

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 854
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

Elephant habitats in the country

854. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN:

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

- (a) whether elephant sanctuaries in the country do not promise high standards of conservation of elephant habitats as they are not recognized under any law;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to provide legal validity therefor;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has not yet implemented the recommendations of several expert committees and the country is consistently under-funding the Project Elephant; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for the low funding of the Project Elephant and the time by which the recommendations of the committees would be implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a)&(b) Elephant Reserves overlap with Tiger Reserves, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Reserved Forests which are protected under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Indian Forest Act, 1927 and other State local Acts.
- (c)&(d) After due diligence, the recommendations of the committees constituted by the Government of India are considered for implementation. The funding assistance under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Elephant' has been enhanced. The details are given below:

(Rs. in crore)

Project Elephant	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Budget Estimate	27.50	30.00	30.00	35.00	33.00	35.00
