

Seventeenth Loksabha

an>

Title: Regarding safety of elephants corridors in mining areas

KUMARI CHANDRANI MURMU (KEONJHAR): Thank you, Sir. Elephants move a long distance in search of food and require a substantial area. But habitat loss, expansion of human habitation and fragmentation of traditional elephant corridors have forced the elephants to split into a number of metapopulations or herds and move to new areas in search of food and shelter. As a result of this, the interface of elephant and man has increased manifold.

Elephant corridor acts as a passage for the animals to move from place to place without any hindrance. However, there is a concern with regard to safety of the animals in the mining areas. It is often seen that in mining areas large mass of land caves endangers the lives of these precious animals. Under such a scenario, there is a need to ensure safety of elephant corridors both in mining areas and other areas where corridors exist.

Therefore, I urge upon the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate change to make a study on the safety of elephant corridors and also take necessary steps to safeguard these corridors.

Thank you, Sir.