



**VANTARA**  
Every Life Matters



# PROGRAMME FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT & EXCELLENCE IN BIG CAT HEALTH

## PRIME-CAT

**16-20**

MARCH, 2026

VANTARA, JAMNAGAR,  
GUJARAT

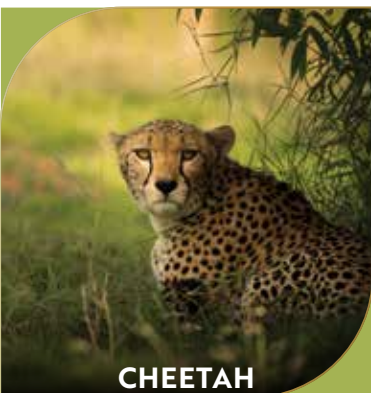


A joint capacity-building programme  
by the International Big Cat Alliance  
(IBCA) and VANTARA for international  
veterinary professionals on the health  
management of big cats

## OBJECTIVES OF PRIME-CAT

1. Strengthen the professional capacity of wildlife veterinary officials in big cat health management
2. Standardise best practices for disease surveillance, diagnostics, and treatment across big cat range countries
3. Enhance preparedness for emergencies, rescues, and disease outbreaks involving big cats
4. Promote One Health and transboundary cooperation in wildlife disease management
5. Establish a sustained network of trained wildlife veterinarians under the IBCA framework

## SPECIES IN FOCUS



CHEETAH



LEOPARD



SNOW LEOPARD



JAGUAR



PUMA



TIGER



LION

## TARGET AUDIENCE

1. Wildlife veterinary officers from big cat range countries
2. Veterinarians working in protected areas, zoos, rescue centres, and conservation programmes
3. Officials involved in wildlife disease surveillance and emergency response



## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. A cadre of trained wildlife veterinary professionals with specialised skills in big cat health management
2. Improved early detection and response to diseases and health emergencies in big cats
3. Enhanced survival and rehabilitation outcomes for rescued and conflict-affected big cats
4. Harmonised health protocols across big cat range countries
5. Strengthened international cooperation and information sharing under IBCA

## FACULTY MEMBERS

- |                       |                         |                          |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Dr Jorge Soares    | 11. Dr PA Kalaigan      | 21. Dr Utkarsh Rajhans   |
| 2. Dr Boon Allwin     | 12. Dr Ajay Deshmukh    | 22. Dr Aniket Mhase      |
| 3. Dr Thirumurugan R  | 13. Dr Ankush Dubey     | 23. Dr Pallavi Shah      |
| 4. Dr Adrian Tordiffe | 14. Dr Jayvin Kelaiya   | 24. Dr Tushar Ahire      |
| 5. Dr Sujay S         | 15. Dr Ratan Gupta      | 25. Dr Seshuram Posina   |
| 6. Dr Sachin Patil    | 16. Dr Anand Dadke      | 26. Dr Reshmi Raveendran |
| 7. Dr S. Bharathy     | 17. Dr Nitin Tambe      | 27. Dr Sagar P Prajapati |
| 8. Dr Neha Pant       | 18. Dr Shubham Patil    | 28. Dr Riyazahmed        |
| 9. Dr Navnath Nighot  | 19. Dr Ruchika Sangle   | Kadivar                  |
| 10. Dr Gaurav KS      | 20. Dr Nikorn Thongthip |                          |

## PROGRAMME COORDINATORS

1. Dr Charu Churamani
2. Dr Manilal Valliyate
3. Dr Kausik Banerjee
4. Dr Tamali Mondal

Day 1 | March 16, 2026

ORIENTATION & BIG CAT HEALTH IN CONSERVATION CONTEXT

Time	Agenda	Format	Resource Persons	Venue
09:00 - 09:30	Inaugural Session and programme overview	Lighting of Lamp and Opening Remarks	Representatives from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MoEF &amp; CC</li><li>CZA</li><li>Forest Department of Gujarat</li><li>IBCA</li><li>GZRRC</li></ul>	R&R Classroom
09:30 - 10:15	About IBCA and Introductions to the course	Presentation & Interactive Session	IBCA	R&R Classroom
10:15 - 11:00	Global status of big cats and key health challenges	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Jorge Soares	R&R Classroom
11:00 - 11:30	Tea/ Coffee Break			
11:30 - 12:30	Role of veterinary science in big cat conservation	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Boon Allwin	R&R Classroom
12:30 - 13:30	Introduction to One Health and transboundary disease risks	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Thirumurugan	R&R Classroom
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break			
14:30 - 18:30	Orientation of big cat facilities across Vantara	Field tour - Participants will be divided into two groups of 20 and engaged separately	<div>Dr Navnath Nighot</div> <div>Dr Gaurav KS</div> <div>Dr Sujay S</div> <div>Dr Riyazahmed Kadivar</div> <div>Dr Jayvin Kelaiya</div> <div>Dr Ratan Gupta</div> <div>Dr Anand Dadke</div> <div>Dr PA Kalaigan</div> <div>Dr Ajay Deshmukh</div> <div>Dr Ankush Dubey</div> <div>Dr Adrian Tordiffe</div>	<div>Big Cat Rescue &amp; Rehabilitation Centre</div> <div>Asiatic Lion Conservation Breeding Centre</div> <div>Leopard Rescue Centre</div> <div>Cheetah Conservation Breeding Centre</div>

Day 2 | March 17, 2026

PREVENTIVE HEALTHCARE,  
NUTRITION & DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

Time	Agenda	Format	Resource Persons	Venue
09:00 - 10:00	Preventive healthcare protocols for wild and captive big cats	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Sujay S	R&R Classroom
10:00 - 11:00	Nutrition, stress physiology and behavioural enrichment	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Adrian Tordiffe	R&R Classroom
11:00 - 11:30	Tea/ Coffee Break			
11:30 - 12:30	Disease surveillance systems, reporting mechanisms and case studies	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Jorge Soares	R&R Classroom
12:30 - 13:30	Early warning systems and cross-border information sharing	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Adrian Tordiffe	R&R Classroom
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break			
14:30 - 18:30	Tour of the Multi-Speciality Wildlife Hospital & live case examinations, diagnostics, treatment, and surgeries	Participants will be divided into two groups of 20 and engaged separately for a tour, demonstrations and briefings	Dr Sachin Patil Dr Jorge Soares Dr Boon Allwin Dr Utkarsh Rajhans Dr PA Kalaignan Dr Navnath Nighot Dr Nitin Tambe Dr Gaurav KS	Multi-speciality Wildlife Hospital

Day 3 | March 18, 2026

DIAGNOSTICS, INFECTIOUS DISEASES & ONE HEALTH

Time	Agenda	Format	Resource Persons	Venue
09:00 - 10:00	Clinical examination and immobilisation protocols	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Adrian Tordiffe	R&R Classroom
10:00 - 11:00	Sample collection, storage and transport	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr S. Bharathy	R&R Classroom
11:00 - 11:30	Tea/ Coffee Break			
11:30 - 12:30	Diagnostic tools in clinical pathology and parasitology	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Neha Pant Dr Reshmi Raveendran	R&R Classroom
12:30 - 13:30	Major infectious diseases, zoonoses and biosecurity measures	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Gaurav KS	R&R Classroom
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break			
14:30 - 18:30	<p><b>Group 1:</b> Laboratory Techniques (Basic to Advanced)</p> <p><b>Group 2:</b> Live case examinations, diagnostics (including imaging), treatment, and surgeries</p>	Participants will be divided into two groups of 20 and engaged separately through demonstrations and briefings	<p>Dr S Bharathy Dr Neha Pant Dr Aniket Mhase Dr Pallavi Shah Dr Tushar Ahire Dr Seshuram Posina Dr Reshmi Raveendran Dr Sagar P Prajapati</p> <p>Dr Sachin Patil Dr Jorge Soares Dr Boon Allwin Dr Utkarsh Rajhans Dr PA Kalaignan Dr Navnath Nighot Dr Nitin Tambe Dr Gaurav KS</p>	Two groups of 20 participants will visit the Central Laboratory and the Multi-speciality Wildlife Hospital from 14:30 PM to 16:30 PM, then rotate between venues from 16:30 PM to 18:30 PM

Day 4 | March 19, 2026

EMERGENCY CARE, RESCUE,  
REHABILITATION & GENETICS

Time	Agenda	Format	Resource Persons	Venue
09:00 - 10:00	Trauma management and emergency care for injured big cats	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Sachin Patil Dr Nitin Tambe	R&R Classroom
10:00 - 11:00	Handling conflict-related cases and rescue operations	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Ajay Deshmukh	R&R Classroom
11:00 - 11:30	Tea/ Coffee Break			
11:30 - 12:30	Rehabilitation protocols and release strategies	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Subham Patil Dr PA Kalaiganan	R&R Classroom
12:30 - 13:30	Reproductive health, genetics and inbreeding management	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Ruchika Sangle Dr Nikorn Thongthip	R&R Classroom
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break			
14:30 - 15:30	Climate change and emerging disease threats	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr PA Kalaiganan	R&R Classroom
15:30 - 18:30	Live case examinations, diagnostics, treatment, and other procedures	Participants will be divided into two groups of 20 for separate demonstrations and briefings	Dr PA Kalaiganan Dr Ajay Deshmukh Dr Ruchika Sangle Dr Nikorn Thongthip	Leopard Rescue Centre Hospital

**Day 5** | March 20, 2026**INTEGRATION, ACTION PLANNING  
& WAY FORWARD**

Time	Agenda	Format	Resource Persons	Venue
09:00 - 11:00	Developing national and regional action plans for big cat health	Presentation & Interactive Session  Group Exercise & Presentation	Dr Adrian Tordiffe	R&R Classroom
11:00 - 11:30	Tea/ Coffee Break			
11:30 - 13:30	Case studies using real-world scenarios with guided problem-solving. Participant presentations and peer learning	Group exercises/ Fishbowl sessions	Dr Boon Allwin	R&R Classroom
13:30 - 14:30	Lunch Break			
14:30 - 15:30	Course evaluation	Formal Course Evaluation and Feedback Session	IBCA & GZRRC	Elephant auditorium
15:30 - 17:30	Valedictory session and certificate distribution by Chief Guest	Presentation	IBCA & GZRRC	Elephant auditorium



**VANTARA.**  
Every Life Matters



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