

**F. No. 7-9/2010-NTCA (Part)**

भारत सरकार

**Government of India**

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

**Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change**

राष्ट्रीय व्याघ्र संरक्षण प्राधिकरण

**National Tiger Conservation Authority**

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**Date:** 20.08.2025**To,****The Chief Wildlife Warden (s),****All Tiger Range States****Sub.: Identification of corridors-clarification thereof.****Ref.:** 1. Minutes of 82<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL2. Minutes of 84<sup>th</sup> meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL

Sir,

Reference is invited to the subject cited above and the directions given as per 84<sup>th</sup> Standing committee of National Board for Wildlife. In this context, I am to place on record, the following provisions of law:

## i. Section 38 O (1) (g)

“Ensure that the tiger reserves and areas linking one protected area or tiger reserve with another protected area or tiger reserve are not diverted for ecologically unsustainable uses, except in public interest and with the approval of the National Board for Wildlife and on the advice of the Tiger Conservation Authority;”

## ii. Section 38 V (3) (b)

“Ecologically compatible land uses in the tiger reserves and areas linking one protected area or tiger reserve with another for addressing the livelihood concerns of local people, so as to provide dispersal habitats and corridor for spill over population of wild animals from the designated core areas of tiger reserves or from tiger breeding habitats within other protected areas;”

2. In letter and spirit of the above provisions of law, this Authority has published 32 tiger corridors in its document titled “Connecting tigers for long term conservation”. Further, the Tiger Conservation Plan mandated for each tiger reserve under section 38 (V) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and approved by this Authority under section 38 O (1) (a) of the said Act identifies tiger corridors in letter and spirit of section cited at S. No. ii above. There are, thus, two statutory sources which generally apply for the purpose of identifying the Tiger Corridors.

3. In this context, the letter No. F No 1-2/2020-NTCA dated 7.02.2023 issued to the State of Maharashtra, merely clarified that this Authority considers the material specified therein for its purposes whilst making decisions. The letter was indicative of the material considered by the authority for its reference. The said letter does not stipulate the statutory and binding sources applicable.

4. Further, as per the site specific requirements ,States can refine corridors identified by this Authority in document cited at S. No. 2 above as well as identify additional corridors based on tiger movement ecology identified at the field level and suitably incorporate the same in the statutory Tiger Conservation Plan to be approved by National Tiger Conservation Authority .

5. Further, the aforesaid matter has been discussed in the 84<sup>th</sup> meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL and it is hereby clarified that for the purpose of tiger corridors, the States should preferably adhere to those corridors, which have been identified from the aforementioned two sources under the aforesaid provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

6 . However, if the State Government prefers to identify any additional corridors (other than those mentioned in para 2) to the Standing Committee for assessment ,in such cases the proposal must be submitted with detailed ecological justifications. Hence the aforesaid matter related to the corridors is herewith clarified and is issued with approval of competent authority

Action in accordance may kindly be taken.

Yours faithfully,

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**Copy to:**

1. The Field Director (s), All Tiger Reserves.
2. PS to ADG (PT) & MS (NTCA)