

**F. No.6-101/2020 WL**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**(Wildlife Division)**

\*\*\*

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New Delhi-110003

**Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2020**

To,

All Members  
Standing Committee of NBWL

**Sub: Minutes of 59<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife-  
Reg.**

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the minutes of 59<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life held on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Environment Forest & Climate Change, Government of India.

Yours faithfully,

(Rakesh Kumar Jagenia)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests (WL)  
Email: digwi-mefcc@gov.in

**Distribution**

1. Secretary, MoEF & CC
2. DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
3. ADGF(WL), MoEF&CC.
4. ADGF(FC), MoEF&CC.
5. Member Secretary, NTCA
6. Director/IGF, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
7. Director, WII, Dehradun.
8. Director, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar
9. Dr. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL
10. Dr. H.S. Singh, Member, NBWL
11. Pr. Secretary, Forest Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh

**Copy To:**

1. PS to Hon'ble MoEF&CC.
2. PS to Hon'ble MoSEF&CC
3. PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
4. PPS to Addl.DGF(WL), PPS to IGF(WL).
5. Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/Secretary, Forest Department of Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, Telangana, Kerala, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Bihar.
6. PCCF & HOFF of Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, Telangana, Kerala, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Bihar.
7. CWLW of Jammu & Kashmir, Gujarat, Telangana, Kerala, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Bihar.

## **MINUTES OF 59<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

The 59<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life was held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 through Video Conference. The meeting was chaired by the Hon'ble Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change. List of participants is placed at ANNEXURE-I.

The Chairman welcomed all the participants to the 59<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life and requested the Member Secretary to initiate the discussions on the Agenda Items.

### **AGENDA ITEM No.1**

#### **59.1.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020**

The Member Secretary stated that the minutes of the 58<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 were circulated on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 amongst all the Members of the Standing Committee.

The Member Secretary informed that Shri H.S Singh has raised concerns on agenda item No 58.4.12, 58.4.13 and 58.4.14 with respect to area required for construction of SSB-Border outposts in Uttar Pradesh State.

The Chief Wild Warden clarified the matter stating the number of posts in each proposal which was accepted by all members. The Chairman advised afforestation in the area.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to confirm the minutes.

### **AGENDA ITEM No.2**

(Action Taken Report)

#### **59.2.1 Proposal for use of 98.59 ha of reserve forestland from Saleki proposed reserve forest which is a part of Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve for Tikok OCP coal mining project by North-Eastern Coal Field, Coal India Limited, Assam State- [File No 6-38/2019 WL; State: Assam; Original Agenda Item No. 54.4.3]**

The Member Secretary stated that the Standing Committee in its 58<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 03<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 recommended that the mining activity should be immediately stopped and decided to defer the matter till further discussions with Coal India Limited.

The Standing Committee took serious note of the fact that mine continued to operate without its recommendation for a long time and neither the Coal India Limited nor the State Government Officials took necessary steps for the legal/statutory compliance. The Chairman desired that a committee might be constituted with a representative each from the Ministry and State Government to enquire into the lapses. The Director General of Forest and Special Secretary informed that as per the order of Hon'ble High Court of Assam, a committee has already been constituted to enquire into the matter by the State Government.

**Decision Taken:** After detailed discussion, the Standing Committee decided to send a two members fact finding team comprising of an official each from the Ministry and the Assam Forest Department and submit a factual report within a month. It was also reiterated that as per decision taken in the last meeting, mining shall remain completely stopped by M/s North-Eastern Coal Field, Coal India Limited in the proposed area.

**59.2.2      Proposal for reduction in area and alteration of boundary of Kawar Lake Bird Sanctuary- [File No 6-38/2019 WL; State: Bihar; Original Agenda Item No. 55.4.2]**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal was considered by the Standing Committee in its 55<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup> 57<sup>th</sup> meetings. In the 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 03<sup>rd</sup> July 2020, it was decided to defer the proposal and requested the State Govt. of Bihar to submit revised proposal soon.

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that response is still awaited from State Government.

**Decision Taken:** The Standing Committee decided to **delist the proposal** only to be placed after receipt of requisite information from the State Government.

**59.2.3      Proposal for use of 0.90 ha Govt. waste land for black trap mining activity within 10 KM ESZ of Gir Wildlife Sanctuary located at Village Arithiya, Taluk Kodinar, District Gir Somnath, Gujarat State- [File No. 6-184/2019 WL; State: Gujarat; Original Agenda Item No. 57.3.5]**

**59.2.4      Proposal for use of 1.00 ha Govt. waste land for lime stone mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Gir Wildlife Sanctuary located at Village Sugala, Taluk Kodinar, District Gir Somnath, Gujarat State- [File No. 6-185/2019 WL; State: Gujarat; Original Agenda Item No. 57.3.6]**

**59.2.5      Proposal for use of 3.2375 ha Govt. waste land for lime stone mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Gir Wildlife Sanctuary located at Village Sugala, Taluk Kodinar, District Gir Somnath, Gujarat State- [File No. 6-186/2019 WL; State: Gujarat; Original Agenda Item No. 57.3.7]**

**59.2.6 Proposal for use of 2.4406 ha Govt. waste land for lime stone mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Gir Wildlife Sanctuary located at Village Ghantvad, Taluk Kodinar, District Gir Somnath, Gujarat State- [File No. 6-187/2019 WL; State: Gujarat; Original Agenda Item No. 57.3.8]**

The Member Secretary stated that the four proposals (Agenda Item No 59.2.3 to 59.2.6) were considered by the Standing Committee in its 57<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020 and in 58<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 03<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 wherein it was decided to defer the proposals till the receipt of ESZ proposal from the State Government.

The Member Secretary informed that response is awaited from the State Government and the matter of declaration of ESZ around Gir Sanctuary is sub-judice. The CWLW Gujarat also stated that matter is sub-judice and further action on the part of State Government could only be taken after the decision of Hon'ble High Court.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee **decided to delist** the proposals only to be placed after receipt of requisite information from the State Government.

**59.2.7 Proposal for construction of Intake Well in Chambal River and laying of water supply pipeline for Sheopur- Madhya Pradesh- [File No. 6-126/2019 WL; State: Madhya Pradesh; Original Agenda Item No. 55.4.14]**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal was considered by the Standing Committee in its 55<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup>, 57<sup>th</sup> and lastly in the 58<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 03<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till receipt of the report on the availability of alternative sources of water.

The Member Secretary informed that response from the State Government is still awaited.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee **decided to delist** the proposal only to be placed after receipt of requisite information from the State Government.

**59.2.8 Proposal for construction residential cum commercial Project jointly developed by M/s Puravankara Ltd., M/s Melmont Construction Pvt. Ltd. and M/s Purva Realities pvt. Ltd. at Edappally South and Vazhakkala Villages, Kanyannur Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala, Kerala State-[File No. 6-23/2020 WL; State: Kerala; Original Agenda Item No. 57.3.12]**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal was considered by the Standing Committee in its 57<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> meetings wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the receipt of report on availability of vacant plots around the protected area.

The Member Secretary informed that information from the State Government is still awaited.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee **decided to delist** the proposal only to be placed before it after receipt of requisite information from the State Government.

**59.2.9 Proposal for expansion of production of silica sand from 1.0 lakh TPA to 3.0 lakh TPA by open cast mechanized method in the private land of 59.51 ha situated at Barodia, Tehsil Hindoli, District Bundi, Rajasthan State-[File No. 6-146/2019-WL; State: Rajasthan; Original Agenda Item No. 53.3.22]**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal was considered by the Standing Committee in its 56<sup>th</sup>, 57<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till receipt of a certificate from the state that the proposal is in conformity of the Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines 2020.

The Member Secretary informed that the APCCF & CWLW, Rajasthan vide his letter dated 25.06.2020 informed that the proposal is for mining industrial silica and not for river bed sand mining and therefore, the Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines 2016 & 2020 are not applicable in the instant case. Member Secretary informed the Committee that Wildlife Division also sought the Comments of IA Non-Coal Mining Division which informed that for the instant case, the Environmental Clearance was issued on 1.04.2016 to M/s Bundi Silica Supply Company, Rajasthan. The guidelines for "Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016 and Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining-2020" are not applicable for instant case. Further, State Govt. may be asked whether mine is in operation, without NBWL Clearance.

The Member Secretary also informed that ESZ around the Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary is yet to be notified.

**Decision Taken:** After detailed discussions, the Standing Committee decided to **defer** the matter till the finalization of ESZ.

**59.2.10 Proposal for collection river bed materials from an area 10.0 ha located at Sajjanpur Village, Haridwar falls at distance of 9.0 km away from the boundary of Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand State-[File No. 6-165/2018-WL; State: Uttarakhand; Original Agenda Item No. 54.4.27]**

**59.2.11 Proposal for collection river bed materials from an area 92.504 ha located at Budhwa - Shahid, Hetampur falls at distance of 3.9 km away from the boundary of Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand State-[File No. 6-175/2018-WL; State: Uttarakhand; Original Agenda Item No. 54.4.28]**

**59.2.12 Proposal for collection river bed materials from an area 55.51 ha located at Satiwal, Kudkawala, Teliwala and Kheri, falls at distance of 1.5 km away from the boundary of Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand State-[File No. 6-167/2018-WL; State: Uttarakhand; Original Agenda Item No. 55.4.21]**

**59.2.13 Proposal for wildlife clearance for collection of sand, bajri and boulder from Non-PA area of 13.985 ha situated at Village Dadubas, Tehsil Haridwar, District Haridwar located at 4.8 KM away from the boundary of Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand State-[File No. 6-166/2018-WL; State: Uttarakhand; Original Agenda Item No. 56.3.24]**

**59.2.14 Proposal for wildlife clearance for collection of sand, bajri and boulder from non-PA area of 42.0 ha situated at Village Kota Murandnagar, Tehsil Haridwar, District Haridwar located at 2.0 KM away from the boundary of Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand State-[File No. 6-168/2018-WL; State: Uttarakhand; Original Agenda Item No. 56.3.25]**

The Member Secretary stated that the Standing Committee in the 58<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 requested the State Govt of Uttarakhand to submit the Compliance Certificate with respect to the Sustainable Sand Mining guidelines of 2020 for further consideration. The information from the State Government is yet to be received.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand informed that User Agency has decided to withdraw the proposals mentioned at agenda item nos. 59.2.10, 59.2.13 and 59.2.14.

**Decision Taken:** The Standing Committee **accepted** the request of State Government for **withdrawal of the proposals** mentioned at agenda item nos. 59.2.10, 59.2.13 and 59.2.14 and decided to remove the same from the list of pending proposals. With regard to remaining two proposals at agenda item nos. 59.2.11 and 59.2.12, the Standing Committee is of the view that State Government should first submit a certificate of compliance for implementation of Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020. The Standing Committee also desired that the Ministry should also seek opinion of NMCG on these proposals. The Standing Committee, therefore, decided to **defer** these two proposals.

**59.2.15 Sixteen Writ Petitions of Quarry Owners - Judgments of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala received with copies of Environmental Clearance along with all other necessary papers, Kerala State-[File No. 6-45/2020 WL; State: Kerala; Original Agenda Item No. 58.3.2]**

The Member Secretary stated that above proposals were placed in 58<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 and the Standing Committee decided to request the State Government to resubmit the proposals as per the established guidelines and procedures.

The CWLW, Kerala informed the Committee that out of 16 proposals, online application has been made for only two project and remaining 14 are yet to apply online.

The Member Secretary informed that even the two online proposals are yet to be recommended and forwarded by the State Government.

**Decision Taken:** The Standing Committee therefore decided to **defer** the proposals, till the State government forwards the proposals with complete documents, as per the prescribed guidelines and procedures.

**59.2.16 Proposal for Tinaighat- Castlerock-Caranzol Railway doubling of South Western Railways, Karnataka-[File No 6-55/2020 WL; State: Karnataka; Original Agenda Item No 58.5.1]**

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that above proposal was considered by SC\_NBWL in its 58th meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 wherein the Committee deferred the proposal till the receipt of report from the NTCA for further consideration in the matter. The NTCA vide its letter No 7-12/2020 NTCA dated 22.07.2020 while recommending the proposal, has desired a detailed study for prescribing mitigation measures in the terrain might be conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The matter was then examined in the Ministry and it was decided to request WII to conduct the study and send report within three weeks. The WII informed that it would require more time for study and also financial assistance.

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held and documents submitted, the Standing Committee requested the Director, WII to complete the study within a period of two months and decided to **defer** the proposal.

### **AGENDA No.3**

#### **(Policy Matters, Court Orders/Rationalization of Boundaries of Protected Areas)**

##### **59.3.1 Advisory on Human Wildlife Conflict Management**

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that the Constitution of India enshrines that it is the duty of every citizen to protect wildlife. India is a mega-biodiverse rich country and is also one of the highly populated country in the world. Several ecological and anthropological factors have led to more and more cases of negative interactions between humans and wildlife. Animals like Vanroze (blue-bull), wild pig, elephant, tiger, leopard, bear etc. are few major species that come in conflict with humans.

A brief presentation was made on the above issue and draft 'Advisory on Human Wildlife Conflict Management' was placed before the Committee. Prof. Sukumar informed that he has sent his comments and suggestions on the draft advisory and the same to be incorporated in the advisory. The Chairman suggested that the Panchayati Raj Institutions should be given more active role in dealing with human-wildlife conflicts.

**Decision Taken:** After detailed discussions, the Standing Committee recommended that the draft advisory might be revised after incorporating the suggestions.

### 59.3.2 Action Plan for Vulture Conservation 2020-2025

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that The Government of India had formulated the "National Action Plan (2006)" on Vulture Conservation in the year 2006 for three years. The Action Plan provided strategies, actions for containing the decline of vulture population, especially the three Gyps species i.e. Oriental White-backed Vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*), Slender billed Vulture (*Gyps tenuirostris*), Long billed Vulture (*Gyps indicus*) through ex-situ, in-situ vulture conservation.

The revised "Action Plan for Vulture Conservation 2020-2025" has identified priority actions and additional action points for the conservation of vultures. The Action Plan has been prepared after seeking comments and inputs from various State Governments, concerned departments, experts etc. advocates prevention of misuse of veterinary non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and awareness of the importance of conservation of vultures and measures undertaken by MoEF&CC to prevent the possible extinction of vultures.

Some of the important objectives in the Action Plan for Vulture Conservation 2020-2025 are:

1. Prevent the poisoning of principal food of vultures i.e., the cattle carcasses, with veterinary NSAIDs and carry out safety-testing of new veterinary NSAIDs on vultures, prior to commercial release.
2. Institute a system, which automatically removes a drug from veterinary use if it is found to be toxic to vultures with the help of DCGI.
3. Establish additional Vulture Conservation Breeding Centers in the country. It is proposed to set up a centre each in Uttar Pradesh, Tripura, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.
4. Conservation breeding programme of Red Headed Vulture and Egyptian Vulture and establish at least one Vulture Safe Zone in each State for the conservation of the remnant populations in that State.
5. Establish 4 rescue centres in different geographical areas e.g. Pinjore in North India, Bhopal in Central India, Guwahati in North-east India and Hyderabad in South India. There are currently no dedicated rescue centres for treatment of vultures.
6. Carry out coordinated nation-wide vulture count involving Forest Departments, BNHS, Research Institutes, NGOs, and members of public to get a more accurate estimate of the size of vulture populations in the country.

7. Create database on emerging threats to vulture conservation including collision and electrocution, Unintentional poisoning etc.

**Decision Taken:** The Standing Committee took note and **recommended** the Action Plan.

### **59.3.3 Agenda Item proposed by Dr. H.S. Singh-Monitoring the implementation of term and conditions**

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that Dr. H. S. Singh vide his email dated 14.09.2020 requested to deliberate on three issues:

- (a) monitoring the implementation of term and conditions of recommendation of Standing Committee,
- (b) the exemption of NPV from forest diversion proposals involving relocation of people from buffer zone and corridors and
- (c) expansion of protected area network.

The Member Secretary informed that the matter of exemption of NPV is out of the purview of Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life and the Ministry is from time to time issuing advisories to States/UTs for expansion of protected area network in the country. Regarding the monitoring of implementation of conditions imposed by the Standing Committee, the Member Secretary informed that the conditions imposed by the Standing Committee requires monitoring and suggested that the newly created Integrated Regional Offices might be assigned the task of monitoring the conditions imposed by the Standing Committee.

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held, the Standing Committee **recommended** the following for effective monitoring of the proposals:

- a) The Chief Wild Life Warden shall submit an annual certificate for compliance of the conditions imposed by the Standing Committee for all the proposals.
- b) The Integrated Regional Offices shall carry out the monitoring of the conditions imposed by the Standing Committee.
- c) The State Government shall prepare the Zonal Master Plans of the notified Eco-Sensitive Zones around the Protected Areas within 6 months and as an immediate step a virtual conference may be conducted to review the status.

### **59.3.4 Judgement of the Kerala High Court dated 13.03.2020 in W.P(C) 7571/2020 and Judgment dated 23.03.2020 in W.P(C) 9061/2020, the two proposals viz. M/s Bestonne Granite Metals Pvt Ltd and Shri U.T. Raveendran (M/s Nobel**

**Granites) reg. NOC for the petitioners mining projects located within 10 kms of Idduki Wildlife sanctuary and Malabar Wildlife Sanctuary. [File No 6-93/2020-WL; State Kerala]**

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that the Additional Secretary, Forest Department, Government of Kerala has requested to place the matters before the Standing Committee of the National Board within a period of one week as directed by the Kerala High Court on 13-03-2020 and 23-03-2020 for consideration vide letter dated 15.07.2020. As per the normal procedure for consideration by the Standing Committee, the proposals should be received through proper channel with the recommendations of the State Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and State Government.

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held and documents submitted, the Standing Committee decided to request the State Government to **resubmit the proposals** as per the established guidelines and procedures.

**59.3.5 Judgement of the Kerala High Court dated 14.07.2020 in W.P(C) 13717/2020 to requesting for considering the proposals of M/s Mancombu Granites Ltd. located within 10 kms of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries in Idukki Districts of Kerala- [File No 6-93/2020-WL; State: Kerala]**

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that the Additional Secretary, Forest Department, Government of Kerala has requested to place this matter before the Standing Committee of the National Board within a period of one week as directed by the Kerala High Court on 14.07.2020 for consideration vide letter dated 27.08.2020. As per the normal procedure for consideration by the Standing Committee, the proposals should be received through proper channel with the recommendations of the State Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and State Government.

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held and documents submitted, the Standing Committee decided to request the State Government to **resubmit the proposals** as per the established guidelines and procedures.

**59.3.6 NGT, New Delhi order dated 07.02.2020 in Execution Application dated 47/2019 titled Gaurav Kumar Bansal Vs. UOI & Ors. for rationalization of the boundaries of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttar Pradesh- [File No 6-50/2020-WL (Pt); State: Uttar Pradesh]**

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that The National Green Tribunal vide order dated 07.02.2020 has directed the following: -

- a. *The Principal Secretary, Forest and Wildlife, State of UP shall ensure that the proposal for rationalization of the boundaries of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary is sent to NBWL within 21 days from today.*
- b. *The Additional DG Wildlife, MoEF&CC is directed to complete the process at their level within 30 days after receiving of proposal from the State Government.*
- c. *The NBWL shall refer the matter back to the State Government for final notification immediately thereafter.*
- d. *The State Government to issue final notification after receipt of the proposal from NBWL within 30 days.*

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh had entrusted WII Dehradun for the assessment of wildlife habitats with special focus on swamp deer in Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary. Accordingly, WII Dehradun submitted its report to the State Government dated on 09/10/2019.

The proposal has been recommended by the State Board for Wild Life in the meeting held on 04.11.2019.

In compliance of the above mentioned NGT directions, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted the proposal for rationalization of the boundary of Hastinapur Sanctuary as follows:

|     |                                                                              |   |                       |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| (1) | Total area of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary as per the original notification | : | 2073.00 sq.km         |
| (2) | Excluded area in the left bank of Ganga                                      | : | 712.8 sq.km           |
| (3) | Excluded area in the right bank of Ganga                                     | : | 265.3 sq.km           |
|     | <b>(2) + (3)</b>                                                             | : | <b>978.1 sq.km</b>    |
| (4) | <b>Area after exclusion</b>                                                  |   | <b>1094.9 sq. km.</b> |

The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that after rationalization, the area of the sanctuary would be reduced to 1094.9 sq.km. The State Government would take action for addition of 187.62 sq.km to the sanctuary or notify as ESZ.

**Decision Taken:** After detailed discussion, the Standing Committee decided to **recommend** the proposal for rationalization of the boundary of Hastinapur Sanctuary submitted by the State Government.

#### **59.3.7 Proposal for de-notification of 111.73 Sq. Km revenue area from Son Chiraiya (Great Indian Bustard) Sanctuary at Ghatigaon, Madhya Pradesh-[File No. 6-15/2019-WL; State: Madhya Pradesh]**

The member secretary informed that the Standing Committee in its 54<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 agreed in principle to the State Government's proposal for rationalization of the boundary of the Son Chiraiya Sanctuary, Ghatigaon subject to the condition that the State Government would prepare and implement a GIB conservation Management and Habitat Restoration Plan in the less disturbed area

of the sanctuary and submit the draft notification for rationalization of the boundary of the Son Chiraiya “Hukna Bird” (Great Indian Bustard) Sanctuary to the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change along with the proposal for re-notification of ESZ.

The State Government of Madhya Pradesh in their letter dated 28.07.2020 have informed that a 10-year Management Plan for conservation of Great Indian Bustard in the less disturbed area has been prepared and approved. The State Government have submitted the draft notification for rationalization of the boundary of the Son Chiraya “Hukna Bird” (Great Indian Bustard) Sanctuary to the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change along with the proposal for re-notification of ESZ.

**Decision Taken:** The Standing Committee after discussions decided to **recommend** the proposal for de-notification of 111.73 Sq. Km revenue area from Son Chiraiya “Hukna Bird” (Great Indian Bustard) Sanctuary at Ghatigaon, Madhya Pradesh.

#### **AGENDA No. 4 (Amendment/Corrigendum in Minutes of Meetings)**

- 59.4.1 Representation dated 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 received from the CF/Deputy Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow regarding correction in the minutes of 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of Standing Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020 for the proposal for use of 0.4158 ha non-forest land from Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of over bridge over Bahu Nala at Village Chakanwala and Shisowali on Bachhraon-Munda Khera Khader road in block Gajraula, tehsil Mandi Dhanura, district Amroha, U.P-[File No. 6-6/2020-WI; State: Uttar Pradesh; Original Agenda Item No. 57.3.27]**

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that a representation dated 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 was received from the CF/Deputy Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow regarding correction in the minutes of 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of Standing Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020 for the proposal for use of 0.4158 ha non-forest land from Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of over bridge over Bahu Nala at Village Chakanwala and Shisowali on Bachhraon-Munda Khera Khader road in block Gajraula, thesil Mandi Dhanura, district Amroha, U.P.

The proposal was recommended by the Standing Committee in its 57<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020, wherein the area has inadvertently mentioned as 0.4158 ha forest area in place of 0.4158 Ha of non-forest land (0.1944 ha private agricultural land and 0.2214 ha other government land of irrigation department).

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held and documents submitted, the Standing Committee **recommended** for corrigendum in the minutes of its 57<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2020, for agenda item no 57.3.27 to replace 0.4158 ha forest area with 0.4158 Ha of non-forest land (0.1944 ha private agricultural land and 0.2214 ha other government land of irrigation department).

- 59.4.2 Representation dated 10th July 2020 received from M/s Associates Stone Industries regarding issue corrigendum in minutes of 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee for agenda no. 55.4.17 for the proposal of M/s**

**Associated Stone Industries (Kotah) Limited for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone Production in mining lease No. 1/89 situated in Tehsil Ramganjmandi, Kota District, Rajasthan [File No.6-19/2015-WL; State: Rajasthan; Original Agenda Item No. 55.4.17]**

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that a representation dated 10th July, 2020 was received from M/s Associated Stone Industries requesting corrigendum in minutes of the 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee held on 17.12.2019 for Agenda no 55.4.17 to replace "2% of the total project cost" with "2% of the proportionate project cost", which was actually recommended by the CWLW, Rajasthan.

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held and documents submitted, the Standing Committee decided to **recommend** the proposal for corrigendum in the minutes of 56<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 17.12.2019 for the agenda no. 55.4.17 to replace 2% of the total project cost with 2% of the proportionate project cost.

**59.4.3 Representation dated 13<sup>th</sup> April 2020 received from the User Agency for amendment in agenda point no 53.3.27(C) of 53<sup>rd</sup> Minutes of meeting of NBWL dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 regarding removal of condition of deposition of 2% of the project cost in Tiger Conservation foundation of MHTR imposed by NTCA vide their letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020-[File No. 6-144/2018 WL(Pt-1); State: Rajasthan; Original Agenda Item No 53.3.27]**

The Member Secretary informed the Standing Committee that a representation was received from the User Agency requesting removal of condition for deposition of 2% of the project cost in Tiger Conservation Foundation of MHTR imposed by NTCA vide their letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020 with a request for amendment in minutes of 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 for agenda item no 53.3.27.

The Member Secretary informed that the proposal was recommended by the Standing Committee in its 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 25.03.2019 with the conditions imposed by State CWLW & National Tiger Conservation Authority. NTCA vide their letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 have withdrawn the condition imposing 2% of the project cost citing reason that the user agency has already complied with the condition imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan regarding deposition of 2% of the project cost in RPACS.

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held and documents submitted, the Standing Committee decided to **recommend** the proposal for removal of the condition for deposition of 2% of the project cost in Tiger Conservation foundation of MHTR recommended by NTCA.

**AGENDA No.5**

**(Fresh Proposals falling inside / Outside the Protected Area)**

**59.5.1 Proposal of Law Department, J& K for development of Judicial Infrastructure for High Court at Jammu falling in the Bahu Conservation Reserve of Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, J&K**

The Member Secretary stated that proposal of Law Department, J& K is for development of Judicial Infrastructure for High Court at Jammu.

The proposed area falls within the Bahu Conservation Reserve as well as Eco-Sensitive Zone of Ramnagar Wildlife Sanctuary as the aerial distance of proposed site from the said wildlife sanctuary is 3.75 KM. The total project area is 40.6565 Ha. The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal. The State Board for Wild Life also recommended the proposal on 23.10.2019.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to **recommend** the proposal with following conditions:

- (1) The proprietary and the legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
- (2) The user agency shall pay NPV (Net Present Value) for forest clearance in accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- (3) The User Agency shall be responsible for obtaining requisite clearances under any other law in vogue.
- (4) No harm to any Wildlife species shall be done if found accidentally in the said area.
- (5) User Agency shall abide by all the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, directions of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and orders of the Government in this regard.
- (6) The activities shall be liable to periodic check by the department and stoppage of activities shall come into force if it is found that any such provisions are not abided by the user agency.
- (7) The whole area as per proposal should be fenced by way of chain-link.
- (8) Waste material including muck generated during execution of project must be disposed off outside the protected area.
- (9) The User Agency shall ensure that only those trees/poles/saplings shall be extracted which come under the alignment of construction area and rest all the trees/poles/saplings shall be retained as such.
- (10) The area proposed should not be used by the user agency for any purpose other than proposed.
- (11) The land so allowed to be used shall return to the department free of any encumbrances when it is no longer required by the User Agency.
- (12) The User Agency shall have to abide by all the conditions laid down by the Forest Advisory Committee and those mentioned in the sanction order issued by the Competent Authority.
- (13) The User Agency shall pay 2% of the proportionate project cost for conservation and preservation of wildlife and its habitat.
- (14) The annual compliance certificate on the following stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State

Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Govt. of India.

**59.5.2. Proposal for use of 0.20 ha of forestland from Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of approach road at Girnar Taleti, district Junagadh, Gujarat – [File No: 6-138/2019 WL; Proposal No. FP/GJ/ROAD/40726/2019]**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal is for use of 0.20 ha of forestland from Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of approach road at Girnar Taleti, district Junagadh, Gujarat by Junagadh Municipal Corporation. The Chief Wild Life Warden recommended the proposal. The State Board for Wild Life also recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 05.09.2019.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to **recommend** the proposal subject to the following:

- (1) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section-9, 17A, 27, 29, 31, 32 of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (2) The user agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the sanctuary.
- (3) The user agency shall not use the area for the proposed work other than the area permitted.
- (4) The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the sanctuary.
- (5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the sanctuary.
- (6) All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
- (7) The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8.0 AM to 6.0 PM
- (8) Approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.
- (9) The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of protected area as per the existing rates.
- (10) The user agency shall install appropriate signage's to create nature awareness amongst pilgrims as approved by Forest Department.
- (11) The user agency shall prepare Wildlife Mitigation Plan and get it approved from the CWLW before start of the work. The budget for the same should be made available separately.
- (12) The annual compliance certificate on the following stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Govt. of India.

**59.5.3 Diversion of 11.379 ha of forest land from Todgarh Raoli Wildlife Sanctuary for upgradation of existing two lane to four lane from 148.00 to 160.44 Km**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal is for diversion of 11.379 ha of forest land from Todgarh Raoli Wildlife Sanctuary for upgradation of existing two lane to four lane from 148.00 to 160.44 Km Beawar-Gomti Section (NH-8), Rajasthan of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways. The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal. The State Board for Wild Life has also recommended the proposal through circulation.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to **recommend** the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- (1) 2% of the proportionate project cost of the area falling within the protected area should be deposited in Rajasthan Protected Area Conservation Society by the user agency for management and protection of wildlife in the state as corpus.
- (2) Underpasses shall be constructed by user agency at an interval of 1 km.
- (3) Speed breakers will be constructed at interval of 500 meters inside the protected area.
- (4) Plantation in 3 rows on both sides along the road shall be done by the user agency in consultation of the DCF.
- (5) No burrow pits will be created in the sanctuary area for road construction.
- (6) No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area.
- (7) There will be no felling of trees and burning of fuel wood inside the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone.
- (8) The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Eco-Sensitive Zone.
- (9) There will be no labour camp within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
- (10) No blasting will be carried out within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area during the work.
- (11) There shall be no high mast/ beam/search lights and high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
- (12) Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc. should be erected in the project area in consultation with DCF.
- (13) Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of the Protected Area.
- (14) Where diversion of forest land is not required, non-forestry use of revenue lands NPV as per the order 05-02-2009 will be realized.
- (15) The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (16) The animal passage plan submitted by the User Agency shall be implemented in toto.
- (17) The annual compliance certificate on the following stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life

Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Govt. of India.

**59.5.4 Diversion of 3.1142 ha of forest land in tiger corridor linking Kawal Tiger Reserve in Telangana and Tadoba Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra falling in compt.231 of Manikarh RF in Asifabad forest division in Kumarambheem, Asifabad District of Telangana for the construction of Warora Pool, Warangal (New) 765 KV D/C Transmission line in favour of Warora Kurnool Transmission Limited (WKTL)-[File No. 6-162/2018 WL; Proposal No. FP/TG/TRANS/27465/2017 ].**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal is for diversion of 3.1142 ha of forest land in tiger corridor linking Kawal Tiger Reserve in Telangana and Tadoba Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra falling in compt.231 of Manikarh RF in Asifabad forest division in Kumarambheem, Asifabad District of Telangana for the construction of Warora Pool, Warangal (New) 765 KV D/C Transmission line in favour of Warora Kurnool Transmission Limited (WKTL). The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal and the State Board for Wild Life has also recommended the proposal on 01.02.2020.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to **recommend** the proposal subject to the following conditions:

**(A) Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden**

- (1) That the user agency will provide Rs.30.00 lakhs for developing natural grass lands/meadows below the power transmission lines as under:

**(Rs.in lakh)**

| <b>Sl.N<br/>o</b> | <b>Component</b>                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Financial<br/>target</b> |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.                | Habitat Management<br>a) Bore well with solar pump sets (2) units @ Rs.5.00 lakh per unit                                                                                             | 10.00                       |
| 2                 | b) Management of natural grass lands by uprooting the obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds over 100 ha for three consecutive years at a cost of Rs.10,000/-per ha | 10.00                       |
| 3                 | Water Management<br>a) Construction of mini percolation tanks 2 Nos.@ 2.0 lakh/each at the solar bore well site for water storage                                                     | 4.00                        |
| 4                 | Fire Management;<br>Formation of new fire lines (width 6.00 Mtrs) 26900 Rmt @ Rs.10/-1 Rmt.Per Year                                                                                   | 2.69                        |
| 5                 | Publicity & Awareness<br>Hoardings & publicity to propagate the need for conservation of Flora and Fauna of the areas                                                                 | 3.31                        |
|                   | <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>30.00</b>                |

The above amount shall be deposited by the user agency in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana.

- (2) The user agency shall fell only the barest minimum number of trees while executing the work.
- (3) The works shall be carried out without disturbing or damaging Flora, Fauna or habitat of the area.
- (4) Work shall be carried out from 6.00 am to 6.00 pm only.
- (5) The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the sanctuary area. As and when required they should be carried to the site during execution of work.
- (6) No labour camp should be established inside the Tiger Reserve during the execution of the work.
- (7) The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the tiger reserve on day-to-day basis.
- (8) The user agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25-meter interval.
- (9) The User Agency should raise the height of the towers in consultation with the Chief Wild Life Warden.
- (10) In addition to the existing forest road, user agency shall avoid creation of additional trails/ roads for construction work or use by construction vehicles/ machinery.
- (11) To prevent exposure of soil to erosion, excavation for laying pylon foundations must be deep, and not spread. These must be located as close to the existing road as possible, and away from water bodies and steep slopes. The soil at these spots must be stabilised post construction to control erosion and assist in vegetation regrowth.
- (12) Vegetation cleared before and during construction work must be properly disposed of to avoid spread of invasive species.

#### **(B) Conditions imposed by the NTCA**

- (13) ***Mitigation of electrocution risk to tigers and associated species:*** A major threat to dispersing tigers and other associated wildlife in corridor areas and forest adjoining human habitations and agricultural fields is electrocution by live wires. Making the transmission lines theft proof by insulating power line components needs to be carried out. However, the Standing Committee recommended that the height of towers shall be raised by the User Agency in consultation with the Chief Wild Life Warden instead of insulation.
- (14) ***Mitigation of electrocution risk of birds:*** This may be done through line design modification i.e. by allowing sufficient spacing between different conductors and between conductors and grounded wires of hardware. For large perching raptors, distance should be >1.8 m between perches and energized parts. If spacing between parts is not possible, insulating components that pose a risk of electrocution (poles, pylons, wires) may be done. Perch management techniques may be used to deter birds from perching on components where the risk of electrocution is high such as bird spikes, artificial perches placed at a safe distance from the energized parts.

- (15) **Mitigation of collision risk:** Less vertical separation of cables poses less of an obstacle for birds. Increasing the visibility of wires, particularly the earth wire, to birds by thickening, coating and colouring wires, and by installation of line marking devices may help reduce collision by upto 50-80%. Markers should increase the visibility of wires by at least 20 cm for a length of at least 10-20 cm, and placed at intervals of at least 5-10 m. the markers must be in contrast with the background.
- (C) The User Agency shall raise the height of the tower in consultation with the Chief Wild Life Warden.
- (D) The animal passage plan submitted by the User Agency shall be implemented in toto.
- (E) Reflectors may be used appropriately to minimize collision risk of birds.
- (F) The annual compliance certificate on the following stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Govt. of India.

**AGENDA NO.6** (Any other item with the permission of the Chair)

**59.6.1 Diversion of forest land for Development of 8 lanes (Greenfield Highway) from (Ch. 392.800 Km) Bhenda Hera village to (Ch. 452.425 Km) Moondiya village Section of NH-148 N (Total length 59.625 Km), Under BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA Lot-4/Pkg-4 in the state of Rajasthan.FP/RJ/ROAD/36597/2018**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal is for diversion of forest land for Development of 8 lanes (Greenfield Highway) from (Ch. 392.800 Km) Bhenda Hera village to (Ch. 452.425 Km) Moondiya village Section of NH-148 N (Total length 59.625 Km), under BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA Lot-4/Pkg-4 in the state of Rajasthan. The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal. The State Board for Wild Life also recommended the proposal through circulation.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to **recommend** the proposal subject to the following conditions:

**(A) Conditions Imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden**

- (1) 2% of the proportionate project cost of the area falling within the protected area and the ESZ should be deposited in Rajasthan Protected Area Conservation Society by the user agency for management and protection of wildlife in the state as corpus.
- (2) No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area.

- (3) No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area and Eco- Sensitive Zone.
- (4) There will be no felling of trees and burning of fuel wood inside the protected area and eco-sensitive zone.
- (5) The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone.
- (6) There will be no labour camp within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
- (7) To restrict movement of wild animals towards the road/railway track in the Protected Area, adequate mitigative measures such as wall/chain link fencing will be constructed by the User Agency to stop accidents.
- (8) There shall be no high mast / beam/search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
- (9) Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc should be erected in the project area.
- (10) The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (11) Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve / PA.
- (12) The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of Standard SOP/Guidelines issued by WII, Dehradun for linear projects.
- (13) Any permission/clearance required under FCA-1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.
- (14) 1000m green belt to be established by user agency (both side) along the proposed alignment with available ROW from entry and exit point of tunnel.
- (15) All forest vehicles should exempt in Tolls of NHAI.
- (16) Conditions & design as laid down in 27.04.2019 site visit report of committee for the purpose of examining the project are to be strictly adhered to. Specific mention is made to the provision of underground tunnel in the Standing Committee report.
- (17) Blasting may be carried out if required after taking specific permission from the Field Director MHTR and in presence of forest personnel.
- (18) Additionally, the conditions imposed in meeting held in CWLW office dated 27.06.2019 is to be included. Specific mention is made of the condition to provide CSR funds for village relocation as stipulated.
- (19) It is to be noted that proposal numbers as listed in the above documents have now changed due to submission of fresh application for the same projects. The conditions imposed will, however, remain the same.

#### **(B) Conditions imposed by the NTCA**

- (1) As per the project details, a tunnel is proposed to be constructed under 8 lanes (Greenfield Highway) from (Ch.392.800 Km) Bhenda Hera village to (Ch.452.452 Km) Moondiya village Section of NH-148N (Total length 59.625 Km) passing through Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve and

its Eco-Sensitive Zone involving 26.6354 ha land. As suggested by Deputy Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Mukundra National Park, Kota, start and end faces of tunnel shall be minimum 500m away from boundary of Mukundra Hills Tiger Reserve.

- (2) All measures shall be taken to prevent any accidental trapping of wild animals in tunnel area and to rescue, if any such incident take place.
- (3) A proper surveillance/patrolling system shall be put into place for monitoring of wildlife movement/mortality/during and after the construction.

(C) The animal passage plan submitted by the User Agency shall be implemented in toto.

(D) The annual compliance certificate on the following stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Govt. of India.

**59.6.2 Proposal for use of 6.704 ha of reserve forestland from Pilibhit Tiger Reserve for Mailani-Pilibhit Gauge Conversion chainage 212.520-213.070 KM and 242.310-250.140 KM (8.38 KM) between Kuriya- Dudhiyakhurd and Sandai Mala, Uttar Pradesh State-FP/UP/RAIL/4257/2019**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal is for Proposal for use of 6.704 ha of reserve forestland from Pilibhit Tiger Reserve for Mailani-Pilibhit Gauge Conversion chainage 212.520-213.070 KM and 242.310-250.140 KM (8.38 KM) between Kuriya- Dudhiyakhurd and Sandai Mala, Uttar Pradesh State. The proposal has been recommended by the State Chief Wild Life Warden. The State Board for Wild Life has also recommended the proposal on 04.11.2019.

The Member Secretary stated that the State Chief Wild Life Warden has forwarded the animal passage plan. He informed that NTCA has recommended that the Railways should avoid construction of a BG track within core/critical tiger habitat (CTH) of Pilibhit Tiger Reserve and alternate alignment avoiding the core / CTH of Pilibhit Tiger reserve should be explored. The NTCA also suggested that in case the option of avoidance is not possible, then WII should be entrusted to carry out a detailed study and prescribe both structural and non- structural mitigation measures at crossings preferred by wildlife, use of deterrents (audio/visual), early warning system for animal detection, speed restriction etc.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided that the animal passage plan forwarded by the Chief Wild Life Warden shall be vetted by WII and therefore, decided to **defer** the proposal.

**59.6.3 Corrigendum to the minutes of 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of SCNBWL held on 17.12.2019 for agenda item no. 56.4.1 proposal for strengthening and black topping of**

**old existing road from Chillarkhal to Laldhang in 3m of width passing through buffer zone of Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand State**

The Member Secretary, informed that during the 56<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 17.12.2019 the Standing committee recommended the proposal with the conditions imposed by CWLW, Uttarakhand and NTCA.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand has now requested to modify three conditions imposed by the NTCA as follows:

- *Forest Clearance not required since road exists prior to 1980 as per the guidelines of FCA.*
- *Reduce the length of underpass for wild animals to 470 m at the rate of 100 m per km instead of 705 m as recommended by NTCA.*
- *Reduce the height of underpass for wild animals from 8 m to 5m due to geological conditions*

The Member Secretary informed that the comments from NTCA were sought on the request made by the CWLW. The NTCA while recommended to obtain views of FC Division with respect to applicability of the FCA Act, 1980 but did not agree to the request made by the CWLW for the other two conditions as the area has high density of wildlife

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held and documents submitted the Standing Committee **did not agree** with the request of CWLW, Uttarakhand.

At the end of the meeting, Chairman, Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life stated that the States/UTs should avoid forwarding proposals for declaration of any wild animal as vermin. The States/UTs must utilize the provisions contained in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for dealing with the problematic wild animals. The States/UTs should involve Panchayati Raj Institutions more actively in dealing with situations arising out of Human Wildlife Conflict.

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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

|    |                                                     |                  |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1  | Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister for EF&CC  | Chairman         |
| 2  | Shri R. P. Gupta, Secretary, MoEF&CC                | Member           |
| 3  | Shri Sanjay Kumar, DGF&SS, MoEF&CC                  | Member           |
| 4  | Shri Soumitra Dasgupta, ADGF (WL), MoEF&CC          | Member Secretary |
| 5  | Prof. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL                      | Member           |
| 6  | Dr. H. S. Singh, Member, NBWL                       | Member           |
| 7  | Shri R. D. Kamboj, Member, NBWL                     | Member           |
| 8  | Dr. Dhananjay Mohan, Member, NBWL                   | Member           |
| 9  | Shri S.K. Ratho, ADGF (FC)                          | Invitee          |
| 10 | Dr. S. P. Yadav, ADGF(PT) and MS, NTCA              | Invitee          |
| 11 | Shri M. K. Yadava, CWLW, Assam                      | Invitee          |
| 12 | Shri Prabhat Kumar Gupta, CWLW, Bihar               | Invitee          |
| 13 | Shri Shyamal Tikedar, CWLW, Gujarat                 | Invitee          |
| 14 | Shri Suresh Kumar Gupta, CWLW, Jammu & Kashmir      | Invitee          |
| 15 | Shri Surendra Kumar, CWLW, Kerala                   | Invitee          |
| 16 | Shri Alok Kumar, CWLW, Madhya Pradesh               | Invitee          |
| 17 | Shri Subhash Malkhede, APCCF (Wildlife), Karnataka  | Invitee          |
| 18 | Shri Sidhanand Kukrety, APCCF (Wildlife), Telangana | Invitee          |
| 19 | Shri Arindam Tomar, CWLW, Rajasthan                 | Invitee          |
| 20 | Shri Sunil Pandey, CWLW, Uttar Pradesh              | Invitee          |
| 21 | Shri J. S. Suhag, CWLW, Uttarakhand                 | Invitee          |
| 22 | Shri Amit Mallick, IGF (WL), MoEF & CC              | Invitee          |
| 23 | Shri Rakesh Kr Jagenia, DIGF(WL, MoEF&CC            | Invitee          |
| 24 | Shri Amit Vashishtha, Scientist D, MoEF&CC          | Invitee          |