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Government of India/ भारत सरकार

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

6th Floor, Vayu Wing,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi-110003

Dated 30th August, 2022

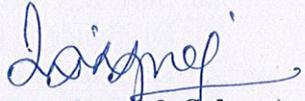
OFFICE Memorandum

Subject: Proceedings of the 17th Project Elephant Steering Committee Meeting held on 12th August, 2022 at Kalari Hall, Peiryar Tiger Reserve, Kerala-reg.

The undersigned is enclosing herewith the approved Proceedings of the 17th Project Elephant Steering Committee Meeting held on 12th August, 2022 at 13:30 Hr. in Kalari Hall, Thekkady, Peiryar Tiger Reserve, Kerala 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


(Dr. K. Muthamizh Selvan)
Scientist 'D' (Project Elephant)
Email id: km.selvan@gov.in
Telephone No. 011-24695067

Distribution:

- As per list enclosed.

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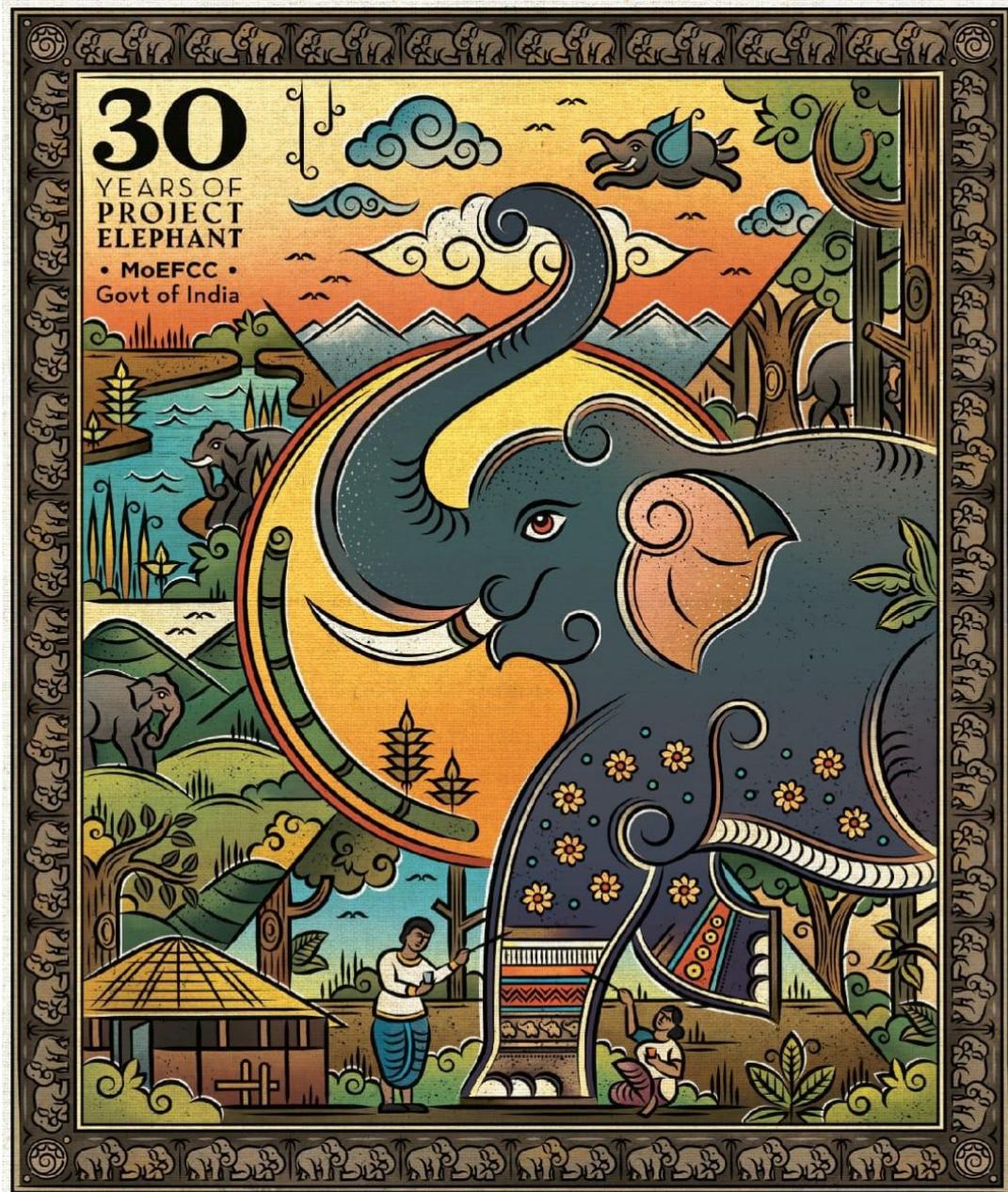
- PS to Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC.
- PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC.
- PS to Secretary, MoEF&CC.
- PS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
- PS to ADG (NTCA), MoEF&CC.
- PS to ADG (Wildlife), MoEF&CC.
- PS to AS&FA, MoEF&CC.
- PS to IGF (Wildlife), MoEF&CC.
- PS to IGF& Director (Project Elephant), MoEF&CC.

List of Participants

1. Shri. Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
2. Shri. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Hon'ble Minister of State, Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
3. Shri. Chandra Prakash Goyal, DGF & SS, MoEF&CC.
4. Dr. Satya Prakash Yadav, ADG (PT), MS (NTCA), MoEF&CC and Director, WII.
5. Shri. Pravir Pandey, AS & FA, MoEF&CC.
6. Shri. Ramesh Kumar Pandey, IGF & Director, Project Elephant, MoEF&CC and Member Convener.
7. Shri. Ganga Singh, PCCF & CWLW, Kerala.
8. Dr. Samir Sinha, PCCF & CWLW, Uttarakhand.
9. Dr. Kesheo Prasad Dubey, PCCF & CWLW, Uttar Pradesh.
10. Shri. Jasbir Singh Chauhan, PCCF & CWLW, Madhya Pradesh.
11. Shri. Pankaj Goel, PCCF & CWLW, Haryana.
12. Shri. Prabhat Kumar Gupta, PCCF & CWLW, Bihar.
13. Shri. Rajesh Kumar, APCCF (Wildlife), West Bengal.
14. Shri. S. Ramasubramanian, CF and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu (representative of CWLW, Tamil Nadu).
15. Dr. Manoj V. Nair, CCF (Wildlife), Odisha (representative of CWLW, Odisha).
16. Shri. Yuvaraj, CF (Wildlife), Maharashtra (representative of CWLW, Maharashtra).
17. Shri. Dibakar Das, AFS, Assam Forest Department (representative of CWLW, Assam).
18. Dr. K.K. Sarma, Senior Veterinarian, Assam and Member, Steering Committee.
19. Shri. Manoj Ram Phookun, Assam and Member, Steering Committee.
20. Shri. B.S. Bonal, IFS (retired), Assam and Member, Steering Committee.
21. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Tiwari, WTI, New Delhi and Member, Steering Committee.
22. Dr. Dipankar Ghose, WWF, New Delhi and Member, Steering Committee.
23. Dr. Bibhuti Prasad Lahkar, Aaranyak, Guwahati and Member, Steering Committee.
24. Dr. Parag Nigam, Scientist F, WII.
25. Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist E, WII.
26. Dr. K. Muthamizh Selvan, Scientist E, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
27. Dr. Prajna Panda, National Coordinator, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
28. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Scientist C, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
29. Shri. Pankaj Kumar Sangwan, Deputy Director, Ministry of Power, New Delhi.
30. Dr. Lalit K. Sharma, Scientist E, ZSI (representing Director, ZSI).
31. Dr. N. Lakshminarayanan, Project Scientist, WII.
32. Shri. Udhaya Raj, GIS Specialist, WII.
33. Shri. Kirti Bisht, DEO, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
34. Shri. Raju Rawat, DEO, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
35. Shri. Vijay, Office Attendant, PE Division, MoEF&CC.

Proceedings of 17th Project Elephant Steering Committee Meeting

Dated 12th August, 2022



**Project Elephant Division
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of India**

Proceedings of the 17th Project Elephant Steering Committee Meeting, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India

**12-08-2022 at 13:30 Hr. in the Kalari Hall
Thekkady, Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala**

The 17th meeting of the Steering Committee of the Project Elephant was held at 13:30 hours on 12th August 2022 in the Kalari hall, Thekkady, Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Government of India **Shri. Bhupender Yadav** in presence of Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Government of India **Shri. Ashwini Kumar Choubey** as Vice Chairman of the Project Elephant Steering Committee.

The list of participants is annexed.

Earlier during the day, the world elephant day was commemorated at Thekkady in Periyar Tiger Reserve in the august presence of the Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri. Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of State, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Idukki, Shri. Dean Kuriakose, Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Peermade, Shri. VazhoorSoman, Shri. C. P Goyal, DGF & SS, officials from the MoEF&CC , Kerala Forest Department and other State Forest Departments.

During the 17th Steering Committee meeting of the Project Elephant, the Chairman of the Steering Committee welcomed all members and participants for the meeting. Following this, the Member Convener of the Steering Committee of the Project Elephant Shri. Ramesh Kumar Pandey, Inspector General of Forests and Director (PE), started discussions on the agenda items including the points deliberated during the 16th Steering Committee meeting held on 29th April 2022.

Agenda-1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 16th meeting of the Steering Committee:

The points pertaining to decisions taken during the 16th meeting of the Steering Committee meeting were deliberated and were as follows:

1. Conducting the 17th Steering Committee meeting at Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala has been materialized. Along with the Steering Committee meeting, the sub-committees of the Central Project Elephant Monitoring Committee (CPEMC) and the Captive Elephant Health and Welfare Committee (CEHWC) also met at Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala on 13/08/2022.
2. The State Forest Departments provided data on railway lines passing through elephant habitats and corridors to the Wildlife Institute of India (WII). Dr. Bilal Habib of WII had already

presented the findings based on the data shared by the State Forest Departments during the inter-ministerial meeting held under the chairmanship of DGF & SS on 1/06/2022 and again on 13/07/2022.

3. The MoEF&CC organized a series of inter-ministerial meetings with the Railways on issues related to railway projects and mitigation measures which included (i) meeting held on 04/05/2022 under the chairmanship of ADG (PT) (ii) meeting held on 01/06/2022 under the chairmanship of DGF & SS, MoEF&CC and (iii) sequel meeting held under the chairmanship of DGF & SS, MoEF&CC on 13/07.2022.
4. The task of preparing the Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for conducting post-mortem and disposing off elephant carcasses is under progress.
5. As proposed during the 16th Project Elephant Steering Committee meeting, the “Gaj Gaurav” award aimed at recognizing good mahouts and stalwarts of elephant handling has been institutionalized. The awardees were felicitated by the Hon’ble Minister, MoEF&CC earlier in the day during the world elephant day celebration.
6. The task of validating elephant corridors in the country has been given impetus. About 52% of the identified 88 corridors listed in the Gajah report have been validated and the task of completing validation of the other corridors is under progress.
7. The efforts towards bilateral cooperation towards elephant conservation and management has been given a thrust. As a follow-up towards transboundary protocol between India and Bangladesh, communication with MEA to initiate dialogue with Bangladesh has been initiated.
8. The financial hurdle identified in conducting synchronized elephant and tiger population estimation has been sorted out with approval for fund transfer to WII being obtained by IFD and CAMPA sanctions. Elephant sample collection has been started by States and would be ramped up after monsoon.
9. The task of conducting capacity building programs to the mahouts and veterinarians would be initiated during the financial year 2022-2023 with a line of tentative programs being planned by the Elephant Cell.
10. The decision to initiate assessment of management effectiveness of the elephant reserves in the lines of MEE of the protected areas is currently under deliberation. The first meeting in this regard was held on 29/06/2022 under the chairmanship of ADG (NTCA).
11. As proposed during the 16th Steering Committee meetings, series of publications including the (i) Elephant Reserves of India: an atlas (ii) Elephant reserves of India: Land-use land-classification (iii) Caring for elephants (iv) Special edition of the Project Elephant in-house magazine *Trumpet* and (v) Poster commemorating 30 years of Project Elephant were released by the Hon’ble Minister, MoEF&CC during the world elephant day commemorations.

Agenda-2: Management of Human–Elephant Conflict

Under this, the inter-ministerial meetings with the Railway ministry was held on 01/06/2022 and 13/07/2022 were elaborated. Dr. Bilal Habib of WII provided an update on the technology-driven efforts to detect elephants along the Railway tracks with an aim of reducing rail-induced elephant deaths. The IGF & Director-PE elaborated on the recent initiatives to mitigate Human–Elephant Conflict taken by the PE Division. This includes the creation of the all-India atlas of the Elephant Reserves for the first-time ever during the last 30 years so that thematic information on the elephant reserves could be mapped and site-specific management strategies could be taken up. Further to this, the effort to map the land-use and land-classification of the elephant reserves, which potentially has a direct bearing on Human–Elephant Conflict was elaborated. The Member Convener mentioned that both the reports of atlas of Elephant Reserves and land-use land-cover classification of the elephant reserves are

essentially preliminary and that in further editions additional thematic layers such as water bodies/wetlands would be dealt with. The Member Convener also elaborated on the capacity building initiatives for managing human–elephant conflict that were taken up with the Project Elephant with support from the State Forest Departments.

Agenda-3: Management of habitats, preparation of management plans and institutional arrangements for elephant reserves.

The Member Convenor mentioned that the Elephant Reserve is a basic management unit under the Project Elephant. There are 31 Elephant Reserves in India across 14 states. The 32nd Elephant Reserve Agasthiyamalai ER in Tamil Nadu was notified on 12/08/2022. Unlike the Tiger Reserves that are statutory units under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Elephant Reserves have no legal sanctity and remains a management concept. The Member Convener suggested that making consolidated plans for the Elephant Reserves would a step forward in managing Elephant Reserves. The Chair invited comments from the Steering Committee members to deliberate on the prospects of having management plans for the Elephant Reserves.

The Steering Committee members opined that the Elephant Reserve boundaries need to widely disseminated to the District Magistrates and other district-level agencies given that Elephant Reserves do include areas occurring outside of the Forest Department purview.

The CWLW, Madhya Pradesh mentioned that the Elephant Reserve management plan should be synchronous with the existing PA management plans as multiple management plans would be difficult to handle.

Mr. B.S. Bonal called for instilling clarity on who would be managing Elephant Reserves and executing the Management Plans. In this regard, he suggested that Nodal Divisions could be established. To this, APCCF (Wildlife), Chhattisgarh informed that in States like Chhattisgarh already dedicated officers that act as nodal officers manage the Elephant Reserves.

ADG (PT) and Member Secretary, NTCA mentioned that the Tiger Conservation Plan (TCP), which is a management plan for the Tiger Reserves already covers elephant-related aspects as well as other wildlife that co-occur with tigers in the Tiger Reserves. He further mentioned that tigers and elephants have a range overlap of over 60% in India and the TCP would essentially cover elephant aspects as well and that only in non-overlapping areas separate management plans would be required.

DGF & SS, MoEF&CC reiterated that TCPs cover elephant areas too for most part. Nevertheless, he suggested including a separate chapter in the TCP or PA management plans focusing on specific management needs for elephants.

The Chair and Hon'ble MEFCC summarized that a holistic approach would be required to integrate elephant management requirements with other management plans including the

TCPs. He further informed that holding region-specific consultations involving States with Tiger and elephant range overlap such as (i) Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu (ii) Chhattisgarh and MP (iii) Odisha, South Bengal and Jharkhand (iv) Uttarakhand and UP and others. All the issues related to Project Elephant and Project Tiger should be discussed and deliberated in the regional meetings. The Hon'ble Chair suggested involving the Chief Ministers and Chief Secretaries of the States in the regional consultations given that elephant ranges do include areas outside the Forest Department jurisdiction. During such regional consultations, the issue of management plans for the Elephant Reserves be deliberated.

Agenda-4: Wildlife highways – a concept for deliberation

The Member Convener highlighted the importance of elephant corridors in maintaining elephant population connectivity. Corridors, which are narrow strips of habitat connecting two otherwise disjunct habitats and thus function as crucial wildlife highways in maintaining population viability. As per the Gajah report, there are 88 elephant corridors identified in the country across the four elephant bearing regions. Among them, 27 corridors are of priority-1 and 61 corridors are of priority-2. The NTCA has identified 32 tiger corridors across India. Between elephant and tiger corridors there is a high overlap. The corridor overlap between elephant and tiger was observed in all the four regional elephant populations.

The Steering Committee member Dr. Sandeep Tiwari emphasized on the need to assess the land-use and land-classification of the elephant corridors as was done for the Elephant Reserves recently by the PE Division and the Elephant Cell.

The NTCA has been in the process of revisiting tiger corridors using fine-scale data. On similar lines, the Project Elephant has been ground validating elephant corridors across India. About 52% of identified corridors have already been validated. In all possibility, the remaining corridors would be validated soon and a comprehensive report on elephant corridors of India would be prepared by the Project Elephant and the Elephant Cell with active support from the States.

After completing the task of ground truthing of elephant corridors along with assessment of the extent of overlap between tiger and elephant corridors, the proposal of wildlife highways highlighting the importance of corridors and bringing them under legal ambit would be further deliberated.

Agenda-5: Ratification of Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve in Tamil Nadu

The Member Convener mentioned that the Government of Tamil Nadu has sent a proposal for approval of the Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve including the areas falling under the Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve and the Kanniyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary comprising a total area of 1197.48 km². The legislative assembly of the state of Tamil Nadu has already given approval for the Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve.

The Hon'ble Chair requested the Member Convener to reiterate the importance of Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve.

The Member Convener highlighted the importance of Agasthiyamalai landscape which comprises of large blocks of forests including the KMTR and Kanniyakumari WLS in Tamil Nadu and contiguous with protected areas of Kerala. He mentioned that between Periyar landscape and Agasthiyamalai landscape, the Shengottah gap act as a break for elephant movement between the two major landscapes. The restoration of critical corridors located in the Shengottah gap would establish connectivity between Periyar and Agasthiyamalai elephant populations providing long-term viability for elephants in Southern Western Ghats. The Agasthiyamalai is also rich in biodiversity.

The Hon'ble Chair and MEFCC mentioned that MoEF&CC approval for Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve was communicated to Tamil Nadu on 13th July 2022. The State Forest Department of Tamil Nadu also notified the Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve on 12/08/2022.

Agenda-6: Deliberation on use of word “cattle” for elephants in various acts

The elephants – both captive and wild are actively protected under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In some of the acts including Police Acts of various states, the word cattle are still being used for elephants. In the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the term cattle had been replaced as livestock during an amendment carried out during the year 1991.

After the detailed deliberation, the committee decided that a communication may be sent to the State Forest Departments/ UTs and concerned Ministries in the Govt of India to replace the word “cattle” for elephants in accordance with Wildlife Protection (Act), 1972.

Agenda-7:Item suggested by Tamil Nadu – regional action plan for management of HEC in southern India

The Member Convener mentioned that Tamil Nadu Forest Department had proposed (i) assessing resource availability across seasons to estimate carrying capacity (ii) intensive monitoring of individuals using telemetry technology (iii) community sensitization and (iv) developing capacity and financial instruments for human–elephant conflict mitigation. To summarize, Tamil Nadu envisages having a regional perspective plan for elephant conservation in the State.

The Hon'ble Chair reiterated that region-level integration and active interstate coordination are cornerstones of managing elephants and addressing human–elephant conflict in the country. He emphasized the need for convening a high-level meeting to address long-standing inter-state issues.

The ADG (PT) and Member Secretary, NTCA mentioned that NTCA has a SOP to deal with interstate issues pertaining to tiger reserves and that the model can be reviewed from the perspective of elephants. ADG (PT) reiterated the importance of interstate coordination in

monitoring elephant populations, combating crime against elephants, and in mitigating human–elephant conflict. He mentioned that there are issues between states with respect to migration of elephants involved in conflict along the border areas, which often turn contentious.

DGF & SS, MoEFCC mentioned that considering the fact that southern region harbours the largest Asian elephant population, initiating active dialogue between Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka would be important.

The Steering Committee member Dr. K.K. Sarma emphasized the need to examine elephant population growth to have a futuristic perspective about elephant populations including that of the carrying capacity so that conflict can be better managed. He mentioned that there is need to experiment measures like elephant birth control. The Steering Committee member Shri. Bonal mentioned that elephant deaths are often underreported and that intensive monitoring would be critical.

Hon'ble Minister of EF&CC mentioned that achieving the twin objectives of elephant conservation and addressing human–elephant conflict continues to be the priority for Government of India. The Government has been proactive in this regard and recent amendment of the Wildlife (Protection) Act on certain important provisions is a testimony to Government of India's commitment to both conservation and human welfare.

The Chair advised the need to actively engage with States on addressing inter-state issues and endorsed the need to have region-specific perspective plans as proposed by Tamil Nadu. He mentioned that instead of state-specific plans, considering elephants' large ranges region-specific plans would be important.

Agenda-8:Other matters discussed with the permission of the Chair

- The issue of power-transmission related elephant mortality continues to be a concern in India. Shri. Pankaj Kumar Sangwan, Deputy Director, Ministry of Power, New Delhi represented Ministry of Power and acknowledged the issue. He further mentioned that the Power Ministry had issued notifications to mitigate the effect. However, he did not get any of those relevant documents for the meeting and thus, the issue couldn't be deliberated.
- The Steering Committee Member Dr. Biputhi Lakhar emphasized on the need to prioritize eco-restoration of elephant habitats. The eco-restoration would result in improving the carrying capacity of degraded habitats, which would eventually result in minimizing human–elephant conflict. The Committee acknowledged the need to deliberate on the prospects of eco-restoration in the subsequent gatherings.
- ADG (PT) and Member Secretary, NTCA mentioned that as per the recent amendment in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, the Central Government has powers to make specific rules. Specific issues such as elephant transportation can be deliberated and rules therein can be formed under the Wildlife (Protection) Act.

Decisions taken by the Chair

1. To foster interstate coordination in managing elephant populations and addressing human–elephant conflict, series of regional conferences need to be planned along with Project Tiger. The issues related to Project Elephant and Project Tiger will be discussed with Chief Wildlife Wardens and District collectors. The issues deliberated such meeting will be taken up with the Chief Ministers of the States and their Chief Secretaries. In this regard, the Project Elephant would take-up regional stake-holders workshops soon. In such workshops it would be important to involve the respective States' Hon'ble Ministers of Environment and Forests.
2. High-level committee would enquire on the recent spate of elephant deaths in Odisha and Jharkhand. The high level committee will be consisting of Shri Surendra Kumar, IFS (Retd.) Ex PCCF (WL), Kerala as Chairman, Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist, E, Wildlife Institute of India as member and Shri. H.V. Girisha, Joint Director, Wildlife Crime Control Bureau as Member Convenor. The Committee shall inquire the recent death of elephants in the States of Odisha and Jharkhand, cause of death and action taken by the State Forest Department. The committee will submit the report to the Ministry by 10th September, 2022 with recommendations. The order for the constitution of the high level committee should be issued immediately.
3. Inter-ministerial meeting to be convened with the Ministry of Railways to holistically address the issue of rail-induced elephant mortality and to take the matter towards logical conclusion.
4. The idea of synchronized management plan for elephants and integrating the same with the existing working plans, management plans and tiger conservation plans to be taken forward. All the Elephant Reserves should have Management Plan. If the Reserves do not have the plan, it should be incorporated in the Tiger Conservation Plan /Working Plan/Wildlife Management Plan. In this regard, the Project Elephant Division should issue the directives to the States/UTs for preparing Management Plan for the 32 Elephant Reserves or incorporating in to the Tiger Conservation Plan or Working Plan/ Wildlife Management Plan.
5. National Institutes of repute such as IITs and other major State educational Institutions to be actively engaged and roped in to spread the message of elephant conservation. The NCC and NSS students should be actively engaged in conservation activities so that conservation does not remain a concept, but further integrates with our way of life. Commemorating with 30 years of Project Elephant and 50 years of Project Tiger (including the NTCA), with the support of the States, mega events aimed at taking forward the conservation message of these species need to be organized. In this regard, Assam could organize Gaj Utsav marking 30 years of Project Elephant.
6. Ministry's approval for notifying Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve was communicated to Tamil Nadu on 13th July 2022. The State Forest Department of Tamil Nadu notified the Agasthiyamalai Elephant Reserve on 12/08/2022.
7. Ministry (PE Division) should identify and recognise more people and communities who have worked outstandingly towards elephant conservation and welfare and Gaj Gaurav Award may be given along with some cash prizes.
8. In the forthcoming Steering Committee meetings, it would be pertinent to first complete the discussions pertaining to Central Project Elephant Monitoring Committee (CPEMC) and Captive Elephant Healthcare and Welfare Committee (CEHWC) so that any policy decisions to be taken can be discussed during the Steering Committee meetings. Further, the view points of the States should come first for the discussion during the Steering Committee meeting and then the agendas can be discussed. The Steering Committee should also be apprised with major events, major poaching cases, HEC cases, seizures, protection and conservation initiatives, achievements etc before discussing the agenda to have an oversight of the issues and to set the context of the deliberations
9. The next Project Elephant Steering Committee meeting can be held at Odisha. The venue and

other modalities may be worked out by the Project Elephant in coordination with Odisha Forest Department. The tentative date for the 18th Steering Committee meeting is November 2022.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Hon'ble Chair.

List of Participants

1. Shri. Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
2. Shri. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Hon'ble Minister of State, Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India.
3. Shri. Chandra Prakash Goyal, DGF & SS, MoEF&CC.
4. Dr. Satya Prakash Yadav, ADG (PT), MS (NTCA), MoEF&CC and Director, WII.
5. Shri. Pravir Pandey, AS & FA, MoEF&CC.
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8. Dr. Samir Sinha, PCCF & CWLW, Uttarakhand.
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10. Shri. Jasbir Singh Chauhan, PCCF & CWLW, Madhya Pradesh.
11. Shri. Pankaj Goel, PCCF & CWLW, Haryana.
12. Shri. Prabhat Kumar Gupta, PCCF & CWLW, Bihar.
13. Shri. Rajesh Kumar, APCCF (Wildlife), West Bengal.
14. Shri. S. Ramasubramanian, CF and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu (representative of CWLW, Tamil Nadu).
15. Dr. Manoj V. Nair, CCF (Wildlife), Odisha (representative of CWLW, Odisha).
16. Shri. Yuvaraj, CF (Wildlife), Maharashtra (representative of CWLW, Maharashtra).
17. Shri. Dibakar Das, AFS, Assam Forest Department (representative of CWLW, Assam).
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28. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Scientist C, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
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