

F.No.6-30/2015 WL (33rd Meeting)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Wildlife Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi-110003
Dated: 10.04.2015.

To
The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Department of Forests
Government of Uttarakhand
87, Sachivalaya, Rajpur Road
Dehradun-600006.

Sub: Minutes of the 33rd Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL.

Sir,

During the 33rd Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL held on 14th March 2015 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forests and Climate Change, the following proposals pertaining to your State were considered. The relevant portion of the decision taken in respect of the proposals is reproduced below:

- "1. *Proposal for collection of River Bed Material (RBM) from the river bed of river Rawasan River Part-2 (100.59 ha), district Haridwar, Uttarakhand.*
2. *Proposal for collection of River Bed Material (RBM) from the river bed of river Bishanpur (237.918 ha), district Haridwar, Uttarakhand.*
3. *Collection of River Bed Material (RBM) from the river bed of Ganga river Rawasan Part-2 (99.79 ha) distt. Haridwar, Uttarakhand.*
4. *Collection of River Bed Material (RBM) from the river bed of Ganga river at Shyampur (219.442 ha) distt. Haridwar, Uttarakhand.*
5. *Collection of River Bed Material (RBM) from the river bed of Ganga river at Pilli (131.31 ha) distt. Haridwar, Uttarakhand.*

The Member Secretary briefed the Committee on the proposal. Dr.R. Sukumar who was deputed to undertake inspection of the site, requested the Standing Committee to depute WII in his place for site inspection as the Institute had previous experience of conducting such studies in the same area.

Hon'ble Chairman stated that sand mining in the river beds is being carried out in an arbitrary and unscientific manner which has been destroying the rivers. He suggested that scientific assessment of the sand deposits in the area based on satellite imagery in the month of November (after the monsoon period) should be made the basis for preparation of a sustainable sand mining plan for the whole river stretch in the state.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that a team comprising of a representative of WII, Inspector General of Forests NTCA and Chief Wild Life Warden Uttarakhand will undertake a site visit to evaluate the Environment Impact Assessment, Environment Clearance related conditions and possible implications of the proposal and submit the report to the Standing Committee for further consideration.

Contd.../2

L-3162 spec ES
 4/8/2015
 [Signature]

:2:

6. **Electrification of Railway Track through Rajaji National Park between Haridwar and Dehradun in Uttarakhand.**

With the permission of Chair, the proposal of Northern Railway on electrification of track between Haridwar and Dehradun passing through Rajaji National Park was placed before the committee for consideration.

This proposal was earlier discussed in the 32nd meeting of NBWL. In the said meeting, the Chief Wildlife Warden of Uttarakhand had assured the committee that a meeting of SBWL would be convened soon.

The Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttarakhand updated the committee that the SBWL had been reconstituted and the proposal would be placed before it for consideration.

The Member Secretary added that the recommendation of SBWL may be obtained at enable the Standing Committee to consider the proposal. Hon'ble Chairman requested Dr. to conduct site inspection along with a representative of WII and a representative of NTCA, to assess possible implications on wildlife and suggest mitigation measures."

Diversion of 3.330 ha of forestland from Kedarnath Musk Deer Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of road from Takari Tokh to Gaundar village, Uttarakhand.

The member secretary briefed the committee on the proposal. The location of the road being along the valley and existing trek path, does not traverse in the musk deer habitat. The road facilitates connecting remote villages in the Madhayamaheshwar valley.

After discussions, the Standing Committee recommended the proposal with conditions prescribed by Chief Wildlife Warden as below:

- i. Debris that results from road construction shall be consolidated at a location identified by the Wildlife Warden and should not be thrown in the valley.
- ii. Large diameter (40-50 cm dia) Burans and Banj trees shall be retained and the road would be suitably redesigned at the relevant locations.
- iii. Along the steep slopes retaining structure uphill side will be designed with adequate slopes so that accidental fall of wild animals can be avoided.
- iv. Scabbards along the road will be designed with approval of Wild Life Warden, should be sufficiently large to allow movement of animals underneath along the streamlets.

The above recommendation(s) are subject to the existing directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court and provisions of Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980

Yours faithfully

R. Raja
(Rajasekhara)

Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL)

Copy to:

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Uttarakhand, 5, Chandravani, Mohabawala, Dehradun-248 001.
2. The Addl.Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office(CZ), Kendriya Bhandar, 5th Floor, Sector-H, Aliganj, Lucknow-226020, U.P.
3. The Joint Secretary, I.A. Division, MoEF & CC.
4. The Inspector General of Forests, FC Division, MoEF & CC.

R. Raja
(Rajasekhara Ratti)

Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL)