

मंत्री
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन
और
श्रम एवं रोज़गार
भारत सरकार.



MINISTER
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
AND
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

भूपेन्द्र यादव

BHUPENDER YADAV



MESSAGE

Like previous years, we will be celebrating Wildlife Week from 2nd - 8th October, 2021. India is a mega bio-diverse country and is home to a large number of species. Conservation of wildlife is ingrained in the ethos of the Indian society and it has been suitably enunciated in the Constitution of the country as a Fundamental Duty of every citizen. The Directive Principles of the Constitution also speaks of conservation of wildlife.

India is home to iconic species like Tiger, Asiatic Lion, Indian One Horned Rhinos, Indian Elephant. Due to conservation efforts, the numbers of all the species are increasing. The extent of the Protected Area for conservation of these species have also steadily increased during the past few years and now stands 981 Protected Areas and constitutes more than 5% of the geographical area of the country. We have also created a safety net around the National Parks and Sanctuaries as Eco-Sensitive Zones for the benefit of the wildlife.

The Government of India is keen on expanding species conservation and have now included 22 number of species for conservation to be funded under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

During the past one year, a good number of steps towards this direction have been taken for wildlife conservation. These includes release of National Marine Turtle Action Plan, Guidelines on Marine Mega Fauna Stranding, enumeration of Rhino, advisory on Human Wildlife Conflict etc.

In addition, the Government of India has also launched Action Plan for Vulture Conservation (2020-2025), Eco-tourism Guidelines of the country, signing of protocol on trans-boundary Elephant conservation between India and Bangladesh.

In order to reduce the hardships faced due to Human Wildlife Conflicts, crop damage due to wildlife depredation has also been brought within the purview of the 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana'.

The wildlife week is to be celebrated all over the country to reaffirm our commitment to wildlife. Let us come together to join hands in our pursuit for Wildlife Conservation in the country.

With best wishes.

Date: 01.10.2021

(Bhupender Yadav)