

F.No.WL-6/106/2023-WL-Part
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Wildlife Division)

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

Date: 20th September, 2023

To,

All Members
Standing Committee of NBWL

Sub: Minutes of 74th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life-reg.

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the Minutes of 74th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 29th August, 2023 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. **Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary Forest Department**, Arunachal Pradesh/Andhra Pradesh /Haryana / Himachal Pradesh/ Karnataka/ Ladakh /Madhya Pradesh/ Maharashtra /Manipur/Rajasthan/Telangana /Uttarakhand /Uttar Pradesh. Gujarat/Punjab. /Jammu & Kashmir/Odisha
7. **PCCF and HoFF**, Arunachal Pradesh/Andhra Pradesh /Haryana / Himachal Pradesh/ Karnataka/ Ladakh /Madhya Pradesh/ Maharashtra /Manipur/Rajasthan/Telangana /Uttarakhand /Uttar Pradesh. Gujarat/Punjab/ Odisha. /Jammu & Kashmir
8. **Chief Wild Life Warden**, Arunachal Pradesh/Andhra Pradesh /Haryana / Himachal Pradesh/ Karnataka/ Ladakh /Madhya Pradesh/ Maharashtra /Manipur/ Rajasthan/Telangana /Uttarakhand /Uttar Pradesh. Gujarat/Punjab /Jammu & Kashmir/ Odisha.

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 74th MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE HELD ON 29th August, 2023

The 74th meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life was held on **29th August, 2023** under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change. The list of participants is placed at **Annexure-I**.

The Member Secretary welcomed the participants to the meeting and informed them about the number of proposals received on the PARIVESH portal and those under process at various levels. He then requested Deputy Inspector General of Forests (WL) to initiate the discussion on the Agenda Items.

AGENDA ITEM No.1

74.1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 73rd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 17th July, 2023

The Standing Committee was informed that the minutes of the 73rd Meeting of the Standing Committee held on 17th July, 2023 were circulated vide letter F. No. WL-6/106/2023-WL dated 7th August, 2023 amongst all the Members. Copy of the minutes is placed at **ANNEXURE-II**.

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 73rd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 17th July, 2023.

AGENDA ITEM No.2 (Action Taken Report)

74.2.1 Proposal for use of 12.98 ha of land from Seshachalam tiger corridor landscape between Nagarjunasagar Srisaiaam Tiger Reserve (NSTR) and Sri Venkateshwara National Park for development of Samartha Sadguru Sri Kasnayana Ashramam at Jyothi Kshetram in SAKN Mandal of YSR Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh.

FP/AP/Others/35298/2018

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 12.98 ha of land from Seshachalam tiger corridor landscape between Nagarjunasagar Srisaiaam Tiger Reserve (NSTR) and Sri Venkateshwara National Park for development of Samartha Sadguru Sri Kasnayana Ashramam at Jyothi Kshetram in SAKN Mandal of YSR Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh.

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

As per gazette notification, the area alienated for temple is only 0.5 acre (half an acre) and the right of way for reaching the temple into the forests is Cart track only. But the temple authorities have constructed Sathrams, Choultries, buildings etc. and BT road by clearing and cutting of the existing tree growth without obtaining permissions and in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 beginning from 1995 till 2013-14 when the Forest Department stopped the construction works. The Department booked offences OR No. 130 / 2013-14 to 135 /2013-14 Dt. 22-02-2014 in Porumamilla Range of Proddatur (WL) Division. Charge sheets have also been filed in the Courts. The cases are under trials.

The proposal was discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein the Standing Committee decided that the State Government shall remove all the encroachments outside the area allowed for the User Agency as per the reserve forest gazette notification, take action under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and submit the report by the next meeting.

A report was received from the Chief Wild Life Warden, Andhra Pradesh on 28th August 2023 wherein it has been informed that actions have been initiated and eviction notices have been issued with 15 days' time by Andhra Pradesh Forest Department. The District Forest Officer has requested the District Collector for support from the Revenue and Police Departments for eviction of encroachments at the earliest. The Chief Wild Life Warden has requested time for more time since action involves several departments such as Roads and Buildings, Electricity, APSRTC.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Andhra Pradesh mentioned that, construction of the temple started in 1955 and there have been violations. As directed by the Standing Committee, actions have been initiated and the State Government requests more time.

The Chairman stated that the User Agency shall restrict themselves to the allowed area as per the Reserve Forest notification. The sanctity of the forests has to be respected and therefore, the encroachments have to be evicted.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the violations over a long period of time could not have happened without the knowledge of the officials. The violations should have been stopped when the works started.

Decision Taken: After discussion, the Standing Committee directed to remove the encroachments at the earliest and submit the Action Taken Report at the earliest as decided in the 73rd meeting, and accordingly deferred the proposal for the next meeting.

74.2.2 Tribunal On Its Own Motion Regarding Non-Compliance of EC Conditions by 2000 MW Lower Subansiri Hydrel Project-O. A. 18 of 2022 in the National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for diversion of Tale Sanctuary for Lower Subhansri Hydro Electric Project by NHPC approved by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 6th May, 2003 with 11 conditions out of which two conditions were subsequently modified. The Standing Committee in the 13th meeting held on 12th December, 2008 decided to recommend the proposal modifying the two conditions as follows:

Any proposal in the upper stream of Subhansri river would be considered independently on its merit by the Standing Committee as and when submitted by the proponents.

State Government would declare 168 sq. kms immediately as Sanctuary and make serious efforts to bring additional 332 sq km reserved forests under the category of Conservation Reserve in consultation with MoEF. The recommendation was subject to the compliance of all other conditions, which have been made in the clearance by Supreme Court as well as in the environmental clearance given by the Ministry.

State Government of Arunachal Pradesh has informed that the declaration of 332 sq. km. of area as Conservation Reserve as suggested by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is not feasible due to resistance from the local communities and requested to modify the said condition.

A committee comprising Dr. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL, officials from Integrated Regional Office, Shillong and Wildlife Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, representative of Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun (WII) and Chief Wild Life Warden, Arunachal Pradesh, constituted in accordance with the decision of the Standing Committee in its 71st meeting to carried out site inspection, examined the proposal and submitted report to the Ministry.

The proposal was considered in the 72nd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that a study would be conducted by WII to prepare a plan for ensuring that elephants continue to move across Panir Reserved Forest and Dulung Reserved Forest. Accordingly, the proposal was deferred.

Director, WII informed that the funds from NHPC for the study are yet to be received and the officials from NHPC was absent in the meeting.

It was mentioned in the meeting that the NHPC informally communicated that the funds as sought by WII were already sanctioned and WII has been requested to provide its Bank Account and further details for transfer of funds.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, mentioned that NHPC has delayed the sanctioned of funds otherwise by this time WII could have completed studies.

Dr. Sukumar mentioned that the elephant corridor between Dulung Reserve Forest to Panir Reserved Forest is very crucial as it forms the only link for the elephants moving from Bhutan to Arunachal Pradesh. He emphasized that if the corridor is broken, it would lead to fragmentation of the landscape.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

- 74.2.3** Construction of an Affordable Group Housing in village Dhorka, Sector-95, Gurugram, Haryana of Signature Infra build Pvt Ltd. The project site is located in the revenue estate of Village-Dhorka, Sector-95, Gurugram, Haryana on a land measuring 5.1125 acres-regarding.

FP/HR/Others/4493/ 2019.

- 74.2.4** Affordable Group Housing Colony Project at Revenue Estate of Village-Dhorka, Sector-95, Gurugram, Haryana by M/s Sternal Buildcon Private Limited. The total area of project site is 2.96 ha. - regarding.

FP/HR/Others/5208/2020.

The Standing Committee was informed that these proposals were initially considered by the Standing Committee in its 67th meeting. The proposals have been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

As decided in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee, the Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana has informed that the ongoing works in these projects have been stopped.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana informed that works in both these projects have been stopped and the District Level Monitoring Committee of the Eco-sensitive Zone (ESZ) has decided to initiate action against the violations as per the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Member Secretary, NBWL suggested that the proposals may be deferred till the action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is completed. Regional Office, Chandigarh may be directed to monitor the actions being taken against the violations and submit quarterly reports to the Ministry.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to further not list the proposals till the proceedings as per the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 in respect of the violations are completed and direct the Regional Office, Chandigarh of the Ministry to monitor and submit the updates on the actions against violations for every 3 months to the Ministry.

- 74.2.5** Proposal for use of 1.59 ha of forest land from Shikari Devi Wildlife Sanctuary for up-gradation/widening of existing jeepable road from Janjehli-Raigarh-Shikari Mata temple (Portion KM 10/400 to 16/1400 & 17/330 to 18/100) in Himachal Pradesh.

FP/HP/ROAD/5742/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.59 ha of forest land from Shikari Devi Wildlife Sanctuary for up-gradation/widening of existing jeepable road from Janjehli-Raigarh-Shikari Mata. The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the State Government.

The proposal was discussed by the Standing Committee in the 69th meeting held on 29th July, 2022 wherein the Standing Committee recommended that the proposal may be examined by the WII, Dehradun for suggesting mitigation measures.

The proposal has been discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee Taking into account the facts presented in the report submitted by the WII, the Standing Committee had decided to return the proposal for resubmission as there is huge variation in actual requirement and the area as per the proposal. The State Government shall take action against the violation and an action taken report with regard to the reported violations shall be submitted before the next meeting.

The report of the State Government is yet to be received.

Member Secretary, NBWL mentioned that still there is no independent post of Chief Wild Life Warden in States like Himachal Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. The majority of violations of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 are reported from such states where there is no independent post of Chief Wild Life Warden. The Chairman, Standing Committee had written to the State Governments in this regard.

Director General of Forests and Special Secretary stated that the Ministry is facilitating the creation of additional posts of PCCFs in smaller states and despite having several posts of PCCF, the larger states are not posting independent Chief Wild Life Wardens.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee took note that the report from the State Government is still awaited and decided to defer the matter for discussion in the next meeting.

- 74.2.7** Re-notifying the boundaries of Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary without reducing the area and extent from 700 sq km to 395.608 sq.km. Karnataka

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for alteration of boundaries of Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary to exclude ~300 sq.km comprising of townships, villages and agricultural lands was considered

by Standing Committee in its 50th meeting held on 7th September, 2018. After discussions in the 50th meeting held on 7th September, 2018, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal in principle subject to the conditions that the State Government will submit the draft notification to the MoEF&CC clearly specifying the revised boundaries prepared by the committee constituted by the State Government for the alteration of boundaries giving the justification for addition or deletion of the area.

The State Government of Karnataka has submitted the draft notification vide letter dated 19.08.2022 along with the report of the boundary revision committee constituted by the State Government of Karnataka.

The proposal was discussed in the 72nd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein the Standing Committee decided that meeting may be held with the Chief Wild Warden, officials of the Ministry, State Government officials and expert members to examine the new proposed boundaries of Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary. A meeting was conducted as directed by the Standing Committee on 30th May, 2023 wherein the participants decided that Dr. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL along with representative of NTCA would have discussion in the office of the Chief Wild Life Warden, Karnataka. Accordingly, a meeting was organized in the office of Chief Wild Life Warden, Karnataka on 2nd June, 2023 wherein Dr. Sukumar, Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Regional Officer, South Zone, NTCA, Chief Wild Life Warden, Karnataka, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Chief Conservator of Forests, Shivamogga Circle, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Wildlife, Shivamogga participated.

As the proposed option takes care of the connectivity issue, Dr. Sukumar and NTCA representative agreed to the proposition of bringing the said areas under the buffer zone of Bhadra Tiger Reserve recommended the proposal of re-notification of the boundary of Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary as proposed with a condition that excluding the habitations and revenue lands, Chordenahalli SF and Kaitotlu MF shall be notified as part of buffer area of Bhadra Tiger Reserve.

The proposal was again discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that the State Government shall take immediate steps to settle rights and claims in the forest areas near the Shettihalli Sanctuary, and submit report before the next meeting.

The Chief Wild Life Warden stated that This matter of re-notifying the boundary of the Sanctuary and the settlement of rights and claims may take more than a year. He further stated that during 1974 the Wildlife Sanctuary was declared and the boundaries were approximately described in the notification which led to inclusion of urban areas and agricultural areas in the sanctuary. He emphasised that since the boundaries is not finalised, the State is not able to submit draft ESZ proposal for notification which remains upto 10 km by default.

The Member Secretary mentioned that as recommended by Dr. Sukumar and NTCA, if additional areas are added to the buffer zone of Bhadra Tiger Reserve, there will be regulation on activities in those areas as per the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. This will aid in conservation.

DGF & SS questioned as to why the State Government could not settle rights in the proposed reserve forest for such a long period of time.

The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that the proposal is to alter the boundaries without reducing the extent mentioned in the notification.

Dr. H. S. Singh suggested that the State Government might be asked to add areas to the buffer zone of Bhadra Tiger Reserve and thereafter issue notification altering the boundaries within one year.

The Chief Wild Life Warden mentioned that there are no forest rights in the areas proposed to be added to the buffer zone. However, consultations with the public is required to be done before declaring any area as part of tiger reserve. He informed that after the 73rd meeting, the State Government has issued notice inviting public consultation to add areas to the buffer zone of the tiger reserve. The process may take some time and therefore requested the Standing Committee to recommend alteration of the boundaries of the sanctuary. He emphasized that since the boundary is not finalized, the state is not able to submit proposal for declaration of ESZ around the sanctuary.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the next meeting for want of report from the State Government regarding the action taken for addition of areas to the buffer zone of Bhadra Tiger Reserve.

- 74.2.8** Proposal for use of 14.0718 ha of forest land from Pench-Bor-Melghat Tiger corridor for up-gradation of Nagpur Katol National Highway NH- 353 J from existing KM 13+000 (Outer ring road, Nagpur) to 62+900 (Katol Bypass) two/ four lane with paved shoulder in state of Maharashtra in favour of National Highway Authority of India.

FP/MH/ROAD/37601/2018

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 14.0718 ha of forest land from Pench-Bor-Melghat Tiger corridor for upgradation of Nagpur Katol National Highway NH- 353 J from existing KM 13+000 (Outer ring road, Nagpur) to 62+900 (Katol Bypass) two/four lane with paved shoulder in state of Maharashtra in favour of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).

The proposal was discussed in the 72nd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein the proposal was recommended in principle. However, it was decided that a virtual meeting would be held with WII, the

expert members of the Standing Committee and National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for re-examination of the animal passage plan. Final approval will be given after the members are satisfied with the proposed animal passage plan.

The Ministry requested the Director, WII and the State Forest Department to carry out site inspection and submit report. The site visit committee comprising of Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, General Manager (T) and Project Director, NHAI, Representative of WII and Representative of NTCA carried out the site inspection on 22.07.2023. The Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra forwarded the site inspection report to the Ministry vide his letter dated 25.07.2023. The recommendations of the Site Inspection Committee are as under:

1. In two structures, the height recommended was 4m/4.5m. In line with all the other structures the height of these structures shall also be kept as 5m to have uniformity.
2. At chainage 40+460, minor bridge height is recommended as 4.5 m which needs to be changed to 5m.
3. In case of Sl. No. 22, Ch. 42.700, minor bridge the recommended length is 24m and height is 5m. Looking to the site condition, it is felt that the length of the minor bridge be increased by 5m by increasing one span.
4. Re-alignment of NH-353J between chainage 54+075 & 55+800 has been proposed by WII & agency also has agreed upon, Animal underpass will be constructed and on the animal underpass while sound & height barriers will be constructed along with many others box culverts. The barriers should be preferably painted in camouflage colour.

All other recommendations of the WII are found suitable to the ground scenario in order and may be accepted. NHAI has consented to the suggestions made as above.

As decided in the 72nd meeting of the Standing Committee, a meeting of the expert members of the Standing Committee, representatives of WII and NTCA was held on 2nd August, 2023 wherein all the members expressed their satisfaction with the animal passage plan subject to the modifications suggested by the Site Inspection Committee.

Decision taken: After discussions, 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 proposed by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun with following modifications:
 - i. In two structures, the height recommended was 4m/4.5m. In line with all the other structures the height of these structures shall also be kept as 5m to have uniformity.
 - ii. At chainage 40+460, minor bridge height is recommended as 4.5 m which needs to be changed to 5m.
 - iii. In case of Sl. No. 22, Ch. 42.700, minor bridge the recommended length is 24m and height is 5m. Looking to the site condition, it is felt that the length of the minor bridge be increased by 5m by increasing one span.
 - iv. Re-alignment of NH-353J between chainage 54+075 & 55+800 has been proposed by WII & agency also has agreed upon, Animal underpass will be constructed and on the animal underpass while sound & height barriers will be constructed along with many others box culverts. The barriers should be preferably painted in camouflage colour.
2. All other general recommendations like noise and sound barrier, cattle guard, speed limit etc. should be implemented.
3. 2% amount of project cost falling in Tiger Corridor of Pench Tiger Reserve-Bor Tiger Reserve and Melghat Tiger Reserve shall be deposited by project agency for wildlife conservation and management activities in the State with the Pench Tiger Reserve Conservation Foundation.
4. Attempt shall be made to keep tree felling minimal.
5. Construction work inside corridor and forest area should be done during daytime and no night camp of labors and User Agency officials should be allowed within forest area.
6. NHAI shall ensure that the construction period within tiger corridor area is kept minimal.
7. No construction material shall 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 shall be provided by NHAI at appropriate places along the highway.
9. The Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra shall have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.
10. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
11. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives shall be used.
12. The User Agency shall ensure that there shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.

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.

74.2.9 Proposal for diversion of 82.54 ha of land [i.e. for construction of Golf Course (42.14 ha) and Resort (40.40 ha)] falling within the Eco-Sensitive Zone of Keibul Lamjao National Park and Khongjaingamba Ching Sanctuary for the proposed Loktak Lake Eco-Tourism Project of Tourism Department, Manipur

FP/MN/Others/5539/2020

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for diversion of 82.54 ha of land [i.e. for construction of Golf Course (42.14 ha) and Resort (40.40 ha)] falling within the Eco-Sensitive Zone of Keibul Lamjao National Park and Khongjaingamba Ching Sanctuary for the proposed Loktak Lake Eco-Tourism Project of Tourism Department, Manipur is under consideration of the Standing Committee since its 67th meeting.

The proposal was considered in the 72nd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that a meeting may be convened in Manipur to discuss the proposal with officials of the State Forest Department, Loktak Development Authority and other stakeholders.

The meeting could not be conducted in Manipur due to unforeseen circumstances.

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

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

FP/RJ/MIN/4863/2020

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

The proposal was first considered in the 70th meeting held on 13th October, 2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of proposal for declaration ESZ around Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve.

The proposal was also considered in the 72nd meeting and in 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal as the essential details regarding the

declaration of the ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve were awaited from the State Government.

The Standing Committee was further informed that the proposal was deferred for want of proposal for declaration of ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. The State Government had submitted the revised proposal which was sent to NTCA who have given concurrence on the ESZ proposal. As per the guidelines regarding declaration of ESZ dated 9th February, 2011, the State Government has been requested to provide details of consultations done with the State Government of Madhya Pradesh due to overlapping of boundary of Chambal Gharial Sanctuary with inter-state border. The Chief Wild Life Warden has informed the State Government of Rajasthan regarding the non-requirement of consultations mentioning existence of protected area towards Madhya Pradesh also. The NTCA has also recommended the project proposal.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan informed that the details requested by the Ministry regarding the declaration of the ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve have been provided. The report of WII has also been received in the Ministry.

DGF & SS suggested to carry out study mentioning that recommendations of the proposal may lead to more mining proposals.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the project proposal is reasonable.

Member Secretary suggested that the proposal may be recommended.

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

1. 2% of the proportional project cost of the project falling within the ESZ of protected area should be deposited in RPACS by the User Agency for management and protection of wildlife within the same Protected Area.
2. No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the protected area and within 1 Km of Protected Area.
3. No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area beyond the project area.
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 project area.

9. Water Harvesting Structure for recharging of water should be mandatory in the project area.
10. There shall be no high mast/ beam/search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
11. Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc. should be erected in the project area.
12. The User Agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
13. Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve/PA.
14. Six feet high wall is to be constructed on the periphery of applied project area.
15. Any permission/clearance required under FCA-1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.
16. Creation of green belt by planting a suitable combination of trees that can be grown and have good leaf cover shall be adopted by the User Agency by their own cost as per suggestions of the DCF RTR-II Karauli.
17. The mined out area shall be backfilled with waste material and later on planted. The dumps shall be afforested with local grass and plant species. All along the edge of the pit fencing will be made and afforested with good fruit bearing species.
18. The User Agency will deposit fund in RPACS for construction of 6 feet high protection wall in protected areas. Length of this wall will be calculated at the rate of 250 m for each ha of project area.
19. The User Agency should ensure that no natural watercourse is affected at any stage of the mining lease. Page 161 of 186
20. No long term dumping may be permitted. Wherever required for short term, it may be done in a way that it creates least disturbance to the movement of wild animals.
21. The User Agency shall ensure that no labor trespasses inside the forests.
22. It has been observed that multiple mining leases are operational within 10 km radius of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. Rajasthan Forest Department may commission a study evaluating cumulative ecological impact of these projects on the landscape dynamics and future viability.
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.

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

FP/RJ/MIN/5863/2021

The proposal was first considered in the 70th meeting held on 13th October, 2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of proposal for declaration ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.

The proposal was also considered in the 72nd meeting and in 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal as the essential details regarding the declaration of the ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve were awaited from the State Government.

The Standing Committee was further informed that the proposal was deferred for want of proposal for declaration of ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. The State Government had submitted the revised proposal which was sent to NTCA who have given concurrence on the ESZ proposal. As per the guidelines regarding declaration of ESZ dated 9th February, 2011, the State Government has been requested to provide details of consultations done with the State Government of Madhya Pradesh due to overlapping of boundary of Chambal Gharial Sanctuary with inter-state border. The Chief Wild Life Warden has informed the State Government of Rajasthan regarding the non-requirement of consultations mentioning existence of protected area towards Madhya Pradesh also. The NTCA has also recommended the project proposal.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan informed that the details requested by the Ministry regarding the declaration of the ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve have been provided. The report of WII has also been received in the Ministry.

DGF & SS suggested to carry out study mentioning that recommendations of the proposal may lead to more mining proposals.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the project proposal is reasonable.

Member Secretary suggested that the proposal may be recommended.

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

1. 2% of the proportional project cost of the project falling within the ESZ of protected area should be deposited in RPACS by the User Agency for management and protection of wildlife within the state
2. No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the protected area and within 1 Km of Protected Area.
3. No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area beyond the project area.
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 project area.
9. Water Harvesting Structure for recharging of water should be mandatory in the project area.
10. There shall be no high mast/ beam/search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
11. Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc. should be erected in the project area.
12. The User Agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
13. Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve/PA.
14. Six feet high wall is to be constructed on the periphery of applied project area.
15. Any permission/clearance required under FCA-1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.
16. Creation of green belt by planting a suitable combination of trees that can be grown and have good leaf cover shall be adopted by the User Agency by their own cost as per suggestions of the DCF Karauli
17. The mined out area shall be backfilled with the waste material and later on planted. The dumps shall be afforested with local grass and plant species. All along the edge of the pit fencing will be made and afforested with good fruit bearing species.
18. The User Agency will deposit fund in RPACS for construction of 6 feet high protection wall in protected areas. Length of this wall will be calculated at the rate of 250 m for each ha of project area.
19. The User Agency should ensure that no natural watercourse is affected at any stage of the mining lease.
20. The User Agency shall ensure that no labor trespasses inside the forests.
21. It has been observed that multiple mining leases are operational within 10 km radius of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. Rajasthan Forest Department Page 165 of 186 may commission a study evaluating cumulative ecological impact of these projects on the landscape dynamics and future viability.
22. 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.

74.2.12 Proposal for use of 4.239 ha land from National Chambal Ghariyal Sanctuary for construction of Kaliteer Lift Scheme to provide drinking

water to 483 villages of 4 tehsils of Dholpur District, (Basedi, Sarmathura, Badi and Saipau), Dholpur Town, Rajasthan.

FP/RJ/WATER/150690/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 4.239 ha land from National Chambal Ghariyal Sanctuary for construction of Kaliteer Lift Scheme to provide drinking water to 483 villages of 4 tehsils of Dholpur District, (Basedi, Sarmathura, Badi and Saipau), Dholpur Town, Rajasthan.

The proposal was first considered in the 72nd meeting of the Standing Committee held on 25th April, 2023. The proposal involves lifting of water from the Chambal river and sending through pipelines and gravity to Ram Sagar Dam and Parvati Dam for drinking water supply.

The Standing Committee was further informed that a committee was constituted by the Ministry in accordance with the decision taken in the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee held on 13th October, 2022 to prescribe the minimum flow in the Chambal river that should be maintained for the conservation of Dolphins and associated species in the river Chambal. The committee held its 1st meeting on 1st December, 2022 under the Chairmanship of Addl. Director General of Forests (Wildlife). The Committee decided that WII in coordination with CWC conduct a comprehensive study based on the flow rate and water level in the Chambal River and submit an interim report in May 2023.

The proposal was discussed in the 72nd meeting of the Standing Committee held on 25.04.2023. The proposal was deferred by the Standing Committee till an interim report is submitted by WII.

The proposal was again discussed in 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided to defer the proposal to the next meeting for examination of the interim report submitted by the WII.

WII has submitted the interim report on 13.07.2023. In the report, it is mentioned that as per the current data available and scientific understanding, the current water availability is minimal available for sustenance of aquatic wildlife any more water drawl will have a serious impact on biodiversity of Chambal river. The User Agency needs to provide data in ten daily series requirement for proposed monsoon months, projected ten year change in demand also to be provided. There is also a need to understand the mechanism of legal binding in place to ensure that water is drawn only during monsoon season. No construction of township or colony should be permitted as it adversely impacts the Chambal sanctuary and will irreplaceably damage the ecosystem. Current water availability in Parvati and Ramsagar dam sites needs to be assessed and data shared regarding water availability. Data on dependency of agriculture and drinking water of people on these dams should be provided in ten daily series of year round data for the past ten

years or since construction of dam. Additionally, several lift schemes are operating and proposed in MP and Rajasthan, and there is an urgent need to do holistic assessment of water drawl, before additional water drawl can be done.

Member Secretary informed that the proposal is for drawl of water during the rainy season only. The water after lifting during rainy season shall be stored in the reservoir and then used for drinking purpose.

DGF & SS enquired about the plans during the dry season.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan mentioned that the State Government is ready to provide any information which may be sought by the Standing Committee.

The Chairman mentioned that the area is rocky and the lacks drinking water.

Dr. H. S. Singh suggested that the State Government may provide mechanism for regulating the drawl of water during the dry and wet seasons.

Decision taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the State Government shall by the next meeting provide plans regarding management of drinking water supply during dry season and also the mechanism for regulating the drawl of water during the wet and dry seasons of the year. Accordingly, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal for the next meeting.

74.2.13 Proposal for use of 1.018 ha of land from core zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for construction of BT road from Vanjariguda to Geethabanda from 0/0 to 2/958 of Lingapur Mandal, Kawal RF of Asifabad Forest Division of KB Asifabad district, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/119580/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.018 ha of land from core zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for construction of BT road from Vanjariguda to Geethabanda from 0/0 to 2/958 of Lingapur Mandal, Kawal RF of Asifabad Forest Division of KB Asifabad district, Telangana.

The proposal was discussed in 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that a committee comprising of Director, GEER Foundation, Member, NBWL, representative from NTCA, representative from WII and representative from Regional Office of the Ministry, Chennai shall carry out site inspection of the project area submit report.

The committee carried out site inspection on 21st and 22nd August, 2023 and has submitted the report wherein following observations and recommendations provided:

- i. It has been observed by the Committee that the construction of the road has been taken up without taking necessary approvals under relevant provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 pertaining to recognition of RoW. The Village Vanjaraguda and Geethabanda are mentioned on SOI Topo Sheet 56/14/4 of 1985 surveyed in 1973-74 and 1975-76. The road under instant proposal was constructed in the year 2021 by the villagers themselves and is not explicitly mentioned in the Gazette notifications of Kawal RF and Kawal Tiger Reserve and no RoW was recognized.
- ii. The Committee observed that Vanjariguda is well connected with Lingapur Mandal via BT road. The instant proposal is for upgradation of 1.8 km earthen road beyond Vanjariguda upto Geethabanda.
- iii. The village Geethabanda is an outcome of encroachment of about 20 families from Vanjariguda enclosure which has been regularized by RoFR.
- iv. The Committee is of the opinion that the upgradation of the existing road is likely to enhance vulnerability for the area since it might encourage further encroachments in Geethabanda village. Moreover, with the area's proximity to excellent teak forests near Jannaram, the expansion of the road network might result in timber trafficking.
- v. Moreover, the current road is adequately motorable if it is maintained periodically as and when required by the User Agency. Converting this to BT may result into further topographical destabilization. Moreover, given the stream dynamics in the area, the Committee also felt that the BT road, if upgraded, is likely to be subject to annual flooding and inundation during rainy seasons.
- vi. In light of these, the Committee suggests a 'status quo' to be maintained for this road subject to periodical maintenance with gravels as and when required by the User Agency. The Animal Passage Plan proposed by TSFD, therefore, does not hold applicable.

Dr. H.S Singh mentioned that in the last meeting, the Telangana Forest Department had informed the Standing Committee that there is no violation in the new proposals. However, as per the report of the committee, violation is noted even in the new proposals. The State Government has misled the Standing Committee by providing the false information.

The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that the report of the Committee is acceptable to the State Government and as suggested the status quo can be maintained for the proposal.

Member Secretary informed that the present status of the project area is also violation of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

DGF & SS suggested that actions against the violators may be recommended.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to approve the maintenance of the status quo and recommend disciplinary action against erring officials and action against the offenders under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai through its Sub-regional Office at Hyderabad shall monitor the progress of actions taken against the staff and also action taken under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and submit bimonthly report to the Ministry.

- 74.2.14** Proposal for use of 7.385 ha of land (1.64 ha falling in core area of Kawal TR and 5.745 ha area falling in Buffer area of Kawal Tiger Reserve) for construction of BT road from Mangi to Dampur from km 0/0 to 10/098 Tiryani Mandal, Tiryani of KB Asifabad distt, Telangana in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B division, Telangana

FP/TG/ROAD/119549/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 7.385 ha of land (1.64 ha falling in core area of Kawal TR and 5.745 ha area falling in Buffer area of Kawal Tiger Reserve) for construction of BT road from Mangi to Dampur from km 0/0 to 10/098 Tiryani Mandal, Tiryani of KB Asifabad distt, Telangana in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B division.

The proposal was discussed in 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that a committee comprising of Director, GEER Foundation, Member, NBWL, representative from NTCA, representative from WII and representative from Regional Office of the Ministry, Chennai shall carry out site inspection of the project area submit report.

The committee carried out site inspection on 21st and 22nd August, 2023 and has submitted the report wherein following observations and recommendations have been provided:

- i. It has been observed by the Committee that the road under instant proposal is not physically existing in the field. However, it is not explicitly mentioned in the Gazette notifications of Kawal RF and Tiryani RF and of Kawal Tiger Reserve and no RoW was recognized.

- ii. During an interaction in the field, it has been learnt by the Committee that the current proposal has been withdrawn by the User Agency in light of a letter received from Superintendent of Police, KB Asifabad (letter C.No.16/NIB/KBM-ASE/2022, Date:03.08.2022) raising concerns about fragmentation of forests likely to be caused by this upgradation.
- iii. In this context, the User Agency has identified an alternative alignment (14.99 km) in between Mangi and Dampur via Thukkuguda and Thatiguda for a new road passing through buffer of Kawal Tiger Reserve.
- iv. The User Agency is already working on a proposal of road construction in between Mangi and Thatiguda. The Committee recommended submission of a consolidated proposal for the construction of the entire stretch of the road in between Mangi and Dampur via Thatiguda and Thukkuguda.
- v. The Committee also recommended that DFO, KB Asifabad should carry out a joint site inspection and suggests appropriate animal passage plans and other mitigation measures in adherence to WII Guidelines applicable in tiger landscapes.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to allow withdrawal of the proposal by the User Agency.

74.2.15 Proposal for use of 1.5891 ha of forest land from core zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for widening and upgradation of existing road from R&B road to Moriguda to Kawal RF of Utnoor FDPT Forest division of Adilabad district, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/143149/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.5891 ha of forest land from core zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for widening and upgradation of existing road from R&B road to Moriguda to Kawal RF of Utnoor FDPT Forest division of Adilabad district, Telangana.

The proposal was discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that a committee comprising of Director, GEER Foundation, Member, NBWL, representative from NTCA, representative from WII and representative from Regional Office of the Ministry, Chennai shall carry out site inspection of the project area submit report.

The committee carried out site inspection on 21st and 22nd August, 2023 and has submitted the report wherein following observations and recommendations have been provided:

- i. The Committee observed that the current road is adequately motorable if it is maintained periodically as and when required. Converting this to BT may result into further topographical destabilization.

- ii. Moreover, number of beneficiaries to be benefitted by upgradation of this road is relatively low (about a human population of 1,500 within 2 hamlets).
- iii. It has been observed by the Committee that the construction of the road has happened without taking necessary approvals under relevant provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 pertaining to recognition of RoW. The road under instant proposal was constructed in the year 2004-2005 under PMGSY Scheme and is not explicitly mentioned in the Gazette notifications of Kawal RF and Kawal Tiger Reserve and no RoW was recognized. The Standing Committee of NBWL may like to take a cognizance of this.
- iv. The Committee, therefore, suggests a 'status quo' to be maintained for this road subject to periodical maintenance with gravels as and when required by User Agency. The Animal Passage Plan proposed by TSFD, therefore, does not hold applicable.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to approve the maintenance of the status quo and recommend disciplinary action against erring officials and action against offenders under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai through its Sub-regional Office at Hyderabad shall monitor the progress of actions taken against the staff and also action taken under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and submit bimonthly report to the Ministry.

74.2.16 Proposal for use of 0.3893 ha of forest land from Core Zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for widening of existing road from earthen road to BT standards from R&B road to Kosagutta in Pembimandal of Nirmal District, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/40176/2019.

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.3893 ha of forest land from Core Zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for widening of existing road from earthen road to BT standards from R&B road to Kosagutta in Pembimandal of Nirmal District, Telangana.

The proposal was discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided that a committee comprising of Director, GEER Foundation, Member, NBWL, representative from NTCA, representative from WII and representative from Regional Office of the Ministry, Chennai shall carry out site inspection of the project area submit report.

The committee carried out site inspection on 21st and 22nd August, 2023 and has submitted the report wherein following observations and recommendations have been provided:

- i. It has been observed by the Committee that the construction of the road has without taking necessary approvals under relevant provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 pertaining to recognition of RoW. The road under the instant proposal was constructed in the year 2018-2019 by the villagers themselves and is not explicitly mentioned in the Gazette notifications of Itkial RF and Kawal Tiger Reserve and no RoW was recognized.
- ii. The Committee observed that approximately 650 m of the road is existing as earthen while either ends of the road in between Kosagutta T-junction (R&B Road) and the village has been made BT.
- iii. In light of this, the Committee recommended upgradation of the existing stretch to a BT road.
- iv. The Committee perused the animal passage plan proposed by TSFD and found that two underpasses of 30 m (span) each with 100 m fencing on both sides of the structures may not be essential considering the disturbances it is likely to create during the construction phase. The Committee, therefore, suggests further rationalization of the passage plan. Instead of the proposed plan, the User Agency should reinforce the existing water passageway as an animal underpass as per WII guidelines applicable for tiger landscapes.
- v. The entire section of the road in between the Kosagutta T junction (R&B Road) and Kosagutta village should be fortified with speed breakers at regular intervals in consultation with Forest Department where animal crossings are maximum.

DGF & SS suggested that both the sides of the 650 m earthen road have already been black-topped, the Standing Committee may recommend the project proposal.

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

1. User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct under passes a minimum of two underpasses at the locations indicated by the Forest Divisional Officer concerned. Each underpass shall be of 30.00 mts width and since the landscape has presence of tiger and gaur, the minimum height for proposed animal underpasses should be made 4-5 m as per the specification of WII.
2. The two underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to attract movement of wild animals.
3. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the DFO.

4. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CF/FDPT, KTR is approved for Rs.26.00 lakhs.

(Rs.in lakh)

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amount
1	Installation of Solar borewells connected PTs.	6.00	2	12.00
2	Wildlife mitigation cost like compensation, rescue, trap cages etc	5.00	LS	5.00
3	Procurement of camera traps	20 Nos	0.25	5.00
4	Procurement of fire-fighting equipment	As per actuals	LS	2.00
5	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actuals	LS	2.00
Total				26.00

5. The work shall be carried out only between 9.00 AM to 5.00 PM without disturbing/damaging the flora and fauna of the area.
6. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
7. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives shall be used.
8. The User Agency shall ensure that there shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
9. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
10. The mitigation amount of Rs.26.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Andhra Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284.
11. Chain link fencing shall be done by the User Agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funnelling wildlife through the animal passages.
12. The animal passages shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
13. User Agency shall ensure that no drainage is blocked by desilting the existing water passageways and additional culvert(s) for passage of water may be provided wherever applicable. Box and pipe culverts need to be placed at additional places (wherever possible) permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles.

Details of these structures may be adopted from WII guidelines on linear infrastructures and placement of these structures should be decided in consultation with forest department.

14. The User Agency shall ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures should be done by the User Agency.
15. The remaining portion of the road shall be provided with speed breakers and rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Speed breakers and rumble strips should be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.
16. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
17. Construction materials (including top soil) shall be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
18. User Agency shall ensure that the construction period is kept minimal inside the Tiger Reserve since construction work continued for a longer duration might completely decimate the wildlife populations in the area beyond recovery.
19. Attempt shall be made to keep tree felling minimal inside the Tiger Reserve.
20. CWLW, Telangana shall have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.
21. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department shall be provided by the User Agency at appropriate places along the road.
22. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
23. The State Government shall take disciplinary action against the erring officials and action against the offenders under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
24. 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 Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai through its Sub-regional Office at Hyderabad shall monitor the progress of actions taken against the staff and also action taken under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and submit bimonthly report to the Ministry.

74.2.17 Proposal for use of 1.3574 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for up-gradation and widening of the existing earthen road to BT standard from R/F Ervachinthal to Dattojipet upto Gangapur of Khanapur Mandal in Nirmal district, Telangana

FP/TG/ROAD/40354/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.3574 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for up-gradation and widening of the existing earthen road to BT standard from R/F Ervachinthal to Dattojipet upto Gangapur of Khanapur Mandal in Nirmal district, Telangana.

The proposal was discussed in 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the submission of appropriate action taken report by the State Government against the officials responsible for violations and the action taken report under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana has informed that the disciplinary action could not be initiated against the concerned Forest Range Officer (FRO) and staff as they had immediately stopped the work and issued show cause notice to the User Agency. However, explanation Memos were issued to the FRO, Forest Section Officer (FSO) and Forest Beat Officer (FBO). Further, the CCF has issued an explanation Memo to the DFO, Nirmal. The User Agency has issued AOC against Deputy Executive Engineer (DEE) and Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE).

The FDO, Khanapur has issued the show-cause notices to the User Agency i.e., District Panchayat Raj Engineer, Nirmal in 2019 and 2020. The POR was registered against the User Agency u/s 29 of WLPA, 1972 vide POR No.1831/12, dt.08.07.2023.

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

1. User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct a minimum of 6 under passes at the locations to the indicated by the Forest Divisional Officer concerned. Each underpass shall be of minimum 30.00 mts width and since the landscape has presence of tiger and gaur, the minimum height for proposed animal underpasses should be made 4-5 m as per guidelines of the WII.
2. Chain link fencing shall be done by the User Agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funnelling wildlife through the animal passages.
3. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to attract movement of wild animals.
4. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.

5. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CC/FD, KTR is approved for Rs.16.50 lakhs.

(Rs.in lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
1	Installation of Solar bore-well-connected PTS	6.00	1	6.00
2	Wildlife mitigation cost like compensation, rescues, trap cages etc	5.00	LS	5.00
3	Procurement of camera traps	10 Nos.	0.25	2.50
4	Procurement of fire-fighting equipment	As per actuals	LS	1.00
5	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	2.00
Total				16.50

6. The works shall be carried out only between 9.00 AM to 5.00 PM without disturbing /damaging flora, fauna of the area.
7. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
8. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
9. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives shall be used.
10. The User Agency shall ensure that there shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
11. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
12. The mitigation amount of Rs.16.50 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Andhra Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284.
13. The animal passages shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrata which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
14. User Agency shall ensure that no drainage is blocked by desilting the existing water passageways and additional culvert(s) for passage of water may be provided wherever applicable. Box and pipe culverts need to be placed at additional places (wherever possible) permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles.

Details of these structures may be adopted from WII guidelines on linear infrastructures and placement of these structures should be decided in consultation with forest department.

15. Regular removal of debris and silts at the animal passage structures shall be done by the User Agency.
16. The remaining portion of the road shall be provided with speed breakers and rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Speed breakers and rumble strips shall be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents.
17. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals shall also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.
18. Construction work shall be during daytime and no night camp of labours and contractor / User Agency officials inside the forest should be allowed.
19. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
20. Construction materials (including top soil) shall be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
21. User Agency shall ensure that the construction period is kept minimal inside the Tiger Reserve since construction work continued for a longer duration might completely decimate the wildlife populations in the area beyond recovery.
22. Attempt shall be made to keep tree felling minimal inside the Tiger Reserve.
23. CWLW, Telangana shall have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.
24. 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 Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai through its Sub-regional Office at Hyderabad shall monitor the progress of actions taken against the staff and also action taken under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and submit bimonthly report to the Ministry.

- 74.2.18** Proposal for use of 2.983 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for construction of BT road from Pangidi to Madhura thanda from km 0/0 to 2/859 via Chinnadoba, Peddadoba, Somuguda and Bajipet villages of Sirpur(U) mandal, Chorpally RF of Asifabad Forest Division of KB Asifabad district, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/119562/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 2.983 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for construction of BT road from Pangidi to Madhura thanda from km 0/0 to 2/859 via Chinnadoba, Peddadoba, Somuguda and Bajipet villages of Sirpur (U) mandal, Chorpally RF of Asifabad Forest Division of KB Asifabad district, Telangana.

The proposal was discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the submission of appropriate action taken report by the State Government against the officials responsible for violations and the action taken report under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana has informed that disciplinary action has been initiated against one FRO, three FBOs and DEE. Under Section 29 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 POR were issued in 2020. A show cause notice was issued to District R & B Officer. Further, POR has been issued against the contractor under section 29 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 on 14th July, 2023.

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

1. The User Agency shall provide a minimum of two passage ways per Km length of the infrastructure with a minimum of 30.00 m width and since the landscape has presence of tigers and gaur, the minimum height of the underpasses should be 4-5 m as per WII Guidelines.
2. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct nine (09) as per the dimensions and at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
3. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to facilitate movement of wild animals.
4. Chain link fencing shall be installed for a length of 100 m on either side of the underpasses on either side of the road which shall be periodically maintained by the User Agency.
5. The road work shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing/damaging the flora and fauna of the area.
6. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
7. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
8. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.

9. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper caution sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
10. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department shall be provided by the User Agency at appropriate places along the road.
11. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection), Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
12. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
13. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/CF, Adilabad is approved for Rs.120.00 lakhs.

(Rs.in lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
1	Engaging animal trackers (5 No. for 4 years @ 9,000 per month per person	0.09 per month per person	5 No.	21.60
2	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road along with chain link fencing for 50 m on either side of the check gate to curb movement of domestic animals and trespassers	0.45 each	10 No	4.50
3	Integrated camping site-creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two Solar Powered Borewells (cost Rs.3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site	20.00 each	3 No	60.00
4	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)	0.40 per ha	30 ha	12.00
5	Raising of fodder plots with chain link fencing	2.50 per ha	2 ha	5.00
6	Procurement of camera traps	0.25 each	6 Nos	1.50
7	Development of approach path each to the integrated camping facility.	LS	LS	1.50
8	Procurement of equipment like GPS, binoculars etc., to monitor wildlife	LS	LS	1.00
9	Installation of large hoardings	1.00 each	3No	3.00
10	Conducting awareness programmes	0.25 each	4 No	1.00
11	Procurement of fire fighting equipment	LS	LS	1.00

12	Engaging fire watchers (5 No. for 3 years @9,000 per month per person for five months in an year)	0.09 per month per person	5 No	6.75
13	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	1.15
Total				120.00

14. The mitigation amount of Rs.120.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
15. No existing water passage should be blocked by construction activities.
16. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
17. The upgraded BT road should be provided with speed breakers and/or rumble strips at regular intervals.
18. User Agency should place wildlife crossing signage boards at appropriate places in consultation with Forest Department.
19. CWLW, Telangana should have appropriate monitoring mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during 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.

The Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai through its Sub-regional Office at Hyderabad shall monitor the progress of actions taken against the staff and also action taken under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and submit bimonthly report to the Ministry.

74.2.19 Proposal for use of 4.0555 ha of forest land from Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Cheruvumunda Thanda to Doravari Vempally in Gudur WLM Division of Mahabubabad district, Telangana under PMGSY.

FP/TG/ROAD/122827/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 4.0555 ha of forest land from Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Cheruvumunda Thanda to Doravari Vempally in Gudur WLM Division of Mahabubabad district, Telangana under PMGSY.

The proposal was discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the submission of

appropriate action taken report by the State Government against the officials responsible for violations and the action taken report under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The User Agency has completed earth work and laid concrete on entire stretch of the road. The UA has excavated gravel from the reserve forest and also extracted standing trees for laying of the road during 2018-19.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana has informed that disciplinary action has been initiated against two FSOs, two FBOs and AEE. The DEE has retired from the service in 2020. POR were issued under Telangana Forest Act, 1967 and compounding fee to the tune of Rs. 80,527/- has been collected from the User Agency in 2018-19.

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

1. The User Agency shall construct a minimum of two passage ways per Km length of the road with a minimum of 30.00 m width and 4-5.00 m height as per the specifications issued by WII.
2. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct under passes at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
3. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to attract movement of wild animals.
4. Chain link fencing shall be installed for a length of 100 m on either side of the underpasses on either side of the road which shall be periodically maintained by the User Agency.
5. The User Agency shall install speed controlling devices with proper sign boards for every 50.00 meters interval.
6. The works shall be carried out only between 9.00 AM to 5.00 PM without disturbing /damaging flora and fauna of the area.
7. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
8. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
9. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction
10. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
11. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department shall be provided by the User Agency at appropriate places along the road.
12. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CF, Kothagudem is approved for Rs.37.20 lakhs.

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	A m t.

				(Rs. in lakhs)
1	Integrated camping site-creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank each (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two Solar Powered Borewells (cost Rs.3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site	20.00	1 No	20.00
2	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)	0.40	10 ha per ha	4.00
3	Engaging a team of two trackers at each major PT site for monitoring wildlife movement, collection of data from camera traps fixing and safeguarding camera traps for 3 years	0.10	2 trackers per site	7.20
4	Procurement of camera traps	0.25	2 Nos	0.50
5	Formation of approach path to the integrated camping site	LS	LS	0.50
6	Procurement of fire-fighting equipment	As per actuals	LS	1.00
7	Installation of large hoarding and sign boards for creation of publicity and awareness	1.00	1 Nos	1.00
8	Conducting Nature camps to school children	0.10	10	1.00
9	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actuals	LS	2.00
	Total			37.20

13. The mitigation amount of Rs.37.20 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
14. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
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.

The Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai through its Sub-regional Office at Hyderabad shall monitor the progress of actions taken against the staff and also action taken under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and submit bimonthly report to the Ministry.

74.2.20 Proposal for use of 8.6124 ha of forest land from tiger corridor linking Kawal Tiger Reserve with Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra for construction of BT road from Sirpur to Methandani via Cheerapalli, Lingaguda, Ravanpally, Medipally, chinnamalini from Km 0/0 to 24/0 in Komarambheem Asifabad district in favour of R&B Department, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/38426/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 8.6124 ha of forest land from tiger corridor linking Kawal Tiger Reserve with Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra for construction of BT road from Sirpur to Methandani via Cheerapalli, Lingaguda, Ravanpally, Medipally, chinnamalini from Km 0/0 to 24/0 in Komarambheem Asifabad district in favour of R&B Department, Telangana.

The proposal was discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the submission of appropriate action taken report by the State Government against the officials responsible for violations and the action taken report under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
1	Engaging animal trackers (5 No. for 6 years @ 9,000 per month per person)	0.09 per month per person	5 No.	32.40
2	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road along with chain link fencing for 50 m on either side of the check gate to curb movement of domestic animals and trespassers	0.45 each	10 No	4.50

3	Integrated camping site-creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two Solar Powered Borewells (cost Rs.3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site	20.00 each	3 No	60.00
4	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)	0.40 per ha	30 ha	12.00
5	Raising of fodder plots with chain link fencing	2.50 per ha	5ha	12.50
6	Procurement of camera traps	0.25 each	20 Nos	5.00
7	Development of approach path each to the integrated camping facility.	LS	LS	1.50
8	Procurement of equipment like GPS, binoculars etc., to monitor wildlife	LS	LS	1.00
9	Installation of large hoardings	1.00 each	7 No	7.00
10	Conducting awareness programmes	0.25 each	4 No	1.00
11	Providing solar fence to the farmers for controlling crop damage by wildlife	LS	LS	2.00
12	Procurement of fire fighting equipment	LS	LS	3.00
13	Engaging fire watchers (5 No.for 5 years @9,000 per month per person for five months in an year)	0.09 per month per person	5 No	11.25
14	Supply of field kit to the staff for wildlife monitoring	LS	LS	3.00
15	Engaging anti-poaching squad(5 No. for 3 years @ 9.000 per month per person)	0.09 per month per person	5 No	16.20
16	Maintenance and POL charges of the vehicle involve in wildlife monitoring and tracking	0.25 per month	1 No	9.00
17	Mitigation Human animal conflict issues	LS	LS	5.00
18	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	3.65
Total				190.00

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana has informed that concerned FROs and officials of User Agency have retired from the service and hence disciplinary action could not be initiated against them. However, disciplinary action has been initiated against two FBOs. POR were issued against the DEE, Panchayat Raj Department and the contractor.

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

1. The User Agency shall construct a minimum of two passage ways per Km length of the road with a minimum of 30.00 m width and 4.00 m height.
2. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct under passes at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
3. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to facilitate movement of wild animals.
4. Chain link fencing shall be installed for a length of 100 m on either side of the underpasses on either side of the road which shall be periodically maintained by the User Agency.
5. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/CF, Adilabad is approved for Rs.190.00 lakhs.

Rs.in lakhs)

6. The mitigation amount of Rs.190.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wild Life Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
7. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper caution sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
8. The works shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing /damaging flora, fauna of the area.
9. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
10. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
11. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
12. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
13. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
14. The road shall have speed breakers and rumble strips at regular intervals to control the speed of vehicles. This shall be decided in consultation with the Forest Department.
15. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department shall be provided by the User Agency at appropriate places along the road.
16. The CWLW shall have an appropriate monitoring mechanism in place for monitoring.
17. 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 Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai through its Sub-regional Office at Hyderabad shall monitor the progress of actions taken against the staff and also action taken under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and submit bimonthly report to the Ministry.

- 74.2.21** Proposal for use of 2.3495 ha of forest land in the Tiger Corridor connecting Kawalwith Tadoba and Indravati for construction of ROB at L.C.80 at railway Km 191/17-20 Kazipet Balharshah section and at km 21/2-4 of Asifabad Sirpur Road in Komaramam Bheem Asifabad district in favour of District R&B Officer, KB Asifabad, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/35464/2018

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 2.3495 ha of forest land in the Tiger Corridor connecting Kawalwith Tadoba and Indravati for construction of ROB at L.C.80 at railway Km 191/17-20 Kazipet Balharshah section and at km 21/2-4 of Asifabad Sirpur Road in Komaramam Bheem Asifabad district in favour of District R&B Officer, KB Asifabad, Telangana.

The proposal was discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the submission of appropriate action taken report by the State Government against the officials responsible for violations and the action taken report under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana has informed that disciplinary action has been initiated against one FRO, two FSOs, two FBOs and AEE. POR were issued against the officials of the User Agency and the contractor.

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

1. The User Agency shall construct a minimum of two passage ways per Km length of the road with a minimum of 30.00 m width and 4.00 m height at the locations indicated by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer.

2. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to facilitate movement of wild animals.

3. The User Agency shall provide Rs.450.050 lakh for developing natural grass lands / meadows and mentioned as under:

(Rs.In lakh)

Sl. No	component	Units	Qty. Unit Cost	Financial Target
I	Wildlife protection			
1	Animal trackers (S Nos. for 3 years / 5 units (Sx4x12x9000/- = 21.600 Lakhs)	2 Nos.	Qty. 10 Rate 0.090	32.400
2	Anti Poaching Squads (I no for 3 year / I unit (1x24000/x12=2.880 lakh + 5x1249000~4,500 Total = 2.88+5.40 = 8.28x3=24.84 Takh) per unit § members	2 Nos.	Qty. 10 Rate 0.090	32.400
3	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road	45 Nos	0.120	5.400
4	Construction of watch tower	10 Nos	10.00	100.00
II	Habitat Improvement measures			
1	Borewell with solar pump set	28 Nos	6.000	168.000
2	Management of grass land by uprooting the obnoxious weed and sowing local collected grass seed over - Ha (inclmaint for 3 years)	12 ha	0.400	4.800
3	Raising of Fodder plots with chianlink	5 ha	2.600	13.000
4	Construction of saucer pits	50 nos	0.100	5.000
5	Formation of percolation tanks.	30 Nos	1.000	30.000
III	Monitoring of wildlife			
1	Procurement of camera traps for monitoring wild animals	30 Nos	0.300	9.000
2	Procurement of batteries, memory cards etc for camera trap	30 Nos	0.300	0.900
3	Procurement of hand held GPS, Binoculars	10 Nos	0.250	2.500
4	Procurement of walkie talkies	10 Nos	0.200	2.000

5	Supply of field kit to the staff containing measurement tape, torch, bill hook, bag, water, bottle plaster of Paris, mug, glass, compass, etc for wildlife monitoring	20 Nos	0.050	1.000
6	Data Entry operator for maintenance of wildlife data	1 No	1.800	1.800
7	Maintenance of vehicles incl POL of staff engaged in wildlife monitoring	4 Noa	1.000	4.000
8	Engaging Biologist for wildlife monitoring	1 No	3.000	3.000
IV	Publicity & Awareness and Eco-Development activities			
a	Installation of large hoarding and sign boards to propagate the needs for the conservation of flora and fauna of the area	5 Nos	1.000	5.000
b	Setting up of regulatory sign boards on speed limits and wild animal crossing zones @ Rs.0 60 per each	10 Nos	0.600	6.000
c	Conducting of awareness programme for wildlife	10 Nos	0.250	2.500
d	Providing solar fence to the farmers for controlling crop damage by wildlife	25 Nos	0.120	3.000
V	Fire Management			
a)	Procurement of fire blowers @ Rs.0.60			
b)	Procurement of firefighting equipment like shoes, glouse, helmates spades, crowbars fire beaters etc., @ Rs.	LS	LS	LS
c)	Engaging of fire watchers Nos 10350 included hire chages (I No. for 3 years / 1 unit (1 x 24000/~ x 5 = 120 lakhs + 5 x 5x9000=2.25 Total = 1.20+225=3.45x3=10.35 lakhs)	Nos		10.350
	Total			450.050

4. The above amount shall be deposited by the User Agency in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana.
5. Chain link fencing shall be installed for a length of 100 m on either side of the underpasses on either side of the road which shall be periodically maintained by the User Agency.
6. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper caution sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
7. The User Agency shall fell only the barest minimum number of trees while executing the work.
8. The works shall be carried out without disturbing or damaging Flora, Fauna or habitat of the area.
9. Work shall be carried out from 6.00 am to 6.00 pm only.
10. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the Tiger Corridor area/ Reserved Forest Area. As and when required the material should be carried to the site during execution of work.
11. No labor camp should be established inside the Reserved Forest Area / Tiger Corridor area during the execution of the work.
12. The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Reserved Forest Area / Tiger Corridor area on day-to-day basis.
13. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 20 meter interval.
14. User Agency should install cattle guards (2 m wide) on both sides of the ROB (viaduct) so as to prevent wildlife movement on the ROB and subsequent entrapment in vehicular traffic.
15. The diversion road should completely be decommissioned by User Agency once the construction of ROB is over.
16. No construction material (including topsoil) should be procured from forests. Construction debris should be dumped outside the forests by the User Agency after taking due care of air/dust pollution.
17. Pre-fabricated structures should preferably be used so as to keep construction time and thus disturbances on wildlife and habitat minimal.
18. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
19. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
20. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
21. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department shall be provided by the User Agency at appropriate places along the road.

22. The CWLW, Telangana should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.

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.

The Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai through its Sub-regional Office at Hyderabad shall monitor the progress of actions taken against the staff and also action taken under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and submit bimonthly report to the Ministry.

74.2.22 Proposal for use of 1.354 ha of forest land from Mahavir Harina Vanasthali National Park for construction of exclusive Intercity/Intra City Bus-Bays terminus to decongest NH-65 in favour of Chief Engineer Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA), Hyderabad, Telangana.

FP/TG/Others/149086/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.354 ha of forest land from Mahavir Harina Vanasthali National Park for construction of exclusive Intercity/Intra City Bus-Bays terminus to decongest NH-65 in favour of Chief Engineer, HMDA, and Hyderabad.

The proposal was discussed in the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee wherein it was decided to defer the proposal till the submission of appropriate action taken report by the State Government against the officials responsible for violations and the action taken report under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The State Government of Telangana has not submitted any report as directed by the Standing Committee in the last meeting.

The Standing Committee was further informed a proposal for diversion of 0.54 Ha in Mansorabad RF and 2.31 Ha in Kuntloor RF total 2.85 Ha for strengthening and widening of existing road from Nagole Junction to Gowrelly X road passing through Mahavir Harina Vanasthali National Park, Hyderabad was recommended by the Standing in its 41st meeting held on 2nd March, 2017 in favour of HMDA, Hyderabad. The proposal was recommended with the condition prescribed by the Chief Wild Life Warden that the User Agency shall construct one underpass of 40 ft width for smooth passage of wild animals at the designated place. Till date the User Agency has not complied with the condition imposed by the Standing Committee. Non-compliance of conditions imposed under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 amounts to an offence under the Act.

ADG (WL) also mentioned that the same proposal has been rejected by the FCA stating because it was not site specific.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Telangana stated that the State Government is again going to approach the Regional Office for reconsideration of the proposal under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The User Agency has given an undertaking for taking up construction of underpass very shortly and the work will commence in the next 6 months and completed in a year time.

DGF&SS stated that the User Agency has not complied with the condition imposed by the Standing Committee from 2017 till date. This is quite serious and the undertaking is not sufficient. The User Agency shall first comply with the condition. The areas inside forest and protected areas are provided for use by the User Agencies on the consideration that they would not seek more area.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the conditions imposed by the Standing Committee are quite often not being complied and therefore, monitoring of compliance of conditions is required.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the proposal will be considered only after receipt of the report from the State Government of compliance by the User Agency of the condition imposed by the Standing Committee while recommending the strengthening and widening of existing road from Nagole Junction to Gowrelly X road.

- 74.2.23**
- a.** Proposal for collection of Minor Minerals from Song 1, 2, 3 and Jakhan 1, 2 of Dehradun Forest division, Uttarakhand.
FP/UK/MIN/38285/2020
 - b.** Proposal for extraction of RBM over an area of 9.878 ha by Windlass RBM Mining Project
FP/UK/MIN/5059/2020
 - c.** Proposal for extraction of RBM over an area of 13.161 ha by Windlass RBM Mining Project
FP/UK/MIN/5052/2020

These proposals for mining of River Bed Materials in the default Eco-sensitive Zone of Rajaji National Park were considered by the Standing Committee and deferred.

The Standing Committee in the 67th meeting held on 25th March 2022 had decided that the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) shall be requested to prepare a holistic plan for critical passage of wild animal for the landscape around 10 km from the Rajaji Tiger Reserve to identify zones for sand and boulder mining within two months. It was therefore, decided to defer the proposal.

Accordingly, Ministry requested WII for preparation of a holistic plan for critical passage of wild animal for the landscape around 10 km from Rajaji Tiger Reserve. WII has submitted the plan.

Thereafter, the proposals were discussed in 71st meeting of the Standing Committee held on 29th December, 2022 wherein it was decided that the Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand shall inspect the area mentioned in WII Report and submit a report to the Ministry. It was decided to defer the proposals till the receipt of the report from the Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand.

The proposals were again discussed in the 72nd meeting of the Standing Committee held on 25th April, 2023 wherein it was decided to request the WII to conduct a study in the areas of Uttar Pradesh which lie within a 10 km radius around Rajaji Tiger Reserve and submit the report within two months for further examination. Accordingly, it was decided to defer the proposals.

The report from the WII is yet to be received. The details requested by the WII from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh have not yet been provided.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand stated that the preparation of holistic plan towards the Uttar Pradesh side will not impact decision on mining proposals towards Uttarakhand side. There are several mining projects in Uttarakhand which are getting affected.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee noted that Report from the Wildlife Institute of India is yet to be received and decided that the Ministry shall convene a meeting with the WII, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand Forest Department Officials to facilitate the details required by the WII and the accordingly the proposals were deferred.

74.2.24 Amendment in the minutes of the 32nd meeting held on 21st January, 2015 regarding proposal for clearance to expansion of existing coal based power project by adding one unit 500 MW under stage IV of NTPC Ltd Feroz Gandhi Unchahar, Uttar Pradesh within 10 kms from Samaspur bird Sanctuary.

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for clearance to expansion of the existing coal based power project by adding one unit 500 MW under stage IV of NTPC Ltd Feroz Gandhi Unchahar, Uttar Pradesh was considered by the SCNBWL in its 32nd Meeting held on 21st January, 2015. The proposal was recommended by the Standing Committee subject to implementation of mitigation measures and the conditions stipulated by the CWLW and Environment Clearance obtained under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and EIA Notification 2006. Under the conditions, a sum amounting to 2% of the project cost shall be placed with the Chief Wild Life Warden by the User Agency. The Feroz Gandhi Unchahar Thermal Power Project, Stage-IV (1x500 MW) is located at 7.9

km away from Samaspur Bird Sanctuary and beyond the boundary of ESZ of Samaspur Bird Sanctuary. The ESZ of the Samaspur Bird Sanctuary was notified on 27.09.2019 much later than the recommendations of the Standing Committee. NTPC has informed the Ministry that all the conditions have been complied with except the condition relating to payment of 2% of the project cost. NTPC has requested that the condition be reviewed since the project does not fall inside the notified ESZ of Samaspur Sanctuary.

The proposal has been discussed in 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee. After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal for further examination of the matter.

The matter was examined in the Ministry. The User Agency has completed the project. Therefore, this is a case of violation of the conditions imposed by the Standing Committee.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the Standing Committee should not impose condition of payment of 2% of the proportionate project cost falling in the ESZ or protected area.

The Member Secretary informed that the User Agency should submit a management plan for mitigation of the impacts of projects.

The Standing Committee was informed that it was already decided by the Standing Committee in its earlier meeting that the activities to mitigate the impacts of the project on wildlife and its habitat shall be prescribed and the cost associated with those activities may be imposed.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided not to accept the request of the NTPC and action for violation of the conditions imposed by the Standing Committee shall be taken by the Regional Office.

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

(Policy Matters, Court Orders)

74.3. Management of Grassland ecosystem – by Dr. H. S. Singh

- 1 The Standing Committee was informed that this policy matter was proposed for discussion by Dr. H. S. Singh, Member, NBWL who was requested to introduce the agenda.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that there is administrative set up for the conservation of habitats of larger faunal species like tigers, elephants, wetlands, corals, mangroves etc. both in the Ministry and also in the States. However, such set up does not exist for grassland ecosystem. There

are four major states where grasslands are found. The maximum number of threatened species such as Great Indian Bustard, Lesser Florican, Caracal etc. are found in grasslands. The grassland ecosystems are suffering most from habitat loss and degradation. It will be too late if there is no focus given to conservation of these ecosystems.

Member Secretary informed that as per the Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi, a national institute under the control of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, over 100 million hectares of grasslands are degraded. These are found in forests, agricultural lands, wastelands, ravines and riverine pastures. Many natural grasslands have either degraded or lost due to Agricultural expansions, overgrazing, large areas being converted to plantations / protected areas/ Industrial establishment. The five ethnic grasslands which have existed in the country for centuries together are Banni Grasslands (Gujarat), Shola-Grassland (Western Ghats), Thar Deserts (Rajasthan and Gujarat), Terai Grasslands and Kangeyam Grassland (Tamil Nadu). These are found in the tropical regions and the rest are in temperate regions.

ICFRE, Dehradun has suggested to prepare a site specific GIS plan depending upon the existing Grass Lands.

Member Secretary further suggested that the Indian Forest Survey Report (IFSR) consider the inclusion of grasslands as a distinct and separate chapter within their biennial report. This would enable the generation of real-time data pertaining to these ecosystems, ensuring a more comprehensive and up-to-date assessment. To enhance our efforts in preserving and managing tropical grasslands, there is a proposal to establish a dedicated cell specifically tasked with the responsibility of overseeing and addressing matters related to these ecosystems. This specialized cell would streamline and focus our conservation and management efforts in this crucial area.

DGF & SS mentioned that Forest Survey of India has been directed to incorporate a separate chapter in the India Survey of Forest Report so that plan for their management may be prepared.

Secretary, EF & CC suggested that the Green India Mission Secretariat may look after grassland management.

Dr. H. S. Singh opined that having a chapter in the IFSR would be a long-term measure. This would not help in conservation of this fragile ecosystem on the ground. For short term efforts, there has to be dedicated cell focussing on the conservation and management of these ecosystems. He further mentioned States like Madhya Pradesh had unfragmented patches of 300-400 km² of grasslands which used to be habitat of Great Indian Bustards and Lesser Florican. Such grasslands have been reduced greatly in extent. Now few Lesser Floricans visit these areas. In some of such grasslands windmills have been installed. The sound of these windmills alter the behaviour of these birds. The grasslands are free from disturbances are frequented by Lesser Floricans. Rights under Forest Rights Act have been given over 2-4 ha

patches. Government can purchase and acquire rights over such the grassland patches. He further mentioned that only one-third population of blackbucks is found inside Velavadar National Park. Rest two-third population is found outside the National Park in government wastelands. There is salt pans establishment and expansion happening in these government wastelands. These wastelands situated outside ESZ of the National Park. About 70-80 wolves are also found these areas. Therefore, there is need for more dedicated conservation efforts.

Professor R. Sukumar emphasized that grasslands have suffered significant damage due to extensive plantation activities. Due to this local hydrology has also suffered apart from invasion by weeds in these areas for e.g. in Western Ghats. One of the remarkable benefits of grassland restoration is its positive impact on carbon sequestration. Studies have shown that the grasslands sequester more carbon dioxide than any other ecosystems. Each grassland is unique in its bio-geographic characteristics. Therefore, conservation of grassland ecosystems should be taken on priority.

Secretary, EF & CC suggested that the grasslands ecosystems can be tied up with green credit programme.

DGF & SS suggested that under green credit programme, a separate vertical can be created.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the Ministry shall organize a workshop on the conservation of grasslands and invite suggestions from experts in the workshop. The report of the workshop shall be placed before the Standing Committee.

74.3.2 Conservation of Elephant corridors

The Standing Committee was informed that this policy matter has been proposed by the Project Tiger and Elephant Division due to certain directions issued by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Inspector General of Forests, Project Tiger and Elephant Division (IGF, PT & E) was requested to introduce the agenda.

IGF, PT & E informed that this matter is emanating from the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court in a Writ Petition titled Purna Singh Bindra Vs Union of India and Others filed in the year 2021. In this Writ Petition, Union of India, some State Governments, NBWL, Central Electricity Authority were respondents. The main focus in the petition were deaths of elephants due to electrocution and the pending action on the Gajah Report the cognizance of which was also taken by the NBWL. In this matter Hon'ble Supreme Court had passed an order on 1st February, 2023 directing that

i. MoEF&CC and the Central Electricity Authority shall ensure that necessary steps are taken for facilitating an inspection of the protected areas so as to facilitate implementation of the recommendations of the

Task Force as accepted in the minutes of the 54th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife held on 18 July 2019 as communicated on 29 August 2019 Recommendations of Task Force Constituted by MoEF&CC.

- ii. MoEF&CC shall respond to the recommendation made in the 'Gajah' Report on conferring statutory status on the proposed body namely the National Elephant Conservation Authority (NETA); and*
- iii. MoEF&CC shall collect the requisite information from the States in respect of compliance with the recommendations contained in the 'Gajah' Report.*

The Project Tiger and Elephant Division of the Ministry has written to the States and Central Electricity Authority regarding the 1st direction. For the 3rd direction, information on 11 points in the questionnaire from 22 states has been received out of 26 states where elephants including captive elephants are found.

Regarding the 2nd directions, there have been discussions in the Ministry on the requirement of a statutory body for elephants on the lines of National Tiger Conservation Authority. It was discussed that National Tiger Conservation Authority is a statutory body and its directions under section 38-O are binding in nature leading to protection of tiger corridors. In the meeting under the Chairmanship of DGF &SS, it was deliberated that without establishing the National Elephant Conservation Authority, the directions issued under section 62B incorporated in the recently amended Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 upon recommendations by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life may have effects on elephant reserves and elephant corridors similar to those issued by the National Tiger Conservation Authority. If comparison is drawn between elephant reserves and elephant corridors with tiger reserves and tiger corridors, the situation of elephant reserves and elephant corridors is not comparable even with the protection provided to the lands in ESZs around National Parks and sanctuaries. For activities which require Environment Clearance in the ESZs which have lands even private and community lands, recommendations of the Standing Committee are required. In case of elephant reserves and elephant corridors not part of ESZs which may even be forest there is no such requirement.

The reason for bringing this matter before the Standing Committee is to deliberate and frame opinion of the Ministry if the directions issued under section 62B of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 would provide protection to the elephant reserves and elephant corridors. The Ministry could then inform Hon'ble Supreme Court that desired protection to elephant reserves and elephant corridors could be achieved without the constitution of National Elephant Conservation Authority.

Dr. H. S. Singh opined that the declaration of elephant corridors and regulation of activities in those corridors may not be acceptable to the public at large. The tiger corridors are declared on ad-hoc basis without any notification. Such tiger corridors should be mapped and included in the management plan. Regulations of activities, if any, extended to tiger corridors could cause hardship to people and ultimately to elephants.

Dr. R. Sukumar stated that since its inception, from the beginning the Project Elephant had focus on maintaining viable population of elephants on viable landscapes. These are concepts which can be mathematically demonstrated as to what would constitute a viable population in a landscape. The focus could be on landscapes, habitats and corridors. The landscapes is an overarching geographical entity. These landscapes due to spread for agricultural contingencies are partly fragmented. The crucial links between the habitats across the landscapes are corridors. More than thirty years ago, when the elephant reserves were designed, he had the privilege of designing four elephant reserves. These were designed to incorporate these elements for elephant conservation. The concept of corridors has gone beyond the original dictionary meaning what was earlier thought of and what the functionality was thought of for these landscapes. Corridor is supposed to be a small patch of land which provides connectivity for elephant movement across habitats largely within a landscape of the elephant reserve. Unfortunately, the original meaning of the corridors has been lost and there is a tendency to call every place where elephants move as corridors. Recently, a document has been released titled, 'Elephant Corridors of India'. In the preface, IGF, PT & E has acknowledged that it is a compilation at this stage and it requires studies to fix boundaries of the so called corridors. The areas referred to as corridors in the document is a mixture of corridors, habitats and landscapes. For instance, the states like Karnataka submitted documents mentioning potential corridors which could be 1-2 km long or tens of hectares of lands. On the other hand, the states like Jharkhand submitted documents for vast expanse of corridors. One area referred to as corridor in Jharkhand is 120 km long and 5 km wide. This means 600 km² which is more than even most of the protected areas in the country. Another corridor has been documented in Jharkhand which is about 46 km long and just 30 m wide. This means that if a herd of elephants has to walk in this corridors, they should move in single line. This is complete anomaly. Similarly, there are anomalies in case of Odisha also. For instance, one suggested corridor is 75km long. He has made submission in High Court of Odisha on behalf of the Odisha Forest Department. The extent of that corridor would be corrected. In South Bengal, the elephants have started moving only in the year 1987 from Odisha and Jharkhand. The areas in West Bengal close to Odisha and Jharkhand like Mayurjhina have only small patches of forest cover which is fit for elephants. Rest of the areas where elephants move in south Bengal are human dominated agricultural fields. The elephants are moving to Bankura, East Midnapur, West Midnapur and even to Bangladesh. The document suggests linking these areas to other elephant landscapes which has never been the intent of the word corridor. There are other states for which suggestions have been made for merger of corridors, incomplete merger of corridors. There are lot of inconsistencies in the document. Expansive corridors of this country would strongly escalate human-elephant conflict which is already happening year after year and decade after decade. The number of human deaths has gone up from 25 in a year about four decades ago to about 500-600 human deaths per year. Similarly, the elephants are also suffering and the number of their deaths is also going up because the elephants are now in many ways expanding their

range. They are moving in human dominated agricultural landscapes, coming in contact with electric wires, falling in wells. The data shows that elephants are more likely to die outside the forest areas. This expansive definition of corridors would open floodgates for litigations. It's already happening in many states. There are petitions with which many states are struggling. There are real corridors on which focus has to be brought back. Regarding legal aspects, the Project Elephant in 2005-06 issued directives to the States mentioning that areas within the corridors which are forest areas may be notified under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and those areas which are private lands, revenue lands may be notified under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as eco-sensitive areas where the red category industries may be prohibited. Focus has to be brought back to elephant reserves. These are 10 relatively large landscapes in which habitats are already largely interconnected through corridors. These landscapes have sufficiently viable population of elephants. There are clear goals and aims about these viable populations in viable habitats. There should not be fuzziness as conflicts are escalating. There would be negative consequences for both people and elephants. There should be some other forms of management for the small populations of elephants. The focus has to be brought back to the landscape level planning for viable elephant population.

Member Secretary suggested that legal opinion may be sought whether under Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, these elephant reserves could be notified as conservation reserves in which carrying out activities would not require consideration of the Standing Committee.

IGF, PT & E stated that during discussions in the Ministry, a view was framed that constitution of National Elephant Conservation Authority was not required when the directions regarding activities such mitigation of impacts of infrastructures in elephant reserves and corridors could be made legally binding by issuing directions under section 62B of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. He further suggested that the regulations as in case of ESZs might be extended to elephant reserves and elephant corridors.

DGF & SS opined that sooner or later elephant reserves must be given legal sanctity.

The Chairman observed that both the Project Tiger and Project Elephant schemes have been merged and about 75000 km² area has come under single authority. Appropriate action with the involvement of local communities may be taken. The mitigation measures may site specific on the case to case basis in such areas. Conservation of forests and biodiversity is the priority and it is connected with the livelihood of people. Project Elephant may be oriented to benefit people.

Decision Taken: After discussion, the Standing Committee decided that there is no need for constitution of National Elephant Conservation Authority and the Ministry shall inform the Hon'ble Supreme Court accordingly.

74.3.3 Procedure for Name Change in Wild Life Clearances and monitoring compliances of conditions imposed by the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee was informed that a proposal for development of residential township (198.801 acres) at Sector-3, 4 & 4A, village Islamnagar Pinjore-Kalka Urban complex, Panchkula, Haryana by Magnolia Propbuild Private Limited (MPPL) was recommended by the Standing Committee in its 33rd meeting held on 14th March, 2015 along with the conditions prescribed by Chief Wild Life Warden.

At that time, the project was falling in the default ESZ of Khol Hi Raitan Sanctuary, Bir Shikargarh Shikargarh and Sukhna Sanctuary. Now the ESZ around Khol Hi Raitan Sanctuary and Bir Shikargarh Sanctuary have been notified. However, the ESZ of Sukhna Sanctuary on Haryana side is yet to be notified. At a later stage, the MPPL filed an insolvency. Thereafter Trident Hills Private Limited (THPL) was admitted in Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process ("CIRP") via an order dated 13th December 2018. Ld National C vide its order dated 6th August 2021 mentioned thereafter all the compliance of such approvals shall be fulfilled by THPL.

Accordingly, THPL got the ownership changed in the EC letter. In EC letter issued by Haryana SEIAA at potn 11, it was mentioned that "The PP shall submit the updated NBWL clearance (As the existing NBWL clearance exist in the name of the earlier project)"

The State Government of Haryana has informed that the User Agency was directed to deposit Rupees 50 lakhs for the mitigation plan. The same is yet to be deposited by the User Agency.

The Ministry has framed guidelines for name change in case of forest clearance and environment clearance. However, such procedure has not been formulated in case of project proposals received for consideration of the Standing Committee.

The Member Secretary mentioned that name change request may be submitted by the User Agency in three scenarios, viz, (i) the project activities have not been initiated, (ii) the project activities have been commenced and (iii) the project activities have been completed. The status of compliance of conditions imposed by the Standing Committee shall rest on the new User Agency. Under the procedure for Forest Clearance, a fee is levied for the request of name transfer applications.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the Ministry shall design a format in which the applications for name change may be submitted by the User Agency for discussion in the next meeting. Accordingly, the matter was deferred.

74.3.4 Policy issue regarding expired notification for the Eco-sensitive Zones around National Parks and sanctuaries

Proposals for declaration of ESZs around National Parks and sanctuaries are received from States / UTs. On the basis of these proposals, draft notifications for ESZs are finalized, and published in the Government Gazette and placed in the public domain for 60 days, seeking public comments. The draft notifications if not finalized expire within 725 days. There are several such notifications which have expired for which revised proposals are yet to be received from the State Governments.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan mentioned that the proposals for notifications of ESZs around National Parks and sanctuaries are submitted to the Government of India a thorough and consultative process. He stated that a lot of time is required for resolving the objections received from the public and therefore there should not be any time limit for between draft and final notifications.

The Chairman opined that the draft notifications which expired in the last one year might be retrospectively brought in force, if the law permits.

The DGF & SS suggested that the time for which the draft notification of ESZs shall remain valid if not finalized may be extended to five years.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Karnataka mentioned that the default ten km ESZ comes into force from the date of final notification of an area is notified as a sanctuary or a National Park. These leads to lot of complications in the field. Lot of activities have to be stopped suddenly leading to hardships to the people living within ten km from the boundary of newly notified sanctuary or National Park. He suggested that the default ten km ESZ should be made applicable after a period of one year from the date of notification of a sanctuary or National Park.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the period of validity of draft notification for ESZ around sanctuary or National Park may be increased by the Ministry from existing 725 days to five years from the date of publication of the notification under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1972. The Ministry shall explore the possibility of bringing into effect the draft notifications retrospectively which have expired within last one year. The Ministry shall also explore filing an Interlocutory Application in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (C) 202 of 1995 praying for application of default ESZ around a newly notified sanctuary or a National Park after a period of one year from the date of such notification.

73.3.5 National Knowledge Platform & National Database & Monitoring System on Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation

A Web-based knowledge platform has been developed under the Indo-German Cooperation for facilitating dialogue between scientists, managers, and policy experts from key relevant sectors, youth and community engagement, via web-based fora. It will also act as the hub for all information and documents on Human Wildlife Conflict mitigation.

This web platform will also anchor the national HWC mitigation database hosted on the National Informatics Centre (NIC) Cloud platform, which will receive information on the indicators for reporting progress on HWC-NAP and guidelines, thus facilitating in effective monitoring of the guidelines and HWC-NAP implementation. The States can upload their best practices regarding HWC on this platform.

The Chairman suggested that the features of the portal may be launched in local languages also. The portal should also host best practices of local people such as Baigas, Sholigas, Gonds.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the Ministry shall explore possibility of hosting local best practices on the portal through the GIZ.

AGENDA ITEM NO 4

(Amendment in the minutes of previous meetings)

74.4.1 Proposal for improvement, upgradation and construction of Ganeshpur-Dehradun road (NH72A) in the state of Uttar Pradesh (Km 0.0 to Km 16.160) to 4 lane

(FP/UP/Road/45282/2020)

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for improvement, upgradation and construction of Ganeshpur-Dehradun road (NH72A) in Uttar Pradesh (Km 0.0 to Km 16.160) to 4 lane configuration was recommended by the Standing Committee in its 60th meeting held on 5th January, 2021 subject to certain conditions. One of the conditions imposed was that no work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.

The NHA through the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has requested to omit this condition.

As this condition imposed by the Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand was also endorsed by the NTCA, comments of NTCA were sought, who have recommended omitting the condition subject to following additional mitigation measures.

DGF & SS mentioned that the work on the project has already commenced and to speed up the implantation and completion of project in time, the condition can be relaxed.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to omit the condition to allow the work on the project from sunset to sunrise also with the following additional mitigation measures:

1. NHA should ensure safety and providing safe passage to wildlife (especially elephants, tigers and other large mammals) and safety of

working staff at night. NHAI, in coordination with Forest Department will deploy two vehicles with wildlife watchers equipped with wireless handsets for an early alert system in case of wildlife movements at night.

2. CWLW, Uttar Pradesh in co-ordination with CWLW, Uttarakhand should have an appropriate monitoring mechanism at place so as to avoid any untoward incident.

74.4.2 Lakhwar Hydroelectric Power Project

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for construction and commissioning of Lakhwar Multipurpose Project (300 MW) in Dehradun and Tehri Garhwal Districts by Uttarakhand Jal Vidhyut Nigam Limited, Dakpathar in Uttarakhand in the default ESZ of Binog Sanctuary in Uttarakhand was recommended by the Standing Committee in its 57th meeting held on 7th April, 2020. The project is proposed to be located over an area of 873.5772 ha at a distance of 3.1 km from the boundary of Binog Sanctuary. The project was recommended with three conditions. One of the conditions was that no any activity in the night.

The State Government has informed that the project has to be completed in the stipulated time period, it is necessary to work day and night (round the clock) and the project has to be completed within 69 months and requested this Ministry to omit the condition and allow work during the night time.

Dr. H. S. Singh suggested that during the night time, the User Agency should carry out their activities in limited area and not work over widespread area.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand informed that blasting activities would not be carried out during night time.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee recommended to omit the condition 'no any activity in the night' subject to the condition that:

1. No blasting shall be carried out night time in the project area.
2. The works related to the project shall be restricted to limited project area.

AGENDA ITEM NO 5

74.5 (Fresh Proposals falling inside / Outside the Protected Area)

- 74.5.1** Proposal for use of 54 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Nagarjuna Sagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve (NSTR) for rehabilitation and up-gradation of National Highway-565 from Km 133.922 to Km 154.900 (Davupally to Mallapalem Junction) to two lanes with paved shoulders, Andhra Pradesh.

FP/AP/ROAD/146577/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 54 ha of forest land from Buffer Zone of Nagarjuna Sagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve

(NSTR) for rehabilitation and up-gradation of National Highway-565 from Km 133.922 to Km 154.900 (Davupally to Mallapalem Junction) to two lanes with paved shoulders, Andhra Pradesh.

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

However, the Regional Empowered Committee under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 recommended only 35.9728 ha of forest land instead of 54 ha proposed in the original proposal. However, the site inspection committee by the NTCA acknowledged that some additional working space would be required for constructing the mitigation structures and therefore recommended 38.60 ha for use by the User Agency.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the term rehabilitation used in the proposal may not be appropriate.

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

1. The proposed area will be utilized only for the purpose for which the User Agency has sought for, but not for any other commercial purpose.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. The User Agency should 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.
5. The User Agency shall obey any other conditions stipulated by the Forest Department as per Acts and Rules.
6. The User Agency will be solely responsible for any violation which attracts the Provisions of Andhra Pradesh Forest Act, 1967, Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as amended from time to time.
7. The User Agency may be requested to erect Wildlife Signage Boards depicting the importance of Wildlife Conservation in and around the entire project area at their own costs.
8. Work shall be carried out only from dawn to dusk.
9. No labour camps to be established in the Protected Area.
10. The underpasses shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can

play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.

11. The underpasses should be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures should, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
12. Divisions between the underpasses should be of pillar (isolated pier) type, instead of wall-type. This would significantly improve the acceptability of passage structure by wild animals.
13. NH Authorities should ensure that all animal underpasses are fortified with integrated options of light and sound barriers (2 m high), camouflaging, and landscaping including restoration of habitat beneath underpasses after construction.
14. Chain link mesh fencing should be done by the user agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funneling wildlife through the animal passages.
15. As far as possible, the minimum height of the underpasses should not be achieved by ground excavation, but by elevating the road. This would prevent water logging during rains.
16. The User Agency should ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures should be done by the project proponent.
17. The underpasses must be kept free of all human-related activities and disturbances including foot-trails and roads by Forest Department, as these have a negative influence on the use of crossing structures by wildlife.
18. Additional features on crossing structures such as walkways or planks/ ledges/ shelves (50 cm wide) to be installed by NH Authorities on the interior walls of underpasses/crossing and/or drainage structures (Minor Bridges, Box culverts and Slab culverts) to encourage mammals to use culverts built on natural drainage sites. These structures help animals use the structures in seasons when the culverts may be inundated with water. Ledges/shelves along the inner walls of all crossing and drainage structures are to be constructed for use by small mammals. These structures should extend up to the exit of the structures and brought to ground level.
19. A concrete base of 50 cm is to be constructed on which the chain-link mesh fencing should be installed. The height of the fencing should be a minimum of 10 feet height on all sections so that species like leopards and other herbivores cannot cross them to get trapped inside the highway. The bottom 1-1.5 feet of the fences should be fitted with mesh wires so as to prevent small mammals and herpetofauna from crossing the highway. All fences are to be maintained in future by NH Authorities.

20. Cattle guards (2 m wide) are to be installed at both ends of the underpasses (including the fenced portions) and other fenced sections of the Highway to prevent wild and domestic animals from getting trapped within the fences/ crossing structures.
21. About 3,421 trees would have to be cut for upgradation work. These trees should be identified in consultation with the Forest Department before the construction starts and should be properly marked on ground. Attempt should be made that tree cutting is minimal. All trees (in a girth class for which there is technology available for transplantation) should be transplanted by the User Agency with adequate care for maximization of survival.
22. Apart from mitigation structures and fenced sections, the remaining portion of the road should be provided with crash barriers on both sides of the Highway and speed breakers/rumble strips at every interval of approximately 500 meters so as to maintain a vehicular speed of 30km/hour within the Tiger Reserve. Speed breakers / rumble strips should be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed by NH Authorities at regular intervals along the upgraded road. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with Forest Department.
23. Disturbance during construction in the wildlife sensitive areas is to be kept minimum by the following mechanisms:
 - Use of pre-fabricated materials for construction
 - Use of water from sources other than the river
 - Prohibition on procurement of construction materials from forest
 - Disposal of construction-related debris away from the sensitive sites
 - Prohibition on camping of construction personnel near these sites
 - Keeping construction period restricted during daytime
 - No approach road for transport of construction materials
24. The CWLW, Andhra Pradesh should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.
25. 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.

74.5.2 Proposal for use of 4.56 ha from Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary for strengthening and widening the existing Bakasar-Mavasari road from existing CI-9 specification to NHDL specification under 45 BRTF area under Project Chetak.

FP/GJ/ROAD/43014/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 4.56 ha from Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary for strengthening and widening the existing Bakasar-Mavasari road from existing CI-9 specification to NHDL specification under 45 BRTF area under Project Chetak.

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 not violate any regulatory provisions under Section-9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The User Agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Sanctuary.
3. The User Agency shall not use the area for any 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. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
7. The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
8. Approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
9. 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 land.
10. The User Agency will create adequate facilities for safe transit of wildlife across the road.
11. The animal passage structures shall be according to the guidance document of the Ministry, 'Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructures on wildlife'.
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.

74.5.3 Proposal for expansion of Grain based Distillery from 85 KLPD to 285 KLPD and Co-generation Power Plant from 1.5 to 9 MW by new installation of 200 KLPD Grain based Ethanol Plant at Plot no. 1 & 1A, Industrial area, Phase III, Sansarpur Terrace, Tehsil Jaswan, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh by M/s. Premier Alcobev Pvt. Ltd.

WL/HP/IND/402918/2022

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for expansion of Grain based Distillery from 85 KLPD to 285 KLPD and Co-generation Power Plant from 1.5 to 9 MW by new installation of 200 KLPD Grain based Ethanol

Plant at Plot no. 1 & 1A, Industrial area, Phase III, Sansarpur Terrace, Tehsil Jaswan, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh by M/s. Premier Alcobev Pvt. Ltd.

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

The Standing Committee noted that there was no official present from the State Government of Himachal Pradesh to brief the Standing Committee.

Decision Taken: After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal as no official from the State Government was available to brief the Standing Committee about the project proposal with a view to have E-Flow study of the project.

- 74.5.4** Proposal for use of 0.75 ha of forest land from Tata Kutti Wildlife Sanctuary for development of way side amenities along Mughal road at Peer Ki Gali (Nilana Top) in favour of Tourism Department, Poonch Development Authority.

FP/JK/Others/6175/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.75 ha of forest land from Tata Kutti Wildlife Sanctuary for development of way side amenities along Mughal road at Peer Ki Gali (Nilana Top) in favour of Tourism Department, Poonch Development Authority.

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

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

1. The proprietary and the legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
2. The User Agency shall pay Net Present Value (NPV) in accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.
3. The User Agency shall be responsible for obtaining requisite clearances under any other law in vogue.
4. No harm to any wildlife species shall be done, if found accidentally in the project area.
5. User Agency shall abide by all the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 directions of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and orders of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir in this regard.
6. Waste material including muck generated during execution of project shall be disposed of outside the protected area.

7. The User Agency shall ensure disposal of solid waste generated during functioning of proposed amenities, outside the protected area.
8. The User Agency shall fence its area with animal proof fencing.
9. The area proposed shall not be used by the User Agency for any purpose other than proposed.
10. The land so allowed to be used shall be returned to the department free of any encumbrances when it is no longer required by the User Agency.
11. The User Agency shall have to abide by all the conditions laid down in the sanction order/approval issued by the Competent Authority.
12. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency to the Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

74.4.5 Following four proposals of Improvement/Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme involving Suransar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary.

- 1 Improvement/Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme for Bargha Taryar- 1.198 ha
WL/JK/DRKWATER/430109/2023
- 2 Improvement/Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme Ringal Pathwar- 0.3956 ha
WL/JK/DRKWATER/430107/2023
- 3 Improvement/Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme for Pounthal- 0
WL/JK/DRKWATER/430105/2023
- 4 Improvement/Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme for Sagoon Par
WL/JK/DRKWATER/430090/2023

The Standing Committee was informed that these four proposals are for use of area from Suransar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary for Improvement/Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme.

The proposals have been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

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

1. The proprietary and the legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
2. The User Agency shall pay NPV (Net Present Value) in accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.
3. The User Agency shall be responsible for obtaining requisite clearances under any other law in vogue.
4. No harm to any wildlife species shall be done, if found accidentally in the project area.
5. User Agency shall abide by all the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, directions of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and orders of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir in this regard.
6. Waste material including muck generated during execution of project shall be disposed off outside the protected area.
7. The area proposed shall not be used by the User Agency for any purpose other than proposed.
8. The land so allowed to be used shall be returned to the department free of any encumbrances when it is no longer required by the User Agency.
9. The User Agency shall have to abide by all the conditions laid down in the sanction order/approval issued by the Competent Authority.
10. The User Agency shall comply with the conditions stipulated on laying of underground drinking water supply pipelines inside protected areas in the guidelines vide Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife Division), New Delhi vide Letter No.F.No.6-175/2017 WL (pt) dated 07.02.2023.
11. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency to the Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

74.5.6 Proposal for use of 0.0075 ha of land from Changthang Cold Desert Wildlife sanctuary for installation of ATM at Lukung Maan Pangong, UT of Ladakh.

WL/LA/Others/424604/2023

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.0075 ha of land from Changthang Cold Desert Wildlife sanctuary for installation of ATM at Lukung Maan Pangong, UT of Ladakh.

The proposal has been recommended by Chief Wild Life Warden, the State Board for Wild Life and the Administration of the UT of Ladakh.

Member Secretary suggested that the installation of ATM is a not a site specific activity and the ATM may be installed in habitation area.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Ladakh informed that near Pangong lake, there is no facility for the tourists to withdraw cash. The proposed ATM shall be installed near habitations and not in isolation.

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

1. The User Agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section-9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32 of the 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 ensure that they will not create any dumping site within the Protected Area.
4. The User Agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the protected area.
5. The User Agency shall not construct other building except installation of ATM.
6. The User Agency or his contractor/labour shall not create any fire places or use the firewood and bushes from the protected area.
7. The User Agency or its contractor shall be responsible for any act of forest and wildlife crime committed by its staff and labour inside the protected area.
8. Approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
9. The User Agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected area as per the guidelines.
10. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency to the Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

74.5.7

1. Permission for exploratory 05 bore holes to survey diamondiferous rock in 0.50 ha forest land of Mohar forest block in Amanganj Buffer range of Panna Tiger Reserve-**FP/MP/Others/6681/2022**.
2. Permission for exploratory 7 bore holes to survey Diamondiferous rock in 0.70 ha forest land of Hathanitor-Pahar forest block in Kishangarh buffer range of Panna Tiger Reserve-**FP/MP/Others/6679/2022**.
3. Permission for exploratory 06 bore holes to survey Diamondiferous rock in 0.6 ha forest land of Pathpura-Kishangarh forest block in Kishangarh buffer range of Panna Tiger Reserve-**FP/MP/Others/6678/2022**.
4. Permission for exploratory 02 bore holes to survey Diamondiferous rock in 0.20 ha forest land of Amanganj forest block in Amanganj buffer range of Panna Tiger Reserve- **FP/MP/Others/6657/2022**.

The Standing Committee was informed that these four proposals are for digging one bore hole per 0.1 ha in the buffer zone of Panna Tiger Reserve by NMDC bore holes for prospecting of diamonds.

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

The National Tiger Conservation Authority has advised not to approve the proposals.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided not to approve the proposals.

- 74.5.8** Proposal for use of 5.265 ha (1.3583 ha forest land and 3.9067 ha non-forest land) from corridor connecting Pench Tiger Reserve and Satpura Tiger Reserve for laying of underground 18"/12" dia Gas pipeline along with 40 mm OFC Cable by GAIL (India) LTD in South Chhindwara Forest Division, Madhya Pradesh.

WL/MP/Pipeline/423646/2023

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 5.265 ha (1.3583 ha forest land and 3.9067 ha non-forest land) from corridor connecting Pench Tiger Reserve and Satpura Tiger Reserve for laying of underground 18"/12" dia Gas pipeline along with 40 mm OFC Cable by GAIL (India) LTD for supply of natural gas in South Chhindwara Forest Division, Madhya Pradesh.

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

Member Secretary mentioned that there is anomaly in area calculation for the project and requirement of submission of contingency plan in case of gas leakage.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh informed that the require of forest area is only 1.3583 ha out of the total area requirement in the tiger corridor.

Dr. Sukumar suggested that the project proposal may be approved subject to contingency plan in case of gas leakage from the pipelines.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the condition that

1. The User Agency shall ensure no damage to forest, wildlife and its habitats.
2. No work related to project proposal shall be carried out at night.

3. A contingency plan shall be prepared by the User Agency to manage leakage / any accident which may affect the 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 Specialising valve (SV) stations.
 - d. Intelligent pigging for monitoring of pipeline defects and maintaining pipeline integrity.
4. Alignment of pipeline within tiger corridor shall be decided in a manner that tree felling is minimal.
5. No construction material shall be procured from within the forest. The pipeline shall be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Care shall be taken that the structures are totally underground. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the user agency.
6. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern shall be allowed within the forest for implementing the proposed construction.
7. No blasting shall be permitted within tiger corridor area.
8. While laying the pipeline, the work shall 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 shall not dig trenches along long stretches and leave them open for several weeks without completion of work.
9. Any future maintenance of the pipeline would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Madhya Pradesh Forest Department.
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.

74.5.9 Proposal for use of 39.633 ha of land from Kanha-Pench Tiger Corridor & Kanha-Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Corridors for Laying of 132 KV Nainpur-Mandla electric power line at Baihar Sub-Station in favour of MP Power Transmission Package Limited.

FP/MP/TRANS/152756/2022.

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 39.633 ha of land from Kanha-Pench Tiger Corridor & Kanha-Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Corridors for laying of 132 KV Nainpur-Mandla electric power line for a length of about 14km and width of 27m at Baihar Sub-Station in favour of MP Power Transmission Package Limited.

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 there is management plan for the area below the transmission and mentioned that after cutting of trees usually the invasive species occupy the area. He suggested that the area below the transmission line may be maintained as grasslands.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh informed that the area below the transmission line usually maintained as firelines and there is provision of raising dwarf plants in the area.

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

1. The User Agency shall ensure that there is no damage to forest, Wildlife and its habitats.
2. No work related to the project proposal shall be done after sunset and before sun rise.
3. The construction material if required shall be brought from outside the Protected Area.
4. Insulated cables shall be used along the entire stretch of the proposed transmission line so as to avoid electrocution to avifauna and other arboreal species as well as avoid poaching using electricity.
5. No clearance of vegetation shall be allowed for open areas (grasslands, wetlands etc.) with sparse vegetation.
6. The alignment of the powerline shall be made such that minimum numbers of trees are felled. The User Agency shall transplant the trees (in a girth class for which there is technology available for transplantation) wherever feasible with adequate care for maximization of survival.
7. Any felling/pollarding/pruning of trees for allowing electrical clearance/maintenance shall be done with the permission of the competent authority of Madhya Pradesh Forest Department. Only those trees that are of sufficient height to compromise the requirements of minimal vertical and horizontal clearance from the conductor wires at maximum sag point shall be lopped.
8. The area below the transmission line shall be maintained as grasslands by the user agency in collaboration with Madhya Pradesh Forest Department.
9. No construction material (including soil, stones etc.) shall be collected from the forest.
10. Construction debris shall not be dumped inside the forest areas and they shall be transported by the user agency to suitable dumping sites outside the forest.
11. The mitigation plan submitted by the User Agency shall be implemented in toto.
12. CWLW, Madhya Pradesh shall have appropriate mechanism in place to monitor the compliance of the conditions laid in this report.

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.

74.5.10 Proposal for use of 11.084 ha of revenue land from Sardarpur Kharmor Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of 220 KV electric transmission line and erection of 12 towers in favour of Veh Jayin Renewables Private Limited.

WL/MP/TRANS/406630/2022

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 11.084 ha of revenue land from Sardarpur Kharmor Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of 220 KV electric transmission line and erection of 12 towers in favour of Veh Jayin Renewables Private Limited.

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

Member Secretary mentioned that the Standing Committee in its 73rd meeting recommended the proposal for alteration of boundaries of Sardarpur Kharmor Sanctuary for reducing the area from existing 348.12 sq. km to revised area of 132.83 sq. km. For consideration of the proposal for alteration of boundaries, the State Government had committed that an area of 153.588 sq.km will be compensated with notification of new sanctuaries i.e., Sonawani sanctuary, Balaghat, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar sanctuary, Sagar and Mahatma Gandhi Sanctuary, Burhanpur. However, it has come to the knowledge of the Ministry that the State Government has withdrawn the proposal for notification of Sonawani sanctuary. Therefore, the recommendations made by the Standing Committee regarding alteration of boundaries of Sardarpur Kharmor sanctuary must be put on hold.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh informed that the State Government is proposing to notify some other area as sanctuary in lieu of proposed Sonawani sanctuary.

Member Secretary informed that the Ministry has not received any such communication from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Secretary, EF & CC suggested that the minutes of the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee would require amendment.

Dr. H. S. Singh enquired if the proposed transmission line would pass through the areas proposed to be added to the Sardarpur Kharmor sanctuary.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh informed that the transmission line in this project is proposed to be laid in private and revenue lands.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal and also put on hold the recommendations made in the 73rd meeting regarding the alteration of boundaries of Sardarpur Kharmor sanctuary till a commitment is received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh to notify some other area as sanctuary in extent equal to the proposed Sonawani Sanctuary.

- 74.5.11** Proposal for use of 0.216 ha of land from buffer zone of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve for laying of underground drinking water pipeline in Karanpura-I Multi village rural water supply scheme by Madhya Pradesh Jal Nigam Maryadit, PIU Jabalpur.

FP/MP/WATER/6256/2022

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.216 ha of land from buffer zone of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve for laying of underground drinking water pipeline in Karanpura-I Multi village rural water supply scheme by Madhya Pradesh Jal Nigam Maryadit, PIU Jabalpur.

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 approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The User Agency shall ensure no damage to forest except felling of 38 trees, wildlife and its habitat.
2. No work related to the project proposal shall be done at night.
3. The construction material if required, shall be brought from outside the protected Area.
4. One water connection shall have to be provided every two kilometres at places identified by FD, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve and small water body shall be created at least 100 meters away from the road/pipeline in the forest area at project cost for wild animals.
5. No construction material shall be procured from within the forest. The pipeline shall be covered with excavated materials after the construction so that it is totally underground (at least 1 m below ground). Construction debris shall be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the User Agency.
6. While laying the pipeline, the work shall 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.

7. Use of blasting shall be avoided so as to minimize noise pollution within Tiger Reserve.
8. Any future maintenance of the pipeline shall be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Madhya Pradesh Forest Department.
9. The User Agency shall comply with the conditions stipulated on laying of underground drinking water supply pipelines inside protected areas in the guidelines vide Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife Division), New Delhi vide Letter No.F.No.6-175/2017 WL (pt) dated 07.02.2023.
10. CWLW, Madhya Pradesh shall have appropriate mechanism to monitor the compliance of the conditions stipulated herein.
11. 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.

74.5.12 Proposal for use of 37.631 ha forest land from tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, Kanhargaon Sanctuary, Indravati Tiger Reserve and Kawal Tiger Reserve for 4 lanning of existing 2-lane stretch from Bamni-(Design km 19.00) to MH/TG Border (Design km 51.985) {Design length-32.985 km] section of NH-930 D in the State of Maharashtra in favour of National Highways Authority of India.

FP/MH/ROAD/30332/2017

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 37.631 ha forest land from tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, Kanhargaon Sanctuary, Indravati Tiger Reserve and Kawal Tiger Reserve for 4 lanning of existing 2-lane stretch from Bamni-(Design km 19.00) to MH/TG Border (Design km 51.985) {Design length-32.985 km] section of NH-930 D in the State of Maharashtra in favour of National Highways Authority of India.

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

Dr. H.S Singh mentioned that it has been observed that mitigations measures prescribed for NHA roads were strengthened after visit of the site inspection committee.

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

1. The animal passage plan and the mitigation measures suggested by the WII shall be implemented by the User Agency with such modification which might be suggested by a committee comprising of Shri R. K. Sugoer, Director, GEER Foundation, representatives of NTCA, WII and State Forest Department to be constituted by the Ministry.

2. Crash barrier systems shall be installed on both sides of the road to prevent wild animals from crossing the road.
3. Signages on the movement of animals shall be installed along the highway in consultation with local officials.
4. In addition to the mitigation structures, 2% of the cost of the project which falls in the tiger corridors shall be deposited with Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve foundation to carry out activities for the conservation and development of wildlife in the State in accordance with wildlife conservation plan prepared in consultation with local forest officials.
5. Attempt should be made to keep tree felling minimal at least within the tiger corridor areas.
6. User Agency shall 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 shall be used to the maximum possible extent to reduce the extent of disturbance in the habitat.
7. No construction material shall be procured from forest.
8. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by User Agency at appropriate places along the highway.
9. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work inside the forest area or the protected area.
10. All the debris at the site of construction shall be removed after construction.
11. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
12. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
13. The CWLW, Maharashtra should have appropriate monitoring mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid herein during 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.

74.5.13 Proposal for use of 36.038 ha land from Tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve and Kawal Tiger Reserve for 4 lanning of existing 2-lane stretch from Govindpur (MH/TG Border) (Design km 32.910) to Rajura (Design km 89.090) {Design length-56.180} section of NH-353 B in the State of Maharashtra in favour of National Highways Authority of India

WL/MH/ROAD/412081/2022

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 36.038 ha land from Tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve and Kawal Tiger Reserve for 4 lanning of existing 2-lane stretch from Govindpur

(MH/TG Border) (Design km 32.910) to Rajura (Design km 89.090) {Design length-56.180} section of NH-353 B in the State of Maharashtra in favour of National Highways Authority of India

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 approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The animal passage plan and the mitigation measures suggested by the WII shall be implemented by the User Agency with such modification which might be suggested by a committee comprising of Shri R. K. Sugoor, Director, GEER Foundation, representatives of NTCA, WII and State Forest Department to be constituted by the Ministry.
2. Crash barrier systems shall be installed on both sides of the road to prevent wild animals from crossing the road.
3. Signages on the movement of animals shall be installed along the highway in consultation with local officials.
4. In addition to the mitigation structures, 2% of the cost of the project which falls in the tiger corridors shall be deposited with Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve foundation to carry out activities for the conservation and development of wildlife in the State in accordance with wildlife conservation plan prepared in consultation with local forest officials.
5. Attempt should be made to keep tree felling minimal at least within the tiger corridor areas.
6. User Agency shall 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 shall be used to the maximum possible extent to reduce the extent of disturbance in the habitat.
7. No construction material shall be procured from forest.
8. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by User Agency at appropriate places along the highway.
9. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work inside the forest area or the protected area.
10. All the debris at the site of construction shall be removed after construction.
11. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
12. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
13. The CWLW, Maharashtra should have appropriate monitoring mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid herein during 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.

74.5.14 Proposal for use of 14.655 ha of land from core and buffer area of Melghat Tiger Reserve for upgradation of existing road from Makhala to Madizadap under Mukhyamantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Maharashtra.

FP/MH/ROAD/41446/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for use of 14.655 ha of land from core and buffer area of Melghat Tiger Reserve for upgradation of existing road from Makhala to Madizadap under Mukhyamantri Gram Sadak Yojana, 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 approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The animal passage plan proposed by the User Agency shall be implemented by the User Agency with such modification which might be suggested by a committee comprising of Shri R. K. Sugoora, Director, GEER Foundation, representatives of NTCA, WII and State Forest Department to be constituted by the Ministry.
2. The cement concreting of existing Black topped or WBM road shall be done in buffer zone where there are black cotton or erosion prone patches. The portion of road passing through the core shall be maintained as WBM road. Except these patches, the status quo to be maintained in the rest of the length of the road. However, periodic maintenance may be allowed as per the existing provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
3. Signage about wildlife movement & speed control shall be erected at regular interval along the roads in consultation with Field Director, Melghat Tiger Reserve.
4. Speed breakers at appropriate interval sites should be provided by the user agency in consultation with Field Director, Melghat Tiger Reserve to restrict the speed of the vehicles.
5. Labour camp shall not be established inside the tiger reserve.
6. The work of the project inside the tiger reserve shall be carried out during day time only, so as to minimize disturbance to the wildlife.
7. The project proponent should deposit 2% amount of the project cost falling in the core and buffer zone with Tiger Conservation Foundation, Melghat Tiger Reserve for wildlife conservation and management purposes in the state.
8. No construction material shall be procured from forest.

9. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by User Agency at appropriate places along the road.
10. All the debris at the site of construction shall be removed after construction.
11. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
12. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
13. The CWLW, Maharashtra should have appropriate monitoring mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid herein during 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.

74.5.15 Proposal for use of 6.39 ha land from Buffer Zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve for upgradation of existing road from Jarida to Khandukheda under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, Maharashtra.

FP/MH/ROAD/41436/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 6.39 ha land from Buffer Zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve for upgradation of existing road from Jarida to Khandukheda under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, 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 approve the proposals subject to the following conditions:

1. The animal passage plan proposed by the User Agency shall be implemented by the User Agency with such modification which might be suggested by a committee comprising of Shri R. K. Sugoor, Director, GEER Foundation, representatives of NTCA, WII and State Forest Department to be constituted by the Ministry.
2. User agency should install speed breakers & speed control / wildlife movement signages at regular interval on the road in consultation with Field Director, Melghat Tiger Reserve to avoid accidental death of wild animals.
3. User agency to make appropriate changes in the road design so that top safe vehicular speed remains within 30 km/hr. To achieve this, measures to maintain road surface as rough as possible by putting a coarse bitumen layer over cement concrete road or any other appropriate alternative measures may be employed.

4. Labour camp shall not be established inside tiger reserve.
 5. No work shall be allowed after sunset.
 6. The User Agency shall deposit 2% amount of project cost of the project falling in buffer zone of the tiger reserve with Melghat Tiger Conservation Foundation for wildlife conservation and management purposes in the state.
 7. No existing water passage shall be blocked by implementation of the project.
 8. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
 9. Construction materials (including top soil) shall be procured from outside the forest area. The debris construction shall be appropriately dumped outside the Tiger Reserve and its ESZ by user agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
 10. The upgraded road shall be provided with speed breakers and/or rumble strips at regular intervals.
 11. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by User Agency at appropriate places along the road.
 12. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
 13. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
 14. CWLW, Maharashtra shall have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions.
 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.
- 74.5.16.** Proposal for use of 3.87 ha land from Buffer Zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve for upgradation of existing road from Hatru To Marita road under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, Maharashtra.

FP/MH/ROAD/41447/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for use of 3.87 ha land from Buffer Zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve for upgradation of existing road from Hatru To Marita road under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, 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 approve the proposals subject to the following conditions:

1. The animal passage plan proposed by the User Agency shall be implemented by the User Agency with such modification which might be suggested by a committee comprising of Shri R. K. Sugoor, Director, GEER Foundation, representatives of NTCA, WII and State Forest Department to be constituted by the Ministry.
2. User agency should install speed breakers & speed control / wildlife movement signages at regular interval on the road in consultation with Field Director, Melghat Tiger Reserve to avoid accidental death of wild animals.
3. User agency to make appropriate changes in the road design so that top safe vehicular speed remains within 30 km/hr. To achieve this, measures to maintain road surface as rough as possible by putting a coarse bitumen layer over cement concrete road or any other appropriate alternative measures may be employed.
4. Labour camp shall not be established inside tiger reserve.
5. No work shall be allowed after sunset.
6. The User Agency shall deposit 2% amount of project cost of the project falling in buffer zone of the tiger reserve with Melghat Tiger Conservation Foundation for wildlife conservation and management purposes in the state.
7. No existing water passage shall be blocked by implementation of the project.
8. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
9. Construction materials (including top soil) shall be procured from outside the forest area. The debris construction shall be appropriately dumped outside the Tiger Reserve and its ESZ by user agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
10. The upgraded road shall be provided with speed breakers and/or rumble strips at regular intervals.
11. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by User Agency at appropriate places along the road.
12. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
13. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
14. CWLW, Maharashtra shall have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions.

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.

74.5.17 Proposal for use of 3.504 ha land from core and buffer zones Melghat Tiger Reserve for upgradation of existing road from Chilati Kuhu Road at Ch. 0/00 to 5/840 T. Chikhaldara under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, Maharashtra.

FP/MH/ROAD/41448/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 3.504 ha land from core and buffer zones Melghat Tiger Reserve for upgradation of existing road from Chilati Kuhu Road at Ch. 0/00 to 5/840 T. Chikhaldara under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, 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 approve the proposals subject to the following conditions:

1. The animal passage plan proposed by the User Agency shall be implemented by the User Agency with such modification which might be suggested by a committee comprising of Shri R. K. Sugoor, Director, GEER Foundation, representatives of NTCA, WII and State Forest Department to be constituted by the Ministry.
2. User agency should install speed breakers & speed control / wildlife movement signages at regular interval on the road in consultation with Field Director, Melghat Tiger Reserve to avoid accidental death of wild animals.
3. User agency to make appropriate changes in the road design so that top safe vehicular speed remains within 30 km/hr. To achieve this, measures to maintain road surface as rough as possible by putting a coarse bitumen layer over cement concrete road or any other appropriate alternative measures may be employed.
4. Labour camp shall not be established inside tiger reserve.
5. No work shall be allowed after sunset.
6. The User Agency shall deposit 2% amount of project cost of the project falling in buffer zone of the tiger reserve with Melghat Tiger Conservation Foundation for wildlife conservation and management purposes in the state.
7. No existing water passage shall be blocked by implementation of the project.

8. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
9. Construction materials (including top soil) shall be procured from outside the forest area. The debris construction shall be appropriately dumped outside the Tiger Reserve and its ESZ by user agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
10. The upgraded road shall be provided with speed breakers and/or rumble strips at regular intervals.
11. Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by User Agency at appropriate places along the road.
12. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
13. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
14. CWLW, Maharashtra shall have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions.
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.

74.5.18 Proposal for use of 63.540 ha of land from Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve (63.450 ha out of which 25.27 ha is Protected Forest land and 38.27 ha is Reserve Forest land) for development of Green Field Airport at Village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka Rajura of District Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

FP/MH/Others/42471/2019

The Standing committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 63.540 ha of land from Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve for development of Green Field Airport at Village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka Rajura of District Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

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

The Standing Committee was further informed that WII survey report clearly mentions that the proposed site for Greenfield Airport at Murti Village, Chandrapur, Maharashtra is well known for the wildlife values, especially for tiger and its importance as connecting corridor with other areas in the landscape. Hence, the present site may or shall not be considered for the construction of the proposed airport. The proposed airport is going to impact functional connectivity and may result in surge of

human - wildlife conflict in the district. It further mentions that given the wildlife value of the area and its importance of connecting corridors, the present site may or shall not be considered for the construction of the proposed Greenfield airport at Murti village, Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

It is pertinent to mention that Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) during its meeting held on 09-12-2022 observed that the proposed site is surrounded by non-forest land and recommended that the State Government shall therefore explore other options of using non-forest land instead of using Forest land for the project. FAC also advised the State to explore the possibility of expanding the already existing Chandrapur (Morwa) Airport.

The Standing Committee noted that Morwa airport is situated within Chandrapur and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar International Airport (Nagpur Airport) is located within 150 KM from Chandrapur.

Member Secretary, NTCA informed that the area has good presence of tigers and the location of this project will have adverse impact on the tiger movement.

Inspector General of Forests, Forest Conservation Division informed that this project proposal has also been rejected under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

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

- 74.5.19** Proposal for Redevelopment of Police staff quarters on plot bearing C.T.S. No. 258/A (Old Sy.No. 89/P, 88/P, 87/P, 77/P, 76/P, 70/P, 73/P, 72/P, 71/P, 69, 66, 63/P, 68, 67, 65, 57/P, 64/P) Aarey Village (SRPF), at Goregaon (E) Mumbai over an area of 8.959 ha about 2.95 km away from Sanjay Gandhi National Park in its notified Eco-sensitive Zone.

FP/MH/Others/5490/2020

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for Redevelopment of Police staff quarters on plot bearing C.T.S. No. 258/A (Old Sy.No. 89/P, 88/P, 87/P, 77/P, 76/P, 70/P, 73/P, 72/P, 71/P, 69, 66, 63/P, 68, 67, 65, 57/P, 64/P) Aarey Village (SRPF), at Goregaon (E) Mumbai over an area of 8.959 ha about 2.95 km away from Sanjay Gandhi National Park in its notified Eco-sensitive Zone.

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

The Chairman suggested that the Forest Department should be vigilant regarding encroachments in Sanjay Gandhi National Park.

The Standing Committee was informed that the construction was already done and it is a case of violations.

Member Secretary informed that the project activities have already been completed and the proposal has been submitted for consideration of the Standing Committee after the commencement of the project activities.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to seek a detailed report from the State Government regarding the action taken for violation and accordingly decided to defer the project proposal.

- 74.5.20** Proposal for use of 3.78 ha from Bir Dosanjh Wildlife Sanctuary for concrete lining of Kotli Distributary System with 10% enhanced capacity from RD 8850 to 11800 (900 mtr.) and Kakrala Minor RD 0-6000 (1829.26 mtr.) and Construction of Head regulator of Kakrala Minor, Nabha Patiala, Punjab.

WL/PB/MinorCanal/421503/2023

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 3.78 ha from Bir Dosanjh Wildlife Sanctuary for concrete lining of Kotli Distributary System with 10% enhanced capacity from RD 8850 to 11800 (900 mtr.) and Kakrala Minor RD 0-6000 (1829.26 mtr.) and Construction of Head regulator of Kakrala Minor, Nabha Patiala, Punjab.

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 required funds and implement the mitigation measures and structural measures as proposed in the Wildlife Mitigation Plan and Wildlife Conservation Plan in letter and spirit.
2. 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.

- 74.5.21** Proposal for Quartz & Feldspar Mine with production capacity of 60138 TPA in the mine lease area of 4.56 ha located at Village- Khaka Ka Gurha, Tehsil- Kumbhalgarh, and District- Rajsamand Rajasthan 7.7 km away from Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.

FP/RJ/MIN/2948/2018

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for Quartz & Feldspar Mine with production capacity of 60138 TPA in the mine lease area of 4.56 ha located at Village- Khaka Ka Gurha, Tehsil- Kumbhalgarh, and District- Rajsamand Rajasthan 7.7 km away from Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.

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

The State Government of Rajasthan has submitted proposal to the Ministry for declaration of ESZ to an extent of one km from the boundary of the sanctuary.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan mentioned that the project area shall fall outside the ESZ if finally notified by the Ministry as per the proposal submitted by the State Government.

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

1. 2% of the proportional project cost of the project falling within the ESZ of Protected Area should be deposited in RPACS by the User Agency for management and protection of wildlife in the state as a corpus.
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 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
7. No blasting will be carried out within km from the boundary of Protected Area during the work.
8. Green belt should be created by the User Agency on the periphery of the project area.
9. Water Harvesting Structure for recharging of water should be mandatory in the project area.
10. There shall be no high mast/ beam/ search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
11. Signages regarding information about the wild animals in the area, control of the traffic volumes, speed etc should be erected in the project area.
12. The User Agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
13. Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve/PA.
14. Six feet high wall is to be constructed on the periphery of applied project area.
15. Any permission/clearance required under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.

16. The User Agency will deposit fund in RPACS for construction of 6 feet high protection wall in protected areas. Length of this wall will be circulated as the rate of 250 m for each ha of project area.
17. 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.

74.5.22 Proposal for use of 4.2063 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for improvement and widening of existing road from earthen road to BT standards from Rasimatla to Korikal via Ankena, Rayadhari of Nirmal District, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/39753/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for use of 4.2063 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for improvement and widening of existing road from earthen road to BT standards from Rasimatla to Korikal via Ankena, Rayadhari of Nirmal District, Telangana.

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

Director, GEER Foundation informed that during his inspection in the Kawal Tiger Reserve it was noticed that the villages have been recognized as enclosures in the reserve forests. However, the roads leading to them do not have right of way in many cases.

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

1. User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct 12 animal passages, each of length of 30 m along the stretch of the road passing through the forest for which upgradation has been proposed and since the landscape has presence of tiger and gaur, the minimum height for proposed animal underpasses should be made 4-5 m at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
2. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to attract movement of wild animals.
3. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the DFO.
4. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CF/FDPT, KTR is approved for Rs.46.00 lakhs.

(Rs.in lakh)

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amount

1	Installation of Solar borewells connected PTs.	6.00	3	18.00
2	Management of grass land by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass (including maintenance for 3 years).	0.40	10	4.00
3	Wildlife mitigation cost like compensation, rescue, trap cages etc	5.00	LS	5.00
4.	Procurement of camera traps	40 Nos	0.25	10.00
5.	Procurement of fire-fighting equipment	As per actuals	LS	2.00
6.	Installation of large hoarding and sign boards for creation of publicity and awareness	1.00	4	4.00
7.	Conducting nature camps to school children	0.1	10	1.00
8.	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actuals	LS	2.00
Total				46.00

5. The work shall be carried out only between 9.00 AM to 5.00 PM without disturbing/damaging the flora and fauna of the area.
6. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
7. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
8. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
9. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
10. The mitigation amount of Rs.46.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
11. Chain link fencing shall be done by the User Agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funnelling wildlife through the animal passages.
12. The animal passages shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
13. User Agency shall ensure that no drainage is blocked by desilting the existing water passageways and additional culvert(s) for

passage of water may be provided wherever applicable. Box and pipe culverts shall be placed at additional places (wherever possible) permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Details of these structures may be adopted from WII guidelines on linear infrastructures and placement of these structures shall be decided in consultation with forest department.

14. The User Agency shall ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures shall be done by the User Agency.
15. The remaining portion of the road shall be provided with speed breakers and rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Speed breakers and rumble strips shall be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals shall also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These shall be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.
16. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
17. Construction materials (including top soil) shall be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
18. User Agency shall ensure that the construction period is kept minimal inside the Tiger Reserve since construction work continued for a longer duration might completely decimate the wildlife populations in the area beyond recovery.
19. Attempt shall be made to keep tree felling minimal inside the Tiger Reserve.
20. CWLW, Telangana shall have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during 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.

74.5.23 Proposal for use of 1.278 ha of land falling in buffer area of Kawal Tiger Reserve for formation of BT Road from ZP road 27/9 to Gundala via Doddiguda of Tiryani Mandal in Asifabad division in KB Asifabad district, Telangana in favour of district Panchayat Raj Engineer, PIU, KB Asifabad under PMGSY.

FP/TG/ROAD/124336/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.278 ha of land falling in buffer area of Kawal Tiger Reserve for formation of BT Road from ZP road 27/9 to Gundala via Doddiguda of Tiryani Mandal in

Asifabad division in KB Asifabad district, Telangana in favour of district Panchayat Raj Engineer, PIU, KB Asifabad under PMGSY.

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

No violation has been reported in the project area.

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

1. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct 5 animal passages, each of length of 30 m along the stretch of the road passing through the forest for which upgradation has been proposed and since the landscape has presence of tiger and gaur, the minimum height for proposed animal underpasses shall be made 4-5 m at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
2. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to attract movement of wild animals.
3. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
4. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/FDPT, Adilabad is approved for Rs.38.00 lakhs:

(R
s.in lakh)

Sl. No	Name of the Item	Unit Cost	Qty	Amt.
1	Integrated camping site-Creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two solar powered borewells (Cost Rs. 3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site	20.00	1 No	20.00
2	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)	0.40	10	4.00
3	Procurement of camera traps	0.25	2 Nos	0.50
4	Development of approach path to the Integrated camping facility	LS	LS	0.50

5	Engaging a team of two trackers at each major PT site for monitoring wildlife movement, collection of data from camera traps fixing and safeguarding camera traps for 3 years	0.10 per month	2 trackers per site	7.20
6	Procurement of fire-fighting equipment	As per actuals	LS	0.80
7	Installation of large hoarding and sign boards for creation of publicity and awareness.	1.00	1 No	1.00
8	Conducting of Awareness programmes	LS	LS	0.80
9	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering on to the roads	0.12	10 No	1.20
10	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actuals	LS	2.00
	Total			38.00

5. The work shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing/damaging the flora and fauna of the area.
6. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
7. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
8. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
9. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
10. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
11. The mitigation amount of Rs.38.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
12. Chain link fencing shall be done by the User Agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funnelling wildlife through the animal passages.
13. The animal passages shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses)

can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.

14. User Agency shall ensure that no drainage is blocked by desilting the existing water passageways and additional culvert(s) for passage of water may be provided wherever applicable. Box and pipe culverts shall be placed at additional places (wherever possible) permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Details of these structures may be adopted from WII guidelines on linear infrastructures and placement of these structures shall be decided in consultation with forest department.
15. The User Agency shall ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures should be done by the User Agency.
16. The remaining portion of the road shall be provided with speed breakers and rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Speed breakers and rumble strips shall be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These shall be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.
17. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
18. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
19. User Agency should ensure that the construction period is kept minimal inside the Tiger Reserve since construction work continued for a longer duration might completely decimate the wildlife populations in the area beyond recovery.
20. Attempt should be made to keep tree felling minimal inside the Tiger Reserve.
21. CWLW, Telangana should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.
22. 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.

74.5.24 Proposal for use of 2.156 ha of forest land (0.521 ha area passing through Reserve Forest area and 1.060 ha falling outside reserve Forest Area falling in the tiger corridor area linking Kawal Tiger Reserve with Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve for construction of BT road from Kamana to Serkepalli from Km 0/0 to 8/920 of Wankidi Mandal, Garlapet (part) RF of Asifabad forest division of KB Asifabad district, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/119264/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 2.156 ha of forest land (0.521 ha area passing through Reserve Forest area and 1.060 ha falling outside reserve Forest Area falling in the tiger corridor area linking Kawal Tiger Reserve with Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve for construction of BT road from Kamana to Serkepalli from Km 0/0 to 8/920 of Wankidi Mandal, Garlapet (part) RF of Asifabad forest division of KB Asifabad district, Telangana.

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

No violation has been reported in the project area.

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

1. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct two (02) each of minimum length 30 m and height 4-5 m at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
2. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to facilitate movement of wild animals.
3. Chain link fencing shall be installed for a length of 100 m on either side of the underpasses on either side of the road which shall be periodically maintained by the User Agency.
4. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper caution sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
5. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/CF, Adilabad is approved for Rs.71.00 lakhs:

Rs. In Lakhs

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
1	Engaging animal trackers (5 No. for 3 years @ 9,000 per month per person).	0.09 per month per person	5 No.	16.20
2	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road along with chain link fencing for 50 m on either side of the check gate to curb movement of domestic animals and trespassers.	0.45 each	2 No	0.90
3	Construction of solar powered percolation tank along with drilling of borewell.	6.00 each	1 No	6.00

4	Integrated camping site-creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two Solar Powered Borewells (cost Rs.3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site.	20.00 each	1No	20.00
5	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years).	0.40 per ha	10 ha	4.00
6	Raising of fodder plots with chain link fencing.	2.50 per ha	2 ha	5.00
7	Procurement of camera traps	0.25 each	2 Nos	0.50
8	Development of approach path each to the integrated camping facility.	LS	LS	0.50
9	Procurement of equipment like GPS, binoculars etc., to monitor wildlife	LS	LS	0.50
10	Installation of large hoardings	1.00 each	1 No	1.00
11	Conducting awareness programmes	0.25 each	2 No	0.50
12	Creation of fire lines and maintenance for 3 years	0.25 per km	20 km	5.00
13	Engaging fire watchers (5 No. for 3 years @9,000 month per person for five months in an year)	0.09 per month per person	5 No	6.75
14	Mitigation Human animal conflict issues	LS	LS	2.00
15	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	2.15
Total				71.00

6. The works shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing /damaging flora, fauna of the area.
7. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
8. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
9. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
10. There shall be no violation of FCA Act, Wildlife (Protection) Act, during execution of work.
11. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
12. The mitigation amount of Rs.71.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
13. The road should be provided with speed breakers and/or rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Sign posts warning about

movements of wild animals should also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.

14. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the forest area.
15. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
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.

74.5.25 Proposal for use of 1.1221 ha of land from buffer zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for construction of BT road from Rayadhari to Godhumalla road from 0/500 to 2/2452 via Pochampally village Pembri Mandal, Rajura RF of Khanapur division of Nimal district in favour of Executive Engineer, Tribal Welfare Division, Utnoor, Adilabad district, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/143080/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.1221 ha of land from buffer zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve for construction of BT road from Rayadhari to Godhumalla road from 0/500 to 2/2452 via Pochampally village Pembri Mandal, Rajura RF of Khanapur division of Nimal district in favour of Executive Engineer, Tribal Welfare Division, Utnoor, Adilabad district, Telangana.

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

Member Secretary informed that the proposed road is passing along a cart track which does not have Right of Way as per the Rajura RF Gazette Notification. Therefore, this is a case of violation under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Director, GEER Foundation stated that the villages are depicted in the Survey of India toposheet.

The PCCF & HoFF mentioned that the cart roads have also been depicted in the Survey of India toposheet.

DGF & SS mentioned that the project proposals from Telangana shall also require clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Secretary, EF & CC suggested that the project proposal may be approved by the Standing Committee and the violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 if any may be looked after during examination under that Act.

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

1. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct four (04) under passes each with a minimum length of 30 m and height of 5m at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
2. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to facilitate movement of wild animals.
3. Chain link fencing shall be installed for a length of 100 m on either side of the underpasses on either side of the road which shall be periodically maintained by the User Agency.
4. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper caution sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
5. The work shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing/damaging the flora and fauna of the area.
6. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
7. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
8. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
9. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest Conservation Act or Wildlife (Protection), Act during the execution of work.
10. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
11. The animal passages shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair/maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
12. The User Agency shall ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures shall be done by the User Agency.
13. The remaining portion of the road shall be provided with speed breakers and/or rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals shall also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These shall be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.
14. Construction materials (including top soil) shall be procured from outside the forest area. The debris shall be appropriately dumped

outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.

15. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/FDPT, KTR is approved for Rs.24.00 lakhs.

16.

(Rs.in lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
1	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road along with chain link fencing for 50 m on either side of the check gate to curb movement of domestic animals and trespassers	0.45 each	5 No	2.25
2	Construction of Solar Powered Percolation Tanks including digging of Bore Wells	6.00 each	2 No	12.00
3	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)	0.40 per ha	10 ha	4.00
4	Procurement of camera traps	0.25 each	4Nos	1.00
5	Installation of large hoardings	1.00 each	2 No	2.00
6	Conducting awareness programmes	0.25 each	2 No	0.50
7	Procurement of fire fighting equipment	LS	LS	1.00
8	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	1.25
Total				24.00

16. The mitigation amount of Rs.24.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.

17. CWLW, Telangana shall have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during 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.

The proposal shall be examined for violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by the Regional Office, Chennai through its sub-office during the

process for forest clearance. In this case violation is noticed, appropriate action shall be taken by the State Government and the Regional Office shall monitor and submit bimonthly report on the progress of action taken against offenders and officials to the Ministry.

- 74.5.26** Proposal for use of 7.4228 ha (revised from 8.483 ha) of forest land from Pranahitha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Racherla to Arjunagutta via Vechapally, Algaon, Royyalapally, Sirsa, Annaram Yenchapally RFs of Chennur Forest Division of Mancherial District in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B division.

FP/TG/ROAD/40085/2019

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 7.4228 ha (revised from 8.483 ha) of forest land from Pranahitha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Racherla to Arjunagutta via Vechapally, Algaon, Royyalapally, Sirsa, Annaram Yenchapally RFs of Chennur Forest Division of Mancherial District in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B division.

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

The State Government has reported violations in the project area. Black top road and murram road has already been constructed in the area.

Member Secretary informed that the Chief Wild Life Warden has provided action taken report in the matter. As per the report submitted disciplinary actions have been initiated against one FRO, one FSO and one FBO from the Forest Department. It has been reported that the officers from the Panchayat Raj Department responsible for violation has retired from service and also expired.

DGF & SS observed that all officers from the User Agency might not have retired and expired and suggested for verification of records.

Secretary, EF & CC suggested for detailed report from the State Government.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that State Government shall submit satisfactory report regarding the action taken against those responsible for violations under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The State Government shall also identify officials and take action against the officials responsible for violation and submit report to the Ministry. Accordingly, the proposal was deferred for the next meeting.

- 74.5.27** Proposal for use of 1.17911 ha (revised from 1.715 ha) of forest land from Pranahitha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Rajaram to Babberachikuka road from km 0/0 to 3/00 in Kotapally mandal of Parpally

and Yenchapally RFs of Chennur Forest Division of Mancherial District in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B division.

FP/TG/ROAD/116718/2020

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.17911 ha (revised from 1.715 ha) of forest land from Pranahitha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Rajaram to Babberachikuka road from km 0/0 to 3/00 in Kotapally mandal of Parpally and Yenchapally RFs of Chennur Forest Division of Mancherial District in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B division.

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

The State Government has reported violations in the project area. Murram road has already been constructed in the area.

The Chief Wild Life Warden has provided action taken report in the matter. As per the report submitted disciplinary actions have been initiated against one FRO, one FSO and one FBO from the Forest Department. It has been reported that the officers from the Panchayat Raj Department responsible for violation has retired from service and also expired.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that State Government shall submit satisfactory report regarding the action taken against those responsible for violations under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The State Government shall also identify officials and take action against the officials responsible for violation and submit report to the Ministry. Accordingly, the proposal was deferred for the next meeting.

- 74.5.28** Proposal for use of 2.7941 ha of forest land from Pranahita Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Bopparam to Algaon from km 0/0 to 5/680 in Kotapally mandal of Yenchapally RF of Chennur Forest Division of Mancherial district in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Mancherial district, Telangana

FP/TG/ROAD/116722/2020.

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 2.7941 ha of forest land from Pranahita Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Bopparam to Algaon from km 0/0 to 5/680 in Kotapally mandal of Yenchapally RF of Chennur Forest Division of Mancherial district in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Mancherial district, Telangana

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

The State Government has reported violations in the project area. Murram road has already been constructed in the area.

The Chief Wild Life Warden has provided action taken report in the matter. As per the report submitted disciplinary actions have been initiated against one FRO, one FSO and one FBO from the Forest Department. It has been reported that the officers from the Panchayat Raj Department responsible for violation has retired from service and also expired.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that State Government shall submit satisfactory report regarding the action taken against those responsible for violations under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The State Government shall also identify officials and take action against the officials responsible for violation and submit report to the Ministry. Accordingly, the proposal was deferred for the next meeting.

- 74.5.29** Proposal for use of 2.337 Ha of forest land tiger corridor connecting Kawal Tiger Reserve with Indravati and Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserves (1.857 ha for road and 0.480 ha for two bridges along the road) for construction of Road from Bejjur to Somini of Bejjur Mandal of Komarambheem Asifabad District, Telangana in favour of Panchayat Raj Engineer, KB Asifabad under PMGSY.

FP/TG/ROAD/44233/2020

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal for use of 2.337 Ha of forest land tiger corridor connecting Kawal Tiger Reserve with Indravati and Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserves (1.857 ha for road and 0.480 ha for two bridges along the road) for construction of Road from Bejjur to Somini of Bejjur Mandal of Komarambheem Asifabad District, Telangana in favour of Panchayat Raj Engineer, KB Asifabad under PMGSY.

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 as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct 8 animal passages, each of length of 30 m along the stretch of the road passing through the forest for which up gradation has been proposed and since the landscape has presence of tigers, minimum height of the animal underpasses should be 5 m as per WII Guidelines at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.

2. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to facilitate movement of wild animals.
3. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper caution sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
4. The works shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing /damaging flora, fauna of the area.
5. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
6. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
7. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.

8. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest Conservation Act or Wildlife (Protection) Act, during the execution of work.
9. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the tiger corridor area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the tiger corridor by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
10. The animal passages shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
11. The User Agency shall ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures shall be done by the User Agency.
12. The remaining portion of the road shall be provided with speed breakers/rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals shall also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These shall be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and shall be determined in consultation with forest department.
13. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/CF, Adilabad is approved for Rs.50.40 lakhs.

(Rs.in lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
1	Animal trackers (5 No. for 3 years @9.000 per month per person)	0.09	5 No.	16.20
2	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road.	0.12	5 No	0.60
3.	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected	0.40	10 ha	4.00

	grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)			
4	Construction of solar pump with PT.	6.00	2 No	12.00
5	Procurement of camera traps to monitor wildlife	0.25	30	7.50
6	Procurement of equipment like GPS, binoculars etc., to monitor wildlife	LS	LS	1.00
7	Installation of large hoardings	1.00	2 No	2.00
8	Conducting awareness programmes	0.25	6 No	1.50
9	Procurement of fire-fighting equipment	LS	LS	2.00
10	Mitigation Human animal conflict issues	LS	LS	2.00
11	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	1.60
Total				50.40

14. The mitigation amount of Rs.50.40 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.

15. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.

16. CWLW, Telangana should have appropriate monitoring mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.

17. 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.

74.5.30 Proposal for use of 400.89 ha for construction of Jamrani Drinking Water Multipurpose Project, Nanital, Uttarakhand in Dudhwa Lagga 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.

Member Secretary, NTCA informed that the proposed dam shall be constructed completely blocking the corridor connecting Corbett Tiger Reserve – Pilibhit Tiger Reserve – Dudhwa Tiger Reserve. This will have major adverse impact on the tiger movement. This will result in dispersal

of tigers in Haldwani and other nearby towns. Therefore, NTCA did not recommend this project proposal.

The Chief Wild Life Warden mentioned that WII in the year 2014 has reported low tiger movement in the area. Secondly, the User Agency has given a representation mentioning that the project shall impact a part of one of the branches of the tiger corridor for which mitigation measures have been prescribed. The User Agency has also mentioned that WII in the report to the NTCA has given two alternatives. First is that the project implementation may be avoided in the area. However, if the project has to be implemented then it shall be with mitigation measures. The Chief Wild Life Warden informed that the Lagga-Bagga is about 150 km from the project area. The nearest protected area is Nandhour Sanctuary and the project location is outside both the sanctuary and the ESZ. He further suggested that in view of these facts the proposal and the recommendations of the NTCA may be re-examined by a committee. under the Chairmanship of Sri H.S.Singh.

DGF & SS suggested for examination of the proposal from geographic and hydrological point of view. He also observed that the project proposal was conceptualized in late 70s.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the proposal shall be examined by a site inspection committee under the Chairmanship of Sri 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.

- 74.5.31** Proposal for use of 1.9034 ha of land from Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of Jackwell Plant, Intake Well, Water Treatment Plant, Over Head Tank and laying of underground pipeline in District Sonbhadra under Kadara Group of Villages by State Water and Sanitation Mission.

WL/UP/Pipeline/413104/2023

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.9034 ha of land from Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of Jackwell Plant, Intake Well, Water Treatment Plant, Over Head Tank and laying of underground pipeline in District Sonbhadra under Kadara Group of Villages by State Water and Sanitation Mission.

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

Member Secretary informed that the project has commenced in violation of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and therefore, action should be taken against the offenders and the officials responsible for violations.

Dr. H. S. Singh mentioned that the unless alternatives have been examined outside the protected area, the proposal for uses of protected

areas should not be considered by the Standing Committee. He opined that the land in the protected and forest areas is cheaper than private areas and the User Agencies have become confident that despite violations the project would be recommended.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh informed that the work was stopped immediately after the User Agency commenced the work at the project site. The violations have happened over an area of 0.1425 ha inside the sanctuary. Major part of the project is outside the forest areas.

The Chairman suggested that in future the project proposal should be accompanied with a certificate from the concerned authorities that the no suitable alternative area is available outside the protected area or tiger reserve. In some cases, there should be site inspection by committees constituted by the Ministry.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the State Government shall submit action taken report to the Ministry on violation of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and also Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, if found. The Regional Office of the Ministry at Lucknow shall monitor the progress of action taken for violations bimonthly to the Ministry. With these directions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged. The User Agency will have right only for construction, maintenance and 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 Forest Conservation Act, 1980 will also be required and User Agency will be required to comply all conditions stipulated in forest clearance under Forest Conservation Act, 1980.
3. 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. 5-312011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and Letter No. F.No. 5-312011 -FC (Vol-I) dated 19.01.2022.
4. The User Agency shall deposit of Rs.19.00 lakh for mitigation measures to minimize the negative impact of the project on the habitat of wild life in the Kaimur Wildlife sanctuary under the online deposit head no.6-additional charges for protected area in CAMPA Fund, as per guidelines of government of India. This amount will be spent on the mitigation measures within the same protected area. The details of work proposed are as follows:

S.No.	Description	Amount (INR)
1	Maintenance of Fire line along with firefighting equipment	300000

2	Development of pasture lands/fodder/fuel wood plantations	400000
3	Construction and maintenance of Water holes enabling supply of water for wildlife	600000
4	Environment awareness program and education program	100000
5	Deployment of suitable manpower for construction phase	200000
6	Temporary check post	200000
7	Miscellaneous expenditure	100000
Total		1900000

5. The personnel of User Agency working on the site should be well aware and shall be bound to follow the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
6. The User Agency will ensure that no labour camp shall be established inside the sanctuary or any other sensitive area in its eco-sensitive zone. Neither firewood nor any other forest produce from the forest will be used.
7. Proper Training on significance of the area shall be provided to the manpower engaged during course of construction activity insuring no worker indulges in any kind of any kind of wildlife activity.
8. User Agency need to provide water to existing and new develop ponds being developed in wildlife sanctuary area for the use of animals.
9. During construction, excavated pit shall be hard barricaded and fenced properly to avoid injury to wild animals.
10. 6 feet boundary to be erected around the Water Tank, Ground reservoir and Clean Water reservoir to avoid entry of animals.
11. Vegetation clearance should be strictly restricted and for any violation the User Agency shall be penalized under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
12. The User Agency will keep firefighting equipment as well as equipment for minimizing noise pollution and muck disposals at the site.
13. During the construction period, the User Agency will establish one temporary forest check post along with the required manpower at its own cost.
14. User Agency will fix sign board at appropriate point of the project.
15. 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.
16. 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.
17. Blasted Ammunition materials shall not be carried by User Agency in Wildlife area.

18. The User Agency shall comply with the conditions stipulated on laying of underground drinking water supply pipelines inside protected areas in the guidelines vide Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife Division), New Delhi vide Letter No.F.No.6-175/2017 WL (pt) dated 07.02.2023.

19. No work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.

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.

74.5.32 Proposal for use of 1.0235 ha of land from Core Zone of Dudwa Tiger Reserve for laying of Underground Optical Fiber Cable along Palia-Chandan Chauki-Gorifanta Road, Total length 48.00 Km passing through Dudhwa Tiger Reserve in favour of BSNL.

FP/UP/OFC/89811/2020

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 1.0235 ha of land from Core Zone of Dudwa Tiger Reserve for laying of Underground Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) along Palia-Chandan Chauki-Gorifanta Road, Total length 48.00 Km passing through Dudhwa Tiger Reserve in favour of BSNL.

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 clarified that there is no violation with respect to this project proposal.

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

1. The legal status of land shall remain unchanged. The User Agency will have right only for the purpose applied for and land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal. The said land or part of it shall not be transferred to any other department, institution or person without prior approval of State Govt./Central Govt.

2. As reserve forest land is also involved in the project, forest clearance as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will also be required and User Agency will be required to comply all conditions stipulated there in.

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 land 2.4048 ha falling within jurisdiction of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve Division, Palia-Kheri in District Lakhimpur-Kheri (U.P.).

4. The User Agency shall deposit Rs.7.30 lakhs (Rupees seven lakhs thirty thousand only) for mitigation measures to minimize the negative impact of the project on the Core/Critical Tiger habitat of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve Division, 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 are as follows:

S.No	Item of Work	Quantity	Rate	Amount (in INR)
1.	Expenditure on Diesel etc.	01	Rs. 25000 per month X 12	300000
2.	Erection of Solar Street Lights	10	Rs. 25000	250000
3.	Erection of Focus Lights	15	Rs. 12000	180000
Total				730000

5. Two GPS sets shall be provided to Dudhwa Tiger Reserve Division, Palia-Kheri for the survey and demarcation of the protected area according to specific recommendation of Deputy Director, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve Division, Palia-Kheri/Protected Area Manager concerned.
6. The User Agency shall extend all support to forest department in case of any forest and wildlife offence.
7. 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.
8. The personnel of User Agency working on the site shall be well aware and shall be bound to follow the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
9. 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.
10. The User Agency shall undertake plantation/afforestation work by planting the native species in the nearby adjacent area for which necessary enhance will be provided by the User Agency.
11. 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.

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. In reference of U.P. Govt. order vide letter No. 4862/14-2-/2008 dated 12.11.2008, the User Agency shall plant 20km. in 3 lane at one place of the division/state and maintain the green cover on the project cost. Planting site for this purpose shall be identified by the concerned DFO. Protected Area Manager. Only indigenous forest trees species shall be used for such plantation. For the same an undertaking will be submitted by the User Agency.
15. The User Agency shall comply with the conditions stipulated on laying of underground OFC inside protected areas in the guidelines vide Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife Division), New Delhi vide Letter No.F.No.6-175/2017 WL (pt) dated 07.02.2023.
16. The User Agency shall ensure that the length of the trench dug up at a time does not exceed 500 M. which shall be filled up and compacted before digging next trench of 500 M.
17. The User Agency will have to submit NOC from the agency which holds the right to use the right of way.
18. The User Agency will ensure that no labor camp shall be established inside the protected area.
19. The personnel of User Agency will neither use the firewood nor any other forest produce from the forest.
20. No work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.
21. No construction material should be procured from within the forest. The OFC should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Care should be taken that the OFC is totally underground. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the User Agency.
22. No alteration in the existing drainage pattern should be allowed within the Tiger Reserve for implementing the proposed construction.
23. While laying the OFC, the work should be executed in a timely manner simultaneously excavating the trenches and laying the OFC so as to minimize the disturbance to wildlife. The User Agency should not dig trenches along long stretches and leave them open for several weeks without completion of work.
24. Any future maintenance of the OFC would be subject to prior approval of the competent authority of Uttar Pradesh Forest Department
25. 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.

AGENDA ITEM NO 6

Any other item with the permission of the Chair

- 74.6.** Proposal for use of 32.225 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Similipal Tiger Reserve for rehabilitation and upgradation of two lane to Four laning of 7.2 km stretch (km 229.00 to km 236.600) of Baharaghoda to Singara Section (km 199.200 to km 310.806) of NH-6 in the State of Odisha under NHDP Phase-IV, on EPC

FP/OR/ROAD/148087/2021

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 32.225 ha of forest land from buffer zone of Similipal Tiger Reserve for rehabilitation and upgradation of two lane to Four laning of 7.2 km stretch (km 229.00 to km 236.600) of Baharaghoda to Singara Section (km 199.200 to km 310.806) of NH-6 in the State of Odisha under NHDP Phase-IV, on EPC

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

Dr. H. S. Singh observed that the animal passage plan is inadequate and only 10% of the total project area has been provided with animal passage structures.

Dr. R. Sukumar suggested that at least 20% area should be brought under animal passage structures.

The Member Secretary informed that the widening of this stretch was earlier not recommended by both the NTCA and the Standing Committee.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Odisha informed that due to four lane on both the sides of this 7.2 km stretch, there is more concentration of vehicles in this narrower stretch. This is impacting wildlife more in this stretch. Further, due to ghat section, about three accidents leading to injury, deaths every month have been reported in this stretch over the past 27 months as per the data provided by the NHAI. Due to non-widening in this stretch, there are currently no animal passage structures. In the animal passage plan for this proposal, five elephant underpasses have been proposed in this stretch for a total length of more than 750 mt. Further, 16 animal underpasses have also been provided. The project area is in buffer zone and about 17 km from the core zone. There is movement of smaller fauna like jackal, hyaena but lesser movement of larger mammals such as bear, elephant, tiger etc. With widening of this stretch and construction of animal underpasses, movement of animals across this stretch would be facilitated. The State Government has recommended that NHAI should pay annually Rs. 2 crore for wildlife management to the Similipal Tiger Foundation.

Member Secretary informed that more than twenty thousand trees are going to be felled for this project.

The Chief Wild Life Warden clarified that the felling of trees shall be compensated as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Standing Committee was informed that the Chief Wild Life Warden has imposed a condition for translocation of the trees affected in the project area.

The Chief Wild Life Warden clarified that wherever feasible translocation shall be done by the User Agency.

Decision Taken: After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal for widening to four lane subject to the following conditions:

1. The trees required to be felled for the project shall be identified in consultation with the Forest Department before the construction starts and should be properly marked on ground. Attempt shall be made that tree cutting is minimal. The User Agency shall transplant the trees with adequate care for maximization of survival in consultation with the DFO Rairangpur Division as far as possible.
2. The User Agency shall construct Elephant Under Passes (EUPs) and Animal Under Passes (AUPs) at the identified vulnerable locations as per "Guidelines of Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun on Mitigative Measures for Linear Infrastructure Projects" after obtaining prior approval of the plan and design from the CWLW, for adaptability of the structures by the Wildlife to facilitate unhindered movement of wild animals.
3. The User Agency shall provide animal passage structures in 20% of the stretch of the project area.
4. Retro Reflecting signages shall be erected by the User Agency at regular intervals to slow down the speed of vehicles at animal crossing points besides providing visual and sound barriers in addition to olfaction & other sensory enhancers as mentioned in the above guidelines.
5. The elephant and animal underpasses shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair /Maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
6. Divisions between the elephant underpasses shall be of pillar (isolated pier) type, instead of wall-type.
7. The User Agency shall ensure that all the underpasses are fortified with integrated options of light and sound barriers (2 m high), camouflaging, and landscaping including restoration habitat beneath underpasses after construction.

8. As far as possible, the minimum height of the underpasses shall not be achieved by ground excavation, but by elevating the road. This would prevent water logging during rains.
9. The User Agency shall ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures should be done by the User Agency.
10. The underpasses shall be kept free of all human-related activities and disturbances including foot-trails and roads by Forest Department, as these have a negative influence on the use of crossing structures by wildlife.
11. Additional features on crossing structures such as walkways or planks/ledges/shelves (50 cm wide) shall be installed by the User Agency on the interior walls of underpasses and box culverts to encourage mammals to use culverts built on natural drainage sites. These structures help animals use the structures in seasons when the culverts may be inundated with water. Edges/shelves along the inner walls of all crossing and drainage structures shall be constructed for use by small mammals. These structures shall extend up to the exit of the structures and brought to ground level.
12. Chain link mesh fencing shall be done by the User Agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages (elephant and animal underpasses) on both sides of the road for funnelling wildlife through the animal passages. A concrete base of 50 cm shall be constructed on which the chain-link mesh fencing should be installed. The height of the fencing shall be a minimum of 10 feet height on all sections so that species like leopards and other herbivores cannot cross them to get trapped inside the highway. The bottom 1- 1.5 feet of the fences shall be fitted with mesh wires so as to prevent small mammals and herpetofauna from crossing the highway. All fences shall be maintained in future by the User Agency. Remaining portions of the Highway shall have crash barriers on both sides of the road.
13. Cattle guards (2 m wide) shall be installed at both ends of the underpasses (including the fenced portions) and other fenced sections of the Highway to prevent wild and domestic animals from getting trapped within the fences/crossing structures.
14. Apart from mitigation structures and fenced sections, the remaining portion of the road (where it passes through a flat terrain) shall be provided with rumble strips at regular intervals so as to maintain a vehicular speed of 30km/hour within the Tiger Reserve. Rumble strips shall be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals shall also be placed by User Agency at regular intervals along the upgraded road. These shall be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and shall be determined in consultation with Forest Department.
15. Disturbance during construction in the wildlife sensitive areas shall be kept minimum by the following mechanisms:
 - Use of pre-fabricated materials for construction
 - Use of water from sources other than the rivulets within Tiger Reserve

- Prohibition on procurement of construction materials from forest
- Disposal of construction-related debris away from the wildlife sensitive sites.

16. High observation towers and cameras as recommended during 8th meeting of Standing Committee of State Board of Wild Life, Odisha on 25.04.2023, shall be constructed at suitable locations in consultation with Forest Department by User Agency, for monitoring of vehicular movement and prevention of any traffic congestion.
17. The User Agency shall deposit Rs 2 Crore annually to Similipal Tiger Conservation Foundation. The funds shall be used for monitoring and protection activities.
18. The CWLW, Odisha shall have appropriate monitoring mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.
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.

74.6.2 Proposal for use of 0.969 ha of forest land from Tiger corridor connecting Kawal, Indravati and Tadoba Tiger Reserves for upgradation and widening of the existing road from Earthen road to BT standards from R/FPWD road to Alliguda via Potharaj temple in Keramaeri mandal of Komarambheem Asifabad District, Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/53718/2020

The Standing Committee was informed that the proposal is for use of 0.969 ha of forest land from Tiger corridor connecting Kawal, Indravati and Tadoba Tiger Reserves for upgradation and widening of the existing road from Earthen road to BT standards from R/FPWD road to Alliguda via Potharaj temple in Keramaeri mandal of Komarambheem Asifabad District, Telangana.

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 approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct a minimum of two passage ways with a minimum of 50.00 mts width and 5.00 mts per Km length of the infrastructure at the locations indicated in Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.

2. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to attract movement of wild animals.
3. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
4. The works shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing /damaging flora, fauna of the area.
5. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
6. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
7. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
8. There shall be no violation of FCA Act or Wildlife (Protection) Act, during the execution of work.
9. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
10. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/CF, Adilabad is approved for Rs.38.00 lakhs

(Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
1	Integrated camping site-creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two Solar Powered Borewells (cost Rs.3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site	20.00 each	1 No.	20.00
2	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)	0.40 per ha	10	4.00
3	Procurement of camera traps	0.25 each	2 Nos	0.50
4	Development of approach path to the integrated camping facility.	LS	LS	0.50
5	Engaging a team of two trackers at each major PT site for monitoring wildlife movement, collection of data from camera traps fixing and safeguarding camera traps for 3 years.	0.10 per month	2 trackers per site	7.20
6	Procurement of fire-fighting equipment	As per actuals	LS	1.00
7	Installation of large hoardings and sign boards for creation of Publicity and awareness	1.00	2	2.00
8	Conducting awareness programmes	LS	LS	0.80
9	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	2.00
Total				38.00

11. The mitigation amount of Rs.38.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
12. Chain link fencing shall be done by the User Agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funneling wildlife through the animal passages.
13. The animal passages shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
14. The User Agency shall ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures shall be done by the User Agency.
15. The remaining portion of the road shall be provided with speed breakers at regular intervals. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals shall also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These shall be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and shall be determined in consultation with forest department.
16. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.
17. Construction materials (including top soil) shall be procured from outside the forest area. The debris shall be appropriately dumped outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
18. CWLW, Telangana shall have appropriate monitoring mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.
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.

ANNEXURE-I**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

S.No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Bhupender Yadav, Hon'ble Minister for EF&CC	Chairman
2.	Shri Ashwini Kumar Chowbey, Hon'ble Minister of State, EF&CC	Special Invitee
3.	Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary, MoEF&CC	Member
4.	Shri Chandra Prakash Goyal, DGF&SS, MoEF&CC	Member
5.	Shri Bivash Ranjan, ADGF(WL), MoEF&CC	Member Secretary
6.	Prof. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL	Member
7.	Dr. H. S. Singh, Member, NBWL	Member
8.	Shri Virender Tiwari, Director (WII), Dehradun.	Member
9.	Shri R. K. Sugoora, Director, GEER Foundation - Member, NBWL	Member
10.	Shri S.P. Yadav, ADGF (PT) and M.S. NTCA	Invitee
11.	Shri Raghu Prasad, IGF (WL)	Invitee
12.	Shri Ramesh Kumar Pandey, IG(PT & E) and FC Division, MoEF&CC	Invitee
13.	Shri N. Tam, Chief Wild Life Warden, Arunachal Pradesh	Invitee
14.	Shri Madhusudan Reddy, Chief Wild Life Warden, Andhra Pradesh	Invitee
15.	Shri Nintyanand Srivastava, Chief Wild Life Warden, Gujarat	Invitee
16.	Shri Pankaj Goel, Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana	Invitee
17.	Shri Rajiv Kumar, Chief Wild Life Warden, Himachal Pradesh	Invitee
18.	Shri Sarvesh Rai, Chief Wild Life Warden, Jammu and Kashmir	Invitee
19.	Shri Subhash Malkhede, Chief Wild Life Warden, Karnataka	Invitee
20.	Shri Sajjid Mustafa, Chief Wild Life Warden, Union Territory of Ladakh.	Invitee
21.	Shri Aseem Srivastava, Chief Wild Life Warden, Madhya Pradesh	Invitee
22.	Shri Mahip Gupta, Chief Wild Life Warden, Maharashtra	Invitee
23.	Shri S. K. Popli, Chief Wild Life Warden, Odisha	Invitee

24.	Shri Dharmendra Sharma, Chief Wild Life Warden, Punjab	Invitee
25.	Shri Arindam Tomar, Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan	Invitee
26.	Shri R.M.Dobriyal, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Telangana	Invitee
27.	Shri Lokesh Jayswal, Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana	Invitee
28.	Dr. Samir Sinha, Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand	Invitee
29.	Shri Anjani Acharya, Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh	Invitee
30.	Shri Rakesh Kumar Jagenia, DIGF (WL), MOEFCC, New Delhi	Invitee
31.	Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati, Scientist E, MoEF&CC	Invitee