



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION THROUGH CULTURE AND HISTORY

- ❑ **Tradition of non-violence**

- ❑ **Animals revered in Indian culture**
 - **Elephants- Lord Ganesha**
 - **Lion/Tiger- associated with Goddess Durga**
 - **Snake- associated with Lord Shiva**

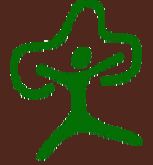
- ❑ **Conservation values inscribed in Ashoka pillar edicts**

- ❑ **Gandhian policy of “ *Ahimsa*”**

- ❑ ***Bishnoi Community***



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION –PRESENT POSITION



□ Legislations

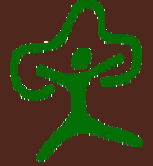
- **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972**
- **Biological Diversity Act, 2002**
- **Indian Forest Act, 1927**
- **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**
- **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986**
- **Foreign Trade Regulation Act, 1992**

□ Policies and Plans

- **National Environment Policy-2006**
- **National Biodiversity Action Plan**
- **National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016)**
- **National Forestry Action Plan**
- **EXIM Policy**



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION –PRESENT POSITION (Contd...)

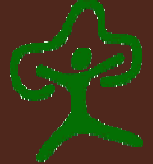


□ Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

- **Provides for creation of Protected Areas**
- **Prohibits all forms of hunting (including Game hunting)**
- **Six Schedules- according high status of protection**
- **Provides for constitution of highest advisory Board- National Board for Wildlife under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister**
- **Provisions for stringent punishments**



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION –PRESENT POSITION (Contd...)

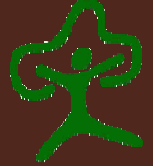


□ National Biodiversity Action Plan

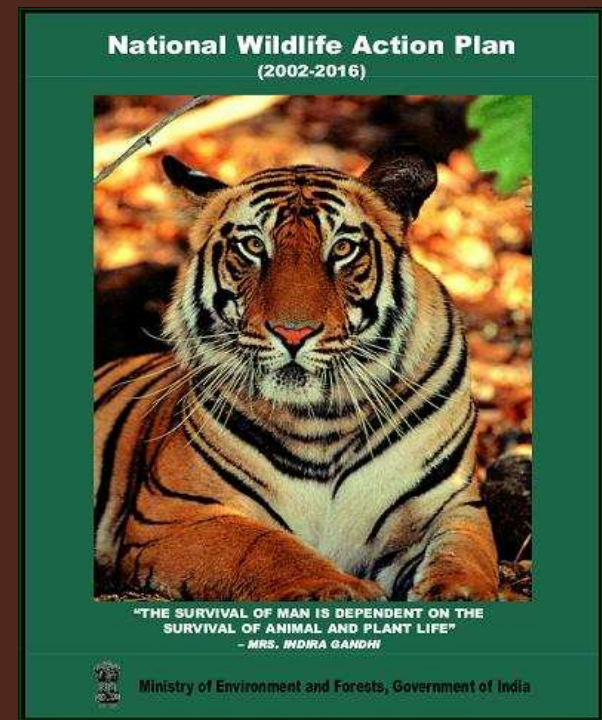
- **Based on principles that human beings are at centre of sustainable development concerns**
- **Envisages planned manner for implementing provisions of Convention on Biodiversity**
- **Strengthening and integration of *in-situ* and *ex-situ* conservation of natural resource base and its sustainable utilization**



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION –PRESENT POSITION (Contd...)

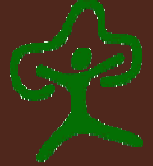


- ❑ **National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-16)**
- **Ecological Security and *in situ* Conservation**
- **Peoples' Support for Wildlife**
- **Effective Management of Protected Areas**
- **Conservation of Wild and Endangered Species and Their Habitat**
- **Control of poaching, Taxidermy and Illegal Trade in Wild Animals and Plant Species**
- **Conservation Awareness and Education**
- **Domestic Legislation and International Conventions**





WILDLIFE CONSERVATION –PRESENT POSITION (Contd...)



- ❑ 4.83% of geographical area of the country under wildlife management
- ❑ 100 National Parks, 514 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 44 Conservation Reserve, 4 Community Reserves
- ❑ 39 Tiger Reserves
- ❑ 28 Elephant Reserves

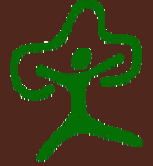


International Convention/ Bilateral Treaties

- ❑ **India is signatory to all major international conventions relating to management of wildlife:**
 - **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**
 - **Convention of International Trade on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild flora and fauna (CITES)**
 - **Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild animals (CMS)**
 - **International Whaling Commission (IWC)**
 - **Ramsar Convention.**

- ❑ **Our role in all these conventions generally revolves around the principles of precautionary approach with regard to consumptive use of bio- resources.**

- ❑ **We also believe in leveraging support of the countries of our region for coordinated action on global issues relating to conservation of wild animal and its habitats.**



HUNTING AND POACHING

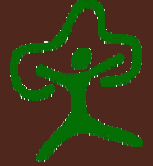
□ Major impediment in wildlife Conservation

➤ Animals poached include:

- Tiger- skin, bones, etc
- Leopard- Skin, bones, etc
- Elephant- Ivory
- Rhino- Horn
- Musk deer- Musk
- Bear- Bile
- Snakes/Lizards- skin
- Turtle- meat
- Pangolin- meat



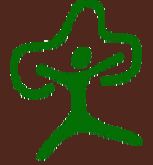
STATUS AND TREND OF BUSHMEAT HARVEST



- ❑ Bush meat harvesting is illegal in India**
- ❑ Occasional cases of illegal hunting cannot be ruled out**
- ❑ No categorical survey has been carried out so far**
- ❑ Studies conducted so far indicate hunting of:**
 - Galliformes**
 - Porcupine**
 - Wild Boar**
 - Amphibians and Reptiles**
 - Deer**
 - Hares**
 - Turtles**
 - Pangolins**



SOCIO ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF BUSHMEAT

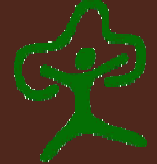


- ❑ In India meat of domesticated animals preferred over hunting of wild animals**
- ❑ Large scale hunting for food subsistence uncommon in India though certain pockets indulge in such hunting**
- ❑ Rare cases of socio economic dependence on meat of wild animals**
- ❑ Indigenous tribes of Andaman & Nicobar Islands exercise legal hunting rights under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972**



IMPACTS OF POPULATION AND SPECIES

- ❑ **So far no distinct studies conducted to ascertain the impact of use of bush meat on the species**
- ❑ **Poaching/hunting more for illegal trade in parts and products than for consumption of meat**



KEY NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2011:-

- Hosted Elephant-8 Ministerial meeting for promoting Elephant conservation and as a prelude to hosting the E-50:50 in 2013**
- Hosting the Park Manager's Congress in October 2011**
- Hosting of First Dugong South Asia Workshop under auspices of UNEP/CMS**
- Red listing process in India underway as per IUCN guidelines**

2012:-

- Hosting CBD-COP-11 in October 2012**

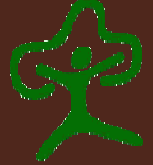


OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR ADDRESSING UNSUSTAINABLE HARVESTING OF BUSHMEAT



- ❑ Due to strong legislation and strict enforcement, bush meat harvesting at minimum**

- ❑ Legal measures to curb illegal hunting:**
 - Effective implementation of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972**
 - Effective enforcement for crime detection**
 - Stringent punishments for contravention of the provisions of the Act.**
 - Judicial intervention- Special Courts for speedy trial of wildlife offences**



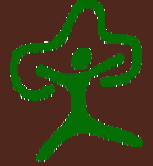
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR ADDRESSING UNSUSTAINABLE HARVESTING OF BUSHMEAT

□ GOVERNANCE:

- Better management of wildlife habitats**
- Increase in frontline staff**
- Capacity building and training of staff**
- Expansion of wildlife habitats**
- Creation of viable wildlife corridors**
- Effective implementation of scientifically prepared management plans for wildlife habitats**



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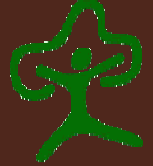


□ GOVERNANCE:

- People's participation in conservation**
- Better eco-development activities**
- Mitigation of man-animal conflicts**
- Village relocation with consent**
- Better publicity and awareness among the people**



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR ADDRESSING UNSUSTAINABLE HARVESTING OF BUSHMEAT



□ Enforcement:

- Intelligence gathering and networking**
- Wildlife crime detection**
- Better enforcement machinery for control of wildlife offences**
- Creation of activity specific Rapid Action Forces- for control of poaching, man-animal conflict, fire control, etc.**