

Q. Discuss the challenges in balancing wildlife conservation, legal compliance, and public accountability in private zoological and rehabilitation initiatives.

Ans

private zoos and wildlife rehabilitation centres complement state conservation, but balancing biodiversity protection, legal compliance, and accountability is challenging.

Challenges :-

- 1) Conservation gaps - limited scientific expertise leads to poor animal care, weak breeding programmes and ineffective release.
- 2) Legal compliance - Despite the wildlife protection Act, 1972 and central zoo Authority (CZA) guidelines, many centres operate without proper licences or monitoring.
- 3) public accountability - commercial motives often overshadow welfare, transparency in funding, acquisitions, and animal treatment becomes weak.
- 4) Resource constraints - veterinary staff,

trained keeper, and long term financing are inadequate.

5) Tourism - conservation conflict - Focus on visitor appeal risks commodifying wildlife.

way forward -

- 1) strengthen CZA monitoring with periodic audits.
- 2) Build capacity through scientific training partnerships with NGOs/ academia.
- 3) Encourage eco-tourism models aligning revenue with welfare.
- 4) Encourage transparency and community participation for credibility.

A balanced, transparent and scientific driven approach can ensure sustainable wildlife conservation with accountability.