

MINUTES OF 39th ESZ EXPERT COMMITTEE MEETING FOR THE DECLARATION OF ECO-SENSITIVE ZONE (ESZ) AROUND PROTECTED AREAS (WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES/NATIONAL PARKS/TIGER RESERVES) HELD ON 4TH FEBRUARY, 2020 IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE

The 39th meeting of Expert Committee on Eco-Sensitive Zone was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Ravi Agrawal, Additional Secretary, MoEF&CC on 4th February, 2020 in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi. List of participants is annexed (**Annexure**).

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members and the participants from the States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand. The representatives from the State of West Bengal and Jharkhand were absent. Discussions on each of agenda item were taken up subsequently.

3. Following 16 Eco-sensitive Zone (ESZ) proposals listed in the agenda were taken for consideration. The representatives of respective State Government presented their proposal for the consideration of the Expert Committee:

S. No.	State/UT	Protected Area	Status
(1).	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary	Fresh proposal
(2).	Jharkhand	Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary	Amendment of the final Notification
(3).	Madhya Pradesh	Kharmor (Sardarpur) Sanctuary	Deferred proposal
(4).	Madhya Pradesh	Ghuga Fossil National Park	Amendment Proposal for final Notification
(5).	Madhya Pradesh	Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary	Amendment Proposal of the final Notification
(6).	Madhya Pradesh	Narsinghgarh Wildlife Sanctuary	Amendment Proposal of the final Notification
(7).	Karnataka	Kudremukh National Park	Re-notified Fresh proposal
(8).	Karnataka	Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary	Re-notified Fresh proposal
(9).	Karnataka	Chincholi Wildlife Sanctuary	Amendment proposal of the final Notification
(10).	West Bengal	Ballavpur Sanctuary	Fresh proposal
(11).	West Bengal	Ramnabagan Sanctuary	Amendment proposal of the final Notification
(12).	Rajasthan	Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary	Re-notified fresh proposal

S. No.	State/UT	Protected Area	Status
(13).	Rajasthan	Kesarbagh Wildlife Sanctuary	Re-notified fresh proposal
(14).	Rajasthan	Keoladeo National Park	Amendment proposal of the final Notification
(15).	Maharashtra	Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary	Fresh proposal
(16).	Maharashtra	Naigaon Mayur Sanctuary	Fresh proposal

4. Discussion on the ESZ Proposals

4.1 Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh

Shri D. Nalini Mohan, PCCF WL & CWLW and Smt T. Nagamaneswari, DCF (WL), Andhra Pradesh Forest Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh attended the Meeting and DCF (WL) apprised the Committee about the proposal. It was informed that the draft ESZ Notification of Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh was published on 28th November, 2019. The salient features of the draft Eco-sensitive Zone (ESZ) are as follows:

Area of PA	:	194.81 sq km
Proposed ESZ area	:	175.33 sq km
Proposed Extent	:	1.00 kilometre uniform

Representative of the State Government explained that Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary is a unique eco-system characterized by tidal forest (Mangrove) in the Krishna estuarine area. While enquiring the prominent fauna of the Sanctuary, it was mentioned that the animal of the Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary mainly comprised of avifauna such as Indian shag, Indian reef heron, little bittern, chestnut bittern, spoonbill, bar headed crab plover, black bellied tern, black capped kingfisher, etc.

The State apprised the Committee that the extent of ESZ around the protected area is 1.0 kilometre uniform except at one point on the northern boundary i.e. between survey stations 11 and 12, where Nachugunta Reserve Forest Block is included in ESZ, the extent is 2.90 km. Thus, the extent of ESZ is technically ranges between 1.00 km and 2.90 km. The State Government requested to incorporate the changes in the ESZ Notification.

On the comments/objections received on the draft Notification, the representative of State informed that no comments/objections were received from the stakeholders/public.

Based on the presentation made and discussions held, the Committee recommended for the finalization of the draft Notification incorporating the above change in the ESZ extent.

4.2 Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary, Jharkhand- Amendment in Final Notification

The State Government representative was absent in the Meeting. With the permission of the Chair, the concerned Officer of the Ministry apprised the status of the Notification to the Committee. The final ESZ Notification for Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary in Jharkhand State was published on 29th March, 2012. The salient features of the declared Eco-sensitive Zone are:

Area of PA	:	193.5077 sq km
Proposed ESZ area	:	522.98 sq km
Proposed Extent	:	0 (zero) to 5 kms

The said Notification has listed 51 villages falling within the Eco-sensitive Zone of the Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary. The State Government has cognizant and submitted proposal for amendment of the Notification. It was mentioned that the maximum extent of the ESZ is 5 kilometres from the boundary of the Protected Area and 13 villages out of 51 are situated beyond the 10 kilometres from the boundary of PA. Therefore, State Government has proposed to remove these 13 villages from the ESZ Notification.

The Committee emphasized that if outside villages are included in the ESZ, then proposed amendment of the State is conceptually right. However, validations of the village's location along with their geo-coordinates need to be checked based on the village map and available Decision Support System (DSS) in the Ministry.

Based on the discussions held, the Committee recommended for amendment of the ESZ Notification subject to submission of requisite map marked with village locations by the State Government and authentication.

4.3 Kharmor (Sardarpur) Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh

The draft ESZ Notification of Kharmor (Sardarpur) Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh was published on 10th October, 2019. It was included in the agenda of 38th meeting of ESZ Expert Committee held on 17th December, 2019. Consideration of the proposal was deferred on the request of the State Government.

Shri L. L. Vikey, DCF, DFO, Dhar, Forest Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh apprised the Committee about the proposal. It was informed that the draft Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) Notification has the following features:

Area of PA	:	348.12 sq km
Proposed ESZ area	:	16.97 sq km
Proposed Extent	:	0.250 kms uniform

While enquiring about the prominent fauna of the Sanctuary, the representative of the State Government elaborated that avifauna namely lesser florican (kharmor) is the major fauna of the area. Apart from this, langur, jackal, Indian fox, striped hyaena and nilgai also found in the Kharmor (Sardarpur) Wildlife Sanctuary.

The Committee discussed aptness of the proposed ESZ extent in protecting the available fauna. The Experts agreed on the proposed extent. It was also informed that no comments/objections were received from the stakeholders/public.

Further, the representative of the State Government sought shifting of the activity listed in the draft Notification "Undertaking other activities related to tourism like flying over the Eco-sensitive Zone area by hot air balloon, helicopter, drones, Microlites, etc." from regulated activity to prohibited activity.

Based on the presentation made and discussions held, the Committee recommended for the finalization of the draft Notification with above changes.

4.4 Narsingarh Wildlife Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh-Amendment in Final Notification.

Shri J. S. Rathore, Superintendent, Forest Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh apprised the Committee that the final ESZ Notification of Narsingarh Wildlife Sanctuary which was published on 26th September, 2017 and the following minor corrections are required in the Notification:

- I. In Page 12, line 14, of the English version of the Notification, the word “Tiger (Panthera tigris)” is to be replaced as “Leopard (Panthera pardus)”.
- II. In the Hindi version of the final ESZ Notification, spelling errors to be incorporated for the village names as per the list provided by the State.
- III. In page 8 (Hindi version of the Notification) and in page 18 (English Version of the Notification), under para 5, in the constitution of the Monitoring Committee, Divisional Forest Officer, Rajgarh shall be included as Member Secretary and Wildlife Warden, Narshingarh Wildlife Sanctuary is to be replaced as Member.

Based on the presentation made and discussion held and also taking note of factual corrections, the Committee recommended for amendment in the Notification.

4.5 Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh- Amendment in Final Notification

Shri J. S. Rathore, Superintendent, Forest Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh apprised the Committee that the final ESZ Notification of Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary which was published on 26th September, 2017 and the following minor corrections are required in the above Notification:

- I. In Page 2, line 38 of the Hindi version of the Notification and of page 17, line 34 of the English version of the Notification, the extent of ESZ mentioned as “250 meters” is to be amended as “1.00 kilometre”.
- II. In the English and Hindi version of the final ESZ Notification, spelling errors to be incorporated for the village names as per the list provided by the State.

Based on the presentation made and discussion held and also taking note of factual corrections, the Committee recommended for amendment in the Notification.

4.6 Ghugwa Fossil National Park in Madhya Pradesh- Amendment in Final Notification

Shri J.S. Rathore, Superintendent, Forest Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh apprised the Committee that the final ESZ Notification of Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary which was published on 15th September, 2017 and the following minor corrections are required in the above Notification:

- I. In page 18, under Para 5, Monitoring Committee in sub-para (i), (iii) and (iv), the word “Rewa” is to be replaced as “Jabalpur”.
- II. Similarly, under Para 5, sub-para (ii), (v), (vii) and (viii), the word “Singrauli” is to be replaced as “Dindori”.

Based on the presentation made and discussion held and also taking note of factual corrections, the Committee recommended for amendment in the Notification.

4.7 Kudremukh National Park, Karnataka

Shri Ruthran P. DCF, Kudremukh, Forest Department, Government of Karnataka apprised the Committee about the proposal. It was informed that the ESZ draft re-Notification of Kudremukh National Park, Karnataka was published on 25th October, 2019 with the following features:

Area of PA	:	600.57 sq km
Proposed ESZ area	:	316.63 sq km
Proposed Extent	:	0 (zero) to 9.60 kms

It was explained that Kudremukh National Park is located at the tri-junction of revenue districts Udupi, Dakshina Kannada and Chikmagalur of Karnataka. The Sanctuary along with Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary became part of UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Representative of the State Government informed that the zero extent of the proposed Eco-Sensitive Zone is due to border of Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary. About 60.19 sq. km. reserved forests were incorporated in the proposed Eco-Sensitive Zone. There are 58 villages falling in the Eco-sensitive zone and 108 enclosure villages within the limits of Kudremukh National Park has been included in the Eco-Sensitive Zone.

On the prominent fauna available in the Sanctuary in and around the protected area, the representative of the State Government mentioned that tiger, common leopard and sloth bear are the major fauna of the Sanctuary.

The comments/objections received from the stakeholders/public were duly discussed in the meeting. Based on the presentation made and discussions held, the Committee recommended for the finalization of the draft Notification.

4.8 Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka

Shri Sanjay Mohan, PCCF(WL), Forest Department, Government of Karnataka apprised the Committee about the proposal. It was informed that the ESZ draft re-Notification of Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka was published on 25th October, 2019 with the following features:

Area of PA	:	314.25 sq km
Proposed ESZ area	:	142.56 sq km
Proposed Extent	:	0 (zero) to 7.80 kms

It was elaborated that Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Udupi and Shivamogga district in Karnataka State. The proposed ESZ includes all the reserved forest in close proximity of the Sanctuary. The prominent fauna of the Sanctuary are lion tailed macaque, bonnet macaque, sloth bear, common langur, giant flying squirrel, king cobra, etc. The zero extent of ESZ is due to adjoining border with other protected area i.e. Kudremukh National Park.

Comments/objections received from the stakeholders/public in the draft Notification were duly considered. State Government requested for giving additional time in seeking any objections or suggestions on the proposals. However, the Expert Committee responded that after the expiry of the previous Draft Notification, the present re-notified draft was published and placed in public domain for 60 days to seek stakeholders comments. Further the area proposed in the draft notification dated 25.10.2019 (under consideration) is same as the area notified in the previous draft notification dated 13.01.2016. The said draft lapsed after 545 days. Therefore, adequate time for public response in respect of the proposed area has already been given. Therefore, keeping in view the delay already caused in finalization of this notification, further time for seeking comments does not appear warranted on the re-notified draft Notification.

Based on the presentation made and discussions held, the Committee recommended for finalization of the draft Notification.

4.9 Chincholi Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka- Amendment in Final Notification

Shri Sanjay Mohan, PCCF (WL), Forest Department, Government of Karnataka apprised the Committee that the final ESZ Notification of Chincholi Wildlife

Sanctuary was published on 9th August, 2019. The total area of the Eco-sensitive Zone is 165.28 sq km having extent ranges from 0 (zero) to 9.8 kms.

The State Government mentioned that the boundary description of the notified Eco-sensitive Zone needs to be corrected as under:

In page 32 of the final Notification, Para 4, Annexure I, the phrase “From the above point the line passes through Sy. Nos. (134 part), 119, 118, 24, 25, 26, 30, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 of Miriyan village” is to be replaced as “From the above point line passes through Sy. No. (Part 134), 119, 118 of Miriyan Village and Sy. No. 24, 25, 26, 30, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 of Bhairampalli Village”. Revised map was also provided.

Based on the presentation made and discussions held, the Committee recommended for amendment in the Notification.

4.10 Ballavpur Wildlife Sanctuary, West Bengal

No representative from the State Government attended the meeting. With the permission of the Chairman, the concerned Officer of the Ministry elaborated the proposal to the Committee.

The draft Notification of the Ballavpur Wildlife Sanctuary was published on 25th September, 2019. The salient features of the draft Eco-sensitive Zone (ESZ) are as follows:

Area of PA	:	2.021 sq km
Proposed ESZ area:	:	1.029 sq km
Proposed Extent	:	100 meters uniform

It was revealed that no comments/objections were received from the stakeholders/public. After detailed discussions, the Committee recommended for the finalization of the draft Notification.

4.11 Ramnabagan Wildlife Sanctuary, West Bengal- Amendment in Final Notification

No representative from the State Government attended the meeting. With the permission of the Chairman, the concerned Officer of the Ministry elaborated the proposal to the Committee.

The final ESZ Notification for Ramnabagan Sanctuary, West Bengal was published on 29th August, 2019. After publication of the final Notification, the State

Government has requested this Ministry for the following amendment in the final Notification:

In page 22, under para 5, in Monitoring Committee at SI No. (ii), Column 2 the word “Chief Wildlife Warden, Ramnabagan Wildlife Division, West Bengal”, is to be replaced as “Chief Wildlife Warden or his representatives, Ramnabagan Wildlife Division, West Bengal”.

After detailed deliberation, the Committee taking note of factual corrections, recommended for amendment in the Notification.

4.12 Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan

Shri Furkan Ali Khatri, DCF, NCS, Sawai Madhopur, Forest Department, Government of Rajasthan apprised the Committee about the proposal. It was informed that the draft for Eco-Sensitive Zone around Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan was re-notified on 4th November, 2019 with the following features:

Area of PA : 138.69 sq. kms
 Proposed ESZ area : 108.00 sq. kms
 Proposed ESZ extent: zero -3.0 kms.

Representative of the State described that in view of the representations received on the draft Notification, the Government of Rajasthan is in the process of public consultation. Based on the consultation with stakeholder, the State may revise the proposal. Accordingly, the State Government sought deferment on the proposal. On the request of the State Government, further consideration of the proposal was deferred by the Committee to next meeting.

4.13 Kesarbagh Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan

Shri Furkan Ali Khatri, DCF, NCS, Sawai Madhopur, Forest Department, Government of Rajasthan apprised the Committee about the proposal. It was informed that the Eco-Sensitive Zone for Kesarbagh Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan was re-notified on 18th November, 2019 with the following features:

Area of PA : 14.76 sq km
 Proposed ESZ area : 18.30 sq km
 Proposed Extent : 1.0 kilometre uniform

It was mentioned that Kesarbagh Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in the district of Dholpur in Rajasthan. The major fauna available in the protected area are hyena, jungle cat and jackal, etc. The Sanctuary is a potential habitat for leopard. Migratory birds are also observed in the water bodies of the Sanctuary.

It was also informed that no comments/objections were received from the stakeholders/public.

Based on the presentation made and discussion held, the Committee recommended for the finalization of the re-notified draft Notification.

4.14 Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan-Amendment in Final Notification

With the permission of the Chairman, concerned Officer of the Ministry apprised the Committee about the proposed amendment.

It was mentioned that the Final Eco-Sensitive Notification declaring the Keoladeo National Park in Rajasthan was published vide S.O. No. 2606(E) on 19th July 2019. The notification prohibited use or production or processing of any hazardous substances (except as otherwise provided) as per the applicable laws. [Paragraph 4, Table of activities, column 5 of the notification]

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide its order dated 16th October, 2019 in M. A. 105/2019 in Original Application No. 235/2017, in the matter of Vipas Pandit Vs. Union of India, directed the Ministry to amend the above said Notification w.r.t. above referred activity and ordered to prohibit use of pesticide, insecticide and herbicide in Column 5 above.

To comply with the above Order, a draft Amendment was published vide S.O. 4150(E) on 19th November, 2019 inviting objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby, within the period of sixty days. No comments/suggestions were received from the stakeholders.

Based on the discussions held and in order to comply with the order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, the Committee recommended for amendment in the final Notification.

4.15 Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary, Maharashtra

Shri Virendra Tiwari, APCCF (MC), Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra apprised the Committee about the proposal. It was informed that the

draft ESZ Notification of Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary was published on 6th November, 2019 with the following features:

Area of PA : 16.90 sq km
Proposed ESZ area : 34.05 sq km
Proposed Extent : 0 (zero) to 3.50 kms

It was mentioned that Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary is located in Mumbai Suburban district of Maharashtra. The Sanctuary has rich diversity of avian fauna and recorded about 157 bird species including greater flamingo, lesser flamingo, grey plover, common sandpiper, etc.

The comments/objections, received from the stakeholders/public were duly discussed in the Meeting. The representative of the State Government mentioned that the Sanctuary is located at the middle of the highly urbanized area of Mumbai and Navi Mumbai and it is close to Thane city.

The proposed zero extent of ESZ, was justified by the State. The ESZ towards southern side of the Sanctuary is bordering the Vashi Bridge and further south more commercial part of Thane Creek does not add any ecological value to the Sanctuary. On the other hand, the prohibitions and regulations in the ESZ are major impediments towards the development aspirations of the Metropolitan city of Mumbai. Similarly, in the north ESZ extent is zero. During the presentation, it was also mentioned that immediately north of the Sanctuary limit, the urban sprawl of Mumbai and Thane begins, which limits the scope of extending ESZ beyond the Sanctuary boundary.

Further, the Committee observed that the forest area adjoining the Sanctuary may be included in the ESZ. The State Government mentioned that the forest area is already protected and need not to be included in the proposed Eco-Sensitive Zone. The Chair suggested that inclusion of such forest area in the Eco-Sensitive Zone can help better protection of the area and fortification in legal standpoint. The State Government agreed to explore the possibility of including such forest area in proposed ESZ.

The State Government further requested for correction of errors observed in the geo-coordinates and the maps of the draft Notification.

Based on the presentation made and discussions held, the Committee decided that the State Govt. has to explore the possibility of including the forest area in ESZ. The State Govt. was also advised to revise the proposal for early consideration in the next meeting of the Expert Committee on ESZ.

4.16 Naigaon Mayur Sanctuary, Maharashtra

Shri P. K. Mahajan, Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra made a presentation of the proposal. It was informed that the draft ESZ Notification of Naigaon Mayur Sanctuary, Maharashtra was published on 18th November, 2019 with the following features:

Area of PA	:	29.90 sq km
Proposed ESZ area	:	28.90 sq km
Proposed Extent	:	100- 200 meters

It was mentioned that the Sanctuary is located in Beed district and characterized by hilly landscape comprising of 12 patches. There are about 10 small water bodies inside the protected area which create suitable habitats for aquatic birds and Peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*). Peafowl is the main species of Naigaon Mayur Sanctuary. The Sanctuary has recorded about 8200 peafowl in 2019 census. The proposed ESZ includes 29 villages and the forest areas.

It was also informed that no comments/objections were received from the stakeholders/public within the stipulated period.

Based on the presentation made and discussions held, the Committee recommended for the finalization of the draft Notification.

5. Based on the discussion on the draft, re-draft and final Eco-Sensitive Zone Notification as well as deliberation on the comments/suggestion/objection received from stakeholders/public, the Expert Committee recommended the following:

S. No.	Protected Area	State	Recommendation of Expert Committee
(1).	Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary	Andhra Pradesh	Recommended for finalization of the draft Notification
(2).	Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary	Jharkhand	Recommended for amendment of final Notification subject to submission of information from the State Government.

S. No.	Protected Area	State	Recommendation of Expert Committee
(3).	Kharmor (Sardarpur) Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh	Recommended for finalization of the draft Notification
(4).	Ghuga Fossil National Park	Madhya Pradesh	Recommended for the amendment of the final Notification.
(5).	Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh	Recommended for the amendment of the final Notification.
(6).	Narsinghgarh Wildlife Sanctuary	Madhya Pradesh	Recommended for the amendment of the final Notification.
(7).	Kudremukh National Park	Karnataka	Recommended for finalization of the draft Notification
(8).	Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	Recommended for finalization of the draft Notification
(9).	Chincholi Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	Recommended for the amendment of the final Notification.
(10).	Ballavpur Sanctuary	West Bengal	Recommended for finalization of the draft Notification
(11).	Ramnabagan Sanctuary	West Bengal	Recommended for the amendment of the final Notification.
(12).	Bassi Wildlife Sanctuary	Rajasthan	Deferred on the request of the State Government.
(13).	Kesarbagh Wildlife Sanctuary	Rajasthan	Recommended for finalization of the re-draft Notification
(14).	Keoladeo National Park	Rajasthan	Recommended for the amendment of the final Notification.
(15).	Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary	Maharashtra	Recommended for revision of the proposal for further consideration in next ESZ meeting.
(16).	Naigaon Mayur Sanctuary	Maharashtra	Recommended for finalization of the draft.

6. Meeting ended with vote of thanks to and from the Chair.

Annexure**39th Expert Committee Meeting on ESZ held on 4th February, 2020****List of Participants****Members of Expert Committee**

1. Shri Ravi Agrawal, Additional Secretary, MoEF&CC, Chairperson.
2. Dr. S. C. Garkoti, Adviser, MoEF&CC.
3. Shri K. Chandra Sekar, Scientist 'E', GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, Almora.
4. Dr. C. Raghunathan, Scientist-E, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata.
5. Shri K. Sankar, Director, Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History.
6. Ms. Vishaish Uppal, Director, WWF India.
7. Shri R K Singh, Director, Department of Land Resources.
8. Dr. Sarita Jain, Research Director, ICFRE, Dehradun.
9. Shri Sanjay K. Agarwal, Deputy Director, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun
10. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Raut, Associate Town & Country Planner, TCPO, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.
11. Dr. Monali, IFS, WII, Dehradun.
12. Dr. Mayank D. Dwivedi, Research Associate, BGIR, Botanical Survey of India, Noida.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GOI

13. Dr. Subrata Bose, Director (SC-'F'), MoEF&CC.
14. Shri Pankaj Verma, Additional Director (SC-'E'), MoEF&CC.
15. Dr. Veenu Joon, Deputy Director (SC-'C'), MoEF&CC.
16. Dr Shaikhom Inaotombi Singh (Consultant – ESZ), MoEF&CC.

Officials of Government of Maharashtra

17. Shri Virendra Tiwari, APCCF (MC), Government of Maharashtra, Government of Maharashtra.
18. Shri M.B. Telang, Divisional Forest Officer, Maharashtra Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra.
19. Shri P.K. Mahajan, Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra.

20. Dr. Rajendre I. Nale, ACF(WL), Maharashtra Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra.

Officials of Government of Rajasthan

21. Shri Furkan Ali Khatri, DCF, NCS, Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan, Forest Department, Rajasthan, Government of Rajasthan.

Officials of Government of Andhra Pradesh

22. Shri D. Nalini Mohan, PCCF WL & CWLW AP, APFD, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
23. Ms. T. Nagamaneswari, DCF (WL), Andhra Pradesh Forest Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Officials of Government of Karnataka

24. Shri Sanjay Mohan, PCCF(WL), Karnataka Forest Department, Government of Karnataka.
25. Shri Ruthran. P. DCF, Kudremukh WL Division, Karnataka Forest Department, Government of Karnataka.

Officials of Government of Madhya Pradesh

26. Shri L.L. Vikey, DCF, DFO, Dhar, Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
27. Shri J.S. Rathore, Supdt. WWS Narsingharh, Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
28. Shri Madhu V. Raj, DFO, Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
29. Shri Alok Nayak, Sr scientific Officer, EPCO Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
30. Shri Seva Ram Matur, SDO, Department of Forest.
