

F. No. 2-7/1998-PE (Part.1)

Government of India/ भारत सरकार

Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change/ पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
(Project Tiger & Elephant Division / व्याघ्र एवं हाथी परियोजना प्रभाग)

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Dated 4th Septemr, 2023

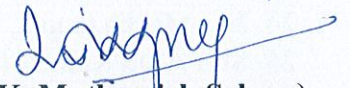
OFFICE Memorandum

Subject: Proceedings of the 19th Project Elephant Steering Committee Meeting held on 12th August, 2023 at Bhubaneswar, Odisha-reg.

The undersigned is enclosing herewith the approved proceedings of the 19th Project Elephant Steering Committee meeting held on 12th August, 2023 at 12:00 Hrs. in Hotel Vivanta, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 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)
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Distribution:

- As per list enclosed.

Copy to:

- PS to Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC.
- PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC.
- PPS to Secretary, MoEF&CC.
- PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
- PPS to ADGF (PT&E) and MS, NTCA, MoEF&CC.
- PPS to ADGF (Wildlife), MoEF&CC.
- PPS to AS&FA, MoEF&CC.
- PS to IGF (Wildlife), MoEF&CC.
- PS to IGF (PE&E) & Director (Project Elephant), MoEF&CC.

List of Participants

1. Shri. Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of EF&CC, Government of India.
2. Shri. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC , Government of India.
3. Shri. Chandra Prakash Goyal, DGF & SS, MoEF&CC.
4. Dr. Satya Prakash Yadav, ADG (PT&E) and MS (NTCA), MoEF&CC
5. Shri. Bivash Ranjan, ADG (WL), MoEF&CC
6. Shri. Ramesh Kumar Pandey, IGF (PT&E) and Director, Project Elephant, MoEF&CC
7. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Shukla, MS-CZA, MoEF&CC
8. Dr. Samir Sinha, CWLW, Uttarakhand
9. Shri Aseem Shrivastava, CWLW, Madhya Pradesh
10. Shri Sushilesh M. Sahai, CWLW, Meghalaya
11. Shri Sushil Kumar Popli, CWLW, Odisha
12. Shri Anjani Acharya, CWLW Uttar Pradesh
13. Shri Sudhir Kumar Agarwal, CWLW, Chhattisgarh
14. Shri Pankaj Goel, CWLW, Haryana
15. Shri Virendra Tiwari, Director, WII
16. Smt. Saswati Mishra, APCCF (PE), (Representative of CWLW, Karnataka)
17. Dr. Naganathan, APCCF, Tamil Nadu (Representative of CWLW, Tamil Nadu)
18. Shri Rajesh Kumar, APCCF, West Bengal (Representative of CWLW, West Bengal)
19. Shri Ravi Ranjan, APCCF, Jharkhand (Representative of CWLW, Jharkhand)
20. Dr. Vaibhav Mathur, Field Director, Manas TR (Representative of CWLW, Assam)
21. Shri Prakash Kumar Tamrakar, Director, IFD, MoEF&CC.
22. Director, Intanki National Park, CWLW Nagaland (Representative of CWLW, Nagaland)
23. Shri Chaitanya Reddy, DFO, Chittoor, Representative of CWLW, Andhra Pradesh
24. Ms. Megha Gupta, DFO, Araria, (Representative of CWLW, Bihar)
25. Shri Arun Kumar, DCF, (Representative of CWLW Punjab)
26. Shri V.K. Gogi, Former PCCF & CWLW, Karnataka, Special invitee
27. Smt Jamuna Tudu, Padmashree Awardee, Jharkhand, Special invitee
28. Dr. N.S. Manoharan, Addl. Director, Veterinary college, Tamil Nadu
29. Dr. Adhiraj Mishra, Assistant Commissioner, Dept. of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
30. Dr. K.K. Sarma, Senior Veterinarian, Assam and Member, Steering Committee.
31. Shri. Manoj Ram Phookun, Assam and Member, Steering Committee.
32. Shri. B.S. Bonal, IFS (retired), Assam and Member, Steering Committee.
33. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Tiwari, WTI, New Delhi and Member, Steering Committee.
34. Dr. Dipankar Ghose, WWF, New Delhi and Member, Steering Committee.
35. Dr. Bibhuti Prasad Lahkar, Aaranyak, Guwahati and Member, Steering Committee.
36. Dr. Lalit Kumar Sharma, Scientist D, ZSI representative of Director, ZSI
37. Dr. S. S. Dash, Scientist E & Incharge, Technical Section, BSI Headquarter, Kolkata.
38. Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist F, WII.
39. Dr. K. Muthamizh Selvan, Scientist E, PE, MoEF&CC.
40. Shri M.C. Beniwal, Under Secretary, IFD, MoEF&CC
41. Dr. Rajendra Kumar, Scientist C, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
42. Dr. Annadurai, Senior IT Consultant, MoEF&CC.
43. Dr. N. Lakshminarayanan, Project Scientist, Elephant Cell, WII.
44. Shri Aditya Bisht, Consultant B, WII- MoEF&CC.
45. Shri. Udhaya Raj, GIS Specialist, Elephant Cell, WII.

Draft Proceedings of the 19th Project Elephant Steering Committee Meeting

12th August 2023 at 12:00 hours, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

The 19th meeting of the Steering Committee of the Project Elephant was held on 12th August 2023 at Bhubaneswar, Odisha under the Chairmanship of **Shri. Bhupender Yadav**, Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC, Government of India and in the presence of **Shri. Ashwini Kumar Choubey**, Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC, Government of India as Vice Chairman of the Project Elephant Steering Committee. The list of participants is at **Annexure-1**.

2. Earlier during the day, the world elephant day 2023 was celebrated wherein Gaj Gaurav awards were conferred to five (5) awardees for their exemplary contributions in the field of elephant conservation and management, and the report "Elephant Corridors of India (2023)" and "Elephant Reserves of India: An Atlas (version-2)", intended to provide basic information on all the 33 Elephant Reserves of India, were released.

3. Following the world elephant day celebrations, the 19th Project Elephant Steering Committee meeting was held at Bhubaneswar. The Chairman of the Steering Committee welcomed all members and participants of the meeting.

4. At the outset, **Shri. Ramesh Pandey**, IGF (PT&E) & Director, PE mentioned that the Ministry is conducting the Steering Committee meetings regularly and that since the year 2021, two meetings per year were conducted as opposed to one meeting in every two years. He further mentioned that the last four meetings were conducted in Dehradun, Periyar, Kaziranga and Bhubaneswar representing the northern, southern, northeastern and east-central regional elephant populations of India. Following this, IGF (PT&E) & the Member Convener of the Steering Committee of the Project Elephant briefed the members about the major activities carried out since 18th Steering Committee meeting held on 7th April, 2023 at Kaziranga National Park, Assam through a presentation. The other agenda items pertaining to the 19th Steering Committee were also deliberated. Copy of the presentation is in **Annexure-2**.

5. *Agenda-1 Current status of actions taken on the decisions made during the 18th Steering Committee Meeting*

- i. **Revision of the manual "Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructure on wildlife"**: IGF (PT&E) & Director, PE mentioned that Wildlife Institute of India is in process of finalization of the manual. Director, WII informed the committee that the revision would be completed in two months from the present.
- ii. **Preparation of regional action plan by Tamil Nadu in coordination with Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh**: IGF (PT&E) & Director, PE mentioned that it is planned to conduct the meeting of the Elephant Range States of Southern India to granulate components of the Regional Action Plan for Comprehensive Understanding and Management of Human Elephant Conflict in Southern India at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu in October, 2023. It is also proposed to organize a sensitization workshop of the Temple Authorities and elephant owners during the meeting.
- iii. **Technical workshops to be conducted by the Elephant Cell of the Project Elephant and WII**: The tentative course content and schedules for the proposed workshops are being developed. The workshops are proposed to be conducted during October – December 2023
- iv. **MoEFCC to issue a letter to the Chief Wildlife Wardens to ensure unhindered interstate movement of elephants**: IGF (PT&E) & Director, PE mentioned that the Ministry has issued a letter dated 20th April, 2023 and requested all the Elephant range to allow hindrance free interstate movement for Elephants.

- v. **The Ministry would develop long-term vision plan for elephant conservation:** IGF (PT&E) & Director, PE briefed the Steering Committee that the Project Elephant has initiated the task of preparing the National Elephant Action Plan. A drafting committee was also constituted whose tenure has elapsed. The committee would be reconstituted and themes relevant for the action plan would be finalized. The Project Elephant and the Elephant Cell would also review action plans pertaining to other countries and other species within the country.
- vi. **Members representing Southern States be included in the Steering Committee:** IGF (PT&E) & Director, PE informed that Shri. Vijayakumar Gogi, CWLW (retd), Karnataka, Dr. N.S. Manoharan, Addl Director (retd), Veterinary Services, Tamil Nadu and Smt Jamuna Tudu, Padamshree Winner from Jharkhand have been invited as the special invitees for the 19th Steering Committee meeting
- vii. **CWLW, Odisha to present the works done for preventing elephant electrocution in a meeting to be held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC:** A meeting with CWLW, Odisha was convened under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC on 12.05.2023 at MoEF&CC to deliberate on the matters pertaining to Odisha.

6. **Agenda-2: Update on ground-validation of elephant corridors of India**

The IGF (PT&E) and Director (PE) mentioned that the task of ground-validating elephant corridors has been completed and a comprehensive report has been prepared. The report was released by the Hon'ble MEFCC earlier in the day during the world elephant day celebrations. The IGF (PT&E) highlighted the following salient features of the report:

- The phenomenon of radiating distribution of elephants from the source habitats in to new areas and corresponding challenges involved in identifying elephant corridors in such landscapes has been elaborated in the report.
- Numerous ecological surveys / field studies helped in identifying elephant corridors. The Elephant Task Force report (Gajah, 2010) listed 88 elephant corridors across India.
- For current exercise, the elephant corridors listed in the Gajah report was used as the basis for ground-validation of corridors.
- The ground-validation of all the corridors across India has been completed by MoEF&CC with support of State FDs, Elephant Cell, WII and other experts. It took nearly two years of effort to ground-validate the elephant corridors.
- A total of 150 elephant corridors from 15 elephant range states were ground-validated and included in the report.
- The elephant corridors presented in the report is best considered as the minimum number occurring in the country and can be subject to modification based on field data and inputs from the State Governments.

During the discussion, Dr. Naganathan, APCCF (Wildlife), Tamil Nadu mentioned that the State Government has constituted a technical committee to identify corridors in the State. The committee has already completed the surveys and nearly 42 elephant corridors have been identified in the State, which will duly be communicated to the Project Elephant. Smt. Saraswati Mishra, APCCF (Wildlife), Karnataka mentioned that Karnataka is also in the process of identifying many elephant corridors and the task is ongoing in the state.

The Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha Shri. Sushil Kumar Popli highlighted that the Hon'ble NGT's Order to the state to notify the corridors and the challenge involved in identifying corridors considering dynamic elephant movement in the State.

Decision: After deliberations, it was decided that the Ministry would circulate the corridors report with all the PCCF & CWLWs. In case, more corridors are identified by the States, they would be incorporated in the subsequent editions.

7 . Agenda-3: Progress on the efficacy of mitigation measures in identified 110 locations at the railway lines passing through elephant habitats

The IGF (PT&E) and Director (PE) mentioned that WII has developed the General Guidelines for suggesting Mitigation Measures on Railways Tracks through Elephant Habitats in India. The Ministry on 21st June, 2023 had issued the guidelines to the respective states for completion of joint surveys (With Railways and WII) of the sensitive stretches of existing railway lines for construction of permanent mitigation measures to mitigate wildlife-rail collisions and finalized the appropriate mitigation measures. Following this, an inter-ministerial meeting between the officials of MoEF&CC, Railways and WII was held during 27th June, 2023.

The IGF (PT&E) and Director (PE) mentioned that the Ministry of Railways would be implementing the optic fiber cable (OFC) based on Intrusion Detection System (IDS) at other locations of the country. He further mentioned that a team comprising of DIG (Wildlife), MoEFCC, Scientist F, WII and Scientist E, MoEFCC had visited the pilot site at Alipurduars, West Bengal and examined the utility of the OFC based detection system. The IGF (PT&E) and Director (PE) requested Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist F, WII to expedite collating details on 110 stretches and start filling up the dashboard specifically designed in this regard and released by Hon'ble Minister EFCC in May, 2023 at Wildlife Institute of India.

The Chairman suggested WII to enhance the capacity to meet the growing wildlife-related technical requirements in the country. In response to this, Shri. Virendra Tiwari, Director, WII, mentioned that recruitment of 7 faculty personnel is almost completed and that the file is already with the MoEFCC. He further opined that the IFS deputation positions to be filled up soon.

Shri. Bivash Ranjan, ADG (Wildlife) mentioned that WII activities are now being reviewed frequently.

Decision: Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist F, WII would expedite the process of collating details about the mitigation measures being implemented on the 110 stretches and update the dashboard.

8. Agenda-4: Status update on the elephant population estimation and its release

The IGF (PT&E) and Director, PE mentioned that out of 20 sites selected for Phase-II sampling, field work has been completed in 18 states. More than 8000 biological samples are being analyzed. He further mentioned that the States like Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have already completed the synchronized elephant population estimation in the respective states and have even finalized the report.

Director, WII mentioned that the dialogues with NCBS and CCMB have been forthcoming to expedite genetic analysis. He further mentioned that the final report would be released during December 2023 as planned earlier.

Decision: WII would expedite the completion of the process of all India elephant population estimation and finalize the report by December, 2023.

9 . Agenda-5: Update on the Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of 4 Elephant Reserves

The IGF (PT&E) and Director, PE highlighted that for the first time ever, the Ministry has

embarked on carrying out management effectiveness and evaluation of the Elephant Reserves across the country. The four elephant reserves across the four elephant bearing regions of the country for MEE are (i) Shivalik ER (Northern Region) (ii) Nilgiri ER (Southern Region), (iii) Mayurbhanj ER (East Central Region) and (iv) Kaziranga - Karbi Anglong ER (North-eastern Region). For conducting pilot MEE in the Elephant Reserves, teams have been duly constituted. The 1st team meeting was held on 13/07/2023.

Decision: The field visits to all the four Elephant Reserves would be carried out during the end of the monsoon and the report is expected to be completed by October, 2023.

1 0 . *Agenda-6: Discussion on the need for uniformity of the ex-gratia and compensation amount across the country by examining state-specific variations*

The IGF (PT&E) & Director, PE mentioned that the ministry provides financial assistance to States and UTs under CSS, PT & E for human deaths by wildlife. The ex-gratia payment varies from State to State across the country INR 4 to 25 lakhs. During 2018, the Ministry increased ex-gratia for human deaths from INR 2 lakhs to 5 lakhs. Variation in the ex-gratia rates across the states calls for bringing in uniformity.

After deliberations, all the members of the Committee opined that it would be worthy to increase the ex-gratia amount to Rs. 10,00,000/-.

Decision: The ex-gratia amount would be increased from existing Rs.5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh in case of human death due to wildlife.

1 1 . *Agenda-7: Unnatural elephant deaths due to electrocution, train hits, poaching, retaliatory killing: Deliberation on measures taken*

The IGF (PT&E) and Director, PE mentioned that elephant deaths due to electrocution, train hits, poaching etc. are increasingly being reported across the country. He presented the trend statistics pertaining to electrocution, train collision, poaching and poisoning related elephant deaths reported in the country. He also mentioned that the elephant electrocution cases are showing a continuously increasing trend. Following this, the Chairman of the Steering Committee sought comments from the State Forest Departments on their suggestions on the matter of elephant electrocution.

Shri. B.S. Bonal, Steering committee member mentioned that in Assam electrocution related deaths can be attributed to transmission-related and crop-guarding related.

Smt. Saraswati Mishra, APCCF (Wildlife), Karnataka mentioned that in Karnataka, transmission-related elephant electrocution is relatively rare, but deliberate attempts are much higher. The deliberate attempts include crop guarding, particularly to deter wild pigs.

Shri. Sushil Kumar Popli, PCCF & CWLW, Odisha mentioned that the power distribution companies are by and large aware of the issues facing elephant electrocution. Odisha is having both transmissions related elephant electrocution and deliberate attempts aimed at crop guarding that result in elephant electrocution.

Dr. Bibuthi Lakhar, Steering Committee member mentioned that sagging wires remain a problem during the monsoon months. This was further confirmed by Dr. Vaibhav Mathur, Field Director, Manas, Assam mentioned that insulation of wires is being recommended in the sensitive areas.

Special invitee in the Steering Committee, Shri. Vijaykumar Gogi (ret'd) CWLW, Karnataka mentioned that in Karnataka there are Electricity Board squads that can be sensitized.

Shri. Sudhir Agarwal, CWLW Chhattisgarh mentioned that in Chhattisgarh the transmission related elephant deaths are less and that the deliberate attempts aimed at poaching wild pigs are causing frequent elephant electrocution.

The Chairman of the Committee opined that the enforcement of the mitigation measures should be very strong to reduce the unnatural elephant deaths. He mentioned that cases should be booked both under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and the acts related to electricity supply and transmission violation.

Decision: States should take preventive measures and book the offenses under Wild Life (Protection), Act, 1972 for acts related to deliberate killing of wildlife due to electrocution. All the members of the committee would come up with the ideas/ possibilities for improving the enforcement measures to minimize the cases of elephant deaths due to electrocution. The same would be deliberated in the next steering committee meeting.

12. Agenda-8: Framework of the proposed Regional Action Plan for Comprehensive Understanding and Management of Human Elephant Conflict in Southern India

The IGF (PT&E) & Director, PE mentioned that the Southern region harbours the largest population of elephants in India. He mentioned that Tamil Nadu has submitted a concept note on preparation of Regional Action Plan to facilitate holistic understanding and management of human-elephant conflict.

Decision: The meeting of the Elephant Range States of Southern India to granulate the components of the Regional Action Plan for Comprehensive Understanding and Management of Human Elephant Conflict in Southern India would held at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu in October, 2023. A sensitization workshop of the Temple Authorities and elephant owners would also be held along with the meeting.

13. Agenda-9: Need for establishment of rescue centers to take care of the weak, sick and injured elephants

The IGF (PT&E) and Director, PE mentioned that 7 rescue/rehabilitation centers have been established in various states with funding support from Ministry to take care of weak, sick, and injured elephants. He further mentioned that many states have proposed establishing such rescue centers, which would require due deliberation by the Steering Committee.

Shri. Naganathan, APCCF (Wildlife), Tamilnadu mentioned that there is a dedicated rescue center in Trichy and another one is planned in Coimbatore in the state.

Shri. Vijayakumar Gogi, CWLW (retd), Karnataka mentioned that there is a risk in mixing up temple elephants with forest camp elephants as the latter are interacting with wild elephants too. He further mentioned that in Karnataka an exclusive camp has been developed with support from NGO (WRRRC) to maintain temple elephants.

Dr. N.S. Manoharan, special invitee for the Steering Committee mentioned that a school for mahouts and kavadis is long overdue and that Tamil Nadu has excellent facilities where a dedicated school can be set up for the benefit of the rest of the country.

The Chairman of the Committee enquired the committee members about the adequacy of veterinary capacity with respect to elephant management and initiated a discussion on the same

Dr. K.K. Sarma, Steering Committee member mentioned that the veterinary capacity

with respect to elephants is highly limited in the country even in states like Assam that harbors large number of both captive and wild elephants. Dr. Sarma suggested creating a separate cadre for wildlife veterinarians unlike the present scenario where veterinarians come of deputation from the state animal husbandry departments.

Dr. Manoharan mentioned that PG courses and opportunities in veterinary sciences are few and that wildlife course and internship for both UG and PG courses in wildlife and elephant management are imperative.

Shri. Sanjay Shukla, MS-CZA mentioned that there is shortage of vets and there is no structure for training and engaging the paravets. He further mentioned that veterinarians with expertise on elephants is very low and a major handicap. He mentioned that this aspect needs attention

Shri. Virendra Tiwari, Director WII mentioned that even in WII the veterinary capacity is limited and that the senior veterinarian of the Institute of already overworked.

Dr. Sandeep Tiwari, Steering Committee Member mentioned about the collaborative efforts of WTI and Assam Forest Department in managing a vibrant elephant rescue center in Assam that specializes in calf management.

Dr. Samir Sinha, CWLW, Uttarakhand mentioned that WII and Uttarakhand Forest Department have trained over 240 veterinarians that are becoming very handy in managing conflict situations across the State.

The Chairman of the meeting suggested for more rounds of discussion on the matter during the forthcoming Steering Committee meeting and inquired if funding to Institutions like WII, ZSI etc. for wildlife training and scholarships be helpful in improving the overall capacity building of the veterinarians.

Decision: PT&E Division in collaboration with NTCA would present a plan to Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC regarding the provisions of fellowship and internship programme for veterinary/ wildlife students.

14. After deliberations, the following actionable decisions emerged out of meeting:

- i. After deliberations, it was decided that the Ministry would circulate the corridors report with all the PCCF & CWLWs. In case, more corridors are identified by the States, they would be incorporated in the subsequent editions.
- ii. Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist, F, WII would expedite the process of collating details about the mitigation measures being implemented on the 110 stretches and update the dashboard.
- iii. WII would expedite the completion of the process of all India elephant population estimation and finalize the report by December, 2023.
- iv. The field visits to all the four Elephant Reserves would be carried out during the end of the monsoon and the report is expected to be completed by October, 2023.
- v. The ex-gratia amount would be increased from existing Rs.5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh in case of human death due to wildlife.
- vi. States should take preventive measures and book the offenses under Wild Life (Protection), Act, 1972 for acts related to deliberate killing of wildlife due to electrocution. All the members of the committee would come up with the ideas/ possibilities for improving the enforcement measures to minimize the cases of elephant deaths due to electrocution. The same would be deliberated in the next steering committee meeting.
- vii. The meeting of the Elephant Range States of Southern India to granulate the components of the Regional Action Plan for Comprehensive Understanding and Management of Human Elephant Conflict in Southern India would held at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu in October, 2023. A sensitization workshop of the Temple Authorities and elephant owners would also be held along with the meeting.

viii. PT&E Division in collaboration with NTCA would present a plan to Hon'ble Minister, EF&CC regarding the provisions of fellowship and internship programme for veterinary/wildlife students.

The Vol. 3 Issue-III of the Trumpet Newsletter and the Hindi version of the field manual for managing the Human Elephant Conflict were also released during the 19th meeting of the Steering Committee of the Project Elephant.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-1: List of participants

1. Shri. Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister of EF&CC, Government of India.
2. Shri. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC, Government of India.
3. Shri. Chandra Prakash Goyal, DGF & SS, MoEF&CC.
4. Dr. Satya Prakash Yadav, ADG (PT&E) and MS (NTCA), MoEF&CC
5. Shri. Bivash Ranjan, ADG (WL), MoEF&CC
6. Shri. Ramesh Kumar Pandey, IGF (PT&E) and Director, Project Elephant, MoEF&CC
7. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Shukla, MS-CZA, MoEF&CC
8. Dr. Samir Sinha, PCCF & CWLW, Uttarakhand
9. Shri Aseem Shrivastava, CWLW, Madhya Pradesh
10. Shri Sushilesh M. Sahai, CWLW, Meghalaya
11. Shri Sushil Kumar Popli, CWLW, Odisha
12. Shri Anjani Acharya, CWLW Uttar Pradesh
13. Shri Sudhir Kumar Agarwal, CWLW, Chhattisgarh
14. Shri Pankaj Goel, CWLW, Haryana
15. Shri Virendra Tiwari, Director, WII
16. Smt. Saswati Mishra, APCCF (PE), Representative of Karnataka
17. Dr. Naganathan, APCCF, Tamil Nadu
18. Shri Rajesh Kumar, APCCF, West Bengal
19. Shri Ravi Ranjan, APCCF, Jharkhand
20. Dr. Vaibhav Mathur, Field Director, Manas TR (Representative of CWLW, Assam)
21. Shri Prakash Kumar Tamrakar, Director, IFD, MoEF&CC.
22. Director, Intanki National Park, CWLW Nagaland.
23. Shri Chaitanya Reddy, DFO, Chittoor, Representative of CWLW, Andhra Pradesh
24. Ms. Megha Gupta, DFO, Araria, (Representative of CWLW, Bihar)
25. Shri Arun Kumar, DCF, Representative of CWLW Punjab
26. Shri V.K. Gogi, Former PCCF & CWLW, Karnataka, Special invitee
27. Smt Jamuna Tudu, Padmashree Awardee, Jharkhand, Special invitee
28. Dr. N.S. Manoharan, Addl. Director, Veterinary college, Tamil Nadu
29. Dr. Adhiraj Mishra, Assistant Commissioner, Dept. of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
30. Dr. K.K. Sarma, Senior Veterinarian, Assam and Member, Steering Committee.
31. Shri. Manoj Ram Phookun, Assam and Member, Steering Committee.
32. Shri. B.S. Bonal, IFS (retired), Assam and Member, Steering Committee. •
33. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Tiwari, WTI, New Delhi and Member, Steering Committee.
34. Dr. Dipankar Ghose, WWF, New Delhi and Member, Steering Committee.
35. Dr. Bibhuti Prasad Lahkar, Aaranyak, Guwahati and Member, Steering Committee.
36. Dr. Lalit Kumar Sharma, Scientist D, ZSI representative of Director, ZSI

37. Dr. S. S. Dash, Scientist E & Incharge, Technical Section, BSI Headquater, Kolkata.
38. Dr. Bilal Habib, Scientist F, WII.
39. Dr. K. Muthamizh Selvan, Scientist E, PE Division, MoEF&CC
40. Shri M.C. Beniwal, Under Secretary, IFD, MoEF&CC
41. Dr. Rajendra Kumar, Scientist C, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
42. Dr. Annadurai, Senior IT Consultant, MoEFCC
43. Dr. N. Lakshminarayanan, Project Scientist, Elephant Cell, WII.
44. Shri Aditya Bisht, Consultant B, WII- MoEF&CC
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