

PRESERVATION OF FAUNA

Wild Life Board Set Up

"The Times of India" News Service
SHILLONG, July 2: A systematic attempt is now expected to be made to collect and preserve varied and valuable fauna in the dense jungle-covered areas of the North-East Frontier Agency.

A Wild Life Board has been constituted for the Agency with Mr. K. L. Mehta, Adviser to the Governor, as chairman.

Very little has been done so far in the Agency for preserving the fauna. About **two** years back, reports reached the N.-E.F.A. Secretariat in Shillong that a rare two-horned **rhinoceros** was sighted in the jungles of Mishmi Hills but no planned search could be made for it, and the existence of the animal has not yet been established.

DIRECTIVE ISSUED

However, a directive has been issued to local authorities that if the animal is seen, it must not be destroyed.

The N.-E.F.A. Secretariat announced today that the Wild Life Board now set up would advise the Agency Administration on the protection of fauna and flora, and on the control of wild animals, creation of sanctuaries, national parks, revision of laws governing the killing and capturing of animals. The Board would also collect data on wild life.

The Board would be composed of Mr. Chowkham Gohain M.P., the Inspector-General of Assam Rifles, the Development Commissioner, the Agricultural Officer, the Political Officer of the Tirap Frontier Division, and the Chief Forest Officer, who will also serve as the Secretary of the Board.