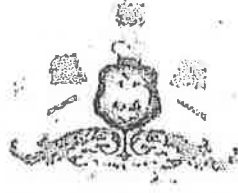


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden,
Karnataka



Office : 080-23341993
Fax : 080-23346389
E-mail: pccfwl@gmail.com
AranyaBhavan, 2nd Floor,
18th Cross, Malleswaram,
Bangalore-560 003
Date: 20-02-2017

No. PCCF(WL)/D/CR- 15/2013-14

To,
The Conservator of Forests & Director,
Nagarahole Tiger Reserve,
Hunsur.

Sub: Issue of permission for laying Optic Fibre Cables from H.D.Kote to Karnataka-Kerala border on State Highway SH-33 (Mysore – Manandavadi Road) PWD CH 246/770 to 278/770 passing through D.B.Kuppe and Antharasanthe Wildlife Ranges of Rajiv Gandhi National Park (Nagarahole Tiger Reserve) for a total length of 21.50 Kms.

- Ref:**
1. Letter no. F.No. 6-159/2016 WL (40th Meeting) dated: 10/13-02-2017 of the Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Wildlife Division, New Delhi.
 2. Minutes of the 40th Meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 03-01-2017.
 3. This office even no. letter dated: 28-10-2016.

A copy of the letter cited under reference (1) above is enclosed herewith for information and compliance. In the said letter the Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Wildlife Division has conveyed the decision taken in respect of the Diversion proposal involving 0.645 Ha of forest land from Rajiv Gandhi National Park (Nagarahole Tiger Reserve) for laying Optic Fibre Cables from H.D.Kote to Karnataka-Kerala border on State Highway SH-33 (Mysore –Manandavadi Road) PWD CH 246/770 to 278/770 passing through D.B.Kuppe and Antharasanthe Wildlife Ranges for a total length of 21.50 Kms.

Hence, you are directed to take further necessary action as per the decision taken in the 40th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife and intimate this office about the action taken on the same. A copy of the Part-IV of the proposal filled by the undersigned is enclosed for information.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden,
Karnataka, Bengaluru

Copy to:

- ✓ The Addl. Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, M.S.Building, Bengaluru-01 for information.

- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Bengaluru for information.
- The Inspector General of Forests, NTCA, Regional Office (Southern Zone), Doresanipalya Forest Campus, Bannerghatta National Park, Arekere Mico Layout, IIMB (PO), Bengaluru - 560076 for information, with a request to suggest any Mitigation measures for laying OFC Cable as per the norms of the MoEF & CC/NTCA to the Conservator of Forests & Director, Nagarhole Tiger Reserve, Hunsur/User Agency and to this office.
- The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation), Bengaluru for information & necessary action.
- The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Project Tiger), Mysuru for information & necessary action.
- ✓ ➤ The M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, No. 51, RMZ Icon, Palace Road Cross, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru - 560052 for information and further needful.

F.No.6-159/2016 WL (40th Meeting)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Wildlife Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi-110003
Dated: 10.02.2017

13

To,
The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Department of Forests
Government of Karnataka
Bangalore.

Sub: Minutes of the 40th Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL.

Sir,

The 40th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL) was held on 3rd January 2017 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest 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:

WL
1. Diversion of 2.1035 ha of forest land from Ranennur Black Buck Sanctuary for the construction of Upper Tunga Project (UTP) in Sy.No.76, 52 of Kudrihal, Sy.No.112 of Medler, Sy.No.10 of Yaklasapur and Sy.Nos 151, 154, 158, 181 of Irani Village, Ranebennur Taluk, Haveri District, Karnataka.

The member secretary briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal involves construction of an irrigation aqueduct involving diversion of 2.1035 ha of forest area from Ranebennur Blackbuck Sanctuary. State CWLW mentioned that the proposed aqueduct is very essential for irrigation canal and for feeding drinking water to existing tanks.

17.02.17
After discussions, considering the public utility of the project for irrigation and drinking water to the local people, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions and mitigation measures prescribed by State CWLW and SBWL.

2. Diversion of 0.645 ha of forest land from Rajiv Gandhi National Park (Nagarahole Tiger Reserve) for laying of Optical Cables from H.D. Kote to Karnataka-Kerala border on State Highway SH-33 (Mysore-Banandavadi road) PWD CH 246/770 to 278/770 passing through D.B. Kuppe and Anthurasanthe Wildlife Ranges for a total length of 21.50 kms, Karnataka.

The member secretary briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal involves laying Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) along the existing road, within the right of way, passing through Nagarhole Tiger Reserve. He added that NTCA has recommended the proposal along with mitigation measures and conditions after due feasibility assessment carried by team of officers and scientists.

Contd.../2

:2:

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project for telecommunication, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions and mitigation measures prescribed by NTCA, State CWLW and SBWL."

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

Yours faithfully,

Raj 13/02/2017
(Rajasekhar Ratti)

Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL)

Copy to:

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
2. The Addl.Pr.Chief Conservator of Forests, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office(SZ), Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor E&F Wings, 17th Main Road, 1 Block, Koranmangala, Bangalore-560034.
3. The Joint Secretary, I.A. Division, MoEF & CC.
4. The Inspector General of Forests, FC Division, MoEF & CC.

Raj 13/02/2017
(Rajasekhar Ratti)

Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL)

PART- IV

(To be filled in by the Chief Wildlife Warden within 15 days of the receipt of PART-II and III)

Diversion of 0.645 Ha of forest land for laying Optical Fibre Cable from Bavali Check Post to Udbur Forest gate along the State Highway-33 (Mysuru-Manadavadi Road Sy. No. 8 of Kakanakote Reserve Forest (D.B.Kuppe and Antharasnathe Wildlife Ranges) in Nagarahole Tiger Reserve

1.	Date of RECEIPT of PART-II and III by the Chief Wildlife Warden or the Officer authorized by him in this regard.
	03-06-2016.
2.	Do you agree with the information and recommendation provided by the Officer - in-charge in PART-III
	Yes.
3.	If not, please provide the reasons.
	Nil.
4.	Have you visited the site yourself and held discussions with the applicant.
	No.
5(a)	Do you agree that the present proposal for permitting of use of NP/WLS area is the best opinion or only option, and is viable.
	I agree with the opinion of the Conservator of Forests & Director, Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, Hunsur and the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Project Tiger), Mysuru. There are no other options available and it is the only feasible and practical option.
5(b)	Whether the proposal sub-judice? If yes, give details.
	No. As per the remarks provided in Part-III of the proposal and the report dated: 03-06-2016 of the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Project Tiger), Mysuru the proposal is not sub-judice.
6.	Please provide specific comments with respect of Sec.29 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
	The work shall be taken up only under the close supervision of the jurisdictional officer & staff, to avoid any damage to the flora & fauna.
7.	Any other information that he would bring to the notice of the State Board for Wildlife, National Board for Wildlife or its Standing Committee that may be relevant and assist in decision making.
	The State Board for Wildlife during its 9th meeting held on 31-08-2016 under the Chairmanship of Hon`ble Chief Minister of Karnataka has discussed the proposal and has resolved as below: <i>"This proposal is on the similar lines as detailed at agenda No.7, involves 0.645 ha of forest land for laying optical fibre cable over a length of about 21.50 Kms along the Right of Way of the existing State Highway. This activity will have a very minimal negative impact over a short period of time. The Board deliberated upon this issue in its entirety and resolved to recommend the proposal to the</i>

National Board for Wildlife for approval"

8. Do you recommend the project.
Yes, I recommend the project.

(Please provide full justification to support your recommendations)

As above.

9. Conditions, if any to be ensured in the interest of protection and conservation of wildlife for allowing use of the area?

The conditions if any as imposed / suggested by the jurisdictional officers shall have to be adhered to by the User Agency. After the approval of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife the action may be taken as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Signed by :

The Chief Wildlife Warden

Name: B.J.Hosmath

State: Karnataka

Official Seal:

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden
Karnataka, Bangalore.

Date of Submission to the State Government