



Wildlife (protection) Act, 1972

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THE WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972

- An Act to provide for the protection of wild animals, birds and plants and for matters connected therewith or ancillary or incidental thereto with a view to ensuring the ecological and environmental security of the country.

Short title, extent and commencement

- This Act may be called the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
- It shall come into force in a State or Union territory to which it extends on such date as the Central Government may, by notification, appoint, and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act or for different States or Union territories

Definitions

- In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—
 - (1) “animal” includes amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles and their young, and also includes, in the cases of birds and reptiles, their eggs;
 - (2) “animal article” means an article made from any captive animal or wild animal, other than vermin, and includes an article or object in which the whole or any part of such animal 6[has been used, and ivory imported into India and an article made therefrom];
 - (3) “Board” means a State Board for Wild Life constituted under sub-section (1) of section 6;
 - (4) “captive animal” means any animal, specified in Schedule I, Schedule II, Schedule III or Schedule IV, which is captured or kept or bred in captivity;
 - (5) “Chief Wild Life Warden’ means the person appointed as such under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 4;
 - (6) (7A) “circus” means an establishment, whether stationary or mobile, where animals are kept or used wholly or mainly for the purpose of performing tricks or manoeuvres;]
 - (7) “Collector” means the chief officer in charge of the revenue administration of a district or any other officer not below the rank of a Deputy Collector as may be appointed by the State Government under section 18B in this behalf;

“commencement of this Act”, in relation to—

- a State, means commencement of this Act in that State,
- (b) any provision of this Act, means the commencement of that provision In the concerned State;
- “dealer” in relation to any captive animal, animal article, trophy, uncured trophy, meat or specified plant, means a person, who carries on the business of buying or selling any such animal or article, and includes a person who undertakes business in any single transaction;
- “Director” means the person appointed as Director of Wild Life Preservation under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of section 3;
- (12A) “Forest officer” means the Forest officer appointed under clause (2) of section 2 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (16 of 1927) or under any other Act for the time being in force in a State;
- (12B) “forest produce” shall have the same meaning as in sub-clause (b) of clause (4) of section 2 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (16 of 1927);]

- “licence” means a licence granted under this Act;
- (18A) “livestock” means farm animals and includes buffaloes, bulls, bullocks, camels, cows, donkeys, goats, sheep, horses, mules, yaks, pigs, ducks, geese, poultry and their young but does not include any animal specified in Schedules I to V;
- “manufacturer” means a person who manufactures articles from any animal or plant specified in Schedules I to V and VI, as the case may be;
- “meat” includes blood, bones, sinew, eggs, shell or carapace, fat and flesh with or without skin, whether raw or cooked, of any wild animal or captive animal, other than a vermin;
- (20A) “National Board” means the National Board for Wild Life constituted under section 5A;]
- “National Park” means an area declared, whether under section 35 or section 38, or deemed, under sub-section (3) of section 66, to be declared, as a National Park;
- “notification” means a notification published in the Official Gazette;
- “permit” means a permit granted under this Act or any rule made thereunder;

- (24A) “protected area” means a National Park, a sanctuary, a conservation reserve or a community reserve notified under sections 18, 35, 36A and 36C of the Act;]
- “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act; 2[(25A)
- “recognised zoo” means a zoo recognised under section 38H; 3[(25B)
- “reserve forest” means the forest declared to be reserved by the State Government under section 20 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (16 of 1927), or declared as such under any other State Act; (26)
- “sanctuary” means an area declared as a sanctuary by notification under the provisions of Chapter IV of this Act and shall also include a deemed sanctuary under sub-section (4) of section 66;]
- “taxidermy”, with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, means the curing, preparation or preservation or mounting of trophies;
- “Wild Life Warden” means the person appointed as such under clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 4;
- “zoo” means an establishment, whether stationary or mobile, where captive animals are kept for exhibition to the public and includes a circus and rescue centres but does not include an establishment] of a licensed dealer in captive animals.]

Constitution of the National Board for Wild Life

- (1) The Central Government shall, within three months from the date of commencement of the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002 (16 of 2003), constitute the National Board for Wild Life consisting of the following members, namely:—
- (a) the Prime Minister as Chairperson;
- (b) the Minister in-charge of Forests and Wild Life as Vice-Chairperson;
- (c) three members of Parliament of whom two shall be from the House of the People and one from the Council of States;
- (d) Member, Planning Commission in-charge of Forests and Wild Life;
- (e) five persons to represent non-governmental organizations to be nominated by the Central Government;
- (f) ten persons to be nominated by the Central Government from amongst eminent conservationists, ecologists and environmentalists;
- (g) the Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with Forests and Wild Life;
- (h) the Chief of the Army Staff;
- (i) the Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Defence;

- (j) the Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting;
- (k) the Secretary to the Government of India in-charge of the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance;
- (l) the Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Welfare;
- (m) the Director-General of Forests in the Ministry or Department of the Central Government dealing with Forests and Wild Life; (
- (n) the Director-General of Tourism, Government of India;
- (o) the Director-General, Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun;
- (p) the Director, Wild Life Institute of India, Dehradun;

- (q) the Director, Zoological Survey of India; (r) the Director, Botanical Survey of India;
- (s) the Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute;
- (t) the Member-Secretary, Central Zoo Authority;
- (u) the Director, National Institute of Oceanography;
- (v) one representative each from ten States and Union territories by rotation, to be nominated by the Central Government;
- (w) the Director of Wild Life Preservation who shall be the Member-Secretary of the National Board.

Indian Board of Wildlife -1952

- Wildlife related terminology
- Appointment of Director and other officers
- Appointment of Life Warden and other officers
- Power to delegate
- Comprehensive listing of endangered wildlife species & prohibition of hunting of the endangered species
- Protection - endangered plants like Beddome cycad, blue vanda, Ladies Slipper Orchid, Pitcher Plant etc.
- Setting of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries etc..

- Constitution of Central Zoo Authority
- Provision for Trade and commerce in some wildlife species with license for sale, possession, trade, transfer, etc.
- Ban on the trade or commerce in scheduled animals
- Legal powers to officers and punishment to offenders.
- Provide captive breeding programme for endangered species.

Individual endangered species

- Lion- 1972
- Tiger -1972
- Crocodile – 1974
- Brown antlered deer -1981.
- Except – J & K- Which has its own act.

Thank You