

Zoological Survey Of India

- ZSI was established in 1916 to promote the survey, exploration and research of the fauna in the country.
- It is headquartered in Kolkata.
- Comes under MoEF&CC.

The objectives of ZSI are classified as follows:

1. **Primary Objectives**

- **Exploration, Survey, Inventorying and Monitoring of faunal diversity** in various States, Ecosystems and Protected areas of India.
- **Periodic review** of the Status of Threatened and Endemic species.
- **Preparation of Red Data Book, Fauna of India and Fauna of States.**
- **Bioecological studies** on selected important communities/species.
- **Preparation of databases** for the recorded species of the country.

- **Maintenance & Development** of National Zoological Collections.
- **Training, Capacity Building and Human Resource Development.**
- **Faunal Identification**, Advisory services and Library Services.
- Publication of results including **Fauna of India and Fauna of States.**

2. Secondary Objectives

- **Environmental Impact Studies.**
- Maintenance and Development of Museum at Headquarters and Regional Stations.
- Development of ENVIS and CITES Centers.
- Research Fellowship, Associateship and Emeritus Scientist Programmes.
- Collaborative research programmes on Biodiversity with other Organizations.
- GIS and Remote Sensing studies for animal diversity as well as for selected threatened species.

Botanical Survey of India

- Estd. in 1890.
- BSI is a premier research institute actively involved in the **survey, exploration and research of the immensely rich floral diversity of our country.**
- BSI is headquartered in Kolkata.
- BSI publishes **Flora of India series books**, states floras, flora of Protected regions and **Red Data Book of Indian Plants.**

Primary Objectives:

- Exploration, inventorying and documentation of phytodiversity in general and protected areas, hotspots and fragile ecosystems in particular; publication of National, State and District Floras.
- **Identification of threatened/red list species & species rich areas needing conservation;** ex-situ conservation of critically threatened species in botanical gardens.
- Survey and documentation of **traditional knowledge** associated with plants.
- Develop a **National database of Indian plants**, including herbarium and live specimens, botanical paintings/ illustrations, etc.

Forest Survey of India

- Founded in June 1981 and headquartered at **Dehradun** in Uttarakhand.
- **It is a premier national level organisation engaged in the assessment of the country's forest resources on a regular basis.**
- Works under MoEF&CC.
- FSI assesses forest cover of the country **every 2 years** through digital interpretation of remote sensing satellite data and publishes the results in a biennial report called '**State of Forest Report**' (SFR).

Objectives:

- To **assess the forest cover** of the country through Remote Sensing technology, analyze the changes and prepare State of Forest Report **biennially**.
- To conduct inventory in forests and non forest areas at national level and develop database on wood volume and also estimate tree cover.
- To function as a **nodal agency for collection, compilation, storage and dissemination of spatial database on forest resources**.
- To conduct **training of forestry personnel** in application of technologies related to resources survey, remote sensing, GIS, etc.

Biodiversity

National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)

- **Statutory autonomous body** under MoEF&CC.
- The NBA has its headquarters in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- Estd. in 2003 to implement the provisions of **Biological Diversity Act, 2002**. The Act and the Rules are implemented in India through a **decentralized system**.
- NBA **advises the State Governments** in the **selection of areas of biodiversity importance** to be notified as **heritage sites** and measures for the management of such heritage sites.

- It performs **facilitative**, **regulatory** and **advisory** functions for the Government of India on issues of:
 1. Conservation,
 2. Sustainable use of biological resources and
 3. Fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources.

State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs)

- The State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) advises the State Governments on the same above mentioned three matters.
- The SSBs also regulate, by granting of approvals or otherwise upon requests for commercial utilization or bio-survey and bio-utilization of any biological resource by the Indians.

GEAC

- GEAC= **Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee**
- Works under **MoEF&CC**.
- It was established as per Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms, Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells notified in 1989 under the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986.

Functions

- It is **responsible for approval of activities involving large-scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production** from the environmental angle.
- The Committee is **responsible for approval of proposals relating to release of genetically engineered organisms and products into the environment** including experimental field trials.
- The committee or any persons authorized by it **has powers to take punitive action** under the Environment Protection Act.

IBWL/NBWL

- Indian Board for Wildlife (IBWL) was set up in 1952
- Under WPA, 1972- IBWL was replaced by **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)**.
- NBWL is chaired by the **Prime Minister**.
- 47 members including Chairman; 19 ex-officio members.

- It advises the Central Government on framing policies and measures for conservation of wildlife in the country.
- **Apex body** to review all wildlife-related matters and approve projects in and around national parks and sanctuaries.
- **No alteration of boundaries in national parks and wildlife sanctuaries can be done without approval of the NBWL.**

Wildlife Institute of India (WII)

- Wildlife Institute of India (WII) was established in 1986 as an **autonomous institute of the MoEF&CC**.
- The Institute has emerged as a **premier training and research institution** in the field of wildlife and protected area management in South and Southeast Asia.

Aims and Objectives

- **Build up scientific knowledge** on wildlife resources.
- **Train personnel at various levels** for conservation and management of wildlife.
- **Carry out research** relevant to management including the development of techniques appropriate to Indian conditions.
- **Provide information and advice** on specific wildlife management problems.
- **Collaborate with international organizations** on wildlife research, management and training.
- **Develop as a regional centre of international importance** on wildlife and natural resource conservation.

Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)

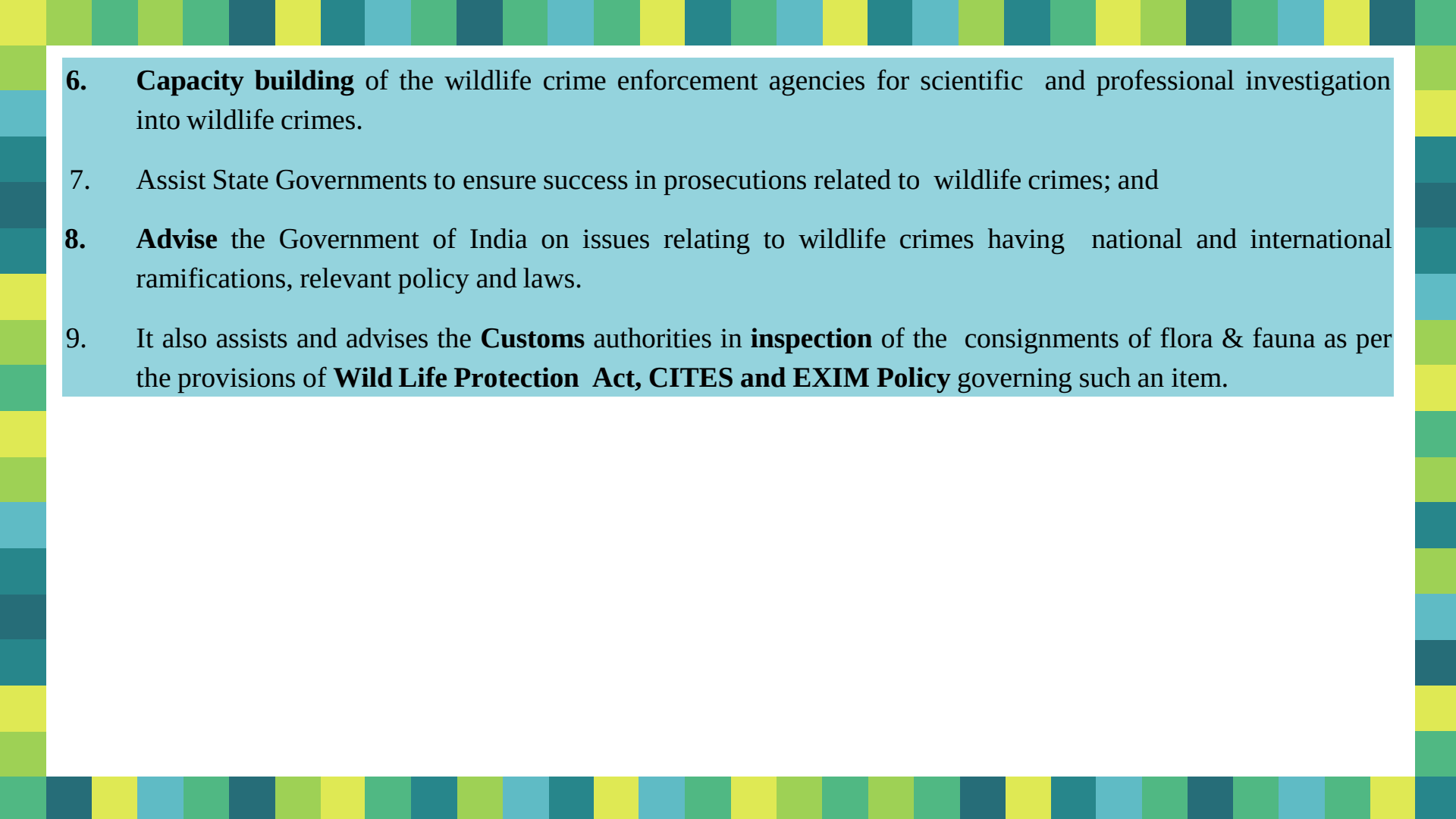
- Estd. in **1962 under The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960**;
- Animal Welfare Board of India was started under the stewardship of Late Smt. **Rukmini Devi Arundale**, well known humanitarian.
- **Statutory, advisory** body under **MoEF&CC**.
- The Board consists of **28 Members**. The term of office of Members is for a period of 3 years.
- Frames rules to ensure humane treatment of animals and litigates for stricter laws against animal torture.

- It also grants recognition to AWOs and provides financial assistance to recognised Animal Welfare Organisations (AWOs).

Wildlife Crime Control Bureau

- **Statutory** multi-disciplinary body under MoEF&CC to **combat organized wildlife crime** in the country.
- The Bureau has its **headquarters** in **New Delhi** and **five regional offices** at Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai and Jabalpur.
- WCCB successfully coordinated **Operation Thunderbird** (INTERPOL's operation for wildlife protection).
- It also launched **Operation Save Kurma** to protect turtles from illegal trade.

- Tasks assigned under Section 38 (Z) of the **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972:**
 1. To collect and collate **intelligence** related to organized wildlife crime activities.
 2. To disseminate the same to State and other enforcement agencies for immediate action so as to apprehend the criminals;
 3. To establish a **centralized wildlife crime data bank**;
 4. **Coordinate** actions by various agencies in connection with the enforcement of the provisions of the Act;
 5. **Assist foreign authorities** and international organization concerned to facilitate coordination and universal action for wildlife crime control;

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6. **Capacity building** of the wildlife crime enforcement agencies for scientific and professional investigation into wildlife crimes.
 7. Assist State Governments to ensure success in prosecutions related to wildlife crimes; and
 8. **Advise** the Government of India on issues relating to wildlife crimes having national and international ramifications, relevant policy and laws.
 9. It also assists and advises the **Customs** authorities in **inspection** of the consignments of flora & fauna as per the provisions of **Wild Life Protection Act, CITES and EXIM Policy** governing such an item.

UNEP Award for WCCB(2018)

- Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) was awarded with Asia Environment Enforcement Awards, 2018 by United Nation Environment Programme in 2018.
- The award was given for excellent work done by the Bureau **in combating transboundary environmental crime.**

National Tiger Conservation Authority

- Estd. in 2005 following a recommendation of the Tiger Task Force, constituted by the Prime Minister of India.
- Constituted for reorganised management of **Project Tiger** and the many Tiger Reserves in India.
- **Statutory** status given by 2006 amendment of the **Wildlife Protection Act, under MoEF&CC.**
- Chaired by the Union minister of environment, forest and climate change.

- Its main function is to **approve the Tiger Conservation Plan** prepared by the State Governments.
- It also regulates any ecologically unsustainable land use such as, mining, industry and other projects within the tiger reserves.

Central Zoo Authority

- The CZA is a **statutory body** under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. It was constituted in 1992 under the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- **Objective:** Oversight of India's zoos and bring them up to international standards.
- Chaired by Minister of State for Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
Central Zoo Authority

- **Functions:**

1. Recognition of the Zoos.
2. Evaluation of the Zoos.
3. Providing assistance in conservation breeding programme for endangered species in Indian zoos.
4. Central Zoo Authority also **regulates the exchange of animals** of endangered category listed under **Schedule-I and II** of the Wildlife (Protection Act) among zoos.
5. Exchange of animals between Indian and foreign zoos is also approved by the Authority before the requisite clearances under **EXIM Policy** and the **CITES** permits are issued by the competent authority.

National Afforestation And Eco-Development Board

- The National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB), set up in August **1992**, is responsible for promoting **afforestation**, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development activities in the country.
- It gives **special attention to the degraded forest** areas and lands adjoining the forest areas, national parks, sanctuaries and other protected areas as well as the ecologically fragile areas like the Western Himalayas, Aravallis, Western Ghats, etc.

Role and functions of the NAEB:

- Evolve mechanisms for **ecological restoration** of degraded forest areas and adjoining lands.
- **Restore the forest cover** in the country.
- Restore fuelwood, fodder, timber and other forest produce on the degraded forest and adjoining lands.
- Create general **awareness** and help foster people's movement for promoting afforestation and eco-development.
- Coordinate and monitor the Action Plans for afforestation, tree planting, ecological restoration and eco-development.

NEERI Council of Scientific & Industrial Research Nagpur, Maharashtra

- The **CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI)** is a research institute created and funded by GoI.
- It was established in Nagpur in **1958** with focus on water supply, sewage disposal, communicable diseases and to some extent on industrial pollution and occupational diseases.
- NEERI is a **pioneer laboratory** in the field of environmental science and engineering and part of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- **Note:** It falls under the **Ministry of Science and Technology** (India) of central government.

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Legislative Institutions

NGT

- **Statutory body** set up under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
- **Principal Bench:** Delhi
- **Regional benches:** Bhopal, Pune, Chennai, Kolkata.
- **Members:**
 - A full time Chairman
 - At least 10 and maximum 20 Full time Judicial members
 - At least 10 and maximum 20 Full time Expert Members

- **Objective:** Effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to-
 1. Environmental protection.
 2. Conservation of forests.
 3. Compensation/relief for damages caused to people or property due to violation of environmental laws.

Legal Jurisdiction of NGT

NGT can hear all civil cases related to following Acts:

1. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974
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3. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
4. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981
5. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
6. The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991
7. The Biological Diversity Act, 2002

Note: NGT has no powers to hear cases related to Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and Indian Forest Act, 1927.

National Ganga Council

- NGRBA= Set up in 2009, as a financing, planning, implementing, monitoring and coordinating authority for the Ganges River.
- It functions under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.
- **Mission:** To safeguard the drainage basin which feeds water into the Ganges by protecting it from pollution or overuse.
- **Chairman: Prime Minister of India**
- A new body named "**National Council for River Ganga** (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management)" NCRG **replaced** existing NGRBA in 2017.

- NMCG is **implementation wing** of National Council for Rejuvenation, Protection and Management of River Ganga (also referred as National Ganga Council).

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Other Institution/NGOs/Organisation

BNHS

- The Bombay Natural History Society was founded in **1883**.
- It is one of the largest **non-governmental** organisations in India engaged in conservation and biodiversity research.
- It supports many research efforts through grants and publishes the Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society.
- **BNHS is the partner of BirdLife International in India.**
- It has been designated as a 'Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation' by the Department of Science and Technology.

TERI The Energy and Resources Institute

- TERI is a **non profit** public interest **research and advocacy organisation** formally established in **1974**.
- It works with the purpose of tackling and dealing with the rapid depletion of the earth's finite energy resources which are largely non-renewable.
- TERI has been actively working for developing solutions to global problems in the fields of energy, environment and current patterns of development, which are largely unsustainable.

- TERI not only has offices in different parts of the world, but its activities has wide geographical relevance.
- It organizes annual **World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)**, a major event focusing on sustainable development, the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and assessment of worldwide progress in these critical areas.
- TERI has also established a World Sustainable Development Forum (WSDF), which is guided by the patronage of a group of select world leaders.

Wildlife Trust Of India Noida

- Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) is a **leading Indian nature conservation organisation** committed to the service of nature.
- It is a **non profit trust/organisation**.
- Its mission is ‘**to conserve wildlife and its habitat and to work for the welfare of individual wild animals, in partnership with communities and governments**’.

- WTI has been credited for **achieving conservation milestones** such as Recovering population of critically endangered species, Translocation of Species, Reducing Human-Animal Conflict, Rescue and Rehabilitation of Animals including Elephants, Tigers, Leopards, One-horned Rhino and Bears.
- 12-15 August, WTI celebrated ‘Gaj Mahotsav’.

CSE

- The **Centre for Science and Environment** (CSE) is a public interest research and advocacy organisation based in **New Delhi**.
- CSE makes efforts to create awareness about problems and propose sustainable solutions.
- Their tools for creating awareness are periodicals publications, films, exhibitions and other products.
- Two of their interesting publications are '**Down to Earth**' and '**Gobar Times**' magazine for children.

Kalpavriksh Pune

- **NGO** established in 1979.
- It works on **environmental awareness, campaigns, litigation, research, and other areas.**
- It has taken a position on a number of **environment-development issues** sometimes by protest letters to street demonstrations.
- It has continued to **participate in mass movements** challenging the state and its policies.