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## Reconstitution of Central Zoo Authority

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### Why in News

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Recently, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has reconstituted the **Central Zoo Authority (CZA)** to include an expert from the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi, and a molecular biologist.

### Key Points

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- The CZA is a **statutory body** under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. It was constituted in 1992 under the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- **Members:** It is **chaired by the Environment Minister** and has 10 members and a member-secretary.
- **Objective:** The main objective of the authority is **to complement and strengthen the national effort in conservation of rich biodiversity**.
- **Functioning:** The authority provides **recognition to zoos** and is also tasked with **regulating the zoos** across the country.
  - It **lays down guidelines** and prescribes rules under which animals may be transferred among zoos nationally and internationally.
  - It **coordinates and implements programmes** on capacity building of zoo personnel, planned breeding programmes and ex-situ research.

**Source: TH**