

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2094

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2015

ELEPHANT CORRIDORS

Antony Shri Anto ;Chauhan Shri Devusinh Jesingbhai;Giluwa Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Elephant corridors/elephant zones located in the country, along with the measures taken to improve the efficacy of such corridors/zones State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up more elephant corridors and elephant zones in the country including Jharkhand;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the salient features of the Elephant corridor project in the country along with the funds sanctioned/released for various projects during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) State-Wise Details of Elephant Reserves in the country are given in Annexure-I. Steps taken to improve efficacy of elephant reserves/corridors are given below;
 - (i) Financial and Technical assistance is provided to 16 elephant range states under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Elephant'.
 - (ii) Regular and extensive patrolling and anti poaching measures are taken.
 - (iii) Trainings and awareness camps are organised regularly for local people for conservation of elephants and other wildlife.
 - (iv) Habitat improvement and eco-restoration is taken up in critical areas of elephant corridors.
 - (v) Forest Protection Force is deployed in vulnerable forest areas.
 - (vi) Mitigation measures for human elephant conflict, including ex-gratia payment to villagers for loss of life and property, are adopted.
- (b)&(c) Elephant Task Force has recommended declaration of a total of 32 Elephant Reserves across the country. No additional elephant corridor is proposed to be created in Jharkhand.
- (d) Elephant Corridors link two or more patches of forests within elephant reserves. Details of funds related to States under 'Project Elephant' Scheme during 2011-12 to 2014-15 are given in Annexure-II.