo.org)

Copy to –  
The Zoo Director  
Rajiv Gandhi Zoological Park and Wildlife Research Centre  
Pune-Satara Road  
Pune - 411046