

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3955**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2022

**Minimizing Adverse Effects of Development Projects**

3955. SHRI G. M. SIDDESHWAR:  
SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

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

- (a) whether the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) has given necessary suggestions for minimizing the adverse effects of linear development projects (Railway lines, Highways, etc.) passing through forest areas?
- (b) if so, the details thereof?
- (c) whether the Government is proposing to give them the status of legal obligation in view of the recommendations made by WII and for absolute implementation of these recommendations in linear development projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) and (b) A guidance manual titled “Eco-Friendly Measures to Mitigate the Impacts of Linear Infrastructure on Wildlife” was released by the Ministry in December 2016. The document, which was prepared by the Wildlife Institute of India, provides detailed guidance for planning, locating, designing, implementing and operating smart green roads, railways and power-lines.
- (c) and (d) The Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life, in its 47<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018, recommended that user agencies should take into consideration the guidelines of the Wildlife Institute of India while designing linear infrastructure inside Protected Areas and Eco Sensitive Zones. The Ministry has advised the State/UT Forest Departments that linear infrastructure proposals should be accompanied by an animal passage plan prepared on the basis of the guidelines and in consultation with the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

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