

Wildlife Division

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Wild Life

- Original elements of nature



Kyang

- Part of Forest management



LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

- Enacted in 1972
- Amended six times- latest being in 2006
- Six principal Chapters
- Six Schedules
- Last amendment proposed in 2013- proposal withdrawn
- Review of the Act underway

PLANS AND POLICIES

- National Wildlife Action Plan 2002-2016
- Group to review the Plan and formulate new Plan (2017-2031)- submitted report to Ministry recently.
- **Eco-Sensitive Zones**
 - Areas outside/around PA's wherein polluting activities are regulated
 - Initial decision- IBWL (2002)- 10 kms around PA's
 - Amended by NBWL (2005)- site specific- regulation rather than prohibition
 - Guidelines issued by MoEF&CC
 - Proposals more than 400 received, processed and forwarded to RE Division for notification.
 - Meaning lost in EC related policy from a court decision

Wild Life Management systems

- Protected Areas (PAs) (730)
 - National Parks (103), Wild Life Sanctuaries (535), Conservation Reserves (66), Community Reserves (26)
 - Tiger Reserves (Tiger habitat PAs) (49)
 - Elephant Reserves (32) (Management units)
- Zoos (for captive (*ex-situ*) conservation)
- Management cost: borne by states
- Central assistance to states (CSS)
 - Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger, Project Elephant
- Central Sector: Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, Wildlife Institute of India, Central Zoo Authority (+NZP, Delhi),

Wildlife Schemes of Ministry of Environment and Forests

(Rupees in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Outlay XII FYP	Realization		Expend. (2015-16) /RE	Alloc. 2016-17
			Alloc.	Expnd.		
1	IDWH	800.00	368.77	268.77	61.21	100.00
2	Project Elephant	200.00	106.54	67.43	11.73/16.96	25.00
3	Crime control +CZA+NZP	290.00	156.33	121.41	18.82/19.97	27.00
4	WII	120.00	109.97	84.97	25.42	25.00
	Total	1410.00	741.61	542.58	117.18/ 123.56	177.00

Institutions and Organizations

❑ **Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB):**

- Set up in 2007, with the amendment in Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972
- Conducts specialized probe into wildlife crimes having interstate and international linkages.
- Assists in enforcement of the provisions of CITES.
- 5-regional offices, 3 sub-regional offices and 5 border units.

❑ **Wildlife Institute of India (WII)**

- Established as an attached office in May, 1982
- Autonomous institution since 1986
- Undertakes research and capacity building programmes on wildlife conservation.

❑ **Central Zoo Authority(CZA)**

- Established in 1991
- Supervises management of Zoos in the country

NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE

- Provided under Section 5 of WL(P)A, 1972
- Functions- Advising Central & State Governments on Wildlife Conservation
- Board chaired by Prime Minister
- Duties delegated to Standing Committee chaired by Minister in charge of EF&CC
- Proposals for development projects located / passing through WLS/NP/Tiger Reserves referred to Standing Committee for recommendation
- Projects located in 10 kms requiring EC are referred to Standing Committee for its views after a court decision in a matter – **decision of IA wing – not of Supreme Court - needs review!**

WILDLIFE CLEARANCE

- Referral to NBWL is for views, not clearance
- Process demands views of state board of wildlife
- For outside PAs, driven by IA Division – approval of secretary
- Decision only by an internal order
- Order limited to need of referral to SC NBWL for projects located within 10 km of PAs.
- No order regarding applicability of referral within ESZ. User agencies don't know
- Concept of ESZ compromised – need of review
- Placed before HMEF earlier - agreed

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora (CITES)- India signatory since 1976
- Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)- Signatory since 1983
 - Siberian Crane MOU (India signed in 1998)
 - Marine Turtle MOU (India signed in 2007)
 - Dugong MOU (India signed in 2008)
 - Raptor MOU (India signed in 2016)
- World Heritage Convention - Signatory since 1977
- International Whaling Commission- Signatory since 1981
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- South Asian Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)
- Indo-German Technical Cooperation on Mitigation of Human Wildlife Conflict
- Externally aided (GEF) projects- in collaboration with UNDP India

CHALLENGES

- Human Wildlife Conflict
 - Several actions on way including vermin declarations
- Illegal trade in Wildlife, its parts and products
 - Augmenting strength of WCCB
- Habitat fragmentation and destruction
 - Larger forest policy matter
- Investment (low) in the states in conservation
- Lack of provisions for management of:
 - Captivity and upkeep of animals
 - exotic animals, trophies etc

Initiatives on way

- National Wild Life Action Plan (2017-2031)
 - Draft circulated to the states
- Review WLPA: Draft Nearing completion
- Management Planning Guidelines
 - Ready to be placed for kind approval
- Critical Wild life Habitat Rules under FRA
 - In correspondence with MoLJ
- Ecotourism Guidelines: under submission
- Empanelment of Scientific Institutions
 - Under submission

Important issues

- Ken Betwa project in Panna Tiger Reserve
 - NTCA report and subgroup report to come
- Kolleru Lake AP boundary modification
 - Report of Dr Sukumar awaited
- CITES – Red sanders – export issue
 - AP Govt, TN Govt Inventory report awaited
- Lion relocation Gir to Kuno
 - Facing case; contempt
- GIB recovery: Rajasthan-Gujarat

Thank you.