

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1316
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2025

Wildlife protection in Kaziranga National Park

1316. MS. SUSHMITA DEV

Will the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of implementation of wildlife-friendly measures on NH-715 stretch passing through Kaziranga National Park;
- (b) the projected timeline for completion of 34.45 km elevated corridor and bypasses to facilitate free and safe movement of wildlife;
- (c) the measures in place to monitor and mitigate the adverse impacts of highway widening on habitat connectivity and species mortality; and
- (d) whether any independent ecological assessments and local community consultations have been undertaken or planned for this project?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (d) As per the information received from the state; NHAI is implementing the project Widening and Improvement of Existing Carriageway to 4 Lane Configuration from Kaliabor to Numaligarh section (Ch. 315.315 to Ch 402.300) of NH-37 (New NH-715) under which wildlife friendly measures for facilitating movement of animals shall be incorporated. Approval of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life (SCNBWL) has been obtained for the said project during the 78th meeting of SCNBWL. As per the conditions of SCNBWL, the timeline of elevated road construction is 24 months. The SCNBWL has recommended mitigation measures and has also put in place a monitoring system to mitigate the impacts of the highway widening on habitat connectivity.

An ecological assessment of the highway stretch has been conducted by WII, as part of the NTCA-funded research project on understanding the impacts of the road on wildlife. Further, several research studies, including those by the Research wing of the Assam Forest Department, have been conducted in the past. These studies have contributed to a consensus on the important wildlife corridors being intersected by the highway, and have informed the mitigation plan.
