

**F.No.WL-6/33/2024-WL**

Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change  
(Wildlife Division)

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Vayu Wing,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi 110003.

**Date:** 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2024

To,

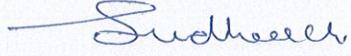
All Members  
Standing Committee of NBWL

**Sub:** Minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life-reg.

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the Minutes of 78<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on **22<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 2024** under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

Yours faithfully,

  
(**Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati**)  
Scientist 'E'  
**Email:** adwl-mefcc@gov.in

**Encl:** As above

**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 Addi. DGF (WL)/PPS to IGF (WL)
6. **The Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary Forest Department**, Assam/Arunachal Pradesh/Andhra Pradesh /Haryana / Himachal Pradesh/ Chhattisgarh/ Odisha / Maharashtra /Tamil Nadu/Uttarakhand /Uttar Pradesh./ Kerala/Goa/West Bengal/ Rajasthan/Gujarat.
7. **The Chief Wild Life Warden**, Assam/Arunachal Pradesh/Andhra Pradesh /Haryana / Himachal Pradesh/ Chhattisgarh/ Odisha / Maharashtra /Tamil Nadu/Uttarakhand /Uttar Pradesh./ Kerala/Goa/West Bengal/ Rajasthan/Gujarat.
8. **The PCCF and HoFF**, Government of Assam/Arunachal Pradesh/Andhra Pradesh /Haryana / Himachal Pradesh/ Chhattisgarh/ Odisha / Maharashtra /Tamil Nadu/Uttarakhand /Uttar Pradesh. / Kerala/Goa/West Bengal/ Rajasthan/Gujarat.

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

  
**(Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati)**  
Scientist 'E'  
**Email:** adwl-mefcc@gov.in

## **MINUTES OF THE 78<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE HELD ON 22<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY, 2024**

The 78<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024 under the chairmanship of 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 and informed about the number and type of proposals that were to be taken for discussion in the meeting. He then requested Deputy Inspector General of Forests (WL) to initiate discussions on the Agenda Items.

### **AGENDA ITEM No.1**

#### **78.1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 77<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2024**

The Standing Committee was informed that the 77<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life was held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2024. The minutes of the meeting were circulated vide letter WL-6/16/2024-WL dated 7<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2024 amongst all the members.

The Standing Committee was informed that the Ministry did not receive comments from any of the members.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to confirm the minutes of 77<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO 2 Policy, court Matter etc.**

#### **78.2.1 Implementation of the provisions of the Eco-Sensitive Zone.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India notifies Eco-Sensitive Zones around the Protected Areas under Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The ministry issues notification and regulates developmental activities within ESZ as per the direction of the Apex Court. The notification of an ESZ contains various provisions but none of them are implemented on the ground. Some of the important provisions in the notifications are:

- (i) Preparation of the Zonal Master Plan for the Eco-Sensitive Zone: Normally ignored by the nodal agency and state governments as Zonal Master Plan is normally not prepared.
- (ii) Availability of resources for implementing an action plan in the ESZ for development, restoration and conservation of habitats in benefits of people and wildlife.

(iii) Monitoring Committee: There is provision of monitoring committee to implement and monitor provisions as mentioned in the notification, but it is non-functional.

(iv) Guidelines: The MoEFCC has provided guidelines which are used for regulating development activities. This needs modification in the present context. Till date, ESZs have not been prepared for many Protected Areas as states are not sensitive for the issues. Also, nodal agencies at Centre Government and State Governments do not take cognizance of the provisions as mentioned in the notification.

He highlighted a specific case of construction of highway in the ESZ of Velavadar National Park. Every year there is death of several blackbucks due to accidents with vehicles. There Zonal Master Plans for all the ESZs should be prepared. The provisions contained in the ESZ notifications are not being implemented. The issues raised herein may be examined.

Dr. Sukumar suggested for the need to move towards landscape level conservation planning. The ESZs are part of broader landscape level planning for conservation in the country. The subject of human-wildlife conflict also requires detailed deliberations. The increase in human-wildlife conflicts was anticipated several years ago. Several important conservation measures have been taken such as increase in protected area network, several policy decisions which have legal ramifications, affects livelihood of people. He suggested for focussed discussions on policy issues for setting the course of conservation in future.

The Chairman mentioned that he has met large number of people, public representatives in Wayanad region. Due to increase in population, infrastructure development, lot of problems are coming up. A meeting should be convened to address the issue of human-wildlife conflict. The State PCCFs and CWLWs may be addressed and their opinions sought on the issues raised by Dr. H. S. Singh and concerns raised by Dr. Sukumar for future discussions in the Standing Committee meetings on policy matters.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the Ministry shall take opinions and suggestions from the State/UT Forest Departments on the landscape level conservation planning, matters related to implementation of provisions contained in the ESZ notifications and human-wildlife conflict issues for discussions in future meetings of the Standing Committee.

## **AGENDA ITEM NO 3**

### **78.3 (Fresh Proposals falling inside / Outside the Protected Area)**

- 78.3.1** Proposal for use of 40.86 ha of forest land from tiger corridor connecting NagarjunaSagar Tiger Reserve (NSTR) and Sri Venkateswara National Park for development of Expressways, Economic Corridors and inter corridors under Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase- II (Lot-10): Bengaluru- Kadapa- Vijayawada

Economic Corridor: NH544G (KM 0.000 to KM 342.500) in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

**WL/AP/ROAD/453233/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 40.86 ha of forest land from tiger corridor connecting Nagarjuna Sagar Tiger Reserve (NSTR) and Sri Venkateswara National Park for development of Expressways, Economic Corridors and inter corridors under Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase- II (Lot-10): Bengaluru- Kadapa- Vijayawada Economic Corridor: NH544G (KM 0.000 to KM 342.500) in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The length of the road passing through the tiger corridor is about 5 km. Three tunnels, four minor bridges, 7 viaducts, two culverts have been proposed as mitigation structures in the project proposal. The length of the animal passage structures is approximately 3 kms on both sides.

The Member Secretary, National Tiger Conservation Authority informed that the project is of Bharatmala Pariyojana and the mitigation measures that have been suggested appear to be adequate and therefore the proposal may be recommended.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that based on the appropriateness of the animal passage plan as suggested by the NTCA, the proposal may be recommended.

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

1. The Cost of Wildlife Mitigation Plan of Rs.1519.00 lakhs in the jurisdiction of Kadapa Division shall be deposited in BIOSAP Account for immediate and effective implementation of Mitigation Measures.
2. The cost of Wildlife Mitigation / Conservation Plan falling in Reserve Forest Areas of Sri Satyasai, Nellore and Prakasam Districts shall be deposited in BIOSAP Account for immediate and effective implementation of Mitigation Measures.
3. In addition, 2% towards the cost of Wildlife Management Plan, proportionate to the extent of Forest Land (Tiger Corridor Land) of the Project shall be charged from the User Agency and deposited in BIOSAP Account for immediate and effective implementation.
4. The Tiger Conservation Plan (2013-14 to 2022-23) has been expired on 31.03.2023. The proposals of TCP along with Tiger Corridor Plan is still under progress for approval of the Competent Authority, i.e., NTCA. Hence, any modification proposed at a later stage for any other structures after approval of TCP and Tiger Corridor Plan will be implemented". Sufficient budget provision for any modification in future shall be made in the Project Costs by the User Agency.
5. After approval of TCP and Tiger Corridor Plan, if additional area falls in the proposed alignment falling in Tiger Corridor, those areas shall require

- further Wildlife Clearance from the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life at a later stage. The User Agency shall act accordingly.
6. The User Agency shall ensure that the cost of Animal Crossings will be included in the Project Cost and will be executed by the NHAI at appropriate time in consultation with the Forest Officials.
  7. The User Agency shall adopt Single/ Two/ Three Span Elevated Structures as Animal Passage from Chainage No. from 166.200 to 170.900 instead of 12 structures like box culverts, viaduct etc., as creation of movement-support infrastructure will diminish the barriers effect. The height of the animal passage structures shall be in accordance with the guidelines of the WII.
  8. Implementation of site specific animal passage plan prepared in accordance with the guidance document of the Ministry, 'Eco-friendly guidelines to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructure on wildlife'.
  9. Installation of sound and light proof equipments on both the sides of the road passing through the forest as viaduct.
  10. The User Agency should inform the commencement of the work in the diversion area and execute the works under the supervision of the Forest Department.
  11. The User Agency should invariably demarcate the proposed land for diversion with any suitable permanent stones/ pillars. After demarcation only the works should be commenced.
  12. The User Agency shall not resort to the excavation of the surrounding forest land for collection of the earth to be used. If such excavation is found during the work period or later, the User Agency will be charged with suitable provisions of relevant acts.
  13. The User Agency shall obey any other conditions stipulated by the Forest Department as per Acts and Rules.
  14. Wildlife Signage Boards to be erected in and around the entire project.
  15. Work shall be carried out only from dawn to dusk.
  16. No labour camps to be established in the Protected Area.
  17. The wildlife conservation and mitigation plan suggested by the
  18. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.2** Proposal for diversion of 20.421 ha of forest land for widening/ improvement of four lanning of NH-415 from design chainage 29.500 km to 40.440 km (Police HQ to Pappu Nallah) Itanagar to Banderdewa section in the State of Arunachal Pradesh under Annual Plan 2016-17 on EPC mode (Package A) length 10.09 km.

**WL/AR/ROAD/450201/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for diversion of 20.421 ha of forest land for widening/ improvement of four lanning of NH-415 from design chainage 29.500 km to 40.440 km (Police HQ to Pappu Nallah) Itanagar to Banderdewa section in the State of Arunachal Pradesh under Annual Plan 2016-17 on EPC mode (Package A) length 10.09 km.

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

The road is in existence since long and located in the state capital at Itanagar where human settlement is also in existence beside the road since decades back, therefore wildlife population is very negligible. The mammal species found in the area include jungle cat, small Indian Civet, Mole, Small Bellied Himalayan Squirrel, Jungle Rat.

Dr. Sukumar mentioned that there is movement of elephants in the foothills of Arunachal Pradesh. He therefore desired to know whether the proposed road would be in the north or south of Itanagar.

The Chief Wild Life Warden mentioned that the proposal is just for widening of the already existing road. There are human settlements on both the sides of the road.

The Director General of Forests and Special Secretary mentioned that there is not much presence of wildlife and the proposal may be agreed upon subject to the implementation of the mitigation measures.

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

1. Implementation of Mitigation Plan and Wildlife mitigation structures like speed breakers and glow signage to prevent wildlife mortality.
2. Implementation of site specific animal passage plan prepared in accordance with the guidance document of the Ministry, 'Eco-friendly guidelines to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructure on wildlife'.
3. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.3** Proposal for use of 13.31 ha (0.52 ha of forest land from Deepar Beel Wildlife Sanctuary and 12.79 ha from its default ESZ) for doubling of railway track from Bongaigaon-Goalpara- Kamakhya, Assam

**WL/AS/RAIL/424045/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 13.31 ha (0.52 ha of forest land from Deepar Beel Wildlife Sanctuary and 12.79 ha from its default ESZ) for doubling of railway track from Bongaigaon-Goalpara- Kamakhya, Assam-reg.

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

The proposal includes construction of one underpass of about 100m span, one of 200 m, a viaduct of approximately 3500 m, guide walls for elephants. The passage structures have also been prescribed for road running parallel to the railway line.

The Chairman mentioned that the Ministry of Railways has proposed such mitigation measures to facilitate crossing of wildlife.

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

1. The North East Frontier (NF) Railways shall execute the project strictly in accordance with the mitigation plan submitted by WII, Dehradun.
2. The NF Railways shall involve local forest officers actively for the purpose of providing safe and secure passage to the elephants for ensuring their free movement while implementing the permanent mitigation measures as prescribed by WII.
3. The Railways shall resort to minimal felling of trees and shall not cause adverse impact to wild animals and their habitat.
4. No activity shall be carried out between the sunset and sunrise.
5. 2 (two) percent of the project cost proportionate project cost falling the project proposal area shall be deposited as Corpus fund to the Chief Wild Life Warden for the purpose of Human Elephant Conflict (HEC) mitigation and Wildlife Conservation.
6. HEC mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be submitted within 3 (three) months after deposition of the above mentioned amount by the User Agency.
7. The User Agency shall implement the animal passage plan submitted along with the proposal in totality.
8. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.4** Proposal for use of 20.4284 ha of forest land from Core Zone of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve and 364.9851 ha (8.6774 ha forest land and 356.3077 ha non-forest land) from default ESZ of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve for widening and Improvement of Existing Carriage way to 4 Lane Configuration from Kaliabor to Numaligarh section (Ch.315.315 to Ch402.300) of NH-37(New NH715) [Design length: 85.675 km] in the state of Assam.

**WL/AS/ROAD/459949/2024**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 20.4284 ha of forest land from Core Zone of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve and 364.9851 ha (8.6774 ha forest land and 356.3077 ha non-forest land) from default ESZ of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve for widening and Improvement of Existing Carriage way to 4 Lane

Configuration from Kaliabor to Numaligarh section (Ch.315.315 to Ch402.300) of NH-37(NewNH715) [Design length: 85.675 km] in the state of Assam.

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

The NTCA had constituted a site inspection committee comprising of representatives of NTCA, WII, PCCF and CWLW, Assam and the NHAI. The Committee had carried out site inspection. NTCA has recommended the project proposal subject to the implementation of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The proposal comprises of constructions of elevated road in three stretches of about 20 km, 10 km and 5 km. The road is basically a mitigation measures facilitate movement of animals.

The Member Secretary NTCA mentioned that this road passes along the periphery of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve and is a very important road. The mitigation measures suggested in the proposal would be state of the art and would be one of the best examples in the world.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that whenever the sites inspections in express highway project proposals have been carried out by committees, the animal passage plans have been improved. However, if NTCA finds the animal passage plan appropriate then the proposal may be approved.

Dr. Sukumar suggested that in-principle approval may be given as there is complexity of corridor connectivity and movement of elephants, rhinos, tigers and host of other wildlife between Kaziranga Tiger Reserve and Karbi Anglong Sanctuary especially during the flood season. He suggested for site inspection by a committee in order to make any corrections in the animal passage plan if needed. He volunteered for site inspection and submission of report in a month's time.

The PCCF and HoFF, Assam informed that the proposal has been made for mitigation measures with complete elevation of road for three stretches of 20 km, 10 km and 5 km. The purpose of the project is to ensure 24 X 7 movement of animals across the road. The proposal is mitigation plan in itself. The proposal initiated from the year 2014 onwards. Lot of research has gone into this mitigation plan with WII and NTCA on board. There are 11 corridors identified in the area and to facilitate the animal movement, the road would be elevated in three stretches. There won't be any difficulty in animal movement. The project would be carried out with state of the art technology. The construction material shall be prepared outside the project area and only piling would be done between sunrise and sunset. No construction work would be carried out during the night time. There will be minimal disturbance to the wildlife due to the project. He requested the Standing Committee to consider and approve the project proposal.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) shall not carry out any construction activities on the animal corridors during flood time i.e. during the period from June to September.
2. Height of the flyovers should not be less than 9 meters (nine meters) at any point of the horizontal portion of the flyover except the portion where the flyovers will descend.
3. No adverse impact shall be caused to wild animals and their habitat.
4. Minimal tree felling shall be resorted to in the forest land.
5. No construction activities shall be carried out between the sunset and sunrise within the protected area as well as animal corridors.
6. 02 (two) percent of the proportionate project cost falling the project proposal area shall be deposited as Corpus fund for the purpose of Human Elephant Conflict (HEC) mitigation and Conservation of Wildlife to be used by the Chief Wild Life Warden to implement HEC Mitigation Plan & Wildlife Conservation Plan.
7. HEC Mitigation Plan & Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be submitted within 02(two) months after deposition of the above mentioned amount by the User Agency.
8. The road shall be elevated at three stretches of approximately 20 km, 10 km, and 5 km in length (segment- I: chainage 326+790 to 345+107, segment-II: chainage 350+188 to 361+406 and segment- III: chainage 374+557 to 379+477).
9. As far as possible, the core area of the tiger reserve should be avoided by making suitable realignment of the proposed elevated road.
10. Latest technological means shall be adopted for completing the elevated road construction within 24 months so as to minimize the disturbance caused by construction activities to the wildlife. NHAI and User Agency should ensure timely and adequate release of budgeted money so that the above time- frame of completion may be maintained.
11. Construction of a superstructure (elevated road) near chainage 357.500 shall be at least 15-20 meter away from the slope of the hill to facilitate the movement of wildlife. For facilitating the wildlife movement under the superstructure, the elevated road alignment between chainages 350.188-361.406 should be modified accordingly.
12. There shall not be any reduction in the length in case of Segment- II of the Elevated corridor at Bagori location considering the importance of the area for wildlife during high floods.
13. The existing road below the superstructure should be decommissioned. Wherever required cluster of villages should be interconnected and linked with the main road/ loop provided as suggested in the earlier review report of WII.
14. Wherever technically feasible, all the cross drainage structures between section 1 of the elevated road and section 3 of the elevated road at the grade stage should be minimum of 5 meters by 5 meters.
15. At grade – there should be no crash barriers on either side and the median should be of 0.15 - 0.25-meter height. Median to be covered with vegetation like grass. This measure as well as the cross drainage structures are proposed for facilitating movement of the wildlife in heavy flood conditions.

16. The 4-lane highway on the ground should have box culverts of 5-meter height and 5-meter width at every 300 - 500 meters for facilitating the movement of wild animals during heavy floods. Animal Underpasses' height should be attained by elevating the structures and not by digging trenches.
17. Signage to be installed along the 4 lane highway where it is not elevated.
18. De-siltation of animal crossing structures shall be undertaken at regular intervals by the user agency.
19. User agency shall fund the construction of forest check posts (24X7 manned and CCTV equipped) along the highway for monitoring vehicle movements. The number of check posts and location to be decided in consultation with park authorities.
20. The User Agency shall install automatic speed detection sensors for speed regulation.
21. No toll plaza to be established in the tiger reserve / forest area. Forest department vehicles to be exempted from toll.
22. All super structures (elevated corridors) to be covered with light and sound barriers to minimize light and sound pollution.
23. To minimize the light pollution, there shall not be any street lights on elevated road. Instead, lighting shall be provided on the concrete crash barrier on the superstructure.
24. Near Deosur hill, the alignment of the proposed elevated road is on the southern side of the hill and therefore the existing road shall be decommissioned to ensure that Deosur Hill serves as safe ground for wild animals during the high flood and also acts as a natural highland.
25. The pillars and superstructures of elevated roads shall be camouflaged so that there is the unhindered movement of wildlife under the superstructure/ elevated roads.
26. Pre- fabricated structures shall be used for the construction of elevated highway to expedite the work progress.
27. No labour camps or dump yard/ construction material storage camps should be set up within the tiger reserve/ forest area.
28. The User Agency shall ensure that the construction of the super structure as well as the widening of the existing National Highway into four lanes at earth grade will preserve the existing drainage pattern of the tiger reserve and the adjoining area.
29. After the completion of elevated roads (superstructure) over corridors, a long- term project should be started to monitor the utilization of corridors by Assam Forest Department along with the Wildlife Institute of India through funding support from the User Agency.
30. To enhance the long-term viability of the Kaziranga National Park and to offset the losses which might be caused by the project, the adjoining Karbi Anglong Wildlife Sanctuary should be declared as the satellite core of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.
31. The Assam Forest Department shall identify corridor areas with the potential for the movement of wildlife where there are currently human habitations for relocation. A proper plan with financial outlays for the relocation of habitations from such corridor areas shall be prepared and implemented using earmarked project funds.

32. During heavy flooding situations, heavy vehicles (particularly the cargo-carrying trucks) shall be diverted from Koliabor to the road traversing the north bank of River Brahmaputra.
33. The Chief Wild Life Warden, Assam will set up monitoring mechanism for ensuring compliance of recommendations of this committee as well as that of the Wildlife Institute India review of mitigation measures.
34. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.5** Proposal for use of 0.3 ha of land from ESZ of Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary for doubling of Railway Track Between Kamakhya- New Bongaigaon-via Goalpara Town, Assam.

**WL/AS/RAIL/451176/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.3 ha of land from ESZ of Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary for doubling of Railway Track Between Kamakhya-New Bongaigaon-via Goalpara Town, Assam.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The project is another part of the doubling of railway line project discussed earlier. This proposal is completely inside the ESZ.

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

1. The North East Frontier (NF) Railways shall execute the project strictly in accordance with the mitigation plan submitted by WII, Dehradun.
2. The NF Railways shall involve local forest officers actively for the purpose of providing safe and secure passage to the elephants for ensuring their free movement while implementing the permanent mitigation measures as prescribed by WII.
3. The Railways shall resort to minimal felling of trees and shall not cause adverse impact to wild animals and their habitat.
4. No activity shall be carried out between the sunset and sunrise.
5. 02 (two) percent of the project cost shall be deposited as CORPUS fund for the purpose of HEC mitigation and Conservation of Wildlife to be used by the CWLW to implement HEC Mitigation Plan & Wildlife Conservation Plan.
6. HEC Mitigation Plan & Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be submitted within 02 (two) months after deposition of the above mentioned amount by the User Agency.
7. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

- 78.3.6** Proposal for use of 68.338 ha of land (36.92 ha forest land and 31.418 ha of non-forest land) from buffer zone of Manas Tiger Reserve for upgradation of Chapaguri to Amteka (Bhutan Border) Road, Assam.

**WL/AS/ROAD/436945/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 68.338 ha of land (36.92 ha forest land and 31.418 ha of non-forestland) from buffer zone of Manas Tiger Reserve for upgradation of Chapaguri to Amteka (Bhutan Border) Road, Assam.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. It has been mentioned in the project proposal that there is no record of significant wild animals movement in the project area and hence no separate animal passageplan has been submitted.

The NTCA has also recommended the project proposal. The NTCA has indicated that there is no presence of tiger and endangered large mammals in the vicinity of the project site.

The Chairman mentioned that the project would provide connectivity till the Bhutan border and therefore it is very important.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. No adverse impact shall be caused to the wild animals and their habitat during construction.
2. 2% amount of the proportionate project cost in the project proposal area shall be deposited as Corpus fund for Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation and conservation & management of wildlife.
3. User Agency, in consultation with the Forest Department, shall construct speed breakers / rumble strips and install warning signboards at areas sensitive for wildlife crossings.
4. Construction materials shall be procured from outside the Tiger Reserve. Construction debris shall be disposed away from the Tiger Reserve by the User Agency.
5. The alignment of the road and construction activities shall not disrupt any natural water channel.
6. Chief Wild Life Warden, Assam shall monitor the compliance of the conditions stipulated in this report at various phases of project implementation.
7. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

- 78.3.7** Proposal for use of 0.28 ha for installation of 14 mobile towers each requiring 0.02 ha of land in Core Zone (9 towers) and Buffer Zone (5 towers) of Achanakmar Tiger Reserve Area, Mungeli district, Chhattisgarh for 4G saturation project.

**WL/CG/CommPost/444354/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.28 ha for installation of 14 mobile towers each requiring 0.02 ha of land in Core Zone (9 towers) and Buffer Zone (5 towers) of Achanakmar Tiger Reserve Area, Mungeli district, Chhattisgarh for 4G saturation project.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The NTCA has not recommended the installation of 9 towers proposed inside core zone of the Tiger Reserve and recommended installation of 5 towers in the buffer zone of the Tiger Reserve.

The Chairman mentioned that there won't be any alternate available and there is requirement of communication network in the naxal affected area. Therefore, the Standing Committee may go with the recommendations of the NTCA.

Dr. H. S. Singh agreed with the views expressed by the Chairman.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided not to approve the installation of 9 mobile towers proposed in the core zone. The Standing Committee decided to approve the installation of 5 mobile towers proposed in the Buffer Zone subject to the following conditions:

1. The User Agency shall submit the following to the Chief Wild Life Warden for issuance of permit for executing the project:
  - a. An undertaking from the concerned District Magistrate indicating non-availability of alternate revenue/private lands;
  - b. Drawings/sketch indicating the location of various components of the proposals within the required land;
  - c. A plan for the movement of equipment and men for erection of towers and their maintenance;
  - d. Plan for usage of solar power for operation of mobile towers; and
  - e. Undertaking from the User Agency that the call data records of suspected persons for contravention of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 shall be provided when requested by the officer not below the rank of Deputy Conservator Forests having jurisdiction over the area.
2. To prevent overlapping of high radiation fields, new towers should not be installed within a radius of one kilometre of the existing towers.

3. The towers should be erected with utmost care and precautions so as not to obstruct flight path of birds, and also not increase the combined radiations from all towers in the area.
4. The location and frequencies of cell phone towers and other towers emitting EMR should be made available in public domain. Location wise GIS mapping of all cell phone towers should be maintained which would inter alia help in monitoring the population of birds and bees in and around the mobile towers and also in and/or around protected areas.
5. Security lighting for on- ground facilities should be minimized, and as far as possible, point downwards or be down- shielded to avoid bird hits and disturbances to bee colonies. Use of visual daytime markers for birds should also be installed.
6. The coverage of the network from this tower should be maintained in a way so that only the target village gets benefited. No network coverage beyond the limit of the village should be permitted.
7. All construction materials should be procured from outside Achanakmar Tiger Reserve or its ESZ. Construction debris should be appropriately disposed away from the Tiger Reserve and its ESZ by the User Agency.
8. Chief Wild Life Warden, Chhattisgarh should develop a mechanism to monitor the compliances of the conditions stipulated herein.
9. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.8** Proposal for use of 0.02 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve for 4G Saturation Project by BSNL in Mathal village, Gariyaband, Chhattisgarh.

**WL/CG/CommPost/449358/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.02 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve for 4G Saturation Project by BSNL in Mathal village, Gariyaband, Chhattisgarh.

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

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The User Agency shall submit the following to the Chief Wild Life Warden for issuance of permit for executing the project:
  - a. An undertaking form the concerned District Magistrate indicating non-availability of alternate revenue/private lands;
  - b. Drawings/sketch indicating the location of various components of the proposals within the required land;

- c. A plan for the movement of equipment and men for erection of towers and their maintenance;
  - d. Plan for usage of solar power for operation of mobile towers; and
  - e. Undertaking from the User Agency that the call data records of suspected persons for contravention of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 shall be provided when requested by the officer not below the rank of Deputy Conservator Forests having jurisdiction over the area.
2. To prevent overlapping of high radiation fields, new towers should not be installed within a radius of one kilometre of the existing towers.
  3. The towers should be erected with utmost care and precautions so as not to obstruct flight path of birds, and also not increase the combined radiations from all towers in the area.
  4. The location and frequencies of cell phone towers and other towers emitting EMR should be made available in public domain. Location wise GIS mapping of all cell phone towers should be maintained which would inter alia help in monitoring the population of birds and bees in and around the mobile towers and also in and/or around protected areas.
  5. Security lighting for on- ground facilities should be minimized, and as far as possible, point downwards or be down- shielded to avoid bird hits and disturbances to bee colonies. Use of visual daytime markers for birds should also be installed. Security lighting for on-ground facilities should be minimized, and as far as possible, point downwards or be down-shielded to avoid bird hits and disturbances to bee colonies. Use of visual daytime markers for birds should also be installed.
  6. The coverage of the network from this tower should be maintained in a way so that only the target village gets benefited. No network coverage beyond the limit of the village should be permitted.
  7. All construction materials should be procured from outside Achanakmar Tiger Reserve or its ESZ. Construction debris should be appropriately disposed away from the Tiger Reserve and its ESZ by the User Agency.
  8. Chief Wild Life Warden, Chhattisgarh should develop a mechanism to monitor the compliances of the conditions stipulated herein.
  9. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.9** Proposal for use of 27.092 ha of forest land from Bhagwan Mahaveer Mollem Wildlife Sanctuary for LILO of one ckt of Narendra (existing) - Narendra(New) 400 kV D/C quad transmission line,Goa.

**WL/GA/ TRANS/401225/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 27.092 ha of forest land from Bhagwan Mahaveer Mollem Wildlife Sanctuary for LILO of one ckt of Narendra (existing)- Narendra (New) 400 kV D/C quad transmission line,Goa.

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

A proposal for use of 11.54 ha forest land from Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary for laying of LILO of one CKT of Narendra (existing) – Narendra (new) 400 kV D/ C quad transmission line at Xeldem, Goa State was considered in the Standing Committee in its 57th meeting held on 7th April 2020. The Standing Committee of NBWL recommend the proposal in its 57th Meeting held on 7th April 2020. The recommendations of the Standing Committee were examined by the Central Empowered Committee who in their report submitted to Hon'ble Supreme Court suggested for modification of the alignment as that would save the precious forest cover and wildlife in the ecologically fragile and biodiversity rich Western Ghats.

Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 7.4.2022 in W.P. (C) 202 of 1995 approved the recommendations made by the CEC and directed that suitable steps to be taken in accordance with the recommendations made therein and set aside the recommendation made by National Board for wildlife dated 07.04.2020.

The NTCA has suggested site appraisal by a committee comprising of the representatives from MoEFCC, NTCA, WII, Goa Forest Department and GTTPL before recommending the proposal for approval.

Dr. H. S. Singh suggested that for any proposal of transmission line of more than 10 ha must be accompanied with a management plan for the area below the transmission line. The area may be planted with suitable grasses or low height trees, shrubs etc. for the benefit of wildlife.

The Chairman suggested for placing the proposal for consideration of the Standing Committee after site appraisal by a committee to be constituted by the Ministry who would also take into account the suggestion of Dr. H. S. Singh. In future, only those project proposals accompanied with a management plan for the area below transmission lines would be placed before the Standing Committee.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to constitute a committee comprising of representatives of the Ministry, National Tiger Conservation Authority, Wildlife Institute of India, Goa Forest Department and Goa Tamnar Transmission Power Limited for site inspection and suggesting mitigation measures and management plan for area below the proposed transmission line and therefore decided to defer the proposal.

**78.3.10** Proposal for alteration of boundaries of Pin Valley National Park, Himachal Pradesh by excluding 75.75 sq.km and inclusion of 93.75 sq.km.

**WL/HP/Others/438456/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for alteration of boundaries of Pin Valley National Park, Himachal Pradesh by excluding 75.75 sq.km and inclusion of 93.75 sq.km.

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

The State Government has mentioned that initial intention notification to declare Pin Valley National Park was issued in the year 1987 with approximately 675 Sq. Km as the area of the National Park.

The final notification of the National Park could not be issued as on account of non-settlement of rights of 13 land owners who refused to take compensation in lieu of their land that falls in core zone of the National Park. In view of the prevailing situation, it was felt that the settlements spread over an area of 75.75 Sq.km are of seasonal type and in no way cause harm to wildlife and therefore could be excluded from final notification of the National Park and in lieu of excluded area, adjoining area of 93.75 Sq.km has been included in the proposed final notification of Pin Valley National Park. After the proposed alteration of the boundaries, the total area would be more than the existing area of the National Park.

Dr. Sukumar mentioned that the Standing Committee has always encouraged the rationalization of the boundaries of the protected areas in the interest of wildlife. In the past, the boundaries have been rationalized in several cases. He highlighted that whenever site inspections have been carried out by the committees constituted as per the decisions of the Standing Committee, there have been improvement in the manner in which the rationalization proposals have been made. In general, wherever such proposals for rationalization have come up, site inspections have been done invariably.

The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that the area which has been proposed for exclusion is a submergence land which is used as pasture or cultivation of single crop. The continuation of that area in the National Park might cause disturbance wildlife management in the future. The State Forest Department has in the north side of the National Park has found out an area which is uninhabited for inclusion the National Park.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that many a times, areas good for wildlife have been proposed to be excluded in such rationalization proposals. He therefore suggested for a site inspection by a committee.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that a committee shall be constituted comprising of Dr. Sukumar, Member, NBWL, representatives of the Ministry, Wildlife Institute of India and the State Forest Department for examination, site inspection and submission of report and therefore decided to defer the proposal.

- 78.3.11** Proposal for use of 1.056 ha from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for 179 Villages for Construction of Approach Channel, Pump House and Jack well, Approach Bridge and Bund etc. for Paithan Grid Water Supply Scheme Tal. Paithan, District Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

## **WL/MH/WATER/401658/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.056 ha from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for 179 Villages for Construction of Approach Channel, Pump House and Jack well, Approach Bridge and Bund etc. for Paithan Grid Water Supply Scheme Tal. Paithan, District Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

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

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

1. The User Agency shall deposit 2% of the project cost falling in in Jaikwadi bird sanctuary and it's Eco Sensitive Zone area with Divisional Forest Officer (Wildlife), Aurangabad for conservation and protection of wildlife sanctuary.
2. Modern technology should be used while construction activity to reduce sound pollution and to minimize disturbance to the wildlife habitat inside the buffer zone of MTR.
3. Construction material should be brought from outside of the sanctuary.
4. No work can be done on the area other than the demanded area as shown on map attached.
5. The user agency should to make good the land after use / maintenance;
6. The user agency should to make good any loss to forest / environment.
7. The user agency should permission from the State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance.
8. The diameter of drinking water pipeline shall commensurate with the width of the trench mentioned above.
9. The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency the right to use the right of way;
10. The length of trench dug at a time does not exceed 500 m, filled up and compacted before digging next stretch of 500 m;
11. The time frame for completing the work of underground laying of drinking water pipeline, should be adhered to.
12. The user agency shall provide water supply points within the PAs if demanded by the in-charge of PA.
13. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

- 78.3.12** Proposal for use of 1.21 ha from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for construction of grid water supply scheme for 373 Villages in Taluka-Gangapur, District-Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

## **WL/MH/WATER/406323/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.21 ha from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for construction of grid water supply scheme for 373 Villages in Taluka-Gangapur, District-Aurangabad, Maharashtra.

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

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

1. The User Agency shall deposit 2% of the project cost falling in Jaikwadi bird sanctuary and it's Eco Sensitive Zone area with Divisional Forest Officer (Wildlife), Aurangabad for conservation and protection of wildlife sanctuary.
2. Modern technology should be used while construction activity to reduce sound pollution and to minimize disturbance to the wildlife habitat inside the buffer zone of MTR.
3. Construction material should be brought from outside of the sanctuary.
4. No work can be done on the area other than the demanded area as shown on map attached.
5. The user agency should to make good the land after use / maintenance;
6. The user agency should to make good any loss to forest / environment;
7. The user agency should permission from the State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance;
8. The diameter of drinking water pipeline shall commensurate with the width of the trench mentioned above.
9. The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency the right to use the right of way;
10. The length of trench dug at a time does not exceed 500 m, filled up and compacted before digging next stretch of 500 m;
11. The time frame for completing the work of underground laying of drinking water pipeline, should be adhered to.
12. The user agency shall provide water supply points within the PAs if demanded by the in-charge of PA.
13. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.13** Proposal for use of 2.56 ha from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for Bhagwangad area and other 46 village's rural regional water supply scheme in Taluk Shewgaon & Pathardi, District Ahmed nagar Maharashtra.

**FP/MH/WATER/6554/2022.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 2.56 ha from Jaikwadi Bird Sanctuary for Bhagwangad area and other 46 village's rural regional

water supply scheme in Taluk Shewgaon & Pathardi, District Ahmed Nagar Maharashtra.

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

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

1. User Agency authority shall deposit 2% of the project cost falling in in Jaikwadi bird sanctuary and it's Eco Sensitive Zone area with Divisional Forest Officer (Wildlife), Aurangabad for conservation and protection of wildlife sanctuary.
2. Modern technology should be used while construction activity to reduce sound pollution and to minimize disturbance to the wildlife habitat inside the buffer zone of MTR.
3. Construction material should be brought from outside of the sanctuary.
4. No work can be done on the area other than the demanded area as shown on map attached.
5. The user agency should to make good the land after use / maintenance.
6. The user agency should to make good any loss to forest / environment.
7. The user agency should permission from the State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance.
8. The diameter of drinking water pipeline shall commensurate with the width of the trench mentioned above.
9. The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency the right to use the right of way;
10. The length of trench dug at a time does not exceed 500 m, filled up and compacted before digging next stretch of 500 m.
11. The time frame for completing the work of underground laying of drinking water pipeline, should be adhered to.
12. The user agency shall provide water supply points within the PAs if demanded by the in-charge of PA.
13. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.14** Proposal for use of 0.2664 ha of forest land from Yashvantrao Chavan Sagarshwar Wildlife Sanctuary for repairing of existing pathways, steps and new construction of railings and New black stone Staircase on footpath from Zhari Parshwanath Digamber Jain Mandir to Hilltop edge to ShridharKevali Paduka Mandir. Maharashtra.

**FP/MH/ROAD/153530/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.2664 ha of forest land from Yashvantrao Chavan Sagarshwar Wildlife Sanctuary for

repairing of existing pathways, steps and new construction of railings and New black stone Staircase on footpath from Zhari Parshwanath Digamber Jain Mandir to Hilltop edge to Shridhar Kevali PadukaMandir. Maharashtra.

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

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

1. The user agency should contribute for wildlife habitat development and protection of sanctuary. For this a 4% amount of proportional project cost falling in the Sanctuary shall be deposited in Sahyadri Tiger Conservation Foundation.
2. All works must be carried out in day time.
3. No heavy machinery will be allowed. No vehicles will be allowed.
4. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.15** Proposal for use of 131.1255 ha (44.0937 ha forest land and 87.0858 ha non forest land) from tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve and Indravati Tiger Reserve and tiger corridor land scape in between Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve and Tipeswar Wildlife Sanctuary and Kawal Tiger Reserve for the purpose of 132 KVDC Mul-SICOM Chandrapur Transmission line.

#### **WL/MH/TRANS/419749/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 131.1255 ha (44.0937 ha forest land and 87.0858 ha non forest land) from tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve and Indravati Tiger Reserve and tiger corridor land scape in between Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve and Tipeswar Wildlife Sanctuary and Kawal Tiger Reserve for the purpose of 132 KVDC Mul-SICOM Chandrapur Transmission line.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The NTCA has also recommended the proposal. The proposal is accompanied with the proposal for plantation of medicinal plants over an area of approximately over 4 ha.

The Chairman suggested that the proposal may be examined by a Committee in light of discussions and suggestions given by Dr. H. S. Singh.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to give in principle approval and decided that a committee shall be constituted comprising of representatives of the Ministry, National Tiger Conservation Authority, Wildlife Institute of India, Maharashtra Forest Department and User Agency for

site inspection and suggesting mitigation measures and adequate management plan for area below the proposed transmission line and therefore decided to defer the proposal for the next meeting.

- 78.3.16** Proposal for use of 3.064 ha of forest land from the tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve and Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve for laying of 220 Kv D/C Transmission Line from existing Umred Sub Station to proposed Nagbhid Sub Station Under MSETCL.

**FP/MH/TRANS/44469/2020**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 3.064 ha of forest land from the tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve and Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve for laying of 220 Kv D/C Transmission Line from existing Umred Sub Station to proposed Nagbhid Sub Station Under MSETCL.

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

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to give in principle approval and decided that a committee shall be constituted comprising of representatives of the Ministry, National Tiger Conservation Authority, Wildlife Institute of India, Maharashtra Forest Department and User Agency for site inspection and suggesting mitigation measures and adequate management plan for area below the proposed transmission line and therefore decided to defer the proposal for the next meeting.

- 78.3.17** Proposal for use of 82.7387 ha (3.2156 ha forest land and 79.5231 ha non- forest land) for underground laying of 18" dia Nagpur- Jharsuguda Natural Gas Pipeline along with OFC Cable across Tiger Corridor connecting Pench Tiger Reserve, Umred Paoni Karandla Sanctuary and Navegaon Nagazira Tiger Reserve and Tiger Corridors of Eastern Vidharbha Landscape in Gondiya, Maharashtra.

**WL/MH/Pipeline/434672/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 82.7387 ha (3.2156 ha forest land and 79.5231 ha non- forest land) for underground laying of 18" dia Nagpur- Jharsuguda Natural Gas Pipeline along with OFC Cable across Tiger Corridor connecting Pench Tiger Reserve, Umred Paoni Karandla Sanctuary and Navegaon Nagazira Tiger Reserve and Tiger Corridors of Eastern Vidharbha Landscape in Gondiya, Maharashtra.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The NTCA has also recommended the proposal. Similar two such proposals have been recommended by the Standing Committee earlier.

Dr. H. S. Singh suggested that the proposal might be recommended.

The Member Secretary, NTCA mentioned that the pipeline would be laid underground.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. In Tiger Corridor area, the gas pipeline laying work will be carried out within RoW, during day time only.
2. The user agency should restore the land after use/maintenance.
3. The User Agency should restore any loss to forest/environment.
4. The User Agency will seek permission from State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance.
5. The User Agency will have to submit NOC from the agency which holds the right to be the right of way.
6. Horizontal drilling machine to be used for pipeline laying work wherever possible.
7. The length of trench dug at a time should not exceed 500 m. which shall be filled up & compacted before digging next stretch of 500 m. to avoid accidental damage to wildlife.
8. While executing the work and thereafter also there should be no violation of provisions Wild Life (Protection), Act 1972, by User Agency or their contractors.
9. User Agency shall deposit 2% of project cost of areas falling in Tiger corridors area for wildlife conservation and management activities of the with Deputy Conservation of Forests & Field Director, Nawegaon- Nagzira Tiger Foundation, Gondia.
10. A contingency plan shall be prepared by the User Agency to manage leakage / any accident which may affect the aquatic birds and ecosystem. The contingency plan shall include:
  - a. Leak detection system to immediately identify the leakages, if any.
  - b. Remote operated valves (ROV) for terminating the pipeline operation and isolation.
  - c. Stopping of pipeline operation and isolation of leaky segment by closing of block valves at Specializing valve (SV) stations.
  - d. Intelligent pigging for monitoring of pipeline defects and maintaining pipeline integrity.
  - e. Impressed Current Cathodic protection to prevent corrosion
  - f. Three layered PE coating on outer surface of the pipeline to prevent external corrosion
  - g. Regular patrolling of the pipeline by Line walkers to prevent any third party incidents.
  - h. In order to have effective control on the pipeline and for its optimum utilization and safety, an appropriate system such as Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and Applications Software (APPS) package shall be implemented.

11. Dedicated pipeline integrity & maintenance team for monitoring, maintenance and repairs of pipeline along with leak arresting equipment's and machines.
12. No construction material should be procured from within the forest. The pipeline and 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.
13. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the forest for implementing the proposed construction.
14. No blasting should be permitted within tiger corridor area.
15. While laying the pipeline and OFC, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the structures 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.
16. Any future maintenance of the pipeline and OFC would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Maharashtra Forest Department.
17. Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra should develop a mechanism for monitoring the compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
18. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.18** Proposal for use of 16.26 ha of land (0.759 ha of forest land and 15.501 ha of non-forest land) from Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape for widening of existing two lane to six lane for construction of bypass of Nagpur-Bhandara road section of NH-53 (Old NH-6) Package between chainage 485.00 to 499.800 in Taluka & District Bhandara, Maharashtra.

**WL/MH/Others/410154/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 16.26 ha of land (0.759 ha of forest land and 15.501 ha of non- forest land) from Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape for widening of existing two lane to six lane for construction of bypass of Nagpur-Bhandara road section of NH-53 (Old NH-6) Package between chainage 485.00 to 499.800 in Taluka & District Bhandara, Maharashtra.

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

The Chairman enquired if the mitigation measures have been proposed along with the proposal.

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) informed that the Wildlife Institute of India has prepared a mitigation plan for the project.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The project agency should implement all the mitigation measures that are proposed in mitigation plan prepared by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The mitigation measures are as follows:
  - a. All the box culverts in the alignment falling within forest patches should be of 5x5 m dimension.
  - b. Divisions between the crossing structures should be of pillar type, instead of wall-type.
  - c. Noise and sound barriers 2 m high should be installed along the entire stretch of the highway passing through the corridor area, which would also act as fencing to prevent animals from entering the road corridor.
  - d. The underpasses must be kept free of all human- related activities and disturbances including foot- trails and roads, as these have a negative influence on the use of crossing structures by wildlife.
  - e. During construction in the corridor area, the following mechanisms should be adhered to: - Use of pre-fabricated materials for construction, - Use of water from sources other than the river, - Disposal of construction- related debris away from corridor area.
  - f. Light and sound barriers are to be installed along the crossing structure. The top ends of the barrier should be turning outwards or be slightly tilted/ angled outwards, to reduce inward propagation of noise (and subsequently within the crossing structure via the gap in the median). Additionally, a fiber glass covering should be installed on top of the median opening to reduce ingress of noise into the crossing structures.
  - g. Site- specific measures to avoid water pollution and siltation are to be employed including use of oil interceptors. h. Warning and information boards for awareness should be erected along the highway regarding the ecological importance of the area.
2. User Agency shall deposit 2% of project cost of areas falling in Tiger Corridor area for wildlife conservation and management activities of the State with Deputy Conservator of Forests.
3. Wildlife Institute of India has already prepared a detailed mitigation plan for the project. These recommendations should be duly implemented by the NHAI in letter and spirit. Since the landscape has presence of tigers and gaurs, minimum height of all animal underpasses should be at least 5 m.
4. In the corridor area, entire stretch of the highway should be fenced (10 feet high chain link) on both sides barring the underpasses so as to channelize wildlife movements along the underpasses.
5. Attempt should be made to keep tree felling minimal at least within the tiger corridor areas.
6. NHAI should ensure that the construction period within tiger corridor area is kept minimal since construction work continued for a longer duration might completely decimate the wildlife populations in the area beyond

recovery. Pre-fabricated structures should be used to the maximum possible extent to reduce the extent of disturbance in the habitat.

7. No construction material should be procured from forest. Construction debris should be disposed outside the forest area.
8. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by NHAI at appropriate places along the highway.
9. The CWLW, Maharashtra should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid herein during various phases of project implementation.
10. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.19** Proposal for Commercial Development Project on sub-plot A on plot bearing CTS No 1/1 admeasuring 4.7200 ha of Vyaravli Village situated at Jogeshwari Vikhroli Link Road, K/ East Ward, Mumbai (“Project Land”), Maharashtra State, with the proposed construction area of approximately 52.0488 ha (including 30.3698 ha of FSI and 21.6789 ha of Non- FSI area) in accordance with the New Layout being developed by M/s. Emine Realty Private Limited. (Previously known as “M/s. Mahal Pictures in Eco-sensitive Zone about 1.7 km from the boundary of the Sanjay Gandhi National Park.

#### **WL/MH/Others/444473/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for Commercial Development Project on sub-plot A on plot bearing CTS No 1/1 admeasuring 4.7200 ha of Vyaravli Village situated at Jogeshwari Vikhroli Link Road, K/ East Ward, Mumbai (“Project Land”), Maharashtra State, with the proposed construction area of approximately 52.0488 ha (including 30.3698 ha of FSI and 21.6789 ha of Non-FSI area) in accordance with the New Layout being developed by M/s. Emine Realty Private. Limited. (Previously known as “M/s. Mahal Pictures in Eco-sensitive Zone about 1.7 km from the boundary of the Sanjay Gandhi National Park.

The proposal is for construction of 6 high rise buildings. The ESZ of the Sanjay Gandhi National Park has already been notified.

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

Dr. H. S. Singh enquired if the proposal is accompanied with waste disposal plan.

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) informed that the construction is a regulated activity in the ESZ. The waste disposal plan has not been submitted along with the proposal.

The Chairman highlighted that in the past also the Standing Committee has insisted on solid waste disposal plan.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal with a direction for submission of solid waste disposal plan by the User Agency through the State Government to the Ministry.

**78.3.20** Proposal for use of 0.5ha in Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park for development of Ro-Pax Jetty & allied infrastructures at Talachua in Kendrapada district in the state of Odisha under Sagarmala Programme.

**WL/OR/Others/454531/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.5ha in Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park for development of Ro-Pax Jetty & allied infrastructures at Talachua in Kendrapada district in the state of Odisha under Sagarmala Programme.

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

The Chairman observed that the proposal is part of Sagarmala project and the area required is small.

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

1. No damage shall be caused to the existing flora & fauna due to the construction work.
2. No work shall be undertaken after sunset & before sunrise.
3. The User Agency shall take prior permission from local forest officials before commencement of work.
4. The waste materials produced during the construction shall be disposed of outside the sanctuary/ National Park.
5. The Jetty shall be designed in such manner so that it does not obstruct free flow of river water and not erode the rivers banks.
6. The Jetty shall be open for use by boats/ trawlers of Forest Dept. without any cost.
7. As and when necessity arises, the DFO, Mangrove Forest Division, (Wildlife), Rajnagar may regulate the movement of boats/ trawlers from this Jetty for protection and conservation of wildlife in the Sanctuary.
8. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.21** Renewal on Existing Road from Kushalipura to Kamleshwar Mahadev via Todra Road, District-Sawai Madhopur in the State of Rajasthan.

### **WL/RJ/ROAD/430715/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for renewal on Existing Road from Kushalipura to Kamleshwar Mahadev via Todra Road, District-Sawai Madhopur in the State of Rajasthan.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The NTCA has not recommended widening of the road and suggested that the user agency may carry out maintenance works including black topping periodically with construction of speed breakers at regular intervals and installation of warning signages.

The Chairman suggested that the proposal of NTCA might be accepted.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee did not approve the proposal and decided that the User Agency may instead periodically maintain the existing road with blacktopping (without widening) subject to construction of speed breakers at regular intervals and installation of warning signages at appropriate wildlife crossing areas in consultation with Rajasthan Forest Department.

- 78.3.22** Proposal for expansion of Maharao Bhimsingh Hospital (M.B.S.) & J.K. Lon Hospital in M.B.S Hospital Campus, Kota, Rajasthan (State Govt. Undertaking)“Hospital and Institutional project” [Building & construction project]over 20.30 ha in default Eco-sensitive Zone of National Chambal Ghariyal Sanctuary about 3.40 kms from the boundary of the Sanctuary.

### **FP/RJ/DISP/6314/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for expansion of Maharao Bhimsingh Hospital (M.B.S.) & J.K. Lon Hospital in M.B.S Hospital Campus, Kota, Rajasthan (State Govt. Undertaking)“Hospital and Institutional project” [Building & construction project]over 20.30 ha in default Eco-sensitive Zone of National Chambal Ghariyal Sanctuary about 3.40 kms from the boundary of the Sanctuary.

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

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan informed that project is proposed within Kota Town. Since, the ESZ of Chambal Sanctuary has not yet been finally notified, most of the Kota town comes under the default ESZ.

The Chairman enquired if bio-medical waste disposal plan has been submitted with the proposed expansion. He further suggested that a checklist should be accompanied with the project proposal placed before the Standing Committee.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that every such proposal should be accompanied with the waste disposal plan.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal with direction for submission of bio-medical waste disposal plan by the User Agency through the State Government.

- 78.3.23** Proposal for construction of Kanha Hotels and Spa Pvt. Ltd. over an area of 0.0845 ha at Khasra No. 54,55 and 56 village Chimanpura Tehsil Amer Dist Jaipur, Rajasthan 95 mts from the boundary of Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary.

**FP/RJ/Others/4553/2019**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for construction of Kanha Hotels and Spa Pvt. Ltd. over an area of 0.0845 ha at Khasra No. 54,55 and 56 village Chimanpura Tehsil Amer Dist Jaipur, Rajasthan 95 mts from the boundary of Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary.

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

The ESZ of the Nahargarh Sanctuary has been finally notified and as per the notification, no new commercial hotels and resorts shall be permitted within one kilometer of the boundary of the protected area or upto the extent of Eco-sensitive zone, whichever is nearer, except for small temporary structures for Eco-tourism activities and new commercial construction of any kind shall not be permitted within one kilometer from the boundary of the protected area or upto extent of the Eco-sensitive Zone whichever is nearer.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided not to recommend the project proposal.

- 78.3.24** Proposal for use of 4.5 ha of land within default Eco-sensitive zone of Sariska Tiger Reserve 8.5 km from Core Zone and 600m from Buffer Zone for development of proposed Medical College at district Jail Campus, Ramnagar, District, Alwar, Rajasthan.

**FP/RJ/DISP/6307/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 4.5 ha of land within default Eco-sensitive zone of Sariska Tiger Reserve 8.5 km from Core Zone and 600m from Buffer Zone for development of proposed Medical College at district Jail Campus, Ramnagar, District, Alwar, Rajasthan.

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

The Standing Committee was informed that the project is for Government disposal and has sewerage and rain water harvesting plan.

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

1. 2% of the proportional project of the project falling within the ESZ of Protected Area should be deposited in RPACS by the user agency for relocation of villages in Sariska Tiger Reserve.
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 labor 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 protected area.
9. There shall be no high mas/ beam/ search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
10. The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
11. Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve/PA.
12. Six feet high wall is to be constructed on the periphery of applied project area.
13. Any permission/ clearance required under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.
14. No labour camp should be constructed within Tiger Reserve. No construction material should be procured from Tiger Reserve or its Eco-sensitive Zone. Construction debris should be appropriately dumped outside the Tiger Reserve and its Eco-sensitive Zone by the User Agency.
15. The campus should be bounded by at least 10 feet high predator proof wall so as to deter accidental entry of tigers or any other predator in future.
16. User agency should develop appropriate waste/garbage and sewerage disposal plan for the campus so that these are not dumped outside untreated.
17. Use of renewable green solar energy should be encouraged to the largest possible extent for providing power supply inside the campus in future.
18. Safety lights along the boundaries of the campus at night should be kept minimal so as to avoid disturbance to wildlife.
19. Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation
20. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.25** Proposal for expansion of steel unit to extent of 5.6 Ha in Gummudipoondi Taluk of Thiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu 7.87 km away from Pulicat Bird Sanctuary in default ESZ.

**FP/TN/IND/6571/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for expansion of steel unit to extent of 5.6 Ha in Gummudipoondi Taluk of Thiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu 7.87 km away from Pulicat Bird Sanctuary in default ESZ.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The proposal is for capacity enhancement and replacement of coal fired furnaces within the existing premise.

Dr. Sukumar highlighted the discussions with regard to proposals within the default ESZ of Pulicat Lake Sanctuary recommended by the Standing Committee in the previous meeting. He further mentioned that the sanctuary comprises of revenue villages whereas the most critical part is near the mouth of the Pulicat lake where it meets the Bay of Bengal. He stressed upon the need for rationalisation of boundaries of the sanctuary on Tamil Nadu side. Therefore, he suggested that the recommendations made in case of previous two proposals may be applied to this project proposal also. He further mentioned that the NGT has ordered continuous monitoring of the impacts of the industries in the area through experts on the Pulicat lake.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Tamil Nadu informed that the proposal for rationalisation of boundaries as per the instructions of the Standing Committee is being prepared through the District Collector. Care would be taken so that the effluents are not discharged in the mouth of the river.

Dr. H. S. Singh suggested that Dr. Sukumar has done study on the matter and his stand may be relied upon.

Dr. Sukumar mentioned that the cumulative impact of the industries in the area may be undertaken by the Tamil Nadu Government with scientific institutes. The birds are restricted to the mouth of the Pulicat Lake and flamingos, are visitors in the sanctuary. The industries are about 7-8 km away from the lake. The proposal may therefore be recommended.

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

1. The User Agency shall obtain all other statutory clearance and also submit Impact Mitigation Plan of Marine and Wildlife Conservation of Pulicat Bird Sanctuary if required.
2. The User Agency shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.

3. Any other conditions stipulated by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Director, Arignar Anna Zoological Park / Wildlife Warden, Chennai shall be followed.
4. The Project Proponent shall ensure that there is no discharge from the project area towards into the sanctuary.
5. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.26** Proposal for expansion of steel melting plant and rolling mill over an area of 3.015 ha of Non-forest land for the production of 76,000 TPA of Re-rolled products/structural and 83,000 TPA of Ms Billets by M/s Kanishk Steel Industries Ltd in default Eco-sensitive Zone of Pulicat Bird Sanctuary about 9.09 km from the Sanctuary.

**FP/TN/IND/6212/2022**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for expansion of steel melting plant and rolling mill over an area of 3.015 ha of Non-forest land for the production of 76,000 TPA of Re-rolled products/structural and 83,000 TPA of Ms Billets by M/s Kanishk Steel Industries Ltd in default Eco-sensitive Zone of Pulicat Bird Sanctuary about 9.09 km from the Sanctuary.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The proposal is for capacity enhancement and replacement of coal fired furnaces within the existing premise.

The Chairman mentioned that same principle as in case of previous proposal shall be applicable.

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

1. The User Agency shall obtain all other statutory clearance and also submit impact mitigation plan of wild and marine life conservation of Pulicat Bird Sanctuary if required.
2. The User Agency shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.
3. Any other conditions stipulated by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Director, Arignar Anna Zoological Park/ Wildlife Warden, Chennai shall be followed.
4. The Project Proponent shall ensure that there is no discharge from the project area towards into the sanctuary.
5. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.27** Proposal for use of 0.492 ha of land from Tiger Corridor connecting Mathikettan Shola National Park and Periyar Tiger Reserve about 700 m from Buffer Zone of Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve for construction of Check Dam across Vairavanar River at Lower Camp in Uthamapalayam Taluk of Theni District to feed water supply for Madurai Corporation.

**FP/TN/WATER/38595/2019**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.492 ha of land from Tiger Corridor connecting Mathikettan Shola National Park and Periyar Tiger Reserve about 700 m from Buffer Zone of Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve for construction of Check Dam across Vairavanar River at Lower Camp in Uthamapalayam Taluk of Theni District to feed water supply for Madurai Corporation.

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

The Chairman mentioned that the area required is very less.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The User Agency shall obtain all other statutory clearance, and also submit Detailed Project Proposal, impact mitigation and wildlife conservation plan and Google map with GPS coordinates along with Land use pattern map.
2. Disturbance to the movement of wild life in the proposed area should be avoided.
3. All safety measures shall be taken to avoid any possible accidents and structural failures.
4. After completion of check dam whenever the user agency requires any repairs they should take permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden for entering into the Reserve Forests / Protected Areas.
5. Publicity boards of movement of wildlife will be erected at appropriate locations by the user agency in consultations with the District Forest Officer concerned.
6. The User Agency shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.
7. For protection and preservation of wildlife in Megamalai and Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Corridor area an amount of Rs. 10.00 Lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs) should be deposited for implementation of protection and conservation measures in wild life areas impacted by the project.
8. Any other conditions stipulated by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests / District Forest Officer shall be followed.
9. User Agency should ensure that construction of the check dam and abstraction of water should not compromise on minimum ecological flow essential for sustenance of aquatic biodiversity downstream in the river.

10. Construction activities should not impact any natural water flow along the river or nearby water channels. Construction materials should be procured from outside the forest and river. User Agency should ensure that no construction debris/de-silted soil is dumped in the river or in the forest.
11. Any future maintenance work of check dam should be subject to prior approval from competent authority of Tamil Nadu Forest Department.
12. CWLW, Tamil Nadu should develop an appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
13. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.28** Proposal for use of 0.5 ha for construction of Check Dam across Sambalar River in tiger corridor connecting Periyar Tiger Reserve with Pambadum Shola National Park through Mathiketan Shola National Park in Bodinayakanur Taluk of Theni district to feed water supply for Bodinayakanur Municipality, Tamil Nadu.

**FP/TN/WATER/41506/2019**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.5 ha for construction of Check Dam across Sambalar River in tiger corridor connecting Periyar Tiger Reserve with Pambadum Shola National Park through Mathiketan Shola National Park in Bodinayakanur Taluk of Theni district to feed water supply for Bodinayakanur Municipality, Tamil Nadu.

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

The Chairman mentioned that the area required is very less.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The User Agency shall obtain all other statutory clearance, and also submit Detailed Project Proposal, Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan and Google map with GPS coordinates along with Land use pattern map.
2. Disturbance to the movement of wild life in the proposed area should be avoided.
3. All safety measures shall be taken to avoid any possible accidents and structural failures.
4. After completion of check dam whenever the user agency requires any repairs they should take permission from the Chief Wildlife Warden for entering into the Reserve Forests / Protected Areas.

5. Publicity boards of movement of wildlife will be erected at appropriate locations by the user agency in consultations with the District Forest Officer concerned.
6. The User Agency shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.
7. For protection and preservation of wildlife in Megamalai and Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Corridor area an amount of Rs.10.00 Lakhs (Rupees Ten Lakhs) should be deposited for implementation of protection and conservation measures in wildlife areas impacted by the project.
8. Any other conditions stipulated by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests / District Forest Officer shall be followed.
9. User Agency should ensure that construction of the check dam and abstraction of water should not compromise on minimum ecological flow essential for sustenance of aquatic biodiversity downstream in the river.
10. Construction activities should not impact any natural water flow along the river or nearby water channels. Construction materials should be procured from outside the forest and river. User Agency should ensure that no construction debris/de-silted soil is dumped in the river or in the forest.
11. Any future maintenance work of check dam should be subject to prior approval from competent authority of Tamil Nadu Forest Department.
12. Chief Wild Life Warden, Tamil Nadu should develop an appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
13. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.29** Proposal for use of 1.5161 ha (0.4248 ha of forest land and 1.0913 ha) from Ranipur Tiger Reserve and 1.6036 ha (0.5735 ha forest land and 1.0351 ha non- forest land) inside the ESZ of Ranipur Tiger Reserve for laying of water distribution line along different roads, under Raipura Group of Villages, Chitrakoot district of Jal Jeevan Mission of Govt. of India, in District:- Chitrakoot.

**WL/UP/Pipeline/413751/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.5161 ha (0.4248 ha of forest land and 1.0913 ha) from Ranipur Tiger Reserve and 1.6036 ha (0.5735 ha forest land and 1.0351 ha non- forest land) inside the ESZ of Ranipur Tiger Reserve for laying of water distribution line along different roads, under Raipura Group of Villages, Chitrakoot district of Jal Jeevan Mission of Govt. of India, in District:-Chitrakoot.

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

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve 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 use of the land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
2. As forest land is involved in this project, therefore Forest Clearance as per provisions of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 will also be required and user agency will be required to comply all conditions stipulated in forest clearance under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.
3. Amount of 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.
4. The user agency shall deposit of Rs 7.60 lakh for mitigation measures to minimize the negative impact of the project on the habitat of wildlife in the Ranipur Tiger Reserve under the online deposited 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. Five GPS set shall be provided to Divisional Forest Officer/ Dy Director Ranipur Tiger Reserve, Chitrakoot by the user agency for the survey and demarcation of the sanctuary boundaries.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. The user agency will keep firefighting equipments as well as equipments for minimizing noise pollution and muck disposals at the site.
9. During the construction period, the user agency will establish one temporary forest check post along with the required manpower at its own cost.
10. User agency will fix sign board at appropriate point of the project.
11. Any type of vegetation clearance should be restricted. 6 Feet boundary to be erected around the Water Tank, Ground reservoir and Clean Water reservoir to avoid entry of animals.
12. User agency need to provide water to existing and new developed ponds being developed in Ranipur Tiger Reserve area for animals.
13. Construction waste materials/ muck disposals shall not be thrown inside the protected forest area or its eco- sensitive zone area or on the movement corridor of Wildlife.
14. 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 and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
15. Blasted Ammunition materials shall not be carried by user agency in Wildlife area.

16. For sanctioning proposal on laying of underground drinking water pipeline the guidelines issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife Division), New Delhi vide Letter No. F.No. 6-175/2017 WL, dated 13.02.2018 and decisions taken in this regard during 71st meeting of National Board for Wild Life (NBWL) as per meeting minutes issued vide Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife Division), New Delhi vide Letter No. F.No. 6-259/2022 WL, dated 27.01.2023 will strictly be followed.
17. No work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.
18. No construction material should be procured from within the forest. The pipeline within the Tiger Reserve should be covered with excavated materials after the construction so that it is totally underground (at least 1 m below ground). Construction debris should be disposed away from the forest taking due care of air and dust pollution by the user agency.
19. While laying the pipeline, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the pipeline 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. Use of blasting/ heavy machinery should be avoided so as to minimize noise pollution.
21. Any future maintenance of the pipeline within Tiger Reserve and its ESZ and corridors would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Uttar Pradesh Forest Department.
22. Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh should develop appropriate monitoring mechanism to monitor the compliance of the conditions stipulated herein.
23. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.30** Proposal for use of 0.0232 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve for construction of intake point water tanks & allied works for Water Supply Scheme for Panijhora, Alipurduar, West Bengal under Jal Jeevan Mission.

**WL/WB/Others/443474/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.0232 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve for construction of intake point water tanks & allied works for Water Supply Scheme for Panijhora, Alipurduar, West Bengal under Jal Jeevan Mission.

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

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

1. The boundary of forest land to be diverted shall be well demarcated on ground by putting boundary pillars.
2. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall not be used for any other purpose than that specified in proposal.
3. Concertina wires which are sharp and potentially very injurious to wildlife are not to be used for fencing.
4. No unnecessary illumination is to be done in the project site at night.
5. No night shelter or night accommodation shall be permitted inside sanctuary while executing the work.
6. No felling of trees shall be permitted.
7. No new road/approach road/ground clearing shall be permitted for construction of water supply structures/ underground boring/ laying of water pipelines etc. for the purpose of gravity based water supply scheme for Rangbull and Hill Card Road under Jal Jeevan Mission.
8. During acute water scarcity the park management reserves the right to use water from the source for refilling the water holes meant for wild animals. No construction material should be procured from within the Tiger Reserve and/ or its ESZ. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the Tiger Reserve and/or its ESZ by the cost of the user agency.
9. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the Tiger Reserve for implementing the proposed construction. Construction time should be during daytime.
10. Any future maintenance of the tube well would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of West Bengal Forest Department.
11. Chief Wild Life Warden, West Bengal should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
12. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.31** Proposal for use of 0.0232 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve for construction of intake point water tanks & allied works for Water Supply Scheme under Jal Jeevan Mission, West Bengal Buxa Tiger Reserve.

**WL/WB/Others/442103/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.0232 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve for construction of intake point water tanks & allied works for Water Supply Scheme under Jal Jeevan Mission, West Bengal Buxa Tiger Reserve.

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

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The boundary of forest land to be diverted shall be well demarcated on ground by putting boundary pillars.
2. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall not be used for any other purpose than that specified in proposal.
3. Concertina wires which are sharp and potentially very injurious to wildlife are not to be used for fencing.
4. No unnecessary illumination is to be done in the project site at night.
5. No night shelter or night accommodation shall be permitted inside sanctuary while executing the work.
6. No felling of trees shall be permitted.
7. No new road/ approach road/ ground clearing shall be permitted for construction of water supply structures/ underground boring/ laying of water pipelines etc. for the purpose of gravity based water supply scheme for Paro Basti, Buxa Forests under Jal Jeevan Mission.
8. During acute water scarcity the park management reserves the right to use water from the source for refilling the water holes meant for wild animals.
9. No construction material should be procured from within the Tiger Reserve and/ or its ESZ. The pipeline should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Care should be taken that the pipelines are totally underground. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the Tiger Reserve and/or its ESZ by the cost of the user agency.
10. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the Tiger Reserve for implementing the proposed construction.
11. While laying the pipeline, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the pipeline so as to minimize the disturbance to wildlife.
12. Any future maintenance of the pipeline and tube wells would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of West Bengal Forest Department.
13. Chief Wild Life Warden, West Bengal should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of
14. project implementation.
15. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.32** Proposal for use of 0.157 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve for construction of intake point water tanks & allied works for Water Supply Scheme for Garo Basti, Alipurduar, West Bengal under Jal Jeevan Mission.

**WL/WB/Others/443388/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.157 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve for construction of intake point water tanks & allied works for Water Supply Scheme for Garo Basti, Alipurduar, West Bengal under Jal Jeevan Mission.

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

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The boundary of forest land to be diverted shall be well demarcated on ground by putting boundary pillars.
2. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall not be used for any other purpose than that specified in proposal.
3. Concertina wires which are sharp and potentially very injurious to wildlife are not to be used for fencing.
4. No unnecessary illumination is to be done in the project site at night.
5. No night shelter or night accommodation shall be permitted inside sanctuary while executing the work.
6. No felling of trees shall be permitted.
7. No new road/approach road/ground clearing shall be permitted for construction of water supply structures/ underground boring/ laying of water pipelines etc. for the purpose of gravity based water supply scheme for Garo Basti under Buxa Tiger Reserve under Jal Jeevan Mission.
8. During acute water scarcity the park management reserves the right to use water from the source for refilling the water holes meant for wild animals.
9. No construction material should be procured from within the Tiger Reserve and/ or its ESZ. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the Tiger Reserve and/or its ESZ by the cost of the user agency.
10. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the Tiger Reserve for implementing the proposed construction. Construction time should be during daytime.
11. The overhead reservoir should be appropriately camouflaged with the surrounding environment.
12. Any future maintenance of the overhead reservoir and tube well would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of West Bengal Forest Department.
13. Chief Wild Life Warden, West Bengal should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
14. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.3.33** Proposal for use of 0.0232 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve for construction of intake point water tanks & allied works for Water Supply Scheme for PampuBasty under Jal Jeevan Mission.

**WL/WB/Others/443395/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.0232 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve for construction of intake point water tanks & allied works for Water Supply Scheme for PampuBasty under Jal Jeevan Mission.

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

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The boundary of forest land to be diverted shall be well demarcated on ground by putting boundary pillars.
2. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall not be used for any other purpose than that specified in proposal.
3. Concertina wires which are sharp and potentially very injurious to wildlife are not to be used for fencing.
4. No unnecessary illumination is to be done in the project site at night.
5. No night shelter or night accommodation shall be permitted inside sanctuary while executing the work.
6. No felling of trees shall be permitted.
7. No new road/ approach road/ ground clearing shall be permitted for construction of water supply structures/ underground boring/ laying of water pipelines etc. for the purpose of gravity based water supply scheme for Pampu Basty under Buxa Tiger Reserve under Jal Jeevan Mission.
8. During acute water scarcity the park management reserves the right to use water from the source for refilling the water holes meant for wild animals.
9. No construction material should be procured from within the Tiger Reserve and/or its ESZ. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the Tiger Reserve and/or its ESZ by the cost of the user agency.
10. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the Tiger Reserve for implementing the proposed construction. Construction time should be during daytime.
11. Any future maintenance of the tube well would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of West Bengal Forest Department.
12. Chief Wild Life Warden, West Bengal should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
13. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

- 78.3.34** Proposal for use of 0.02 ha forest land from Core Zone of Buxa Tiger reserve for installation of Mobile Tower for the purpose of 4G saturation project in Adma Basti Alipurduar, West Bengal.

**WL/WB/CommPost/450546/2023**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.02 ha forest land from Core Zone of Buxa Tiger reserve for installation of Mobile Tower for the purpose of 4G saturation project in Adma Basti Alipurduar, West Bengal.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The NTCA has not recommended the project proposal.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided not to approve the project proposal.

**AGENDA No. 4**

**Any other item with the permission of the Chair**

- 78.4.1** Proposal for use of 0.01 ha of forest land of Sohagibarwa wild Life Sanctuary for Archaeological Excavation at Kanhaiya Baba KaSthan, Maharajganj District, Uttar Pradesh

**WL/UP/Others/451955/2023.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.01 ha of forest land of Sohagibarwa wild Life Sanctuary for Archaeological Excavation at Kanhaiya Baba Ka Sthan, Maharajganj District, Uttar Pradesh.

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

The proposal was discussed in the 77<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided to seek more details about the purpose and expected findings from the proposed excavation.

Now, the Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh has provided justification, objectives of the excavations at the place and method/technique vide his letter dated 13.02.2024. The objectives include to ascertain the identity of the place Kanhaiya Baba's place as ancient Ramgram as according to Buddhist texts the site is supposed to be one of the eight great original stupa where relics of lord Buddha were kept, to ascertain the historical importance and cultural heritage of

the region and to study the archaeological potentiality of the site. The mound is of about 30-35 feet which has to be excavated.

The Chairman mentioned that this is proposal connected with people's beliefs that this place harbours relics of Lord Buddha. There is sentimental attachment of the people. There is demand from people's representatives also. The area required is also very less that is 0.01 ha. The proposal may therefore be recommended.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, 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. The instructions/orders pass by the State Govt./Central Govt. and the directions passed by Hon'ble High Court/Supreme Court from time to time, regarding such project shall be complied with.
3. The user agency shall extend all support to forest department in case of any forest and wildlife offence.
4. If the project involves forest land in the project, Forest Clearance as per provisions of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 shall also be required and user agency shall be required to comply all conditions stipulated in forest clearance under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.
5. Amount of 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 0.01 ha. falling within the boundary of Sohagibarwa Wildlife Sanctuary under the jurisdiction of Divisional Forest Officer, Sohagibarwa Wildlife Division, Maharajganj.
6. The User Agency shall deposit 5% of the project cost on pro rate basis for the portion of the excavation within the protected area are bear the cost of mitigation, whichever is higher for mitigation measures to minimize the negative impact of the project on the wildlife habitat of the Sohagibarwa Wildlife Sanctuary.
7. 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.
8. 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 accordance to law.
9. The User Agency will ensure that no labor camp shall be established inside the sanctuary. Nights stay in the sanctuary neither firewood nor any other forest produce from the forest will be used.

10. During archaeological excavation, the User Agency will never use blasting material.
11. Construction based materials will not be thrown inside the sanctuary area or the movement corridor of wildlife and ESZ area.
12. The User Agency will keep fire fighting equipments as well as equipments for minimizing noise pollution and muck disposals at the site.
13. During execution of the project work, the User Agency shall adopt certain technical measures to negate the impact relating any environmental pollution/radioactive pollution.
14. The excavated pit shall be properly fenced so as to avoid injury/death of the animals in the sanctuary/forest area.
15. No work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.
16. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.2** Proposal for use of 400.89 ha for construction of Jamrani Drinking Water Multipurpose Project, Nanital, Uttarakhand in DudhwaLagga Tiger Corridor.

**FP/UK/WATER/5918/2021.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 400.89 ha for construction of Jamrani Drinking Water Multipurpose Project, Nanital, Uttarakhand in Dudhwa Lagga Tiger Corridor.

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

The proposal was taken up for discussion in the 74th meeting wherein the Standing Committee decided that the proposal shall be examined by a site inspection committee under the Chairmanship of Shri H. S. Singh, representative of Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, CWLW, Uttarakhand and one representative from the Ministry and accordingly, deferred the proposal for the next meeting.

The Ministry constituted a Site Inspection Committee which carried out inspection and submitted its report and gave certain recommendations in addition to those mentioned in the report of the WII.

The proposal was lastly discussed in the 77th meeting of the Standing Committee. After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to give in principle approval to the project proposal and directed that the Chief Secretary to the Government of Uttarakhand shall submit an undertaking for ensuring compliance to the conditions for consideration of the project proposal by the Standing Committee in the next meeting.

Ministry has requested the Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand for the undertaking vide letter dated 16th February, 2024. The undertaking from the Chief Secretary has been received on 21.02.2024 wherein it has been stated that the Government of

Uttarakhand undertakes that it will ensure compliance to the conditions/recommendations made by the WII, NTCA and site inspection committee for implementation of this project.

Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand mentioned that as per the directions of the Standing Committee, the Chief Secretary has given undertaking for ensuring the compliance of conditions in relation to this project proposal. He therefore requested for approval of the Standing Committee for the project proposal.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the undertakings may not be adhered to in future. The State Governments forget the undertakings given.

The Chairman suggested that the proceedings may be published on the Ministry's website.

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

1. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal.
2. The concerned territorial divisional forest officer/director shall monitor the implementation of the project regularly & report for the violation, if any.
3. It shall be ensured that no labourer camp will be setup inside the forest area.
4. District Forest Officer shall ensure that all the activities in the corridor Management Plan shall be completed as per requirement.
5. 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 Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 & all other acts, rules, regulations, guidelines, Hon'ble court Order(s) and pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
7. The height of the proposed dam shall be marginally reduced for protection of the northern corridor.
8. The component of power house proposed on the right bank of the Gola River in the project shall be dropped.
9. The project shall provide bridled paths on both sides of the dam-waterline at least two contour levels just below and above the proposed HFL of the dam to facilitate movement of wildlife which ideally use such paths for movement. Structure at dam connecting hills should be designed a fashion that tiger and other wildlife move freely without disturbance.
10. A series of small bridges (minimum two) should be constructed at appropriate locations to facilitate the passage of wild animals. These should not be used for any regular communication of human beings except in case of emergency and /or inspection. One bridge should be constructed across Gola River where it meets another stream/river connecting the corridor in the east.
11. No development shall be allowed towards forests in the northern side of the Haldwani city. Corridor areas with human habitations shall be fenced

off with sturdy chain-link fencing, both as a means to secure the corridor by minimizing anthropogenic pressures, as also to minimise any human-wildlife conflict. Bio-fencing shall also be taken up along the project boundary as per assessed need to reduce anthropogenic impacts in the area.

12. Following activities shall be undertaken by the State Forest Department with funding support from the User Agency:
  - a. A regular wildlife monitoring programme using latest tools such as camera traps, drones etc. to generate baseline data as also periodic changes in occupancy and other attributes in the project area;
  - b. A habitat enrichment programme for both the arms of the identified Tiger corridor in the Project Area so as to improve corridor connectivity in this area and this shall also be monitored regularly. Exact areas of this plantation, duration of the plantation, tree species to be used in the plantation, maintenance schedule shall be approved by the Forest Department. Regular monitoring of this activity shall be undertaken.
  - c. Strengthen the capacity of the Forest Department to effectively address challenges such as encroachment, illicit tree felling and poaching and use of modern patrolling monitoring tools such as MsTRIPES shall be encouraged.
13. The mitigation measures proposed in both the Tiger Conservation Plan and in Wildlife Management Plan shall be undertaken.
14. A long term study should be commissioned to regularly monitor for the wildlife in the corridor both during the construction and 5 years after commissioning of the project. These 10 yearlong studies must be carried out by a reputed Institutions with domain knowledge and expertise with fund support from the User Agency.
15. A committee comprising of members from NTCA, WII, Forest Research Institute, State Forest Department shall be constituted by the State Forest Department to oversee the implementation of mitigation measures on a half yearly basis and submit their report to NTCA for strict compliance by the User Agency. The User Agency shall bear the expenses for the meetings of the Committee.
16. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.3** Proposal for use of 3.67 ha land for Affordable Group Housing Colony by M/s Mega Infratech Pvt. Ltd. at Village- GarhiHarsaru, Sector 95 B, Gurugram at a distance ranging from 4.12 to 4.33 kilometer from the boundary of Sultanpur National Park within its Eco-Sensitive Zone-

**WL/HR/Others/420554/2023.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 3.67 ha land for Affordable Group Housing Colony by M/s Mega Infratech Pvt. Ltd. at

Village- GarhiHarsaru, Sector 95 B, Gurugram at a distance ranging from 4.12 to 4.33 kilometer from the boundary of Sultanpur National Park within its Eco-Sensitive Zone.

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

The proposal was first discussed in the 75th meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that site inspection would be carried out. Ministry constituted a site inspection team. The site inspection team did not find any construction activities on the proposed project site. The User Agency has submitted the MoU on solid waste disposal plan.

The proposal was further discussed in the 77th meeting of the Standing Committee wherein noting that the action taken by the State Government should be firm and visible on the ground, it was decided to seek report from the State Government to that effect and deferred the matter for the next meeting. The report from the State Government is awaited. Meanwhile, it has come to the notice of the Ministry that a petition has been filed by the User Agency in the High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh requesting for directions for consideration of the Project Proposal by the Standing Committee.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana informed that the State Government has submitted action taken report in case of two proposals for affordable housing scheme where constructions have been carried. In the present case, as also observed by the site inspection committee, construction activities have not been started. The User Agency has submitted proposal for solid waste management. As there is no violation in the present matter, the State Government has not submitted any report separately for this proposal.

The Chairman highlighted that the Sultanpur National Park is a Ramsar Site. The construction companies are using the surrounding areas for low cost housing schemes. We are therefore going to lose a Ramsar Site permanently. This is an important wetland in the area. The water drainage channels have been blocked due to constructions. The water which goes from Delhi drains into Najafgarh. The entire area has become marshy. Therefore, a committee should be constituted. Haryana Government shall present study of water flow, steps taken for preservation of wetlands and Ramsar sites in the State, the steps taken to preserve these wetlands due to drainage in Najafgarh.

Member Secretary, NTCA highlighted that a large number of such projects are being taken in the area. The cumulative impact of such projects should also be assessed.

The Chairman suggested for convening the meeting of the committee to be constituted within fifteen days of its constitution. The District Magistrate, Gurugram, Representatives from Haryana Irrigation Department, State Wetlands Authority, Chief Wild Life Warden, Wetlands Division of the Ministry and Director, Indian Institute of Delhi or Roorkee shall also be invited for the meeting. For the preservation of this Ramsar Site, cumulative impacts of these

projects should be assessed and if required, the future projects should be prohibited in the area. A comprehensive report shall be prepared which would be future reference. The report would contain areas where such projects could be undertaken. The report shall be placed before the Standing Committee. The report would be examined by the Expert Members of the Standing Committee. Similar such reports may be prepared for important wetlands of the country. We cannot afford to lose any wetlands as that would lead to floods. About 1.3 lakhs hectare areas outside forest is under wetlands which are lifelines of the country.

Dr. H. S. Singh and Dr. Sukumar expressed their agreement with the observations and suggestions made by the Chairman.

**Decision Taken:** After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that a committee under the Chairmanship of Inspector General of Forests (WL) shall be constituted for organisation of co-ordination meeting within fifteen days of its constitution, study of cumulative impact of the housing and other building infrastructure projects on the Sultanpur National Park, identification of no-development areas for such constructions around the National Park and submission of report to the Ministry for placing before the Standing Committee. The Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana shall be make arrangements for the meeting, including, issuance of meeting notice, co-ordination with the invitees, recording the proceedings for the meeting, compilation of the Ministry. The Standing Committee therefore decided to defer the proposal till the submission of the report by the Committee under the Chairmanship of Inspector General of Forests (WL).

**78.4.4** Proposal for use of 7.12 ha of forest land in Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary and 44.60 hanon-forest land in ESZ of Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Guwahati Ring Road including bridge over Brahmaputra River (Northern Bypass from Baihata to Sonapur) & widening of existing NH-27 from Basis that to Jorabat section in the state of Assam.

**WL/AS/Others/459931/2024.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 7.12 ha of forest land in Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary and 44.60 hanon-forest land in ESZ of Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Guwahati Ring Road including bridge over Brahmaputra River (Northern Bypass from Baihata to Sonapur) & widening of existing NH-27 from Basis that to Jorabat section in the state of Assam.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The animal passage plan has been prepared in consultation with the State Forest Department, Scientist of Wildlife Institute of India and the User Agency and submitted along with the proposal. The animal Passage plan includes two underpasses of over 200 m span and one bridge of over 150 m span and height of 8 m, nine box culverts. A slight change has also been made in the alignment.

The PCCF and HoFF, Assam informed that about 800 m road length would pass about 50 m inside the Sanctuary. The Wildlife Institute of India suggested change in the alignment so that the road passes along the boundary to ensure the protection for the Sanctuary. There are lot of settlements on the other side of the road. Therefore, the road would provide protection from encroachments into the sanctuary. Due to height proposed for the animal passage structures, there won't be tunnel effect for the elephants.

Dr. Sukumar expressed satisfaction with the animal passage plan.

Dr. H. S. Singh highlighted that the normally the animal passage plans are prepared taking into consideration the movement of larger mammals like tiger, elephants etc. There are smaller mammals such as jungle cats, foxes etc. which have an occupancy range of about 2-3 sq. km. Therefore, any linear infrastructure project should have several animal passage structures per km for facilitating crossing of such smaller mammals and other wild animals.

The PCCF and HoFF, Assam informed that the concerns raised by Dr. H. S. Singh have been addressed in this project. There are about 50 such structures proposed in this stretch which are of about 6 m span and with height ranging between 3-6 m. These structures would facilitate movement of small mammals, reptiles across the road.

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

1. A Comprehensive study shall have to be conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India WII or any other relevant agency to assess potential impact of the project, particularly on the movement paths of Elephants and other mitigation measures.
2. Widening of existing NH-27 from Basistha to Jorabat section shall integrate construction of at least 4 Km elevated road from Jorabat towards Sonapur in order to restore traditional elephant corridor connecting Amchang WLS with Marakdola RF & Aprikola RF and beyond.
3. No adverse impact shall be caused to wild animals and their habitat.
4. Minimal tree felling shall be resorted to in the forest land.
5. No construction activities shall be carried out between the sunset and sunrise within the protected area.
6. 02 (two) percent of the project cost shall be deposited as Corpus fund for the purpose of Human Elephant Conflict (HEC) mitigation and Conservation of Wildlife to be used by the CWLW to implement HEC Mitigation Plan & Wildlife Conservation Plan.
7. HEC Mitigation Plan & Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be submitted within 02 (two) months after deposition of the above mentioned amount by the User Agency.
8. The animal passage plan prepared and submitted with the proposal shall be implemented in totality.
9. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.5** Proposal for use of 0.6 ha from Marine National Park for old meter gauge railway track to broad gauge railway track of Khambhalia- Parodiya, railway line, Gujarat.-

**WL/GJ/RAIL/434899/2023.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is use of 0.6 ha from Marine National Park for old meter gauge railway track to broad gauge railway track of Khambhalia- Parodiya, railway line, Gujarat.

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

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Gujarat informed that railway line connects the Salaya port with Khambhalia. There is a pre-independence meter gauge railway line and about 350 m of this railway line falls within Marine National Park. The proposal is for conversion of meter gauge railway line to broad gauge.

Dr. H. S. Singh proposed that the Standing Committee may recommend the proposal.

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

1. The User Agency shall not violate any provisions under 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 other work other than the work 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 Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 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. The User Agency shall prepare Animal Passage Plan in Consultation with Chief Wild Life Warden on the basis of Guidelines named "Eco- friendly measures to Mitigation Impacts on Linear Infrastructures on Wildlife of WII".
13. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.6** Proposal for use of 0.4601 ha from buffer zone of Periyar Tiger Reserve for renovation of existing two wells (0.0106 ha and 0.0064 ha), inspection bungalow (0.058 ha) and laying of pipeline (0.385 ha) for water supply under Jal Jeevan Mission to CHAKKUPALLAM, Vandanmedu, Karunapuram and Vandiperiyar Panchayats in Idukki District-

**WL/KL/Pipeline/432064/2023.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.4601 ha from buffer zone of Periyar Tiger Reserve for renovation of existing two wells (0.0106 ha and 0.0064ha), inspection bungalow(0.058 ha) and laying of pipeline (0.385 ha) for water supply under Jal Jeevan Mission to CHAKKUPALLAM, Vandanmedu, Karunapuram and Vandiperiyar Panchayats in Idukki District.

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

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

1. The Kerala Water Authority shall remit the lease rent for the previously handed over land of 25 cents from the date of its handing over, since the Secretary to Forest & Wildlife Department vide letter No. 2714/C2/2002/ F&WLD dated 08.04.2002 has directed to obtain permission of Government of India to use of forest land for non-forestry purposes with retrospective effect ie., from the date on which the land was informally handed over to the Kerala Water Authority.
2. The Kerala Water Authority shall share 10% of its total net profit earned from this drinking Water Supply Scheme with Periyar Tiger Conservation Foundation, Thekkady.
3. The Water Authority in its letter No. JJM- AB 666/2022 dated 03.06.2022 informed that the monitoring building (Inspection Bungalow) will be renovated. No vertical or horizontal expansion shall be allowed to the existing structure. It shall not be used as a Guest House in future and only officials of the User Agency shall be accommodated here. Otherwise, it will increase human pressure in the Park which is not desirable.
4. KWA shall ensure proper waste management system at the project area.

5. The KWA shall ensure that in no case the water supply activity will cause any noise pollution in and around the Sanctuary area.
6. The work should be completed within one year from date of sanction.
7. The working hours should be immediately limited between sunrise and sunset period.
8. The KWA shall be obliged to obey various provisions given under:
  - b. The Kerala Forest Act, 1961
  - c. The Biological Diversity Act, 2002
  - d. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986
  - e. The Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980
  - f. Relevant directions issued from time to time by
  - g. Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and Hon'ble High Courts.
  - h. Park Rules issued by Park Management for better management from time to time.
  - i. The Wild Life (protection) Act, 1972
9. User Agency should ensure that abstraction of water from Thekkady Lake should not adversely impact minimum ecological flow and availability of water for aquatic biodiversity during lean period.
10. Water should be transported only by underground pipelines. Open canals should be discouraged within Tiger Reserve to the largest extent possible.
11. No construction material should be procured from within the forest. The pipeline should be covered with excavated materials after the construction so that it is totally underground (at least 1 m below ground). Construction debris should be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the user agency.
12. While laying the pipeline, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the pipeline 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.
13. No tree shall be felled during laying of underground pipelines.
14. Use of blasting/ heavy machinery should be avoided so as to minimize noise pollution.
15. The monitoring building should be appropriately camouflaged with the surrounding environment. No night stays of staff and officials of User Agency in the monitoring building should be permitted in future. Solar panels should be encouraged for supplying power to the monitoring building. Lightings in the surroundings of the building should be kept minimal at night. The wells should be covered with parapets and appropriately fenced (chain link) to deter wildlife movements.
16. User Agency should install silent water pump so that level of noise emanating from it is low causing minimal disturbance to the wildlife.
17. Any future maintenance of the project components would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Kerala Forest Department.
18. Chief Wild Life Warden, Kerala should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor the compliance of the conditions stipulated herein.
19. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.7** Proposal for use of 0.675 ha of Non-Forest land from Jaikwadi Wildlife Sanctuary for Intake Well, Connecting Main, Jack well, Approach Bridge, Coffor Dam, Rising Main, Pump House for Mukindpur & 7 villages regional rural water supply scheme, Maharashtra - **WL/MH/IRRIG/424345/2023**.

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.675 ha of Non-Forest land from Jaikwadi Wildlife Sanctuary for Intake Well, Connecting Main, Jack well, Approach Bridge, Coffor Dam, Rising Main, Pump House for Mukindpur & 7 villages regional rural water supply scheme, Maharashtra.

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

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

1. Project proponent authority shall deposit 2% of the project cost falling in in Jaikwadi bird sanctuary and it's Eco Sensitive Zone area with Divisional Forest Officer (Wildlife), Aurangabad for conservation and protection of wildlife sanctuary.
2. Modern technology should be used while construction activity to reduce sound pollution and to minimize disturbance to the wildlife habitat inside the buffer zone of MTR.
3. Construction material should be brought from outside of the sanctuary.
4. No work can be done on the area other than the demanded area as shown on map attached.
5. The user agency should to make good the land after use / maintenance. The user agency should to make good any loss to forest / environment.
6. The user agency should permission from the State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance.
7. The diameter of drinking water pipeline shall commensurate with the width of the trench mentioned above.
8. The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency the right to use the right of way.
9. The length of trench dug at a time does not exceed 500 m, filled up and compacted before digging next stretch of 500 m.
10. The time frame for completing the work of underground laying of drinking water pipeline, should be adhered to.
11. The user agency shall provide water supply points within the PAs if demanded by the in-charge of PA.
12. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.8** Proposal for use of 1.621 ha (Forest area 0.753 ha & Non-Forest area 0.868 ha) from buffer zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve for construction of three elevated storage reservoir and laying of underground water supply pipeline for regional rural water supply system in Gadga and 35 villages of Dharni Taluka (Dist-Amravati, Maharashtra) under Jal Jeevan Mission, Maharashtra.-

**WL/MH/DRKWATER/445999/2023.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.621 ha (Forest area 0.753 ha & Non-Forest area 0.868 ha) from buffer zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve for construction of three elevated storage reservoir and laying of underground water supply pipeline for regional rural water supply system in Gadga and 35 villages of Dharni Taluka (Dist-Amravati, Maharashtra) under Jal Jeevan Mission, Maharashtra.

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

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

1. Project proponent authority shall deposit 2% of the project cost falling in Buffer/ ESZ of Melghat Tiger Reserve area with in Chief Conservator of Forest & Field Director, Melghat Tiger Conservation Foundation, Amaravati for conservation and protection of wildlife sanctuary.
2. Modern technology should be used while construction activity to reduce sound pollution and to minimize disturbance to the wildlife habitat inside the buffer zone of MTR.
3. Construction material should be brought from outside of the sanctuary.
4. No work can be done on the area other than the demanded area as shown on map attached.
5. The size of the trench will not exceed more than 2.0 m depth and 1.0 m width;
6. The user agency should to make good the land after use / maintenance;
7. The user agency should to make good any loss to forest / environment;
8. The user agency should permission from the State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance;
9. The diameter of drinking water pipeline shall commensurate with the width of the trench mentioned above.
10. The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency the right to use the right of way;
11. The length of trench dug at a time does not exceed 500 m, filled up and compacted before digging next stretch of 500 m;
12. The time frame for completing the work of underground laying of drinking water pipeline, should be adhered to.

13. The user agency shall provide water supply points within the PAs if demanded by the in-charge of PA.
14. The project proponent should inform / use “Call Before u Dig” (CBuD) Mobile Application of the Government of India prior to undertaking any type of digging/ excavation. Otherwise the digging/ excavation will be turned unauthorized. In the State of Maharashtra the Director (IT) of Directorate of Information Technology is State Nodal for CBuD.
15. No construction material should be procured from within the Tiger Reserve and/ or its ESZ. The pipeline should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Care should be taken that the pipelines are totally underground. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the Tiger Reserve and/or its ESZ by the cost of the user agency.
16. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the Tiger Reserve for implementing the proposed construction.
17. While laying the pipeline, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the pipeline so as to minimize the disturbance to wildlife.
18. Above ground structures inside forest should be appropriately camouflaged with the surrounding environment.
19. Any future maintenance of the project components would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Maharashtra Forest Department.
20. Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
21. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.9** Proposal for use of 6.40 ha (0.14 ha of forest land and 6.26 ha Non- Forest land) from buffer zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve for laying of underground pipeline for Regional Rural Water Supply Scheme for Popatkhed 97 Villages Regional Rural Water Supply Scheme Tq- Akot & Telhara, Dist: - Akola, Maharashtra Under Jal Jeevan Mission, Maharashtra.

**WL/MH/Pipeline/446295/2023.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 6.40 ha (0.14 ha of forest land and 6.26 ha Non- Forest land) from buffer zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve for laying of underground pipeline for Regional Rural Water Supply Scheme for Popatkhed 97 Villages Regional Rural Water Supply Scheme Tq- Akot & Telhara, Dist:- Akola, Maharashtra Under Jal Jeevan Mission, Maharashtra

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

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

1. Project proponent authority shall deposit 2% of the project cost falling in Buffer/ ESZ of Melghat Tiger Reserve area with in Chief Conservator of Forest & Field Director, Melghat Tiger Conservation Foundation, Amaravati for conservation and protection of wildlife sanctuary.
2. Modern technology should be used while construction activity to reduce sound pollution and to minimize disturbance to the wildlife habitat inside the buffer zone of MTR.
3. Construction material should be brought from outside of the sanctuary.
4. No work can be done on the area other than the demanded area as shown on map attached. The size of the trench will not exceed more than 2.0 m depth and 1.0 m width;
5. The user agency should restore the land after use / maintenance;
6. The user agency should take precaution to avoid any loss to forest / environment;
7. The user agency should take permission from the State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance;
8. The diameter of drinking water pipeline shall commensurate with the width of the trench mentioned above.
9. The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency the right to use the right of way;
10. The length of trench dug at a time does not exceed 500 m, filled up and compacted before digging next stretch of 500 m;
11. The time frame for completing the work of underground laying of drinking water pipeline, should be adhered to.
12. The user agency shall provide water supply points within the PAs if demanded by the in-charge of PA.
13. The project proponent should inform / use “Call Before u Dig” (CBuD) Mobile Application of the Government of India prior to undertaking any type of digging/ excavation. Otherwise the digging/excavation will be turned unauthorized. In the State of Maharashtra the Director (IT) of Directorate of Information Technology is State Nodal for CBuD.
14. No construction material should be procured from within the Tiger Reserve and/ or its ESZ. The pipeline should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Care should be taken that the pipelines are totally underground. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the Tiger Reserve and/ or its ESZ by the cost of the user agency.
15. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the Tiger Reserve for implementing the proposed construction.
16. While laying the pipeline, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the pipeline so as to minimize the disturbance to wildlife.
17. Above ground structures should be appropriately camouflaged with the surrounding environment.
18. Any future maintenance of the project components would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Maharashtra Forest Department.

19. Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
20. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.10** Proposal for laying of underground Slurry Pipeline over an area of 8.8226 Ha. (Forest- 7.5201 Ha and Non-Forest- 1.3025 Ha) from Tiger Corridor connecting Indravati Tiger Reserve with Navegaon Nagzira tiger reserve along the road within RoW of existing road from Hedri Iron Ore Grinding Unit to Konsari Steel Plant under Etapalli, Chamorshi and Mulchera Tehsil of District Gadchiroli in the State of Maharashtra.- **WL/MH/Pipeline/457059/2023.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for laying of underground Slurry Pipeline over an area of 8.8226 Ha. (Forest-7.5201 Ha and Non-Forest- 1.3025 Ha) from Tiger Corridor connecting Indravati Tiger Reserve with Navegaon Nagzira tiger reserve along the road within RoW of existing road from Hedri Iron Ore Grinding Unit to Konsari Steel Plant under Etapalli, Chamorshi and Mulchera Tehsil of District Gadchiroli in the State of Maharashtra.

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

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

1. The digging of trench by excavator like JCB etc., is likely to damage roots of adjoining trees. Hence, to avoid this, the trenches for laying OFC in close vicinity (say 2m away from the tree in both directions) of the adjoining trees should be dug manually instead of JCB etc.
2. The work should be done only during daytime to avoid causing disturbance to movement of wildlife during the night.
3. The project work will be carried along the existing roads, during day time only.
4. Care will be taken to ensure that no tree is felled during the project work.
5. The size of the trench will not exceed more than 2.0 m depth and 1.0 m width.
6. The user agency should restore the land after use/maintenance.
7. The user agency restore any loss to forest/ environment.
8. No civil structure will be constructed during the project work.
9. The user agency will seek permissions from State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance.
10. The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency which holds the right to use the right of way.
11. The length of the trench dug at a time does not exceed 500 m which shall be filled up and compacted before digging next stretch of 500 m.

12. Dust emissions shall be controlled by spraying water and preventing vehicle movement over the loose soil by barricading the area.
13. The project proponent should inform / use “Call Before u Dig” (CBuD) Mobile Application of the Government of India prior to undertaking any type of digging/ excavation. Otherwise the digging/ excavation will be turned unauthorized. In the State of Maharashtra the Director (IT) of Directorate of Information Technology is State Nodal for CBuD.
14. User agency should deposit 4 % of amount of project cost which passes through that Tiger Corridor with Tadoba- Andhari Tiger Conservation Foundation Chandrapur for conservation and protection of wildlife sanctuary.
15. No construction material should be procured from within the forest. The pipeline should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Care should be taken that the pipelines are totally underground. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the user agency.
16. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the tiger corridors for implementing the proposed construction.
17. While laying the pipeline, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the pipeline so as to minimize the disturbance to wildlife.
18. Any future maintenance of the project components would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Maharashtra Forest Department.
19. Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra should develop appropriate mechanism to monitor compliance of the conditions stipulated herein at various phases of project implementation.
20. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.

**78.4.11 Proposal for use of 1.225 ha of forest land from Pilibhit Tiger Reserve for construction of Loop Lines and Platforms of Mala Station in District: Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh-WL/UP/RAIL/462604/2024.**

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for laying of 1.225 ha land from core zone of Pilibhit Tiger Reserve for the Construction of Loop Lines and Platforms of Mala Station in District: Pilibhit (Uttar Pradesh).

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government. The comments from the NTCA are awaited.

The Standing Committee had recommended proposal for use of 6.704 ha of reserve forest land from Pilibhit Tiger Reserve for Mailani-Pilibhit Gauge Conversion chainage 212.520- 213.070 KM and 242.310-250.140 KM (8.38 KM) between Kuriya Dudhiyakhurd and Sandai Mala, Uttar Pradesh in 62<sup>nd</sup>

meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 and its electrification in its 73<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.

Dr. Sukumar suggested that since the project involves core zone. There are human-wildlife conflicts in the area involving both tigers and elephants. He therefore suggested for proper examination.

Member Secretary, NTCA mentioned that this is an existing railway line and already two proposals for this stretch have been recommended by the Standing Committee. The proposal is for small expansion and felling of some trees within the railway track area. The proposal may be approved without any problem. However, the NTCA would provide certain mitigation measures in writing which may be incorporated in the recommendations.

**Decision Taken:** After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to approve 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 of Loop Lines and Platforms of Mala Station in District Pilibhit. The land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
2. The instructions/orders pass by the State Government/Central Government and the directions pass by Hon'ble High Court/Supreme Court from time to time regarding such project shall be complied with.
3. Amount of 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 1.225 ha. non forest land falling within Pilibhit Tiger Reserve.
4. The user agency shall deposit of Rs.9.28 Lakhs (Rs. Nine Lakhs Twenty Eight Thousands only) for site specific mitigation measures to minimize the negative impact of the project and development of wildlife habitat in the Pilibhit Tiger Reserve 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. The details of work proposed according to prepared Management Plan of Pilibhit Tiger Reserve with respect to Pilibhit District.
5. The User Agency shall undertake plantation/afforestation work by planting 840 plants of native species at the appropriate site on degraded non forest land to compensate the felling of 84 trees (51 trees and 33 plants) at project site situated within Tiger Reserve area as proposed by the DFO/Protected Area Manager concerned. The cost of plantation and maintenance for 10 years will be deposited by the user agency with the DFO concerned as per demand raised by concerned DFO/Protected Area Manager, after approval of Chief Wildlife Warden.
6. User agency shall prepare and submit the Animal Passage Plan as a mandate requirement.

7. The personnel of user agency working on the site should be well aware and shall be bound to follow of provision of Wild Life (Protection) Act,1972.
8. The user agency will ensure that no labour camp shall be established inside the Tiger Reserve. Neither firewood nor any other forest produce from the forest will be used.
9. The user agency shall extend all support to Forest Department in case of any forest and wildlife offence.
10. During the construction period, the user agency will establish one temporary forest check post along with the required manpower at its own cost.
11. The user agency will keep firefighting equipments as well as equipments for minimizing air and noise pollution at the site.
12. User agency will take all requisite precautions by adopting technical measures to avoid the noise and air pollution and shall also obtain consent to operate the project work from U.P. Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
13. Construction waste materials shall not be thrown inside the protected area or on the movement corridor of Wildlife.
14. User agency will fix sign board at appropriate point of the project.
15. No work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.
16. Blasted Ammunition materials shall not be carried by user agency in Wildlife area.
17. The User Agency shall implement the project incorporating the mitigation measures to be suggested by the NTCA.
18. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency 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.**

**ANNEXURE-I****LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

| <b>S.No.</b> | <b>Name</b>   | <b>Designation</b> |
|--------------|---|--------------------|
| 1.           | Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister for EF&CC                                  | Chairman           |
| 2.           | Ms. LeenaNandan, Secretary, MoEF&CC   | Member             |
| 3.           | Shri Jitendra Kumar, DGF&SS, MoEF&CC  | Member             |
| 4.           | Shri S.P Yadav, MS, NTCA, ADGF(WL),MoEF&CC  | Member             |
| 5.           | Shri Sushil Kumar Awasthy, MS, NBWL, ADGF(WL), MoEF&CC                            | Member Secretary   |
| 6.           | Dr. H. S. Singh, Member, NBWL   | Member             |
| 7.           | Prof. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL  | Member             |
| 8.           | Dr. Sugoora, Director GEER Foundation, Gujarat                                    | Member             |
| 9.           | Shri Virendra Tiwari, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.            | Member             |
| 10.          | Shri. R. Raghu Prasad, IG (WL), MoEF&CC   | Invitee            |
| 11.          | Shri Ramesh Kumar Pandey, IG (PE), MoEF&CC  | Invitee            |
| 12.          | Shri N. Tam, PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Arunachal Pradesh                   | Invitee            |
| 13.          | Shri Ajay Kumar Nayak, PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Andhra Pradesh            | Invitee            |
| 14.          | Shri M. K. Yadava, PCCF and HoFF, Assam   | Invitee            |
| 15.          | Shri Sandeep Kumar, PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Assam                        | Invitee            |
| 16.          | Shri Nityananda Srivastava, PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Gujarat              | Invitee            |
| 17.          | Shri Umakant, Chief Wild Life Warden, Goa   | Invitee            |
| 18.          | Shri Vineet Garg, Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana                                 | Invitee            |
| 18.          | Shri M.S. Malik, APCCF(WL), Haryana   | Invitee            |
| 19.          | Shri Rajiv Kumar, APCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Himachal Pradesh              | Invitee            |
| 20.          | Shri Clement Ben, APCCF(WL) representative of Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra | Invitee            |

|     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| 21. | Shri Susanta Nanda, PCCF(WL) and Chief Wild Life Warden, Odisha     | Invitee |
| 22. | Shri P.K Upadhyaya, PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan      | Invitee |
| 23. | Shri R. Srinivas Reddy, PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Tamil Nadu | Invitee |
| 24. | Dr. Samir Sinha, PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand       | Invitee |
| 25. | Shri Anjani Acharya, PCCF and Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh | Invitee |
| 26. | Shri Debal Ray, Chief Wild Life Warden, West Bengal                 | Invitee |
| 27. | Shri Rakesh Kumar Jagenia, DIGF (WL), MOEFCC, New Delhi             | Invitee |
| 28. | Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati, Scientist E, MoEF&CC                      | Invitee |