

**PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE
ON THE APPLICATION ON THE WORLD HERITAGE
CONVENTION**



SECTION I

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the State Party

State Party: INDIA

PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

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I.1. Introduction

a.	Country (and State Party if different): INDIA	001
b.	Year of ratification or acceptance of the Convention: 1977	002
c.	Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report: Organization: Ministry of Environment and Forests Person responsible: Asheem Kumar Srivastav Address: Deputy Inspector General (Wildlife) C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road City and post code: New Delhi Telephone: 91-11- 24362813 Fax: 91-11-24362813 E-Mail aksriv@yahoo.com	003
d.	Date of the report: January, 2003	004
e.	Signature on behalf of the State Party Signature	005
	Name: NIRMAL KUMAR JOSHI Function: ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL	

I.2 Identification of the cultural and natural properties

This item refers in particular to Articles 3, 4 and 11 of the Convention regarding the identification of cultural and natural heritage and the nomination of properties for inscription on the World Heritage List.

a.	National inventories Inventories of natural heritage of national significance form the basis for the identification of possible World Heritage properties. Indicate the organization(s) or institution(s) responsible for the preparation and updating of these national inventories (if Organization(s)/Institution(s): Person(s) responsible: Director Address: Wildlife Institute of India, Chandrabani, City and Post code: Dehradun Telephone: 91-135-2640112 Fax: 91-135-2640116 E-mail:	006
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I.2.a continued

	<p>Indicate if and to what extent inventories lists and/or registers at the local, state and/or national level exist:</p> <p>The Wildlife Institute of India has prepared a comprehensive document on the wild life Protected Area network of India. At the district/division level, a detailed account of each site is maintained by the concerned forest / wild life division. All state governments have prepared detailed inventories of significant Protected / Forest Areas..</p> <p>Have you undertaken the preparation of lists or of national inventories on one or several of the following levels:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> NATIONAL (YES) STATE/PROVINCE (YES) LOCAL (YES) </p> <p>No inventory (list or registry) has been developed ()</p> <p>When was (were) the inventory (inventories) compiled, please give date(s):</p> <p>The first report was published by Wildlife Institute of India in 1988 with the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Biogeographic classification of India to facilitate conservation and planning. (b) Consideration of important areas of ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological, natural or zoological significance. (c) Review of the existing Protected Areas. (d) Recommendation for setting up new Protected areas to ensure an adequate network covering the range of biological diversity in the country. <p>Since 1988, the inventory has been constantly reviewed and updated. The 3rd edition has been published in the year 2002. Compilation of and updating the record at the local and state level is an ongoing process.</p>	<p>007</p> <p>008</p> <p>009</p>
b.	Tentative list	010

	<p>Article 11 of the Convention refers to the submission by States Parties of inventories of properties suitable for inclusion in the World Heritage List, so-called Tentative Lists. Have you submitted a Tentative List of natural and/or cultural properties in your country since your adhesion to the World Heritage Convention: NO</p> <p>Provide the dates of submission of the Tentative List(if any):</p> <p>Provide the date of any revision made since its submission (if any):</p> <p>Name Institution(s) responsible for identifying and delineating the properties included in the Tentative List (if different from those named under question 003): Same as at 003</p>	
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I.2.b continued

	<p>Describe the process of preparation or revision of the Tentative List and give details (if applicable) concerning the involvement of local authorities and population:</p> <p>Not applicable</p> <p>Were the local authorities consulted for the identification: YES/NO</p> <p>Was the local population consulted for the identification: YES/NO</p>	<p>014</p> <p>015</p> <p>016</p>
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c.	Nominations	
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	<p>List the properties that have been nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List, giving the name of the property, the date of submission and, if applicable, the date of inscription or extension. Also include properties that were deferred, referred, withdrawn or not examined by the World Heritage Committee or its Bureau:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK --- INSCRIBED ON 6-12-1985 2. MANAS NATIONAL PARK --- INSCRIBED IN 1985. 3. KEOLADEO NATIONAL PARK --- INSCRIBED ON 6-12-1985 4. SUNDARBANS NATIONAL PARK --- INSCRIBED ON 11-12-1987 5. NANDADEVI NATIONAL PARK --- INSCRIBED ON 09-12-1988 6. GIR NATIONAL PARK NOMINATED IN 1991 (ID 615). NOT INSCRIBED. 7. KANHA NATIONAL PARK – NOMINATED IN 1984 (ID 341). NOT INSCRIBED 8. RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK -- NOMINATED IN 1984 (ID 342). NOT INSCRIBED. 9. RUNN OF KUTCH SANCTUARY – NOMINATED IN 1984 (ID 343). NOT INSCRIBED. 10. SILENT VALLEY NATIONAL PARK – NOMINATED IN 1990 (ID 587). DEFERRED PROPERTY. 11. WILD ASS SANCTUARY – NOMINATED IN 1992 (ID 650). NOT INSCRIBED 	017
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I.2.c continued

	<p>Please provide an analysis of the process by which these nominations are prepared indicating also to which degree this was done in collaboration and co-operation with local authorities and people:</p> <p>Nomination process was initiated at the local level. The local authorities prepared the document in consultation with the stakeholders.</p>	018
	<p>Describe the motivation for entering into the nomination process:</p> <p>The sites proposed for inscription are of outstanding ecological significance. Inscription as World Heritage site enhances the national as well as global image of the site, prioritizes management actions, generates awareness amongst the masses, encourages research and promotes ecotourism.</p>	019
	<p>Detail the obstacles and difficulties encountered in that process as well as the</p>	020

	<p>perceived benefits of World Heritage Listing and the lessons learnt:</p> <p>Enormous benefits are foregone especially by the local people due to the establishment of the protected area in a developing economy. Such opportunity cost of heritage sites must be met to maintain its effectiveness. In addition, adequate resources are required for the protection and management of such sites. It will be desirable to have specific and adequate funds earmarked for the preservation and conservation of such sites. The World Heritage property and the nominated sites should get priority in international funding.</p>	
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I.3 Protection, Conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage

This item refers in particular to Articles 4 and 5 of the Convention, in which States Parties recognize their duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural World Heritage and the effective and active measures are taken to this effect. Article 5 of the Convention specifies the following measures:

a.	<p>General policy development</p> <p>Provide information on the adoption of policies that aim to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community, including the dates of their elaboration and implementation:</p> <p>1 Constitutional Provision - The Constitution of India lays down the principles that are fundamental in the governance of the country. The principles known as Directive Principles of the State Policy inter alia mention that</p> <p><i>“The State shall endeavor to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country”.</i></p> <p>The Fundamental duties as enshrined in the Constitution of India inter alia state that</p> <p><i>“It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures”.</i></p> <p>2 The National Forest Policy, 1952 emphasized the need for protection to wild animals and their habitat especially the rare and endangered species through the establishment of Sanctuaries and National Parks. Mounting pressure on the natural resources due to increased human and</p>	021
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livestock population led to revision of the Policy in 1988. The new National Forest Policy of 1988 highlights the need to restore ecological balance and the conservation of country's natural heritage by preserving the remaining natural forests. It envisages involvement of the local people in the development and protection of forests especially the symbiotic relationship between the tribal people and forest. In order to implement the policy prescription, the Ministry has issued guidelines in 1990 to involve the village communities in the development and restoration of less productive forests. So far, 63,000 Joint Forest Management committees have been established covering 14.25 million hectares of forests. The JFM cell in the Ministry monitors the activities under the Joint Forest Management program. The Ministry recently reviewed this program after wider consultations with all stake holders and issued further guidelines to the states. These include

- Providing legal backup to the JFM Committee
- Extension of JFM to good forest areas
- Increased participation of women
- Establishing conflict resolution mechanism
- Integration of micro plans with working plans

3 The Indian Board for Wildlife headed by the Prime Minister of India is the highest advisory body on wildlife conservation and adoption of policies. The Board has taken many important policy decisions since its inception in 1952. In its recent meeting held in January, 2002, the Board adopted a landmark resolution for the protection and conservation of wildlife and its habitat. Salient features of the resolution are as follows:-

- The interests of poor and tribals living around protected areas should be handled with sensitivity and with maximum participation.
- There should be greater recognition and support for NGOs engaged in wildlife conservation.
- There should be no diversion of forestland for non forestry purposes from critical and ecologically fragile wildlife habitats.
- The potential of wildlife tourism must be fully exploited without having any adverse impact on wildlife.
- A forest Commission to be set up to look into restructuring, reforms and strengthening the entire forestry and wildlife set up.

The Board also adopted "National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016)" in January, 2002. The Plan recognizes the need to protect the natural eco systems for long term ecological security of the country. It emphasizes support of local people in wildlife conservation and their involvement in management of natural eco systems. The action plan is a comprehensive

	<p>document that recommends various strategies and suggests priority projects for implementing them.</p> <p><i>(A copy of the National Wildlife Action Plan is enclosed as Annexure-I)</i></p>	
	<p>Provide information on the way the State Party of the relevant authorities has(have) taken steps to integrate the protection of World Heritage properties into comprehensive planning programmes, Indicate also the level on which the integration takes place (e.g. national, state/provincial or local):</p> <p>Planning for the protection of World Heritage Properties is a three tier system i.e. at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local level i.e. at the level of park management • State level • Government of India level <p>The site managers prepare the Management Plan for a period of five / ten years in consultation with the stake holders. The Plan is prepared as per the guidelines provided by Wildlife Institute of India and is submitted to the State Government for consideration and approval. The State Government integrates the site plans in its Five Year Plan through wider consultations with NGO's, institutions, other sectors and experts in the relevant subject. The state plan is reviewed by the Planning Commission at the national level through a consultative process before final approval. The Planning Commission also prepares a Five Yearly Plan at the national level involving state governments, NGOs, people's representatives, research institutions, ministries and individual experts. Working Groups are constituted for each sector for wider consultations. The state plans are co-terminus with the national plan. The Plan is executed by the field managers through funding support from the state plan and centrally sponsored schemes.</p> <p>At the national level, the federal Government provides technical and financial support to further strengthen the conservation, protection and other measures that are necessary for natural properties through the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The ministry plans, promotes and coordinates all forestry and wildlife programs. Its main activities include survey of flora and fauna, conservation of forests and wildlife, prevention and control of pollution, afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas and research related to these subjects. The Ministry has ten regional offices that monitor and evaluate the on-going projects and schemes in addition to other assignments. Some of the important</p>	022

	<p>centrally sponsored schemes include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries • Eco development in and around protected areas • Project Tiger • Project Elephant • Wetland Conservation Programme • Conservation and Management of Coral Reefs • Bio-sphere Reserves 	
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I.3.a continued

	<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable, and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>Areas where improvement is desirable and towards which the state party is working</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhancement of the protected area network by integrating conservation with development at the landscape level giving primacy to protected areas and local communities. This calls for regional planning connecting vital ecological corridors and preventing fragmentation of natural eco systems. 2. Consolidating management practices and infrastructure facilities for effective management. 3. Developing effective management strategies for reducing man wildlife conflicts particularly outside protected areas. 4. Assessment of threat status to critically endangered species and evolving mechanism for their conservation 5. Restoration of degraded habitats outside protected areas to provide buffer to the existing protected areas. 6. Developing effective means to control poaching of wild animals and illegal trade in wildlife and its derivatives. 7. Ensuring participation on the local communities in protection and conservation. 8. Enhancing education and awareness measures to win support for wildlife conservation. 9. Encouraging eco tourism in the protected areas. 10. Ensuring cooperation of other development wings of the 	023
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	<p>government.</p> <p>11. Strengthening domestic legislations to safeguard the natural eco systems and also the interest of the people living in and around them.</p> <p>12. Encouraging bilateral and multilateral cooperation mechanisms with neighboring countries for effective implementation of international conventions.</p> <p>13. Encouraging Regional and international support for technical and financial assistance.</p>	
b.	<p>Status of services for protection, conservation and presentation</p> <p>Provide information on any services for protection, conservation and presentation of heritage within the territories of the State Party which have been set up or have been substantially improved since ratification of the World Heritage Convention, if applicable:</p> <p>Government of India has constituted Indian Forest Service at the national level to manage the natural heritage of the country. The present strength of the service is more than 2500 officers. Since its inception in 1968, the service has undergone substantial improvement through induction training, and various long and short terms in service training courses (both inland and overseas) to build their capacity for protection and management of the forests and protected areas of the country. The State Governments have also set up special cadre of officers and field personnel to manage the forests and protected areas. These officers and field staff are provided training by the respective states and their professional skills are also updated from time to time. These personnel utilize their professional competence for better management of the natural heritage.</p> <p>Both federal as well as state governments have set up specialized institutes for transfer of knowledge and skills to the field. List of a few important institutes is provided below:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Institute of India • Indian Council of Forestry, Research and Education • Forest Research Institutes • Indira Gandhi National Forestry Academy • Indian Institute of Forests Management 	024

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forests Survey of India • Indian Institute of Remote Sensing • Zoological Survey of India • Botanical Survey of India • G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development. • State Forests Colleges • Foresters and Guards Training Institutes <p>The services provided by these institutes include:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specialized courses in wildlife management and eco development 2. Remote sensing and GIS 3. Research inputs for better management and conservation 4. Improved Information System through compilation and publication of relevant data 5. Biodiversity assessment. 6. Environment Impact Assessment. 7. Participatory planning and management. 8. Forensic Sciences 	
	<p>Give the number of staff on national level directly involved in protection, conservation and presentation of cultural and natural heritage:</p> <p>Nearly 100 officers and staff are involved in the protection, conservation and presentation of natural heritage at the national level.</p> <p>Assess their means to discharge their function in terms of influence on policy making and implementation:</p> <p>The officers and staff are responsible for influencing the policies, implementing on-going programs and initiating new programs for the protection, conservation and presentation of natural heritage in the country. They are also responsible for ensuring compliance to legal and policy measures and adopting new strategies as and when necessary.</p>	<p>025</p> <p>026</p>

I.3.b. continued

	<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable, and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>Following areas are considered for improvement</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated approaches for landscape development. 2. Capacity building of the staff especially in the field of conflict resolution and mitigation of man wild animals conflicts 3. Applied research, education and awareness programs 4. Eco tourism and visitor management 5. Intelligence gathering and analysis 6. Legal service to the frontline staff. 	027
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c.	<p>Scientific and technical studies and research</p> <p>List significant scientific and technical studies or research projects of generic nature (site specific information should be reported upon under Section II.4) that would benefit World Heritage properties, initiated or completed. Indicate also how the study results are disseminated and/or how they can be accessed:</p> <p>Following is the list of completed and ongoing projects that would benefit the World Heritage properties. The studies may or may not be site specific but will be valuable for the conservation of property</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Significant achievements of scientific and technical nature:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning a Wildlife Protected Area Network in India by WII • Application of remote sensing and GIS in management of protected areas by WII. • Mapping of Wetlands of India by Space Application Centre • Status Report on Project Tiger by MOEF • Red Data Book on Vertebrates by ZSI • National Data Base on type Specimen by BSI • Forest Cover Assessment, National Vegetation Mapping and Thematic Maps by FSI 2. Other on-going and completed projects of generic nature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan by MoEF. 	028
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical Studies on the development of Tribal Communities by G.B. Pant Institute. • Faunal Exploration and Surveys in different eco systems of the country by Zoological Survey of India • Exploration and Inventorization of Phyto-diversity in different eco system of the country by Botanical Survey of India. • Studies on Man Wild Animals Conflicts in different parts of the country. • Investigation on Conventional and in vitro propagation of selected multipurpose medicinal plants of Himalayas. • Creation of geo spatial database for socio economic management of mine affected villages in Garhwal Himalayas. • Development of a scientific model management plan for marine protected areas in Andaman Islands and guidelines for coastal and marine protected area management. • Conservation status of high altitude forests in Garhwal Himalayas with special reference to land use practices and tourism • Conservation status of rare and threatened wild animals. • Ecological and behavioral studies on rare and endangered species of wild animals including tiger, leopard, elephant, bear, lion etc. • Bio-diversity assessment in different eco systems including Manas and Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserves. • Protected area network of Wetlands in the country. • Indian Coral Reef Monitoring Network (ICRMN) to cover activities related to monitoring of health of Coral Reefs, training & capacity building, establishment of data base, promoting research on the identified thrust areas so as to integrate the same with the management of this fragile ecosystem. • Mangrove Atlas of India. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of Habitat fragmentation on wildlife • Studies on the geology, geomorphology and environment of the heritage parts of the Peninsular India. • DNA finger printing of wild animals and cryo preservation of spermatozoa of wild animals. <p>The results are disseminated through publication of research papers and reports in national and international journals and periodicals. Research seminars and workshops are organized by the organizations for better coordination and interaction of field staff, researchers and experts. The institutes, incorporating the technical and scientific achievements, publish annual reports. Compilations on technical and research accomplishments are also published from time to time. Information is also made available on web sites of the institutes.</p>	
	<p>List the areas where improvement would be desirable and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>Areas where improvement is desirable and towards which the state party is working:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy for reduction in man-wildlife conflicts • Eco Tourism management in and around the heritage sites. • Poverty Alleviation through sustainable management of natural sites. • Conservation of medicinal plants • Poaching of wild animals control of illegal trade • Wildlife forensic • Recovery of critically endangered species • Management of marine ecosystems. 	029

I.3 continued

d.	<p>Measures for identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation</p> <p>Does your country have specific legislation and policies concerning identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation of national heritage?</p>	030
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<p>The country does not have any specific legislation or policy concerning protection and conservation of World Heritage properties. Nevertheless, the existing legislations and policies are considered appropriate for the abovementioned purposes.</p> <p>If YES, please give details, paying particular attention to measures concerning visitor management and development in the region:</p> <p>Legislations concerning identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation of natural heritage</p> <p>1. Indian Forest Act, 1927</p> <p>The Act classifies country's forests into two distinct groups viz., Reserved and Protected forests and provides legal measures for their protection and use by the government as well as the local people.</p> <p>2. Wildlife Protection Act, 1972</p> <p>It is a comprehensive legislation relating to protection of wildlife and its habitat in the country. The Act recognizes two categories of protected areas viz., National Park and Sanctuary. It stipulates measures for the conservation and protection of these areas and the species forming part of the habitat. The Act prohibits poaching of wild animals. It also bans trade in critically endangered species and their parts and products and regulates trade in wildlife and its derivatives of other species. Certain amendments of far reaching consequences have been recently made in the Act. These include two new categories of protected areas viz., Conservation and Community Reserves which will provide buffer to the existing national parks and sanctuaries and will act as corridor for maintaining genetic continuity. The management of protected areas will now be more broad based wherein local people, NGO's, village institutions and representatives of people will play proactive role.</p> <p>3. Forest Conservation Act, 1980</p> <p>A landmark legislation that provides restriction on the diversion of forests or use of forestland for non-forestry purposes.</p>	<p>031</p>
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4. Environment Protection Act, 1986

The Act is an outcome of the commitment of the Indian Government to the decisions taken at the UN conference on Human Environment held at Stockholm in June 1972. It provides for the protection and improvement of environment and the prevention of hazards to human beings, other living creatures, plants and property.

5. Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2002

An Act to provide for the conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and knowledge.

6 Policy on visitor management and ecotourism

The “National Tourism Policy 2002” recognizes the deep-rooted relationship tourism with natural and cultural heritage. The policy document seeks to enhance tourism potential through integration with other sectors. It takes into consideration several key areas of tourism which include site development, improved sanitation, development of integrated circuit through road, rail and waterways, development of village tourism, visitor facilities, adventure tourism, wildlife tourism etc.

In addition to the various federal laws the states have also enacted several legislations in support.

Relevant Policies supporting biodiversity conservation are as follows:-

- 1 National Forest Policy 1988**
- 2 National Forestry Action Plan**
- 3 National Wildlife Action Plan**
- 4 National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement for Environment and Sustainable Development**
- 5 National Land Use Policy**
- 6 Environmental Action Plan**

	<p>If such measures have been taken, have they had an impact on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in your country: YES/NO</p> <p>Yes.</p>	032
	<p>If YES, how:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number and extent of PA- From 65 protected areas in seventies, we have now been able to establish 587 National Parks and Sanctuaries for the protection of wild flora and fauna. • Population of Royal Bengal Tiger has increased from 1800 in 1972 to 3800 in 2000 as a result of Project Tiger. There are 27 Tiger reserves in the country covering nearly 40,000 sq. kms. • Establishment of XI elephant reserves in the country for providing protection to the elephant habitat and corridor. The population of elephant in the country has gone up by more than 5000 after the launch of “Project Elephant” in 1992. • Only surviving wild population of Asiatic lion was brought back from the brink of extinction. • A special sanctuary has been established for the protection of Jerdon’s courser after its rediscovery. • Captive breeding programs have fortified in situ conservation of selected species. Govt. of India started the crocodile breeding and management project in 1976 to save the three endangered crocodilian species viz., fresh water crocodile, salt-water crocodile, and the rare gharial. Thousands of crocodiles of the three species have been reared at 16 centres and have been released in wild. Eleven wild life sanctuaries have been declared specially for crocodile protection. • 13 Biosphere Reserves have been setup to protect representative ecosystems of outstanding universal value. • A special scheme has been launched for the conservation and management of Mangroves in 1986. 32 mangrove ecosystems have been identified for intensive conservation and management. • A Coral Reef Monitoring Network has been launched to monitor the health of coral reefs, training and capacity building, establishment of database and promoting research. 	033

- **In-situ and ex-situ conservation of medicinal plants has been identified as a thrust area and a special board has been set up for this purpose.**
- **Decline in diversion of forest land – The rate of diversion of forestland has reduced from 150,000 hectare per year (between 1950 –1980) to about 20,000 hectare per year in post 1980 period. The post 1980 diversion is subject to compensatory afforestation over either equivalent non-forestland or double the degraded forestland.**
- **Increase in population of critically endangered species- Due to the sustained efforts of management planning, policy initiatives and legislative measures, the population status of many critically endangered species including tiger, lion, rhino, wild ass, asian elephant, leopard etc has increased.**
- **Export of wild animals their part and derivatives is prohibited. Exported and rare and endangered plants and their part from the wild are also prohibited.**
- **Trade of rare and endangered species mentioned in Schedule I and part II of schedule II of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 is prohibited.**
- **More than 65,000 Joint Forest Management Committees have been formed covering more than 14 million hectares of forestland since 1990.**
- **Ecodevelopment activities have been initiated in and around many protected areas of the country. There has been greater interaction with the stakeholder communities resulting in improvement in both PA management as well as socio economic conditions of the people.**
- **Ecotourism – Involvement of local people in the tourism activities has helped in awareness generation and support for conservation.**
- **Ecological restoration of degraded forest areas and buffer zones has been taken up in a big way.**
- **Preparation of village wise People’s Biodiversity Register for documenting knowledge, innovations and practices has been undertaken.**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment education and training is provided to the field officials and other stakeholders in most parts of the country. 	
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I.3.d continued

	<p>Is the private sector involved in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage?</p> <p>Involvement of private sector is limited to tourism only. There is no involvement of private sector in conservation and protection</p>	036
	<p>Describe the actions undertaken to involve the private sector in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage sites:</p>	037
	<p>Are NGO's involved in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage:</p> <p>Yes.</p>	038
	<p>Describe the actions undertaken to involve NGO's in the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage sites:</p> <p>The ministry has constituted a NGO cell to involve ground root level NGO's in the conservation, protection and development efforts. NGO's are involved in conducting research, organizing seminars, symposia and workshops. In addition, Eco- clubs have been established all over the country, as a non-formal proactive system to involve school children in conservation education and awareness. Government encourages involvement of recognized NGO's in the following programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Environmental Research Programme (ERP)</i> • <i>Ecosystems Research Scheme (ERS)</i> • <i>Eastern and Western Ghats Research Program</i> • <i>Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs</i> • <i>Conservation and Management of Wetlands</i> • <i>National Natural Resources Management Systems.</i> • <i>National Environment Education Campaign.</i> 	039

	<p>There are around 1400 Non Governmental Organizations working through out India in the field of Environment and Conservation. A list of few important NGO's in India are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Wide Fund for Nature – India. • Bombay Natural History Society. • Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History. • Wild Life Protection Society of India. • Wild Life Trust of India. • Centre for Environment Management & Research • Centre for Environmental Education • Gujarat Ecological education and Research Foundation • Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan • M.S. Swaminathan Foundation • Zoo Outreach Organization • Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage. • ATREE (Ashoka Trust for Research and Environment.) • Ranthambore Foundation <p>The NGO's work can be summed as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of nature conservation and environmental protection as the basis for sustainable and equitable development. • Promoting India's ecological security and restoration of ecological balance. • Conservation of biological diversity • Ensuring sustainable use of the natural resource base. • Minimising pollution and wasteful consumption. • Promoting sustainable lifestyles. • Restoration of monuments of historical heritage and conduct studies on environment and ecology etc. • Promoting social forestry activities. 	
	<p>Indicate if, on the basis of the experiences gained, policy and /or legal reform is considered necessary:</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Describe why this is the case and how a new policy/legislation should be conceived:</p> <p>Policy and legal reforms are an ongoing process. Necessary changes are made from time to time in the laws and policies that are commensurate</p>	<p>040</p> <p>041</p>

	with changing need, concepts and requirements.	
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I.3.d continued

	<p>Which other international conventions for the protection of cultural or natural heritage have been signed or ratified by the State Party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CITES - 1973 • Ramsar Convention- 1971 • Convention on Biological Diversity- 1992 • Convention on Conservation Of Migratory Species Of Wild Animals - 1979 • Convention on Conservation Of Antarctic Marine Living Resources – 1980 • Convention on The Law Of The Sea – 1982 • Convention on Climatic Change – 1992 • Convention on Desertification - 1994 	042
	<p>Describe how the application of these different legal instruments is coordinated and integrated in national policies and planning:</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment and Forests is the nodal agency for the implementation for these conventions, United Nations Environment Program, South Asia Cooperative Environment Program, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and IUCN. The ministry also coordinates bilateral cooperation matters relating to regional bodies such as SACEP and SAARC. Provisions of the conventions, bilateral and multilateral agreements are incorporated into the policies and laws of the countries from time to time. Various schemes of the government provide necessary assistance for coordination and implementation by the states.</p>	043
	<p>Indicate relevant scientific and technical measures that the State Party or relevant institutions within the State have taken for the identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation of cultural and natural heritage:</p> <p>1 The first National Wildlife Action Plan in 1983 envisaged identification and enhancement of protected area network in the country for rational planning and conservation. Four main</p>	044

	<p>subject areas were covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preparation of a biogeographic classification of India designed to facilitate conservation planning. • A consideration of important areas • A review of existing protected areas, and • The recommendation of new protected areas to ensure an adequate network covering the range of biological diversity in the country. <p>The Biogeographic Project originated from the National Wild Life Action Plan, the first objective of which was the “ Establishment of a representative network of protected areas requiring “the review of the classification along with the review of the location, size, ecological composition and viability of all existing protected areas. Subsequently, a project was undertaken by the Wild Life Institute of India with an objective to prepare, using sound scientific framework, a wild life Protected area network to cover the range of biodiversity in the country. The objective of protected area planning within the biogeographic framework has been to ensure that one major protected area of national park status covers a representative range of available biomes in each biogeographic division. Subsidiary P.A.’s were required to cover the remaining biomes, paying particular attention to communities and species of conservation significance (rare, endemic, dominant etc.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Provision for the scientifically and technically appropriate management plan for each site. 3 Induction of trained field personnel for managing the site. 4 Provision for in service training for up gradation of scientific knowledge and technical skills of the field staff 5 Encouraging scientific research (both basic and applied) for the conservation of species and habitat. 	
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I.3.d continued

	<p>Indicate relevant financial measures that the State Party or relevant authorities have taken for the identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation of cultural and natural heritage:</p> <p>The federal as well as the state governments provide financial assistance for the identification, protection, conservation, preservation and</p>	045
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	<p>rehabilitation of natural heritage sites in the country. Funds are provided annually from state plan and non-plan schemes and centrally sponsored schemes. Important centrally sponsored and central sector schemes are listed below:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of National Parks & Sanctuaries. • Eco-Development in and around protected areas. • India Eco-development project. • Project Elephant. • Project Tiger. • Beneficiary oriented tribal development. • Application of Remote Sensing Techniques in survey of forests. • Monitoring of Forest Conservation Projects • Integrated Forest Protection Scheme. • Strengthening of Wildlife Division and Consultancies for Special Task • Integrated Afforestation and Ecodevelopment Project. • Grant in Aid scheme for Voluntary agencies • Schemes for Survey and fauna and flora by ZSI and BSI respectively. • Environment Education and Training scheme. • Environmental Impact Assessment Scheme 	
	<p>Is there an annual budget allowance for the protection and conservation of World Heritage sites in your country?</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>If YES, is it specifically for a property or is it part of a regular budget covering culture and environment?</p> <p>The federal as well as the state governments earmark funds for the development and protection of the World Heritage sites through the ongoing funding schemes and projects. The sites are also supported by international and other donor agencies that commit specific projects for the sites.</p>	<p>046</p> <p>047</p>
	<p>Give detailed information on the presentation of cultural and natural heritage, which can refer to publications, internet web pages, films, stamps, postcards, books, etc. (please attach examples for all World Heritage properties, if possible):</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment and Forests has a web site wherein relevant information concerning natural heritage is made available. It also publishes annual report, brochures, posters and card from time to</p>	<p>048</p>

	<p>time. Ministry has also developed environmental information system through 25 ENVIS centers for the purpose of presentation and information dissemination.</p> <p>Details regarding individual sites are provided in the respective reports.</p>	
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I.3 continued

	<p>Identify areas where improvements of the measures taken for the identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation of World Heritage properties would be desirable, and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>In addition to the inscribed properties, many natural heritage properties of outstanding universal value face serious threats due to increased biotic pressures. There is an urgent need to support poverty alleviation measures through international funding and other programs.</p>	049
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e.	<p>Training</p> <p>Provide information on the training and educational strategies that have been implemented within the State Party for professional capacity building:</p> <p>Government has set up formal system of education and training for the professional capacity building. This is in consonance with the strategies and action programs of the National Forest Policy, (1952&1988), the National Forestry Action Programme, 1999 and National Wildlife Action Plan (1952&2002</p>	050
	<p>Were training needs for institutions or individuals concerned with the protection and conservation of heritage identified?</p> <p>YES/NO</p> <p>Yes.</p>	051

I.3.e continued

	<p>If YES, list the primary needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction Training in basic and applied aspects of management. • Professional Management of natural sites. • In service Capacity Building • Training in research and extension • Protection of habitat and species. 	052
	<p>Were existing training opportunities in your State and in other countries identified? YES/NO</p> <p>YES</p> <p>If YES, please give details:</p> <p>Training needs and opportunities in India have been identified over a period of last three decades. Training opportunities in UK,US and the Netherlands etc have been identified and availed of from time to time.</p>	053
	<p>Have your develop training modules or programmes for the World Heritage sites? YES/NO</p> <p>No specific training module has been developed for the World Heritage sites.</p>	055 056

I.3.e continued

	<p>Has staff received heritage training in or outside of your country: YES/NO</p> <p>NO</p> <p>If YES, give details:</p> <p>Not applicable</p>	057 058
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	<p>Give details on the establishment or development of national or regional centers for training and education in the protection, conservation, and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage (if applicable):</p> <p>The following institutes provide training and education for this purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun; The main function of ICFRE is to arrange education and training programmes to generate trained human resource, to conduct professional skill development programmes and to provide support to strengthen the infrastructure of universities imparting forestry education in the country. • Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy: It is the premier institution for imparting professional training to the probationers of the Indian forest Service (IFS). It has trained 2300 IFS probationers and 323 foreign trainees from neighboring countries till 2001. • Directorate of forest Education, Dehradun: The forestry training institutes under the administrative control of the Directorate of Forest Education are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State Forest Service College, Dehradun, 2. State Forest Service College, Coimbatore, 3. State Forest Service College, Burnihat 4. Eastern Forest Rangers College, Kurseong. <p>The Directorate undertakes the following activities: In service Training of SFS and Range Officers through short term refresher courses, capacity building training courses for field officers and courses on basic training skills.</p> <p>In addition, it also conducts refresher courses in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint forest management and sustainable rural development. 2. Bio-diversity conservation and watershed management. 3. Project formulation and environmental impact assessment. 4. Policy, legal issues and international conventions. 	059

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wild Life Institute of India: It is an autonomous institute of the Ministry of Environment & Forests with a mandate of imparting training to Government and non-government personnel, to carry out research and training activities and advise on matters of conservation and management of wild life resources. The Institute conducts the following training and educational programs: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post Graduate Course in wild life management. 2. Certificate course in wild life management. 3. Training workshop for Biosphere Reserve Managers. 4. Specialization module on Biodiversity Conservation and wild life management. 5. Master of Science in Wild Life Management. <p>In addition, a large number of training institutes have been recognized to provide short and long duration training courses.</p> 	
	<p>Describe the degree to which such training has been integrated within existing university and educational systems:</p> <p>At present such training has not been directly integrated with the university and educational system of the country. Some training institutes are affiliated to universities.</p>	060

I.3.e continued

	<p>Indicate the steps that the State has taken to encourage scientific research as a support to training and educational activities heritage:</p> <p>Research in wildlife and forest conservation is an important mandate of WII, ICFRE, FRI, FSI, and IIFM.</p>	061
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	<p>Identify areas where improvement would be desirable, and towards which the State Party is working:</p> <p>Training and educational institutes need state of the art technology for improved management and landscape development.</p>	062
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I.4 International cooperation and fund raising

This item refers particularly to Articles 4,6,17 and 18 of the Convention:

	<p>Provide detailed information on the co-operation with other States Parties for the identification, protection, conservation and preservation of the World Heritage located on their territories:</p> <p>At present there is no formal arrangement with other State Parties for the above.</p>	063
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I.4 continued

	<p>To summarize the information given above. Please indicate the type of co-operation best describing your activities (multiple answers possible):</p> <p>Bi- and multilateral agreements ()</p> <p>Hosting and / or attending of international training Courses/seminars ()</p> <p>Financial support ()</p>	064
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	Distribution of information material (please attach copy) () Other (please specify) : ()	
	Indicate which measures have been taken to avoid damage directly or indirectly to the World Heritage on the territory of other States Parties:	065
	Do you have World Heritage sites that have been twinned with others at national or international level: NO If YES, give details about the form of cooperation: Not applicable	066 067

I.4 continued

	Have national, public and private foundation or associations been established for raising funds and donations for the protection of World Heritage: At national level, no such foundation or association has been established for raising funds and donations. If YES, give details Not applicable	068 069
	Has the State Party given assistance to this end? NO If YES, give details: Not applicable	070 071

	<p>Has the government made voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund, besides the mandatory ones, to globally improve the work on the Convention?</p> <p>NO</p>	072
	<p>If YES, give details such as year and amount, and indicate if they have been allocated to a particular site:</p> <p>Not applicable</p>	073

1.5. Education, information and awareness building

	<p>Have steps been taken by the state party to raise the awareness of decision – makers, property owners and / or the general public about the protection and conservation of natural heritage?</p> <p>YES</p>	074
	<p>If YES, please give details</p> <p>Wildlife Week is celebrated every year to generate mass awareness for protection and conservation of wildlife and its habitat. World Heritage Day (18th April) and World Heritage Week (19 – 25 November) are observed. The federal government provides assistance to the states, institutions, recognized NGO’s etc through centrally sponsored schemes for awareness and education amongst the decision makers and other stakeholders. Workshops and symposia are organized at the national level for the protection and conservation of natural heritage in the country. Site-specific programmes are organized at the level of park managers in World Heritage sites.</p>	075

	<p>Provide information on education (Primary, secondary and tertiary) and information programme that have been undertaken or are planned to strengthen appreciation and respect by the population, to keep the public broadly informed of the dangers threatening the heritage and of activities carried out in pursuance of the Convention</p> <p>There is no specific programme for providing educational awareness at primary, secondary or tertiary level.</p>	076
	<p>Does the state party participate in the UNESCO Special Project <i>Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion?</i></p> <p>NO</p>	077

1.6. Conclusions and recommended action

	<p>Please summarize the main conclusions regarding the identification of cultural and natural heritage properties (see item 1.2.):</p> <p>National and State governments have made sincere efforts in identifying the natural heritage and documenting its outstanding value. Several properties were nominated in the past of which five have been inscribed.</p>	078
	<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the protection, conservation and presentation of cultural and natural heritage properties (see item 1.3.):</p> <p>Comprehensive measures have been taken for the protection and conservation of the heritage sites. Nevertheless, there are several areas that call for urgent attention and action. The state party is taking all possible steps within its means to ensure integrity and authenticity of the sites.</p>	079

	<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding international cooperation and fund raising (see item 1.4.).</p> <p>There is no formal arrangement for international cooperation and fund raising for World Heritage sites.</p>	080
	<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding education, information and awareness building (see item 1.5.):</p> <p>Generic actions have been taken to generate awareness amongst the masses and educate them about the value of protection and conservation. The site managers take specific actions in this regard. However, this programme is not integrated into the formal education system.</p>	081
	<p>Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:</p> <p>Government has taken several policy and legal initiatives to ensure conservation of natural heritage for future generations. All possible actions will be taken to achieve the desired objectives.</p>	082
	<p>Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 003):</p> <p>As at 003</p>	083
	<p>Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:</p> <p>Conservation is an ongoing process. No timeframe can be specified.</p>	084
	<p>Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):</p> <p>Enormous benefits are foregone especially by the local people due to the establishment of the Heritage sites in a developing. Such opportunity cost of heritage sites must be met to maintain its effectiveness. In addition, adequate resources are required for the protection and management of such sites. It will be desirable to have specific and adequate funds earmarked for the preservation and conservation of such sites. The World Heritage properties and the nominated sites should get priority in international funding. It will be appropriate if the actions prescribed in the management plans of the nominated and prescribed sites are financially supported by the World Heritage Fund.</p>	085
	<p>Please, give an analysis of the process by which the Convention was ratified by the State Party:</p>	086

	Describe the motivation, obstacles and difficulties encountered during the process:	087
	<p>Detail the perceived benefits and lessons learnt:</p> <p>It was presumed that the World Heritage sites would get specific attention for conservation and protection by the State as well as the Convention. However, considering the fact that poverty poses a serious challenge to its authenticity and integrity, there is an urgent need to overcome this threat through financial and technical inputs. These sites are global assets and therefore, all efforts should be made to provide international funding and technical support to prevent their extinction.</p>	088

1.7 Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section I

	<p>Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings etc.)?</p> <p>Yes</p>	089
	<p>Was the questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party?</p> <p>Yes</p>	090
	<p>What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the Periodic reporting exercise?</p> <p>It has helped in compiling the information, sensitized the officials and site managers and helped in identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the system. There is greater awareness regarding actions to be planned and executed during the next five to ten years.</p>	091
	<p>Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:</p> <p>As mentioned earlier, the natural heritage are facing serious threats due to growing poverty in the buffer zone and consequent impact on the authenticity and integrity of the site. It will be desirable for the WHC to</p>	092

	<p>enter into dialogue with the international funding organizations and ensure that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The inscribed World Heritage sites get priority over others in poverty alleviation programmes.2. The nominated sites are also accorded due priority for funding and technical support.3. Regional and / or global cooperation is sought for World Heritage sites listed “in danger”. A concerted effort is launched to ensure that such property/ ies are out of danger in a given time frame.4. WHC should encourage nomination of trans boundary protected areas having outstanding universal value through formal bilateral and multilateral arrangements.	
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