

Sl. No.	Elephant Corridor	Sl. No.	Elephant Corridor
44.	Upper Dihing East - Upper Dihing West Block at Bogapani	53.	Tali
45.	Upper Dihing East - Upper Dihing West Block Between Golai-Pawai	54.	Chamrajnagar- Talamalai at Punjur
46.	Kukurakata-Bagser at Amguri	55.	Talamalai-Guttiyalattur
47.	Charduar-Singri Hill	56.	Avarahalla-Sigur
48.	Saipunj-Narpuh	57.	Kalhatti-Sigur at Glen Corin
49.	Rewak-Imangiri	58.	Nilambur Kovilakam - New Amarambalam
50.	Nokrek-Imangiri	59.	Periya at Pakranthalam
51.	Ranggira-Nokrek	60.	Kottiyur-Periya
52.	Karadikkal-Madeswara	61.	Kallar at Gandhapallayam

Action plan for formulation of National Parks

1784. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to formulate any new action plan for development of National Parks to protect wild animals in the country; and

(b) if so, the number of such National Parks for which Government has formulated such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to formulate any new Action Plan for development of National Parks to protect wild animals in the country. The concerned State/UT Governments prepare Management Plans for National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries for a period of ten years in consultation with the scientific institutes to ensure better management of Protected Areas.

Diversion of forest land

1785. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 2,500 hectares of forest land is being diverted across the country and especially in Andhra Pradesh in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of the wildlife to be affected in the process; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure compensatory afforestation and maintenance in lieu of diverted forest land across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) At present the rate of diversion of forest land for non forestry activities, in the entire country, including Andhra Pradesh, is roughly about 20,000-25,000 hectares per year. Simultaneously, barring Central PSU projects and other exempt categories, all project proponents give alternate revenue/non-forest land for compensatory afforestation. Thus forest land increased roughly by about 18,635 hectares in the last three years. The process of diversion of forest land for various developmental activities is an ongoing process. The Governments of the State /Union Territory concerned scrutinises proposals received for diversion of forest land, and only the proposals duly recommended by Governments of the State /Union Territory concerned, are considered by the Ministry (including its Regional Offices) under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Use of forest areas for such activities are approved by the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 with adequate safeguards and compensatory afforestation measures in lieu of forest land proposed to be utilized for developmental activities.

Forest land diversion is allowed only after checking that the activity concerned is site specific and cannot be carried anywhere else. Non-forestry activities in the forest areas indeed affect the wildlife of the area. The Ministry, after examination of the proposals seeking diversion of forest land, recommends need based project specific studies to assess the impact of project activity on the flora and fauna in the area proposed to be diverted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. It recommends necessary safeguards accordingly such as, additional conditions viz. project specific Wildlife Conservation Plan, Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan, additional compensatory afforestation, site specific soil conservation measures, specific studies on impact of project activities on flora and fauna, measures to facilitate wildlife movement across the roads and railway lines etc. Further, in case a proposal involves diversion of forest land located within a Protected Area notified in accordance with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, approval of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) is required to be obtained by the concerned user agency before grant of approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and conditions

recommended by the NBWL are required to be complied with by the concerned user agency. Additionally, projects falling in the important tiger habitats are also examined by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) to ensure protection and conservation of the tiger habitats.

The Central Government ensures compensatory afforestation and its maintenance in lieu of diverted forest land by monitoring of plantation programmes. The Annual Plan of Operations approved by the State Governments stipulates Compensatory Afforestation to be done during the financial year and the required fund is released to the State Government under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) for achieving this purpose. It is achieved by way of verification of fund utilization certificates, quarterly progress report and monitoring by Regional Offices of the Ministry and third party monitoring by the States. Further the geo-coordinates of all the sanctioned plantations are also being submitted by the planting agencies/State Governments. The compensatory afforestation works are also monitored through the E-green watch programme under the supervision of the Forest Survey of India, Dehradun.

Effect of water pollution in mining areas

1786. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to address the effect of water pollution in mining areas due to release of different toxic metals like arsenic, mercury, chromium, nickel etc. from the coals and mine spoil heaps;

(b) whether it is a fact that a full inventory of water resources has not been undertaken for Jharkhand yet;

(c) whether an assessment of water quality in terms of chemical indicators, biodiversity indicators, quantification of contaminants, etc. has been done in case of Jharkhand; and

(d) what steps are being taken to address these issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The water pollution related issues in mining areas are addressed as per the conditions imposed in Environmental Clearance and consent mechanism administered by the respective State Pollution Control Board through Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate. Ministry