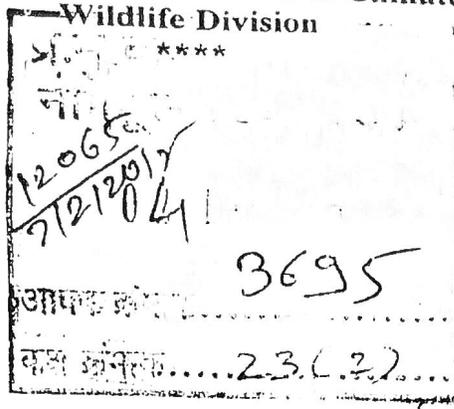


F.No.6-209/2014 WL (32nd Meeting)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change



6th Floor, Vayu Wing,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi-110003
Dated: 25.02.2015

The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Department of Forests
Government of Maharashtra
Manatralaya Mumbai
Nagpur-400032.

Subject: Minutes of the 32nd Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL.

Sir,

During the 32nd Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL held on 21st January 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 permission to use private agricultural land for non-agricultural/educational purpose in village Kashti in GIB Sanctuary in Maharashtra State.*

The Member Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the proposal. He informed that the site inspection was to be conducted by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL), Maharashtra. He added that the site inspection was undertaken and the report was submitted, which was circulated to the members during the meeting.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL), Maharashtra explained that after the rationalization of boundary of the Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary, the village Kashti has been excluded outside the boundary of the Sanctuary. In view of this, the State Government has decided to withdraw the proposal.

After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to agree to the request of the State Government of Maharashtra for withdrawal of the proposal as the proposed land was falling outside the boundary of the Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary.

2. *Approval to excavation of strip of land measuring 360 Mt.X 1.25 Mt. for laying 450 mm/300 mm dia. watermain along existing approach road to Appapada on portion of forest land Sy.No.239/1, Kurar (Malad) village, Mumbai (area 0.045 ha) of Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivili, Mumbai. (Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai).*

The Member Secretary briefed the committee regarding the proposal. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra mentioned that this was for laying underground pipeline for water supply to Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) buildings constructed for shifting Project Affected Persons from slums of Bandongri, Tanajinagar, Shivajinagar etc. in the vicinity of Appapada. He also added that

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the pipeline shall be laid along the existing approach road to Appapada along the road. As such there will not be felling of any trees and disturbance to the forest. He added that the State Board for Wildlife had recommended the proposal. He further said that he had recommended the proposal subject to the condition that the project authority should provide 2% of the project cost to construct waterholes and vegetation restoration over the restored ditch surface and surrounding

After discussion, considering the public interest involved for providing water, and the fact that the pipeline was being laid along the existing road, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to conditions stipulated by the State Board for Wildlife. It was also decided that the adequate mitigatory measures shall be undertaken in consultation with the Chief Wildlife Warden, and the user agency shall bear the cost for such mitigation measures.

3. **Proposal for Alewadi Larger Minor Irrigation project (L.M.I.P) over 273.02 ha private land in Ta. Sangrampur Distt. Buldhana, Maharashtra. The project area is located within the proposed ESZ of Melghat Tiger Reserve.**

The Member Secretary briefed the committee regarding the proposal. He mentioned that the command area of the project is spread over an area of 273.02 ha within the proposed ESZ of Melghat Tiger Reserve and is 1.5 to 1.75 km away from Ambabarwa WLS and within 5 km from Wan WLS. Chief Wildlife Warden explained that Alwadi Larger Minor Irrigation Project (ALIMP) will provide perennial water source to surrounding area as well as for wildlife. Environment Impact Assessment / Wildlife Management Plan was prepared by user agency and submitted to SBWL, Maharashtra. The SBWL recommended the proposal in its 7th meeting held on 20th February 2014 with the condition that 2% of the project cost would be deposited with Melghat Tiger Conservation Foundation for habitat development, protection and other conditions laid down by CWLW. Member Secretary NTCA agreed on the conditions.

After discussions, in view of need of water availability for life support systems in the surrounding area, additional drinking water availability, income generation by development of fishery, coexistence of human and wildlife, the Standing Committee recommended the proposal subject to the compliance of the conditions laid by SBWL and CWLW including strict implementation of Wildlife Management Plan in consultation with CWLW.

4. **Proposal for Ar-kacheri Larger Minor Project (L.M.I.P) area 321.93 ha private land in Ta. Sangrampur Distt. Buldhana, Maharashtra. The proposed site is within 10 km of distance from Ambabarwa Wildlife Sanctuary and also falls in proposed ESZ of Melghat Tiger Reserve.**

The Member Secretary briefed the committee regarding proposal. He mentioned that the proposal of Al-kacheri LMIP is sub-judice and litigation pending in Hon'ble High Court at Bombay, Nagpur Bench. Chief Wildlife Warden explained that a biodiversity impact assessment study was conducted by the user agency and submitted in the SBWL. The proposal was recommended by SBWL in its 8th meeting held on 20th February 2014 with the conditions implementation of mitigation measures against habitat fragmentation, ensure post project environmental monitoring, funds for command area development including waterholes, a mobile security guard, chain link fencing and plantation on both sides of diversion canal. In addition, 2 % of the project cost shall be deposited with Melghat Tiger Conservation Foundation for habitat development.

After discussions, the proposal was recommended with conditions as stipulated by SBWL and CWLW and subject to the orders of Hon'ble High Court.

5. **Diversion of 16.40 ha forest land for Khindsi feeder canal Nagpur, Pench irrigation project Tah. Parshioni Distt. Nagpur, Maharashtra. (within 10 kms from Mansingdeo Wildlife Sanctuary)**

The Member Secretary briefed the committee regarding proposal. He mentioned that construction of link canal between two existing reservoirs is proposed to meet growing demand for water supply of Nagpur, Ramtek city and surrounding area and for availability of additional water without any submergence and resettlement issues.

Chief Wildlife Warden explained that the proposal falls in ESZ of Mansingdeo WLS. SBWL of Maharashtra recommended the proposal in 8th meeting with specific mitigation measure for corridors of wild animals. In addition 2 % of the project cost shall be deposited with Pench Tiger Conservation Foundation.

After discussions, the Standing Committee recommended the proposal with conditions laid by SBWL and CWLW including funding the village committees for conservation plan for 10 years in consultation with CWLW. This would be at the rate of Rs 1 lakh annually for 5 villages, totalling Rs 50 lakh.

6. **Approval to the Patiya Minor Irrigation Project having forest area of 9.33 ha belonging to West Melghat Division, Paratwada near Patiya village of Ta. Dharni Distt. Amravati, Maharashtra. (Outside Melghat Tiger Reserve)**

The Member Secretary briefed the committee regarding the proposal. He mentioned that the proposal of Patiya irrigation tank is 6.9 km away from the core area and from 1.5 km away from buffer of Melghat Tiger Reserve. SBWL recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 20th February 2014 with the conditions:

- Soil moisture conservation works for the catchment area treatment within and adjoining forest areas.
- 2 % of the project cost shall be deposited with Melghat Tiger Conservation Foundation for conservation activities.
- Water will be provided to Forest Department free of cost.

In view to meet the water requirement of the tribal and other people, the Standing Committee recommended the proposal with stipulated conditions of SBWL, CWLW and compliance to the said conditions.

7. **Diversion of 34.135 ha forest land for proposed Nardave Medium Irrigation Project Ta. Kankwali Dist. Sindhudurg, Maharashtra. The area is about 0.75 to 2.00 kms away from Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary.**

The Member Secretary briefed the committee regarding proposal. He mentioned that the proposal is for diversion of 34.135 ha forest land and the site is about 0.75 to 2.0 km away from Radhanagari WLS. Chief Wildlife Warden explained total of 1193 trees will be needed to be felled. The proposal was recommended by SBWL in its meeting held on 20th February 2014 with the conditions that

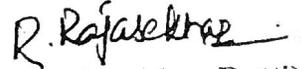
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- 2% of the project cost shall be paid to the concerned wildlife division for habitat development & protection of wildlife.
- Compliance of the other conditions specified by CWLW.

After discussions, the Standing Committee recommended the proposal in view of development of public utility, availability of water in the lean season subject to compliance of conditions of CWLW."

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

Yours faithfully

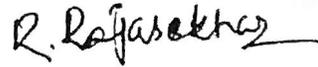


(Rajasekhar Ratti)

Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL)

Copy to:

1. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Maharashtra, Ram Giri Road, Civil Line, Van Bhawan, Nagpur-440 001.
2. The Addl.Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office(WZ), E-5, Arera Colony, Link road-3, Bhopal-462016.
3. The Joint Secretary, I.A. Division, MoEF & CC.
4. The Inspector General of Forests, FC Division, MoEF & CC.



(Rajasekhar Ratti)

Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL)