

2014 NATIONAL REPORT OF PARTIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

The deadline for submission of the reports is 1 May 2014. The reporting period is 15 June 2011 to 1 May 2014.

Parties are encouraged to respond to all questions. Parties are also requested to provide comprehensive answers, including, where appropriate, a summary of activities, information on factors limiting action and details of any assistance required.

Reporting format agreed by the Standing Committee at its 40th Meeting (Bonn, November 2012) for mandatory use by Parties, for reports submitted to the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP11) 2014.

The questions below combine elements of Resolution 4.1 (Party Reports) adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Nairobi, June 1994) and Resolution 6.4 (Strategic Plan for the Convention on Migratory Species 2000-2005), adopted by the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Cape Town, November 1999), the COP8 Strategic Plan 2006-2011 and Resolution 8.24 adopted by the Conference of the Parties (Nairobi 2005), as well as commitments arising from other operational Resolutions and Recommendations of the Conference of the Parties.

COP Resolution 9.4 adopted at Rome called upon the Secretariats and Parties of CMS Agreements to collaborate in the implementation and harmonization of online reporting implementation. The CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS) has been successfully implemented and used by AEWA in their last Meeting of the Parties (MOP 5, 2012) reporting cycle. CMS now offers the Convention's Parties to use the ORS for submitting their national reports for the COP11 (2014) reporting cycle.

Please enter here the name of your country

> India

Which agency has been primarily responsible for the preparation of this report?

> Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

Please list any other agencies that have provided input

> Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun; Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History Society, Coimbatore; Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai; Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore; Wildlife Trust of India, New Delhi

I(a). General Information

Please enter the required information in the table below:

Party

Date of entry into force of the Convention in your country

> 1 November, 1983

Period covered

> 2011-13

Territories to which the Convention applies

> Republic of India

Designated National Focal Point

Full name of the institution

> Government of India

Ministry of Environment and Forests

Name and title of designated Focal Point

> Dr. S.K. Khanduri

Inspector General of Forests (WL)

Mailing address

> 116, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex,

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> (+91) 11 24364791

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E-mail

> igfwl-mef@nic.in; skhanduri@sify.com

Appointment to the Scientific Council

Full name of the institution

> Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun,

Name and title of contact officer

> Dr, V.B. Mathur, Dean, Wildlife Institute of India

Mailing address

> Wildlife Institute of India (WII), P.O. Box. 18, Chandrabani, Dehradun 248001

INDIA

Telephone

> 91-135-2640910

Fax

> 91-135- 2640117

E-mail

> vbm@wii.gov.in

Submission

Name and Signature of officer responsible for submitting national report

Name:

> Dr. S.K. Khanduri

Inspector General of Forests (WL)

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> (+91) 11 24364001

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> igfwl-mef@nic.in; skhanduri@sify.com

Date of submission

> 7th February 2014

Membership of the Standing Committee (if applicable):**Name:**

> Dr. S.K. Khanduri
Inspector General Forest (WL)

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E-mail

> igfwl-mef@nic.in; skhanduri@sify.com

Implementation**Competent Authority:**

> Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India

Relevant implemented legislation:

> Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 & its amendments from time to time &
Environmental Protection Act, 1986 of Govt. of India, The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 of Government of India

Other relevant Conventions/ Agreements (apart from CMS) to which your country is a Party:

> CBD, CITES, IWC, RAMSAR, MARPOL, IOSEA, WHC, MAB , TBPA, CMS-Dugong MoU, Antarctica Treaty,

National policy instruments (e.g. national biodiversity conservation strategy, etc.):

> National Forest Policy and National Environment Policy, National Wildlife Action Plan

CMS Agreements/MoU

Please indicate whether your country is part of the following Agreements/MoU. If so, please indicate the competent national institution

Wadden Sea Seals (1991)**Wadden Sea Seals (1991)**

Non Range State

EUROBATS (1994)**EUROBATS (1994)**

Non Range State

ASCOBANS (1994)

ASCOBANS (1994)

Non Range State

AEWA (1999)

AEWA (1999)

Non Range State

ACAP (2001)

ACAP (2001)

Non Range State

Gorilla Agreement (2008)

Gorilla Agreement (2008)

Non Range State

ACCOBAMS (2001)

ACCOBAMS (2001)

Non Range State

Siberian Crane MoU (1993/1999)

Siberian Crane MoU (1993/1999)

Signatory

Competent authority

Name

> Additional Director General (Wildlife)

Address

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India,
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Delhi 110 003, India

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> (+91) 11 24364790

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> adgwl-mef@nic.in

Contact point

Name

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Slender-billed Curlew MoU (1994)

Slender-billed Curlew MoU (1994)
 Non Range State

Atlantic Turtles MoU (1999)

Atlantic Turtles MoU (1999)
 Non Range State

Middle-European Great Bustard MoU (2001)

Middle-European Great Bustard MoU (2001)
 Non Range State

IOSEA Marine Turtles MoU (2001)

IOSEA Marine Turtles MoU (2001)
 Signatory

Competent authority

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> Additional Director General (Wildlife)

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> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India,
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Bukhara Deer MoU (2002)

Bukhara Deer MoU (2002)
 Non Range State

Aquatic Warbler MoU (2003)

Aquatic Warbler MoU (2003)

 Non Range State**West African Elephants MoU (2005)**

West African Elephants MoU (2005)

 Non Range State**Pacific Islands Cetaceans MoU (2006)**

Pacific Islands Cetaceans MoU (2006)

 Non Range State**Saiga Antelope MoU (2006)**

Saiga Antelope MoU (2006)

 Non Range State**Ruddy-headed Goose MoU (2006)**

Ruddy-headed Goose MoU (2006)

 Non Range State**Monk Seal in the Atlantic MoU (2007)**

Monk Seal in the Atlantic MoU (2007)

 Non Range State**Southern South American Grassland Birds MoU (2007)**

Southern South American Grassland Birds MoU (2007)

 Non Range State**Dugong MoU (2007)**

Dugong MoU (2007)

 Signatory**Competent authority**

Name

> Additional Director General (Wildlife)

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Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New
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E-mail

> igfwl-mef@nic.in

Western African Aquatic Mammals MoU (2008)

Western African Aquatic Mammals MoU (2008)

Non Range State

Birds of Prey (Raptors) MoU (2008)

Birds of Prey (Raptors) MoU (2008)

Non-signatory Range State

Competent authority

Name

> Additional Director General (Wildlife)

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Fax

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E-mail

> igfwl-mef@nic.in

High Andean Flamingos MoU (2008)

High Andean Flamingos MoU (2008)

Non Range State

Sharks MoU (2010)

Sharks MoU (2010)

Non-signatory Range State

Competent authority

Name

> Additional Director General (Wildlife)

Address

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India,
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New
Delhi 110 003, India

Tel

> + 91-11- 24363247

Fax

> +91-11-24364790

E-mail

> adgwl-mef@nic.in

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Fax

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E-mail

> igfwl-mef@nic.in; skhanduri@sify.com

South Andean Huemul MoU (2010)

South Andean Huemul MoU (2010)

Non Range State

Involvement of other government departments/NGOs/private sector

1. Which other government departments are involved in activities/initiatives for the conservation of migratory species in your country? (Please list.)

> Ministry of Earth Sciences; Ministry of Defence; Department of Science, Ministry of Agriculture and Technology; All State Governments

2. If more than one government department is involved, describe the interaction/relationship between these government departments:

> Regular Consultative meetings coordinated by Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

3. Has a national liaison system or committee been established in your country?

Yes

> Additional Director General (Wildlife), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India,
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi, India

4. List the main non-governmental organizations actively involved in activities/initiatives for the conservation of migratory species in your country, and describe their involvement:

> Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai; WWF-India, New Delhi; Aranayak, Guwahati; Wetland International-South Asia, New Delhi; Wildlife Trust of India, New Delhi; ATREE, Bangalore; NCF, Mysore; Wildlife

Preservation Society, New Delhi, WCS, Bangalore; Reefwatch, Mumbai; etc These organizations are invited to consultative meetings and they are also involved in conservation of migratory species in India.

4a. Please provide detail on any devolved government/overseas territory authorities involved.

> None involved other than consultation meetings

5. Describe any involvement of the private sector in the conservation of migratory species in your country:

> Corporate Sectors are mandated to develop and implement environmental management plans while implementing their projects in the vicinity of Protected Areas, habitats of migratory species.

6. Note any interactions between these sectors in the conservation of migratory species in your country:

> Through national consultative meetings as well as periodic project review meetings

I(b). Information about involved Authorities

Identify the ministry, agency/department or organization that is responsible for leading actions relating to Appendix I species

1- Birds

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

2- Aquatic Mammals

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

3- Reptiles

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

4- Terrestrial Mammals

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

5- Fish

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

II. Appendix I species

1. BIRDS

1.1 General questions on Appendix I bird species

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I bird species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I bird species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I bird species:

Electrocutation

Habitat destruction

Wind turbines

Pollution

Other (please provide details):

> Climate change related impact on habitats of migratory birds

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> Creating awareness, control and management of pollution and habitat restoration by strictly enacting the concerned legislation, EIA is mandatory for any projects including wind turbines in the habitats of migratory birds. Necessary actions initiated to minimize the impact of climate change and bird flu related issues in India.

2b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Situation with respect to obstacles are improving but it will take some more time to get visual improvements with respect to climate change.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> Sharing of successful best practiced actions taken by other range states.

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I bird species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

Illegal trade

Poaching

Other (please specify)

> Habitat deterioration and shrinkage

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger bird species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> Strict enforcement of national and international legislations to prevent illegal trade and poaching. Awareness campaigns. Habitat restoration and protection through establishment of Protected Areas and identification of Important Bird Areas (IBA)

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Creation of Protected Areas have helped target species and identification of IBAs have created awareness on the migratory species with the general public. Situation related to illegal trade and poaching are under control now.

3c. Describe any factors that may limit action being taken in this regard:

> Population pressure and need for larger landscape in the agriculture sector limits creation of new Protected Areas.

3d. What assistance, if any, does your country require to overcome these factors?

> Sharing of information on new approaches of migratory species management attempted by range states, if any.

1.2 Questions on specific Appendix I bird species

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I bird species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided

in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: Pelecanus crispus

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.Perennou, T. Mundkur, D. Scott, Follested & A.L. Kvenild (1994). The Asia waterfowl census 1987-91: Distribution and status of Asian waterfowl. AWB Publication no. 86/IWRB Special publication no. 24, Asian Wetland Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, and International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau, Slimbridge.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Habitat protection

Habitat restoration

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population monitoring & wetland protection

Species name: Anser erythropus

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.Perennou, T. Mundkur, D. Scott, Follested & A.L. Kvenild (1994). The Asia waterfowl census 1987-91: Distribution and status of Asian waterfowl. AWB Publication no. 86/IWRB Special publication no. 24, Asian Wetland Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, and International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau, Slimbridge.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such

action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population monitoring and protection of inland wetlands.'

Species name: *Anas formosa*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.Perennou, T. Mundkur, D. Scott, Follested & A.L. Kvenild (1994). The Asia waterfowl census 1987-91: Distribution and status of Asian waterfowl. AWB Publication no. 86/IWRB Special publication no. 24, Asian Wetland Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, and International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau, Slimbridge.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population survey and monitoring & protection of inland wetlands.

Species name: *Marmaronetta angustirostris*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.Perennou, T. Mundkur, D. Scott, Follested & A.L. Kvenild (1994). The Asia waterfowl census 1987-91: Distribution and status of Asian waterfowl. AWB Publication no. 86/IWRB Special publication no. 24, Asian Wetland Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, and International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau, Slimbridge.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

- Control hunting / poaching
- Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population monitoring and wetland protection.

Species name: *Aythya nyroca*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.Perennou, T. Mundkur, D. Scott, Follested & A.L. Kvenild (1994). The Asia waterfowl census 1987-91: Distribution and status of Asian waterfowl. AWB Publication no. 86/IWRB Special publication no. 24, Asian Wetland Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, and International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau, Slimbridge.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Conservation action plan for the species is pending as the causes for the declining population are unknown.

Species name: *Aythya baeri*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

> BNHS, Local birdwatchers

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population monitoring.

Species name: *Haliaeetus albicilla*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population monitoring & Conservation of inland wetlands

Species name: *Neophron percnopterus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> R. Cuthbert, R. E. Green, S. Ranade, S. Saravanan, D. J. Pain, V. Prakash & A. A. Cunningham. 2006. Rapid population declines of Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*) and red-headed vulture (*Sarcogyps calvus*) in India. *Animal Conservation* 9 (2006) 349-354

Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

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M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> Bombay Natural History Society

Monitoring

> Bombay Natural History Society

Education/awareness rising

> Bombay Natural History Society

Species protection

> State Governments

Control hunting / poaching

> State Governments

Habitat protection

> State Governments

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not Applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Regular population monitoring. Species recovery plan.

Species name: Aquila clanga

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population monitoring and determining process of declining

Species name: Aquila heliaca

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Education/awareness rising
- Species protection
- Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Distribution, status survey & population monitoring

Species name: Falco naumanni

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Education/awareness rising
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching
- Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Distribution survey & population monitoring.

Species name: Grus leucogeranus

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.D. Meine & G.W. Archibals (1996). The Cranes: Status survey and conservation action plan. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland, and Cambridge, U.K. 294pp.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

- Monitoring
- Education/awareness rising
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching
- Habitat protection
- Habitat restoration

> Keoladeo National Park

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population recovery/restocking programme including radio-telemetry studies. Planning to establish Siberian crane breeding and exhibits centre in their known habitat in India.

Species name: *Grus nigricollis*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.D. Meine & G.W. Archibalds (1996). The Cranes: Status survey and conservation action plan. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland, and Cambridge, U.K. 294pp.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

O.Pfister (1998). The Breeding Ecology and Conservation of the Black-necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*) in Ladakh, India. 120pp.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> State Governments and Wildlife Institute of India, NGOs

Identification and establishment of protected areas

Monitoring

> State Governments and Wildlife Institute of India, NGOs

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Habitat protection

Habitat restoration

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Research on migration & strict protection to nesting pairs in breeding grounds.

Species name: *Vanellus gregarius*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.Perennou, T. Mundkur, D. Scott, Follested & A.L. Kvenild (1994). The Asia waterfowl census 1987-91: Distribution and status of Asian waterfowl. AWB Publication no. 86/IWRB Special publication no. 24, Asian Wetland Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, and International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau, Slimbridge.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.
 M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Education/awareness rising
- Species protection
- Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population survey & monitoring

Species name: *Tringa guttifer*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.Perennou, T. Mundkur, D. Scott, Follested & A.L. Kvenild (1994). The Asia waterfowl census 1987-91: Distribution and status of Asian waterfowl. AWB Publication no. 86/IWRB Special publication no. 24, Asian Wetland Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, and International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau, Slimbridge.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

stable

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

stable

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Education/awareness rising
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching
- Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population monitoring, ringing & telemetry studies

Species name: *Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

C.Perennou, T. Mundkur, D. Scott, Follested & A.L. Kvenild (1994). The Asia waterfowl census 1987-91:

Distribution and status of Asian waterfowl. AWB Publication no. 86/IWRB Special publication no. 24, Asian Wetland Bureau, Kuala Lumpur, and International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau, Slimbridge. R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi. K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London. M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

Control hunting / poaching

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> N/A

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Population monitoring & ranging studies.

Species name: *Emberiza aureola*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Salim Ali & S.D. Ripley (1987). Compact Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

R. Grimmett, C. Inskipp. & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.

K. Kazmierczak & B. van Berlo (2000). A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Pica Press, London.

M. Zafar-ul-Islam & A. Rahmani (2004). Important Bird Areas in India; Priority Sites for Conservation, Bombay National History Society, Mumbai

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Education/awareness rising

> Several NGOs

Miscellaneous information or comments on Appendix I birds in general:

> Ever since the RAMSAR & IBA sites have been identified there is an increasing awareness on migratory birds. Avian influenza monitoring research has increased the awareness about migratory waterfowls.

2. AQUATIC MAMMALS

2.1 General questions on Appendix I aquatic mammals

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I aquatic mammals species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I aquatic mammals species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I aquatic mammals:

- By-catch
- Collision with fishing traffic
- Pollution
- Illegal hunting
- Other threats to migration (please provide details)

> Increase in navigational activities, hydrocarbon exploration, long-line fishing and marine pollution. Coastal habitat deterioration.

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> Policy and legislations have been framed to overcome these obstacles.

2b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Situation with respect above mentioned obstacles are improving.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> International cooperation and review of existing legislations.

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I aquatic mammals species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

- By-catch
- Other (please specify)

> Breeding and feeding habitat of migratory mammals along coastal areas are deteriorating

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger aquatic mammals species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> Education and awareness creation

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Being monitored

3c. Describe any factors that may limit action being taken in this regard:

> Not applicable

3d. What assistance, if any, does your country require to overcome these factors?

> International cooperation and dialogue

2.2 Questions on specific Appendix I aquatic mammals

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I aquatic mammals species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Physeter macrocephalus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> There are no detail study on marine mammals in India.
Kumaran (2002) Current Science, vol. 83, No. 10:1210-1220.
Sathasivam, K (2004). The marine mammals of India. 184 pages.
CMFRI Newsletters, Fishery Survey of India Annual Survey Reports.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

> Data is insufficient to assess population size and trends. Occur in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Education / awareness rising
- Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Monitoring and research

Species name: Platanista gangetica gangetica

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Sinha, RK; Smith, BD; Sharma, G; Prasad, G; Choudhury, BC; Sapkota, K; Sharma, RK; Behera, SK 2000. Status and distribution of the Ganges susu in the Ganges River system of India and Nepal. Biology and conservation of freshwater cetaceans in Asia. Vol. 23, pp 54-61. [Occas. Pap. IUCN Species Survival Comm.]. 2000

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> Declining in Ganges and Brahmaputra river systems.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

Monitoring

Education / awareness rising

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Research, Monitoring and conservation education.

Species name: Orcaella brevirostris

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Stacey, P.J. and S. Leatherwood, 1997. The Irrawaddy dolphin, Orcaella brevirostris: a summary of current knowledge and recommendations for conservation action. Asian Marine Biology, 14:195-214

Sinha, R.K. The Irrawaddy dolphins Orcaella brevirostris of Chilika lagoon, India. Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society [J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.]. Vol. 101, no. 2, pp. 244-251. 2004.

Brian D. Smith, Gill Brauli, Samantha Strindberg, Benazir Ahmed, Rubaiyat Mansur. 2006. Abundance Of Irrawaddy Dolphins (Orcaella Brevirostris) And Ganges River Dolphins (Platanista Gangetica Gangetica) Estimated Using Concurrent Counts Made By Independent Teams In Waterways Of The Sundarbans Mangrove Forest In Bangladesh. Marine Mammal Science, Volume 22, Issue 3, Pages 527-547, July 2006

Ura, T.; Bahl, R.; Sugimatsu, H.; Kojima, J.; Inoue, T.; Fukuchi, T.; Behera, S.; Pattnaik, A.; Khan, M.; Kar, S.; Kar, C.S. "Estimated beam pattern and echolocation characteristics of clicks recorded from a free-ranging Ganges river dolphin", Underwater Technology and Workshop on Scientific Use of Submarine Cables and Related Technologies, 2007. Symposium on, On page(s): 527 - 534

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> Data is insufficient to assess population size and trends. Occur in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Education / awareness rising
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching
- Species restoration
- Habitat protection
- Habitat restoration

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Monitoring and research

Species name: Balaenoptera borealis

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> There are no detail study on marine mammals in India.

Kumaran (2002) Current Science, vol. 83, No. 10:1210-1220.

Sathasivam, K (2004). The marine mammals of India. 184 pages.

CMFRI Newsletters, Fishery Survey of India Annual Survey Reports.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

> Data is insufficient to assess population size and trends. Occur in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Education / awareness rising
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching
- Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Monitoring and research

Species name: Balaenoptera musculus

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> There are no detail study on marine mammals in India.

Kumaran (2002) Current Science, vol. 83, No. 10:1210-1220.

Sathasivam, K (2004). The marine mammals of India. 184 pages.

CMFRI Newsletters, Fishery Survey of India Annual Survey Reports.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

> Data is insufficient to assess population size and trends. Occur in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Education / awareness rising
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching
- Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Monitoring and research

Species name: Megaptera novaeangliae

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> There are no detail study on marine mammals in India.

Kumaran (2002) Current Science, vol. 83, No. 10:1210-1220.

Sathasivam, K (2004). The marine mammals of India. 184 pages.

CMFRI Newsletters, Fishery Survey of India Annual Survey Reports.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

not known

> Data is insufficient to assess population size and trends. Occur in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Education / awareness rising
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching
- Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Monitoring and research

Miscellaneous information or comments on Appendix I marine mammals in general:

> There was no detailed survey and population monitoring programme on marine mammals except dugong carried out in India. Status of most of the marine mammals is not known. However, all marine mammals in India is protected by the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is urgently required to carry out a scientific survey on all marine mammals in India. Marine mammals stranding network establishment is under progress under aegis of NOAA, CMFRI, MoEF etc. India is going to organise the first sub-regional workshop on Dugong and their habitat conservation and to implement UNEP/CMS Dugong MoU in the region with support of CMS Dugong MoU Secretariat.

3. REPTILES

3.1 General questions on Appendix I reptiles

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I reptiles species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I reptiles species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I reptiles species:

- By-catch
- Pollution
- Other threats to migration (please provide details)

> Off shore oil exploration, fishing and vulnerability of coastal habitat due to climate change as well as developmental activities

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

- > (1) Migration routes and movement pattern in the offshore waters are being identified so that strategies can be developed for offshore oil exploration.
- (2) Potential impacts of offshore oil exploration on migratory and foraging sea turtles are also undertaken.
- (3) Coastal habitats that are vulnerable to climate change are mapped for better preparedness planning

2b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Required actions to overcome above mentioned obstacles are being initiated. Threats to sea turtles in Indian water have been documented.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

- > (1) Advice of experts in understanding the offshore biology of sea turtles.
- (2) Regional and international cooperation.

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I reptiles species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

- Predation of eggs
- Destruction of nesting beaches
- Other (please specify)

> Incidental fishing catch

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger reptiles species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> Awareness creation, implementation of Turtle Exclusive Devise

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Being monitored

3c. Describe any factors that may limit action being taken in this regard:

> Not applicable.

3d. What assistance, if any, does your country require to overcome these factors?

> Sharing of information.

3.2 Questions on specific Appendix I reptiles

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I reptiles species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Chelonia mydas*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

- > Shankar, K. And Choudhury B.C. (2006). Marine Turtles of India. University Press, Hyderabad.
- Bhupathy, S. And S. Sarvanana (2006). Status of marine turtles in the Gulf of Mannar, India. *Chelonian Conservation and Biology*, 5(1):139-141.
- Sivakumar, K. 2002. Turtle nesting on the south bay of Great Nicobar Island. *Marine Turtle Newsletter*, 96:17-18.
- Sivakumar, K. 2005. Turtles in trouble. *Newsletter, Wildlife Institute of India*: 12(1):3-6

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

- decreasing

> Expert population size from India is still not known. However, studies carried out in different parts of India indicate a decline in the population all through the country. In mainland India green turtle is found in the Gulf of Mannar and Gulf of Katchch. Green turtle is rare along rest part of mainland India. Green turtle is common in Lakshadweep and Anadaman & Nicobar Islands.

- stable

> Expert population size from India is still not known. However, studies carried out in different parts of India indicate a decline in the population all through the country. In mainland India green turtle is found in the Gulf of Mannar and Gulf of Katchch. Green turtle is rare along rest part of mainland India. Green turtle is common in Lakshadweep and Anadaman & Nicobar Islands.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> By Madras Crocodile Bank Trust and A&N Ecological Trust in A&N Islands, WII in Lakshadweep, Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology in Gujarat, SACON in Tamil Nadu.

Identification and establishment of protected areas

> Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

Monitoring

> By MCBT and ANET in A&N Islands, WII.

Education/awareness rising

> State Governments, NGOs, MoEF

Species protection

> Legally the species is being protected by government of all coastal states and union territories through the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Control hunting / poaching

Species restoration

> No restoration work has been carried out so far in the country.

Habitat protection

> In many areas green turtle offshore habitats as well as nesting beaches are legally protected

Habitat restoration

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Determining migration pattern

Species name: *Caretta caretta*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Kar, C.S. and S. Bhaskar (1982). The status of sea turtles in the eastern Indian Ocean; in, the Biology and conservation of sea turtles; Ed; K. Journal; Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington DC 365-372.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> Not available.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Monitoring

> MCBT, WII, ANET, State Forest Departments

Species protection

> State Forest Departments

Control hunting / poaching

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Nil

Species name: Eretmochelys imbricata

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Shankar, K. And Choudhury B.C. (2006). Marine Turtles of India. University Press, Hyderabad.
 Kar, C.S. and S. Bhaskar (1982). The status of sea turtles in the eastern Indian Ocean; in, the Biology and conservation of sea turtles; Ed; K. Journal; Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington DC 365-372.
 Sajan John, R. Suresh Kumar, B.C. Choudhury & K. Sivakumar, 2010. Observations of juvenile green and hawksbill turtles along the southern Orissa coast, India. Indian Ocean Turtle Newsletter, 12:9-12.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> No population estimate is available on this species and very little information exist on the status of this species in the Indian waters

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> WII project in Lakshdweep Islands

Identification and establishment of protected areas

Monitoring

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

Habitat protection

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Determining migration pattern

Species name: Lepidochelys olivacea

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Dash, M.C. and C.S. Kar. 1990. The turtle paradise – Gahirmatha, Interprint, New Delhi, 295 pages.
 Kar, C.S. and S. Bhaskar (1982). The status of sea turtles in the eastern Indian Ocean; in, the Biology and conservation of sea turtles; Ed; K. Journal; Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington DC 365-372.
 Pandav B. and B.C. Choudhury (2000). Conservation and management of olive ridley sea turtle population in Orissa, India. Wildlife Institute of India.
 Sankar, K; Bivash Pandav and B.C. Choudhury (2003). An assessment of olive ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) nesting population in Orissa, India. Biological Conservation. Vol. 115/1, pp.149-160.
 Shankar, K. And Choudhury B.C. (2006). Marine Turtles of India. University Press, Hyderabad.
 Satyaranjan Behera, Basudev Tripathy, B.C. Choudhury, K.Sivakumar, 2010. Behaviour of Olive Ridley turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) prior to arribada at Gahirmatha, Orissa, India. Herpetology Notes (3):273-274.
 Satyaranjan Behera, Basudev Tripathy, Kupuswamy Sivakumar, Binod Chandra Choudhury, Chandrasekhar Kar. 2013. Nesting habitat suitability for olive ridley turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) at the Gahirmatha rookery, Odisha coast of India. International Journal of Conservation Science 4(4): 477-484.

Satyaranjan Behera, B. Tripathy, K. Sivakumar and B.C. Choudhury. 2013. A case study on olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) solitary nests in Gahirmatha rookery, Odisha, India. Testudo Vol. 7, No. 5:49-60.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> The commonest and the most numerous amongst all the sea turtles in India. Still nest in large congregations at few selected beaches along the coast of Orissa, India. However, this sporadic nesting of this species has been recorded from most part of Indian coast.

stable

> The commonest and the most numerous amongst all the sea turtles in India. Still nest in large

congregations at few selected beaches along the coast of Orissa, India. However, this sporadic nesting of this species has been recorded from most part of Indian coast.

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> Extensive research has been carried out by Orissa Forest Deptt. and Wildlife Institute of India.

Identification and establishment of protected areas

Monitoring

> Nesting populations are being monitored along most part of Indian coast by respective state forest departments.

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

> Legally protected

Control hunting / poaching

Species restoration

> Head starting has been done in many parts of the country without much success

Habitat protection

> Nesting beaches as well as offshore congregation areas are being provided protection

Habitat restoration

> Very little work has been done in this regard.

Other

> Extensive awareness programme

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> (1) Offshore distribution and abundance

(2) Identifying the migration and movement pattern.

Species name: Dermochelys coriacea

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Shankar, K. And Choudhury B.C. (2006). Marine Turtles of India. University Press, Hyderabad.

Sivakumar, K. 2002. Turtle nesting on the south bay of Great Nicobar Island. Marine Turtle Newsletter, 96:17-18

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> Only nesting population has been recorded from the Nicobar group of Islands. Over the years this species has suffered a massive decline in mainland India

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

> Tsunami in 2004 caused a huge damage to habitat of this species on the Nicobar group of Islands

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

> BY MCBT IISC, Bangalore

Monitoring

> Being carried out by MCBT IISC, Bangalore

Education/awareness rising

Species protection

> Legally protected WPA, 1972

- Control hunting / poaching
- Species restoration
- Habitat protection

> Andaman & Nicobar Forest Department

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Determining migration pattern and impact of tsunami

Species name: *Gavialis gangeticus*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Whitaker, R and Basu, D. 1982. The gharial *Gavialis gangeticus*: A review. Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society. Bombay. Vol. 79, no. 3, pp. 531-548. 1982

Hussain, S.A. 2009. Basking site and water depth selection by gharial *Gavialis gangeticus* Gmelin 1789 (Crocodylia, Reptilia) in National Chambal Sanctuary, India and its implication for river conservation. Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems. Volume 19, Issue 2, pages 127-133, March/April 2009

Choudhury, B. C., Singh, L. A. K., Rao, R. J., Basu, D., Sharma, R. K., Hussain, S. A., Andrews, H. V., Whitaker, N., Whitaker, R., Lenin, J., Maskey, T., Cadi, A., Rashid, S. M. A., Choudhury, A. A., Dahal, B., Win Ko Ko, U., Thorbjarnarson, J., Ross, J. P. (2007). "*Gavialis gangeticus*". IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2012.2. International Union for Conservation of Nature.

Choudhury, B.C. (ed.) (2006). West Asia Regional Report. Crocodile Specialist Group Steering Committee Meeting, 19 June 2006.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

stable

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- Monitoring
- Education/awareness rising
- Species protection
- Control hunting / poaching
- Species restoration
- Habitat protection
- Habitat restoration

4. If no activities have been carried out for this species in the reporting period, what has prevented such action being taken?

> Not Applicable

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

> Implementation of Species Recovery Programme of this species. Regular monitoring and actions to recover species

Miscellaneous information or comments on Appendix I marine turtles in general:

> Being a signatory to the IOSEA, India is implementing the Management Action Plan as per the IOSEA conservation and Management Plan. Being signatory of UNEP/CMS Dugong MoU in which sea turtles are also taken care in the habitat of dugong, India has actively initiated implementing Dugong MoU.

4. TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS

4.1 General questions on Appendix I terrestrial mammals

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I terrestrial mammals species prohibited by the national implementing legislation cited in Table I(a) (General Information)?

Yes

1a. If the taking of Appendix I terrestrial mammals species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I terrestrial mammals species:

- Electrocution
- Lack of information
- Habitat fragmentation
- Poaching
- Lack of trans-boundary management
- Man-made barriers
- Poor communication amongst Range States
- Climate change and drought

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> Nature education and awareness creation among local communities. Identified wildlife corridors to link fragmented habitats and populations. Initiated actions to implement IUCN TBPA MoU with neighbouring countries.

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> Regional and International cooperation among Range States in sharing information related to biology and conservation of these species

3. What are the major pressures to Appendix I terrestrial mammals species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

- Illegal trade
- Poaching
- Lack of information

3d. What assistance, if any, does your country require to overcome these factors?

> Regional and International cooperation among Range States in sharing information related to biology and conservation of these species

4.2 Questions on specific Appendix I terrestrial mammals

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I terrestrial mammal species for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Uncia uncia*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Wozencraft, W.C. (2005). Carnivora: Feliformia: Viverridae. In: Wilson, D.E. and D.M. Reeder (eds.). Mammal Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference. 3rd edition. Vols 1 & 2. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 2142pp.

Cat Specialist Group (2002). *Uncia uncia*. In: IUCN 2007. 2007 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

<www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on 31 May 2008.

Project Snow Leopard. Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

decreasing

> The species is under threat in India and neighbouring countries due to the demand for bones for Chinese medicines, and for fur trade. There is a decreasing trend in the already small population estimated at less than 2,500 mature individuals due to persecution, fragmentation of habitat and habitat loss (Cat Specialist Group 2002)

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

Research

- > State Forest Departments, NGOs
 - Identification and establishment of protected areas
- > Wildlife Institute of India
 - Monitoring
- > State Forest Departments, NGOs
 - Education/awareness rising
- > State Forest Departments, NGOs
 - Species protection
- > State Forest Departments
 - Habitat protection
- > State Forest Departments through MoEF, GOI

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

- > Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has launched special conservation programme called 'Project Snow Leopard' through which several conservation actions have been initiated at field level.

Species name: *Bos grunniens*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

- > Grubb, P. (2005). Artiodactyla: Bovidae: Bovinae. In: Wilson, D.E. and D.M. Reeder (eds.). Mammal Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference. 3rd edition. Vols 1 & 2. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 2142pp.
- Hedges, S. (2000). *Bos grunniens*. In: IUCN 2007. 2007 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. <www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on 31 May 2008.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

- decreasing
- > Populations in India and China have declined and continue to decline due to very high hunting and loss of habitat pressures (Hedges 2000)

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

- decreasing

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

- Research
- > Wildlife Institute of India and NCF, Mysore
 - Monitoring
- > WII and NCF
 - Education/awareness rising
 - Species protection
 - Control hunting / poaching
 - Habitat protection

5. Describe any future activities that are planned for this species:

- > Project Snow Leopard launched by MoEF, Govt. Of India also takes care of conservation of Yak as one of the prey species of snow leopard.

5. FISH

5.1 General questions on Appendix I fish species

1. Is the taking of all Appendix I fish species prohibited by the national legislation listed as being implementing legislation in Table I(a) (General Information)?

- No

If other legislation is relevant, please provide details:

- > The Indian Fisheries Act, 1897, Not all Appendix i Fish are protected in India by Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (e.g. *Manta birostris*)

1a. If the taking of Appendix I fish species is prohibited by law, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

No

2. Identify any obstacles to migration that exist in relation to Appendix I fish species:

 Other threats to migration (please provide details)

> Habitat deterioration and illegal trade

2a. What actions are being undertaken to overcome these obstacles?

> Strengthened enforcement authority and created Wildlife Crime Control Board to prevent illegal trade on protected species. Bay of Bengal Program established to conserve the marine fisheries resources in the South Asian region which include conservation of threatened migratory fishes in the region.

2b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Situation improving

2c. What assistance, if any, does your country require in order to overcome these obstacles?

> Consultative meetings to prevent illegal trade

3. What are the major threats to Appendix I fish species (transcending mere obstacles to migration)?

 Other (please specify)

> Fishing

3a. What actions have been taken to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger fish species beyond actions to prevent disruption to migrating behaviour?

> Strict enforcement of national legislations to protect this species. Species recovery programme initiated.

3b. Please report on the progress / success of the actions taken.

> Situation improving

3d. What assistance, if any, does your country require to overcome these factors?

> Consultative meeting with range countries and their experts

5.2 Questions on specific Appendix I fish species

In the following section, using the table format below, please fill in each Appendix I fish species, for which your country is considered to be a Range State. Please complete each table as appropriate, providing information in summary form. Where appropriate, please cross-reference to information already provided in national reports that have been submitted under other conventions (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity, Ramsar Convention, CITES). (Attach annexes as necessary.)

Species name: *Manta birostris*

1. Please provide published distribution reference:

> Publications of CMFRI and Fishery Survey of India

Marshall, A., Bennett, M.B., Kodja, G., Hinojosa-Alvarez, S., Galvan-Magana, F., Harding, M., Stevens, G. & Kashiwagi, T. 2011. *Manta birostris*. In: IUCN 2013. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2013.2.

2a. Summarise information on population size (if known):

 not known

2b. Summarise information on distribution (if known):

 not known

3. Indicate and briefly describe any activities that have been carried out in favour of this species in the reporting period. (Please provide the title of the project and contact details, where available):

 Identification and establishment of protected areas Habitat protection

> Several Marine Protected Areas established and these MPAs are protecting certain populations of this species

 Habitat restoration

Miscellaneous information or comments on Appendix I bats in general:

> Monitoring the population status of this species in India would be initiated to take appropriate conservation measures.

6. LISTING OF OTHER ENDANGERED MIGRATORY SPECIES IN APPENDIX I

1. Is your country a Range State for any other endangered migratory species currently listed in Appendix I? (according to the latest IUCN red data list). N.B.: States in which a species occurs as a vagrant (i.e. not "on its normal migration route") should not be treated as Range States. Please refer to Article 1 of the Convention for clarification.

No

1a. Is your country taking any steps to propose listing any of these species?

No

III. Appendix II Species

1. INFORMATION ON APPENDIX II SPECIES

Information pertaining to the conservation of Appendix II species that are the object of CMS Agreements will have been provided in periodic Party reports to those instruments. It will suffice therefore to reference (below), and preferably append, a copy of the latest report that has been submitted to the Secretariat of each of the Agreement/MoUs to which your country is a Party.

Wadden Sea Seals (1991)

Date of last report:

> Not applicable

Siberian Crane MoU (1993/1999)

Date of last report

> 03.05.2010

Period covered:

> 2007 to 2010

EUROBATS (1994)

Date of last report:

> Not Applicable

Slender-billed Curlew MoU (1994)

Date of last report:

> Not Applicable

AEWA (1999)

Date of last report:

> Not Applicable

ACCOBAMS (2001)

Date of last report:

> Not Applicable

Middle-European Great Bustard MoU (2001)

Date of last report:

> Not Applicable

IOSEA Marine Turtles MoU (2001)

Date of last report:

> Under preparation

ACAP (2001)

Date of last report:

> Not Applicable

Bukhara Deer MoU (2002)

Date of last report:

> Not Applicable

Aquatic Warbler MoU (2003)

Date of last report:

> Not Applicable

West African Elephants MoU (2005)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Pacific Islands Cetaceans MoU (2006)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Saiga Antelope MoU (2006)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Ruddy-headed Goose MoU (2006)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Monk Seal in the Atlantic MoU (2007)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Southern South American Grassland Birds MoU (2007)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Dugong MoU (2007)

Date of last report:
> October 2008 by MoEF

Gorilla Agreement (2008)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Western African Aquatic Mammals MoU (2008)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Birds of Prey (Raptors) MoU (2008)

Date of last report:
> Not yet submitted

High Andean Flamingos MoU (2008)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

Sharks MoU (2010)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

South Andean Huemul MoU (2010)

Date of last report:
> Not Applicable

2. QUESTIONS ON CMS AGREEMENTS

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Bird Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements,

including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Bird Species ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Bird Species ?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details:

>

Amur Falcon

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Bird Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Marine Mammal Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Marine Mammal Species ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Marine Mammal Species ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Marine Mammal Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Marine Turtle Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Marine Turtle Species ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Marine Turtle Species ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Marine Turtle Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Terrestrial Mammal (other than bats) Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Terrestrial Mammal (other than bats) Species ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Terrestrial Mammal (other than bats) Species ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Terrestrial Mammal (other than bats) Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

Yes

4.1. If Yes, please provide details:

> Transboundary Agreements for Elephant and Snow Leopard Conservation with neighboring countries

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Bat Species

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Bat Species ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Bat Species ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Bat Species, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

Questions on the development of new CMS Agreements relating to Fish

1. In the current reporting period, has your country **initiated** the development of any CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II Fish ?

No

2. In the current reporting period, has your country **participated** in the development of any new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, which address the conservation needs of Appendix II Fish ?

No

4. Is the development of any CMS Agreement for Fish, including Memoranda of Understanding, planned by your country in the foreseeable future?

No

3. LISTING OF MIGRATORY SPECIES IN APPENDIX II

1. Is your country a Range State for any migratory species that has an unfavourable conservation status, but is not currently listed in Appendix II and could benefit from the conclusion of an Agreement for its conservation?

N.B.: States in which a species occurs as a vagrant (i.e. not "on its normal migration route") should not be treated as Range States. Please refer to Article 1 of the Convention for clarification.

No

1a. Is your country taking any steps to propose the listing of this/these species in Appendix II?

No

1b. What assistance, if any, does your country require to initiate the listing of this/these species?

> Not applicable

IV. National and Regional Priorities

1. What priority does your country assign to the conservation and, where applicable, sustainable use of migratory species in comparison to other biodiversity-related issues

High

2. Are migratory species and their habitats addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan?

Yes

2.1. If Yes, please indicate and briefly describe the extent to which it addresses the following issues:

Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of migratory species

> Necessary actions initiated through National Biodiversity Action Plan

Conservation, sustainable use and/or restoration of the habitats of migratory species, including protected areas

Actions to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger migratory species (e.g. alien invasive species or by-catch)

Minimizing or eliminating barriers or obstacles to migration

Research and monitoring of migratory species

> Several migratory species are studied for their ecology and conservation. Continuous monitoring some migratory species are also on pipeline.

Transboundary co-operation

> National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan and National Biodiversity Report of India have adequately provided required conservation actions to conserve migratory species in India. Further, several migratory species have been selected on priority for their recovery programs. identified few TBPA on priority basis to start with

3. Does the conservation of migratory species currently feature in any other national or regional policies/plans (apart from CMS Agreements)

Yes

3.1. If Yes, please provide details:

> National Environmental Policy and National Wildlife Action Plan, SAARC, National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan.

3a. Do these policies/plans cover the following areas?

Exploitation of natural resources (e.g. fisheries, hunting, etc.)

Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> Sustainable fisheries and prohibition of hunting of certain migratory fishes are placed in the existing policies/plans

Economic development

Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> Coastal Zone Regulation Notification of India promote the sustainable economic development in the habitat of marine migratory species. Similarly, Environment Protection Act, Forest Act etc of India emphasis the importance of sustainable economic development without harming the habitat of threatened wildlife including migratory species.

Land-use planning

Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> Environment Protection Act, Forest Act etc of India emphasis the importance of sustainable economic development without harming the habitat of threatened wildlife including migratory species.

Pollution control

Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> Environment Protection Act, Forest Act etc of India emphasis the importance of sustainable economic development without harming the habitat of threatened wildlife including migratory species.

Designation and development of protected areas

 Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has helped the country to designate more than 680 PAs in the country to protect populations and their habitat of migratory species

Development of ecological networks

 Yes

Planning of power lines

 Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> EIA is mandatory as per the existing policies of the country to plan major power lines.

Planning of fences

 No

Planning of dams

 Yes

If Yes, please provide details

> EIA is mandatory as per the existing policies of the country to plan major dams.

4. Results - please describe the positive outcomes of any actions taken

> Actions have been initiated greater focus of research on migratory fauna. Larger parts of habitats of migratory species are under the Wildlife Protected Area Network of India

V. Protected Areas

1. Are migratory species taken into account in the selection, establishment and management of protected areas in your country?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details:

> Setting up of Trans Boundary Protected Areas Network, Several wetlands have been identified and included in the wildlife protected areas network, which have been under use of migratory birds. Setting up of IBA which are under use of migratory birds. There are more than 100 Coastal and Marine Protected Areas to conserve the migratory marine animals.

1a. Please identify the most important national sites for migratory species and their protection status:

> RAMSAR Sites, Coastal and Marine PAs, Transboundary PAs

1b. Do these protected areas cover the following areas?

Terrestrial

Yes

If Yes, please provide details and include the amount of protected areas coverage and the number of protected areas

> There are about 687 PAs covering about 5% of Indian Terrestrial Habitat are exclusively conservation biodiversity including migratory species

Aquatic

Yes

If Yes, please provide details and include the amount of protected areas coverage and the number of protected areas

> There are 25 RAMSAR sites and more than 100 wetlands PAs in India which protect the several migratory species especially birds.

Marine

Yes

If Yes, please provide details and include the amount of protected areas coverage and the number of protected areas

> There are 19 Coastal and Marine PAs in Peninsular India and more than 100 MPAs in Islands covering about 20000 sq.km areas.

1c. Identify the agency, department or organization responsible for leading on this action in your country:

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India and State Forest Departments supported by professional institutions and National Conservation NGOs.

2. Results - please describe the positive outcomes of any actions taken

> Greater cooperation in management of Trans boundary Protected Areas. Population status and habitat of migratory species are increasingly protected and inclusive management of PAs are being considered.

VI. Policies on Satellite Telemetry

1. In the current reporting period, has your country undertaken conservation/research projects that use satellite telemetry?

Yes

If yes what is the state of those projects

on-going

Please provide details

> Several migratory species such as sea turtles, whale shark, black-necked crane, Great Indian Bustard, Bar-headed geese, Amur Falcon etc are tracked using satellite tracking techniques.

2. Are any future conservation/research projects planned that will use satellite telemetry?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (including the expected timeframe for these projects):

> Several species would be tracked using satellite telemetry to understand their habitat requirement through space and time.

3. Results - please describe the positive outcomes of any actions taken

> Migratory routes and patterns as well as flyways have been established for few species. Studies on sea turtle helped to develop integrated development plan in the Bay of Bengal especially for Hydro carbon exploration.

VII. Membership

1. Have actions been taken by your country to encourage non- Parties to join CMS and its related Agreements?

No

1a. Identify the agency, department or organization responsible for leading on this action in your country:

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

2. Results - please describe the positive outcomes of any actions taken

> Network of wetland sites susceptible to avian influenza identified along the trans-boundary wetlands (by BNHS and FAO)

VIII. Global and National Importance of CMS

1. Have actions been taken by your country to increase national, regional and/or global awareness of the relevance of CMS and its global importance in the context of biodiversity conservation?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details:

> Convention details are explained in all capacity development training programmes in Forest and Wildlife Sector Regional Workshop on Dugong MoU will be conducted for South Asian range countries.

2. Identify the agency, department or organization responsible for leading on this action in your country:

> Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India

3. Results - please describe the positive outcomes of any actions taken

> Awareness created at all levels

IX. Mobilization of Resources

1. Has your country made financial resources available for conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in your country?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> Marine Turtle, Waterfowl, Elephant, Snow Leopard, Whale shark, Dugong.

2. Has your country made voluntary contributions to the CMS Trust Fund to support requests from developing countries and countries with economies in transition?

No

3. Has your country made other voluntary financial contributions to support conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in other countries (particularly developing countries)?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> As required capacity building of wildlife managers and biologists in neighbouring countries.

4. Has your country provided technical and/or scientific assistance to developing countries to facilitate initiatives for the benefit of migratory species?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> Training Wildlife Managers of SARC Nation & GTF Nations As required capacity building of wildlife managers and biologists in neighbouring countries. Tiger, Snow leopard, waterfowls, marine turtles

5. Has your country received financial assistance/support from the CMS Trust Fund, via the CMS Secretariat, for national conservation activities having direct benefits for migratory species in your country?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> Marine Turtles, UNEP/CMS Dugong MoU, Marine turtle tracking and monitoring

6. Has your country received financial assistance/support from sources other than the CMS Secretariat for conservation activities having direct benefit for migratory species in your country?

Yes

If Yes, please provide details (Indicate the migratory species that have benefited from these activities):

> Water fowl tracking by FAO, Marine turtle tracking by UNDP

X. Implementation of COP Resolutions and Recommendations

Please provide information about measures undertaken by your country relating to recent Resolutions and Recommendations since the last Report. For your convenience please refer to the list of COP Resolutions and Recommendations listed below:

Resolutions

Oil Pollution and Migratory Species (7.3)

> National Disaster Management Authority of India in collaboration of the Ministry of Defence have prepared 'Preparedness Plan' for oil spill and other oil pollution related issues. EIA is mandatory for any oil related developmental projects.

Electrocution of Migratory Birds (7.4 / 10.11)

> EIA is mandatory for any major electric projects that takes care of migratory animals too.

Wind Turbines and Migratory Species (7.5)

> EIA is mandatory for any major wind turbines projects that takes care of migratory animals too.

Migratory Species and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (8.27 / 10.22)

> Necessary action in this regard has already been taken by the Government of India. The Ministry of Environment and Forests had undertaken several actions to prevent any untoward incidents of Avian Influenza through Migratory birds. For this purpose, a cell chaired by the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, for monitoring the movement of migratory birds and their role, if any, in emergencies arising out of bird flu, etc. had been constituted in the Ministry. Further, guidelines were also issued to all the States for the protection of persons handling wild birds. The major actions taken in this regard recently include:

- Following the reports of the occurrence of Avian Influenza in neighbouring countries, RED ALERT were issued to all States/UTs and also to the zoos in India for maintaining utmost vigil and take necessary action.
- Intensification of the monitoring of migratory birds and some of the critical wetlands in the country.
- Training to the Forest Department personnel and wildlife veterinarians in the monitoring of wild birds against the threat of Avian Influenza has also been taken up.

Climate Change Impacts on Migratory Species (8.13 / 9.7 / 10.19)

> Climate Change Adaptation Plan have been prepared for some important PAs in the country to conserve migratory species and their habitats. The MoEF, Govt. of India has supported studies in the Trans-Himalayan region, Western Ghats, Sunderbans and the Bay of Bengal to examine the possible impact of climate on migratory species into this important eco-region.

Marine Debris (10.4)

> Coastal Zone Regulation Notification, 2011 is strictly implemented in India which prevents or minimize the marine debris

Poisoning Migratory Birds (10.26)

> Nature Education and Awareness programs implemented in and around habitats of migratory birds especially targeting agriculture farmers and fish farmers to avoid poisoning of birds.

Adverse Anthropogenic Impacts on Cetaceans and other Biota (8.22 / 9.19 / 10.24)

> Government of India is taking necessary action in this regard. All Cetaceans are included in the Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby according them highest degree of protection against hunting. Further, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, financial and technical assistance is provided for according better protection to wildlife and their habitats, both within the designated Protected Areas and outside such areas. Apart from this, the Gangetic Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) has also been designated as India's National Aquatic animal for creating more awareness for its protection.

Southern Hemisphere Albatross Conservation (6.3)

> Not applicable

Impact Assessment and Migratory Species (7.2)

> EIA studies are mandatory for any major developmental projects in the habitats of migratory species in India.

Implementation of Existing Agreements and Development of Future Agreements (8.5)

> The Government of India is in the process of implementation of the Central Asian Flyway Action Plan. Further, India had participated in the meetings of the CMS to finalize an MOU on conservation of Sharks and would continue to provide further cooperation in this regard

Migratory Marine Species (9.9 / 10.15)

> The National Board for Wildlife under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, had in its meeting decided to identify marine species for prioritizing for taking up conservation programmes. In pursuance to this decision, seven species, viz, Dugong, Whale Shark, Marine Turtle (two species), Giant Clams, Holothurians (Sea Cucumber), Horse Shoe Crab and Balanoglossus, have been identified for preparation of Conservation & Recovery Action Plan. Specific studies with respect to Whale Shark, Marine Turtles and Dugongs are in place. Necessary action for preparation and implementation of Action Plans for other marine species are under preparation.

Saker Falcon (9.20 / 10.28)

> As per the IUCN, the species is found in the Western parts of India also. In India, all the species of the Family : Falconidae are listed under Schedule-IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby according them protection against hunting and trade.

Global Flyway Conservation (10.10)

> India has taken several conservation measures to protect and conserve the migratory species and their habitats in CAF

Migratory Freshwater Fish (10.12)

> Not Applicable

Contribution of CMS in Achieving the 2010 Biodiversity Target (8.7)

> India is setting its National Targets in context with Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2020

Capacity Building Strategy (9.12 / 10.6)

> Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India supports several Capacity Building Programs to conserve the migratory species and their habitats. The Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, a premier autonomous research and training institute under the Ministry of Environment and Forests for wildlife conservation related issues, have been organizing training workshops to various stakeholders on wildlife conservation issues including migratory species. A regional training programme on Satellite Tracking and Monitoring of Marine Turtles was also conducted for the benefit of Sri Lankan Wildlife Officials by the Wildlife Institute of India during February 2010. A such regional training workshop on Dugong conservation under the auspices of the Dugong MOU is planned to be organized in Tuticorin in the Southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu during June, 2011

Recommendations**Recommendation 7.6 - Improving the Conservation Status of the Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)**

> Leatherback Turtle has been studied using satellite telemetry from the Nicobars islands to take necessary conservation actions. Out of six species of sea turtles found in the Indian Ocean region, five of them are found in India. These are the Olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*), Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*). All the five species found in Indian coastal water are legally protected under Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. India has also signed the Indian Ocean South East Asian (IOSEA) Marine Turtle MOU and is implementing the action plan as envisaged under the MOU.

In spite of these, there are some conservation problems that sea turtles including Leatherback Turtles face in Indian coastline, which include: incidental capture in fishing nets; loss of nesting habitat; hunting for meat, eggs, etc; non human predation; artificial illumination. The important measures taken by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in order to accord better protection to the Sea turtles, including Leatherback turtles include:

1. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended and made more stringent. The punishments in cases of offences have been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that are used for committing wildlife offences. Wide publicity is given on provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 against poaching.
2. Financial & Technical Assistance is provided to the Maritime State Governments for better conservation of Turtles and their habitats.
3. Important coastal States, from the point of view of Turtles, viz, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar islands, have implemented the use of Turtle Excluder Device (TED) as mandatory by enacting a law.
4. During the nesting/breeding season, the State Wildlife Departments are supported by Indian Coast Guards

to patrol the off-shore congregation areas and prohibit illegal fishing

5. A satellite telemetry tracking study on Leatherback Turtles have been initiated by the Indian Institute of Science and Wildlife Institute of India to document the new nesting areas of the species in the region after the total loss of their earlier nesting grounds during the 2004 Tsunami.

6. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has also constituted a National Marine Turtle Advisory Committee:

- (i) To review the activities pertaining to conservation and management of Marine Turtles & their habitat.
- (ii) To suggest the plan of activities essential for Turtle Conservation.
- (iii) To monitor the activities that may have adverse impact on Turtle Conservation and their habitat.

Recommendation 8.17 - Marine Turtles

> All marine turtles in India are protected. Their habitats being monitored.

Recommendation 9.3 - Tigers and other Asian Big Cats

> In pursuance to the decision taken by the National Board for Wildlife under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, a Task Force was constituted for identifying Trans boundary Protected Area for better cooperation between India and the respective countries. The Task Force had identified the five Tiger Reserves, Viz, Manas, Dudhwa, Valmiki, Buxa and Sundarbans that share their respective boundaries with Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh, for trans boundary cooperation. The process of signing of MOU between India and the respective countries are underway.

