

## Apeejay Shipping joins global leaders in fight to shut down illegal wildlife trafficking

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**Tags:** The Duke of Cambridge | The Buckingham Palace | Networks | Narendra Modi | Assam | Apeejay Shipping

**KOLKATA:** Apeejay Shipping joined global leaders in the fight to shut down illegal wildlife trafficking and signed the Buckingham Palace Declaration led by HRH the Duke of Cambridge on Monday.

Karan Paul, Chairman of Apeejay Shipping, said, "The illegal wildlife trade is a direct threat to species and goes against the stability & diversity of our biosphere. Apeejay Shipping, as a major sea transportation service provider, commits its fleet and our people to being vigilant and to use our information networks globally to break the supply chain of illegal commercial trade in wildlife, wildlife parts and products. Our tea plantation company Apeejay Tea and Typhoo Tea are investing in Human Elephant Conflict mitigation in Assam and are committed to conserving wildlife and their habitat. We are happy to join the Buckingham Palace Declaration and we hope the international pact will have a measurable and meaningful impact."



(Karan Paul, Chairman of Apeejay Shipping, said, 'The illegal wildlife trade is a direct threat to species and goes against the stability & diversity of our biosphere.')  
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During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UK last November, India and the UK resolved to work together to combat the illegal wildlife trade. The Buckingham Palace Declaration, developed by the United for Wildlife initiative led by the Duke, has created a global coalition to prevent traffickers from exploiting weaknesses as they seek to covertly move their products from killing field to marketplace. Released at a signing ceremony on March 15th at Buckingham Palace, over 40 CEOs, Chairmen and leaders of airlines, shipping firms, port operators, customs agencies, intergovernmental organisations and conservation charities from around the world have signed the Declaration. The Declaration has been hailed by The Duke of Cambridge as 'a game changer in the race against extinction.' The Declaration commits signatories to 11 commitments that will raise standards across the transportation industry and to support efforts to prevent the growing trade in illegal wildlife and products around the world. The commitments focus on information sharing, staff training, technological improvements, and resource sharing across companies and organisations worldwide as it takes steps to remove the vulnerabilities in transportation and customs to tackle the criminals currently exploiting them. The commitments in the Buckingham Palace Declaration include -developing information sharing systems for the transport industry to receive credible information about high risk routes and methods of transportation, supporting a secure system for passing information about suspected illegal wildlife trade from the transport sector to relevant customs and law enforcement authorities, notifying relevant law enforcement authorities of cargoes suspected of containing illegal wildlife and their products and, where able, refuse to accept or ship such cargoes.