



**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



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

## 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: • MoEF &CC • CZA • Forest Department of Gujarat • IBCA • GZRRC	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	Dr Navnath Nighot Dr Gaurav KS Dr Sujay S  Dr Riyazahmed Kadivar Dr Jayvin Kelaiya Dr Ratan Gupta Dr Anand Dadke  Dr PA Kalaignan Dr Ajay Deshmukh Dr Ankush Dubey  Dr Adrian Tordiffe	Big Cat Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre  Asiatic Lion Conservation Breeding Centre  Leopard Rescue Centre  Cheetah Conservation Breeding Centre

**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 Reshma 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	<b>Group 1:</b> Laboratory Techniques (Basic to Advanced)  <b>Group 2:</b> Live case examinations, diagnostics (including imaging), treatment, and surgeries	Participants will be divided into two groups of 20 and engaged separately through demonstrations and briefings	Dr S Bharathy Dr Neha Pant Dr Aniket Mhase Dr Pallavi Shah Dr Tushar Ahire Dr Seshuram Posina Dr Reshma Raveendran Dr Sagar P Prajapati  Dr Sachin Patil Dr Jorge Soares Dr Boon Allwin Dr Utkarsh Rajhans Dr PA Kalaignan Dr Navnath Nighot Dr Nitin Tambe Dr Gaurav KS	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	<b>Tea/ Coffee Break</b>			
11:30 - 12:30	Rehabilitation protocols and release strategies	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr Subham Patil Dr PA Kalaignan	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	<b>Lunch Break</b>			
14:30 - 15:30	Climate change and emerging disease threats	Presentation & Interactive Session	Dr PA Kalaignan	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 Kalaignan 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



INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE  
H. No. 1/13, 1st Floor,  
Shanti Niketan,  
New Delhi-110021,  
India

VANTARA,  
Village: Motikhavdi,  
PO: Digvijay Gram  
District: Jamnagar 361140, Gujarat  
contact@vantara.in

GREENS ZOOLOGICAL RESCUE &  
REHABILITATION CENTRE  
Office: SSO, Annexe-5, At & Post – R Greens,  
Village: Moti Khavdi  
District: Jamnagar 361142, Gujarat  
gzrrc@outlook.com