

**F.No.6-47/2021 WL**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Wildlife Division)

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Agni Wing,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi 110003

Date:02.07.2021

To

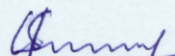
All Members  
Standing Committee of NBWL

**Subject:** Minutes of 63<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life-reg.

Sir / Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the Minutes of 63<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Surender Gugloth)  
Scientist 'D' (WL)

Email: surender.gugloth@gov.in

**Encl:** As above

**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, Gujarat
9. Prof. 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. PSO to Addl.DGF(WL), Sr.PPS to IGF(WL)
5. Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Forest Department, Government of Assam, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Haryana, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.
6. PCCF and HoFF, Government of Assam, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Haryana, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.
7. CWLW, Government of Assam, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Haryana, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

**Copy also to:**

Sr. Technical Director, NIC with a request to upload the minutes of the meeting on PARIVESH Portal.

## **MINUTES OF 63<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2021**

The 63<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life was held on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2021 through Video Conference and chaired by the Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change. List of participants is placed at **ANNEXURE-I**.

The Chairman welcomed all the participants to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life and asked the Member Secretary to initiate the discussions on the Agenda Items.

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

#### **63.1.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.**

The Member Secretary stated that the minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 were circulated vide F.No. 6-39/2021 WL dated 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 amongst all the Members.

**Decision Taken:** Based on the discussion held, the Standing Committee decided to confirm the minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

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

#### **(Action Taken Report)**

#### **63.2.1 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 (Original Agenda – 54.4.3).**

The Member Secretary stated that the proposal was initially considered by the Standing Committee in its 54<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Thereafter a committee comprising of Dr. Sukumar and a representative of the Ministry was constituted to inspect the site and submit a report. The committee submitted a report which indicated some irregularities. The Standing Committee recommended stoppage of mining in the 58<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2020. In the 59<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee decided to send a two-member fact finding team comprising of an official each from the Ministry and the Assam Forest Department with a direction to submit a factual report within a month. Ministry constituted a fact finding team comprising of Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Integrated Regional Office (Shillong), MoEF&CC (DDG, IRO, Shillong) and Nodal Officer (FC, Act), Assam Forest Department. The mandate

of the team was to find reasons/facts/lapses on the part of North-Eastern Coalfield (NEC), M/s Coal India Limited (CIL) and the State Government due to which mine was operated without obtaining the recommendations of the Standing Committee for a long time.

The Standing Committee in the 61<sup>st</sup> meeting granted extension till 31.01.2021 to the committee for submission of report. The report of the Committee was received and examined in the Ministry. In the 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 30.03.2021, the Member Secretary stated that the team had made certain recommendations in their report and requested the DDG, IRO, Shillong to brief the Standing Committee about the visit and findings of the Committee. DDG, IRO, Shillong apprised the Standing Committee about the mining in the area and the reasons that might have led the NEC to continue mining in the proposed site.

In the 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Standing committee had decided to defer the matter since a One Man Commission was constituted by the Government of Assam and the matter is sub-judice. In this regard, it is learnt that the One Man Commission has submitted the report and matter is still pending in the High Court of Guwahati. He further informed that Director General of Forests and Special Secretary (DGF & SS) had conducted a meeting with officials of Coal India Limited on 10.06.2021.

This proposal was initially for 98.59 ha and the already broken up area reported till 2019 was 57.54 ha. In the proposal, it was mentioned that out of 57.54 ha, mining had taken place over an area of 44.57 ha after 2003 which the NEC claimed to be legacy mine. However, there are evidences to show that mining has taken place after 2003 on the basis of which the Ministry has accorded Stage I clearance noting that violations have taken place over 57.54 ha and penal provisions have been invoked. However, in the previous Standing Committee meetings, it came to light that another 16 ha has been mined. In the meeting held on 10.06.2021, the State Government of Assam and the NEC were requested to inform as to when the additional 16 ha area was encroached upon and broken up. The Government of Assam has been requested to conduct an enquiry in consultation with all the relevant stakeholders and submit report within 30 days so that the penal provision with respect to additional broken up area can be invoked and responsibility could be fixed.

Member Secretary informed that the committees which were sent for site inspection to the project area have reported mining over about 75 ha and the NEC is in fact seeking post-facto approval for about 75 ha broken area.

Secretary, EF & CC mentioned that there is an order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India directing recovery of cost of minerals which have been mined illegally and suggested that the details of coal illegally mined must be obtained from

NEC and its cost should be recovered from them. Secretary EFCC also stated that NEC shall stop all mining activities forthwith till approval is given.

The Chairman directed the NEC officials to explain the details regarding illegal mining of the coal as reported.

General Manager, NEC, present during the meeting informed that application was submitted for forest clearance to the Forest Department in the year 2003 and they were working within 57.54 ha area which was already broken up. They had stopped mining in October, 2019 as per the directions of the State Forest Department. Since then, NEC has not carried out mining in the area. The Forestry Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting was held in November, 2019. The NEC came to know about the mining in additional area of 16 ha when demand notice was communicated to them along with the Stage I Clearance granted by the MoEFCC wherein a report of State Forest Department mentioning additional mining was enclosed. NEC has not conducted any enquiry or filed any FIR regarding illegal mining over additional area of 16 ha.

The Chairman directed the NEC officials to provide fresh details regarding persons responsible for illegal mining, details of coal mined and delay in registering FIR.

Dr. Sukumar stated that this 16 ha of broken area should be restored on priority followed by the restoration of 57.54 ha.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing committee decided to defer the matter with a direction to M/s Coal India Limited to provide a detailed report regarding the events which led to illegal mining in the project area by carrying out joint survey along with Assam Forest Department and the remedial measures to be taken by M/s Coal India Limited. The Standing Committee also directed that Chairman, Coal India Limited should be present in the next meeting of the Standing Committee. NEC shall also forthwith stop all mining activities in this area till decision on approval is taken.

### **63.2.2 Issue of Upgradation of Laldhang to Chillarkhal road in buffer zone of Rajaji Tiger Reserve, Uttarakhand.**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee that the proposal for upgradation of Laldhang to Chillarkhal road in buffer zone of Rajaji Tiger Reserve was recommended by the Standing Committee in its 56<sup>th</sup> meeting along with certain mitigation measures. However, the State Government requested for relaxation in the condition imposed by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) regarding underpass in the stretch between Chamaraia Bend to Siggadi Sot. In this stretch, NTCA had suggested

underpass of 705 m with a height of 8 m either as a single structure or as smaller structures with a span of 50m at any given location.

The Chief Wild Life Warden in the 59<sup>th</sup> meeting had requested that the height of the underpass may be relaxed to 6m with length of 470 m against the suggestion of the NTCA. The Standing Committee had not agreed with the request of the Chief Wild Life Warden.

In the 60<sup>th</sup> meeting, Dr. Sukumar raised the issue once again stating that there are certain differences with regard to the animal passage plan as per the guidelines of the WII and as recommended by the NTCA and the Chief Wild Life Warden had also suggested to relook into the mitigation measures suggested by the NTCA. The Standing Committee in the 60<sup>th</sup> meeting had decided that a committee be constituted comprising of Dr. Sukumar, representatives from NTCA, Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and National Highways Authority (NHAI) and representative of Government of Uttarakhand to examine the matter and suggest site-specific mitigation measures within a period of 30 days.

In the 61<sup>st</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee deferred the matter till the submission of report by the committee comprising of Dr. Sukumar, representatives of NTCA, WII and NHAI and representative of Government of Uttarakhand to the Ministry. The Member Secretary further informed that a report was received from Chief Conservator of Forests, Garhwal on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, which did not contain the views of all the members of the committee. The Standing Committee therefore requested the committee to submit the report at the earliest and deferred the matter.

The Member Secretary informed that NTCA has informed on 10.06.2021 that the underpass in the stretch from Chamaraia bend to Siggadi Sot may be kept at 6 to 8 m and as far as length of underpass is concerned it has to be decided by the technical experts on road construction considering the desired gradient and experts from the Wildlife Institute of India.

Dr. Sukumar, Member informed that as a part of the site inspection committee, he went for the inspection during late March, 2021. The sensitivity and criticality of the road passing through corridor connecting Rajaji Tiger Reserve and Corbett Tiger Reserve is very important both for the elephants and tigers. Therefore, the passage of animals has to be ensured across the road. The road runs roughly in east west direction and there is movement of animals both from the north to the south and from east to west. The road is a forest road. The stretch under consideration is of 4.7 km which is 3 m width with paved shoulders of 1.5 m on both sides. He mentioned that there is no need to have so many flyovers and would be amounting to putting lot of concrete in the forest area. Experience from Mudumalai-Bandipur-Nagarhole suggest that speed of vehicles could be controlled by the placing speed breakers at appropriate places. He suggested that a single underpass of 6 m height in this stretch is sufficient at this stage. Traffic should be banned in the night and speed breakers should be placed at appropriate places. However, if the traffic increases in the

future and becomes a major highway, then a fully elevated road would be required.

Hon'ble Minister of Forests, Uttarakhand present during the meeting mentioned that initial stretch of 3 km towards Laldhang passes through habitation and the last stretch of 3 km towards Chillarkhal also passes through habitation. The central portion is about 4.7 km and any animal crossing can travel to a maximum of 2 km, 1 km or 500 m after which there is Uttar Pradesh border and the animal returns back through this stretch in the Rajaji National Park. There is Chillarkhal township of Kotwdar. He further mentioned that the dimensions as proposed earlier were impractical which could lead to poaching of wild animals in Uttar Pradesh. He further mentioned that this is not a national highway or a state highway. Due to non-construction of this road, lives of around 100 people have been lost during the COVID-19 pandemic. The patients have to travel long distances to Najibabad and Bijnor. He informed that the cost for construction of 8 m high underpass would require Rs. 80 crore which Government of Uttarakhand could not bear and therefore, requested that the height of the underpass in the 4.7 km stretch may be permitted for 6m and length for 470 m.

**Decision taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided that the condition of construction of underpass of 705 m with a height of 8m imposed in the 59<sup>th</sup> meeting for the 4.7 km stretch from Chamaraia bend to Siggadi Sot based on the recommendations of NTCA be modified as underpass of 400 m with a height of 6m in this stretch.

### **63.2.3 Proposal for collection of Minor Minerals from Song 1, 2, 3 and Jakhan 1, 2 of Dehradun Forest division, Uttarakhand.**

The member Secretary briefed that the standing committee in the 62<sup>nd</sup> Meeting decided to defer the proposal till the certificate of compliance for Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines 2016 and Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020 in the state of Uttarakhand is submitted by the State Government. The Member Secretary informed that on 10.06.2021 the State Government of Uttarakhand had sent a report regarding compliance and requested the DIG(WL) to explain the contents of the report.

DIG (WL) apprised the Standing Committee that the compliance certificate regarding the guidelines was required to be submitted by the State Government of Uttarakhand. However, the State Government has forwarded the compliance certificate sent by the Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation and stated that the State Government has not submitted a certificate of compliance for Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines 2016 and Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020 in the state of Uttarakhand.

The Chairman stated that the States/Union Territories should comply with the Sand Mining Guidelines issued by the Ministry both in forest as well as non-

forest areas and no project for sand mining shall be recommended unless certificate of compliance of these guidelines is submitted by the State/Union Territories.

Shri Nishant Verma from Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation present during the meeting informed that the guidelines issued by the Ministry regarding Sand Mining are being followed in letter and spirit by the Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation and the State Government, Uttarakhand has also informed the same to the Ministry in the letter dated 10.06.2021.

The Chairman mentioned that certain proposals of sand mining from the state of Uttarakhand have been delisted since the State Government did not send compliance certificate and directed that State Government should certify that these guidelines regarding sand mining issued by the Ministry are being followed for mining of sand within the geographical boundaries of the state of Uttarakhand.

**Decision taken:** After discussion, the Standing committee decided to defer the matter and requested the State Government of Uttarakhand to submit the certificate of compliance for Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines 2016 and Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020.

#### **63.2.4 400kV D/C Jaunpur Obra Transmission Line, Uttar Pradesh**

The member Secretary briefed that based on the decision of the Standing Committee in the 61<sup>st</sup> meeting, Ministry constituted a committee comprising of Dr. Sukumar, representatives from Wildlife Institute of India, Central Electricity Authority and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited to examine the matter and suggest site-specific mitigation measures within a period of 30 days. As report of the committee was not received, the Standing Committee deferred the matter in the 62<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Due to COVID-19, the committee could not make a visit to the site. However, the DGF & SS held a meeting with the officials of Central Electricity Authority and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited. Member Secretary requested the DGF & SS to inform the Standing Committee regarding the discussions and outcome of the meeting.

DGF & SS informed that Central Electricity Authority would be working on guidelines regarding multi-circuit transmission lines through protected areas and forest areas depending upon demand and supply. Multi-circuit transmission lines are feasible. However, as it is a technical issue, it would take some time.

Secretary, EF & CC mentioned that the transmission companies approach the Ministry for forest and wildlife clearance as *fait accompli* after they have already issued tender which is not correct. The transmission companies should consult

the Forest Departments at the planning stage itself so that alternative route could be identified which passes outside the forest and wildlife areas.

**Decision taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that Ministry request the Central Electricity Authority to issue guidelines regarding laying of multi-circuit transmission lines through forest and protected areas. The Standing Committee also decided that in future the proposals for transmission lines must accompany with a certificate from Central Electricity Authority that alternative alignments were considered and laying of multi-circuit transmission lines through the forest areas is not possible.

The Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the following conditions:

**A. Conditions of Chief Wild Life Warden:**

1. The land shall not be used for any other purpose than that specified in the proposal.
2. As forest land and trees standing over it are also involved in the project, Forest Clearance as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will also be required.
3. Amount of Net Present Value (N.P.V.) shall be paid by the User Agency as per directions contended in G.O. No writ 526/14-2-2008 dated- 22-8-2008 of UP.
4. The User Agency shall deposit Rs. 4963000/- for mitigation measures to minimize the negative impact of the project on the habitat of wild life in the sanctuary as follows:

S.No.	Description	Amount (INR)
1	Development of pasture lands/fodder/fuel wood plantations	5,00,000.00
2	Maintenance of fire line along with fire-fighting equipments	3,50,000.00
3	Construction of water holes enabling supply of water for wildlife	6,00,000.00
4	Construction of Check Dams enabling greenery and supply of water to wildlife	13,50,000.00
5	Construction of Raptas	6,00,000.00
6	Repairing of roads within protected area	6,00,000.00
7	Environment awareness program and education program	3,23,000.00
8	Human Health Camp	3,20,000.00
9	Veterinary Health Camp	3,20,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>49,63,000.00</b>

5. User agency shall provide 2% of the project's proportionate cost for the area falling in eco-sensitive zone for impact mitigation and wildlife conservation plan for 10 years.
6. During the construction period, forest check post will be established and a suitable manpower will be deployed for which necessary payment will be made by the user agency.
7. The user agency will ensure that none of their workers will indulge into any kind of anti-wildlife activities.
8. User agency will adopt certain necessary technical measures to mitigate pollution and to avoid electrocution.
9. The excavated pit shall be properly fenced so as to avoid injury/death of the wild animals in the sanctuary/forest area. These pits shall be levelled upon completion for the work so that there is no hindrance to the movement of wild animals.
10. No work shall be allowed between sunset to sunrise.
11. No labour camp shall be established in sanctuary area.
- B. The Project Proponent shall implement the animal passage plan submitted *in toto* in consultation with the Chief Wild Life Warden and bird diverters shall be installed as per the guidelines of Central Electricity Authority.
- C. The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

### **AGENDA ITEM No. 3**

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

##### **63.3.1 Guidelines on Ecotourism in Forest and Wildlife Areas 2021**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that these Guidelines were discussed in the previous meetings and explained the salient features of the guidelines. All the consultations have been made and the guidelines have now been finalised. The Member Secretary informed that an indicative list of protected areas where eco-tourism could be developed has been appended to the guidelines.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the guidelines on eco-tourism.

### **63.3.2 Rationalisation of the boundaries of Salt Water Crocodile Sanctuary and renaming as Lohabarrack Sanctuary, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.**

The Member Secretary informed that the proposal is for rationalisation of the boundaries of Salt Water Crocodile Sanctuary. Andaman & Nicobar Islands Administration vide Notification No. 233 dated 3.5. 1983 had notified an area of 100 Sq. km bounded by imaginary boundaries stretching on off shore Bay of Bengal and west coastline of South Andaman Island as 'Salt Water Crocodile Sanctuary'. Subsequently on verification, it was found that the actual area as per the boundary description was only 22.21 Sq.km and not 100 Sq.km as appeared in the notification. The Andaman & Nicobar Administration, based on the recommendation of State Board for Wild Life of Andaman & Nicobar Islands had decided to revisit the boundary of the salt water Crocodile Wildlife Sanctuary by inclusion of an area of 19.97 Sq.Km of territorial waters having luxuriant growth of Stag Horn and Table Horn Coral and associated marine biodiversity with the Wildlife Sanctuary and exclusion of an area of 0.464 Sq.km. of territorial water having no significant biodiversity from the existing limit of the Wildlife Sanctuary. On realigning the boundaries of the Wildlife Sanctuary, the revised area of the Wildlife Sanctuary has been arrived at 41.716 Sq.km. The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has also requested the approval on renaming of the '**Salt Water Crocodile Sanctuary**' as '**Lohabarrack Wildlife Sanctuary**'.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, Andaman and Nicobar Board for Wild Life and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration.

**Decision taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to conditions that Andaman and Nicobar Island Administration shall submit a ground-truthing report to the Ministry in respect of the old boundaries within 30 days and the condition as proposed by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun that Forest Department, Andaman and Nicobar Administration should develop a Management Plan for long term conservation of crocodiles and other associated marine life of the sanctuary as it has been identified as one of the critical crocodile habitat of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Andaman and Nicobar Administration may take decision regarding renaming the sanctuary.

### **63.3.3 Amendment in the minutes of 59<sup>th</sup> meeting w.r.t to agenda item no. 59.4.18 i.e. Proposal 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 NH148 N (Total length 59.625 Km), under BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA Lot-4/Pkg-4 in the state of Rajasthan through Mukundra Tiger Reserve**

The Member Secretary informed that the proposal 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 NH148 N (Total length 59.625 Km), under BHARATMALA PARIYOJANA Lot-4/Pkg-4 in the state of Rajasthan was recommended by the Standing Committee of

the National Board for Wild Life in the 59<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 5.10.2021. One of the conditions imposed in the recommendations was that the NHAI should bear the cost of relocation of 2 villages under CSR funds for the above said proposal based on the recommendations of the Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan.

Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways in his D.O.No.11013/1/2k/Env./E-7581 dated 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 has mentioned that the NHAI has already deposited all statutory levies with appropriate accounts. In addition, NHAI has also deposited an amount of Rs.20.08 Cr. in Rajasthan Protected Area Conservation Society towards conservation of wildlife habitat and requested for removal of this condition as NHAI does not have CSR funds.

Government of Rajasthan has also agreed with the request of the NHAI in consultation with the State Board for Wild Life.

**Decision taken:** The Standing Committee decided to recommend that the condition regarding payment of cost of relocation of 2 villages out of CSR funds by NHAI be removed.

#### **AGENDA No. 4.**

##### **(Fresh Proposals Falling Inside / Outside the Protected Area)**

##### **63.4.1 Clearance for the expansion of Affordable Group Housing project at Village-Wazirpur, Sector-95 A, Gurgaon, Haryana.**

**FP/HR/Others/2653/2018**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposed site is 3.98 km away from Sultanpur National Park.

Permission is required for construction of group housing project over an area of 42755.982 Sqm. i.e 4.27 ha in ESZ only.

The Eco-sensitive Zone extends up to five km from the boundary of the National Park. As per the notification of Eco-sensitive Zone of Sultanpur National Park, construction activities fall in the category of regulated or restrictive activities. The following is the manner in which the construction activities in the Eco-sensitive Zone of Sultanpur National Park are regulated:

1. No construction of any kind shall be allowed from the boundary of Sultanpur National Park to a distance of three hundred meters, except tube well chamber of dimension not more than one thousand cubic inches;
2. The construction of any building more than two storey (twenty five feet) shall not be allowed in the area falling between three hundred meters to five hundred meters from the boundary of Sultanpur National Park.

3. The laying of new high tension transmission wires shall not be allowed from the boundary of Sultanpur National Park to a distance of five hundred meters.

As per the Ministry's letters F. No. 22-43/2018-IA.III dated 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 and F.No. 6-60/2020 WL Part (1) dated 16.07.2020, the proposal is placed for consideration of Standing Committee since this activity requires environment clearance as per EIA Notification, 2006.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

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

**A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:**

1. Project Authority will not violate any provision of Ministry of Environment and Forest notification dated 27 January 2010 regarding Eco-sensitive zone of National Park & Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. Project Authority will not extract any ground water within the limit of Eco-sensitive Zone.
3. Noise Limit of all the construction equipment etc. should be fixed as guided by any expert deputed by the Forest/Wildlife department.
4. All activities to be undertaken inside Eco-sensitive Zone, will be in consultation with Divisional Wildlife Officer/DFO (T), Gurgaon. Project Authority will not violate by any means the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and conditions laid in earlier environment clearance granted by SEIAA, Haryana.
5. Project proponent follows the notification of Eco-sensitive Zone of Sultanpur National Park and get the permission from competent authority under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 if, access is required from strip PF adjoining Gurgaon-Pataudi road.

- B.** The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

**63.4.2 Proposal for Building Stone Mine (Quarry) project of Mr. Biju V.T. for an area of 4.27 Ha at Survey No. 222/1, Block No:47 in Aryanad Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala.**

**FP/KL/QRY/4574/2019**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for stone quarry over an area of 4.27 ha and the site is 4.66 kms away from Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary and 5.5 kms away from Peppara

Wildlife Sanctuary. The Eco-sensitive Zone draft notification has expired and as per the draft notification the site falls outside the proposed Eco-sensitive Zone.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

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

**A. Condition imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:**

1. There should not be any activity before sunrise and after sunset.

**B.** The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

**63.4.3 Proposal for diversion of 0.55 ha from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for construction of Chitegaon water supply scheme tq. Paithan Public Drinking water supply project, Maharashtra.**

**FP/MH/WATER/4903/2020**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for diversion of 0.55 ha from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for construction of Chitegaon water supply scheme tq. Paithan Public Drinking Water Supply project, Maharashtra.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. However, the Chief Wild Life Warden has imposed a condition that project proponent should deposit 1% of the project cost for commencing the work before approval from the competent authority.

Shri H.S. Singh mentioned that penalty could be imposed by the State Government for commencing the project without requisite approval as per the provisions in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The Chief Wild Life Warden stated that the project proponent has already deposited the penalty amount.

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

**A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden**

1. The project proponent should deposit 2 % amount of the project cost of the project falling in PA and ESZ with Divisional Forest Office (Wildlife) Aurangabad for biodiversity conservation in the State.

2. Penalty of 1% of the project cost will be imposed on project proponents for commencing the work before approval from the competent authority to be deposited with Divisional Forest Office (Wildlife) Aurangabad for wildlife conservation works in the State.
- B. The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

**63.4.4 Proposal for setting up the retail outlet proposed by M/s Bharat Petroleum corporation Ltd. Territory Meerut along with Delhi-Moradabad Road NH-24(NEW NH-09) in KM.94 (Ch.93.548) the left side at private land plot Khasra No.57,58,59,60,67 & 68, at Village: Khargapur Ahatmali, Tehsil Hasanpur, District: Amroha, Uttar Pradesh.**

**FP/UP/Others/42261/2019**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for setting up a retail outlet proposed by M/s Bharat Petroleum corporation Ltd. Territory Meerut along with Delhi-Moradabad Road NH-24(NEW NH-09) in private land falling within Hastinapur Sanctuary in Village: Khargapur Ahatmali, Tehsil Hasanpur, District Amroha, Uttar Pradesh over 0.432 ha out of which 0.2583 ha land is private land and rest 0.173655 ha is road strip i.e. protected forest land which will be used for entry & exit to the outlet.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

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

**A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:**

1. Protection & Mitigation measures for wild life should be ensured as per guidelines of Government of India (MoEFCC).
2. Land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
3. Rules and regulation of the concerned departments for establishing the project shall be complied with.
4. The instructions/orders passed by the State Govt./Central Govt. and the directions passed by Hon'ble High Court/ Hon'ble Supreme Court/ National Green Tribunal from time to time regarding such project shall be complied with.
5. User agency will ensure that the project personnel engaged in the project shall observe the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 & Rules made there under.

6. Construction/waste materials shall not be thrown inside the sanctuary, area or movement corridor of the wildlife.
  7. User agency will take all precautions including technical measures to contain the noise and air pollutions and protection from fire due to construction activities and thereafter.
  8. The project proponent shall obtain consent to establish and to operate from U.P. Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
  9. The project proponent shall undertake plantation work by planting the native species in the area adjacent to project area/sanctuary for which necessary finance will be provided by the user agency as per suggestion/direction of DFO concern.
  10. The User Agency will be required to get Forest Clearance as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.
  11. Amount of Net Present Value (N.P.V.) shall be paid by the User Agency as per directions contended in G.O. No writ 526/14-2-2008 dated- 22-8-2008.
  12. No labour camp shall be established within the sanctuary/forest area or other sensitive areas.
  13. No Construction work will be allowed after sunset and before sunrise within Sanctuary area.
  14. In place of 13 trees required to be removed 26 trees to be planted at appropriate site by the DFO. The cost of plantation and maintenance of 26 trees will be deposited by user agency with DFO concerned as per estimates/demand raised by the DFO.
- B.** The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

**63.4.5 Proposed at Retail Outlet site situated at Village Nekpur Khasra No.309 Along Dhanaura-Kamelpur Road (O.D.R. NO.20) km. stone 10 Chainage .9.180 (Left Shoulder) Tehsil Dhanaura, District Amroha (U.P.) falling within the boundary of Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary**

**FP/UP/Others/5322/2020**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for establishment of a retail outlet of M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited Meerut at Village Nekpur, Tehsil Dhanaura District Amroha (U.P.) falling within the boundary of Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary over an area of 0.1374 ha, out of which 0.09 ha is private land and 0.0474 ha is PWD land for entrance & exit.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

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

**A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:**

1. Protection & Mitigation measures for wild life should be ensured as per guidelines of Government of India (MoEFCC).
2. Land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
3. Rules and regulation of the concerned departments for establishing the project shall be complied with.
4. The instructions/orders passed by the State Govt./Central Govt. and the directions passed by Hon'ble High Court/ Hon'ble Supreme Court/ National Green Tribunal from time to time regarding such project shall be complied with.
5. User agency will ensure that the project personnel engaged in the project shall observe the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 & Rules made there under.
6. Construction/waste materials shall not be thrown inside the sanctuary area or movement corridor of the wildlife.
7. User agency will take all precautions including technical measures to contain the noise and air pollutions and protection from fire due to construction activities and thereafter.
8. The project proponent shall obtain consent to establish and to operate from U.P. Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
9. The project proponent shall provide necessary finance for planting the native species in the area adjacent to project area sanctuary as per suggestion/direction of Protected Area Manager.
10. Amount of Net Present Value (N.P.V.) shall be paid by the User Agency as per directions contended in G.O. No writ 526/14-2-2008, dated- 22-8-2008 of U.P. Govt.
11. No labour camp shall be established within the sanctuary/forest area or other sensitive areas.
12. No Construction work will be allowed after sunset and before sunrise within Sanctuary area.

**B.** The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

## **AGENDA 5**

### **Any other item with the permission of the Chair**

#### **63.5.1 Diversion of 0.236 ha of forest land from the Sanjay Tiger Reserve for PMGSY Belaha Mahua to Naudhiya Devarth (Manwari), Madhya Pradesh.**

##### **FP/MP/ROAD/5570/2020**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that proposal is for black topping of existing Belaha Mahua to Naudhiya Devarth (Manwari) road, Madhya Pradesh over an area of 0.415 ha through the core and buffer zone of the Sanjay Tiger Reserve. The length of the road is 519.29 m and the width is 8 m in the tiger reserve.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life, the State Government and the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

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

##### **A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:**

1. Recommendation with adequate safeguards.
2. All the construction material will be brought from outside the tiger reserve area.

##### **B. Conditions imposed by the National Tiger Conservation Authority:**

1. No widening of the existing road should be permitted while blacktopping the road.
2. Project proponent should construct speed breakers at regular intervals (preferably at a distance of every 300-400 m) along the entire stretch of the road passing through the Tiger Reserve. Exact placement of these structures should be on those areas where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be decided after consulting the Forest Department.
3. Warning signs need to be placed at points frequented by wildlife for crossing.
4. Care should be taken that no natural drainage gets obstructed by upgradation of the road. Adequate water passageways need to be provided wherever applicable.

5. Construction work should be carried out inside the Tiger Reserve during day time. No labor camp should be constructed within the forest area. The User Agency should ensure that no labor trespasses inside the forest for collection of fuel wood or other forest products.
  6. No construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from forests. Construction debris should be appropriately transported outside the Tiger Reserve area.
- C. The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

**63.5.2 Proposal for setting up and operating Retail Outlet proposed by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Jaipur Division at private land Khasra No. 316/96, village - Anoppura along the village road Ramgarh Dam to Mahngi via Raisar from Km. stone no. 5 to 7, Tehsil- Jamwaramgarh within the boundary of Jamwaramgarh Wild Life Sanctuary, District Jaipur, Rajasthan.**

**FP/RJ/Others/4898/2020**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for setting up and operating retail outlet proposed by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Jaipur Division at private land in village - Anoppura along the village road Ramgarh Dam to Mahngi via Raisar in Tehsil- Jamwaramgarh within the boundary of Jamwaramgarh Wild Life Sanctuary, District Jaipur, Rajasthan. The project area falls at a distance of 17.22 km from the core area of Sariska Tiger Reserve and 7.5 km from the buffer zone of Sariska Tiger Reserve.

Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) were sought and the NTCA observed that the proposed project area does not fall within the tiger reserve/ tiger corridor. NTCA did not offer any comment since the project area does not fall within Tiger Reserve or Tiger Corridor.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

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

**A. Condition imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:**

1. No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area.
2. No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area and the Eco-Sensitive Zone.

3. There will be no felling of trees and burning of fuel wood inside the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone.
  4. The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone.
  5. There will be no labour camp within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
  6. No blasting will be carried out within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area during the work.
  7. Green belt should be created by the User Agency on the periphery of the project area.
  8. Water harvesting structure for recharging of water should be mandatory in the project area.
  9. There shall be no high mast/beam/search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the protected area boundary.
  10. Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc. should be erected in the project area.
  11. User Agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
  12. Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of PA.
  13. Six feet high wall is to be constructed on the periphery of applied project area.
  14. Any permission/clearance required under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.
  15. It may be noted that establishment of retail outlet will require conversion of land as per rules.
  16. Any transfer of land (to IOC, etc.) is not permissible as per Section of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and as per Rajasthan Government circular No. F11 (20) Forest/2000 dated 07.07.2011.
  17. The outlet should not be operated during night from 8 pm to 6 am.
- B.** The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

**63.5.3 Proposal for construction of 4-laning of Haridwar- Nagina section of NH-74 from km 0.000 to km 30.000 in the State of Uttarakhand.**

**FP/UK/ROAD/5207/2020**

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for construction of 4-laning of Haridwar- Nagina section of NH-74 from km 0.000 to km 30.000 in the State of Uttarakhand over an area of 64.748 ha. The project road Haridwar-Nagina section of NH-74 intersects the tiger corridor, connecting the buffer area (in the eastern part) of Rajaji Tiger Reserve with the Jhilmil Jheel Conservation Reserve.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life, the State Government and the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

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

**A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden**

1. There should be some regulation of traffic using the original road in addition to the new overpass over it as this may lead to escalated construction of commercial structure near the road.

**B. Conditions imposed by the National Tiger Conservation Authority:**

1. Between Chandi Bridge and Pili river-reinforcement of the existing bridge at Tedhi Puliya to serve as an elephant underpass.
2. Between Pili river and Rawasan river- an integrated structure of 1,300m (excluding the ramps) inclusive of two 500m elephant underpasses and
3. For section in between Rawasan and Kotawali rivers where road kills are high, an elevated flyover on pillars in between Gaundikhata and Chidiyapur is recommended. Exact km chainages for this structure could be determined during the proposed site visit of the NTCA-WII Tiger Cell team in consultation with the representatives of Uttarakhand Forest Department and NHAI.
4. Since the largest bodied animal in the landscape are elephants, therefore, the design for elevated flyover for elephant landscapes (for elevated flyover: the height of the pillars should be at minimum 8-10 m [thrice the height of an adult bull elephant]) as recommended in the manual "Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructure on wildlife"
5. Box and pipe culverts need to be placed at many additional places along the entire section of Chandi bridge to Rawasan river permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Positions and dimensions of these structures should be ascertained after a site visit of the said team.

6. The landscape is drained by several tributaries of the Ganga river. Care should be taken so that natural river dynamics and water flow in the area is not affected by construction of these mitigation structures.
  7. Light and sound barriers and vegetative camouflage should also be created along the road.
  8. Once the mitigation measures are adequately implemented, the remaining portion of the road should be fenced off for all animals to prevent road mortality of wildlife due to road accidents.
  9. A monitoring committee comprising of Field Director, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) and other forest officials of Rajaji Tiger Reserve and Haridwar Forest Division, and NHAI representatives should be constituted by the State to supervise compliance of the conditions to be stipulated by the Standing Committee of NBWL.
- C.** The annual compliance certificate on the 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 Government of India.

**ANNEXURE I****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 U. D. Singh Director GEER Foundation, Member, NBWL	Member
8	Dr Dhananjai Mohan, Member, NBWL	Member
9	Shri Rahul Pandey, Representative of State Government of Andhra Pradesh, Member, NBWL	Member
10	Shri S.P. Yadav, ADGF (PT) and M.S. NTCA	Invitee
11	Shri Rohit Tiwari, IGF(WL)	Invitee
12	Mr Brijendra Swaroop, IGF(PE)	Invitee
13	Shri D.M. Shukla, Chief Wild Life Warden, Andaman and Nicobar Islands,	Invitee
14	Shri Jagdish Chander, Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana	Invitee
15	Shri Nitin Kakodkar, Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra	Invitee
16	Shri. Alok Shrivastava, Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh	Invitee
17	Shri M.L Meena, Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan	Invitee
18	Shri Sunil Pandey, Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh	Invitee
19	Shri J.S. Suhag, Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand	Invitee
20	Shri Rakesh Kr Jagenia, DIGF(WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee