



PND/PnD/Coord/O/260731/0306

NO. 12(9) PO(COORD)P&D/2026
GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
P&D BOARD
Dated: 31st July, 2026

To,

1. Secretary
Forestry and Wildlife Department
2. All Members, PDWP

Subject: **MINUTES OF THE 2ND PDWP MEETING HELD ON JULY 14, 2026 REGARDING THE SCHEME TITLED "REVAMPING OF BANSARA GALI ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN, MURREE" (GS # 2855 OF ADP 2026-27)**

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of minutes of 02nd PDWP meeting held on 14th July, 2026 under the chairmanship of Chairman P&D Board, for information and further necessary action of the following Item(s):-

Agenda Item No.	ADP No. (2026-27)	Name of the Item	Approved Cost (Rs. in million)
01	<u>2855</u> (on-going)	Revamping of Bansara Gali Zoological Garden, Murree (Revised)	5,142.065

(MUSA RAZA)
ASSISTANT CHIEF
COORD

CC:

A copy is forwarded for information and necessary action to the:-

1. Chief, (Environment and Climate Change)
P&D Board
2. Chief (Technical Appraisal), (Technical)
P&D Board
3. Staff Officer to Secretary, (Planning and Development Board)
P&D Board
4. Staff Officer to Chairman
P&D Board

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	GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD (FOREST, WILDLIFE & FISHERIES SECTION)
MINUTES OF THE 2ND PDWP MEETING	
Agenda No. 1	Revamping of Bansara Gali Zoological Garden, Murree (Revised) (GS # 2855 of ADP 2026-27)
Date & Time:	14.07.2026 at 10:30 A.M.
Venue:	AKS Auditorium of P&DB
Participants:	List attached

INTRODUCTION

The Chief (Environment & Climate Change), P&DB, apprised the forum that the project titled "Revamping of Bansara Gali Zoological Garden, Murree " was initially approved by PDWP in its meeting held on 04.02.2025, at a cost of Rs. 3,915.598 million, with a gestation period of 24 months (up to June 2026). She further explained that the Forestry & Wildlife Department has now submitted a revised PC-I for the subject scheme, at a cost of Rs. 5,287.199 million, with an extended gestation period of one year (up to June 2027). The revised PC-I was discussed in the pre-PDWP meeting held on May 13, 2026, wherein the cost of the scheme was rationalized to Rs. 5,142.065 million. She further elaborated on the rationale for revision and informed that the AD has proposed the following changes:

- i. Enhancement of civil works, visitor facilities, and IT-enabled systems.
- ii. Rationalization of the entrance gate, parking, EV tracks, utility infrastructure, boundary fencing, and ancillary works.
- iii. Revision of HR positions through addition and deletion of selected posts.
- iv. Addition of a Recruitment Committee for PPS-09/BPS-19 and above posts.
- v. Increase in the cost of signage, furniture, and office equipment to reflect the enhanced scope and revised rates.
- vi. Deletion of non-feasible, duplicate, and non-essential project components.

DISCUSSION

2. Upon inquiry by the forum about the increased cost of the project, the Secretary, Forestry & Wildlife Department (F&WD) explained that the major increase in the revised cost estimates pertains to the civil works component (from Rs. 3,246.088 million to Rs. 4,558.402 million). The increase in the cost estimates of civil works is primarily attributable to the transition from a preliminary conceptual design to a detailed architectural and engineering design, based on the findings of the geotechnical investigation carried out subsequent to approval of the original PC-I. He elaborated that the original cost estimates were prepared on the basis of generic design parameters, whereas the revised PC-I incorporates actual ground conditions, subsurface strata and site-specific topographical features of the Murree region. Consequently, the scope and cost of various civil works components have been revised, resulting in both upward and downward adjustments in different items.

Minutes of 2nd PDWP held on 14.07.2026

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CHIEF (ENV.&CC)
P&DB BOARD

3. The forum sought clarification regarding the increase in the cost of Development of New Animal Enclosures from Rs. 167.750 million to Rs. 702.853 million (an increase of Rs. 535.103 million) and Rehabilitation of Existing Animal Enclosures from Rs. 50.000 million to Rs. 96.446 million (an increase of Rs. 46.446 million). The Secretary, F&WD explained that the number of new enclosures has increased from 06 to 09, while rehabilitation has been expanded from 03 to 05 enclosures. In addition, the scope now includes development of a 5-kanal bird aviary. The cost increase is due to the expanded scope, terrain-responsive designs, enhanced structural and habitat requirements, improved visitor circulation, and compliance with modern zoo planning and wildlife safety standards.

4. The forum also sought clarification regarding the increase in the cost of the Elevated Track/Steel Bridge from Rs. 900.000 million to Rs. 1,253.689 million (an increase of Rs. 353.689 million). The Secretary, F&WD explained that the originally approved 850-meter elevated track (6 ft wide) has been redesigned as a 710-meter elevated steel bridge with an average width of 10 ft. The revised design includes a 36 mm tempered glass tunnel, 2-inch teak wood anti-skid flooring, weather-resistant decking, side protection barriers, overhead protective enclosure, and enhanced safety features. He further informed the forum that the 36 mm tempered glass would be imported from Singapore for the construction of the glass tunnel to facilitate animal viewing from the elevated bridge.

5. The forum observed that the proposed elevated bridge comprises wooden flooring which, in view of the heavy rainfall and snowfall in the Murree region, may become slippery and pose safety concerns, particularly for elderly visitors. The forum, therefore, suggested that the Department explore the possibility of providing anti-slip mats or similar safety treatment over appropriate portions of the elevated bridge to facilitate the safe movement of visitors. In response, the Secretary, F&WD, assured the forum that the Department would incorporate appropriate safety measures into the design.

6. The forum inquired about the proposed location of the eco-lodges within the Zoological Garden. The Secretary, F&WD informed the forum that the eco-lodges have been planned in a dedicated zone, safely separated from the wild animal enclosures. He further stated that a dedicated EV track has been provided to ensure safe and convenient visitors' access.

7. A member of the forum sought clarification regarding the deletion of the proposed Veterinary Hospital and the arrangements for emergency treatment of animals. In response, the Secretary, F&WD, informed the forum that the nearest veterinary facility is located at Rawalpindi. He further stated that the Department also has mobile veterinary hospital facilities, while the vehicles proposed under the scheme are equipped for animal transportation and emergency response. He further explained that establishing a veterinary hospital at Murree would cost nearly ten times more than a similar facility at Rawalpindi. Therefore, considering the availability of alternative arrangements and the substantially higher cost, the Department decided to omit the Veterinary Hospital from the revised PC-I.

8. The forum emphasized that the proposed signages within the Zoological Garden should be bilingual to facilitate visitors and promote a more inclusive visitor experience. The Secretary, F&WD agreed to install bilingual signages throughout the project site.

9. The forum observed that the proposed Recruitment Committee includes representation from the P&DB. As recruitment of project staff is part of scheme implementation and falls within the domain of the Executing Agency, the forum directed that the P&DB's representation on the Recruitment Committee be excluded.

10. The forum emphasized the provision of accessibility features for differently abled people and directed the F&WD that ramps and other necessary accessibility measures be incorporated at all relevant locations to ensure convenient access for visitors with disabilities.

11. The forum deliberated on the long-term operational and financial sustainability of the project and inquired about the proposed business model. The Secretary, F&WD informed the forum that a comprehensive business model is being developed through consultant and will be shared with the relevant stakeholders upon its finalization.

12. After detailed deliberations the cost of the project was approved at Rs. 5,142.065 million with the following break-up:

Rs. In Million

Sr. #	Description	Revised Approved Cost Approved by PDWP
1	Conservancy & Works	4,558.402
2	Machinery & Equipment	121.214
3	Transport	40.748
4	Cost of Establishment	27.000
5	Commodities & Services	394.700
Total:		5,142.065

DECISIONS

13. After detailed deliberations, the forum unanimously approved the revised scheme at a cost of Rs. 5,142.065 million, with an extension of the gestation period by one year up to June 2027, subject to fulfillment of all codal, legal, and procedural formalities by the Sponsoring Department and Executing Agencies and the following decisions were made:

- i. The AD shall ensure the provision of adequate accessibility features, including ramps and other requisite facilities, for differently abled people at all relevant locations under the project.
- i. The AD shall install bilingual signages throughout the Zoological Garden.
- ii. The AD shall obtain the approval of the Finance Department for adoption of new Non-Scheduled (NS) items included in the revised cost estimates but not covered under the previous Technical Sanction (TS).
- iii. The representation of the P&DB shall be deleted from the composition of the Recruitment Committee for the hiring of project staff.
- iv. The AD shall develop and finalize a comprehensive business model for operation and management of the proposed facilities through the consultant and share the same with all relevant stakeholders.
- v. The AD shall submit the revised PC-I after incorporating the decisions of the PDWP and upload it on the SMDP Portal.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME OF THE OFFICER		DESIGNATION / DEPARTMENT
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD		
1.	Mr. Rafaqat Ali	Secretary (In Chair)
2.	Dr. Farrukh Naveed	Chief Economist / Member (Education)
3.	Mr. M. Ali Ammer	Member (Social Development)
4.	Mr. Shafaat Ali	Member (Health)
5.	Mr. Aslam Javed	Member (Agriculture)
6.	Ms. Nadia Shafique	Member (Environment & Climate Change)
7.	Ms. Shafaq Saleem	Member (Governance)
8.	Mr. Sohail Rauf	Sr. Chief (Coordination & Monitoring)
9.	Dr. Sataish Sheryar	Chief (Env.&CC.)
10.	Mr. Shahid Imran	Chief (Technical)
11.	Ms. Rabbia Ali	Assistant Chief (FWF)
12.	Mr. Musa Raza	Assistant Chief (Coord-II)
13.	Mr. Irfan Hassan	Planning Officer (Forestry & Wildlife)
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT BOARD (SOUTH PUNJAB)		
14.	Mr. Ghulam Fareed	Chief
15.	Mr. Jam Awais Mustafa	Assistant Chief
16.	Mr. Muhammad Rizwan	Planning Officer
URBAN UNIT		
17.	Mr. Abid Hussainy	GM Environment
DGM&E		
18.	Mr. Ghazanfer Mubin	Director
PERI		
19.	Dr. Muhammad Awais	Chief of Research
FINANCE DEPARTMENT		
20.	Mr. Naveed Ahmed	AS Development
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT		
21.	Mr. Ammar Khalid Sial	GRO
FORESTRY & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT		
22.	Capt. (Retd.) Tahir Zafar Abbasi	Secretary
23.	Capt. (R) Muhammad Waseem	DG Wildlife
24.	Ms. Saba Adil	PD, PMU
25.	Ms. Maqadas Iqbal	Senior Manager Architecture, PMU
26.	Dr. Rida Ahmed	Senior Manager Eco Tourism & Wildlife
27.	M. Arif Khan	Quantity Surveyor, PMU Wildlife & Parks Department
28.	Mr. Zuraiz Haider	SM (Projects), PMU Punjab
29.	Mr. Fazal Hussain	Senior Project Engineer, Engineering Consultancy Services Punjab