

F. No. 4-24/2010 WL-I
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(Wildlife Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi – 110003.
Dated: 13th October, 2010

Office Memorandum

Sub: Constitution of 'Task force for conservation of dugongs'.

The Ministry of Environment & Forests has decided to constitute a Task force for conservation of dugongs. The Constitution & Terms of Reference of the Task force for conservation of dugongs is as given below:

1.	Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEF	Chairman
2.	Inspector General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEF	Member
3.	Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun	Member
4.	Director, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Cochin	Member
5.	Director, Reefwatch Marine Conservation, Mumbai	Member
6.	Chief Wildlife Wardens of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat & Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Members
7.	Dr. H. S. Das, Dugong Expert, Environment Agency, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	Member
8.	Dr. K. Sivakumar, Wildlife Institute of India,	Member
9.	Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEF, GOI	Member Secretary

Terms of Reference:

1. To look into the entire gamut of issues related to conservation of dugongs and implementation of the 'UNEP/CMS Dugong MoU' in India.
2. Provide detailed recommendations to bring about a more effective conservation and management regime for the species in India as well as in the south Asia sub-region.
3. Devise an institutional framework explaining the functioning of the same at the Centre and State level with the objective of ensuring proper coordination in implementing the conservation programmes of dugong.
4. Develop a 'National Conservation Strategy and Action Plan for dugongs and their habitats in India'.
5. Examine issues relating to fishermen-dugong conservation interface and recommend appropriate short-term and long-term solutions.
6. Recommend appropriate methodology and institutional framework for monitoring the status of dugong with their habitats in India as well as in the south Asia sub-region.
7. Recommend appropriate methodology and institutional framework to recover the dugongs and their habitats in India.

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The Committee may co-opt other experts as per the requirement. The non-official members of the Committee would be entitled for travelling and all other allowances as applicable to the non-official members as per Rule SR 190, except in case of Dr. H.S. Das who has kindly agreed to meet his international travel expenditure. However, his travel within India could be paid by this Ministry, if so desired by him.

The Task Force will submit its Report by the end of end of April 2011.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.



(Prakriti Srivastava)

Deputy Inspector General (WL)

Distribution:

1. PS to Hon'ble MOS (I/C) E & F.
2. PPS to Secretary, E&F.
3. PPS to DGF & SS.
4. PPS to Addl. DGF (WL).
5. PS to IGF (WL)
6. ~~All Members of Task force for conservation of dugongs.~~
7. NIC Cell- with a request to kindly upload the above order on the official website of the Ministry.