

F. No. 6-178/2022 - WL
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Wildlife Division)

3rd Floor, Jal Wing,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, New Delhi-110003.

28th October, 2022

To
All Members
Standing Committee of NBWL

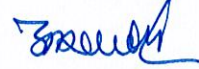
Sub: Minutes of 70th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life-regarding.

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the Minutes of 70th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 13th October, 2022 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Rajendra Kumar)
Scientist 'C'

Email: kumar.rajendra@gov.in

Distribution:

1. Secretary, MoEF & CC
2. DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
3. ADGF(WL), MOEF&CC.
4. ADGF(FC), MoEF&CC.
5. Member Secretary, NTCA.
6. Director/IGF, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
7. Director, WII, Dehradun.
8. Director, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar.
9. Dr. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL.
10. Dr. H.S. Singh, Member, NBWL.
11. Secretary, Environment, Forest, Science and Technology Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble MoEF&CC.
2. PS to Hon'ble MoS, EF&CC.
3. PPS to Secretary, MoEF & CC

4. PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
5. PSO to Addl. DGF(WL)/PPS to IGF(WL).
6. **Additional Chief Secretary**/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Forest Department, Government of Bihar/Chandigarh/Chattisgarh/Gujarat/Jharkhand/Karnataka/ Kerala /Maharashtra/Madhya Pradesh/ Rajasthan/ Telangana/ Uttarakhand/ Uttar Pradesh.
7. **PCCF and HoFF**, Government of Bihar/Chandigarh/Chattisgarh/Gujarat/ Jharkhand /Karnataka /Kerala/ Maharashtra/ Madhya Pradesh/Rajasthan/ Telangana /Uttarakhand /Uttar Pradesh.
8. **CWLW**, Government of Bihar/Chandigarh/Chattisgarh/Gujarat/Jharkhand /Karnataka/ Kerala/ Maharashtra/ Madhya Pradesh/ Rajasthan/ Telangana/ Uttarakhand /Uttar Pradesh.

Copy also to:

Sr. Technical Director, NIC with a request to upload the minutes of the meeting on PARIVESH Portal.

MINUTES OF THE 70th MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE HELD ON 13th OCTOBER, 2022

The 70th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life was held through Video Conference on 13th October, 2022 under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change. The list of participants is placed at **ANNEXURE-I**.

The Member Secretary welcomed the participants to the meeting. He gave a brief account of the numbers of proposals received on PARIVESH portal and those under process at various levels. He then requested IGF (WL) to initiate the discussions on the Agenda Items.

AGENDA ITEM No.1

70.1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 69th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 29th July, 2022.

The Standing Committee was informed that the minutes of the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 29th July, 2022 were circulated to all the Members and no comments have been received on the minutes of the meeting.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to confirm the minutes of its 69th meeting held on 29th July, 2022.

AGENDA ITEM No.2

(Action Taken Report)

70.2.1 Building Stone Mine (Quarry) project of M/s Nellikunnu Granite & Crusher Pvt. Ltd. is situated at Survey No. 523/1pt, 571/1pt & 567pt of Maruthonkara Village & Panchayat, Vatakara Taluk, Kozhikode District, Kerala in an area of 7.8991 hectares.

FP/KL/QRY/4578/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 7.8991 ha from default ESZ of Malabar Sanctuary by Building Stone Mine (Quarry) project of M/s Nellikunnu Granite & Crusher Pvt. Ltd at Maruthonkara Village & Panchayat, Vatakara Taluk, Kozhikode District, Kerala at a distance of 2.56 kms from Malabar WL Sanctuary. The proposal was considered in the 67th, 68th and 69th meeting. The mitigation plan submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden was not found to be specific and therefore, the proposal was deferred.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Kerala informed that the mitigation plan now submitted also contains measures to be taken for pollution and waste management. The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that the declaration of

ESZ around the sanctuary is pending due to revision necessitated in accordance with the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in I. A. no. 1000 of 2003 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995 dated 3rd June, 2022.

Dr. H. S. Singh observed that the project is proposed to be located far from the sancatry and as such it would not have much impact on the sanctuary. The proposal may be recommended. He further mentioned that the pendency of notification of Eco-sensitive Zones around National Parks and sanctuaries is a serious issue.

The Chairman directed that the members and the invitees for the Standing Committee should come prepared and be specific in their observations.

Member Secretary informed that the mitigation plan submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden includes provisions for construction of small check dam to prevent soil erosion along with gully plugging and brushwood check dams, green belt development along the boundary of the proposed site to reduce noise as well as dust problems, reclamation of pit area and plant suitable species, separate dumping of top soil and planting with grass species, signages and boards regarding environmental awareness.

Director General of Forests and Special Secretary requested for expedited action on the declaration of the ESZ around National Parks and sanctuaries.

The Chairman directed that the project proposals within ESZ around those National Parks and sanctuaries in respect of which the ESZ proposals or information requested by the Ministry pertaining to the notification of ESZ for those National Parks and sanctuaries is not received, such project proposals inside ESZ shall not be considered by the Standing Committee in future. He further requested Dr. H. S. Singh for an agenda to be considered in the next meeting pertaining to the declaration of ESZ.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. No activity related to the project will be carried out by the proponent before sunrise and after sunset.
2. The mitigation plan and the pollution and the waste management plan submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden shall be implemented by the User Agency in totality.
3. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.
4. Expedite action on the declaration of the ESZ around National Parks and sanctuaries.

70.2.2 Building Stone Mine (Quarry) project of M/s Highrange Metal Crusher Survey Nos.1119, 969/3, 969/3, 969/4, 969/4, 969, Peermade Village,

Peermade Taluk, Idukki District, Kerala for area 4.606 hectare at a distance of 8.61 kms from Periyar Tiger Reserve.

FP/KL/QRY/4464/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 4.606 ha in default ESZ of Periyar Tiger Reserve by Building Stone Mine (Quarry) project of M/s Highrange Metal Crusher at Peermade Village, Peermade Taluk, Idukki District, Kerala about 8.61 km from the boundary of the Tiger Reserve.

The proposal was considered in the 67th, 68th and 69th meeting. The mitigation plan submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden was not found to be specific and therefore, the proposal was deferred.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Kerala informed that the mitigation plan now submitted also contains measures to be taken for pollution and waste management.

Dr. H. S. Singh observed that the project is proposed to be located far from the sanctuary and as such it would not have much impact on the sanctuary. The proposal may be recommended.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. No activity related to the project will be carried out by the proponent before sunrise and after sunset.
2. The mitigation plan and the pollution and the waste management plan submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden shall be implemented by the User Agency in totality.
3. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.2.3 Building Stone Quarry Project Located at Sy Nos.138/(pt), 836(pt), 837(pt), 839(pt) and 847(pt) at Killimangalam Village, Thalappily Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala

FP/KL/QRY/4590/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 4.2649 ha from default ESZ of Peechi-Vazhani Sanctuary for Building Stone Quarry Project by M/s Celakkara Granite at Killimangalam Village, Thalappily Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala about 6.68 km from the boundary of the Sanctuary.

The proposal was considered in the 67th, 68th and 69th meeting. The mitigation plan submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden was not found to be specific and therefore, the proposal was deferred.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Kerala informed that the mitigation plan now submitted also contains measures to be taken for pollution and waste management.

Dr. H. S. Singh observed that the project is proposed to be located far from the sanctuary and as such it would not have much impact on the sanctuary. The proposal may be recommended.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. No activity related to the project will be carried out by the proponent before sunrise and after sunset.
2. The mitigation plan and the pollution and the waste management plan submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden shall be implemented by the User Agency in totality.
3. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.2.4 Hubli – Ankola New Railway line project Karnataka

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for wildlife clearance for Hubli-Ankola railway line project was placed for the consideration of the Standing Committee in the 68th meeting.

The Standing Committee had decided that a Committee shall be constituted to examine the proposal, survey the area, assess the impacts of the project over forest and wildlife etc. Ministry constituted the Committee vide letter dated 3rd June 2022. The Committee held a meeting on 16th June, 2022.

The Committee carried out site inspection and hearing of stakeholders from 26th to 29th September, 2022 and the report is expected to be submitted by the Committee to the Ministry within a month's time.

Decision taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal for the next meeting.

70.2.5 Proposal for use of 0.701 ha of forest land from Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary for setting up of 4G Telecommunication towers in 7 villages of Narmada District & laying of Optical Fibre Cable in Narmada district.

FP/GJ/OFC/143971/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.701 ha of forest land from Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary for setting up of three Telecommunication towers in 7 villages & laying of Optical Fibre Cable in Narmada district.

The proposal considered in the 68th and 69th meetings of the Standing Committee held on 30th May, 2022 wherein it was decided that the State Government shall examine the availability of alternate sites for erection of telecommunication towers and therefore, deferred the proposal for the next meeting.

The State Government has now informed that the alternative sites are not available.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The user agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Sanctuary.
3. The user agency shall not use the area for any work other than that permitted.
4. The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Sanctuary.
5. The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Sanctuary.
6. The user agency will have to prepare a conservation plan relevant to the biological entity affected due to the project and deposit the fund before initiating any work on the land.
7. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
8. The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
9. Approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
10. The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates before initiating any work on the allotted land.
11. The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.
12. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.2.6 Proposal for use of 0.0648 ha of forest land from Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary for erection of Telephone tower in Pipargota and Alindra villages of Dhanpur Taluka in Vadodra district

FP/GJ/Others/5284/2020

The proposal is for use of 0.0648 ha of forest land from Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary for erection of Telecommunication towers in Pipargota and Alindra villages of Dhanpur Taluka in Vadodra district.

The proposal was considered in the 68th and 69th meetings of the Standing Committee held on 30th May, 2022 wherein it was decided that the State Government shall examine the availability of alternate sites for erection of telecommunication towers and therefore, deferred the proposal for the next meeting.

The State Government has now informed that the alternative sites are not available.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The user agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Sanctuary.
3. The user agency shall not use the area for any work other than that permitted.
4. The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Sanctuary.
5. The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Sanctuary.
6. The user agency will have to prepare a conservation plan relevant to the biological entity affected due to the project and deposit the fund before initiating any work on the land.
7. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
8. The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
9. Approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
10. The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates before initiating any work on the allotted land.
11. The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.
12. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.2.7 Proposal for use of 0.95 ha of forest land from National Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Intake Well, Approach Bridge and water pipeline by Water Resources Department, Bhind, Madhya Pradesh.

FP/MP/WATER/6132/2021

The proposal is for use of 0.95 ha of forest land from National Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Intake Well, Approach Bridge and water pipeline by Water Resources Department, Bhind, Madhya Pradesh.

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that the State Government of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh shall submit their reports regarding compliance of conditions relating to the projects recommended by the Standing Committee in the past in National Chambal Sanctuary.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh vide his letter dated 4th October, 2022 has reported that the conditions have been complied with in case of 12 projects and no works have been carried out in three other projects recommended by the Standing Committee within Chambal Sanctuary in the state of Madhya Pradesh.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan stated that in most of the cases starting from the year 2005, conditions have been complied with and in some cases projects have not been started and in one case the project has not been completed. He further mentioned that the Irrigation Department does not provide the discharge data on regular basis thereby making it difficult to monitor the flow level in the Chambal river by the Forest Department.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that WII had earlier given a report that the flow in Chambal during late winters and summers reduces a lot which is not sufficient for survival of dolphins and therefore the Standing Committee had decided not to consider any proposal for taking water from the Chambal river. He requested that a policy decision regarding maintenance of minimum flow in Chambal river may be taken. Whenever water level is reduced to minimum flow level, water should be released from dams.

The Chairman suggested that a committee should be constituted to decide upon the minimum flow level in the Chambal river.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that a committee shall be constituted by the Ministry to prescribe the minimum flow in the Chambal river that should be maintained for the conservation of Dolphins and associated species in the river Chambal. The Committee shall comprise Member Secretary, NBWL, Dr. H. S. Singh, Member, NBWL, representatives of Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, Central Water Commission and Irrigation Department, Government of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. The Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The minimum flow level as may be suggested by the committee to be constituted in this regard by the Ministry shall be maintained in the river Chambal for conservation of dolphins and gharials.
2. The proponent should ensure that there is no damage to forest, wildlife and its habitats.
3. No work will be done at night.

4. When the water level of the river becomes low and water is not sufficient for aquatic life then lifting of water for irrigation purpose will be stopped.
5. Regular monitoring of the water level and flow of the river shall be done by a committee of the applicant organization, forest officials and environmentalists, so that the water flow of the river will be continuously monitored.
6. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.2.8 Proposal for use of 0.0762 ha of forest land from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for laying underground 24" Steel Gas Pipeline from Ahmednagar to Aurangabad within the RoW of MSH-05 in Ta. Gangapur & Newasa for city gas distribution by BGRL.

FP/MH/Pipeline/5827/2021

The proposal is for use of 0.0762 ha of forest land from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for laying underground 24" Steel Gas Pipeline from Ahmednagar to Aurangabad within the RoW of MSH-05 in Gangapur and Newasa in Maharashtra for city gas distribution by Bharat Gas Resources Ltd.

The proposal was first considered in the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee held on 29th July, 2022 wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the submission of contingency plan by the State Government in case of leakage of gas which may affect the ecosystem.

The report from the State Government is awaited.

The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that the User Agency has been requested to submit the contingency plan and as soon as it is received the same shall be submitted to the Ministry.

The Chairman mentioned that the Jaikwadi Dam supplies water to the Aurangabad City and the gas leakage may also affect human beings.

Decision taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of contingency plan by the State Government.

70.2.9 Proposal for use of 1.25 ha of forest land for widening and upgradation of the existing road from Allapalli to Mailaram in Bhadradi Kothagudem District, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/5487/2020

The proposal is for use of 1.25 ha of forest land for widening and upgradation of the existing road from Allapalli to Mailaram in Bhadradi Kothagudem District, Telangana.

The proposal was first considered in the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee held on 29th July, 2022 wherein it was decided the Inspector General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad shall inspect the project site and submit report regarding the violations.

There is no recognised right of way over the road in the sanctuary.

Inspector General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad informed that the User Agency has already carried out the black topping work in this portion during the year 2018-19. The Forest Department officials informed that show-cause notice has been issued against the User Agency and disciplinary action has been initiated against the sub-ordinate officials of the Forest Department.

Director General of Forests and Special Secretary pointed out that there is a violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and also the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Dr. H. S. Singh said that the staff should have stopped the works at the time of execution of the works by the User Agency.

The Chairman observed that it is the responsibility of the Chief Wild Life Warden to take actions against the violations under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Decision taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee directed the Chief Wild Life Warden that action against erring officials both from the Forest Department and the User Agency should be initiated within 15 days. The Chief Wild Life Warden shall inform the Standing Committee regarding the action taken under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the next meeting.

70.2.10 Proposal for use of 3.43 ha of forest land from Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary for widening and upgradation of the existing road from Mondikunta to Mamilavai in Bhadradi Kothagudem District, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/4418/2019

The proposal is for use of 3.43 ha of forest land from Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary for widening and upgradation of the existing road from Mondikunta to Mamilavai in Bhadradi Kothagudem District, Telangana.

The proposal was first considered in the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee held on 29th July, 2022 wherein it was decided the Inspector General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad shall inspect the project site and submit report regarding the violations.

There is no recognised right of way over the road in the sanctuary. As per the report received from the Inspector General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad, the mud road has been upgraded to metalled road in the year 2006-07, thereby indicating violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Decision taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee directed the Chief Wild Life Warden that action against erring officials both from the Forest Department and the User Agency should be initiated within 15 days. The Chief Wild Life Warden shall inform the Standing Committee regarding the action taken under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the next meeting.

70.2.11 Proposal for use of 6.4325 ha of forest land from Kaimur Wild Life Sanctuary for construction of intake Jackwell, laying of underground pipeline, 1.20 km, in length and construction of water treatment plant under Patwadh Group of Villages, Uttar Pradesh.

FP/UP/WATER/119894/2021

The proposal is for use of 6.4325 ha of forest land from Kaimur Wild Life Sanctuary for construction of intake Jackwell, laying of 1.20 km long underground pipeline and construction of a water treatment plant under Patwadh group of villages in Uttar Pradesh.

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee held on 29th July, 2022 wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the submission of report by the State Government regarding availability of alternate sites for the project.

A report received from the State Government indicates that two alternative sites were inspected and found to be technically less feasible. The report finds the proposed location as the best available option.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged. The user agency will have right only for construction, maintenance and the land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
2. As forest land and trees standing over it are also involved in the project, Forest Clearance as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will also be required and user agency will be required to comply all conditions stipulated in forest clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.
3. Net Present Value (N.P.V.) shall be paid by the User Agency as per directions issued by Ministry of Environment of Forest (FC Division), New Delhi vide letter No. F.No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 for proposed forest land 6.4325 ha. falling within the Kaimur sanctuary.

4. The user agency shall deposit a sum of Rs 180.00 lakh for mitigation measures to minimize the negative impact of the project on the habitat of wild life in the Kaimur sanctuary under online deposit head no.6-additional charges for protected area in CAMPA FUND, as per guidelines of Government of India. This amount will be spent on the mitigation measures within the same protected area.
5. The personnel of user agency working on the site should be well aware and shall be bound to follow the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
6. The user agency will ensure that no labour camp shall be established inside the sanctuary or any other sensitive area in its eco-sensitive zone. Neither firewood nor any other forest produce from the forest will be used.
7. The user agency will keep firefighting equipment as well as equipment for minimizing noise pollution and muck disposals at the site.
8. During the construction period, the user agency will establish one temporary forest check post along with the required manpower at its own cost.
9. User agency will fix sign board at appropriate point of the project.
10. Construction waste materials/muck generated shall not be thrown inside the protected area or its eco-sensitive zone area or on the movement corridor of Wildlife.
11. User agency will take all precautions including technical measures to contain the noise and air pollution, protection from fire during execution of construction activities and shall also obtain consent to operate the project work from U.P. Pollution Control Board, if required and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
12. The project proponent shall undertake plantation/afforestation work by planting 550 plants of native species in the buffer area of the sanctuary to compensate the felling of 55 trees during the construction of proposed work, for which necessary finance will be provided by the user agency as per the proposal put up by Divisional Forest Officer, Kaimur sanctuary, Mirzapur after approval of Chief Wild Life Warden.
13. Blasting/Ammunition materials shall not be carried by user agency in Wildlife area.
14. No work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.
15. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.2.12 Management of lands of Protected Areas/forests under transmission line

The Standing Committee was informed that a suggestion was received from Dr. H. S. Singh regarding management of areas below transmission lines passing through protected areas and forest areas.

The matter was deliberated in the 66th meeting held on 31st December, 2022 wherein it was decided that the Ministry shall request the details of protected

areas and forest areas with transmission lines and the vegetation, terrain and periodicity of maintenance of the area. The details collected shall be shared with the expert members of the Standing Committee and the Wildlife Institute of India. Thereafter, guidelines on management of such areas may be framed. The Standing Committee also decided that in future, all proposals for laying transmission lines submitted for its consideration should be accompanied with a management plan for the area below the transmission line.

Accordingly, Ministry requested that States/UTs for providing the details in a format. The details received from the States/UTs has been communicated to the Expert members of the Standing Committee and also to Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun and reminded on 3rd October, 2022.

Member Secretary, NBWL informed that the report received from the States/UTs indicate that regular clearing of the undergrowth below transmission lines is being done by the transmission agencies or forest department officials. Some states have mentioned that they have done planting of species which do not grow tall. Jammu and Kashmir has reported that the nurseries have been raised and firelines have been maintained below transmission lines.

Director, Wildlife Institute of India informed that the report from the Institute has been prepared and it is suggested that the areas below transmission lines may be used for development of grasslands and planting species that may be useful for herbivores.

Decision Taken: After detailed discussions, the Standing Committee decided that a presentation will be made by the Wildlife Institute of India on their proposal before the Chairman, Standing Committee in which the Principal Chief Conservators of Forests shall be present through virtual mode who may be required to give details of timelines for taking up management of protected areas below transmission lines.

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

(Policy Matters, Court Orders)

70.3.1 Management of protected areas

Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Chairman of the National Board for Wild Life at the conference of Hon'ble Forest Ministers and the officials of Forest Departments of States/Union Territories at Kevadia in Gujarat on 23.09.2022 gave important mantras for the conservation of forests and environment of the country through video conference. The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life in its 70th meeting held on 13th October, 2022 deliberated on some of the policy issues pertaining to the conservation and protection of wildlife and their habitat. Notable among those were strengthening campaign of solid waste management and freedom from single use plastic, water conservation in wetlands inside and in areas surrounding protected areas, experience based learning for conservation and protection of wildlife and

carbon sequestration while planning developmental projects in and around Protected Areas.

Director, GEER Foundation suggested that Municipal bodies may be encouraged to establish bio-gasifiers.

Director, WII suggested that dead animals may be used as feed for vultures in established vulture feeding sites.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the points highlighted are very important and there should be focus on development of wetlands in Eco-sensitive Zones which is very significant for our culture and conservation.

Decision Taken: After detailed discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the Ministry shall issue advisory to states/UTs for taking steps on these aspects. It was also decided that SACON will be involved in the conservation of wetlands.

AGENDA ITEM No. 4

(Fresh Proposals Falling Inside / Outside the Protected Area)

70.4.1 Proposal for use of 10.368 ha of forest land from Rajauli (Nawada) Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of four laning of Rajauli- Bakhtiyarpur section from Km 47+723 to Km 54+405 of NH-31 (Package-I), Bihar.

FP/BR/ROAD/40700/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 10.368 ha of forest land from Rajauli (Nawada) Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of four laning of Rajauli- Bakhtiyarpur section from Km 47+723 to Km 54+405 of NH-31 (Package-I), Bihar.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Bihar mentioned that this sanctuary was part of Koderma Wildlife Sanctuary and in the year 2019, the State Government of Bihar notified the Bihar part of Koderma sanctuary as Rajauli (Nawada) sanctuary. The road passes through one of the segments of the sanctuary for about 6.5 kms and the proposal is for widening this road from 2-lane to 4-lane.

Dr. H. S. Singh informed that the proposal is not accompanied with proper mitigation measures. The sanctuary has presence of sloth bears, sambhar, chital etc. and suitable animal passage structures should be provided by the user agency.

	<p>Director General of Forests and Special Secretary observed that there must be a proposal for widening of NH-31 on the Jharkhand side also as this sanctuary was part of Koderma Sanctuary.</p> <p>Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided the proposal shall be considered in a holistic manner together with the proposal of the highway in the State of Jharkhand. The User Agency shall submit proper animal passage plan in accordance with the guidance document of the Ministry, 'Eco-friendly measures to mitigate the impacts of linear infrastructure on wildlife'.</p>
<p>70.4.2</p>	<p>Proposal for proposed projects i.e.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. General Housing Scheme at Plot Nos.1 & 2 and ii. Govt. Housing Scheme at Plot No.7 at RGCTP Habitat Project, IT Park, Chandigarh. <p>The project site Plot 1 and 2 is 1.56 km away from the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary. The project site Plot no. 7 is 1.52 km away from the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary.</p> <p>FP/CH/Others/6097/2021</p> <p>The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 9.448 ha of land in the Eco-sensitive Zone of the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary. Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide an order dated 3rd June 2022 in Interlocutory Application No 1000 of 2003 in Writ petition (Civil) No 202 of 1995 has directed amongst that no new permanent structure shall be permitted to come up for whatsoever purpose within the ESZ.</p> <p>The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.</p> <p>Decision Taken: The Standing Committee observed that the development of high rise buildings near the Sanctuary would lead to disturbance in the migratory paths of the birds. The waste generated along with the noise and air pollution arising as a result of allied activities in these townships will have deleterious effect on the sanctuary and birds. The Standing Committee therefore decided to reject the proposal.</p>
<p>70.4.3</p>	<p>Proposal for use of 0.828 ha of forest land from Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve for construction of high level bridge and its approach road across Balka river on Ratwa-Birnasilli road near CRPF camp, Village-Birnasilli, District-Dhamtari, Chattisgarh.</p> <p>FP/CG/Others/149523/2021</p> <p>The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.828 ha of forest land from Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve for construction of high level bridge and its approach road across Balka river on Ratwa-Birnasilli road near CRPF camp, Village-Birnasilli, District-Dhamtari, Chattisgarh.</p>

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Chhattisgarh informed that the bridge will provide connectivity to remote villages.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. Adequate mitigation measures should be put in place for protection and conservation of wildlife.
2. The approach road should be provided with speed breakers/rumble strips at regular intervals in consultation with Forest Department so as to curtail vehicular speed.
3. Care should be taken that no natural drainage gets obstructed by implementation of the project. Adequate water passageways need to be provided wherever applicable.
4. Construction work should be carried out inside the Tiger Reserve during daytime. No labor camp should be constructed within the forest area. The User Agency should ensure that no labor trespasses inside the forest for collection of fuel wood or other forest products.
5. Special care should be taken to ensure that the animal movement is not restricted due to the construction work.
6. No construction materials (including topsoil) should be procured from forests. Construction debris should be appropriately dumped outside the Tiger Reserve area.
7. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.4.4 Proposal for use of 4.16 ha forest land from Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary for development of marine infrastructure for safe keeping of BSF vessels near Koteshwar, Gujarat.

FP/GJ/DEF/151369/2022.

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 4.16 ha forest land from Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary for development of marine infrastructure for safe keeping of BSF vessels near Koteshwar, Gujarat.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

Member Secretary mentioned that during the speech on 10th October, 2022 Hon'ble Prime Minister has laid stress on conservation of biodiversity in coastal areas also.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Gujarat informed that BSF has already procured 25 acres of land and the present proposal is for use of 4.16 ha within Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. There shall be regular monitoring of impacts on bio-diversity in the project area by the user agency in consultation with the Forest Department.
2. The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section-9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. The user agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Sanctuary.
4. The user agency shall not use the area for any other work other than the work permitted.
5. The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Sanctuary.
6. The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Sanctuary.
7. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
8. The work in the Sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time for 8 AM to 6 PM.
9. Approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
10. The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates before initiating any work on the allotted land.
11. The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.
12. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.4.5 Proposal use of 0.574 ha forest land from Dalma Sanctuary for improvement of road design for 4-laning of road from Ranchi-Jamshedpur-Mahulua from Km 217.300 to Km 233.350 in the state of Jharkhand under NHDP Phase-III on EPC (Item Rate) mode (Length 16.050 Km.) under Package-III.

FP/JH/ROAD/138926/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.574 ha forest land from Dalma Sanctuary for improvement of road design for 4-laning of road from Ranchi-Jamshedpur-Mahulua from Km 217.300 to Km 233.350 in the state of Jharkhand under NHDP Phase-III on EPC (Item Rate) mode (Length 16.050 Km.) under Package-III in Jharkhand.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

The proposal is for improvement in road design as per the advice of experts so as to avoid accidents.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal as the Chief Wild Life Warden, Jharkhand was not available to give comments on the proposal.

70.4.6 Proposal for use of 0.05404 ha of forest land from Kudremukh National Park for drinking water supply pipeline to Kitlemane Kodige, Hulugarubailu to Kigga in Shringeri Tq. Chikkamagaluru district, Karnataka.

FP/KA/WATER/35135/2018

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.05404 ha of forest land from Kudremukh National Park for drinking water supply pipeline to Kitlemane Kodige, Hulugarubailu to Kigga in Shringeri Tq. Chikkamagaluru district, Karnataka.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Karnataka informed that the proposal is for providing drinking water to a village of 38 families.

Dr. H. S. Singh said that the project proposal may be recommended.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. During the summer period, sufficient water level should be maintained in stream that so as not to affect the aquatic animals & the water should not be polluted due to project activities.
2. All the staff and workers involved in the project implementation should be informed, made aware about wildlife, so that they would not harm/kill/ hunt / poach or abet in any crime which may invite legal action under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. Care should be taken not to disturb wildlife species and their habitat during construction activities.
4. No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area.
5. The user agency and other project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986.
6. The muck generated during the project implementation shall be taken out of the protected area without endangering the flora and fauna.
7. The work shall be taken up only under close supervision of the jurisdictional officers & staff, to avoid any damage to the flora & fauna.

8. No tents or any other stay arrangement shall be permitted inside the protected area.
9. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.4.7 Proposal for use of 0.2787 ha from Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary for laying gas pipeline by Bharat Gas Resources Ltd. on Limpangaon-Nagar Road in Shrigonda Ta. of Ahmednagar District, Maharashtra

FP/MH/Pipeline/5557/2020

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use 0.2787 ha from Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary for laying gas pipeline by Bharat Gas Resources Ltd. on Limpangaon-Nagar Road in Shrigonda Ta. of Ahmednagar District, Maharashtra.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra informed that one female Great Indian Bustard (GIB) is often seen in the area. The Chief Wild Life Warden, Gujarat informed that there were three female GIB in Kutch.

Dr. H. S. Singh suggested that a juvenile Great Indian Bustard from Rajasthan may be translocated to Kutch in order to develop a breeding population of GIB in Gujarat. He said that a conservation breeding centre for GIB may be established in Kutch.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan informed that the GIBs in the conservation breeding centre in Sam and Ram Deora will serve as founder population and their 2nd -3rd generation will be released in the wild and also sent to different states. He said that ensuring the survival of captive bred GIB is a challenging task. The GIB conservation project funded under CAMPA envisages protection and development of habitat for GIB by different states and once suitable habitats are developed in other states, the GIBs from the conservation breeding centre will be introduced those states.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Karnataka informed that the state has a breeding population of GIB and egg laying and hatching has been observed. The state also has a vulture breeding centre.

The Chairman observed that the States of Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra should submit proposals for establishment of conservation breeding centres in their states. Wildlife Institute of India shall carry out a capacity building programme in these states.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of a contingency plan by the State

	<p>Government to deal with incidents of gas leakage. The Standing Committee also directed that the State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka shall submit proposals for establishment of conservation breeding centres for GIBs in their States.</p>
<p>70.4.8-70.4.34</p>	<p>Proposals for use of 0.1 ha each for electricity connection to own Khatedari lands of Shrimati Nura W/O Ahmad Khan (FP/RJ/IRRIG/3955/2019), Shri Sagata Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5673/2021), Shri Prem Singh (FP/RJ/Others/5672/2021), Shri Babu Lal Paharu Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5663/2021), Shri Sagata Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5647/2021), Shrimati Ugam Kanwar (FP/RJ/Others/5645/2021), Shrimati Har Kanwar (FP/RJ/Others/5622/2021), Shrimati Ger Kanwar (FP/RJ/Others/5621/2021), Shri Bija Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5604/2021), Shri Gopal Singh (FP/RJ/Others/5588/2021), Shri Anavar Singh (FP/RJ/Others/5577/2020), Shri Ran Singh (FP/RJ/Others/5572/2020), Shri Sajan Singh (FP/RJ/Others/5564/2020), Shri Padam (FP/RJ/Others/5555/2020), Shri Rawata Ram Suthar (FP/RJ/Others/5554/2020), Shri Biharilal Maheshwari (FP/RJ/Others/5550/2020), Shri Chanan Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5549/2020), Shri Arjun Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5548/2020), Shri Vinod Kumar (FP/RJ/Others/5546/2020), Shri Sataram (FP/RJ/Others/5523/2020), Shri Reshma Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5522/2020), Shri Aatam Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5521/2020), Shri Uka Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5482/2020), Shri Surta Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5472/2020), Shri Bhagwana Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5471/2020), Shri Arjun Ram Anda Ram (FP/RJ/Others/5662/2021) and Shri Jogendra Singh (FP/RJ/Others/5590/2021) from Desert National Park Sanctuary in Barmer district, Rajasthan.</p> <p>The Standing Committee was informed that there are 27 proposals from the State Government of Rajasthan for providing electricity connections to the own Khatedari lands in Desert National Park Sanctuary in Rajasthan for tubewells for irrigation purpose.</p> <p>The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The Chief Wild Life Warden, while recommending the proposals, has imposed the condition that the power transmission lines shall be laid underground in view of the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 19.04.2021 in Case No.838/2019.</p> <p>The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan informed that the transmission lines proposed to be laid will be of 11kV and as per the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India should be laid underground.</p> <p>Dr. H. S. Singh suggested that the possibility of using solar panels for providing power supply to the tube-wells may be explored.</p> <p>Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that a committee shall be constituted comprising representatives of Wildlife</p>

Institute of India, SACON, Ministry of Power, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, relevant State Power Transmission Corporation, local public representative, Wild Life Warden, Desert National Park sanctuary and officials of the Ministry to examine all aspects relating to the proposals for providing power supply for irrigation facilities in these private lands within Desert National Park sanctuary and submit report at the earliest. The Standing Committee therefore decided to defer these proposals.

70.4.35 Proposal for use of 13.725 ha of forest land from Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve for Strengthening & Widening of Tonk Nagar Nainwa Khatkar K. Patan road SH-34 KM34/0 to 86/300 under SRF Scheme, Rajasthan.

FP/RJ/ROAD/4004/2019.

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 13.725 ha of forest land from Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve for strengthening & widening of Tonk Nagar Nainwa Khatkar K. Patan road SH-34 KM34/0 to 86/300 under SRF Scheme, Rajasthan.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Rajasthan.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan informed that the road passes along the boundary of Ramgarh Vishdhari sanctuary.

Decision taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. 2% of the proportional project cost falling within the Protected Area should be deposited in RPACS by the user agency for management and protection of Wildlife in the state.
2. No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area.
3. No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone.
4. There will be no felling of trees and burning of fuel wood inside the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone.
5. The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area and Eco-Sensitive Zone.
6. There will be no labour camp within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
7. No blasting will be carried out within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area during the work.
8. To restrict movement of wild animals towards the road/ railway track in the Protected Area, adequate mitigative measures such as wall chain link fencing will be constructed by the user agency to stop accidents.
9. Green belt should be created by the user agency on the periphery of the project area.

10. Water harvesting structure for charging of Water should be mandatory in the project area.
11. There shall be no high mast beam lights within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
12. Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes speed etc. should be erected in the project area.
13. The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
14. Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve/PA.
15. The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of Standard SOP Guidelines issued by WII. Dehradun for linear project.
16. Any permission clearance required under FCA -1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.

A. Between Khatkad T Junction & Manakchowk (7 km)

17. The Committee proposed construction of 2-3 culverts, ideally of 10 m span and 4 m height, as animal underpasses on this section of the road. Locations of these culverts should be determined after a joint survey made by PWD with forest department. PWD should also consider widening of the existing culverts to 10 m wherever feasible. Places where these culverts are at the level of the road, the underlying drainage structures may be deepened to 4 m height.
18. The underpasses should be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures should, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
19. PWD should ensure that no drainage is blocked by desilting the existing water passageways. Box and pipe culverts need to be placed at many additional places along this entire section (Khatkad T junction to Manakchowk) permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Details of these structures may be adopted from WII guidelines on linear infrastructures.
20. Vegetative camouflage should also need to be fortified along the road as per WII's guidelines on linear infrastructure.
21. The remaining portion of the road should be provided with speed breakers and rumble strips at every interval of 500 meters. Speed breakers and rumble strips should be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed by PWD at regular intervals along the widened road. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are

maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.

22. In areas where underpasses are not provided and the road passes through forest areas, clearing of brushwood and bushes up-to a width of 10-15 m on both sides of the road would be maintained by PWD for clear visibility of the wild animals crossing the road. This should be done in consultation with forest department.

B. In Between Manakchowk & Jetpur (11 km)

23. Since the area is predominantly flat with little undulations and passing mostly through human habitations, there should be provision of speed breakers and rumble strips at every interval of 500 meters along the road. Speed breakers and rumble strips should be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed by PWD at regular intervals along the widened road. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.

C. In the Eco-Sensitive Zone

24. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should be placed by PWD at regular intervals along the widened road under eco-sensitive zone. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.

Other mitigation measures

25. Construction work should be during daytime and no night camp of labours and contractor / user agency officials inside the forest should be allowed.
26. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles should be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
27. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by user agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
28. PWD should ensure that the construction period is kept minimal since construction work continued for a longer duration might completely decimate the wildlife populations in the area beyond recovery
29. PWD should construct CCTV enabled check posts for forest department at Khatkad T junction, Manakchowk and Jetpur (or any other strategic positions as deemed fit by forest department) for regular monitoring of vehicles and control of traffic during emergency situations.
30. Rajasthan Forest Department should gradually try to regulate traffic at night on the road.
31. The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.

32. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.4.36 Proposal for use of 22.5 ha of forest land from Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of tourist facilities inside Amer Fort Premises, Department of Archaeology and Museums, Rajasthan.

FP/RJ/Others/6306/2022

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of forest land from Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of tourist facilities inside Amer Fort Premises, Department of Archaeology and Museums, Rajasthan.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Rajasthan.

The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that the National Green Tribunal ordered discontinuance of restaurants and light and sound show in the sanctuary premises. The Archaeology and Museum Department, Rajasthan has filed Civil Appeal No.7128/2021 against the order of NGT before Hon'ble Supreme Court. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 24.02.2022 has stayed the operation of order passed by the NGT. The tourist facilities existed even before the notification of the area as sanctuary and are being operated within the Fort premises.

Decision taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. An amount equal to entry fees shall be charged from tourists for entering Nahargarh Sanctuary and deposited in RPACS for management and protection of wildlife in that area.
2. No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area.
3. No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area.
4. There will be no felling of trees and burning of fuel wood inside the Protected Area.
5. The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area.
6. There will be no labour camp within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
7. No blasting will be carried out within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area during the work.
8. Green belt should be created by the User Agency on the periphery of the project area.
9. Water Harvesting Structure for recharging of water should be mandatory in the project area.

10. There shall be no high mast/ beam/search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
11. Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc. should be erected in the project area.
12. The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
13. Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve/PA.
14. Any permission/clearance required under FCA-1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.
15. All plastic material like polythene bags and other waste material should be disposed-off outside the sanctuary area.
16. All tourism activities will run only in day time (sunrise to Sunset).
17. No night camping will be allowed for any tourism activity.
18. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.4.37 Proposal for use of 21.255 ha of forest land from Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of tourist facilities inside Nahargarh Fort, Department of Archaeology and Museums, Rajasthan.

FP/RJ/Others/6305/2022

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 21.255 ha of forest land from Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of tourist facilities inside Nahargarh Fort, Department of Archaeology and Museums, Rajasthan.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Rajasthan.

The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that the National Green Tribunal ordered discontinuance of restaurants and light and sound show in the sanctuary premises. The Archaeology and Museum Department, Rajasthan has filed Civil Appeal No.7128/2021 against the order of NGT before Hon'ble Supreme Court. Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 24.02.2022 has stayed the operation of order passed by the NGT. The tourist facilities existed even before the notification of the area as sanctuary and are being operated within the Fort premises.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. An amount equal to entry fees shall be charged from tourists for entering Nahargarh Sanctuary and deposited in RPACS for management and protection of wildlife in that area.

2. No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area.
3. No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area.
4. There will be no felling of trees and burning of fuel wood inside the Protected Area.
5. The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area.
6. There will be no labour camp within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
7. No blasting will be carried out within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area during the work.
8. Green belt should be created by the User Agency on the periphery of the project area.
9. Water Harvesting Structure for recharging of water should be mandatory in the project area.
10. There shall be no high mast/ beam/search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
11. Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc. should be erected in the project area.
12. The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
13. Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve/PA.
14. Any permission/clearance required under FCA-1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.
15. All plastic material like polythene bags and other waste material should be disposed of outside the sanctuary area.
16. All tourism activities will be run only in day time (sunrise to Sunset).
17. No night camping will be allowed for any tourism activity.
18. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.4.38 Proposed Silica Sand mining project ML.No.09/2003 (Area 4.2682 Ha) in village- Manoharpura, Tehsil, district-Karauli of M/s Rama Minerals.

FP/RJ/MIN/4863/2020

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 4.2682 ha Silica Sand mining project ML.No.09/2003 (Area 4.2682 Ha) in village-Manoharpura, Tehsil, district-Karauli of M/s Rama Minerals. Proposed site is 5.1 Km away from the Kaila Devi Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS) which is a part of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Rajasthan.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan informed that the proposal for declaration of ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve was forwarded by the State Government to Government of India over which clarifications were sought by the Ministry. The proposal has been revised in line with the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 3rd June, 2022 for notifying minimum one km ESZ around the tiger reserve and submitted by the Forest Department to the State Government. It will be forwarded soon to the Government of India.

Dr. H. S. Singh said that the proposal may be considered for recommendation if it does not have any impact on the river systems in the area.

Director, Wildlife Institute of India said that mining activities were being carried out at many places around the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve and a cumulative impact study needs to be carried out to determine areas where mining can be allowed.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of proposal for declaration ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. The Standing Committee also directed that a cumulative impact study be carried out by Wildlife Institute of India in order to determine areas where mining can be allowed around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.

70.4.39 Proposed Richhoti silica sand and masonry stone mine M.L.No.06/1982 M/s Kumar Herbals & Silica, Rajasthan.

FP/RJ/MIN/5863/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 23.1726 ha Richhoti silica sand and masonry stone mine M.L.No.06/1982 M/s Kumar Herbals & Silica, Rajasthan. Proposed site is 8.2 Km away from the Kaila Devi Wildlife Sanctuary which is part of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve (RTR).

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Rajasthan.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan informed that the proposal for declaration of ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve was forwarded by the State Government to Government of India over which clarifications were sought by the Ministry. The proposal has been revised in line with the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 3rd June, 2022 for notifying minimum one km ESZ around the tiger reserve and submitted by the Forest Department to the State Government. It will be forwarded soon to the Government of India.

Dr. H. S. Singh said that the proposal may be considered for recommendation if the same does not have any impact on the river systems in the area.

Director, Wildlife Institute of India said that mining activities were being carried out at many places around the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve and a cumulative impact study needs to be carried out to determine areas where mining can be allowed.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of proposal for declaration ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. The Standing Committee also directed that a cumulative impact study be carried out by Wildlife Institute of India in order to determine areas where mining can be allowed around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.

70.4.40 Proposal for use of 18.083 Ha of forest land default ESZ of Pranahita Wildlife Sanctuary for execution of left flank main canal and 8-R distributary for Nilwai Medium Irrigation project in Mancherial district (Package No.12) in favour of Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department, MIP Division, Mancherial, Telangana.

FP/TG/IRRIG/30173/2017

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 18.083 Ha of forest land default ESZ of Pranahita Wildlife Sanctuary for execution of left flank main canal and 8-R distributary for Nilwai Medium Irrigation project in Mancherial district (Package No.12) in favour of Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department, MIP Division, Mancherial, Telangana. The proposed site is 6.64 Km away from Pranahitha Wildlife Sanctuary.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Telangana.

The works related to the project proposal have been carried out and there is violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana informed that Stage I Clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been received for the project and penal compensatory amount for afforestation over 14 ha of land has been received from the user agency. The works have been stopped by the Forest Department. The reservoir has been constructed over 550 ha of forest land after permission under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the canal construction works are pending for recommendations from the Standing Committee.

Dr. H. S. Singh said that the area has presence of tigers, leopards and other wild animals. He pointed out that the proposal is not accompanied by a suitable animal passage plan prescribing structures for enabling crossing of

wild animals over the canal. He suggested that site inspection of the project area may be carried out and a proper animal passage plan may be prepared.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till submission of action taken report for violations by user agency and suitable animal passage plan. The Standing Committee also recommended that site inspection shall be carried out by Inspector General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad and a report regarding violations shall be submitted.

70.4.41 Proposal for use of 5.9359 ha of forest land from Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary for formation of BT road from L032-Mattewada to Veerampet km 0/0 to 8/000 at Gudur Mandal of Mahabubabad District, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/123095/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 5.9359 ha of forest land from Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary for formation of BT road from L032-Mattewada to Veerampet km 0/0 to 8/000 at Gudur Mandal of Mahabubabad District, Telangana.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Telangana.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana informed that the gravel road was constructed and now the proposal has been submitted by the use agency for black topping of the road. The Forest Department has booked offence for violations.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till submission of action taken report by the State Government regarding violation of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

70.4.42 Proposal for use of 0.5845 ha of forest land from Katarniyaghat Wild Life Sanctuary for laying of OFC and installation of pre-constructed junction boxes for Reliance 4G project along with road on MDR-149 from Km5.40 to Km.41.60, on ODR(1) from Km.4.00 to Km7.80, on ODR(2) from Km.0.00 to Km.7.00, on ODR(3) from Km.0.00 to Km.7.50 & on ODR(4) from Km.0.00 to Km.1.00 of Total Km 55.50, Uttar Pradesh.

FP/UP/Others/120377/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.5845 ha of forest land from Katarniyaghat Wild Life Sanctuary for laying of OFC and installation of pre-constructed junction boxes for Reliance 4G project along with road in Uttar Pradesh.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. Katarniyaghat

sanctuary is part of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve and mitigation measures have been suggested by the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The legal status of land shall remain unchanged. The user agency will have right only for the purpose applied for and land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal. The said land or part of it shall not be transferred to any other department, institution or person without prior approval of State Govt/Central Govt.
2. As reserve forest land is also involved in the project, forest clearance as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will also be required and user agency will be required to comply all conditions stipulated therein.
3. Net Present Value (N.P.V.) shall be paid by the User Agency as per directions issued by Ministry of Environment of Forest (FC Division), New Delhi vide Letter No. F.No. 5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and Letter No.F.No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 19.01.2022 for proposed forest land 0.5848 ha falling within the Katarniaghat WLS.
4. The user agency shall deposit Rs.2.60 lakhs (Rupees two lakhs and sixty thousand only) for mitigation measures to minimize the negative impact of the project on the habitat of wildlife in the Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary under the online deposit head no.6-"Additional Charges for protected area in CAMPA Fund" as per guidelines of Government of India. This amount will be spent on the mitigation measures within the same protected area.
5. The personnel of user agency working on the site should be made well aware and shall be bound to follow the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (As amended).
6. The employees or workers shall never be involved in forest offences with regard to Wildlife and forest produce. In case of violation of this condition, the necessary compensation will be deposited by the User Agency as imposed by DFO concerned according to law.
7. The user agency will ensure that no labour camp shall be established inside the sanctuary. Nights stay in the sanctuary shall not be allowed. Neither firewood nor any other forest produce from the forest will be collected by the workers.
8. The user agency will keep firefighting equipments as well as equipments for minimizing noise pollution and muck disposals at the site.
9. During execution of the project work, the user agency shall adopt certain technical measures to negate the impact relating to any environmental pollution/radioactive pollution.
10. In reference of U.P. Govt. order vide letter No. 4862/14-2-/2008 dated 12.11.2008, the user agency shall plant 20 km in 3 lane at one place of the division/state and maintain the green cover on the project cost. Planting site for this purpose shall be identified by the concerned DFO. Protected Area Manager. Only indigenous forest trees species shall be used for such plantation.

11. All the conditions related to the proposals on laying of Optical Fiber Cables inside protected areas, laid down by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife Division), Govt. of India vide its letter No.6-175/2017 WL, dated 19.02.2018 will be complied with by the user agency.
12. The user agency shall ensure that the length of the trench dug up at a time does not exceed 500 M. which shall be filled up and compacted before digging next trench of 500 M.
13. The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency which holds the right to use the right of way.
14. No labour camp shall be established in sanctuary area.
15. No work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.
16. The OFC should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the user agency.
17. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the Tiger Reserve for implementing the proposed construction.
18. The construction work should be done in between sunrise and sunset and no labour camp should be allowed inside the forested areas at nights. The user agency shall ensure that no labourer trespasses inside the forests apart from the construction site.
19. While laying the OFC, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the OFC so as to minimize the disturbance to wildlife. The user agency should not dig trenches along long stretches and leave them open for several weeks without completion of work.
20. Any future maintenance of the OFC would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Uttar Pradesh Forest Department.
21. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

70.4.43 Proposal for use of 0.983 ha of forest land from Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of bridle track from Rambara to Garuuchatti (Km.6.750 to Km 12.100) in Rudraprayag district, Uttarakhand.

FP/UK/ROAD/5775/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.983 ha of forest land from Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of bridle track from Rambara to Garuuchatti (Km.6.750 to Km 12.100) in Rudraprayag district, Uttarakhand.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government of Uttarakhand.

The Principal Secretary, Forest Department, Uttarakhand informed that the erstwhile track route was washed away due to floods in 2013 and this bridle

path shall provide convenient route to the pilgrims going to Kedarnath temple.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. No damage to the flora and fauna of the surrounding area shall be caused.
3. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
4. The concerned territorial Divisional Forest Officer/Director shall monitor the implementation of the project regularly and report for the violations, if any.
5. The user agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
6. The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and all other Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and Hon'ble NGT Order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
7. The conditions imposed in the Geological survey shall be fully complied with.
8. The animal passage plan provided by the User Agency shall be implemented in *toto*.
9. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

AGENDA ITEM No. 5

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

70.5.1 Proposal for use of 26.43 ha of forest land from Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary for development of ropeway from Sonprayag to Kedarnath Dham in Rudrayprayag District of Uttarakhand.

FP/UK/Others/154214/2022

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 26.43 ha of forest land from Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary for development of ropeway from Sonprayag to Kedarnath Dham in Rudrayprayag District of Uttarakhand.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The Kedarnath Ropeway project will be of great benefit as it will help reduce human impact on this high altitude fragile area. Once constructed, it will limit footfalls inside the sanctuary, check random solid waste disposal and in general limit disturbance and pollution.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. No damage to the flora and fauna of the surrounding area shall be caused. The work shall be done under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
3. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than the specified in the proposal.
4. The concerned territorial Divisional Forest Officer/Director shall monitor the implementation of the project regularly and report for violations, if any.
5. It shall be ensured that no labourer camps will be set up inside the forest area.
6. The user agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
7. The User agency shall comply all the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, 1980 and all other Acts, Rules, Regulations Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
8. The wildlife mitigation plan submitted by the User Agency shall be implemented in *toto*.
9. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.
