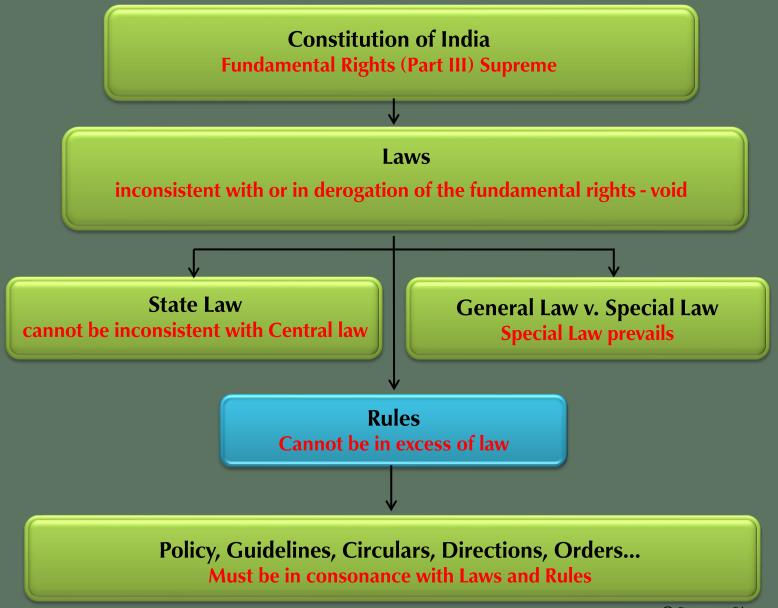
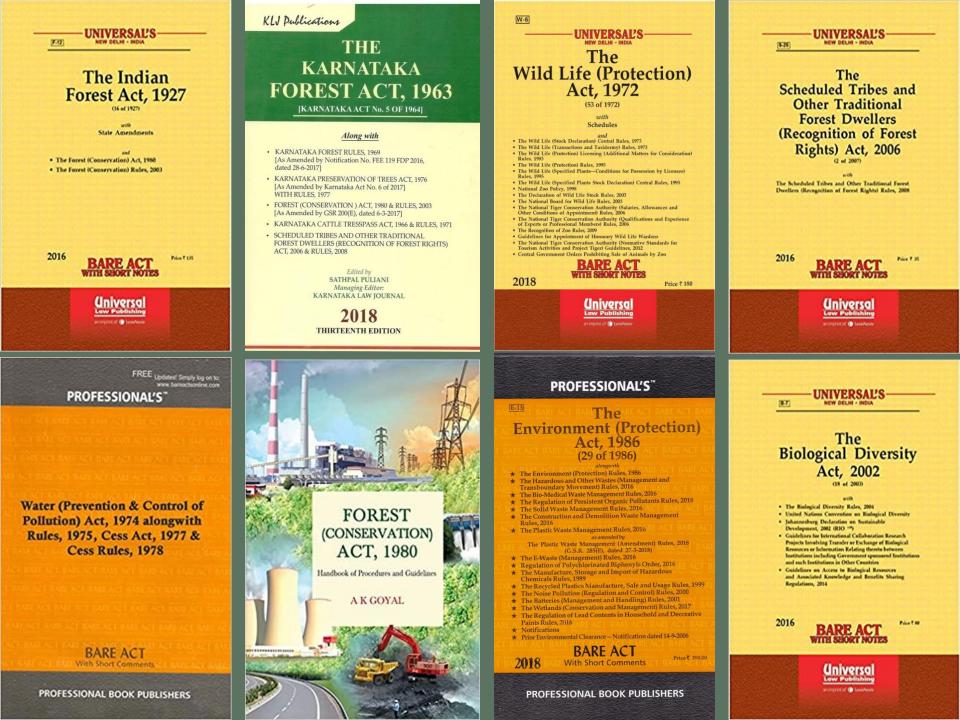
### Defending Wildlife Habitats... ...enabling provisions for Advocacy



Praveen Bhargav Former Member – National Board for Wildlife Author – Wildlife Law for Rangers



© Praveen Bhargav



# Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

Prohibitions

Powers

• Procedures

Penalties

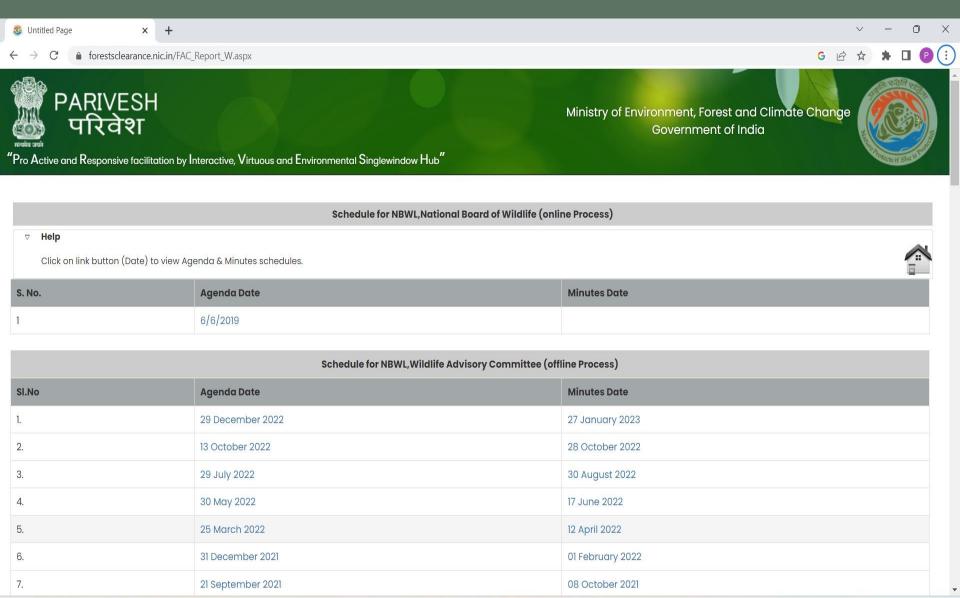
# Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

- Protection to wild animals in Schedule I to IV
- Constitution of Protected Areas & Tiger Reserves
- Prosecution of offenders involved in wildlife crime
- Appraisal of projects that seek diversion of habitat
- Prohibition on trade in wildlife and its derivatives
- Management of Zoos



## Statutory Bodies under the WLPA

# National Board for Wildlife



### **Composition of the NBWL**

• S 5A: NBWL consists of the following members:

01 Prime Minister - Chairperson
01 Environment Minister - Vice Chair
03 MPs
05 NGOs
10 eminent conservationists / ecologists
16 officials
10 States
01 Member Secretary

47 members

32 Government &15 Non-Government members

### **Standing Committee**

F. No. 6-46/2013-WL (pt-2) GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE

> INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN JORBAGH ROAD, NEW DELHI -110003

> > DATED: 22 July, 2014

#### **NOTIFICATION**

Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife was constituted vide notification No. 6-1/2006 WL-1 (pt) dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 2010, in exercise of powers conferred by sub section (1) of section 5B of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. In view of the reconstitution of the National Board for Wildlife, the following members of the Board are hereby nominated to the Standing Committee of NBWL with immediate effect.

Minister in charge of Environment and Forests	Chair
Wildlife Preservation Officer (Additional DGF (WL), MoEF&CC)	Member Secretary
Members nominated by Vice Chair, NBWL	5
Secretary, MoEF&CC	Member
DGF & Spl Secretary, MoEF&CC	Member
Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun	Member
Nominee of GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar	Member
Prof. R. Sukumar, IISc, Bangalore	Member
Dr. H.S. Singh, Gandhinagar	Member
Representative of the state of Andhra Pradesh	Member

Member Secretary, National Tiger Conservation Authority will be a special invitee to the Standing Committee.

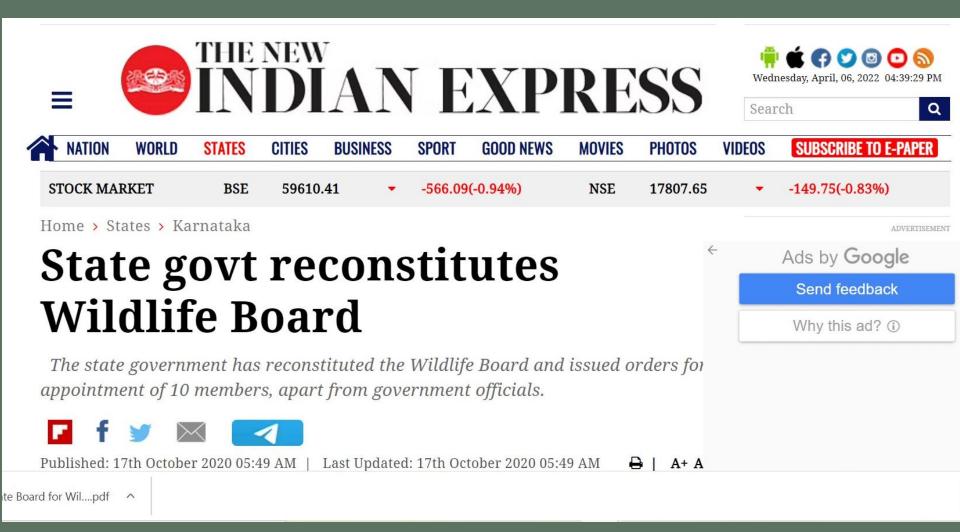
The business of the Committee shall be performed in accordance with the provisions of the notification dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 2010 mentioned above.

DGF&SS and Director Wildlife Preservation

# NTCA

#### [PART III-SEC. 4] THE GAZETTE OF INDIA : EXTRAORDINARY In the said notification .---16. सचिव, जनजातिय कार्य मंत्रालय सदस्य (a) in the opening paragraph, the words "for a 17. सचिव, सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय -----सदस्य period of three years with effect from the date of publication of this notification in the Official 18. अध्यक्ष, राष्ट्रीय अनुसुचित जाति आयोग -सदस्य Gazette" shall be omitted; 19. अध्यक्ष, राष्ट्रीय अनुसुचित जनजाति आयोग -सदस्य (b) for serial numbers 1 to 26 and the entries relating thereto, the following serial numbers and entries 20. सचिव, पंचायती राज मंत्रालय -सदस्य 1 shall be substituted, harnely :--21. निदेशक, वन्य जीव संरक्षण, पर्यावरण -सदस्य "1. The Minister in charge of the Ministry -Chairman और वन मंत्रालय of Environment and Forests 22. मुख्य बन्य जीव वार्डन, आंध्र प्रदेश -सदस्य -Vice-2. The Minister of State for Environment Chairperson 23. मुख्य वन्य जीव वार्डन, बिहार ---सदस्य and Forests (Vacant) 3. Smt. Maneka Gandhi, Member of -Member 24. मुख्य वन्य जीव वार्डन, छत्तीसगढ ----सदस्य Parliament (Lok Sabha) 25. मुख्य वन्य जीव वार्डन, कर्नाटक -सदस्य -Member 4. Member of Parliament 26. मुख्य वन्य जीव वार्डन, मिजोरम -सदस्य (Lok Sabha) Vacant -Member 27. मुख्य वन्य जीव वार्डन, पश्चिमी बंगाल 5. Shri Santosh Bagrodia, Member -सदस्य of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) 28. श्री पी.ची. सिंह, संयुक्त सचिव और विधायी \_\_\_\_\_ -Member 6. Shri Brijendra Singh परामर्शी, विधायी विभाग, विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय 28, Sunder Nagar, New Delhi-110003. 29. अपर प्रधान मुख्य वन पाल (व्याध्र परियोजना) -सदस्य -Member 7. Shri Valmik Thapar सचिव": G-13, Maharani Bagh, New Delhi-110014. पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय -Member (क) पैरा 2 का लोप किया जाएगा 8. Shri P. K. Sen B-11/2275, Vasant Kuni, New Delhi-110070. डॉ, राजेश गोपाल, अपर प्रधान मुख्य वनपाल 9. Dr. Prakash Murlidhar Amte -Member (व्याघ्र परियोजना) और सदस्य सचिव-एनटीसीए Lok Biradari Prakal, Hemal Kasa, [सं. विज्ञापन III/4/असा./187-एन/09] Post Bhamragad, District Gad Chiroli, Maharashtra, Pin-442710. टिप्पणः— राष्ट्रीय व्याध्र संरक्षण प्राधिकरण गंठित करने वाली मुल -Member 10. Dr. Urmila Pingle अधिसचना भारत के राजपत्र, असाधारण में सं. का.आ. 3-34/5 Madhuvan Enclave, 1403(अ) तारीख 4 सितम्बर, 2006 द्वारा प्रकाशित की St. No. 4, Habshiguda, गई थी और संख्यांक का.आ. 1889(अ) तारीख Hyderabad-500007. Andhra Pradesh. 2 नवम्बर, 2006 और का.आ. 981(अ) तारीख -Member 11. Dr. K. Ullas Karanth 15 जून, 2007 द्वारा उसमें परचातवर्ती संशोधन किया गया । Centre for Wildlife Studies, 1669, 31st Cross, 16th Main, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS Banashankari 2nd Stage, NOTIFICATION Bangalore, Karnataka-560070. New Delhi, the 1st September, 2009 -Member 12. Shri Samar Singh No. 15-25/09NTCA .- In exercise of the powers P-I, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016. conferred by sub-sections (1) and (2) of Section 38L of the -Member 13. Dr. Aparajita Datta Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972), the Central Door No. 3076-5, 4th Cross, Government hereby appoints the following Chairperson Gokulam Park, Mysore-570002, Kamataka and Members to the National Tiger Conservation Authority 14. Secretary, Ministry of Environment -Member for a period of three years from the date of publication of and Forests this notification in the Official Gazette and for that purpose -Member makes the following further amendments in the notification 15. Director General of Forests and of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment Special Secretary and Forests number S.O. 1403 (E), dated the 4th September, 16. Secretary, Ministry of Tribal-Affairs -Member

2006, namely:---



### <sup>1</sup>THE KARNATAKA STATE BOARD FOR WILD LIFE RULES, 2006

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (2) and (3) of Section 6 read with Section 64 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (Central Act 53 of 1972), the Government of Karnataka hereby makes the following rules, namely.—

1. Title and commencement.—(1) These rules may be called the Karnataka State Board for Wild Life Rules, 2006.

(2) They shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Definitions.--(1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires.--

- (a) "Act" means the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972);
- (b) "State Board" means the Karnataka State Board for Wild Life constituted under sub-section (1) of Section 6 of the Act;
- (c) "Chairperson" means the Chairperson of the State Board appointed under Section 6(1) of the Act.

(2) All other words and expressions used in these rules but not defined shall have the same meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

**3. State Board for Wild Life.**—(1) The term of office of the members of the State Board other than those who are members *ex officio* shall be for a period of three years.

(2) The Member of State Legislature nominated to the State Board shall cease to be the Member of the State Board on his having ceased to be the Member of State Legislature.

(3) The vacancies referred to in clauses (d) and (e) of sub-section (1) of Section 6 of the Act shall be filled by nomination by the State Government with the approval of the Chairperson.

4. Meetings.—(1) The State Board shall meet at least twice a year at such place as the State Government may direct.

(2) The Member-Secretary shall prepare an agenda items for the meetings obtain approval of the Chairperson and circulate it to all members at least fifteen days prior to the date of such meeting.

Published in the Karnataka Gazette, dated 17-5-2007, vide Notification No. FEE 3 FWL 2006, dated 12-4-2006

### GUIDELINES FOR APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY WILD LIFE WARDENS

#### THE NEED

1. People's participation and support is crucial for nature and Wildlife Conservation. One of the important ways of enlisting such support is by involving the community leaders and other persons of standing, who have the interest as well as the capacity to render assistance for this cause. Such assistance can be very useful in control over poaching for this clandestine trade in wild animals or their articles, identification of relatively less known wildlife refuges needing protection, carrying the message of conservation to the people living in and around the sanctuaries and national parks, and related matters. This objective can be accomplished if really suitable public men are identified, duties and appointed Honorary Wildlife Wardens, with their responsibilities, and powers clearly defined.

#### LEGAL STATUS

2. Section 4 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, empowers the State Governments to appoint—

- (a) a Chief Wild Life Warden;
- (b) Wild Life Wardens; and
- (c) such other officers and employees as may be necessary for the purposes of the Act.

Honorary Wild Life Wardens can be appointed under sub-section (c) of section 4 of the Act. Under section 59 of the aforesaid Act, such Honorary Wild Life Wardens shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of section 21 of the Indian Penal Code.

#### **CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**

3. It is very important that the right persons are selected for appointment as Honorary Wild Life Wardens. Every State has a Chief Wild Life Warden and it is mainly his duty to recommend the names of suitable person for this purpose. However, in order to assist him in this regard as well as to introduce a measure of wider participation, the members of the State Wild Life Advisory Board should be requested to suggest suitable names, especially from their own areas.

4. The following criteria should be kept in mind while assessing the suitability of a person as an Honorary Wild Life Warden:

- (a) Genuine concern for Wild Life conservation.
- (b) Personal record free of involvement in any activity detrimental to the interests of nature and Wild Life conservation.

Any person involved in commercial exploitation of Wild Life should not be considered.

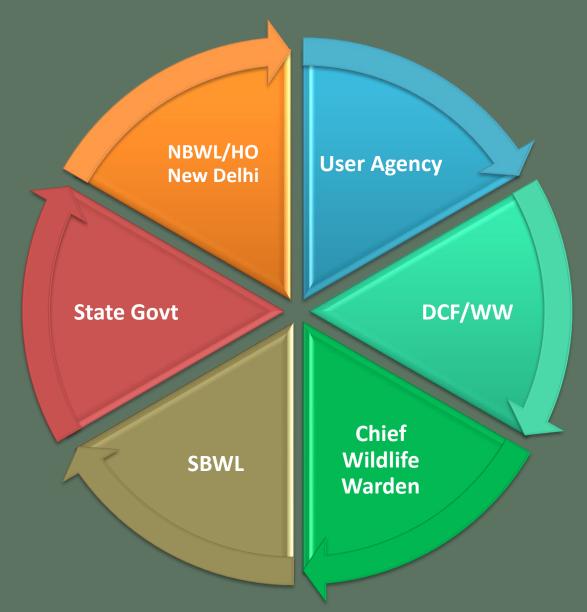
- (c) Capacity to render help to the official machinery.
- (d) Local standing which make him/her effective, especially in conveying the conservation message.

## Appraisal and Clearance of Wildlife Habitat

### U/s 29 / 35(6), 26A(3), 33, 35(5), 38O(1)(g), 38W R/w Section 5C & 8



### Wildlife Clearance Flow Chart



## **Application of Net Present Value**



## The Constitution

- Preamble : "... to secure to all its citizens... Liberty of thought and Expression..."
- Article 19: Fundamental Rights Freedom of Speech & Expression; form associations; move freely -settle anywhere
- Article 21: Right to life encompasses preservation of environment, ecological balance
- Article 32: Right to move the Supreme Court to challenge a law
- Article 226 & 227: Seek issuance of writs in High Courts
- 42<sup>nd</sup> Amendment in 1976 including List III (Forest & Wildlife)
- Article 48A : State shall endeavor to safeguard forests/wildlife
- Article 51A(g) : Fundamental duty to protect forests, wildlife
- Article 51A (h): Fundamental Duty to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform;

# Enabling provisions for citizens

- S 5C: Functions of the NBWL
- S 8: Duties of the SBWL
- S 28: Permission for Research R/w S 12
- S 33B: Sanctuary Advisory Committee
- S 36D: Community Reserves
- S 55(c): Complaint

### Wildlife Law for Rangers

Step-by-step Charts Detection To Conviction



"The book is an excellent ready reckoner and a useful guide to Forest Officers" Justice A.V Chandrashekar - Former Judge, High Court of Karnataka

### **Praveen Bhargav**



he idea of writing a book on Wildlife Law primarily for Rangers and Forest Officers developed during interactions at law enforcement training programs that Wildlife First has been conducting since 1997. Effective implementation of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and prosecution of offenders requires Forest Officers to also have a reasonable understanding of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. However, lack of formal training in law and criminal procedures makes this an

intimidating subject for Rangers. The book seeks to address this major lacuna and has therefore been written in an easy to understand style along with specific wildlife related examples. The step-by-step procedure to be followed right from detection of an offence to conviction or acquittal has been illustrated in three simple color charts with all important stages covered. The book also contains a detailed chart with classification of various wildlife offences as Cognizable, Non-Cognizable, Bailable and Non-Bailable. Apart from Forest Officers, this book will be of interest to other Enforcement Officers with jurisdiction on Wildlife Offences.

**Praveen Bhargav** has represented Wildlife First on the National Board for Wild Life, the highest statutory body on wildlife chaired by the Prime Minister. He has also served on various expert committees of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the National Tiger Conservation Authority and was part of the sub-committee on amendments to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. He has conducted several training programs and workshops for Judicial Officers in association with Judicial Academies in many States, Police Officers under the aegis of the Karnataka Police Academy and Forest Officers/staff in association with various State Forest Departments. He has also been invited to speak on Conservation Policy and law at National Law Schools, officers at the National Academy of Customs and the State Forest Service College of the MoEF. In 2002, he was nominated for the Environmental Leaders Forum hosted by CERC, Columbia University, New York. The US Government in 2005 selected him to participate in the International Visitor Leadership Program on Public Parks & Conservation. He currently anchors the policy and litigation campaigns of Wildlife First.



# Thank you and Questions please!