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Dated: 10.04.2015.

To,  
The Principal Secretary (Forests)  
Department of Forests  
Government of Sikkim  
Gangtok.

Sub: Minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL.

Sir,

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

"1. *Diversion of 0.8538 ha of forest land from Kitam Bird Sanctuary for construction of 02 lane Melli-Manpur-Namchi Road in South Sikkim under SARDP NE (Phase-A), Sikkim.*

*The member secretary briefed the committee on the proposal. He stated that the existing road needs up-gradation due to traffic congestion and served as a vital link between South and West districts of Sikkim.*

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

- *Labour camps will not be permitted to be set up inside or near by sanctuary*
  - *Construction materials should be stored in the area identified by the Wild Life Warden.*
  - *No felling of trees has been indicated in the proposal. In the forest outside the WLS also, minimum felling of trees or destruction of wildlife habitat, exploitation or removal of any wildlife including forest produce from the sanctuary or forest areas should take place.*
  - *Saving most of the enumerated trees as far as possible and felling trees where absolute necessary.*
  - *Authorized forest personnel will check the construction sites as and when required*
  - *No collection of fuel-wood permitted from the PAs or forest areas*
- Project authority should obey the acts, rules and guidelines of the land in letter and spirit."*

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 Sekhar*  
(Rajasekhari Ratti)

Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL)