

F. No. 2-7/1998-PE (Vol-I)
Government of India/ भारत सरकार
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change/पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन
मंत्रालय
(Project Tiger & Elephant Division /व्याप्र एवं हाथी परियोजना प्रभाग)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated: As per E-sign

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Proceedings of the 22nd Steering Committee Meeting of Project Elephant held on 21st December 2025 at Sundarbans Tiger Reserve, West Bengal -reg.

Pl. find enclosed herewith the approved proceedings of 22nd Steering Committee Meeting of Project Elephant held on 21st December 2025 at Sundarban Tiger Reserve, West Bengal under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, EFCC.

2. This issues with the approval of Hon'ble Minister, EFCC and Chairman, Steering Committee of Project Elephant.

Encls: as above.

(Dr Rajendra Kumar)
Scientist D (Project Elephant)

Distribution:

- All members of the Steering Committee of Project Elephant.

Copy to:

- PS to Hon'ble Minister, EFCC.
- PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, EFCC.
- PPS to Secretary, MoEF&CC.
- PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
- PS to ADGF (Wildlife), MoEF&CC.
- PS to ADGF (FC), MoEF&CC.
- PPS to AS&FA, MoEF&CC.
- PS to IGF (PT&E) & Director (Project Elephant), MoEF&CC.

Proceedings of the 22nd Steering Committee Meeting of Project Elephant
21st December 2025
Sundarbans Tiger Reserve, West Bengal

The 22nd meeting of the Steering Committee of the Project Elephant was held on 21st December 2025 at Sundarbans Tiger Reserve, West Bengal under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, Environment, Forests, and Climate Change, Government of India, **Shri. Bhupender Yadav**.

The list of participants is at **Annexure-1**.

22nd Project Elephant Steering Committee: Shri Ramesh Pandey, ADGF welcomed all the participants, followed by introduction of all the members. Afterwards, he made a brief presentation updating the committee about the progress made so far and also discussed the following agenda items:

Agenda-1: Action taken on the decisions made during the 21st Steering Committee and its Confirmation.

Decision	Action Taken
i. A Committee to analyse train-hit accidents of last 10 years and identify hot-spots shall be constituted, comprising Shri Anil Kumar, Dr. Bilal Habib, and representatives from the states of West Bengal, Assam, and Odisha.	Sub-committee was constituted via OM dated 07-08-2025. Phase 1 report has been submitted with priority stretches which have been communicated to M/o Railways and concerned CWLWs of the states.
ii. A Committee shall be constituted to study overlapping areas of Tiger and Elephant Reserves and for giving recommendations on evolving management mechanisms and conservation strategies for such areas.	Sub-committee was constituted via OM dated 24-09-2025. The meeting of the committee was held on 26/11/2025.
iii. During Wildlife Week, awareness programmes focusing on Human- Elephant Conflict (HEC) shall be organized in Kolkata in collaboration with Railways, the National Highway Authority, the Power department and Mining Departments etc. The	Wildlife Week awareness programmes focusing on Human- Elephant Conflict (HEC) was organized in collaboration with the Railways, National Highway Authority, Power Department, Mining Departments and other relevant agencies on 9th October, 2025 by West Bengal . Further Wildlife Week 2025 celebrations also held in CASFOS, Dehradun.

<p>programmes shall specifically target the Human- elephant conflict zones around railway lines, national highways, mining zones etc. The programmes be conducted region-wise by various Forest Training Institutes, SACON, IIFM Bhopal and WII Dehradun.</p>	
<p>iv. The states shall ensure the welfare and capacity building of the field staff and mahouts. They will also ensure that the ground staff is informed and aware about various welfare programs, such as Ayushman Bharat, PM Awas Yojana, government insurance schemes, etc.</p>	<p>A letter to PCCF & CWLW of all elephant range states to ensure welfare and capacity building of field staff and mahouts was issued on 25-07-2025.</p>
<p>v. Advisory to Elephant range states and Ministry of Railways to carry out regular awareness programs for locomotive drivers shall be issued.</p>	<p>Advisory on carrying out regular awareness programs for locomotive drivers was issued on 25-07-2025 .</p>
<p>vi. The Proposed conference/workshop for victims of affected people from Human Elephant Conflict in India shall be jointly conducted preferably in the state of West Bengal.</p>	<p>PCCF & CWLW West Bengal via email dated 12-11-2025 conveyed inability to hold the proposed conference/workshop in the State of West Bengal due to the unprecedented rains and massive flooding that followed in the State. A letter to CWLW Assam to organize the workshop was sent on 1 Dec 2025.</p>
<p>vii. Recalling the gruesome elephant poaching incidents in Assam, Hon'ble Minister directed that strict action be taken against such poachers and that all necessary action be taken to prevent the concurrence of such incidents and the culprits be brought to book.</p>	<p>An SIT was constituted to examine issues related to elephant poaching and the illegal ivory trade in Assam. The SIT submitted its report, highlighting several lapses in the investigation. In view of the limited progress made and the lack of arrests in certain major poaching cases, and to ensure a time-bound, coordinated, and scientific investigation, it has been proposed to constitute a State-level Committee. The Committee is to comprise senior officers from the State Forest Department, Police Department, and Intelligence Department. A communication in this regard was issued to the Chief Secretary, Assam, on 02.11.2025.</p>

viii. The Celebrations of the World Elephant Day 2025 will be held in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.	World Elephant Day 2025 was celebrated at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu on 12 August 2025.
---	---

ix. The 5th meeting of the CEHWC was held online on March 7, 2025 and the 8th meeting of CPEMC held on March 17, 2025.

Agenda-2: Issues flagged by the Steering Committee members and permanent invitees

1. **Shri B S Bonal** recommended addressing issues related to HEC at the village level to ensure that people continue to have a positive outlook toward elephants.
2. **Dr. Bibhuti Prasad Lahkar** noted that a proposed railway line between India and Bhutan would traverse high biodiversity areas and emphasised the need for appropriate mitigation measures to minimise its impact on wildlife. He also suggested to prepare a guideline for Handling issues pertaining to electrocution of Elephants.
3. **Dr. Dipankar Ghosh** highlighted the importance of conducting foot patrols along railway tracks, involving local communities and JFMCs, to mitigate elephant mortality caused by train collisions. He also recommended implementing regular awareness programs and establishing recognition awards on Elephant Day for locomotive pilots. He gave example of Rajaji National Park and emphasized on the replicability of the model.

Agenda 3: Status of Regional Action Plans (RAPs)

During the 17th meeting of the Steering Committee of the Project Elephant, held on 12th August 2022 at Kerala under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister, MoEF&CC, it was decided that instead of state-specific plans, considering elephants' large ranges, region-specific plans would be significant. The Elephant Reserve extends beyond protected areas and elephants cross state boundaries hence a Regional Action Plan (RAP) at the landscape level is recommended. Considering this a sub-committee to draft RAP has been formed for Southern and Northeastern States.

ADGF updated that the drafting of RAP for southern India is at final stage of preparation and it will be finalized shortly. The report may be released during the next meeting. The RAP sub-committee for north-east states have completed four rounds of field visits. During these visits various Elephant Reserves across the north-eastern region were visited and consultative meetings were held with various stakeholders to understand the issues and deliberated on the mitigation measures to reduce HEC.

Decision: It was decided that sub-committee shall submit the plan as per the timeline stipulated. The Division shall finalize the RAP for its implementation through CAMPA support.

Agenda 4: Update on the All-India Synchronized Elephant Estimation

Dr Vishnupriya Kolipakkam informed that All-India Synchronized Elephant Estimation 2021-25 report was released during the wildlife week 2025. There are 22,446 (18,255 -26,645) wild elephants in the country. This nationwide estimate uses DNA-based mark-recapture for the first time in India and collected over 22,000 dung samples. Given the methodological changes, it is not comparable to past figures and may be treated as a new monitoring baseline for further research, monitoring and estimation. This method will be helpful in knowing the population trends and dynamics.

Agenda 5. Status Update on the “Model Elephant Conservation Plan for Nilgiri Elephant Reserve”

ADGF reported that MoEF&CC in collaboration with the WII, has formulated a robust framework for an Elephant Conservation Plan. This framework is designed to guide the creation of a detailed and coordinated approach to the management and protection of Elephant Reserves across the country. Building on this initiative, a Model Elephant Conservation Plan is currently being developed specifically for the Nilgiri Elephant Reserve. This model plan will act as a template for formulating conservation plans for all other Elephant Reserves in India, ensuring consistency and best practices are applied nationwide. The Wildlife Planning Experts conducted Field Visit to Nilgiri ER from 13th–16th Aug 2025 and a meeting to discuss Model Elephant Conservation Plan for Nilgiri Elephant Reserve held at Wildlife Institute of India from 8th-12th Sept 2025. The due date for submission of ECP is 15th February 2026.

Decision: It was decided that sub-committee shall submit the plan as per the timeline stipulated.

Agenda 6 Progress on DNA Profiling of Captive Elephants

Dr. Samrat Mondal gave an update on the progress of DNA profiling. He stated that DNA sampling of captive elephants has been completed in 14 states. Sampling is still ongoing in some areas, and once it is completed, the resulting database will help determine the origin and family history of captive elephants.

Decision: The WII and Project Elephant to coordinate with the State government to get the project completed.

Agenda 7. a. Status of Human–Elephant Conflict (HEC) in India

b. Update on the study “Understanding Elephant Conflict Issues for Suggesting Conflict Reduction Measures”

ADGF provided an update on the status of Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) in India and presented a heatmap depicting HEC incidents over the past six years. It was observed that electrocution remains the leading cause of elephant fatalities, with Odisha, Karnataka, and Assam being the most affected states. Train collisions are predominantly recorded in Assam and Odisha, whereas recent improvements have been noted in Tamil Nadu. Instances of elephant poisoning have emerged recently in Assam, while poaching continues to be a concern in Odisha and Tamil Nadu. Additionally, it was highlighted that the majority of human deaths resulting from HEC occur in East Central India, which accounts for only 8% of the total elephant population.

An update was also shared regarding a comprehensive study on 23 years of HEC incidents, recently completed in Assam, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh. The study successfully identified key drivers of HEC and village-level hotspots. Phase II of this research has now been expanded to include West Bengal, Odisha, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.

Decision: The phase II of a comprehensive study on 23 years of HEC incidents in West Bengal, Odisha, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu to be completed as per the timeline stipulated and report submitted to the Ministry for approval. The same may be circulated to all the concerned States for necessary action thereafter.

Agenda 8. Review of HEC Compensation by Elephant Range States: Status and adequacy of compensation mechanisms across states.

ADGF informed the members about the compensation provided by different states in cases of deaths caused by HEC. The compensation amounts varied significantly, ranging from 2 lakh to 25 lakh depending on the state. Additionally, when field officers were consulted about the ideal ex-gratia amount, 60% suggested that it should be between 10 and 15 lakhs.

Decision: It was decided that states should provide updated details of the compensation scheme being implemented for further analysis by the Project Elephant division.

Agenda 9. Discussion on Evaluation of Population Estimation Methods for Elephants

ADGF reported that a study in Rajaji National Park evaluated population estimation methods. Phase I compared indirect and direct techniques for density, size, and coefficient of variation. Resource-based CMR was found to be the most precise and cost-efficient (₹13.9 lacs), while genetic methods were accurate but more costly (₹25.3 lacs). It was further suggested that as now the report of SAIEE 2021-25 is released, hence these results alone with Phase I exercise of Evaluation of Population Estimation Methods for Elephants can be used to fine tune the protocols for estimation of elephant population in India.

Decision: The Phase-II of the project to be completed by the WII within the stipulated timeline.

Agenda 10. Progress on Integrated Conservation and Management Strategies for Ripu-Chirang Elephant Reserve

ADGF reported that, following the study of the 23 year of HEC incident in Assam, a local level study in Ripu-Chirang Elephant Reserve is underway to compare local, state, and national HEC patterns. The science-based assessment examines land-use changes, elephant demographics and movements, and human-elephant conflict. Key findings include female-biased populations, absence of adult tuskers in Udaguri, and higher male dispersal mortality. Priority restoration zones and corridors were identified for habitat recovery and safe movement, offering policy-aligned solutions. Local trends in HEC match those at the state level in Assam.

Decision: The study at Ripu-Chirang Elephant Reserve is a targeted, long-term effort aimed at understanding the trends in human-elephant conflict (HEC), elephant population dynamics, and building the capacity of local communities to

reduce negative impacts from the conflict. Considering these objectives, therefore the study is recommended for 3 more years depending on the availability of budget for getting long term insights on HEC.

Agenda 11. Future Action Plans

a. Conduction MEE for all Elephant Reserves with the funding support of CAMPA

b. Study on “Assessing Elephant Corridors, Habitat Utilization and Conflict Hotspots in the Bandhavgarh Region”

ADGF informed that the proposal for the study has been approved by GB, CAMPA and the funds to be disbursed in coming month.

Decision: The budget to be released by CAMPA and therefore, Project Division should approach and coordinate with NA CAMPA to take the work forward.

Agenda 12. Achievements: Use of technology in HEC management (use of AI based mitigation measures by Tamil Nadu)

ADGF reported on technologies that have been helpful in mitigating HEC. One initiative is the successful deployment of thermal and visible cameras mounted on towers to detect elephants and notify railway staff, helping to prevent collisions by stopping or slowing trains. This initiative has greatly decreased fatalities along the tracks in Madukkarai, Tamil Nadu, a critical crossing zone for elephants setting an example for other states to follow. Various initiatives have been taken by elephant ranges states and have been able to reduce HEC. It was suggested that state share the successful initiatives with other states so that it can be helpful in reducing HEC across India.

Decision: The details of the models should be converted into a report with the help of CWLW Tamil Nadu so that the same may be circulated to other States and Ministry of Railways for considering to replicate.

Agenda 13.

a. Discussion with regards to the World Elephant Day 2026.

b. Discussion on capacity-building workshops under Project Elephant.

The Elephant Day 2025 was celebrated at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu which say participation of all the elephant range states. Venue for the Word Elephant Day 2026 will be decided separately.

ADGF noted that Workshop for Elephant Reserve Managers will be organized in January 2026 the states were requested to nominate senior officers for the workshop. Workshop for victims of HEC is proposed to be organized at Guwahati in February 2026, and the states was requested to nominate victims of HEC for the workshop.

Any other items with the permission of the Chair.

Shri P V Chatalapathi Rao, CWLW, Andhra Pradesh : Reported issues faced due to migrating populations of elephants arriving from Karnataka; these elephants enter Andhra Pradesh but are unable to return due to habitat stretch being narrow,

leading to Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC). The state forest department is using radio collars to understand the ranging behavior of 2 elephants.

Shri Abhay Kumar, CWLW, Bihar: Noted conflict areas in the state lies along the Nepal and Jharkhand borders. HEC has been controlled over the last two years due to Rapid Response Teams (RRT).

Dr Vivek Saxena, CWLW, Haryana: Discussed on the details of wild and captive elephants in the state and noted that the final demand/sanctioned budget amount allotted to the state is low. It was further informed that SFD is collaborating with the WII to draft elephant conservation plan for the state.

Shri P C Ray, CWLW, Karnataka: It was reported that in Hassan, approximately 200 elephants reside within private coffee estates. Due to the presence of linear infrastructure, these elephants are unable to return to the forest. To address this issue, a "soft release center" has been proposed. Additionally, it was observed that while the state has a high elephant population, human fatalities remain low, attributed to the effectiveness of physical barriers. The use of such barriers has proven successful, and the state has requested CAMPA funds for an additional 500 km of barriers.

Shri L Joykumar, Conservator of Forest (WL), Manipur: There are no reports of HEC in the state, but elephant sightings have become frequent. Consultative meetings are being regularly organized to sensitize local communities.

Shri Prem Kumar Jha, CWLW, Odisha: The state reported a 40% decline in the elephant population as indicated by SAIEE 2021-25. A subsequent state-level population estimation conducted in 2023 assessed there were 2,098 elephants. Odisha requested WII to re-evaluate the current elephant population if possible. Additionally, it was noted that the state is collaborating with the Railway to implement intruder detection systems.

The **Hon'ble Minister** directed that CWLW Odisha to share the scientific evidence from the population estimation made by the State to WII and carry out state specific population estimation as done by the southern states in synchronous manner.

Shri Rakesh Kumar Dogra, CWLW, Tamil Nadu: He informed that the state census data matches with the SAIEE 2021-25/ State employs a comprehensive range of HEC mitigation technologies, with the goal of reducing human-elephant conflict to zero. The welfare of mahouts and kavadis is also being addressed; accordingly, mahouts from the state were sent to the Thailand Elephant Conservation Center for specialized training. Additionally, 100 % housing units have been provided for mahouts and kavadis. Tamil Nadu enforces the Captive Elephants (Management and Maintenance) Rules, 2011, and all necessary measures are being implemented to prevent electrocution incidents involving wild elephants.

The **Hon'ble Minister** suggested that State of Odisha should take help of State of Tamil Nadu for knowledge sharing on the population estimation methods and technologies used to mitigate HEC.

Dr Vivek Pandey, APCCF, Uttarakhand: The state is currently mapping Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) hotspots and has established a 24x7 helpline to address related incidents. Measures are being taken to rectify sagging power lines to

prevent electrocution deaths, and thermal-based monitoring systems have been implemented in coordination with the Railways. The ex-gratia amount for fatalities due to HEC has been set at ₹10 lakh.

Shri R Arun Kumar, Conservator of Forest (WL), Tripura: Few train accidents have been reported in last two years and to address this Northeast Railway was requested to reduce train speeds to 20 km/h at sensitive railway stretches. Use of AI cameras is also being explored.

Shri Arun Prasad, CWLW, Rajasthan informed that state only hold the population of captive elephants.

Shri Vedpal Singh, CWLW, Nagaland: Reported that the population in the hilly areas of the state is down as per SAIEE 2021-25 which may be attributed to tough terrain for sampling exercise.

Shri Subharanjan Sen, CWLW, Madhya Pradesh: Informed that state is home to both wild and captive elephants, which are now established residents in two Tiger Reserves. To monitor their home ranges and movement patterns, three elephants have been fitted with radio collars. The "Gaj Rashak" App is currently being utilized to address human-elephant conflict (HEC).

Dr. Pramod G. Krishnan, CWLW, Kerala: Human-elephant conflict has been designated as a state-specific disaster. District-level committees have identified 273 Panchayats requiring targeted action plans to address HEC. There has also been a proposal to include a separate chapter on Human-Wildlife Conflict in the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972.

Shri Arun Kumar Pandey, CWLW, Chhattisgarh: There have been 66 recorded electrocution deaths related to elephants over the past ten years, with 24 cases attributable to hooking incidents. The Electricity Department was convicted in one such case and now regularly patrols to identify electrical hooks. Additionally, an app-based warning system is being developed to alert communities regarding elephant movements.

Shri Paritosh Upadhyay, CWLW, Jharkhand: Population estimated at 550–600, though this is believed to be an underestimate. Funds for Quick Response Teams (QRT) are an issue.

Shri N. Tam, CWLW, Arunachal Pradesh: Informed that state facing funding issues to address HEC and the state forest department is collaborating with WWF for writing a mitigation plans which is expected to be finished in coming month.

Dr. Pratyush P Mohapatra, Scientist 'E', Zoological Survey of India emphasized on the need of standardizing the compensation mechanism across India. He proposed implementing a "one nation, one compensation" scheme to standardize payments for HEC incidents.

The Hon'ble Minister of the EFCC proposed several key recommendations. He underscored the need for organising a preparatory meeting prior to the Steering Committee meeting, to ensure focused deliberations with an emphasis on developing a new vision for HEC mitigation. The states should systematically identify and map HEC hotspots which would facilitate targeted interventions and improve the overall management of HEC incidents. He further highlighted the

importance of sharing information regarding best practices in effectively mitigating HEC, encouraging inter-state collaboration for collective learning and problem-solving.

The Hon'ble Minister emphasised the critical priority of habitat improvement, calling for the collection of essential data on key elephant habitats across the country. He proposed a detailed analysis of mining activities over the past 25 years in East-Central Indian states, with the objective of assessing habitat changes and prioritising restoration efforts in affected regions.

For the forthcoming meeting, the Minister requested a comprehensive presentation on electrocution incidents involving elephants over the last five years. Which include the First Information Reports (FIRs) filed, as well as details regarding convictions. Additionally, he urged the compilation of data on compensation disbursed to HEC victims during 2025.

The Minister also suggested convening an inter-ministerial meeting with the Ministry of Railways, with the aim of reviewing elephant mortality linked to railway incidents nationwide. He recommended the establishment of a WhatsApp group comprising local Superintendents of Police, Divisional Forest Officers (DFOs), and community representatives. This group would serve as a platform to share real-time updates on elephant movement, particularly during night hours, thereby aiding in the reduction of HEC occurrences.

Furthermore, the Minister noted that the State of Assam is presently experimenting with planting specific vegetation and crops within forest areas to discourage elephants from venturing into agricultural lands. He suggested that this innovative method could be considered for pilot trials in other regions as well.

Release of the publications:

During the event, the following documents were released:

1. Elephant Care and Management: A Guide for Elephant Handlers
2. TRUMPET Quarterly Journal – Volume V Issue 2

Further Decisions Taken:

- i. It was decided that a detailed analysis of elephant electrocution incidents over the last five years will be undertaken. The analysis shall include the total number of electrocution cases, the number of cases in which First Information Reports (FIRs) were filed, the current status of these cases, and details of convictions, if any.
- ii. It was further decided that comprehensive details of humans affected by Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) during the year 2025 will be compiled. This shall include the status of cases registered for compensation and the status of disbursement of compensation.
- iii. Detailed analysis of mining activities over the past 25 years in East-Central Indian Elephant range states be done, with the objective of assessing habitat changes and prioritising restoration efforts in affected regions.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure 1**List of participants****Sl. No Name & Designation**

1. Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister, EFCC
2. Shri Tanmay Kumar, Secretary, MoEF&CC
3. Shri Sushil Kumar Awasthi, DGF & SS, MoEF&CC
4. Shri Ramesh Kumar Pandey, ADGF (WL/PE)
5. Dr. Gobind Sagar Bhardwaj, Director, Wildlife Institute of India
6. Dr Sanjayan Kumar, MS (NTCA) & IGF (PT)
7. Shri P V Chatalapathi Rao, CWLW, Andhra Pradesh
8. Shri N. Tam, CWLW, Arunachal Pradesh
9. Shri Abhay Kumar, CWLW, Bihar
10. Shri Arun Kumar Pandey, CWLW, Chhattisgarh
11. Dr Vivek Saxena, CWLW, Haryana
12. Shri Paritosh Upadhyay, CWLW, Jharkhand
13. Shri P C Ray, CWLW, Karnataka
14. Dr. Pramod G. Krishnan, CWLW, Kerala
15. Shri L Joykumar, Conservator of Forest (WL), Manipur
16. Shri Subharanjan Sen, CWLW, Madhya Pradesh
17. Shri Vedpal Singh, CWLW, Nagaland
18. Shri Prem Kumar Jha, CWLW, Odisha
19. Shri Arun Prasad, CWLW, Rajasthan
20. Shri Rakesh Kumar Dogra, CWLW, Tamil Nadu
21. Shri R Arun Kumar, Conservator of Forest (WL), Tripura
22. Dr Vivek Pandey, APCCF, Uttarakhand
23. Smt. Anuradha Vemuri, CWLW, Uttar Pradesh
24. Shri B S Bonal, Member Steering Committee
25. Dr Dipankar Ghose, Member Steering Committee
26. Dr Bibhuti Prasad Lahkar, Member Steering Committee
27. Dr Manoj Kumar, Joint Director (WCCB)
28. Dr. Pratyush P Mohapatra, Scientist 'E', Zoological Survey of India
29. Shri Praveen Kumar, Chief Communication Engineer, SE Railway

30. Shri Samarth Garg, Divisional Engineer, Eastern Railway
31. Shri Suneet Bhardwaj, AIGF (PE), MoEF&CC
32. Dr Aju Mathew George, Scientist 'C' (PE), MoEF&CC
33. Dr Bilal Habib, Scientist 'F', Wildlife Institute of India
34. Dr Samrat Mondol, Scientist 'F', Wildlife Institute of India
35. Dr Vishnupriya Kolipakkam, Scientist 'E', Wildlife Institute of India
36. Dr Anukul Nath, Scientist 'C', Wildlife Institute of India
37. Shri Gaurav Sirola, Consultant 'B', Project Elephant