

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 891
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2018

Elephant Corridors as Eco-Sensitive Zones

891. SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:
SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has been directed by the National Green Tribunal to declare all elephant corridors in the country as 'Eco-sensitive zones', if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the list of elephant corridors in the country including Uttar Pradesh, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) the criteria and procedure for declaring any area as an 'Eco-sensitive zone';
- (d) the implications and effects of declaring an area as an 'Eco-sensitive zone'; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to declare all elephant corridors in the country as 'Eco-sensitive zones' in compliance with the direction of the National Green Tribunal, if so, the details thereof and the time by which the same will be done?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide order dated 14.11.2018 directed Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) to look into the issue by declaring elephant corridors all over the country as Eco Sensitive Zone by exercising its power under Environment Protection Act, 1986.
- (b) The Elephant Task Force Report, 2010 titled 'Gajah' has identified 27 priority I and 61 priority II elephant corridors. Details of the corridors are given in **Annexure A**. The list of corridors reported by states is at **Annexure B**.
- (c) The Ministry 's guidelines for declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zones (ESZ) provide that the State Chief Wildlife Warden, on the suggestion of the committee comprising of concerned wildlife warden, an ecologist, an official from the local self-government and an official from the revenue department, can group the activities within the ESZ in "Prohibited", "Restricted with safeguards" (regulatory) and "Permissible" categories. Once the proposal for ESZ has been finalized the same may be forwarded by the states to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for the further process and notification.

- (d) The National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) indicates that “Areas outside the protected area network are often vital ecological corridor links and must be protected to prevent isolation of fragments of biodiversity which will not survive in the long run. The Action Plan also indicates that “All areas around Protected Areas and wildlife corridors to be declared as ecologically fragile under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. India’s National Wildlife Action Plan 2017-31 also stress on the need of securing wildlife corridors and drawing up plans for management of these corridors including prevention of ecologically unsustainable activities. Declaring an area as ESZ will regulate the unsustainable activities in a given area which will ensure the protection of habitat and also free movement of animals. Declaration of ESZ will ensure the long-term survival of many species.
- (e) In compliance of the Hon’ble Tribunal judgment dated 14th November, 2018 in the Writ Petition No. 246 of 2018 Pradip Kumar Bhuyan & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Ors, direction, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is examining the feasibility of declaration of elephant corridors across the country as ESZ. The Ministry had issued many advisories and guidelines to all elephant ranging states to secure the elephant corridors by acquisition of land and in case it is not possible to secure the corridors by land acquisition the Ministry vide advisory dated 24th August, 2017 has directed to explore the feasibility of declaring such corridors as ESZ.

ANNEXURE -A

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 891 RAISED BY SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA AND SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL REGARDING 'ELEPHANT CORRIDORS AS ECO-SENSITIVE ZONES' DUE FOR REPLY ON 14.12.2018.

Elephant Corridors identified by Elephant Task Force "Gajah"

Priority I Elephant Corridors		Priority II Elephant Corridors	
S.No.	Elephant Corridor	S.No.	Elephant Corridor
1.	Chilla-Motichur	1.	Kansrau-Barkote
2.	Rawasan-Sonanadi (Via Landsdown)	2.	Motichur-Gohri
3.	South Patlidun-Chilkiya	3.	Rawasan-Sonanadi (Via Bijnor FD)
4.	Malani Kota	4.	Chilkiya-kota
5.	Simlipal-Satkosia	5.	Fatehpur-Gadgadiya
6.	Baula-Kuldhia	6.	Gora Rankhu and Gorai-Tanda
7.	Kotgarh-Chandrapur	7.	Kilpura-khatima-surai
8.	Buxa-Ripu at Sankosh	8.	Lagga Bagga - Kishenpur
9.	Ankua-Ambia	9.	Mahilong-Kalimati
10.	Pakke-Doimara at Dezling	10.	Chandil-Matha
11.	Pakke-Papum at Longka Nullah	11.	Dalma-Chandil
12.	Kalapahar-Daigurung	12.	Dalma-Rugai
13.	Kaziranga- Karbi Anglog at Panbari	13.	Jhunjhaka-Banduan
14.	Kaziranga- Karbi Anglong at Kanchanjuri	14.	Dalapani-Kankrajhor
15.	Pakke-Doimara at Tipi	15.	Dumriya-Nayagram
16.	Baghmara-Balpakram	16.	Dumriya-Kundaluka and Murakanjia
17.	Siju Rewak	17.	Leda-Bera
18.	Edayarhalli-Doddasampige	18.	Anjadbera-Bichaburu
19.	Kaniyanpura-Moyar	19.	Karo-Karampada
20.	Anaimali at Punachi	20.	Badampahar-Dhobadhobil
21.	Anaimalai between Siluvaimedu-Kadamparai	21.	Badampahar-Karida East
22.	Chamranagar-Talamalai at Muddahalli	22.	Kahnejena-Anantpur
23.	Kalamali - Singara and Avarahalla	23.	Tal-Kholgarh
24.	Moyar-Avarahalla	24.	Nuahgaon-Baruni
25.	Tirunelli - Kudrakote	25.	Mahananda-Kolbari and Tukriajhar
26.	Buoolavampatti-Attapadi	26.	Apalchand-Mahananda
27.	Anaimalai at Waterfalls Estate	27.	Apalchand-Gorumara

		28.	Apalchand-Kalimpong at mal block (Via Sylee)
		29.	Apalchand-Kalimpong at mal block (Via Meenglass)
		30.	Chapramari-Kalimpong
		31.	Rethi-Central Diana
		32.	Rethi-Moraghat
		33.	Dumchi-Rethi
		34.	Titi-Dumchi
		35.	Buxa- Titi (Via Torsa)
		36.	uxa- Titi (Via Beech and Barnbari)
		37.	Nemati - Chilapata
		38.	Pakke-Papum at Seijosa Nullah
		39.	Durpong-Doimukh at Khundakhuwa
		40.	Dulung-Subansari
		41.	D'ering - Mebo at Sigar Nalah
		42.	D'ering - Mebo at Kongkul
		43.	Kotha Burhidihing
		44.	Upper Dihing East - Upper Dihing West Block at Bogapani
		45.	Upper Dihing East - Upper Dihing West Block Between Golai-Pawai
		46.	Kukurakata-Bagser at Amguri
		47.	Charduar-Singri Hill
		48.	Saipunj-Narpuh
		49.	Rewak-Imangiri
		50.	Nokrek-Imangiri
		51.	Ranggira-Nokrek
		52.	Karadikkal-Madeswara
		53.	Tali
		54.	Chamrajnagar- Talamalai at Punjur
		55.	Talamalai-Guttiyalattur
		56.	Avarahalla-Sigur
		57.	Kalhatti-Sigur at Glen Corin
		58.	Nilambur Kovilakam - New Amarambalam
		59.	Periya at Pakranthalam
		60.	Kottiyur-Periya
		61.	Kallar at Gandhapallayam

ANNEXURE -B

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 891 RAISED BY SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA AND SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL REGARDING 'ELEPHANT CORRIDORS AS ECO-SENSITIVE ZONES' DUE FOR REPLY ON 14.12.2018.

List of Elephant Corridors Reported by the States

S.No.	State	Elephant Corridors
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1. Pakke-Doimara 2. Pakke-Papum
2.	Assam	1. Kalapahar-Daigurung 2. Kaziranga- Karbi Anglog at Panbari 3. Kaziranga- Karbi Anglong at Kanchanjuri 4. Kotha Burhidihing 5. Upper Dihing East - Upper Dihing West Block at Bogapani 6. Upper Dihing East - Upper Dihing West Block Between Golai-Pawai 7. Kukurakata-Bagser at Amguri 8. Charduar-Singri Hill 9. Lakhipathar - Takowani
3.	Maharashtra	Nil
4.	Meghalaya	1. Baghmara-Balpakram 2. Siju Rewak 3. Rewak-Imangiri 4. Nokrek-Imangiri 5. Ranggipara-Nokrek 6. Saipung-Narpuh 7.
5.	Nagaland	Six elephant corridors have been identified by the state of Nagaland and the name has not been furnished by the state.
6.	Odisha	1. Badampahar-Dhobadhobani 2. Badampahar-Karida 3. West Bengal-Deuli-Suliapda 4. Simlipal-Satkosia 5. Telkoi-Pallahara 6. Karo-Karampada 7. Moulabhanja-Jiridamali-Anantapur 8. Kahnejena-Anantapur 9. Buguda-Central RF 10. Nuagaon-Baruni 11. Tal-Kholgarh 12. Barpahad-Tarava-Kantamal 13. Kotagarh-chandrapur 14. Karlapat-Urladani
7.	Tamil Nadu	1. Segur 2. Moyar Valley 3. Kallar Jaccanari

8.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil
9.	Kerala	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kottiyur-Periya 2. Begur-Brahmagiri 3. Nilambur Kovilakam 4. Periya at Pakranthalam 5. Tirunelli – Kudrakote 6. Niambur Kovilakam- New Amarambalam 7. Mudumalai-Nilambu via O'Valley 8. Shanamangalam-Padiri 9. Aryankavu
10.	Madhya Pradesh	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Singrauli Sidhi -Guru Ghasidas 2. Sidhi Singrauli -Palamau
11.	Uttarakhand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chilla-Motichur 2. Rawasan-Sonanadi 3. South Patlidu-Chilklya 4. Malani-Kota
12.	Jharkhand	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mahilong-Kalimati 2. Chandil-Matha 3. Dalma-Chandil 4. Dalma-Rugai 5. Dalma-Asanbani 6. Musabani-Chakulia 7. Leda-Bera 8. Ankua-Ambia 9. Anjadbera-Bichaburu
13.	Karnataka	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Edarahalli-Doddasampige 2. Chamarajanagar – Talamalai 3. Goramadu Doddi- Dodda Muddahalli