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Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change/ पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
(Project Elephant Division/हाथी परियोजना विभाग)

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Dated 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

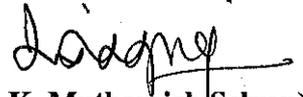
**OFFICE Memorandum**

**Subject: Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> Project Elephant Steering Committee Meeting held on 29.04.2022 at 9:30 AM at FRI Board Room, Dehradun-reg.**

The undersigned is enclosing herewith the approved Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> Project Elephant Steering Committee Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 at 9:30 AM at FRI Board Room, Dehradun under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, EFCC.

2. This issue with the approval of Hon'ble Minister, EFCC and Chairman, Steering Committee of Project Elephant.

**Encls: As above**



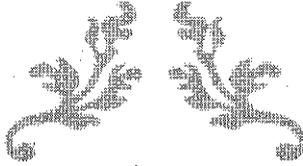
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**Distribution:**

1. All members of the Steering Committee of Project Elephant.
2. All Chief Wildlife Wardens, PE States.
3. All the Permanent Invitees.
4. Inspector General of Forests, (Wildlife), MoEF&CC.

**Copy to:**

- PS to Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC.
- PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC.



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**Proceedings of the 16th Steering Committee**

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**Meeting of Project Elephant**

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**Proceedings of the 16<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of Project Elephant, held at 10:30hrs on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 at FRI Board Room, Dehradun**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee of Project Elephant was held at 10:30 hrs on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 at FRI Board Room, Dehradun under the Chairmanship of Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Chairman of Steering Committee.

**List of participants is annexed.**

Steering Committee members from the States of Odisha and Karnataka were also attended through video conferencing.

The Hon'ble Minister, Environment, Forest & Climate Change welcomed all the participants to the meeting. He then requested the Member Convener of Steering Committee Shri. Ramesh Pandey, IGF & Director, PE to take up the agenda items of the meeting for deliberations by the members of the Committee.

**Confirmation of the minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee:**

The minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2018 were confirmed.

**Agenda Item No. 1: Activities and progress of PE Division in 2021-22**

The Member Convener welcomed all the participants and presented on the importance of elephants in Indian culture; status of its protection under the laws and legislation of the country; status of elephants' distribution, population both in wild and captivity; aims and objectives of Project Elephant Division; importance of elephant Reserves and Corridors and the current status of Human – Elephant Conflict (HEC). Member Convener also elaborated the actions being undertaken by the Project Elephant Division and possible outcomes, which are listed below.

**1.1 Digitization of boundary of Elephant Reserves:**

The Committee was informed that the shape file of 30 Elephant Reserves have been received and the digitization of boundary of the Elephant Reserves is in progress. The shape file from Uttarakhand is yet to be received. The task is expected to be completed by July, 2022.

**1.2 Preparation of Land Use Land Cover (LULC) map of Elephant Reserves:**

The Chair was informed that a preliminary report on the Land Use Land Cover (LULC) of Elephant Reserves has been prepared highlighting changes in forest cover, water availability and linear infrastructures developed in the past 25 years. The Committee was also informed that preliminary LULC reports of Elephant Reserves of Assam and Odisha has been shared with the respective State Forest Departments for validation and taking necessary

action. Project Elephant at present is working on LULC reports of the Elephant Reserves for the remaining States/UTs and the report is expected to be completed by July, 2022.

### **1.3 Convergence of elephant and tiger population estimation:**

IGF & Director (PE) informed that all India estimation of wild elephant population started in 1993 and is carried out after every 5 years. In the last elephant population estimation conducted in 2017, 29,964 elephants were enumerated.

The Chair was informed that the tiger population estimation is steered by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) along with Tiger Cell of WII which has emerged as one of the most systematic monitoring programs across the world. There is a high overlap between tiger and elephant habitats in the country with both the species primarily occurring in diversity of tropical forests. Considering this, this Ministry has come up with an action plan of carrying out tiger and elephant population estimation in a synchronized manner. The team combining of the Project Elephant Division, NTCA and WII are working together for elephant and tiger population estimation as a joint exercise for the first-time ever to avoid duplication of work, save on the resources and help in improving the methods to estimate elephant population. The Committee was also informed that a protocol of the scientific approach devised has also been released by the Chair during the World Elephant Day in August, 2021. The Member Convenor informed the Chair that an amount of 3 crores is required which has approved under National CAMPA fund, which needs to be released to WII for taking the work forward.

### **1.4 DNA profiling of captive elephants in India:**

To prevent the inclusion of wild caught elephants in to captive stock, PE Division through Elephant Cell has embarked on creating a Pan-India genetic database of captive elephants. The Committee was informed that the project was initiated in five pilot States/UT (Haryana, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu) and so far blood samples from nearly 100 captive elephants have been collected. A report on the genetic profiling of the first phase of the project will be ready in 2-3 months. The state governments were requested to cooperate and help in getting DNA data base of captive elephants made to avoid illegal possession or transportation of captive elephants.

### **1.5 National Elephant Action Plan:**

As decided in 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee, a Committee has been constituted by the Ministry for the preparation of the National Elephant Action Plan (NEAP). Following the four regional workshops conducted, chapters have been assigned to different members of the Committee for drafting of the NEAP. The preparation of the Action Plan is underway and will be expected to completed at the earliest.

### **1.6 Updation of HEC guideline:**

The Member Convenor informed the Chair that based on the HEC data received from select State Forest Departments, a report on HEC hotspots has been prepared. PE Division in collaboration with WWF-India has also prepared a field guide for the mitigation of human – elephant conflict at ground level by the front line staff.

It was also informed that the guideline HEC was issued by this Ministry in 2017. Considering the need for the holistic management of HEC a guideline is being prepared by this Ministry in association with GIZ which is being planned to be released during the World Elephant Day, 2022.

#### **1.7 Identification and ground-truthing of elephant corridors:**

The Committee was informed that the ground-truthing of elephant corridors was done in 2005 and 88 elephant corridors were identified. This is also reported in the Gajah Task Force Report in 2010. The "Right of Passage" document prepared by WTI elucidates 101 elephant corridors.

The Chair was informed that Ministry has now constituted a Committee for ground-truthing of elephant corridors involving the State Forest Departments. With the support received from the State Forest Depts., the ground-truthing of elephant corridors has been started in the state of Odisha and completed in the state of Assam and Uttar Pradesh. The work is being carried out in other States/UTs.

#### **1.8 Interface with State Forest Departments:**

IGF & Director (PE) informed that Project Elephant Division is working proactively with the State Forest Departments on various issues of elephant conservation. Project Elephant Division has conducted an online workshop with Assam FD on "Holistic management of HEC"; shared concept note on HEC management with Odisha FD and held meetings with Uttar Pradesh FD for creation of Terai Elephant Reserve.

IGF & Director (PE) also informed that WII in collaboration with North Frontier Railways has embarked on a project for the creation of 4.5km of over bridge to provide safe passage to wild animals in Bogi Beel, Assam. Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist E informed that WII has advised Railways to construct 4.5km overbridge instead of the earlier 7km proposed length approximately at a cost of Rs. 750 crores. Railways has agreed to fund for the overbridge which will act as an animal passage plan for wild animals in the Protected area. However, ADG (WL) has informed that the Ministry has received a proposal from Ministry of Railways for funding support of Rs. 750 crores for creation this overbridge.

CWLW, Assam also informed that electrification of railway tracks in areas of wild animal movement in Assam is being discussed with Railways and decision on the matter is pending.

#### **1.9 Pilot testing of intelligent elephant movement detection and alert system:**

The Committee was informed that PE Division has funded Uttarakhand FD for a pilot project on "Intelligent elephant movement detection and alert system" to detect movement of elephants approaching railway tracks. The project is being implemented by WII, CSIR-CSIO, WWF-India and the pilot testing is being done in Rajaji Tiger Reserve. A demonstration workshop was also conducted by WII in November, 2022 at Rajaji TR.

After deliberation on the matter, Hon'ble Minister advised the State Forest Departments to send matters pertaining to animal passage plans to Dr. Bilal Habib in WII and Hon'ble Minister shall take up the matter with Ministry of Science and Ministry of Railways on a convenient date in May, 2022.

### **1.10 Progress in the area of multilateral environmental agreement obligations (MIKE and ETIS):**

The Member Convener informed the Committee India being a Party to multilateral conventions such as CITES has submitted the data of all 10 MIKE (Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants) sites to CITES secretariat and for the first time after 2007 submitted the ETIS (Elephant Trade Information System) data to TRAFFIC.

### **Agenda 2: Conducting all India elephant estimation 2022 along with all India tiger estimation**

The Committee was informed that following the recommendations of the Project Elephant Steering Committee, a combined approach of "sample block count" and dung density estimation were used for population estimation of elephants since 2002. In 2017, a synchronized population estimation was conducted along with the elephant range states.

IGF & Director (PE) informed that for the first time a synergized all India elephant population estimation was being conducted with tiger population estimation. While dung decay method and direct elephant count methods were earlier adopted for elephant population estimation, this is the first time that the elephant population estimation shall be conducted on scientific lines involving sign survey method, DNA-based capture-recapture technique and photographic evidence.

Dr. Y. V. Jhala informed that WII is conducting synergized population estimation of elephants and tigers in the states where both the species are extant. However, in non-tiger states such as Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, parts of Assam funding support to WII is required to conduct population estimation of elephants.

After deliberation, the Chair advised WII to carry out the synergized elephant and tiger population estimation and Ministry shall take necessary steps for funding requested by WII for the purpose.

### **Agenda 3: Elephant death due to electrocution and train hits**

The Steering Committee was informed that electrocution of elephants due to HEC is a major concern and the State Forest Departments were requested to provide the details of such incidences to the Ministry.

- CWLW, Assam informed that sagging electric lines and railways is a major issue in the State and that needed to be addressed urgently.
- Shri K. G. Singpho suggested that HEC is increasing due to encroachment and efforts should be directed to prevent encroachment of forest areas. He suggested increasing forage of elephants and direct efforts for water augmentation in the forests. He requested to provide adequate and prompt compensation to victims affected due to HEC.
- Shri B. S. Bonal suggested that implementation of MEE requires adequate budget and requested Hon'ble MEF to consider increasing the funding of Project Elephant Division.
- Tamil Nadu Forest Department was requested to submit the progress report on the

recommendations suggested by the Committee that visited the railway track between Palakkad and Coimbatore in Southern Railways.

The Chair informed that a meeting is scheduled with Railways on 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2022. He advised all the State Forest Departments to submit the issues related to electrocution and death of elephants due to train hits to Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist E, WII within 10 days which shall be presented to Hon'ble Minister, EF & CC. The issues shall then be taken with concerned Ministries at highest level to prevent the death of elephants due to train hit and electrocution.

#### **Agenda 4: Declaration/Notification of Elephant Reserves**

Member Convener of the Steering Committee informed that Chhattisgarh Govt. has established Lemru Elephant Reserve spread over an area of 1995.48 sq. km. covering the forest divisions of Katghora, Sarguja, Korba and Dharamjaigarh, which need concurrence of the Steering Committee. The committee ratified the proposal.

In addition to this, committee was informed that Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh Govt. are also in the process of establishing Agasthamalai ER (1197.48 sq.km.) and Terai Elephant Reserve (3049.39 sq.km.) respectively. Moreover, Odisha Govt. has also sent a proposal to the State Govt. for expansion of two of its existing Elephant Reserves namely Mahanadi and Sambalpur.

#### **Agenda 5: Proposal for Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of Elephant Reserves in India**

The Committee was informed that Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) is the assessment of how well Protected Areas are being managed and their effectiveness in conserving target flora and fauna. Assessment of management effectiveness has emerged as a key tool for PA managers and is increasingly being required by governments and international bodies. IGF & Director (PE) informed that India is among the select countries in the world that have institutionalized the MEE process and has taken a lead in evaluating its National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves from 2006 onwards. He requested Hon'ble MEF that keeping the success of this process in improving the management of Protected Areas and tiger reserves, Elephant Reserves also need to be evaluated with the customized MEE framework. This will benefit in increasing the interface with States, evaluate the progress of ERs in conserving the species as well aid in having an objective and focused approach towards elephant conservation.

The suggestion was agreed by the Steering Committee.

#### **Agenda 6: Healthcare and welfare of captive elephants in India**

The Committee was informed that at present 2675 elephants are in captivity and PE Division with Elephant Cell has embarked on the collation of information of captive elephants and conducting DNA profiling of all the captive elephants in the country. WII has developed an app "Gajah Suchana" in which information on elephants, its owner and mahouts are being collated.

IGF & Director (PE) also informed that the Hon'ble MEF has recently reconstituted

the Central Captive Elephant Healthcare Committee and the meeting of the Committee shall soon be conducted. He further said that PE Division is now working on protocol on postmortem on wild and captive elephants; uniform health card system for elephants in captivity and elephant healthcare protocol.

- CWLW, Bihar informed that a provision under the Wildlife Protection Act (1972) was made in 2000 for the owners of captive elephants to get the ownership certificate of the elephants in their possession from the CWLW of the respective states. No ownership certificates were issued by the State FDs after 2007 and as on date many owners do not possess ownership certificates of the elephants in their custody. He requested Ministry to accord permission for issue of ownership certificates and microchipping of captive elephants during the sample collection by Ministry for the Pan-India genetic profiling.
- CWLW, Assam informed that captive elephants in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh are let loose in the forests by the private owners and collection of samples by the team from Ministry will be difficult in these states. He also informed that the Assam FD issues ownership certificates after conducting DNA profiling of the captive elephant. He requested the Chair to make DNA profiling of captive elephants mandatory for all State FDs during issuance of ownership certificates and microchipping.
- Shri B. S. Bonal informed that many a times elephants are transferred or sold from one owner to the other while the ownership certificate remains unchanged. He requested Ministry to take appropriate steps in this matter.
- Shri S. S. Rasaily, APCCF, Uttarakhand suggested developing a SOP for elephant carcass disposal to which the Chair agreed.
- Shri P. C. Tyagi informed that the welfare of captive elephants in temples of Tamil Nadu and Kerala is a major concern. He suggested that the Forest Department should confiscate the captive elephants from such institutions where health and welfare standards are compromised and transfer them to Elephant Rescue Centres.

The Chair advised to change the approach towards betterment of captive elephants. He suggested to adopt participatory approach by involving owners and mahouts for the better management of elephants in captivity. He suggested exploring options such as conducting competitions among temples showcasing best measures adopted for upkeep of captive elephants which shall also enhance the reputation of temples. The chair also advised to devise Gaj Gaurav recognition for elephant conservationists, field staffs, owners and mahouts of the elephants.

#### **Agenda 7: Initiating trans-boundary dialogue**

IGF & Director (PE) informed that trans-boundary movement of elephants occurs between India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Myanmar. A Protocol on Trans-boundary Elephant Conservation between Republic of Bangladesh and Republic of India was signed between two countries in the India- Bangladesh virtual summit on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

He also informed that India participated in the third Asian Elephant Range States

meeting at Kathmandu Nepal on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 and in the Kathmandu Declaration prepared during the Meet, bilateral dialogue between India and Nepal has also been included. Similar dialogues are also being planned to be conducted with Bhutan and Myanmar. He requested members to suggest their view points in this matter.

- Dr. Sandeep Kumar Tiwari informed that in CMS 2020, Govt. of Bhutan had proposed for the creation of Transboundary Peace Park between Assam and Bhutan and the process should be expedited. Similarly, the bilateral meeting with Nepal should also be taken up to resolve the issues of HEC between India and Nepal.
- Dr. Dipankar Ghose informed that a landscape approach should be adopted for conservation of elephants and issues of HEC in North Bengal should also be taken up with Govt. of Nepal.
- CWLW, Assam informed that elephants from Assam move into Bangladesh many a times through rivers and resting areas at strategic points should be created for elephants to rest during transboundary movement.
- Additional Director, WCCB informed that Project Elephant Division should also be involved in the discussions with Border Guarding Forces in MHA regarding to and fro movement of elephants from India to Bangladesh.

#### **Agenda 8: Suggestions on celebration of World Elephant Day 2022**

The Chair was informed that World Elephant Day is an international annual event being celebrated on August 12, dedicated to preservation and protection of elephant. In the 30<sup>th</sup> year of the Project Elephant Division, a document on the work done for elephant conservation with special emphasis to involvement of communities shall be prepared.

- IGF & Director (PE) informed that a poster and postal stamp on elephant conservation may be prepared.
- The field staff and mahouts working at grassroot level may be felicitated and a guideline on HEC management is being finalized in collaboration with GIZ.
- Dr. Dipankar Ghose suggested conducting poster making competition with college students to motivate the youth on elephant conservation.

#### **Agenda 9: Other matters discussed with the permission of Chair**

- **Immunocontraception of elephants:** CWLW, West Bengal informed that the population of elephants in South Bengal has been increasing and the population from mere 50 elephants has now reached 250. This has led to intense human- elephant conflict and the population control of elephants in the region could be contained through immunocontraception. However, this could not be implemented in the State due to a PIL filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. CWLW, West Bengal suggested that this could be ascertained either by reproductive control through amendment in the Wildlife Protection Act for managing wild elephant population through scientific

techniques or by vacating the PIL filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. He requested Ministry to appropriate steps in the matter.

- **Transfer of captive elephants:** APCCF (Mangrove), Maharashtra informed that many mahouts engaged earlier in the State have retired and the present mahouts are not well trained. Considering the problems of handling captive elephants in the state, he requested Ministry to consider the proposal of shifting the captive elephants from Maharashtra to Radhe Krishna Elephant Welfare Trust at Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- **Incentivizing farmers for protection of elephant corridors:** Shri P. C. Tyagi informed that instead of opting for land acquisition for protection of elephant corridors, advisory may be issued by PE Division to keep the land fallow through which elephant corridor passes and farmers be incentivized accordingly.
- **Prevention of train accidents:** Dr. Y. V. Jhala informed that early warning systems be developed through condition aversion for elephants to avert train accidents. Dr. Bilal Habib informed that this may not be an easy option but an integration of several site specific options needs to be considered for prevention of deaths of elephants due to train accidents.
- **HEC in Tamil Nadu:** APCCF (WL), The elephant deaths in recent times in Tamil nadu due to unnatural reasons have been matter of concern. Electrocution, Train hit, Road kill, pesticide poisoning due to feeding on crops recently applied with pesticides are main reasons. It is required to prepare a comprehensive plan for Tamil nadu addressing all issues related to survival and migration of elephants to ensure no more unnatural death incidences in future. The corridor and migration path connectivity is the key action to be immediately addressed by easing the free movement of animals, procuring strategically located private and government lands, taking on lease in some places, providing opportunity cost for foregoing cultivation in some locations are also required. Establishing HEC data management and developing hot spot management plan are to be given priority. E watch of elephants by collaring wild groups and straying groups will help in keeping track of elephants and save them from straying and conflicting. Elephant scape protocol in line with m stripes is required for elephant bearing areas for regular monitoring. All attempts should be facilitated with enough fund to support in high conflict areas like Tamil nadu to ensure no more unnatural elephant death in Tamil nadu.
- **Establishment of Elephant Rescue Centre:** Shri K. G. Singpho requested to create an Elephant Rescue Centre in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Workshop with Railways:** Dr. Neelesh Yadav requested a National Workshop to be conducted with all stakeholders to prevent death of elephants due to train hits.

**Decisions taken by the Chair:**

1. The next steering committee meeting will be organised in Periyar, Kerala in which apart from members of Steering Committee, members of other two Committees i.e. Central Project Elephant Monitoring Committee (CPEMC) and Captive Elephant

Healthcare and Welfare Committee (CEHWC) will also participate and all Committees will deliberate important and relevant issues related to elephant conservation.

2. PCCF (Wildlife)/CWLW of all the states will provide list of proposals and issues which involves passing of railway lines through elephant corridors/habitats, including Deepor Beel matter of Assam to Dr. Bilal Habib, Associate Nodal officer of Elephant Cell at WII by 10.05.22, with a copy to IGF & Director (PE). Further, issues related to sagging of power lines, places of concern related to electrocution, PIL and Court cases which are related to elephants and how they affect the policies and programmes will also be provided by the CWLWs.
3. Ministry will organise a meeting with Railways to discuss all the issues related to railway projects and mitigation efforts needed including taking the technical interventions forward.
4. A SOP for conducting post mortem and disposing of the elephant carcass will be prepared at the earliest.
5. To encourage the new ideas in captive health management, stronger interface with captive elephant owners will be established. Moreover, to recognise the good practices adopted by the captive elephant owners and outstanding works done by field officials and Mahouts in elephant conservation, rewards such as Gaj Gaurav may be thought of.
6. The efforts towards validating elephant corridors should be given impetus and compensatory afforestation in elephant corridors should be incentivised and encouraged to achieve a win-win situation.
7. Bilateral cooperation in elephant conservation should be galvanised and IGF & Director (PE) may be a member of bilateral talks organised by MHA. Moreover, there is need to take bilateral coordination initiative with Nepal and Bhutan further ahead.
8. Synchronised elephant population estimation along with the All India Tiger Estimation is a good initiative, it must be taken care of in the non-tiger areas and financial requirement should not be a constrained in this exercise.
9. Capacity building programmes should be conducted for mahouts and veterinary officers in coordination with State Forest Departments.

#### **Agenda 10: Release of documents by the Hon'ble Chair**

The following three documents were released by the Hon'ble Minister EF & CC:

- Human – elephant conflict in select states of India: A preliminary report
- Field manual for managing human-elephant conflict
- Sixth issue of Trumpet quarterly Newsletter

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

**List of participants:**

1. Shri C. P. Goyal, DGF&SS, MoEF&CC
2. Dr. S. P. Yadav, ADG (FC&PT) & MS, NTCA; Director, WII
3. Shri Bivash Ranjan, ADG (WL)
4. Shri Ramesh K. Pandey, IGF & Director, Project Elephant, MoEF&CC
5. Ms. Tilottama Varma, Additional Director, WCCB
6. Shri M. K. Yadava, PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Assam
7. Shri J. S. Chauhan, PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Madhya Pradesh
8. Shri Debal Ray, PCCF (WL) & CWLW, West Bengal
9. Shri Ganga Singh, PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Kerala
10. Shri Prabhat Kumar Gupta, CWLW, Bihar
11. Shri Vedpal Singh, CWLW, Nagaland
12. Shri Virendra Tiwari, APCCF (Mangrove), Maharashtra
13. Shri P. K. Marak, CCF (Wildlife), Meghalaya
14. Shri P. C. Tyagi, Member, Steering Committee
15. Shri Manoj Ram Phookun, Member, Steering Committee
16. Shri B. S. Bonal, Member, Steering Committee
17. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Tiwari, Member, Steering Committee
18. Dr. Dipankar Ghose, Member, Steering Committee
19. Dr. Bibhuti Prasad Lahkar, Member, Steering Committee
20. Shri K. G. Singpho, Member, Steering Committee
21. Dr. V. Naganathan, APCCF (WL), Tamil Nadu
22. Shri Ranjan Mishra, APCCF (WL), Uttarakhand
23. Shri Lalit K. Verma, CCF, Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh
24. Dr. K. Miachio, CCF, Chhattisgarh
25. Shri Sashi Paul, PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha
26. Shri Vijay Gogi, PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Karnataka
27. Shri Lalit K. Sharma, Scientist, ZSI
28. Dr. Neelesh Yadav, Scientist E, FRI
29. Dr. Y. V. Jhala, Dean, WII

30. Dr. Parag Nigam, Scientist F, WII
31. Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist F, WII
32. Dr. K. M. Selvan, Scientist D, Project Elephant Division, MoEF&CC
33. Dr. Rajendra Kumar, Scientist C, Project Elephant Division, MoEF&CC
34. Dr. Prajna P. Panda, National Coordinator, Elephant Cell, MoEF&CC
35. Shri N. Lakshmi Narayan, Project Scientist, Elephant Cell, WII
36. Shri Udhaya Raj, GIS Specialist, Elephant Cell, WII
37. Shri Rahul Gupta, Office Assistant, WII
38. Shri Kirti Bisht, DEO, Elephant Cell, MoEF&CC
39. Shri Raju Rawat, DEO, Project Elephant Division, MoEF&CC
40. Shri Prathamesh Shirsat, WII
41. Shri Akash Agarwal, WII