

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Wildlife Division

Summary records of the 22nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) held on 25th April 2011 in Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.

The 22nd Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL was held on 25th April 2011 in Room No. 403, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests.

List of participants of the meeting is at Annexure-1.

Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) and the officers attending the meeting. It was followed by discussion on the listed agenda items.

Some members expressed their concern over the late receipt of a large number of proposals as additional agenda items as late as 22nd April 2011 with some even without proper maps, etc. According to them, late receipt of proposals does not offer enough time for them to peruse the documents, making it difficult to arrive at a rational view on the proposals. These members insisted to record their concerns appropriately in the minutes.

Some non-official members conveyed their concerns through e.mail in the next few days after the 22nd meeting of the Standing Committee was held. The contents of the communications received in this regard from Dr M.K. Ranjitsinh, Ms. Prerna Bindra, Dr Kaustubh Sharma and Dr Divyabhanusinh Chavda are given in Annexure-2.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Confirmation of the minutes:

The Member Secretary informed that the draft minutes of the last meeting had been circulated to all the Members and comments had been received from Ms. Prerna Bindra, Dr A.J.T. Johnsingh and Dr T.R. Shankar Raman. It was decided to append comments received from three members with the minutes of the 21st Meeting of the Standing Committee except comments of Ms. Prerna Bindra on the proposal of widening of existing 2 lane of NH-24 to 4 lane road from KM 86.00 to KM 93 passing through Hastinapur Sanctuary for site inspection, which the Member Secretary pointed out had been cleared by the Standing Committee without

- (xiii) Heavy vehicular traffic should be avoided as it may cause substantial disturbance inside the sanctuary.
- (xiv) Compensation for destruction of trees will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.
- (xv) The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (xvi) The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, to the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

5.36 Proposal for laying optical fibre cable in Sawai Mansingh Wildlife Sanctuary by Idea Cellular Limited.

The Member Secretary informed that this proposal was for laying of optical fibre cable through Sawai Mansingh Sanctuary. It was also informed that the said proposal was considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its meeting held on 12th April 2010. However, as the proposal did not have the recommendation of the State Board for Wildlife, it was deferred. Now the State Government had submitted the recommendation of the State Board for Wildlife. The Chief Wildlife Warden had also recommended the proposal.

The proposal was recommended by the Committee subject to the following conditions:

- (i) No cutting of trees will be allowed.
- (ii) No night camping should be allowed by labour force during laying of OFC in sanctuary area.
- (iii) Work will be done during day time only.
- (iv) Appropriate protection measures for trees will be provided at user agencies cost.
- (v) No disturbance to wildlife and its habitat will be caused.

5.37 Laying of 16"/8" diameter gas pipeline along the NH passing through Rajaji National Park.

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that the proposal was for laying gas pipeline in the existing ROW of the NH-58 which involves 0.483 ha. of forest area. No additional diversion was required for laying this pipeline. The proposal had also been recommended by the Chief Wildlife Warden with the condition that GAIL would provide resources to the tune of Rs. 50000 per annum to the Park to keep the Chilla-Motichur corridor free of weeds and other obstacles to facilitate easy movement of animals over the corridor.

The proposal was recommended subject to the conditions stipulated by the Chief Wildlife Warden.