

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

1st Floor, Agni Wing,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi-110003.

Dated: 28th May, 2021

To

All Members
Standing Committee of NBWL

Sub: 63rd Meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife through Video conference- reg.

Sir/Madam,

It has been decided to convene the 63rd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife is scheduled to be held on **11th June 2021 at 3:30 PM** through Video Conference under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. It is requested to kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting. The VC link and Agenda for the meeting will be circulated shortly.

Yours faithfully,

(Rakesh Kumar Jagenia)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Wildlife),
Email: digwl-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. Secretary, Forest Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh

Copy with request to be present during the meeting:

1. **The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary Forest Department,** Andaman and Nicobar Islands / Assam/ Haryana / Kerala / Madhya Pradesh / Maharashtra / Rajasthan / Uttarakhand / Uttar Pradesh

2. **The Chief Wild Life Warden** (CWLW) Andaman and Nicobar Islands/CWLW Assam/ CWLW Haryana / CWLW Kerala / CWLW Madhya Pradesh /CWLW Maharashtra / CWLW Rajasthan / CWLW Uttarakhand /CWLW Uttar Pradesh.

Copy also with a request to be present with respective State during the meeting.

1. The General Manager, North Eastern Coalfields, Coal India Ltd. Office of the General Manager, Margherita-786181 (Assam), Email: gm_nec_cii@coalindia_in
2. The Managing Director, M/s Garhwal Mandal Vikas Nigam Ltd, 1/1 Rajpur Road; Dehradun: Email: gmvnl@gmvnl.com, gmvn@sanchamet.in.
3. The General Manager, Obra C Badaun Transmission Limited, C-105, Anand Niketan, New Delhi-Email:ocbtl.fc@gmail.com.
4. Roolaldhang, Uttarakhand, Pauri Garhwal- 246149, Email: kotdwararo@yahoo.com.
5. HPCL MEERUT, RPG Tower University Road Mangal Pandey Nagar, Meerut. Email: subodh@hpcl.in
6. The General Manager, Madhya Pradesh Rural Road Development Authority Project Implementation Unit Sidhi, Near Hospital Chauk, Old Swaraj Bhavan Sidhi, Madhya Pradesh)- 486661, E-mail: gmplusidhi1@rediffmail.com
7. General Manager, MPRRDA Panna, O/o General Manager, Indrapuri colony, Behind R.P. School, Panna, Email: forestgm1@gmail.com
8. Assistant Engineer, Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran, Sub Dvn 1, Aurangabad, Maharashtra - 431001. Email: subdvn1mjpabd@gmail.com
9. BPCL, Meerut, Abu Ka Makbara, Kesharganj, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh - 250002. Email: bpcldterritorymeerut@gmail.com
10. Mr. Biju. V T., R. S. Bavan, Narangarakonam, Veeranakavu (Po), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala – 695572. Email: bijuvttvm@gmail.com
11. M/S Forever Buildtech Private Limited, C-84, Ashok Vihar, Phase-I, New Delhi - 110052. Email: foreverbuildtech95@gmail.com

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble MoEF&CC.
2. PS to Hon'ble MoS EF&CC
3. PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
4. PPS to Addl. DGF(WL), PPS to IGF(WL).
5. NIC Cell/IT Division with request to provide VC Link for the meeting and to coordinate with State Nodal Officers for the Video Conference on the above mentioned date and time.
6. SO(GA)
7. Reception

**TENTATIVE AGENDA OF 63RD MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF
NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, JOR BAGH ROAD
ALIGANJ, NEW DELHI 110 003**

S.No.	AGENDA ITEMS	Pg No.
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TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR 63RD MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE

AGENDA No. 1

63.1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 62nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 30th March, 2021

The 62nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 30th March, 2021, and the minutes were circulated vide letter F.No. 6-39/2021 dated 30th April, 2021 amongst all the Members. Copy of minutes is placed at **ANNEXURE I.**

AGENDA No.2

(ACTION TAKEN REPORT)

SL. No.	Agenda Item	Action Taken	Category
1	Proposal for 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	<p>The proposal was considered by the Standing Committee in its 54th meeting held on 18th July 2019. In the 54th meeting, the Standing Committee recommended that an inspection team comprising of Prof. R. Sukumar, representative from the Wildlife Division and the State Chief Wild Life Warden would visit the project site and submit report to this Ministry within one month. Also Ministry may arrange for meeting with officials of Coal India Limited as advised by the Honorable MEF&CC. Site Inspection Committee visited project site and submitted report on 22/10/2019. Meeting with the officials of Coal India were held on 21/01/2020. User agency was requested for Reclamation Plan for already broken up area 57.20 ha.</p> <p>User agency submitted Reclamation Plan to this Ministry on 15/02/2020.</p> <p>The Standing Committee in its 57th meeting decided that the User Agency should submit</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a rectified site specific mine reclamation plan in consultation with the Assam Forest Department.For the unbroken area, a feasibility report for underground mining, and also submits compliance report regarding fulfillment of all other conditions as recommended in the meeting held on 21st January 2020.	Mining

		<p>The matter is also sub-judice in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and High Court of Guwahati.</p> <p>The Standing Committee in 58th meeting held on 03rd July 2020 recommended that the mining activity should be immediately stopped and decided to defer matter till further discussions with Coal India Limited.</p> <p>The Standing Committee in the 59th meeting 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. Ministry constituted a fact finding team vide Office Order No. 6-38/2019 WL dated 6.11.2020 comprising of Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Integrated Regional Office (Shillong), MoEF&CC and Nodal Officer (FC, Act), Assam Forest Department. The DDG, Shillong has sought extension upto 31.01.2021 vide letter dated 04.12.2020 citing restriction due to COVID – 19.</p> <p>The Standing Committee in the 61st meeting granted extension till 31.01.2021. The report of the Committee was received on vide letter F.No.8-61/2012-FC dated 18.02.2021. The mandate of the team was to reasons/facts/lapses on the part of North-Eastern Coalfield, Coal India Limited and State Government due to which mine was operated without obtaining the recommendations of the SCNBWL for a long time. The report was examined in the Ministry. The report mentions that mining by Coal India Limited continued based on the mining lease granted by the Ministry of Coal and Mines, Government of India but without obtaining FCA clearance. The</p>	
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		<p>report provides present status and strategy to be adopted to face the challenges of illegal mining.</p> <p>In the 62nd meeting, the Standing Committee decided that the Ministry review with Coal India Limited the issues highlighted during this meeting. It was also decided that since the Hon'ble Guwahati High Court has appointed a One Man Commission, further action in the matter shall be taken after the receipt of order in the court case. Therefore, the matter was deferred. A meeting is being convened under the chairmanship of Director General of Forests and Special Secretary. The matter is sub-judice. The Standing Committee may like to take a view.</p>	
2	<p>Issue of Upgradation of Laldhang to Chillakhal road in buffer zone of Rajaji Tiger Reserve, Uttarakhand</p>	<p>The Standing Committee in the 60th meeting had decided that Ministry shall constitute a committee comprising of Dr. Sukumar, representatives from NTCA, WII and NHAI and representative of Government of Uttarakhand to examine the matter and suggest site-specific mitigation measures within a period of 30 days. The Ministry has constituted a committee vide F.No.6-145/2019 WL dated 12.02.2021.</p> <p>The standing committee in the 61st meeting had decided to defer the matter till the report submit to this to this Ministry. The Standing Committee in the 62nd meeting noted that though a report has been received from Chief Conservator of Forests, Garhwal on 30th March, 2021, it did not contain the views of all the members of the committee. After discussion, the Standing Committee requested the committee to submit the report at the earliest and deferred the matter.</p>	Road

		<p>The report of the committee is awaited.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view.</p>	
3	<p>Proposal for collection of Minor Minerals from Song 1, 2, 3 and Jakhan 1, 2 of Dehradun Forest division, Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>The Standing Committee in the 61st meeting had decided that Ministry shall seek comments from NMCG on the proposal and 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.</p> <p>The Standing Committee in the 62nd meeting 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. The certificate of compliance from the State Government is still awaited.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view.</p>	Mining
4	<p>400kV D/C Jaunpur Obra Transmission Line, Uttar Pradesh</p>	<p>The Standing Committee decided that Ministry shall constitute 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. The report of the committee is yet to be received.</p> <p>A meeting through video conferencing was held under the chairmanship of Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (DGF&SS,</p>	Transmission Line

		<p>MoEFCC) on 20th April, 2021 with officials Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) to discuss issue of Multi-circuit transmission lines passing through protected areas and forest areas. The minutes of the meeting are placed at ANNEXURE II. In the meeting, it was decided that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. CEA could issue guidelines/ directions to all the power transmission companies and also for the regulators in States that for transmission lines above 33kv, aerial bunching in multi-circuit tower should be the first option. ii. The proposal for use of 55.447 ha of forest land from Kaimur WLS for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Jaunpur-Obra Line having line length of 165.908 KM in Kaimur Wildlife Division Mirzapur, UP” is under consideration of SC NBWL. In the next meeting of SCNBWL, it can be informed that CEA is working on guidelines to power transmission companies for aerial bunching in multi-circuit tower which would be soon issued. <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view.</p>	
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AGENDA No.3

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

S.No.	F.No.	Name of the Proposal
1	1-57/2014 (part-6)	<p>WL Guidelines on Ecotourism in Forest and Wildlife Areas 2021</p> <p>Forests and wildlife are elements of nature and inseparable parts of the environment. Because of the intricate nature of interface between nature and human beings, nature conservation entails interactions with people as a central concept. Eco-tourism has the potential to create significant opportunities for building public awareness and mass movement towards conservation of nature and natural resources while expanding overall returns to the economy, improving skill base, creating new knowledge and green jobs, and improving the livelihoods of the local communities. The Guidelines on Sustainable Eco-Tourism in Forest and Wildlife Areas 2021 (hereinafter referred to as the Guidelines or the Eco-Tourism Guidelines), therefore, lays the framework for practising and promoting sustainable eco-tourism by maximising outputs that support nature and natural resources in their original forms while minimising any negative externalities arising out of interactions between people and nature.</p> <p>These Guidelines are aimed at promoting better understanding of nature and wildlife conservation while generating income and opportunities for the local communities in an ecologically, culturally and economically sustainable manner. The objectives of these Guidelines include promotion of low impact nature tourism, traditional ecological knowledge and heritage values of India's wilderness, engagement of local communities in nature tourism partnerships amongst various stakeholders and finally enhancing India's potential as a global eco-tourism destination.</p> <p>The Standing Committee in the 62nd meeting decided to defer the matter.</p> <p>The guidelines have been amended after incorporating comments from the Consultative Committee of Parliament</p>

		<p>attached to the Ministry and various stakeholders and placed at ANNEXURE III.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view.</p>
2.	6-12/2020 WL	<p>Rationalisation of the boundaries of Salt Water Crocodile Sanctuary and renaming as Lohabarrack Sanctuary, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.</p> <p>The Chief Wild Life Warden, Andaman and Nicobar Administration vide letter No CWLC/WL/31/160 dated 11.09.2020 has submitted a proposal for rationalisation of the boundaries of Salt Water Crocodile Sanctuary. The Chief Wild Life Warden has informed that Andaman & Nicobar 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'.</p> <p>Comments on the proposal were sought from Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun on the proposal. Wildlife Institute of India has supported the proposal with the request 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.</p> <p>The proposal for alteration of the boundary of the Salt water Crocodile Sanctuary as required under Section 26A (3) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and approval for renaming the Sanctuary as 'Lohabarrack Wildlife Sanctuary' as desired by</p>

		<p>the Andaman and Nicobar Administration is placed before the Standing Committee for consideration.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view.</p>
3.	6-78/2020 WL	<p>Amendment in the minutes of 59th meeting w.r.t to agenda item no. 59.4.18 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</p> <p>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 SCNBWL in the 59th meeting held on 5.10.2021. One of the condition 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.</p> <p>Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways in his D.O.No.11013/1/2k/Env./E-7581 dated 7th 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. The contractor of NHAI is fully mobilized at site, however, working permission is not granted by PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Government of Rajasthan due to aforementioned condition and requested for removal of this condition.</p> <p>Comments from State Government of Rajasthan have been invited by the Ministry on the letter of Secretary, MoRTH which have not yet been received.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

AGENDA No. 4

(Fresh Proposals falling inside / Outside the Protected Area)

HARYANA

A. Proposal falling outside the protected area

S.No.	F.No.	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-50/2021 WL	Expansion of affordable group housing project FP/HR/Others/2653/2018

(1)

1	Name of the Proposal	Clearance for the expansion of Affordable Group Housing project at Village-Wazirpur, Sector-95 A, Gurgaon, Haryana. FP/HR/Others/2653/2018
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Sultanpur National Park
3	File No.	6-50/2021 WL
4	Name of the State	Haryana
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	142.52 hectares
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / Denotification	Nil, the proposed site is 3.98 km away from Sultanpur National Park Permission is required only for construction of group housing project over an area of 42755.982 S.qm. i.e 4.27 ha in ESZ only.
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	0.13 ha of forest land diverted for construction of 4-lanning (widening) of Gurgaon Chandu Farrukhnagar road by HSRDC, Gurgaon in 2016.
8	Status of ESZ, Draft/Finally notified, if any	Final notified on 27.01.2010.
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	NA
10	Whether project linear/non-linear	Non-Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	EC under process
12	Date of submission by user agency	08/08/2018

13	Name of the applicant agency	M/S Forever Buildtech Private Limited
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
16	Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 16.07.2020.	
17	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency Housing for all specially for economically limited section of society and to provide employment opportunities for the benefit of local population. This project is an affordable group housing project which requires a minimum land of 5.00 acres to conceive the project. This was the only piece of land available in this area and fulfilling this criteria. As this project is an affordable group housing project, meant for the people having economical limitations so we have also financial limitation while selecting land for project which falls in to viability of the project also. There is also control of the authorities on pricing of the flats that plays an important role in finalizing the land cost. So after going all through this, it was only area found where the rates were viable to develop an affordable group housing project with these much limitations. Moreover, behind the selection of the site, excellent connectivity to railway station Garhi Harsuru, Gurugram City and Delhi Metro City is also a reason.	
18	Rare and endangered species found in the area Sultanpur National Park is home to gray francolin, black francolin, Indian roller, white-throated kingfisher, spot billed duck, painted stork, white ibis, black headed ibis, little egret, great egret, cattle egret, and the India crested lark etc.	
19	Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal as recommended by Divisional Wildlife Officer, Gurugram & Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Gurugram i.e. i. Project Authority will not violate any provision of Ministry of Environment and Forest notification dated 27 Jan. 2010 regarding Eco Sensitive zone of National Park & WLP Act, 1972.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Project Authority will not extract any ground water within the limit of Eco Sensitive Zone. iii. Noise Limit of all the construction equipment etc. should be fixed as guided by any expert deputed by the Forest/Wildlife department. iv. All activities to be undertaken inside Eco Sensitive Zone, will be in consultation with Divisional Wildlife Officer/DFO (T), Gurgaon. <p>5. Project Authority will not violate by any means the WLP 1972 and conditions laid in earlier environment clearance granted by SEIAA, Haryana.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. Project proponent follows the notification of ESZ of SNP and get the permission from competent authority under FCA 1980 if, access is required from strip PF adjoining Gurgaon-Pataudi road.
20	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p>The Eco-sensitive Zone of Sultanpur National Park was notified as per the Ministry's notification S.O. 191(E) dated 27.01.2010. The Eco-sensitive Zone extends upto five km from the boundary of the National Park. As per the notification of Eco-sensitive Zone of Sultanpur National Park, construction activities are 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 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; ii. 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. iii. 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. <p>As per the Ministry's letters F. No. 22-43/2018-IA.III dated 8th 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.</p> <p>The proposed project is located inside the Eco-sensitive Zone at a distance of 3.98 km from the boundary of Sultanpur National Park.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

KERALA

A. Proposal falling outside the protected area

S.No.	F.No.	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-55/2021 WL	Proposal for Building Stone Mine (Quarry) project of Mr. Biju V.T. at Survey No. 222/1, Block No:47 in Aryanad Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala for an area of 4.2700 Ha, Kerala. FP/KL/QRY/4574/2019

(1)

1	Name of the Proposal	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/QRV/4574/2019
2	Name of the protected area involved	Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary
3	File No	6-55/2021 WL
4	Name of the State	Kerala
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary-128 Sq.Km Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary-53 Sq.Km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / De-notification	Nil, the proposed site of 4.27 ha is 4.66 kms away from Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary and 5.5 kms away from Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary.
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	-
8	Status of ESZ if any	Draft notified on 28 th July 2016. Now expired.
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	NA
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Non-Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	EC under process
12	Name of the applicant agency	Granite Building Stone Quarry Of Mr Biju Vt Thiruvananthapuram
13	Date of submission	10/10/2019
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
16	Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life	State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 2 nd December 2020
17	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency	The building Stone Quarry (Minor Mineral) mining project of Mr. Biju V.T. at Survey No. 222/1, Block No:47 in Aryanad Village, Nedumangad Taluk,

	Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala for an area of 4.2700 Ha. The Eco-friendly Mining Plan prepared by an Indian Bureau of Mine (IBM) approved Recognized Qualified Person (RQP) has been approved by Mining & Geology Department, Govt. of Kerala. This Mining plan is based on the requirements under the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2015. The land for the proposed quarry is a private owned land and the land is possessed in the name Mr. Biju V.T. by way of "Sammatha pathrams". Further, the quarry projects are site specific and hence the project site has been chosen for the project.
18	Rare and endangered species found in the area Neyyar & Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary are home to Elephant, Gaur, Sambar Deer, Lion Tailed Macaque, Nilgiri Langur, Slender Loris, Sloth Bear, Leopard Cat etc.
19	Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the condition that there should not be any activity before sunrise and after sunset.
20	Comments of Ministry The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

MAHARASHTRA

A. Proposal falling inside the protected area

S.No.	F.No.	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-52/2021 WL	Proposal for diversion of 0.55 ha of forest land from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for construction of Chitegaon water supply scheme tq. Paithan Public Drinking water supply project, Maharashtra. FP/MH/WATER/4903/2020

(1)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for diversion of 0.55 ha from Jayakwadi Bird Sanctuary for construction of Chitegaon water supply scheme tq. Paithan Public Drinking water supply project, Maharashtra. FP/MH/WATER/4903/2020																							
2	Name of the protected area involved	Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary																							
3	File No	6-52/2021 WL																							
4	Name of the State	Maharashtra																							
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice																							
6	Area of the protected area	339.79 Sq Km																							
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / De-notification	0.55 Ha <table><tr><td>S.No.</td><td colspan="3">Component Wise break up</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Component</td><td colspan="2">Area (in ha)</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Approach Channel</td><td colspan="2">0.375</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Jackwell</td><td colspan="2">0.005</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Approach bund</td><td colspan="2">0.16</td></tr></table>				S.No.	Component Wise break up				Component	Area (in ha)		1	Approach Channel	0.375		2	Jackwell	0.005		3	Approach bund	0.16	
S.No.	Component Wise break up																								
	Component	Area (in ha)																							
1	Approach Channel	0.375																							
2	Jackwell	0.005																							
3	Approach bund	0.16																							
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	<table><tr><th colspan="5">Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification</th></tr><tr><th>S.no</th><th>Name of project</th><th>User Agency</th><th>Year</th><th>Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)</th></tr><tr><td>1.</td><td>Construction of 765 Kv/Dc Aurangabad-Padghe Transmission line</td><td>Power Grid Corporation of India, Aurangabad</td><td>2016</td><td>7.69 ha</td></tr><tr><td>2.</td><td>Construction of Jackwell, Pump House and Approach</td><td>Executive Engineer Midc. Civil Aurangabad</td><td>2016</td><td>1.0</td></tr></table>				Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification					S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)	1.	Construction of 765 Kv/Dc Aurangabad-Padghe Transmission line	Power Grid Corporation of India, Aurangabad	2016	7.69 ha	2.	Construction of Jackwell, Pump House and Approach	Executive Engineer Midc. Civil Aurangabad	2016	1.0
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2.	Construction of Jackwell, Pump House and Approach	Executive Engineer Midc. Civil Aurangabad	2016	1.0																					
8	Status of ESZ if any	Final notified on 12 th July 2017. ESZ extends from ‘0’ to 500 m.																							
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life	This work will definitely cause some disturbance to the aquatic; aqua-floral and avifaunal biodiversity and ecosystem for a limited period. However keeping in view the																							

	(Protection) Act, 1972	utmost public need, the project is to be considered for approval.
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Name of the applicant agency	Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran Mumbai
13	Date of submission	21/02/2020
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
16	Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 4 th December 2020 with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden and considering the purpose of provision of drinking water and also considering the small extent of the area of the sanctuary (0.001%) and ESZ (0.00035%) required for the project.	
17	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The Chitegaon Grampanchayat through Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran has surveyed for locating Head works including Jack well and allied works in view of availability of water at required level throughout the span of entire designed period of 15 year and the shortest possible route for laying of pipeline and along (road side) state and national highway. The Head work, its allied works and part of Raw Water Rising Main comes under the protected area of Jayakwadi Bird Sanctuary (Wild Life). The provision of all components are considered in accordance with the norms/guidelines of state government & hence the survey for location of Jack well, its allied works and total pipeline route is done (including the portion through Jayakwadi Bird Sanctuary) and the Detailed Project Report, estimate is done accordingly. Proposing the best possible location for Jack well and shortest route for laying 250 dia.D1 K9 raw water rising main from Jayakwadi dam is based on the following main criteria. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locating Head Works including Jack well and allied works in view of availability of water at required level throughout the span of entire design period of 15 years so that water can be made available for Chitegaon village even in scarcity period. 2. The location of Head works including Jack well and allied works has to be finalized in view of availability of suitable land for approach bridge, retaining wall and meter room, approach bund; approach road. It should be accessible from road during construction and for the subsequent operation/maintenance stages, transportation of machinery, maintenance and working staff, 3. The length of approach bridge should be minimum at the location of Jack well. 4. Route selected should be the shortest possible one for pipeline. 5. The Jack Well and project spot should be on the same bank/side of dam/river/source to avoid river crossing in view of workability and economy. 	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Select easy and favorable terrain conditions-avoiding water logged and swampy areas, ravines, meandering rivers, low laying marshy areas, unstable ground, depression hard rock, boulders, rocky outcrops areas etc. to the maximum possible extent. 7. As it is government scheme, it has to be design and completed as per the norms/guidelines within the shortest possible time limit and economic estimate. 8. The location for the Head works in the submergence of Jayakwadi Dam has been finalized after the site visit and consent from competent Authority (Chief Engg.MJP Aurangabad)
18	<p>Rare and endangered species found in the area</p> <p>Jayakwadi Bird Sanctuary is home to Common Cranes. White Necked Stork, Open bill Stork, Grey Heron, Indian Pond Heron, Night Heron, Coot, Little Cormorant, Curlew, Avocet, Godwit, Gulls, Greb, Brahminy Duck, Tufted Pochard, Spot Bill Duck, Common Pochard, Gadwall, Spoonbill, Red Headed Falcon, Waterhen and Black Kite etc.</p>
19	<p>Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden</p> <p>The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 of 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.
20	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

UTTAR PRADESH

A. Proposal falling inside the protected area

S.No.	F.No.	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-36/2021 WL	<p>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.</p> <p>FP/UP/Others/42261/2019</p>
2.	6-51/2021 WL	<p>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</p> <p>FP/UP/Others/5322/2020</p>

(1)

1	Name of the Proposal	<p>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.</p> <p>FP/UP/Others/42261/2019</p>																	
2	Name of the protected area involved	Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary																	
3	File No	6-36/2021 WL																	
4	Name of the State	Uttar Pradesh																	
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice																	
6	Area of the protected area	2073 Sq. Km.																	
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / De-notification	0.432 ha																	
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	<p>Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.no</th><th>Name of project</th><th>User Agency</th><th>Year</th><th>Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.</td><td>B.P.C.L Retail outlet</td><td>B.P.C.L Meerut</td><td>2018</td><td>0.0935</td></tr> <tr> <td>2.</td><td>NHAI</td><td>NHAI Moradabad</td><td>2016</td><td>6.925</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)	1.	B.P.C.L Retail outlet	B.P.C.L Meerut	2018	0.0935	2.	NHAI	NHAI Moradabad	2016	6.925
S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)															
1.	B.P.C.L Retail outlet	B.P.C.L Meerut	2018	0.0935															
2.	NHAI	NHAI Moradabad	2016	6.925															
8	Status of ESZ if any	Final notified on 18.09.2018. ESZ extends upto 1 km from the boundary of the Sanctuary.																	
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	<p>Uttar Pradesh Government vide its notification No. 3782/14-3-57/84, dated 30-07-1986, u/s Section 18 of wild Life (Protection) Act 1972, declared 2073 km' area as Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary in- U.P. In present time it is spread over m 5 Districts Meerut, Hapur, Bijnor, JP.Nagar (Amroha), Muzuffarnagar for the purpose of protecting, Propagating developing of wild life and its Environment. This Sanctuary is. habitat of the many species of Mammals, amphibians and birds. Even though mitigation</p>																	

		measures & better management liability should be required for protection of wild life & habitat.
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Non-Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Name of the applicant agency	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Territory Meerut
13	Date of submission	28.11.2019
14	Total number of tree to be felled	13 trees
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
16	Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 29.11.2020.	
17	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency Proposed protected forest land to be diverted for entry/exit of BPCL Retail Outlet on Delhi-Moradabad road NH-24 (New NH-09), in KM.No.94 (Ch.No.93.548, LHS), at Khasra No.-57, 58, 59, 60, 67 & 68, village-KharagpurAhatmali, tehsil-Hasanpur, district-Amroha (Uttar Pradesh). Proposed forest land is in the boundary of Hastinapur wildlife Sanctuary situated in Amroha district, having protected forest land area along road crossing is 0.173655 ha and non-forest land area is 0.2583 ha within boundary of wildlife sanctuary. The proposed route is optimal with minimum area within wildlife sanctuary involved in the project along with best construction of maintenance facility for the project.	
18	Rare and endangered species found in the area Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary is home to sloth bear, jackal, wild pig and the lesser cats- fishing cat, leopard cat, jungle cat and civet etc.	
19	Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: 1. Protection & Mitigation measures for wild life should be ensured as per guidelines of Government of India (MoEFWL).	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 concern as per estimates/demand raised by the DFO. <p>The above conditions will be ensured by DFO Amroha.</p>
20	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p>Out of total area of 0.432 ha required, 0.2583 ha land is private and rest 0.173655 ha is road strip i.e. PF land which will be used for entry & exit to the outlet.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(2)

1	Name of the Proposal	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																							
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary																							
3	File No.	6-51/2021 WL																							
4	Name of the State	Uttar Pradesh																							
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice																							
6	Area of the protected area	2073 sq. km																							
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / Denotification	0.1374 ha																							
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	<table><tr><th colspan="5">Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification</th></tr><tr><th>S.no</th><th>Name of project</th><th>User Agency</th><th>Year</th><th>Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)</th></tr><tr><td>1.</td><td>B.P.C.L Retail outlet</td><td>B.P.C.L Meerut</td><td>2018</td><td>0.0935</td></tr><tr><td>2.</td><td>NHAI</td><td>NHAI Moradabad</td><td>2016</td><td>6.925</td></tr></table>				Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification					S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)	1.	B.P.C.L Retail outlet	B.P.C.L Meerut	2018	0.0935	2.	NHAI	NHAI Moradabad	2016	6.925
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2.	NHAI	NHAI Moradabad	2016	6.925																					
8	Status of ESZ, Draft/Finally notified, if any	Final notified on 18 th September 2018. ESZ extends upto 1 km from the boundary of the Sanctuary.																							
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	Uttar Pradesh Government vide its notification No. 3782/4-3-57/84, dated 30-07-1986, u/s Section 18 of wild Life (Protection) Act 1972, declared 2073 km2 area as Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary in U.P. In present time it is spread over in 5 Districts Meerut, Hapur, Bijnor, J.P.Nagar (Amroha), Muzuffarnagar for the purpose of protecting, Propagating developing of wild life and its																							

		Environment. This Sanctuary is habitat of the many species of Mammals, amphibians and birds. Even though mitigation measures & better management liability should be required for protection of wild life & habitat.
10	Whether project linear/non-linear	Non-Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Date of submission by user agency	02.09.2020
13	Name of the applicant agency	M/S Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited Meerut
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
16	Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 29.11.2020.	
17	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The present project is related for setting up and operating a retail outlet with required facilities, proposed by M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. Meerut U.P. The Project is proposed at private land Plot Khasra No. 309, Village- Nekpur on km. 10 (Chainage 9.180) the Left Side of Dhanaura-Kamelpur Road (Other district road-2) Tehsil- Dhanaura, district-Amroha, U.P. which is situated within the area of Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary under jurisdiction of Divisional Forest Officer, Amroha Forest Division, Amroha. The project is proposed to provide the facilities of the fuel to local people and others. The nearest other Petrol pump are situated at the distance of 9 km. towards Dhanaura and 5 km. on Azampur side from the proposed Petrol pump on Dhanaura-Kamelpur Road. Since the project site falls within the boundary of the Sanctuary area but it is located in the outskirts of village. The land in question is as following:- (1) Retail outlet- 0.0900 ha. private land (2) Entrance & Exit- 0.0474 ha. Other Govt. Land (PWD) It is a small project and is proposed in human habitation. No alternative suitable site is available for the project.	
18	Rare and endangered species found in the area Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Smooth-coated otter, Dolphin, Swamp Deer leopard Blackbuck, Indian black turtle, Black pond turtle, Crowned river turtle, Brown roofed turtle Indian roofed turtle, Indian tent turtle, Three-striped roofed turtle and Red-crowned roofed turtle etc.	

19	<p>Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden</p> <p>The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protection & Mitigation measures for wild life should be ensured as per guidelines of Government of India (MoEFWL). 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. <p>The above Conditions will be ensured by DFO Amroha.</p>
20	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to view.</p>

AGENDA NO.5

Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Annexure-1

F.No.6-39/2021 WL
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Wildlife Division)

1st Floor, Agni Wing,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi - 110003.

Date: 30.04.2021

To
All Members,
Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life.

Sub: Minutes of 62nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life-reg.

Sir,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the Minutes of 62nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 30th March, 2021 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India and as per permission given by the Election Commission of India in respect of Agenda item no. 62.4.7.

Yours Faithfully,

(Rakesh Kumar Jagenia)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Wildlife)

E-mail: digwl-mefcc@gov.in

Enclosure: 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. 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, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
6. PCCF and HoFF, Government of Assam, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
7. CWLW, Government of Assam, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Copy also to:

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

MINUTES OF 62nd MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE HELD ON 30th MARCH, 2021

The 62nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life was held on 30th March, 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 62nd 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

62.1.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 62nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 18th February, 2021.

The Member Secretary stated that the minutes of the 61st meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 18th February, 2021 were circulated on 08th March, 2021 amongst all the Members of the Standing Committee. No comments have been received on the minutes of the meeting from the members.

Decision Taken: Based on the discussion held, the Standing Committee decided to confirm the minutes of the 61st meeting.

AGENDA ITEM No.2

(Action Taken Report)

62.2.1 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 54th meeting held on 18th 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 on 3rd July, 2020. In the 59th 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 and 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 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, Coal India Limited and State Government due to which mine was operated without obtaining the recommendations of the SCNBWL for a long time.

The Standing Committee in the 61st 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. The Member Secretary stated that the team has 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 apprised the Standing Committee about the mining in the area and the reasons that might have led the North-Eastern Coalfield to continue mining in the proposed site. She also stated that at present mining has been stopped in the area.

General Manager, Coal India Limited informed that application was submitted for forest clearance was submitted to the Forest Department in the year 2003 after the lease came to end. No communication was received from Forest Department regarding the application. In the year 1996, when the process of the forest settlement was going on for Saleki Proposed Reserve Forest, a meeting was held between Forest Settlement Officer, officials of Assam Forest Department and Coal India Limited. In the meeting it was decided that Coal India Limited may continue with mining as the process of settlement would take long time. Due to these reasons, Coal India Limited would have continued mining in the area.

Dr. Sukumar stated that during their visit as per the recommendations of Standing Committee, it was wrongly informed that there was balance area of 41.39 ha unbroken land. However, later it was found that 16 ha has been mined recently. Therefore, he suggested that this 16 ha of broken area should be restored and mining should not be allowed in 25 ha. unbroken area in the proposed site as it is a very important link for the Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve overlooking Arunachal Pradesh is very rich in biodiversity.

Secretary, EF & CC stated that the North Eastern Coalfield should have stopped mining even in the broken area as soon as their lease expired in the year 2003 till such time forest and wildlife clearance was granted.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Assam informed that there are several other proposals for coal mining for which Coal India Limited has applied for forest clearance and suggested that Coal India Limited should abandon and restore 98.59 ha in Saleki proposed reserve forest.

Decision Taken: After discussion, the Standing committee decided that Ministry review with Coal India Limited the issues highlighted during this meeting in the meantime. It was also decided that since the Hon'ble Guwahati High Court has appointed a One Man Commission, further action in the matter shall be taken after the receipt of order in the court case. Therefore, the matter was deferred.

62.2.2 Proposal for use of 6.704 ha of reserve forest land 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 Standing Committee in the 60th meeting has decided to constitute a team comprising of representative of WII, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited and Uttar Pradesh Forest Department to study the site and suggest mitigation measures within two months' time. The Ministry has constituted the committee vide F. No. 6-4 /2020 WL dated 09.02.2021. The report of the committee has been submitted by the Member Convenor of the Committee to the ministry in consultation with Railways and Uttar Pradesh Forest Department. In the report of the committee, mitigation measures such as underpasses, bridge, fencing etc. have been suggested.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the mitigation measures suggested by the Committee (enclosed as **ANNEXURE-II**) and the following conditions:

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. User agency (Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd.) should provide the funds for reduction in negative impact for conservation and Eco-development activities of wild life and habitat as proposed by the PA manager.
3. Land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
4. Rules and regulations of the concerned departments for establishing the project shall be complied with.
5. The instructions/orders passed by the State/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.

6. User agency will ensure that the project personnel engaged in the project shall observe the provision of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Rules made there under.
 7. Construction waste materials shall not be thrown and dumped inside the sanctuary area or movement corridor of the wildlife.
 8. User agency will take all precautions including technical measures to contain the noise and air pollutions within limit and protection from fire due to construction activities.
 9. NPV as per guidelines issued by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India and Government of Uttar Pradesh shall be borne by the user agency,
 10. The project proponent shall obtain required consent to establish and to operate project activities from UP Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
 11. The project proponent shall undertake plantation work by planting the native species as proposed by DFO/WLW in the area adjacent to project area / sanctuary on its own cost.
 12. No labour camp shall be established in the sanctuary/forest area or other sensitive area.
 13. The project will only be done after sunrise and before sunset.
 14. Five GPS sets and five-night vision cameras shall be provided to DFO, Pilibhit Tiger Reserve, Pilibhit by the user agency for the survey and demarcation of the sanctuary boundaries.
 15. The user agency shall make under pass and over pass at different places of the railway line and change linking on the both side of railway track falling inside the reserve forest area of the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve on its own cost as advised by DFO, Pilibhit Tiger Reserve, Pilibhit.
- 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.

62.2.3 Construction of Campierganj Branch Canal in between km. 51 to 62.106 under Saryu Nahar Pariyojna in District: Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh.

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for use of 21.864 ha land for construction of Campierganj Branch Canal in between km. 51 to 62.106 under Saryu Nahar Pariyojna in District: Maharajganj. The Standing Committee in the 61st meeting had decided that the NTCA shall study the area and suggest site specific mitigation measures and deferred the matter. The comments from NTCA have been received. As per NTCA, the proposed area for construction of Campierganj Branch in between km 51 to 62.106 under Saryu Nahar Pariyojna District,

Maharajganj does not fall in any Tiger Reserve or Tiger Corridor. Therefore, the NTCA has no objection to clearance of the said proposal.

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

A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:

1. The land shall not be used for any other purpose than specified be ensured in the interest for the purpose in the proposal.
2. The personnel working on the site should be well aware and will be bound to follow the provision of Wild Life (Protection) Act.
3. The project also involved 0.4 ha. of protected forest land and 40 number of trees are also required to be cut, therefore Forest Clearance as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 will also be required.
4. The user agency will comply with all the conditions imposed in the forest clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
5. 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.
6. User agency shall provide 2% of the proportionate cost of the project area falling in eco-sensitive zone or Rs.22.00 lacs for mitigation of negative impact as suggested by protected area manager whichever is more.
7. The user agency will ensure that no labour camp shall be established inside the sanctuary are any other sensitive area in eco-sensitive zone. Neither firewood nor any other forest produce from the forest will be used.
8. The user agency will arrange all the necessary equipments necessary for survey & demarcation.
9. The user agency will keep firefighting equipments as well as equipments to control ready for minimizing air and noise pollution at the site.
10. During the construction period, the user agency will establish one temporary forest check post along with the required manpower on its own cost.
11. 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.
12. User agency will fix sign board at appropriate point of the project.

13.No work shall be allowed between sunset to sunrise.

- 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.

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

The Member Secretary briefed that the Standing Committee in the 61st meeting had decided to defer 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. He mentioned that though a report has been received from Chief Conservator of Forests, Garhwal on 30th March, 2021, it did not contain the views of all the members of the committee. He said that once the report of the committee is received, it will be examined and placed before the Standing Committee.

Decision taken: After discussion, the Standing Committee requested the committee to submit the report at the earliest and deferred the matter.

62.2.5 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 61st Meeting had decided that Ministry shall seek comments from NMCG on the proposal and 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 requested the DIG(WL) to explain the contents of the report submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand.

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 Chief Wild Life Warden has submitted a report of Uttarakhand regarding the provisions of the guidelines which are being followed by the Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation. He further explained that the report was silent with respect to several provisions of the guidelines to be complied by the State Government.

The Chairman stated that the States/Union Territories should comply with the Sand Mining Guidelines issued by the Ministry in the year 2020 and no project for sand mining shall be recommended unless certificate of compliance of these guidelines is submitted by the State/Union Territories.

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.

62.2.6 400kV D/C Jaunpur Obra Transmission Line, Uttar Pradesh

The member Secretary briefed that the Standing Committee in the 61st Meeting had decided that ministry shall constitute a committee. The Ministry has 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. The report of the committee is yet to be received.

Decision taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the matter.

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

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

62.3.1 Guidelines on Ecotourism in Forest and Wildlife Areas 2021

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that these Guidelines are aimed at promoting better understanding of nature and wildlife conservation while generating income and opportunities for the local communities in an ecologically, culturally and economically sustainable manner. The objectives of these Guidelines include promotion of low impact nature tourism, traditional ecological knowledge and heritage values of India's wilderness, engagement of local communities in nature tourism, partnerships amongst various stakeholders and finally enhancing potential of India as a global eco-tourism destination. He further stated that the FC Division of the Ministry felt the need to examine the Guidelines further with respect to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Member Secretary informed that the comments from the FC division of the Ministry are yet to be received and inputs from the members of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change have been sought.

Dr. Sukumar suggested that the guidelines should also address the operation of existing infrastructure for eco-tourism in the eco-sensitive zones in sustainable manner with respect to environment issues.

The Secretary, EF & CC stated that the guidelines would be applicable for eco-tourism in protected area, forest areas and eco-sensitive zones.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the matter.

The Chairman stated that indiscriminate establishment of solar panels will render land beneath solar panel unusable in future. Chairman also mentioned that establishment of solar panel should be consistent with afforestation/restoration works.

The Chairman expressed his concern over the death of wild animals due to trains accidents. He suggested that a research should be conducted to suggest measures to minimize deaths of wild animals due to train hit and use of suitable technology at wild animal crossing in hot spot areas for long term sustainability of wild animals.

Dr H S Singh, Member stated a technology called TRI-NETRA is being developed by Indian railways and is currently under trial. The TRI-NETRA comprises infrared camera, optical camera, and radar assisted imaging system for assisting loco pilots in identifying obstructions/wildlife on tracks, mainly in foggy conditions. This technology can be used for minimize the death of wild animals along with railway tracks. The Standing Committee opined that the railway authorities be consulted about the efficacy of the technology.

Dr H S Singh, Member stated that for linear projects such as railway line/roads appropriate animal passage plan should be prepared by a committee consisting of the Chief Wildlife Warden or his representative in the state, representative of the project proposal agency, local wildlife officials and local NGO/scientist or member of wildlife committee for Protected Area or Member State Wildlife Board to conduct the study before preparing the animal passage for the particular area.

He further mentioned that denotification or rationalization of boundaries of Protected Areas should be done for conservation of wildlife and consolidation of boundaries should not be done without field investigation of a committee headed by the Member of the National Board of Wildlife. Legal opinion may be sought from the Legal Department to know who is the competent authority for taking decision regarding rationalization of boundaries of protected area.

The Standing Committee noted the suggestions of Dr H.S. Singh.

AGENDA No. 4.

(Fresh Proposals Falling Inside / Outside the Protected Area)

62.4.1 Proposal for diversion of 0.1602 ha. land of Dadra and Nagar Haveli Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of 160,125 & 90 mm dia MDPE natural gas pipeline from our proposed/existing pipeline near Dapada DRS in village Dapada to connect Chikhli, Surangi, Khadoli, Khanvel, Kala & Kherdi village & its surrounding area, Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the Proposal for diversion of 0.1602 ha. land of Dadra and Nagar Haveli Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of 160,125 & 90 mm dia MDPE natural gas pipeline from our proposed/existing pipeline near Dapada DRS in village Dapada to connect Chikhli, Surangi, Khadoli, Khanvel, Kala & Kherdi village & its surrounding area, Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden and State Board for Wildlife has also recommended the proposal with suggestion to the project proponent to lay pipeline through tunnelling method at a depth of 2m.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions of the State Board for Wild Life and subject to the following:

A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:

The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and any other conditions that may be applicable.

- 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.

62.4.2 Diversion of 10.84 ha of forest land from Wild Ass Sanctuary for laying of 30" dia Crude Oil pipeline (from Mundra, District Kachchh, Gujarat to Rajasthan Refinery at Pachpadra, District Barmer, Rajasthan) along with OFC.

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for diversion of 10.84 ha of forest land from Wild Ass sanctuary for laying of 30" dia Crude Oil pipeline (from Mundra, District Kachchh, Gujarat to Rajasthan Refinery at Pachpadra, District Barmer, Rajasthan).

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

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 user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under section-9,17 A, 27,29,30,31 & 32 of Wildlife (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 ensure that there would be no oil/Gas spillage in the work site and will not create any dumping site within the Protected Area.
4. The user agency shall not use the area for any other work other than the work permitted.
5. The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the sanctuary.
6. The user agency or its contractor shall not create any fire places inside the sanctuary.
7. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
8. The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
9. Approval under Forest (conservation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
10. The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates before initiating any work on the land.
11. The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.

- 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.

62.4.3 Diversion of 8.0976 Ha of forest land from Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of 18" Ø LPG Pipeline from Kandla-Gorakhpur in (Kandla-Viramgam & Viramgam-HPCL Sardhav) in Kutch & Morbi District, Gujarat.

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for Diversion of 8.0976 Ha of forest land from Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of 18" Ø LPG Pipeline from Kandla-Gorakhpur in (Kandla-Viramgam & Viramgam-HPCL Sardhav) in Kutch & Morbi District, Gujarat.

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

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 user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under section-9,17 A, 27,29,30,31 & 32 of Wildlife (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 ensure that there would be no oil/Gas spillage in the work site and will not create any dumping site within the Protected Area.
4. The user agency shall not use the area for any other work other than the work permitted.
5. The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the sanctuary.
6. The User Agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the sanctuary.
7. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
8. The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
9. Approval under Forest (conservation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
10. The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates before initiating any work on the allotted land.
11. The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.

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.

62.4.4 Proposal for development of Sonwade-1x2.50 MW HPP at Warna LBC escape at village-Chandoli Budruk, Tal. Shirala, Dist. Sangli, in favour of Executive Engineer, Kolhapur Irrigation Division (North), Maharashtra. The project site is 0.155 km. aerial distance away from the Core /Critical Tiger habitat of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve. (6-141/2020 WL, FP/MH/HYD/1676/2017)

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for development of Sonwade-1x2.50 MW HPP at Warna LBC escape at village-Chandoli Budruk, Tal. Shirala, Dist.Sangli, in favour of Executive Engineer, Kolhapur Irrigation Division (North), Maharashtra. The proposed project area is located within the buffer zone inside the boundary of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve and within the proposed Eco-sensitive area of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve. The project site is 0.155 km. aerial distance away from the Core /Critical Tiger habitat of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve.

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

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

A. Conditions imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:

The State CWLW has recommended with the condition that the project proponents shall deposit 2% of the cost of proposed project (Rs.1261 lakhs) with the Conservator of Forest & Field Director, Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, Kolhapur for the habitat improvement of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, Kolhapur and adjoining forests.

- 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.

62.4.5 Diversion of 0.95 Ha of Forest Land for the establishment of One Border Out Post on Indo Bhutan Border at AP Salami inside Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary, East Sikkim by 69th Bn SSB.

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for use of 0.95 ha land between km 13+500 to Km 130+073 of Forest Land for the establishment of One Border Out Post on Indo Bhutan Border at AP Salami inside Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary, East Sikkim by 69th Bn SSB.

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

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 user agency has to ensure that as far as possible the biodiversity of the area should not be damaged and there should be sensitization

of the army personnel at all level regarding the protection and conservation of the natural habitat of the area.

2. The SSB should install Bio Digesters can help to mitigate the sewage waste problem.
 3. Waste water should not flow into the wetlands and waterbodies.
 4. No unusual naming of the natural area like lakes and peaks and mountains etc which are not in the interest of local community.
 5. No construction of religious structures
 6. No defacing of rocks.
 7. Proper stone boundary demarcation of the diverted area.
 8. The area is a home to the Himalayan Black Bear and any case of Man-animal conflict arising in that area due to throwing of food waste, improper disposal of garbage, food godowns should be borne by the SSB since the cost of trapping, tranquilizing of wild animals is expensive.
 9. No works should be started in field before prior clearance under FCA, 1980d.
- 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.

62.4.6 Diversion of 0.98 Ha. of Forest Land for the establishment of one Border Out Post on Indo Bhutan Border at Denchukla inside Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary inside, East Sikkim by 69th Bn SSB. (6-28/2021)

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for use of 0.98 Ha. of Forest Land for the establishment of one Border Out Post on Indo Bhutan Border at Denchukla inside Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary inside.

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

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 user agency has to ensure that as far as possible the biodiversity of the area should not be damaged and there should be sensitization of the army personnel at all level regarding the protection and conservation of the natural habitat of the area.

2. The SSB should install Bio Digesters to mitigate the sewage waste problem.
 3. Waste water should not flow into the wetlands and water bodies.
 4. No unusual naming of the natural area like lakes and peaks and mountains etc which are not in the interest of local community.
 5. No defacing of rocks.
 6. Proper stone boundary demarcation of the diverted area.
 7. The area is a home to the Himalayan Black Bear and Man-animal conflict arising in that area due to throwing of food waste, improper disposal of garbage, food godowns. Such disposals should be managed with proper management plan.
 8. No works should be started in field before prior clearance under FCA, 1980.
- 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

62.4.7 Diversion of 1.5278 ha of forest land from Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Sevoke Rangpo New BG Rail Line project of North East Frontier Railway. (6-41/2021 WL, FP/WB/RAIL/40708/2019).

The Member Secretary briefed the Standing Committee and stated that the proposal is for use of 1.5278 ha of forest land from Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Sevoke Rangpo New BG Rail Line project of North East Frontier Railway. Proposal for survey for construction of new broad gauge railway line by North Frontier Railways from Sevoke in West Bengal to Rangpo at Sikkim over 32.586 ha within Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary, West Bengal.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden. However, the recommendations of the State Board for Wild Life have not been provided. The State Government has mentioned that since the elections to the Legislative Assembly have to take place, the State Board for Wild Life is not in place. The State Government has now submitted a mitigation plan (**Enclosed as ANNEXURE-III**).

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the implementation of the mitigation plan submitted by the State Government and following conditions:

A. Condition imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden:

Sufficient precautions should be taken to avoid any kind of accident to wildlife and damage to wildlife habitat.

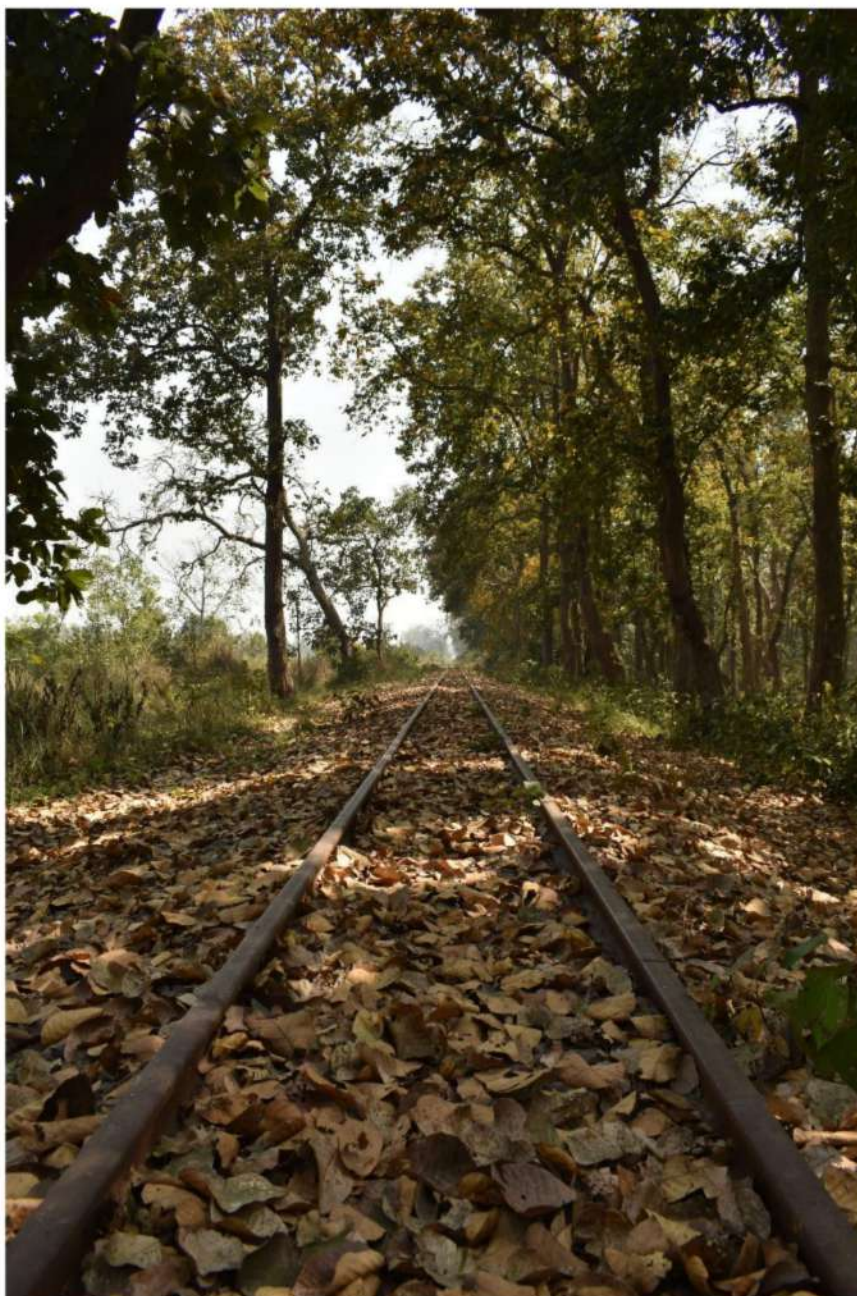
- B. The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

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, AGF(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	Ms. Imtiela Ao, DDG, IRO, Shillong	Invitee
10	Shri Dr. Amit Mallick, IG (NTCA)	Invitee
11	Shri Rohit Tiwari, IGF(WL)	Invitee
12	Mr Brijendra Swaroop, IGF(PE)	Invitee
13	Shri M.K. Yadava, Chief Wild Life Warden, Assam	Invitee
14	Shri. Shyamal Tikedar, Chief Wild Life Warden, Gujarat	Invitee
15	Shri Nitin Kakodkar, Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra	Invitee
16	Shri. D.C. Nepal, Chief Wild Life Warden, Sikkim	Invitee
17	Shri Sunil Pandey, Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh	Invitee
18	Shri J.S. Suhag, Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand	Invitee
19	Shri Rakesh Kr Jagenia, DIGF(WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee
20	Shri Surender Gugloth, Scientist D, MoEF&CC	Invitee

Mitigation measures for proposal involving 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

(Joint Committee report submitted to Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife)



March 2021

Background of the constitution of the committee and terms of reference: The Ministry of Railways (MoR) as a part of its 'Uni-Gauge Policy' (1992) has been converting all the Meter Gauge (MG) railway lines to Broad Gauge (BG). Distance between Lucknow and Pilibhit is approximately 262 km and conversion of the most of the railway track till Mailani has already been completed. Since 8.38 km of the existing MG in between Mailani and Pilibhit passes through the core tiger habitat of Pilibhit Tiger Reserve [about 7.83 km in Mala Range in between Mala and Sandai Halt stations and about 550 m in Haripur Range in between Kuriya and Dudhiya Khurd] (**Fig.1**), permission for wildlife clearance has been sought by the Ministry of Railway and User Agency (Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd., RVNL). Uttar Pradesh State Board for Wildlife in its 9th meeting held on November 04, 2019 has recommended the project to the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) for approval. The proposal was discussed at the 59th meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL) held on October 5, 2020 and the mitigation plan prepared by the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department (UPFD) was communicated to the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) for vetting. WII suggested a revisit of the plan since the original plan was not appropriate. Subsequently the matter was discussed in the 60th meeting of SC-NBWL held on January 5, 2021 and a Committee was constituted (vide MoEFCC WL Division OM F.No.6-4/2020WL (pt.1) dated February 9, 2021) with a mandate to visit the site and suggest the mitigation measures. The committee comprises of the members as below:

1. Sh. Naveen Khandelwal, DFO Pilibhit Tiger Reserve, representative from Uttar Pradesh Forest Department (UPFD) as member
2. Sh. R.K. Saxena, Sr. DGM, representative, Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL), Lucknow as member and
3. Dr. Kausik Banerjee, Research Scientist, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun as member convenor

Fig. 1: Location of the railway track within Pilibhit Tiger Reserve. Green color represents core (critical tiger habitat) of the Tiger Reserve.



Field Visit: The committee made site visit on March 06 and 07, 2021 and inspected the entire stretch of the railway alignment passing through Tiger Reserve area (**Fig. 2**) along with following officials of Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, RVNL and WII:

Name	Designation
Sh. Ayan Sadhu	Project Associate, Tiger Cell, WII
Sh. Umesh Chandra Rai	SDFO, Mala, Pilibhit Tiger Reserve
Sh. Ramji	RFO, Mala Range, Pilibhit Tiger Reserve
Sh. Sunil Kumar Verma	Dy. GM, RVNL, Lucknow
Sh. Vinod Tiwari	Sr. Manager, RVNL, Lucknow

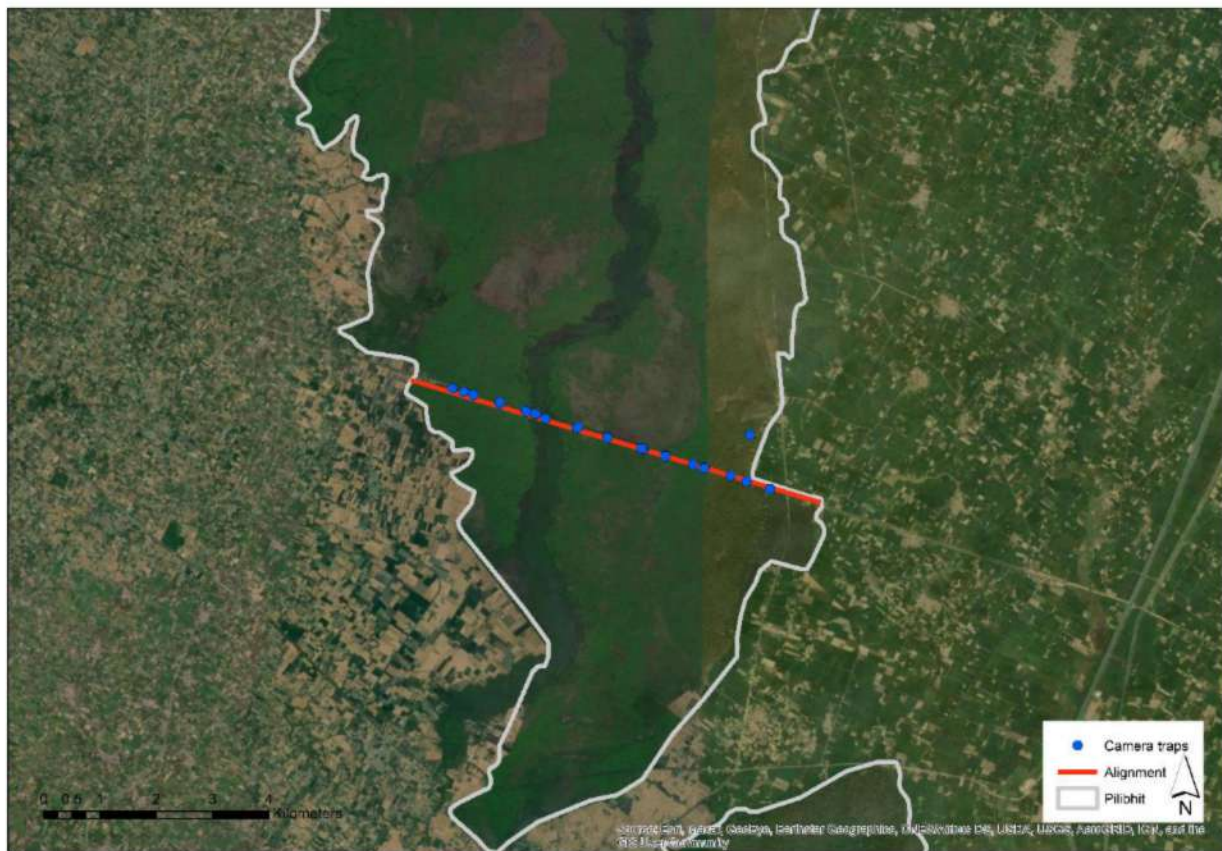
Fig. 2: Glimpses of the Committee and other officials carrying out the site appraisal



Methodology adopted:

1. Joint site visit and inspection of the entire stretch of the railway track passing through Pilibhit Tiger Reserve.
2. Detailed discussion among the team members regarding placement of mitigation structures and their engineering feasibility and ecological efficacy.
3. Thorough scrutiny of the existing structures and proposed structures by the team members for their effectiveness of being useful animal passages.
4. Placement of 22 camera traps for 10 days (220 trap nights) on the animal trails on both sides along the entire stretch of the track by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department (**Fig. 3**) to identify animal passage hotspots. It was attempted to deploy one camera trap every 250 - 300 m of the track length, however additional camera traps were also deployed if more than one potential site was observed within 250 m.
5. Sign survey ¹ (effort = 9.2 km) of the entire track passing through forest by WII team using M-STrIPES android mobile application to understand animal usage of the track and adjoining areas.

Fig. 3: Locations of camera traps deployed by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department for 10 days along the existing railway track in Sandai – Mala section



Findings & observations:

1. During the visit, the committee observed signs of major carnivores (such as tigers, leopards and sloth bears) (**Fig. 4 and Fig. 5**) and herbivores on and within 100 m from the track indicating extensive use of the railway track by wildlife for movement.
2. 324 photo-captures of 13 mammalian species were recorded during the camera trap exercise along the railway track (**Table 1, Fig. 5 and Fig. 6**). Nine photo-captures of tigers were recorded during the exercise. Although leopard was not photo-captured during the camera trap exercise, its presence was recorded during sign survey exercise.

Table 1: Summary of wild mammalian species photo-captured during the camera trapping exercise

Species	Photo-captures
Tiger	9
Nilgai	15
Chital	222
Wild pig	20
Langur	2
Porcupine	20
Rhesus macaque	16
Sloth bear	9
Small Indian civet	2
Hog deer	5
Fishing cat	1
Common palm civet	2
Rusty spotted cat	1
Total	324

3. Hotspots of animal activity/presence were visualized by overlapping all animal signs and photo-captures using kernel density analysis in GIS-platform (**Fig. 7**). This information was used to delineate potential animal crossing zones.
4. The team observed that embankment height was about 1 m for majority of the railway alignment except a few places (like locations of Bridge (minor) numbers 255, 256 having bank height of about 3 m and Bridge (major) number 257 having bank height of about 5-6 m). The ruling gradient for the current section is 1:400 which means that for elevating the track for 1 m, the alignment needs to be raised for 400 m on both sides of the elevated stretch. With the current gradient and formation for track, the Committee observed that elevating the entire track would require more base width (about 28 m for elevating the track for 5 m, **Annexure 1**) not only for the elevated stretch but 2 km on either side of Mala and Sandai which entails more diversion of forest land, removal of trees and construction time.

Fig. 4: Carnivore signs (tiger and leopard pugmarks, leopard scats) observed by the Committee along the railway track during site inspection



Fig. 5: Locations of large carnivore presence (based on sign survey and camera trap) along the existing railway track in Sandai – Mala section

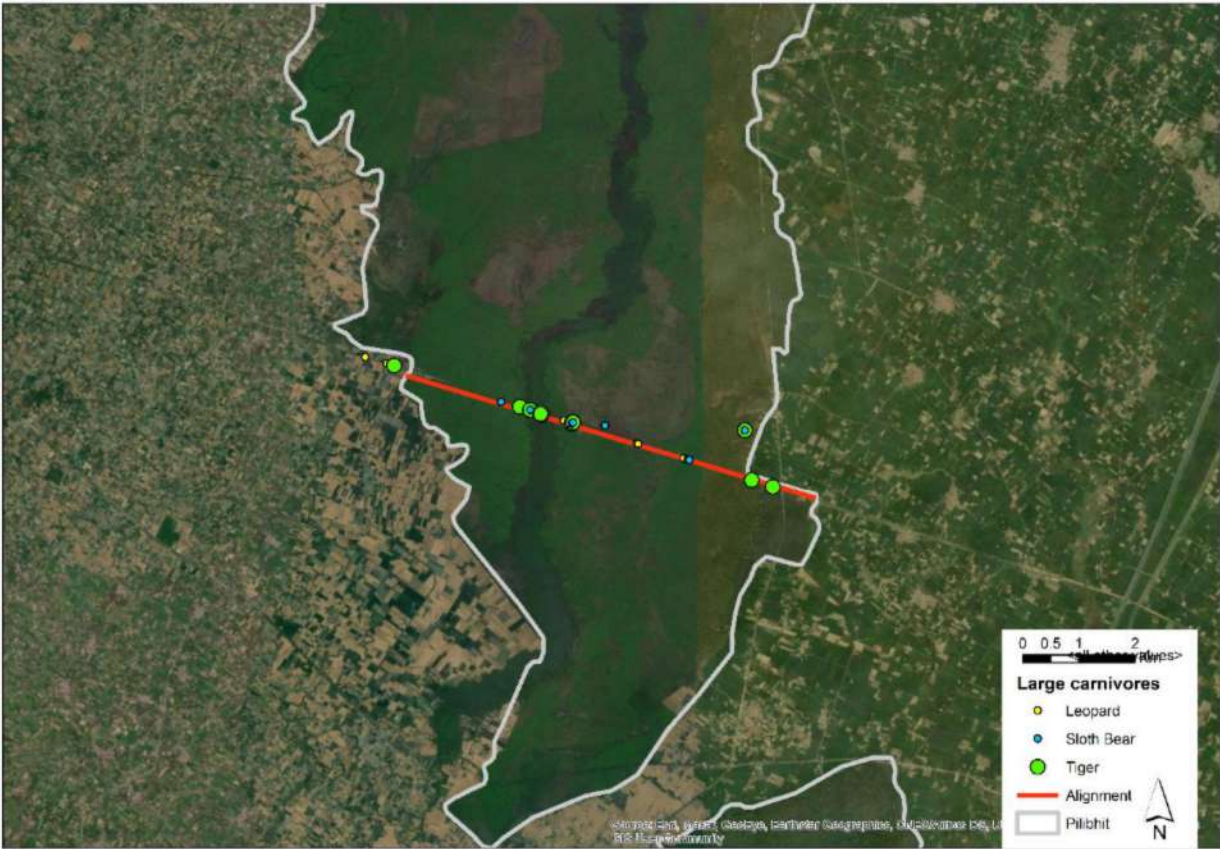


Fig. 6: Camera trap images of some of the mammals photo-captured during the camera trap exercise

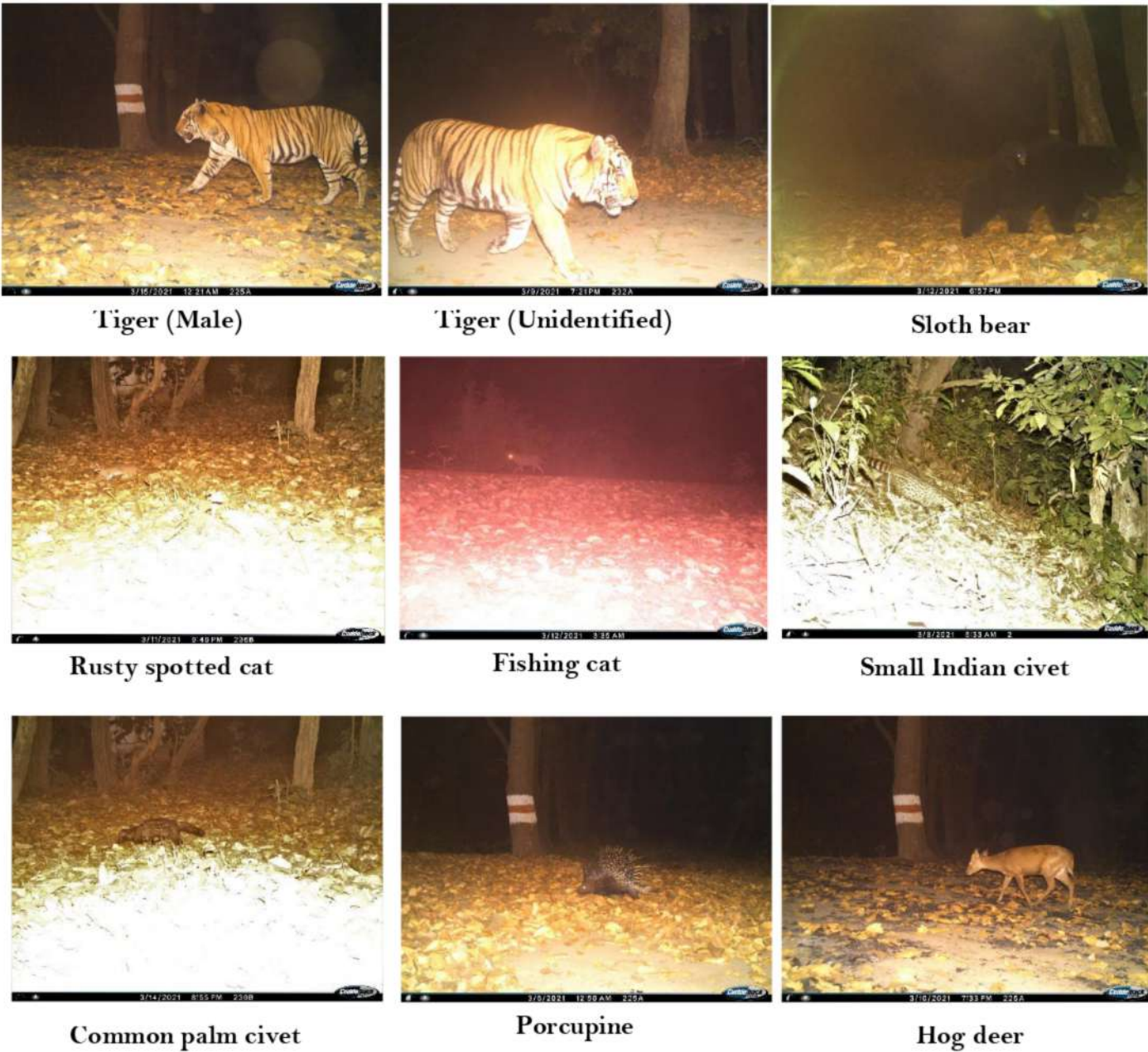
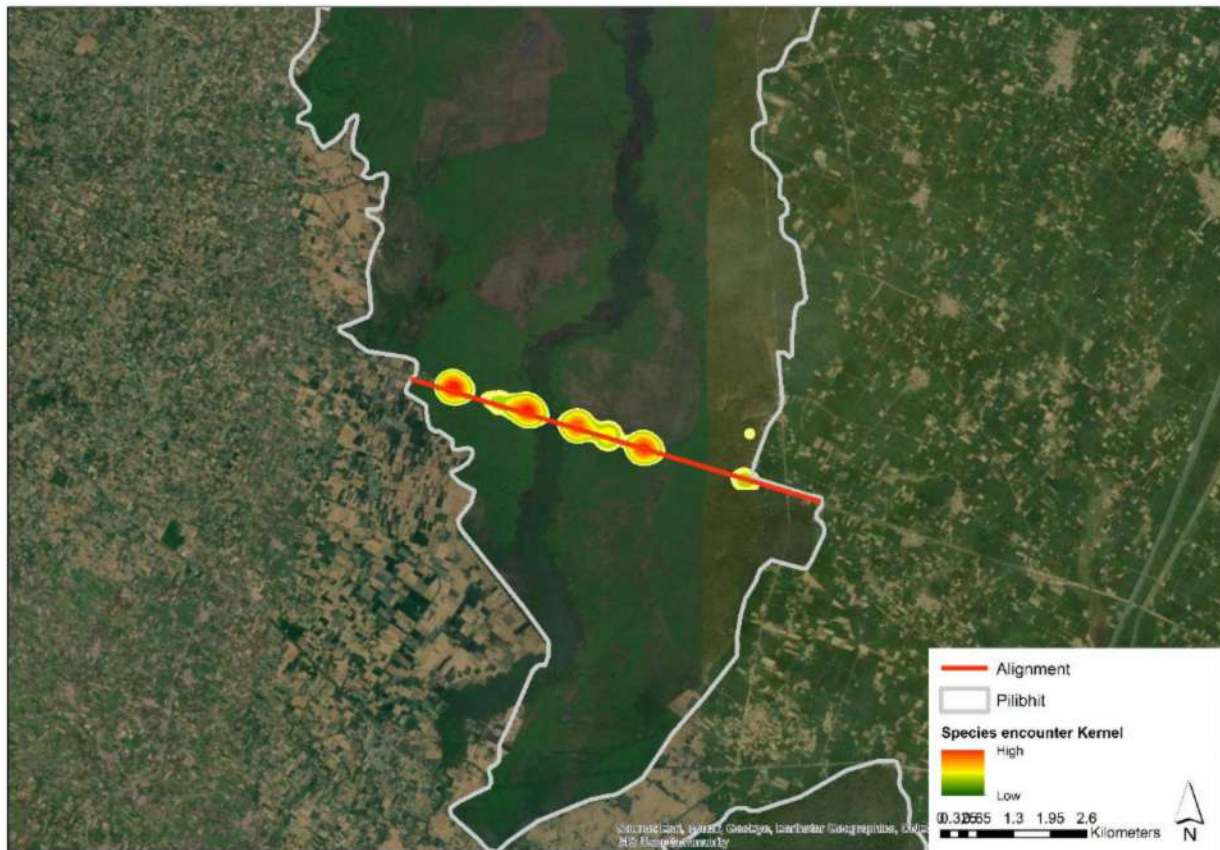


Fig. 7: Mammalian hotspots identified along the railway track in between Sandai and Mala section



Recommendations:

Based on the above observations and findings, the Committee arrived at the following suggestions as possible mitigation measures:

A. Underpasses

1. There are two existing minor bridges (bridge number 255 and 256) which currently serve as underpasses for animal passage. However, the current dimensions are inadequate and the structures need to be retrofitted based on WII guidelines ².
2. The existing major bridge (Bridge number 257) on river Mala needs to be demolished and removed entirely. The Committee proposed construction of an open web girder bridge in a manner that additional span of length on both sides of Mala river (beyond Highest Flood Level) should serve as animal passages during the monsoon (**Annexure 2**).
3. Two additional new underpasses have been proposed on either sides of Mala river as per WII guidelines.

4. Dimensions of all proposed underpasses should be such that the 'openness ratio' of at least 2.0 ³ so that animals get an unobstructed view of the habitat.
5. Proposed underpasses need to be fortified with visual and sound barriers to prevent any disturbance to wildlife that could potentially use these structures for passage across the infrastructure.
6. Surface of the underpasses (RCC Boxes) should be covered with soil. Railway should ensure no waterlogging of these underpasses during monsoon.
7. Details of the proposed underpasses are in **Table 2** and **Fig. 8**.

Table 2: Details of the proposed underpasses on railway track in Sandai – Mala section

Bridge Structure /	Chainage	Existing/New	Proposed Span (m) (height x length x width)	Proposed Structure type	Openness Ratio
Bridge no 255	244.847	Existing (1x1.83 m arch)	3 x 10 x 8	RCC box	3.75
Bridge no 256	245.808	Existing (1x5.00 m RCC slab)	3 x 10 x 8	RCC box	3.75
---	247.450	New	3.6 x 5 x 8	RCC box	2.25
Bridge no. 257	247.593	Existing (4x12.20+1x18.30)	5.5 x 91.44 x 8 (both sides)	Open Web Girder (OWG)	14.43*
---	247.800	New	3.6 x 5 x 8	RCC box	2.25

* Length of span on both sides of Mala river (5.5 x 21 x 8) will be used as animal passage as there may be water flowing below the main bridge

Fig. 8: Proposed underpasses and fencing along the railway track in Sandai Mala section



B. Fencing

1. In order to avoid animal crossing and prevent wildlife mortality, the Committee proposed about 2.05 km fencing (chain link with a height of 10 feet) along the track in two stretches (**Fig. 8**):
 - a. From chainage 242.550 to 243.850 (1,300 m near Sandai Halt) to be provided on forest side of the railway track
 - b. From chainage 249.32 to 250.070 (750 m near Mala station) to be provided on both sides of the railway track

C. Wildlife crossing ramps

Railway should construct seven, 10 m wide level crossing like structures (crossing ramps) at certain intervals along the railway track in between Sandai and Mala. Murram can be used as construction materials for these ramps and annual maintenance of these structures should be carried out by Railway. As mentioned before, locations of these structures have been delineated based on hotspots of animal presence. Locations of these structures are in **Table 3**.

Table 3: GPS locations of the proposed wildlife crossing structures

S. No.	GPS Coordinates
1	28°35'11.42" N, 79°56'24.0" E
2	28°35'2.89" N, 79°56'56.97" E
3	28°34'49.31" N, 79°57'47.56" E
4	28°34'43.91" N, 79°58'7.74" E
5	28°34'28.86" N, 79°59'4.03" E
6	28°34'22.66" N, 79°59'29.41" E
7	28°34'19.27" N, 79°59'40.91" E

The Committee found that with implementation of underpasses, fencing and wildlife crossing structures, about 29% of the railway track in between Sandai and Mala would be under mitigation structures.

D. Speed restrictions

Railway will impose a PSR (Permanent Speed Restriction) of 20 km/hour for all trains passing through the core area of Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (for both Mala and Haripur stretch in between km chainage of 242.550 to 250.100 and 212.500 to 213.100). Technology aided surveillance systems such as wireless sensors should be in place to monitor this speed restriction and information in real time should be shared with UPFD. Railway should nominate a nodal person for overseeing this speed restriction. With absence of any curve in this section, the Committee felt that imposition of the speed restriction would assist substantially in minimizing wildlife mortality on the railway track.

E. Mitigation measures during construction phase

- a. Construction work should be done during daytime and no night camp of labors and contractor / RVNL officials should be allowed within forest area. User agency should also monitor that no labour gets involved in extraction of forest products. Local RFO and forest staff should pay regular and sudden visits to the construction sites for monitoring these.
- b. RVNL should ensure that the construction period within Pilibhit Tiger Reserve is kept minimal since construction work continued for a longer duration might completely decimate the wildlife populations in the area beyond recovery.
- c. RVNL should not construct any approach road for transport of construction materials. Patrol routes of UPFD may be used for transport of the same.
- d. No construction material should be procured from forest. Construction debris should be disposed outside the forest area.
- e. Railway should provide UPFD with 2 watchers/km of the track during the construction phase and 1 watcher/km of the track during running phase for monitoring.
- f. Railway will issue a “look out caution” and it will be incorporated in railway working time table for the section of railway track passing through the Eco-sensitive zone of Pilibhit Tiger Reserve.

F. Monitoring

- a. A joint team comprising of watchmen of forest and railway departments (equipped with wireless sets) should patrol entire stretch of the track regularly and warn the train drivers whenever necessary.
- b. A separate team needs to be engaged for disposing food waste and other garbage from the tracks regularly which otherwise might attract animals to approach the track.
- c. A publication after analyzing 40 years' data on tiger trafficking inferred that rail routes being preferred more by the poachers than highways ascribing this to minimal presence of enforcement agencies in the trains as compared to buses [‡]. A joint patrolling team comprising of Railway Protection Force, UPFD and officials from regional centers of Wildlife Crime Control Bureau should regularly conduct surprise checking in the trains plying in between Mailani and Pilibhit and passing through wildlife areas.

- d. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttar Pradesh and Field Director, Pilibhit Tiger Reserve shall ensure that the current Committee shall visit the site once during the construction phase and once after the operationalization of railway to oversee the compliance of the mitigation measures suggested herein and submit report to Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttar Pradesh and WL Division of MoEFCC.
- e. A quarterly joint meeting of the officials from Railway and UPFD be called to address conflict and mortality issues and if anything appears to be urgent be decided in consultation with the National Tiger Conservation Authority and WL division, MoEFCC.

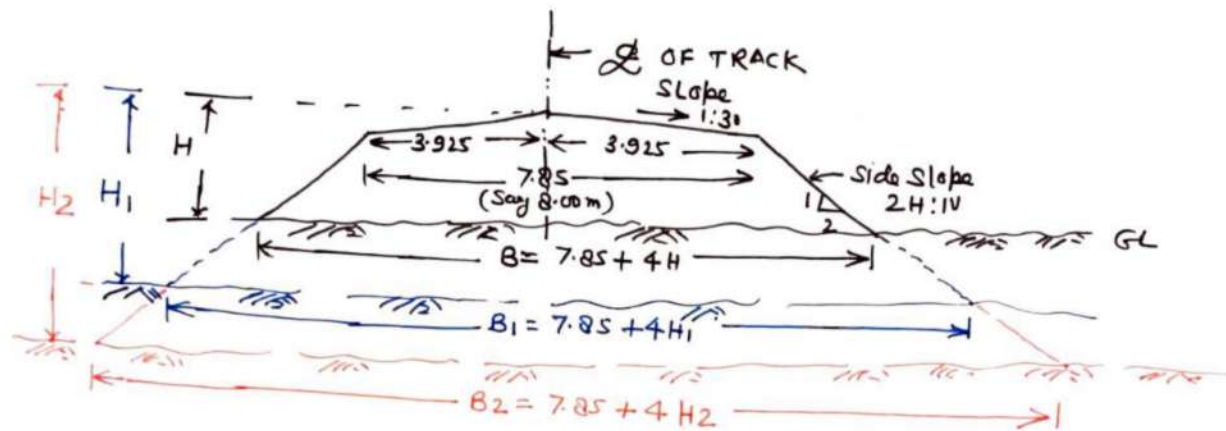
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3. Watson, M. and Klingel, J. 2000. *Literature summary assessing methods for reducing deer-vehicle accidents*. New Mexico Department of Fish and Game Website.
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Annexure 1

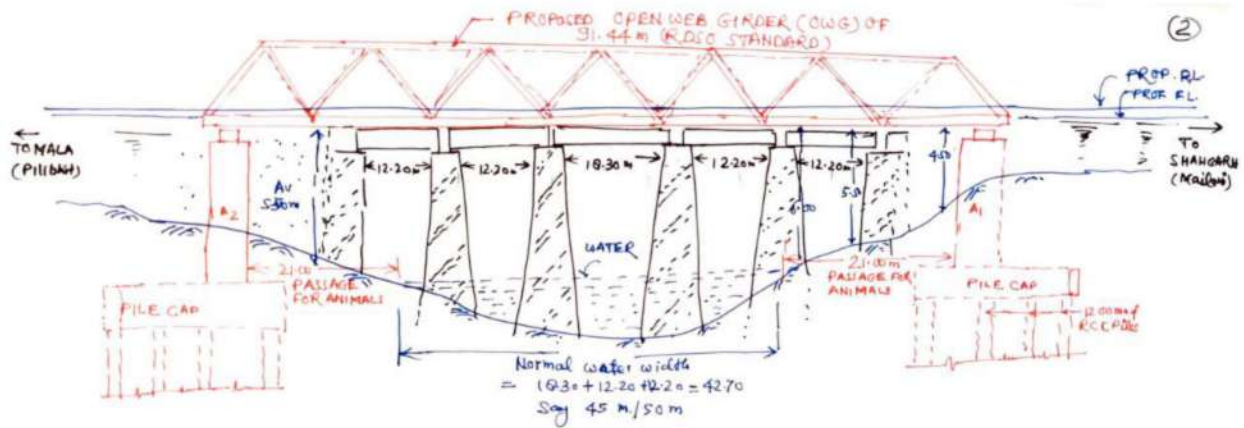
1

CROSS SECTION OF FORMATION FOR TRACK



- ⇒ Top width of Formation Bank = 7.85m (Min) Say - 8.00m
- ⇒ Base width of Formation is dependant upon bank height - H.
- ⇒ Side slope desired for track formation = 2(Hor) : 1(Ver)
- ⇒ As illustrated above, base width for-
 - (i) $H = 1\text{m}$, $B = 7.85 + 4 \times 1 = 11.85\text{m}$ Say 12.00m.
 - (ii) $H_1 = 2\text{m}$, $B_1 = 7.85 + 4 \times 2 = 15.85\text{m}$ Say 16.00m.
 - (iii) $H_2 = 5\text{m}$, $B_2 = 7.85 + 4 \times 5 = 27.85\text{m}$, Say 28.00m
- ⇒ Thus more bank height will require more base width, of forest area, and more trees to remove.

Annexure 2



SKETCH SHOWING PASSAGE ARRANGEMENT
WITH LARGER SPAN (WITHOUT OBSTRUCTION)
AT MALA NADI (MALA RIVER)

NOTES:-

1. EXISTING SPAN - $4 \times 12.20 + 1 \times 18.30 = 67.10 + 18.30 = 85.40m$ (Overall)
2. NORMAL WATER WIDTH = $2 \times 12.20 + 18.30 + 3.00 = 45.70m$, Say 50.00m
3. PROPOSED SPAN ARRANGEMENT = 31.44m clearspan, as per R.D.S.C.
4. PASSAGE AVAILABLE IN BOTH SIDES OF STREAM = 23.00m (Approx)
5. HEIGHT OF PASSAGE WILL INCREASE BY PROVIDING OWG.
6. CLEARANCE HEIGHT AT PASSAGES = 5.50m (Av)

Wildlife Passage Plan for Animal Crossing under the Sevoke- Rangpo BG Railway Project

Animal Passage Plan is proposed at two places: 1) between Gulma station and 1/4 anti- poaching tower, and 2) between 1/4 anti-poaching tower and Sevoke railway station as per the guidelines provided by Wildlife Institute of India and approval by PCCF/WL & CWLW West Bengal. The construction of Animal Passage Plan will be done by Railway authorities.

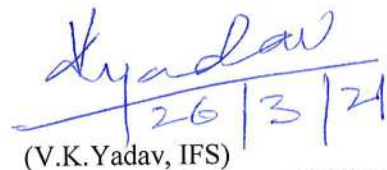
The Sevoke-Rangpo railway line project will connect Sevoke Railway Station in Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary to the Rangpo in Sikkim. The Sevoke Station is connected to New Jalpaiguri Railway Station. The railway line from New Jalpaiguri to Sevoke is a feeder line to Sevoke-Rongpo railway line. The new Jalpaiguri to Sevoke railway line passes through the Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary from Gulma Railway Station to Sevoke Railway Station.

The operation of the Sevoke-Rongpo line is expected to increase the traffic on the section passing from Gulma to Sevoke. The wildlife moving inside the Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary and surrounding forest areas will need to cross the railway line at several places in the Gulma-Sevoke section.

It is felt that Wildlife needs to be provided safe passage across the railway line without any risk of collision with trains. Two overhead safe passages, following the guidelines of Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change should be constructed by Railways, at the following locations:

1. One overhead passage between Gulma station (entry into Mahananda Wildlife Sanctuary) and 1/4 anti- poaching tower.
2. One overhead passage between 1/4 anti-poaching tower and Sevoke railway station.

The width and height of the overhead passage should be such that large herbivores like Elephants and Gaurs can cross the line through the overhead passage by providing gentle slope on both sides of the overhead passage. The designing, estimation and execution may be done by Railways in consultation with the Chief Wildlife Warden.



(V.K.Yadav, IFS)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife &
Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal

Summary records of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, MoEFCC regarding Multi-circuit Transmission Lines through Protected Areas and Forest Areas

A meeting through video conferencing was held under the chairmanship of Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (DGF&SS, MoEFCC) on 20th April, 2021 with officials Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) to discuss issue of Multi-circuit transmission lines passing through protected areas and forest areas in connection with the proposal for use of 55.447 ha of forest land from Kaimur WLS for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Jaunpur- Obra Line having line length of 165.908 KM in Kaimur Wildlife Division Mirzapur, UP under consideration by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life. The list of officials who attended the meeting is at **ANNEXURE**.

2. At the outset, Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEFCC welcomed all the participants and gave a brief overview on the issue of multiple transmission lines passing through protected areas and forest areas and requested DGF & SS, MoEFCC to give his opening remarks and initiate the discussion.

3. DGF&SS, MoEF&CC and Chairman of the meeting initiated the discussion of the meeting and requested all the officials from the Central Electricity Authority and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited to offer their remarks on the possibility of bunching of the multiple transmission lines of varying voltages passing through the protected areas and forest areas.

4. Member, System & CEA briefed about the instant proposal and informed that the power line is very important from the strategic point of view. He informed that the said line belongs to Power Grid Corporation Ltd. and it is being handled by Adani group of powers. He highlighted that conversion of the existing single circuit power line to multi circuit power line would not be possible because there is no alternate transmission line for power supply during the transmission line changing phase. He stated that conversion of single circuit power line to multi circuit power line could be possible in newly proposed transmission lines. He suggested that for transmission lines above 220 kv and above, transmission lines should be passed through multi-circuit tower so that a single tower could accommodate 2-3 conductors. He further informed that CEA has already proposed that covered conductors should be used for transmission lines above 33KV, passing through forest areas.

5. Chief Engineer, CEA informed that at present it is not possible to change the design of the existing transmission line. However, the modifications suggested in the meeting could be implemented in new proposals/ proposed transmission lines.

6. Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central), Integrated Regional Office, MoEFCC, Lucknow suggested that as practiced earlier, process of Forest Clearances and Wildlife clearances could be linked together and simultaneously forest clearance and wildlife clearances could be granted. There is need for reconsidering the existing guidelines.

7. Executive Director, PGCIL mentioned that in future, new power lines with higher voltage could be transmitted through multi-circuit towers.

8. Chief General Manager, PGCIL informed that Power Grid has been already upgraded a single circuit power line to multi circuit line at Jaldapara NP, West Bengal. He also informed that same technology is also being tried at Western Ghats and Kerala. He also informed that, if there is flexibility of an alternate power line for existing power supply (single transmission line) passing through a forest area, then existing single circuit power line could be upgraded to multi circuit power line. He also mentioned that this technology could be practiced in all new power lines projects. He further informed that one of the recommendation of the Task Force was regarding the change in Rule 59(3) of the CEA (Measures Relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulations, 2010 for underground laying of transmission lines of 33 kV and below passing through protected areas, eco-sensitive zones, wildlife corridors and forest areas, for which draft notification for amendment to these rules has been issued and final notification would be issued soon.

9. ADG (WL), MoEF&CC suggested that bunching of transmission lines above 33 KV lines in multi circuit tower along with insulation of lines should be done. He suggested that new technology should be developed by electricity transmitting agencies to carry multiple high KV lines on a single circuit tower inside protected areas and forest areas.

10. DGF&SS, MoEF&CC appreciated the decision that CEA is making amendment to the rule so that all the transmission lines of 33kv and below passing through forests and Protected Areas would be laid underground and insulated when passing through Protected Areas following the recommendation of the Task Force constituted under the directions of Supreme Court of India

11. The following actionable points emerged out of the meeting:

- i. CEA could issue guidelines/ directions to all the power transmission companies and also for the regulators in States that for transmission lines above 33kv, aerial bunching in multi-circuit tower should be the first option.
- ii. The proposal for use of 55.447 ha of forest land from Kaimur WLS for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Jaunpur- Obra Line having line length of 165.908 KM in Kaimur Wildlife Division Mirzapur, UP” is under consideration of SC NBWL. In the next meeting of SCNBWL, it can be informed that CEA is working on guidelines to power transmission companies for aerial bunching in multi-circuit tower which would be soon issued.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

ANNEXURE

S.No.	Name of the Participants	Designation
1.	Shri Sanjay Kumar	Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, MoEFCC
2.	Shri Soumitra Dasgupta	Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife) MoEFCC
3.	Shri Goutam Roy	Member (Power System), CEA
4.	Shri V. K. Singh	Chief Engineer (Power System and Project Monitoring), CEA
5.	S.K.Ray Mohapatra	Chief Engineer, Power System Engineering & Technology Development, CEA
6.	Shri T. C. Sarmah	Executive Director, PGCIL
7.	Shri R. K. Srivastava	Chief General Manager, PGCIL
8.	Shri Pankaj Agarwal	Deputy Director General (Central), Integrated Regional Office, MoEFCC, Dehradun
9.	Shri C. D. Singh	Deputy Director General (Central), Integrated Regional Office, MoEFCC, Chandigarh
10.	Shri Subrat Mohapatra	Deputy Director General of Forests (Central) Integrated Regional Office, Bhopal
11.	Shri Rohit Tiwari	Inspector General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEFCC, New Delhi
12.	Shri Brijendra Swaroop	Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), MoEFCC, New Delhi
13.	Shri Shravan Kumar Verma	Deputy Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), MoEFCC, New Delhi
14.	Shri Rakesh Kumar Jagenia	Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEFCC, New Delhi
15.	Ms. Prachi Gangwar	Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central), Integrated Regional Office, MoEFCC, Lucknow

**Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**

Guidelines on Sustainable Eco-Tourism in Forest and Wildlife Areas 2021

1. BACKGROUND

Forests and wildlife are elements of nature and inseparable parts of the environment. Because of the intricate nature of interface between nature and human beings, nature conservation entails interactions with people as a central concept. Such interaction includes not only the forest fringe dwellers but also those who are living away from the forests for the purpose of creating experience for the visitors. Eco-tourism may be developed in and around designated sites in forest and wildlife rich areas and ex-situ conservation areas, and such designated sites may include sites of biological, geographical, geo-physical and eco-heritage importance such as mangroves, sacred groves, mudflats, beaches, streams, wetlands, waterfalls, rivers, hills, caves, etc.

Eco-tourism has the potential to create significant opportunities for building public awareness and mass movement towards conservation of nature and natural resources while expanding overall returns to the economy, improving skill base, creating new knowledge and green jobs, and improving the livelihoods of the local communities.^[1] On the other hand, eco-tourism if not practiced in a science-based manner may adversely affect nature on a permanent basis. The Guidelines on Sustainable Eco-Tourism in Forest and Wildlife Areas 2021 (hereinafter referred to as the Guidelines or the Eco-Tourism Guidelines), therefore, lays the framework for practising and promoting sustainable eco-tourism by maximising outputs that support nature and natural resources in their original forms while minimising any negative externalities arising out of interactions between people and nature.

The Guidelines recognise that besides the popular sites located in Protected Areas, which presently number over 900 across the country, many potential eco-tourism sites are located in public, community and private forests outside the Protected Areas as well. These Guidelines shall be applicable to ecotourism sites falling in all forest and wildlife areas irrespective of the ownership of the land.

2. GOAL

The overall goal of these Guidelines is promoting better understanding of nature and wildlife conservation while generating income and opportunities for the local communities in an ecologically, culturally and economically sustainable manner.

3. OBJECTIVES

The Guidelines seek to achieve the following objectives:

- i. Promote low impact nature tourism which ensures ecological integrity of the eco-tourism sites and its environment;
- ii. Promote biodiversity, traditional ecological knowledge and heritage values of India's wilderness;
- iii. Promote engagement of local communities in nature tourism in a manner that enriches local economy and encourages sustainable use of indigenous materials through financially viable value chains thereby helping such local communities become "*Atma Nirbhar*"
- iv. Promote partnerships amongst stakeholders for mobilising resources and developing and promoting nature tourism, as well equitable sharing of benefits.
- v. Enhancing potential of India as a global eco-tourism destination.

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF ECO-TOURISM

(i) Eco-tourism planning: Eco-tourism shall be promoted on the basis of science based planning. The plan shall form part of the duly approved Working Plan or Management Plan or Conservation Plan of the forest or wildlife area as the case may be, and shall include the carrying-capacity analysis based description of the eco-tourism site, time, duration, route, mode of travel and number of persons for visitations, and any support infrastructure needed. Wherever feasible, the eco-tourism plan will also be dovetailed with the *Gram Panchayat* Development Plan. The Protected Area (PA) manager along with a third party shall determine the carrying-capacity of eco-tourism site by taking into account the wide diversity of environmental, physical, social and economic criteria of development and management of eco-tourism sites as well as institutional capacities of their managers. The Eco-tourism plan needs to also factor in aspects of control of plastic pollution, waste management, noise pollution, sewage treatment and disposal, etc. The Eco-Tourism guidelines issued by the National Tiger Conservation Authority shall be applicable to Eco-tourism in Tiger Reserves in the country.

(ii) Eco-tourism zonation: The eco-tourism plan shall appropriately demarcate the eco-tourism zone upon assessment of management requirements of the target wildlife, the habitat or the geographical entity, and their behavioural and ecological characteristics. The eco-tourism zonation shall particularly ensure that the ecological integrity of the site, including breeding areas of wildlife and tribal habitations particularly PVTGs remains protected. The

zonation shall also ensure that safeguards provided in the Forest Rights Act, 2006 are fully respected.

(iii) Resource mobilisation and community participation: The local community shall be the key stakeholder of eco-tourism. Central government will provide for participatory frameworks that encourage resource mobilisation by a group of stakeholders in development, operation and maintenance of eco-tourism zones. These frameworks shall ensure that equitable benefits flow from eco-tourism accrues, besides resource investors, to local communities, tribals and other traditional forest dwellers including by way of enhanced livelihood opportunities. Further, keeping in view that most eco-tourism sites are located in remote places and small-scale operators predominate, suitable programme may be taken up by the Central Government to facilitate eco-tourism operators to access incentives allowed to the tourism sector in a timely and adequate manner.

(iv) Eco-tourism site development: The Eco-tourism site shall be developed only in eco-tourism zone and in eco-friendly manner. While developing support infrastructure for eco-tourism it shall be ensured that the natural profile and ecological integrity of the ecotourism site including its biodiversity value is maintained. Any ecotourism facility or structure on forest lands shall be subject to the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980. No permanent structure shall be made/constructed to create ecotourism facility/structure, but temporary structures/facility made of predominantly natural material of local origin shall be allowed in Protected Area or on forest land. Such ecotourism facility/structure shall be part of the approved Working Plan/Management Plan/Working Scheme. Home stay managed by local communities on non-forest land shall be promoted. States may develop benchmarks/standardized criteria based on site specificity, for adoption of best practices in eco-tourism including sustainable ecological management of the site, customer satisfaction, harmony with local culture and design, local construction material used, employment types, environmental education facilities. Further, safety measures, especially for managing fire, flood, landslide, needs to be inbuilt into the ecotourism site development plan and adequate system needs to be in place for efficiently managing such disasters.

(v) Inter-sectoral synergy: The central government will work towards prioritisation of action with regard to developing eco-tourism sites across the country and improving the way in which action on eco-tourism is coordinated with other sectors and synergies are exploited in the best possible manner. Regulations should be streamlined wherever possible and processes and procedures should be simplified while taking into consideration the objectives of relevant sectoral policies.

(vi) Promoting eco-tourism entrepreneurship: Concerted action will be taken for expanding entrepreneurship opportunities for stakeholders engaged in eco-tourism with due priority to the members of local communities and those whose livelihoods have been impacted because of actions such as closure of the Protected Area for forest product extraction. The focus will be on increasing productivity, boosting the skills and competencies of stakeholders at all levels, and the needed structural changes will be supported and

strengthened. Start-ups will be supported through training, coaching, financial support and other benefits including through the incubators established under various government programmes.

5. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The following are the broad framework for implementation of the Eco-tourism Guidelines:

Strategy i: Identification of potential sites: Each State may identify sites for eco-tourism through a participatory process involving stakeholders, particularly the local communities, and make a priority list for development of such sites. Area managers will initiate eco-tourism planning based on carrying-capacity analysis, including identification of eco-tourism zones, identification of potential partners, categorisation of infrastructure support that may be allowed, funding sources, and training and capacity building needs of the partners through a multi-stakeholder dialogue process. Spatially cluster approach to eco-tourism infrastructure will be promoted to larger blocks of contiguous habitats so as to minimise adverse ecological impacts on a larger area. An indicative list of potential eco-tourism sites is at Annexure I. However, States/UTs may develop ecotourism sites which has high potential.

An Eco-tourism Plan shall be prepared for every eco-tourism site. The Plan shall be approved and prepared for sites under various controls as follows:

- i. For Sites within forest/protected areas: The Eco-tourism Plan for the areas falling inside the notified forest/protected areas shall form part of duly approved Working Plan/Management Plan/ Working Scheme.
- ii. For Sites falling within Eco-sensitive Zones: All new Eco-tourism activities or expansion of existing tourism activities within the Eco-sensitive Zone (on non-forest land) shall be as per the Tourism Master Plan for the Eco-sensitive Zone. The Eco-tourism Master Plan shall be prepared by Department of Tourism in consultation with State Departments of Environment and Forests. The Tourism Master Plan shall form a component of the Zonal Master Plan and until the Zonal Master Plan is approved, development for tourism and expansion of existing tourism activities shall be permitted by the concerned regulatory authorities based on the actual site specific scrutiny and recommendation of the Monitoring Committee. Hotel/resort or commercial establishment construction shall be taken up inside the Eco-sensitive Zone as per the ESZ notification of the National Park/Sanctuary.

Strategy ii: Funding support: Compatible funding instruments that cater to the specific challenges of the eco-tourism sector, particularly the small and geographically fragmented nature of enterprises, is key to sustainable eco-tourism promotion. Financial institutions may be encouraged to develop targeted financial instruments for the eco-tourism entrepreneurs at the local level. Public funding for eco-tourism promotion, monitoring and innovation may

be made available, including for non-repayable loans and guarantees, start-up grants and marketing of eco-tourism places.

Strategy iii: Usage of Information Technology: The role of digitalisation both as a driver and an enabler of eco-tourism shall be recognised. In particular, digitalisation will be used to facilitate new eco-tourism products, such as virtual tours, competitive exploration, etc., services, business processes and models. National and sub-national projects will be launched to undertake analysis of the needs of various partners and users (visitors) of eco-tourism projects, and develop scenarios for eco-tourism support for the future, and active steps will be taken for transfer of knowledge to partners including by making such knowledge public wherever feasible. In recognition of the fact that partners (e.g. service providers) in eco-tourism are mainly small entities, and their limited capabilities of using digital services combined with possible use of multitude of digital platforms and inability to create economies of scale, pose significant challenge. National and sub-national level data integration platforms to analyse visitors behaviour and preferences will be developed, and additional sources such as social media engagement, newsletter statistics, booking data, media and marketing reports, etc will be used.

Strategy iv: Capacity building: Despite wider and growing attraction to eco-tourism, the challenges emanating from the field such as geographically fragmented and small nature of sites, small business structure and high seasonality and the consequent visitor number fluctuation, are significant. On the other hand, it offers significant entrepreneurial and labour market opportunity for the local communities. With increased numbers of eco-tourism sites the eco-tourism sector may become a supplier of low return exchangeable standard products making private investment in eco-tourism less attractive. The capacity of field functionaries of different stakeholders, especially the eco-tourism site managers and the local communities, will be steadily built to innovate and meet the present and future challenges of the sector, and international best practices as suited to local conditions will be internalised. Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and other such institutes will be encouraged to develop specific programmes for local communities and small operators engaged in eco-tourism.

Strategy v: Benefit sharing: Community-based tourism will be promoted as a preferred form of eco-tourism. While eco-tourism will create new wage employment and private entrepreneurial income for the respective stakeholders, fair and equitable benefit sharing of common eco-tourism revenues with the local community is key to sustainability. Given the diversity of stakeholders, scale of operations and geographically fragmented nature of eco-tourism sites, appropriate mechanisms for sharing of benefits with the local eco-development committees / forest protection committees will be developed by the respective State Government for different types of eco-tourism sites falling on government lands. Such benefit sharing mechanisms shall recognise that the local community has the highest stake in eco-tourism and the revenue generated has to be also ploughed back for development and maintenance of the eco-tourism sites. Transparent mechanism for revenue collection from common eco-tourism activities user charges, entry fees, concessions, fines and penalties, etc. through a Foundation established at the appropriate local level, and sharing of revenue with

stakeholders, particularly local communities, has served as best practise in many parts of the world and the same duly incorporated by the respective State governments. Considering that eco-tourism is mostly a seasonal activity, the Eco-Tourism Plans should include measures to reduce financial overdependence of the local community on eco-tourism, and the same should be supported by the district level plan approval committees. Such measures may include capacity building of the communities with respect to processing and marketing of bio-cultural products to ensure that communities remain attached to preservation of local ecology. The Central government will support development of such mechanisms through sharing of international experiences and coordination with participating states and national entities in case the stated eco-tourism enterprise covers sites across States and/ or national entities are involved.

Strategy vi: Education and outreach: For effective use of the eco-tourism potential of the area, effective communication plan covering all eco-tourism sites of a State will be drawn by the State Governments with the help of expert organisations. The Plan, among other relevant information, will include information to the tourists on the eco-system services and intangible benefits provided by the area. The communication plan will include measures to promote partnerships between the eco-tourism project and socially responsible companies. Use of modern technologies such as electronic visual tools and well equipped modern interpretation centre at the eco-tourism site will be encouraged through this Plan to encourage self-learning by visitors. The Plan will also lay emphasis on appropriate signages for generating awareness among the visitors regarding the safety and risk factors in the eco-tourism zone and safety protocol and information material on the area for the visitors. The Central government will support the outreach of States' eco-tourism potential for international tourists in a programmatic manner.

Strategy vii: Monitoring: Each eco-tourism plan will invariably include a dynamic monitoring mechanism, covering multiple biological parameters to monitor stress on wildlife vis-a-vis number and patterns of tourist visitation and their level of satisfaction, involvement of local people, scope for improvement in flow of eco-system services, etc. The monitoring will also include mechanisms to ensure that rigorous practices are in place to prevent biological invasion, disease transmission, and air, water, noise or light pollution. The States Governments/UT Administrations shall endeavour to maintain service level quality standards through appropriate certification/rating protocols.

District, State and National level monitoring committees comprising of representatives of relevant stakeholder departments, the local communities, civil societies, and the corporate organisations will be constituted to oversee the implementation of this Guidelines including mobilisation of the required technical, financial and human resource support for eco-tourism plans.

Strategy viii: Review: The National level eco-tourism monitoring committee will review the Eco-Tourism Guidelines every three years and make recommendation to the Central Government.

^[1]Wherever 'local community' has been used in this Guidelines, it will mean to include Schedule Tribe and other traditional forest dwellers as per Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, which is referred hereinafter as FRA 2006 in short.

Annexure I

Potential Sites in India for Ecotourism (Illustrative)

S.No.	State/ UT Administration	Name of Protected Area
	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	
1		Mahatama Gandhi Marine (Wandoor) NP
2		Mount Harriett NP
3		Ross Island WLS
	Andhra Pradesh	
4		Coringa WLS
5		Pulicat Lake WLS
	Arunachal Pradesh	
6		Itanagar WLS
	Assam	
7		Orang NP
8		Deepor Beel WLS
9		Hollongapar Gibbon WLS
10		Pabitora WLS
	Bihar	
11		Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary
	Chandigarh	
12		City Bird WLS
13		Sukhna Lake WLS
	Chhattisgarh	
14		Kanger Valley NP
15		Pamed Wild Buffalo WLS
	Goa	

16		BhagwanMahavir WLS
17		Dr. Salim Ali Bird (Chorao) WLS
	Gujarat	
18		Gir National Park & WLS & Gir Landscape
19		Marine (Gulf of Kachchh) NP
20		Barda WLS
21		Girnar WLS
22		Jessore Sloth Bear WLS
23		Kachchh Desert WLS
24		Nal Sarovar Bird WLS
25		Thol Lake WLS
26		Wild Ass WLS
	Haryana	
27		Sultanpur NP
28		Morni Hills (Khol-Hi-Raitan) WLS
29		Nahar WLS
	Himachal Pradesh	
20		Great Himalayan NP
31		Dhauladhar WLS
32		Kalatop-Khajjiar WLS
33		Kibber WLS
34		Manali WLS
35		Pong Dam Lake WLS
36		Renuka WLS
	Jammu & Kashmir	
37		Dachigam NP
38		Gulmarg WLS
	Laddakh	
39		Hemis NP
40		Changthang WLS
	Jharkhand	
41		Dalma WLS
	Karnataka	
42		Bannerghatta NP
43		Kudremukh NP
44		Cauvery WLS
45		Daroji Bear WLS
46		Pushpagiri WLS

	Kerala	
47		Eravikulam NP
48		Silent Valley NP
49		Thattekad Bird WLS
	Lakshadweep	
50		Pitti Island Bird Sanvtuary
	Madhya Pradesh	
51		Madhav NP
52		National Chambal WLS
53		Pachmarhi WLS
	Maharashtra	
54		Sanjay Gandhi (Borivilli) NP
55		Lonar WLS
56		Thane Creek Flamingo WLS
	Manipur	
57		Keibul-Lamjao NP
	Meghalaya	
58		Balphakram NP
59		Nokrek Ridge NP
	Mizoram	
60		Phawngpui Blue Mountain National Park
	Nagaland	
61		Intanki NP
	Punjab	
62		Harike Lake WLS
63		Beas Conservation Reserve
	Odisha	
64		Bhitarkanika WLS & NP
65		Chilika (Nalaban) WLS
66		Gahirmatha (Marine) WLS
67		Nandankanan WLS
	Rajasthan	
68		Keoladeo Ghana NP
69		Desert National Park Sanctuary
70		Mount Abu WLS

71		National Chambal WLS
	Sikkim	
72		Khangchendzonga NP
73		Maenam WLS
	Tamil Nadu	
74		Gulf of Mannar Marine NP
75		Vedanthangal WLS
76		Point Calimere WLS
	Telangana	
77		Kasu Brahmananda Reddy NP
	Tripura	
78		Clouded Leopard NP
79		Trishna WLS
	Uttar Pradesh	
80		Katerniaghat WLS
81		National Chambal WLS
82		KachuaWLS
	Uttarakhand	
83		Gangotri NP
84		Nanda Devi NP
85		Valley of Flowers NP
86		Kedarnath WLS
	West Bengal	
87		Gorumara NP
88		Jaldapara NP
89		Neora Valley NP
90		Singalila NP

Additional Agenda No. 1

1	Name of the Proposal	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																												
2	Name of the protected area involved	Sanjay Tiger Reserve																												
3	File No	6-22/2021 WL																												
4	Name of the State	Madhya Pradesh																												
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice																												
6	Area of the protected area	1674.511 sq. km																												
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / De-notification	0.236 Ha																												
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	<table><tr><th colspan="5">Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification</th></tr><tr><th>S.no</th><th>Name of project</th><th>User Agency</th><th>Year</th><th>Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)</th></tr><tr><td>1.</td><td>Baghwar-Chagohar-Thadipather-dadariya-rampur-tamsa</td><td>General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom Pvt. Ltd. Bho</td><td>2019</td><td>0.2017</td></tr><tr><td>2.</td><td>Duhukuria-Amganv-Medra-Kotma-Badwahi-Kusmi-lurghut</td><td>General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom Pvt. Ltd. Bho</td><td>2018</td><td>0.2013</td></tr><tr><td>3.</td><td>Jogipahadi-Baherwar-Bastua-Pondi inside</td><td>General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom</td><td>2018</td><td>0.6212</td></tr></table>				Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification					S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)	1.	Baghwar-Chagohar-Thadipather-dadariya-rampur-tamsa	General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom Pvt. Ltd. Bho	2019	0.2017	2.	Duhukuria-Amganv-Medra-Kotma-Badwahi-Kusmi-lurghut	General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom Pvt. Ltd. Bho	2018	0.2013	3.	Jogipahadi-Baherwar-Bastua-Pondi inside	General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom	2018	0.6212
Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification																														
S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)																										
1.	Baghwar-Chagohar-Thadipather-dadariya-rampur-tamsa	General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom Pvt. Ltd. Bho	2019	0.2017																										
2.	Duhukuria-Amganv-Medra-Kotma-Badwahi-Kusmi-lurghut	General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom Pvt. Ltd. Bho	2018	0.2013																										
3.	Jogipahadi-Baherwar-Bastua-Pondi inside	General Manager Reliance Jio Infocom	2018	0.6212																										

			road cabil	Pvt. ltd. Bho		
		4.	Katni-Singrauli Section to Dubri kala Railway Stat	Deputy Chief Engineer West Central Railway Jabalpur	2016	345.833
		5.	Permission for extracting water from river Banas	General Manager Water project corporation unit Jab	2017	0.25
8	Status of ESZ if any	Final Notification issued on 28.08.2017				
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	No removal of Wild Life and forest produce from the tiger reserve area is allowed and also, there is no proposal for stopping or diverting the flow of water into or outside the protected area. Hence, section 29 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 is not attracted.				
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Linear				
11	Whether EC obtained	No				
12	Name of the applicant agency	Madhya Pradesh Rural Road Development Authority Project Implementation Unit Sidhi.				
13	Date of submission	25/12/2020				
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil				
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes				
16	Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 26 th September 2018.					

17	<p>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</p> <p>The proposed road is necessary to provide connectivity to the villages situated in the interior place of the Sanjay Tiger Reserve. There is no any alternate route to connect the village. Other than the road under approach. The target village is having population of 695 and school is also situated in the village. The target village located in protected area is having habitation since ancient time.</p>
18	<p>Rare and endangered species found in the area</p> <p>Sanjay Tiger Reserve is home to tiger , Sloth bear, Chital, Chinkara, Sambar (limited to hilly terrain and in very small number), leopard, Dhole (wild dog), Jungle Cat, Hyena, Porcupine, Jackal, Fox, Indian Wolf, Indian Python Four-horned Antelope and Barking deer etc.</p>
19	<p>Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden</p> <p>The proposed road is necessary to provide connectivity to the villages situated in the Sanjay Tiger Reserve. It is 1.25 km length (0.519 km in forest land and 0.732 km in revenue land) in the Tiger Reserve. This road will also be used for wildlife patrolling by forest staff. The proposed existing road is 1.25 km long in tiger reserve area B.t. Road with shoulders both side of road in ROW 8 mtr. Total 1 ha is required for the upgradation of existing Belaha Mahua to Naudhiya Devarth (Manwari) road. No trees are involved for felling.</p> <p>The State CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommendation with adequate safeguards. 2. All the construction material will be brought from outside the tiger reserve area.
20	<p>Comments of Ministry:</p> <p>NTCA vide letter no.7-1/2021-NTCA dated 10th June 2021 has recommended the proposal for blacktopping of PMGSY Belaha Mahua to Naudhiya Devarth (Manwari) subject to the strict adherence to the mitigation measures prescribed as below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

	<p>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.</p> <p>5. Construction work should be carried out inside the Tiger Reserve during daytime. 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.</p> <p>6. No construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from forests. Construction debris should be appropriately transported outside the Tiger Reserve area.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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Additional Agenda No. 2

1	Name of the Proposal	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														
2	Name of the protected area involved	Jamwaramgarh Wildlife Sanctuary														
3	File No	6-57/2021 WL														
4	Name of the State	Rajasthan														
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice														
6	Area of the protected area	300 Sq Km														
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / De-notification	0.1405 ha														
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	<table><tr><th>S. no</th><th>Name of project</th><th>User Agency</th><th>Year</th><th>Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)</th></tr><tr><td>1.</td><td>Proposal for setting up and Operating retail outlet</td><td>Indian Oil Corporation Ltd</td><td>2019</td><td>0.1405</td></tr></table>					S. no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)	1.	Proposal for setting up and Operating retail outlet	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd	2019	0.1405
S. no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)												
1.	Proposal for setting up and Operating retail outlet	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd	2019	0.1405												
8	Status of ESZ if any	Final notified on 14.12.2018														
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	The project will have no impact in term of section 29 because it is situated in an urban area inside the sanctuary.														
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Non-Linear														
11	Whether EC obtained	No														
12	Name of the applicant agency	Indian Oil Corporation Limited														
13	Date of submission	11/02/2021														
14	Total number of tree to be felled	NA														

15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
16	Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal through circulation.	
17	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency: Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. has awarded the LOI (Letter of Intent) for MS/HSD Kisan Seva Kendra dealership at the location: Ramgarh Dam to Mahngi Via Raisar Village from Kms No.5 to 7, Tehsil-Jamwaramgarh, Distt.-Jaipur and the LOI holder Shri Ajay Kumar Mahawar S/o Shri Ganpati Mahawar has offered a suitable piece of land at Khasra No.316/96 (Land Owner-Smt. Munni Devi W/o Ganpati Mahawar) at village-Anoppura, Tehsil-Jamwaramgah, District Jaipur for setting up and operating retail outlet (Kisan Sewa Kendra). The proposed piece of land is situated along the village road Ramgarh Dam to Mahngi via Raisar village from KMS No.5 to 7, Tehsil-Jamwarmgarh, distt, Jaipur. The offered piece of land i.e. Khasra No.316/96 at village-Anoppura is private land and in non forest area. The offered land area is bare minimum and there is no alternative land for this purpose. The wildlife clearance is required for the land area is as follows:	
	Area for retail outlet: 35 meter (length) x 35 meter (width)	0.1225 ha (1225 sq. km)
	Area for deceleration lane (LHS): 11.50 meter (length)x 7.8260 meter (width)	0.009 ha
	Area for acceleration lane (RHS): 11.50 meter (length) x 7.8260 meter (width)	0.009 ha
	Total area	0.1405 ha
18	Rare and endangered species found in the area Jamwaramgarh Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Hanuman langur, common mongoose, common palm civet, Indian gazella, leopard, sambar, spotted deer, Indian fox, Indian stripped hyaena and common Indian toad etc.	
19	Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden The State CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: General Conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> GC1:5% of the proportional project cost falling within the Protected Area should be deposited in RPACS by the User Agency for management and protection of wildlife in the state. GC 3: No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area. 	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. GC 4: No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone. 4. GC 5: There will be no felling of trees and burning of fuel wood inside the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone. 5. GC 6: The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone. 6. GC 7: There will be no labour camp within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area. 7. GC9: No blasting will be carried out within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area during the work 8. GC11: Green belt should be created by the User Agency on the periphery of the project area. 9. GC12: Water harvesting structure for recharging of water should be mandatory in the project area. 10. GC13: There shall be high mast/beam/search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the protected area boundary. 11. GC14: Signage's regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc. should be erected in the project area. 12. GC 15: User Agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. 13. GC 16: Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of PA. 14. GC17: Six feet high wall is to be constructed on the periphery of applied project area. 15. GC 19: Any permission/clearance required under FCA-1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules. <p>Site Specific conditions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SSC 1: It may be noted that establishment of retail outlet will require conversion of land as per rules. 2. SSC 2: Any transfer of land (to IOC, etc) is not permissible as per Section 20 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and as per Rajasthan Government circular No.F11 (20) Forest/2000 dated 07.07.2011. 3. SSC 3: The outlet should not be operated during night from 8 pm to 6 am.
20.	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p>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 NTCA were sought and the NTCA observed that the proposed petrol pump does not fall within the tiger reserve/ tiger corridor. In this context, the authority has no comments to offer in respect of proposed project.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

Additional Agenda No. 3

1	Name of the Proposal	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															
2	Name of the protected area involved	Rajaji National Park															
3	File No.	6-45/2020 WL															
4	Name of the State	Uttarakhand															
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice															
6	Area of the protected area	819.54 sq. km															
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	<p>Nil, the proposed site is 0.8 km away from Rajaji National Park and within the default ESZ of 10 km and the area required is as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Component wise breakup</th></tr> <tr> <th>S.no</th><th>Component</th><th>Area for which clearance has been sought falling under ESZ (ha)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Road Widening & Bridge Construction</td><td>58.055</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Mitigation Measures / Animal Crossing Structures</td><td>6.693</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total</td><td>64.748</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Component wise breakup			S.no	Component	Area for which clearance has been sought falling under ESZ (ha)	1	Road Widening & Bridge Construction	58.055	2	Mitigation Measures / Animal Crossing Structures	6.693	Total		64.748
Component wise breakup																	
S.no	Component	Area for which clearance has been sought falling under ESZ (ha)															
1	Road Widening & Bridge Construction	58.055															
2	Mitigation Measures / Animal Crossing Structures	6.693															
Total		64.748															
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	-															
8	Status of ESZ if any	Draft notified on 22.05.2018. Now expired															
9	Specific comments w.r.t	The proposed project does not involve any felling of trees and the proposed project does not stop or															

	section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	enhance the flow of water into or outside the sanctuary. And, hence there is no impact of section 29 and section 35(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Name of the applicant agency	National Highways Authority of India Piu Najibabad
13	Date of submission	15/07/2020
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
16	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife State Board for Wildlife recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 24.11.2020	
17	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The project is 4-laning of Haridwar-Nagina section of NH-74 from km 0.000 to km 30.000 in the State of Uttarakhand. The project road provides connectivity from State Capital Dehradun and Haridwar an important Hindu pilgrimage to south eastern areas of the State like Haldwani, Nainital, Kashipur, Rudrapur, Almora & etc. as well as some areas of Uttar Pradesh like Najibabad, Bijnor, Dhampur & etc. The project road is already an existing 2 lane highway and as per traffic study of 2012, the average daily traffic on project road varies from 15330 to 17645 PCU. According to traffic projections, road traffic was to be exceeded B-Level of Service in the Year 2016, hence road needs up-gradation to 4 lane configurations. The project road is in close proximity of wildlife protected area, i.e. Rajaji National Park & Tiger Reserve. Both side of the alignment is covered by dense forests, therefore no new alignment has been proposed as it may require more forest diversion as well as damage to rich biodiversity of the nearby forest & protected areas. Hence, NHAI has decided to upgrade the existing road to 4 lane configurations. The project road is mainly used by traders and tourists as well as locals. Due to increased traffic, there are chance of accidents between road vehicles and road crossing animals. For the safety of wild animals as well as road travelers NHAI has proposed mitigation structures (Animal Under	

	<p>Passes and Box Culverts for safe passage of wild animals) as recommended by the Committee constituted by Wildlife Division of MoEF&CC vide O.M.F. No. 6-45/2020 WL (pt. 1) dated 18th May 2020.</p> <p>The project has received Stage-I & Stage-II Forest Clearance on 3rd October 2016 and 7th April 2017 respectively. Subsequently tree cutting has been completed in 2018.</p> <p>The project is located outside from the boundary of Rajaji National Park & Tiger Reserve. However, as per MoEF&CC D.O. dated 6th July 2020, 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. Therefore, the project require clearance from the Standing Committee of NBWL under section 38(O)(I)(g) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.</p>
18	<p>Rare and endangered species found in the area</p> <p>Rajaji National Park is an ideal tiger and leopard habitat. It the most important part of Shivalik Elephant Reserve. This area provide habitat for wild boar, sambar, barking deer, spotted deer, goral, king cobra etc. It is also home for more than 300 species of birds.</p>
19	<p>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</p> <p>The State CWLW has recommended the proposal with the conditions/recommendation of the Director, Rajaji TR that 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.</p>
20	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p>NTCA has recommended the proposal vide letter no.7-9/2021-NTCA dated 9th June 2021 recommended the proposed section of NH-74 subject to the strict adherence to the mitigation measures prescribed as below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The wildlife division of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change vide its office memorandum F.No.6-45/2020 WL (pt. 1) dated 18 May 2020 constituted a Committee for assessing the NHAI road proposal and its impacts on the wildlife due to construction of road recommended the following mitigation structures after a site assessment are also endorsed by the NTCA: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Between Chandi Bridge and Pili river-reinforcement of the existing bridge at Tedhi Puliya to serve as an elephant underpass

	<p>b. Between Pili river and Rawasan river- an integrated structure of 1,300m (excluding the ramps) inclusive of two 500m elephant underpasses and</p> <p>2. For section in between Rawasan and Kotawali rivers where road kills are high, an elevated flyover on pillars in between Gairdikhata 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.</p> <p>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 <i>“Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructure on wildlife”</i></p> <p>3. 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.</p> <p>4. 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.</p> <p>5. Light and sound barriers and vegetative camouflage should also be created along the road.</p> <p>6. 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.</p> <p>7. 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.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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