

**44th MEETING OF
THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE
(29th JULY 2017)**



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAVAN, JOR BAGH ROAD
JOR BAGH, NEW DELHI 110 003**

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AGENDA FOR 44th MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE

Date: 29.07.2017

Venue: Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Confirmation of the minutes of 43rd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 27th June 2017

The minutes of the 43rd meeting of **the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife** were circulated on 24th July 2017. No comments have been received till date.

Copy of the minutes is at ANNEXURE 44.1

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

44.1. Action taken on the decisions of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife taken in its 43rd meeting held on 27th June 2017

S.No.	Agenda Item	Action taken	Category
1	36.4.2.1 Setting up 5.25 MTPA-Development of Floating storage and Re-gasification Unit (FSRU) facilities for import of LNG within the existing deep water port at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. The proposed site is 2.5 km away from the boundary limits of Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary	According to Terms of Reference (TOR) for EC, impact on Marine Life would be assessed. Since the project site is 2.5 km from Coringa WLS, Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan is required to be submitted. As the report on impact and other aspects related to marine life was still awaited, the Committee deferred the proposal. The report from State is still awaited.	Oil/Gas
2	36.4.2.12 Construction of Singoli-Bhatwari Hydroelectric Project 99 MW by M/s L&T Uttaranchal Hydropower Limited. The proposed site falls within 10 km from the boundary of Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary	Proposals were considered by the SC-NBWL in its 39 th meeting held on 23 rd August 2016. During the meeting, it was decided by the Standing Committee to seek the comments of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development of Ganga Rejuvenation on the proposed projects. Letter sent to Ministry of Water Resources on 23 rd September 2016 for their comments. Reminder II has been sent on 05.05.2017. Comments are still awaited from Ministry of Water Resources. The Chair suggested to the Chief Wildlife Warden to ask the State Government to take up the matter with the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.	Hydro Power
3	36.4.2.13 Construction of 171 MW Lata Tapovan Hydro Power Project of NTPC Ltd, Uttarakhand		
4	36.4.2.14 Construction of 520 MW (4X130) Tapovan Vishnugad Hydroelectric Project of NTPC Ltd, Uttarakhand. The proposed site falls outside Nanda Devi National Park at a distance of 7.5 km		

5	34.4.2.11 Proposal of Ms Stone International Pvt. Ltd Chechat for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone (Building) production in Mining lease No.22/92 situated in village Chechat in Tehsil Ramganj Mandi, District Kota which lies at about 6.4 km aerial distance from the Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary/ Mukundra Hills National Park	A committee of NTCA has visited the site and accorded concurrence to the proposal. The Standing Committee decided to defer the proposals in view of non-finalization of ESZ proposal of Mukundra Hills TR by state. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan informed that ESZ proposal of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary would be finalized and submitted to the Ministry in one month.	Mining
6	34.4.2.12 Proposal for renewal of existing lime stone mining lease no.24/87 in village Pipakhedi, Tehsil Ramganj Mandi District Kota near Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan by M/s Zahoor Ahmed, Abdul Majid. The proposed mining lease is 8.5 km away from Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary	Revised ESZ proposal of the Mukundra Hills TR is still awaited from the State.	Mining
7	34.4.2.13 Proposal of Ms Associated Stone industries (Kota) limited for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone production in mining lease no.1/89 situated in Tehsil Ramganj mandi, District Kota, Rajasthan		
8	39.4.2.5 Proposal for International Amusement & Infrastructures Ltd for Jaipur Mega Tourism City a Recreational Project at village Daulatpura Kotra., Tehsil Amer District Jaipur, Rajasthan.	Proposal was considered by the SCNBWL in its 39 th meeting held on 23 rd August 2016. During the meeting, the Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan mentioned that the Environment Clearance for the project is under consideration of SEIAA, Rajasthan. Reminder has been sent on 05.05.2017. Response still awaited from the State Government	Tourism
9	40.3.2.1 Diversion of 9.94 ha of forest land from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of New Railway Line Broad Gauge (BG) between Agartala to Sabroom, Tripura	The Committee in its 42 nd Meeting held on 15.05.2017 decided that a Committee comprising of the Chief Wildlife Warden of Tripura, Dr. R. Sukumar, member, One representative of WII and one person from Wildlife Division would visit the site and submit a report within June 2017 to the Ministry for further consideration.	Railways

		The site inspection report is awaited.	
10	32.4.2(19) Proposal for Lakheri Chamovali mining lease of M/s ACC Limited, Lakheri Cement Works, Lkakeri, Dist. Bundi (Rajasthan) for mining purpose of limestone, Rajasthan.	<p>The Committee in its 42nd Meeting held on 15.5.2017 decided that the Secretary, MoEF&CC would take a decision on the basis of information submitted by the project proponent and NTCA.</p> <p>Accordingly, a meeting was held on 1st June 2017 under the chairmanship of DGF&SS. After discussions, the Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan was requested to furnish additional information clarifying the mistake of facts committed while notifying the area of 409.88 ha as buffer of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in the year 2012.</p> <p>Response from the State Govt. is still awaited.</p> <p>Summary of discussions held during the meeting is at ANNEXURE 44.2.</p>	Mining
11	40.3.2.2 Proposal for bauxite mining lease area 206.37 ha at village Talagaon in Taluka Radhanagari and village Baveli in Taluka Gaganbawada, Dist Kolhapur, Maharashtra	<p>The Committee in its 42nd Meeting held on 15.05.2017 decided that the Secretary, MoEF&CC would convene a meeting of project proponent, State Government and NTCA to take a decision on the proposal.</p> <p>A meeting in this regard shall be convened soon.</p>	Policy
12	42.4.1.8 Proposal for Garh Mukteshwar as Religious and Hi-Tech Smart City on both bank of River Ganga falling within the boundary of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary in district Hapur & Amroha, Uttar Pradesh.	<p>The Committee in its 42nd and 43rd meetings suggested that a Committee comprising of Dr. H. S. Singh, member, one representative of WII and one person from Wildlife Division would visit the project site and submit a report to the Ministry within 15 days for further consideration.</p> <p>The site inspection report is placed at ANNEXURE 44.3</p>	Electricity

13	42.3.2 Proposal of the Oil India Limited to Extract Hydrocarbon beneath 3900-4000 mtr of Dibru Saikhowa National Park	<p>The proposal of the Oil India Limited was considered by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife in its 42nd meeting held on 15th May 2017, wherein the comments were sought from the State Government of Assam on the proposal. The State Government of Assam vide its letter 24th May 2017 gave their comments and has stated that, they are not in a position to submit the desired proposal for obtaining clearance from the Standing Committee of NBWL.</p> <p>The case is still pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court and would be heard next on 28/07/2017.</p> <p>Minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2017 under the chairmanship of DGF&SS are placed at ANNEXURE 44.4</p>	Mining
14	43.1.19 Realignment of area of the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve, Chhattisgarh	<p>The proposal was considered in the 43rd meeting of SC-NBWL held on 27th June 2017 and the Standing Committee suggested to seek the recommendations of the CWLW for further consideration (ANNEXURE 44.5).</p> <p>Response from the State Govt. is awaited.</p>	Realignment of buffer area of tiger reserve
15	43.1.21 Proposal for exclusion of 228.87 sq. km from Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary for rationalization of the boundary of the sanctuary, Odisha	<p>The proposal was considered in the 43rd meeting of SC-NBWL held on 27th June 2017 and suggested to seek the recommendations of CWLW for further consideration (ANNEXURE 44.6).</p> <p>The State CWLW has recommended the proposal for <i>exclusion of 186.93 sq.km and addition of 359.79 sq.km</i> forest area for rationalization of the boundary of the protected area/tiger reserve</p>	Rationalization of the boundary of sanctuary

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

44.3.1. National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031)

A brief presentation on the National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031) would be made by Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

44.4.1. FRESH PROPOSALS WITHIN PROTECTED AREAS

The list of proposals for taking up non-forestry activities within Protected Areas is as follows:

S.No.	State	F.No.	Subject
1	Chhattisgarh	6-49/2016 WL	Diversion of 1.9545 ha of forestland in the buffer of Indravati Tiger Reserve for corundum mineral mine by Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited
2	Chhattisgarh	6-118/2017 WL	(1) Construction of CRPF check post in 2.020 ha, Kasara No. 146/1 of Indravati Tiger Reserve at Ranibodali (2) Construction CRPF check post in 2.020 ha, Kasara No. 157/1 of Indravati Tiger Reserve at Cherapalli, Rudraram (3) Construction CRPF check post in 0.700 ha, Kasara No. 131 of Indravati Tiger Reserve at Gudma
3	Gujarat	6-125/2017 WL	Proposal for change of surface of Morjadi-Kanda road in 0.76 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Gujarat
4	Gujarat	6-126/2017 WL	Proposal for change of surface of Khatam-Gadh road in 0.272 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary
5	Gujarat	6-146/2017 WL	Erecting of 11 KV overhead electric line by Paschim Gujarat Vij Company Ltd
6	Himachal Pradesh	6-131/2017 WL	Proposal for construction of Attargoo Sagam Mudh Bhawa Road km 33/500 to 61/930 in Spiti Division, HPPWD Kaza and km 0/0 to 44/400 in Karcham Division, HPPWD at Bhabanagar in Kinnaur District
7	Manipur	6-134/2017 WL	Construction of Moreh bypass from NH-102 near Indo-Myanmar Border to Land Custom Port of India to bypass Moreh Town
8	Sikkim	6-144/2017 WL	Diversion of 1.32 ha of forestland for providing drinking water for Sikkim University at Yangang from Barfung Khola and other two sources falling under Maenan Wildlife Sanctuary, South Sikkim
9	Telangana	6-92/2017 WL	Diversion of 0.231 ha of wildlife forestland for laying of pipeline and construction of other structures for providing safe drinking water to Kothagudem and Pinapaka constituencies in Khammam District, Segment 25/2A-Manuguru
10	Telangana	6-93/2017 WL	Proposal for diversion of 38.798 ha of wildlife forestland for widening of two lane from km 0.00 to km 17.220 of Kothagudem-Mylaram Copper Mines Road and km 0.00 to 18.30 of Rajapuram-Ulvanoor Road in Kothagudem Division of Khammam District

11	Telangana	6-94/2017 WL	Proposal for diversion of 13.57 ha of Wildlife Management, Kinnerasani forestland for construction of 400 KV QMDC line from the proposed 4 X 270 MW Bhadadhri TPP near Manuguru to the proposed 400/220 KV Substation at Padamati Narsapuram, Julurupadu in Bhadradri Kothagudem District
12	Telangana	6-95/2017 WL	Proposal for diversion of 10.5018 ha of Wildlife Management, Kinnerasani forestland for construction of 400 KV QMDC line from the proposed 1 X 800 MW KTPS (Paloncha) to the proposed 400/220 KV Substation at Padamati Narsapuram, Julurupadu in Bhadradri Kothagudem District
13	Uttarakhand	6-139/2017 WL	Electrification of village Gaundar and its hamlets

(1)

1	Name of the Proposal	Diversion of 1.9545 ha of forestland in the buffer of Indravati Tiger Reserve for corundum mineral mine by Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Indravati Tiger Reserve
3	File No.	6-49/2016 WL
4	Name of the State	Chhattisgarh
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	1258.372 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	1.954 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Not mentioned
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 23.01.2015.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The proposal is for the diversion of 1.954 ha of forestland from the buffer zone of Indravati Tiger Reserve. The project site is a part of southern tropical dry deciduous forest with moderate dense cover located at a distance of 5 km from the core area of tiger reserve. The total of 3.7 ha of leased area in the buffer zone, 0.5932 ha was already mined. It is mentioned in the proposal that the mining would be manual open-cast mining operation with systematic bench pattern. It is mentioned in the proposal that the user agency would provide employment to 120 families.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Indravati Tiger Reserve is natural abode for tiger, leopard, blue bull, chital, sambhar, bison, wild buffalo, four-horned antelope, sloth bear, wild dog, striped hyena, wild boar, porcupine, pangolins, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal and imposed condition that the Specific Protection and Management Plan should be prepared and implemented within the project cost.	
15	Comments of Ministry NTCA has recommended the proposal subject to the strict adherence to the following mitigation strategies for mitigating the loss of habitat and connectivity: (1) Since the mineral deposit is small in quantity, the mining shall be completed within five years so that the exposure of the area to prolonged disturbance of mining is avoided. (2) The mined area shall be given priority for rehabilitation by creating reservoir with due care of maintaining ease in approach by wild animals. (3) The slope of mined and dumped area shall not exceed 45 degrees after progressive closure. (4) There shall not be any bench terraces after progressive closure.	

	<p>(5) The families relocated from core of Indravati Tiger Reserve shall get priority in employment created.</p> <p>(6) All other conditions laid by Indian Mining Bureau, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate change, Chhattisgarh Forest Department, Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board and other shall be followed to make mining operations less detrimental to the wildlife.</p> <p>(7) The Environment Management Plan (part of Mining Plan) shall be adhered completely.</p> <p>(8) The 5% of project cost and CSR funding shall be made available to Indravati Tiger Foundation for conservation work.</p> <p>(9) The forest Department authorities shall ensure compliance to the conditions.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(2)

1	Name of the Proposal	(1) Construction of CRPF check post in 2.020 ha, Kasara No. 146/1 of Indravati Tiger Reserve at Ranibodali (2) Construction CRPF check post in 2.020 ha, Kasara No. 157/1 of Indravati Tiger Reserve at Cherapalli, Rudraram (3) Construction CRPF check post in 0.700 ha, Kasara No. 131 of Indravati Tiger Reserve at Gudma
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Indravati Tiger Reserve
3	File No.	6-118/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Chhattisgarh
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	1258.372 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	2.023 ha (Kasara No. 146/1) 2.023 ha (Kasara No. 157/1) 0.700 ha (Kasara No. 131)
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Superintendent of Police, Bijapur
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Not mentioned
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife	The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 23.01.2015.
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency	The purpose of this project is to facilitate the movement of the armed forces engaged in antinaxal operations and provide security to development activities in Bijapur. At present Indravati Tiger Reserve is infested by left-wing extremists. The forest Department Personnel posted the area feels insecure in conducting raids or night patrolling due to the presence of naxalites. Once the proposed Security camp will established, it may help the Forest Department in better management of sanctuary. However the fear is that the Security personnel while carrying out anti-naxal operations may threaten the lives of wildlife.
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area	Indravati Tiger Reserve is natural abode for tiger, leopard, blue bull, chital, sambhar, bison, wild buffalo, four-horned antelope, sloth bear, wild dog, striped hyena, wild boar, porcupine, pangolins, etc.
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden	The CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions.
15	Comments of Ministry	<i>The project area falls inside the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve and the proposal has strategic importance.</i> The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

(3)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for change of surface of Morjadi-Kanda road in 0.76 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Gujarat
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-125/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Gujarat
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	60770.78 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	0.76 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	3184.13 ha diverted for Sardar Sarovar Project dam in 1987
8	Name of the applicant agency	Executive Engineer, Roads & Building (Panchayat) Rajpiplala
9	Total number of tree to be felled	No felling of trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 th meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency This is a proposal of black topping (tarring) of WBM (<i>kachcha</i>) road to convert it into <i>pakka</i> road. The sanctuary has 105 villages inhabited predominantly by tribes who are poor and deprived of basic civic amenities. The remote villages are connected by WBM <i>kachcha</i> road and during monsoon the vehicular movement would be very difficult and often people suffer due to lack of connectivity especially during medical emergencies and commuting of school children. The project proposes conversion of <i>kachcha</i> road to <i>pakka</i> road by black tapping which provide better connectivity round the year. On the other hand the <i>packka</i> road may results in the increase of vehicular movement and speed of vehicles. Hence unregulated vehicular movement cause disturbance to the wildlife and hence the regulatory measures are required.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife namely sloth bear, leopard, rhesus macaque, chousingha, barking deer, pangolin, chital, Indian civet, palm civet, wild dogs, leopard cat, Indian porcupine , etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. (2) The user agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary. (3) The user agency shall not use the area for the proposed work other than the area permitted. (4) The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Shoorpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.	

	<p>(5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.</p> <p>(6) All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.</p> <p>(7) The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.</p> <p>(8) Approval under Forest conservation Act, 1980, if required shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.</p> <p>(9) The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of protected area as per the existing rates.</p> <p>(10) The user agency shall create a speed breaker at a distance of every 500 meters.</p>
15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p><i>Proposal would facilitate in accessing basic amenities of life.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(4)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for change of surface of Khatam-Gadh road in 0.272 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-126/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Gujarat
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	60770.78 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	0.272 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	3184.13 ha diverted for Sardar Sarovar Project dam in 1987
8	Name of the applicant agency	Executive Engineer, Roads & Building (Panchayat) Rajpiplala
9	Total number of tree to be felled	No felling of trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 th meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency This is a proposal of black topping (tarring) of WBM (<i>kachcha</i>) road to convert it into <i>pakka</i> road. The sanctuary has 105 villages inhabited predominantly by tribes who are poor and deprived of basic civic amenities. The remote villages are connected by WBM <i>kachcha</i> road and during monsoon the vehicular movement would be very difficult and often people suffer due to lack of connectivity especially during medical emergencies and commuting of school children. The project proposes conversion of <i>kachcha</i> road to <i>pakka</i> road by black tapping which provide better connectivity round the year. On the other hand the <i>packka</i> road may results in the increase of vehicular movement and speed of vehicles. Hence unregulated vehicular movement cause disturbance to the wildlife. Hence the regulatory measures are required. Proposed road work passing through sanctuary area but road facility provide to human being.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife sloth bear, leopard, rhesus macaque, chousingha, barking deer, pangolin, chital, Indian civet, palm civet, wild dogs, leopard cat, Indian porcupine, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. (2) The user agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary. (3) The user agency shall not use the area for the proposed work other than the area permitted. (4) The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the	

	<p>Shoorpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.</p> <p>(5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.</p> <p>(6) All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.</p> <p>(7) The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.</p> <p>(8) Approval under Forest conservation Act, 1980, if required shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.</p> <p>(9) The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of protected area as per the existing rates.</p> <p>(10) The user agency shall create a speed breaker at a distance of every 500 meters.</p>
15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p><i>Proposal would facilitate in accessing basic amenities of life.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(5)

1	Name of the Proposal	Erecting of 11 KV overhead electric line by Paschim Gujarat Vij Company Ltd
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Gir National Park & Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-146/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Gujarat
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	12650172 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	0.0525 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	104.5884 ha diverted for 58 projects
8	Name of the applicant agency	Paschim Gujarat Vij Company Ltd, Junagad
9	Total number of tree to be felled	NIL
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 16.03.2012.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The proposed project facilitates the Gadakiya village with electricity. The transmission line is likely to pass from Sasan to Devaliya road. Insulated conductor will be used for erecting overhead electric line	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Gir National Park & Sanctuary is natural abode for lion, spotted deer, sambar, blue bull, wild boar, four-horned antelope, chinkara, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The user agency will see that minimum vehicle should move in the sanctuary area. (2) Minimum movement of the staff of the user agency is to be allowed to move in the sanctuary area. (3) No damage should be caused to flora and fauna of the said area by user agency and its establishments. (4) The agency and or contractor will not use the area of the sanctuary which is not included in this proposal for the movement, transportation and any other purpose of the construction and maintenance of the transmission line. (5) The land will not be liable to sale to transfer the right and prevail ages to any other agency. (6) The agency and or contractor will strictly follow Wildlife Act and also the provision under the Wildlife Act.	
15	Comments of Ministry <i>The proposal is for the electrification of Gadakiya village.</i> The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

(6)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for construction of Attargoo Sagam Mudh Bhawa Road km 33/500 to 61/930 in Spiti Division, HPPWD Kaza and km 0/0 to 44/400 in Karcham Division, HPPWD at Bhabanagar in Kinnaur District
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Rupi Bhaba Wildlife Sanctuary Pin Valley National Park
3	File No.	6-131/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Himachal Pradesh
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	675 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	4.20 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	22.44 ha diverted for various development activities
8	Name of the applicant agency	HPPWD, Himachal Pradesh
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Yes, clearing of total 309 trees in 6.00 ha
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife	The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal by circulation on 18.10.2016. However the minutes of SBWL are not enclosed with the proposal.
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency	The proposed road falls in the Rupri Bhawa Wildlife Sanctuary and Pin Valley National Park. The following are the benefits of the proposal: (1) Employment opportunities to the local people. (2) Easy and cheap carriage of goods of daily need from market to the area. (3) Fast, cheap, and easy access to the nearest market for the local agriculture/horticulture products of the area. (4) To attract more tourists to the area. (5) Improved quality of the life by way of access to better health care and education facilities. (6) Above all it will be shortest route for defence point of view.
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area	Rupi Bhawa Wildlife Sanctuary: This sanctuary supports healthy wildlife namely brown bear, Himalayan Tahr, snow leopard, blue sheep, fox, musk deer, nutcracker, streaked laughing thrush, orange-flanked bush robin, black tit, wagtail and wall creepe, etc. Pin Valley National Park: This sanctuary supports wild animals like snow leopard, siberian Ibex, bharal, weasel, red fox, marten, woolly hare, tibetan gazzle, Himalayan marmot, blue sheep, Himalayan brown bear, Himalayan black bear, etc.
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden	The CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions. The road will be an alternate route to Indo-Tibet international border and will be helpful for wildlife management and patrolling as at present there is no approach road to the PA.
15	Comments of Ministry	

	<p>The diversion of 4.20 ha of forestland is required for the construction of Indo-Tibet international border. <i>This project has strategic importance.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(7)

1	Name of the Proposal	Construction of Moreh bypass from NH-102 near Indo-Myanmar Border to Land Custom Port of India to bypass Moreh Town, Manipur
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Yangoupokpi Lokchao Wildlife Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-134/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Manipur
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	17480 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	6.552 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	24.32916 ha diverted for the Construction and Stringing of 132 KV Transmission
8	Name of the applicant agency	NHIDCL BO Imphal
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Felling of 243 trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 6 th meeting held on 23.05.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency GoI through NHIDCL has decided to undertake the construction of Moreh bypass from NH-102 near Indo-Myanmar border to Land Custom Port of India to bypass Moreh Town in Chandel District. The proposed project for diversion of 6.552 ha of forestland for construction of Moreh bypass from NH-102 near Indo-Myanmar border to land custom Port of India to bypass Moreh Town, Manipur a linear project is entirely within the Yangoupokpi Lokchao Wildlife Sanctuary over a length of 2.730 km affecting an area of 6.551 ha of the sanctuary. There is already a small village road existing since long back before the enactment of FCA, 1980. The proposed alignment is for widening the existing road and is adjoining human habitation. As the project is near to the fringe area of the sanctuary it will have less impact to the wildlife, wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors. The impact can be mitigated by taking up proper impact mitigation and wildlife protection plan. As the project being a public utility one and to be implemented by GoI.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Yangoupokpi Lokchao Wildlife Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife namely leopard, pangolin, common otter, Indian civet cat, serow, stump tail macaque, slow loris, malayan sun bear, Himalayan black bear, wild bear, Hoolock gibbon, many more, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions: (1) The legal status of the Sanctuary area shall remain unchanged. (2) Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be carried out over 14 ha in degraded forest land identified at centre K. Zalenmoul within Yangoupokpi Lokchao WLS, as identified by the Divisional Forest Officer, Wildlife and the User Agency shall bear the cost of CA. (3) The User Agency shall pay the Net Present Value (NPV) at 5 times of the amount fixed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court amounting to Rs. 2,39,14,800/- as the area falls within a	

	<p>Sanctuary.</p> <p>(4) In addition to CA and NPV, 2% of the project cost amounting to Rs. 59.48 lakh shall be paid by the User Agency for implementation of Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Action Plan as proposed by the Divisional Forest Officer, Wildlife.</p> <p>(5) All the tree or NTFP removed for the implementation of the project shall be made available to the local people for their bona fide personal needs.</p> <p>(6) Minimum number of trees should be felled and it shall be done only when it is unavoidable and under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.</p> <p>(7) The user agency shall not take any such activity which contravenes Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the rules made therein.</p> <p>(8) The User Agency shall undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures such as retaining walls, breast walls and adequate drainage as per requirement at the project cost to control soil loss and to make the slope stable.</p> <p>(9) The User Agency shall construct culverts and other structures at the project cost in order to maintain natural water flow of rivers, streams, etc., and should not take up any activity to divert, stop or enhance flow of water into or outside the Sanctuary.</p> <p>(10) There should be no damage to the surrounding forests, environment, wildlife, natural resources and other properties.</p> <p>(11) Normally no explosive shall be used but when unavoidable the same may be used to the minimum extent and it will be done only with the prior permission of the State Forest Department.</p> <p>(12) No labour camps shall be set up inside the Sanctuary.</p> <p>(13) The User Agency shall provide fuel wood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers working at the site to avoid damage/felling of trees.</p> <p>(14) The muck generated in the earth cuttings will be disposed off at the designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be allowed to roll down the hill slopes.</p> <p>(15) Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted in consultation with the State Forest Department at the Project Cost.</p>
15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p><i>Proposal would facilitate in accessing basic amenities of life.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

1	Name of the Proposal	Diversion of 1.32 ha of forestland for providing drinking water for Sikkim University at Yangang from Barfung Khola and other two sources falling under Maenan Wildlife Sanctuary, South Sikkim
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Mainan Wildlife Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-144/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Sikkim
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	35.34 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	1.32 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	2.10 ha diverted for development of skywalk for promotion of wildlife tourism in 2016
8	Name of the applicant agency	Water Security & Public health Engineering Department, Government of Sikkim
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Felling of 54 trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 19 th meeting held on 22.02.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency Proposed project is for providing potable drinking water to the proposed Sikkim University at Yangang from three water sources namely Bofung Khola, Changay Khola and Purey Khola located in the Mainan Wildlife Sanctuary of South Sikkim. The water demand estimated for the Sikkim University is 3.11 MLD for a period of 30 years. It is also an essential public utility project as some portion of the water tapped will be provided to the surrounding villages. The project will be requiring laying of pipeline for the length of 10,500 meters and 1.2 meters width.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Mainan Wildlife Sanctuary is the habitat of red panda, leopard cat, Chinese pangolin, leopard, Himalayan black bear, satyr tragopan, wild dog, monal, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The pipeline will be underground except in the rocky cliffs where digging the rocks will make the land more fragile. (2) Labour camps will not be permitted to be set up inside the sanctuary. (3) All workers need to obtain permits from working inside the sanctuary. (4) Construction materials should be stored in the identified area. (5) No additional felling of trees or destruction of wildlife habitat, exploitation or removal of any wildlife including forest produce from the sanctuary should take place. (6) Authorized sanctuary personnel will check the construction sites as and when required. (7) The project implementing authorities and workers will obey Dos and Don'ts of the sanctuary.	

	(8) Even after completion of the project, the implementing agency shall inform and take permission from the forests, Environment & Wildlife Management Department for any kind of maintenance.
15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p><i>This project is an essential public utility project as some portion of the tapped water will be provided to the surrounding villages.</i></p> <p><i>Felling of 54 trees is required for the laying of underground pipeline.</i></p> <p><i>The user agency should adhere to the conditions imposed by the Standing Committee of SBWL for the conservation of wildlife.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(9)

1	Name of the Proposal	Diversion of 0.231 ha of wildlife forestland for laying of pipeline and construction of other structures for providing safe drinking water to Kothagudem and Pinapaka constituencies in Khammam District, Segment 25/2A-Manuguru, Telangana
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-92/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Telangana
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not subjudice
6	Area of the protected area	64032.87 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/Denotification	0.231 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Govt. of Telangana
9	Total number of tree to be felled	YES, barest minimum number of trees felling
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The SBWL has recommended the proposal in its 3 rd meeting held on 02.05.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The proposal will integrate with existing and ongoing sustainable water supply schemes. This flag ship programme of the state Govt. of Telangana, is planned to meet the water needs of commercial entities, industrial units, special economic zones, etc. The proposal for laying pipeline within the Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary is part of integrated water supply scheme of State Govt. of Telangana. This segment covers Kothagudem and Pinapaka Constituencies. This project is important to mitigate the drinking water scarcity in summer for drought and fluorosis problem in the area by providing safe drinking water. The existing drinking water facilities are based on ground water which is very poor in quality and insufficient to cater the need of the people in the area. Water from the Godavari reservoir at Radhamgutta is the source and shall be pumped to Pamulapally Balancing Reservoir will improve health and living standards of the people in the area.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary is home to cheetal, chinkara, sambar, wild boar, gaur, jackal, hyena, panther, tiger, sloth bear, black buck, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions: (1) User Agency shall supply water to wild animals during the dry summer months at the located by the DFO	

	<p>(2) User Agency shall fell only the barest minimum number of trees while executing the work.</p> <p>(3) The works shall be carried out manually without disturbing or damaging flora, fauna or habitat of the area</p> <p>(4) Work shall be carried from 6.00 A.M to 6.00 PM only.</p> <p>(5) The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the TR only. As and when required they should be carried out to the site during execution</p> <p>(6) No labour camp should be established inside the tiger reserve during the execution of the work.</p> <p>(7) The debris from due to the execution of the work shall be taken away from the Tiger Reserve on day to day basis.</p> <p>(8) The user agency shall construct masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed area at every 25 m interval.</p>
15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p><i>The proposed pipe line passes through Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary as part of integrated Water Supply Scheme. This project provides comprehensive drinking water from safe surface source of Godavari river of Khammam to the people of Kothagudem and Pinapaka.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(10)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for diversion of 38.798 ha of wildlife forestland for widening of two lane from km 0.00 to km 17.220 of Kothagudem-Mylaram Copper Mines Road and km 0.00 to 18.30 of Rajapuram-Ulvanoor Road in Kothagudem Division of Khammam District, Telangana
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary
	File No.	6-93/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Telangana
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	64032.87 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	38.798 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Roads and Building Department, Govt. of Telangana
9	Total number of tree to be felled	YES, barest minimum number of trees as per the proposal.
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 02.05.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The Telangana State Government has taken a policy decision to improve the interior roads to (R&D) standards. It would improve further connectivity in terms of achievements smooth and safe traffic flow with higher level of service. This road is connecting two mandal head quarters and there onto district head quarter for the medical aid, education, transportation of agricultural products, etc. it would improve the connectivity in terms of smooth and safe traffic flow with higher level of service.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary supports mammalian wildlife namely are tiger, panther, chinkara, chousingha, sambar, cheetal, gaur, hyena, jackal, wild boar, sloth bear, black buck, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The proposed project is recommended since there is no alternative to this area and the proposed are is the barest minimum. The recommendation is subject to compliance with the following conditions: (1) The user agency shall build under passes at their own cost at 4 to 6 locations approximately 5 km apart falling in forest areas which are frequently used by wild animals to cross the road. The user agency shall design the under passes keeping the needs and safety of the wild animals in view and get the design approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden before executing the work. (2) The user agency shall provide money for installing borewells to be run on solar energy for filling up percolation tanks to meet the water need of wild animals. 10 such units consisting	

	<p>of borewells, solar pumping system and percolation tank shall be created on both sides of the road alternately. The cost involved will be Rs.60 lakh at Rs.6 lakh per unit.</p> <p>(3) The user agency shall provide money for constructing ten percolation tanks to harvest rain water for wild animals at cost of Rs.20 lakh at Rs.2 lakh per unit.</p> <p>(4) The user agency shall provide money for constructing six check dams with cement concrete across important nallas to impound rain water for improving wildlife habitat at cost of Rs.30 lakh at Rs.5 lakh per unit.</p> <p>(5) The user agency shall provide money for developing natural grasslands over an area of 50 ha each by uprooting weed growth, tilling the areas with cultivator, sowing of grass seeds and maintaining for three years at cost of Rs.50 lakh at Rs.25 lakh per unit.</p> <p>(6) Provide large sign boards for educating and informing travelers about the values of Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary along with regulatory messages. 10 boards at cost of Rs.20 lakh at Rs.2 lakh per each.</p> <p>(7) The user agency while widening and improving the road shall install speed control devices at identify animal crossing zones and put up warning sign boards at their own cost.</p> <p>(8) Providing one patrolling jeep with maintenance cost for 5 years to ensure compliance with speed limits and other regulations for safety of wild animals at cost of Rs.15 lakh. Total cost to be met by user agency Rs.170 lakh (excluding the cost of under passes).</p> <p>(9) This amount of Rs.170 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT Account of the Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana for implementation of mitigation measures.</p> <p>(10) The user agency shall fell only barest minimum number of trees while executing the work</p> <p>(11) The works shall be carried out manually without disturbing or damaging flora, fauna or habitat of the area.</p> <p>(12) Work shall be carried out from 6 AM to 6 PM only.</p> <p>(13) The material for carrying out to the proposed works shall be kept outside the tiger reserve only. As and when required they should be carried to the site during execution only.</p> <p>(14) No labour camp should be established inside the tiger reserve during the execution of the work.</p> <p>(15) The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the tiger reserve on day to day basis.</p> <p>(16) The user agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meter interval.</p>
15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p><i>Proposal would facilitate in accessing basic amenities of life.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(11)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for diversion of 13.57 ha of Wildlife Management, Kinnerasani Forestland for Construction of 400 KV QMDC line from the proposed 4 X 270 MW Bhadadhri TPP near Manuguru to the proposed 400/220 KV Substation at Padamati Narsapuram, Julurupadu in Bhadradi Kothagudem District
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary
	File No.	6-94/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Telangana
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	825.75 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	13.57 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Transmission Corporation Telangana Limited, Government of Telangana
9	Total number of tree to be felled	YES, bare minimum number of trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 3 rd meeting held on 02.05.2016.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency TRANSCO transmitting power from power plants and various substations to consumers, DISCOMS at 132 KV, 220 KV and 400 KV level voltages depend upon the capacity of generation of power plants and requirements by consumer. The Telangana State Government has taken decision to supply the power to the people of Telangana uninterruptedly. The present proposal is for diversion of 13.57 ha of forest land from the Paloncha Wildlife Forest for the purpose of erection of 400 KV QMDC line from proposed 4X270 MW TPP Manugur to the proposed 400/220 KVSS at Padamati Narsapuram as part of Bhadradihri Thermal Power Transmission Scheme. The total length of line passing through the forest is 8199 meters in both Kothagudem Forest Division, and Paloncha Wildlife Forest Division. The 400 KV DC line requires forest width of 46 meters.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary is home to cheetal, chinkara, sambar, wild boar, gaur, jackal, hyena, panther, tiger, sloth bear, black buck, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures and conditions: (1) That the user agency will provide Rs.44 lakh for developing natural grass lands/meadows below power transmission line. This amount shall be deposited by the user agency in the	

	<p>BIOSOT Account of Chief Wildlife Warden.</p> <p>(2) The user agency shall fell only the barest minimum number of trees while executing the work.</p> <p>(3) The work shall be carried out without disturbing or damaging flora, fauna or habitat of the area.</p> <p>(4) Work shall be carried out from 6 Am to 6 PM.</p> <p>(5) The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the sanctuary area. As and when required they should be carried to the site during the execution of the work.</p> <p>(6) The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Tiger reserve on day-to-day basis.</p> <p>(7) The user agency shall construct Manonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meters interval.</p>
15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p>NTCA has recommended the proposal subject to the strict adherence to the following mitigation strategies:</p> <p>(1) The user agency should design the power pole configuration to minimize avian electrocution risks. Also considering the presence of IBA and other water bodies in the adjoining landscape, should use line marker devices (these are available in a variety of colours and are visible to birds from a long distance) along the entire length of transmission line (from Thermal Power Stations to Substation at Julurpadu) to improve the visibility of earth wires in accordance with the guidelines provided in the “Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure on Wildlife” documented by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun in order to prevent the instances of collision of migratory birds with transmission line. These bird collision reducing interventions may be proposed for all transmission line projects (even outside the PA/forest areas) of Telangana State.</p> <p>(2) Work should be finished within specified time of the day (9:00 AM – 5:00 PM) and no labour camping inside the sanctuary beyond this time frame should be allowed. Local Beat Officer(s) and Forester(s) should be made responsible for monitoring the power transmission tower & cable work strictly on daily basis and report the progress to the Forest Divisional Officer & District Forest Officer.</p> <p>(3) The user agency shall abide by other terms & conditions prescribed by Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana in the proposal.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(12)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for diversion of 10.5018 ha of Wildlife Management, Kinnerasani Forestland for Construction of 400 KV QMDC line from the proposed 1 X 800 MW KTPS (Paloncha) to the proposed 400/220 KV Substation at Padamati Narsapuram, Julurupadu in Bhadradi Kothagudem District.
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary
	File No.	6-95/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Telangana
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	825.75 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	10.5018 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Transmission Corporation Telangana Limited, Government of Telangana
9	Total number of tree to be felled	YES, bare minimum number of trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 3 rd meeting held on 02.05.2016.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency TRANSCO transmitting power from power plants and various substations to consumers, DISCOMS at 132 KV, 220 KV and 400 KV level voltages depend upon the capacity of generation of power plants and requirements by consumer. The Telangana State Government has taken decision to supply the power to the people of Telangana uninterruptedly. The present proposal is for diversion of 10.5018 ha of forest land from the Paloncha Wildlife Forest for the purpose of erection of 400 KV QMDC line from proposed 1X800 MW KTS thermal power plant at Paloncha to the proposed 400/220 KVSS at Padamati Narsapuram as part of KTS Thermal Power Transmission Scheme. The total length of line passing through the forest is 6453.91 meters in both Kothagudem Forest Division, and Paloncha Wildlife Forest Division. The 400 KV DC line requires forest width of 46 meters.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary is home to cheetal, chinkara, sambar, wild boar, gaur, jackal, hyena, panther, tiger, sloth bear, black buck, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures and conditions: (1) That the user agency will provide Rs. 40 lakh for developing natural grass lands/meadows below power transmission line. This amount shall be deposited by the user agency in the	

	<p>BIOSOT Account of Chief Wildlife Warden.</p> <p>(2) The user agency shall fell only the barest minimum number of trees while executing the work.</p> <p>(3) The work shall be carried out without disturbing or damaging flora, fauna or habitat of the area.</p> <p>(4) Work shall be carried out from 6 Am to 6 PM.</p> <p>(5) The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the sanctuary area. As and when required they should be carried to the site during the execution of the work.</p> <p>(6) The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Tiger reserve on day-to-day basis.</p> <p>(7) The user agency shall construct Manonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meters interval.</p>
15	<p>NTCA has recommended the proposal subject to the strict adherence to the following mitigation strategies:</p> <p>(1) The user agency should design the power pole configuration to minimize avian electrocution risks. Also considering the presence of IBA and other water bodies in the adjoining landscape, should use line marker devices (these are available in a variety of colours and are visible to birds from a long distance) along the entire length of transmission line (from Thermal Power Stations to Substation at Julurpadu) to improve the visibility of earth wires in accordance with the guidelines provided in the <i>“Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure on Wildlife”</i> documented by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun in order to prevent the instances of collision of migratory birds with transmission line. These bird collision reducing interventions may be proposed for all transmission line projects (even outside the PA/forest areas) of Telangana State.</p> <p>(2) Work should be finished within specified time of the day (9:00 AM – 5:00 PM) and no labour camping inside the sanctuary beyond this time frame should be allowed. Local Beat Officer(s) and Forester(s) should be made responsible for monitoring the power transmission tower & cable work strictly on daily basis and report the progress to the Forest Divisional Officer & District Forest Officer.</p> <p>(3) The user agency shall abide by other terms & conditions prescribed by Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana in the proposal.</p> <p>The proposed project is for laying power transmission line as a part of the efforts of Government of Telangana to supply uninterrupted power to the people of the State. Further this bare minimum area required for the transmission line and there is no alternate the proposed area. The proposed transmission line shall be laid 45 meters above the ground level will not hinder free movement of wildlife.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(13)

1	Name of the Proposal	Electrification of village Gaundar and its hamlets
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kedarnath Musk Deer Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-139/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Uttarakhand
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	97517.80 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	1.747 ha (Reserve forest 1.176 ha + Civil Soyam land: 0.571 ha)
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	6.3571 ha diverted for foot track routes, water supply, motor road, and Field Station
8	Name of the applicant agency	Uttarkhand Power Corporation Ltd
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Not mentioned
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 07.11.2016.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency This project is for the electrification of Gaundar village and its hamlets. The electricity line will be used for electrification of staff quarters, wireless set; search light, etc. This project also will help in the park management.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kedarnath Sanctuary is home to Himalayan musk deer, Indian jackal, red fox, Himalayan black bear, yellow-throated marten, leopard cat, Indian leopard, snow leopard, Indian boar, Indian muntjac, rhesus macaque, common langur, Hodgsons's brown-toothed shrew, red giant flying squirrel Royle's pika, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions:	
15	Comments of Ministry The proposal has public utility. The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

44.3.2 PROPOSALS FOR TAKING UP ACTIVITIES WITHIN 10 KM FROM THE BOUNDARIES OF PROTECTED AREAS

The list of proposals for taking up non- forestry activities within Protected Areas is as follows:

S.No.	State	F.No.	Subject
1	Arunachal Pradesh	6-132/2017	Diversion of 77.14 ha of forestland for construction of Meka-Roing-Hunli Road from 0.00 km (16.00 km existing green Field Alignment) to 24.64 km to NH double specification by NHDCL in Dibang Valley District of Arunachal Pradesh
2	Gujarat	6-124/2017	Proposal for use of 1.00 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
3	Gujarat	6-127/2017	Proposal for use of 4.50 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
4	Gujarat	6-128/2017	Proposal for use of 3.55 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
5	Jharkhand	6-138/2017	Raibazar Kaolinised Sandstone
6	Jharkhand	6-142/2017	Rajmahal Kaolinised Sandstone Mines
7	Odisha	6-145/2015	Proposal for Suleipat Iron Mines over 618.00 ha of Sri BC Dagar in Myyuribanj District at distance 7.354 km from the boundary of Similapal Wildlife Sanctuary

(1)

1	Name of the Proposal	Diversion of 77.14 ha of forestland for construction of Meka-Roing-Hunli Road from 0.00 km (16.00 km existing green Field Alignment) to 24.64 km to NH double specification by NHDCL in Dibang Valley District of Arunachal Pradesh
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-132/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Arunachal Pradesh
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	281.50 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	77.14 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	3.60 ha diverted for the widening of existing Roing-Hunli Road
8	Name of the applicant agency	NHIDCL, Arunachal Pradesh
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Not mentioned
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 22 nd meeting held on 18.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The existing Meka-Roing-Hunli road having length of 89.7 km is presently has CI-9 (MDR) surfaced specification. The entire road passes through highly terrain in Lower Dibang Valley District. The existing road has single lane configuration in its entire length except for small sections near built up area of Meka-Hunli section where the road has intermediate lanes configurations. Road geometry has serious deficiencies such as sharp bends, S-curves, poor sight distances, etc., which call for change in the alignment of project road. The proposed project will connect the district head quarters Anini/ Lower Dibang Valley with rest of country and help in development of boarder area as well as provide connectivity to major hydroelectricity project of NHPC.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary is home to leopard cat, spotted linsang, Asiatic wild dog, Malay tree shrew, common otter, slow loris, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) Construction of speed breakers in vulnerable places. (2) Erection of glow sign boards. (3) Preparation of Wildlife Conservation Plan and its implementation at project cost. (4) No use of pressure horn.	
15	Comments of Ministry The project falls within 10 km of the boundary of Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary.	

	<p><i>The proposal has strategic importance and essential for defence requirements.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(2)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 1.00 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kutch Desert Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-124/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Gujarat
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	7505.22 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	1.00 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Hamid Jeeya Sama, Post Dhrobana, Taluk Bhuj, District Kachchh
9	Total number of tree to be felled	No felling of trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 th meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency This is a proposal of ordinary morum mining situated in the revenue waste land of Dhrobana village. The project falls 6 km away from the boundary of sanctuary. The ordinary morum will be directly sold to the locals for construction work. The proposed project will improve standard of living through getting livelihood locally. Moreover they will remain staying in the village rather than migrating to earn their bread and butter. The mining in the area will help in developing the area in many ways like improvement in road, communication facility, health and educational benefits. This will result into the overall socio-economic benefit to the local people of the surrounding area.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife hyena, fox, wolf, chinkara, nilgai, wild ass, black buck, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Kutch desert Sanctuary. (2) The user agency shall not take up any activity/dumping material/construction/filling of land in any manner which obstructs the natural flow of water. (3) The user agency shall make permanent arrangement so that no polluted water enters sanctuary or any solid/liquid waste enters sanctuary area. (4) The user agency will have to create 10 meter wide green belt around mining area. (5) The user agency shall prepare closure plan and ensure that the mining area is brought back to its original form on completion of mining activity.	

15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p><i>The project proposal is of semi-mechanized opencast mining. The project falls in the proposed ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary.</i></p> <p><i>Environmental clearance is required.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(2)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 1.00 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kutch Desert Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-124/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Gujarat
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	7505.22 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	1.00 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Hamid Jeeya Sama, Post Dhrobana, Taluk Bhuj, District Kachchh
9	Total number of tree to be felled	No felling of trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 th meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency This is a proposal of ordinary morum mining situated in the revenue waste land of Dhrobana village. The project falls 6 km away from the boundary of sanctuary. The ordinary morum will be directly sold to the locals for construction work. The proposed project will improve standard of living through getting livelihood locally. Moreover they will remain staying in the village rather than migrating to earn their bread and butter. The mining in the area will help in developing the area in many ways like improvement in road, communication facility, health and educational benefits. This will result into the overall socio-economic benefit to the local people of the surrounding area.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife hyena, fox, wolf, chinkara, nilgai, wild ass, black buck, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Kutch desert Sanctuary. (2) The user agency shall not take up any activity/dumping material/construction/filling of land in any manner which obstructs the natural flow of water. (3) The user agency shall make permanent arrangement so that no polluted water enters sanctuary or any solid/liquid waste enters sanctuary area. (4) The user agency will have to create 10 meter wide green belt around mining area. (5) The user agency shall prepare closure plan and ensure that the mining area is brought back to its original form on completion of mining activity.	
15	Comments of Ministry	

	<p>The project proposal is of semi-mechanized opencast mining. The project falls in the proposed ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary. Environmental clearance is required.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(3)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 4.50 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kutch Desert Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-127/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Gujarat
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	7505.22 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	4.50 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Sama Juma Alimamad, Post Ratadiya (Khavda), District Kachchh
9	Total number of tree to be felled	No felling of trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 th meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency This is a proposal of ordinary morum mining situated in the revenue waste land of Dhrobana village. The project falls 6 km away from the boundary of sanctuary. The ordinary morum will be directly sold to the locals for construction work. The proposed project will improve standard of living through getting livelihood locally. Moreover they will remain staying in the village rather than migrating to earn their bread and butter. The mining in the area will help in developing the area in many ways like improvement in road, communication facility, health and educational benefits. This will result into the overall socio-economic benefit to the local people of the surrounding area.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife namely hyena, fox, wolf, chinkara, nilgai, wild ass, black buck, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Kutch desert Sanctuary. (2) The user agency shall not take up any activity/dumping material/construction/filling of land in any manner which obstructs the natural flow of water. (3) The user agency shall make permanent arrangement so that no polluted water enters sanctuary or any solid/liquid waste enters sanctuary area. (4) The user agency will have to create 10 meter wide green belt around mining area. (5) The user agency shall prepare closure plan and ensure that the mining area is brought back to its original form on completion of mining activity.	
15	Comments of Ministry	

	<p>The project proposal is of semi-mechanized opencast mining. The project falls in the proposed ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary. Environmental clearance is required.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(4)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 3.55 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kutch Desert Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-128/2017/WL
4	Name of the State	Gujarat
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	7505.22 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	3.55 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Semabhai Bhembhai Chaudhary, Post Dhabda (Khavda), Taluk Rapar, District Kachch
9	Total number of tree to be felled	No felling of trees
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 th meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency This is a proposal of laterite mining situated in the revenue waste land of Dhabda village. The project falls 2.06 km away from the boundary of sanctuary. The ordinary morum will be directly sold to the locals for construction work. The proposed project will improve standard of living through getting livelihood locally. Moreover they will remain staying in the village rather than migrating to earn their bread and butter. The mining in the area will help in developing the area in many ways like improvement in road, communication facility, health and educational benefits. This will result into the overall socio-economic benefit to the local people of the surrounding area.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife namely hyena, fox, wolf, chinkara, nilgai, wild ass, black buck, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Kutch desert Sanctuary. (2) The user agency shall not take up any activity/dumping material/construction/filling of land in any manner which obstructs the natural flow of water. (3) The user agency shall make permanent arrangement so that no polluted water enters sanctuary or any solid/liquid waste enters sanctuary area. (4) The user agency will have to create 10 meter wide green belt around mining area. (5) The user agency shall prepare closure plan and ensure that the mining area is brought back to its original form on completion of mining activity.	

15	<p>Comments of Ministry</p> <p><i>The project proposal is of semi-mechanized opencast mining. The project falls in the proposed ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary.</i></p> <p><i>Environmental clearance is required.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(5)

1	Name of the Proposal	Raibazar Kaolinised Sandstone
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-138/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Jharkhand
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	18625 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	65.197 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Standard Mercantile Company (Mining Division) Pvt. Ltd
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Not mentioned
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 26.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The proposed project is for the mining of silica sand china clay in the area of 65.197 ha. The project site is located at an aerial distance of around 4.5 km from Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary in Sahibganj District of Jharkhand. This project will benefit the local people by providing the employment opportunity for 13 years.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary is natural abode for different types of birds who reside or migrate here . Parakeet, Indian roller, drongo, kingfisher, swallow, palm swift, vulture, hawk, fishing eagle, brahminy kite, tern, etc. The bird species migrate from other region include western swallow, blue-throat, yellow wagtail, white wagtail, Temmink's stint, common sandpiper, spotted green shanks, red shank, green shank, little-ringed plover, grey-headed lapwing, brown-headed gull, black-headed, etc. Wild animals include deer, sambhar, barking deer, porcupine, wild boar, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) No blasting activity during the process of mining. (2) Assist the forest officials to prevent any commission of offence with respect to wild life. (3) Hunting of wildlife is prohibited.	
15	Comments of Ministry This is a site specific opencast mining project falls at 4.5 km (vs. 8 km as per EC dated 8th November 2016) away from the boundary of Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary. The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

(6)

1	Name of the Proposal	Rajmahal Kaolinised Sandstone Mines
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-142/2017 WL
4	Name of the State	Jharkhand
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	18625 ha
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	NIL
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	M/s Dalmia Agencies Pvt. Ltd, Kolkata
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Not mentioned
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 26.04.2017.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The proposed project is for the mining of silica sand china clay in the area of 24.281 ha. The project site is located in the south-west at an aerial distance of 8.0 km from Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary in Sahibganj District of Jharkhand. This project will benefit to approximately 70 people by providing the employment opportunity for 20 years.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary is natural abode for different types of birds who reside or migrate here . Parakeet, Indian roller, drongo, kingfisher, swallow, palm swift, vulture, hawk, fishing eagle, brahmyni kite, tern, etc. The bird species migrate from other region include western swallow, blue-throat, yellow wagtail, white wagtail, Temmink's stint, common sandpiper, spotted green shanks, red shank, green shank, little-ringed plover, grey-headed lapwing, brown-headed gull, black-headed, etc. Wild animals include deer, sambhar, barking deer, porcupine, wild boar, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) No blasting activity during the process of mining. (2) Assist the forest officials to prevent any commission of offence with respect to wild life. (3) Hunting of wildlife is prohibited.	
15	Comments of Ministry This is a site specific opencast mining project falls at 8.0 km (EC dated 17th October 2016) away from the boundary of Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary. The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

(7)

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for Suleipat Iron Mines over 618.00 ha of Sri BC Dagar in Myyuribanj District at distance 7.354 km from the boundary of Similapal Wildlife Sanctuary
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Similapal Wildlife Sanctuary
3	File No.	6-145/2015 WL
4	Name of the State	Odisha
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not Sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	23.00661 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	NIL
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NIL
8	Name of the applicant agency	Suleipat Iron Mines, Mayuribanj
9	Total number of tree to be felled	NIL
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	YES
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 04.04.2015.	
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency The proposed project is for the mining of iron ore. The falls at 7.5 km away from the boundary of Similapal Wildlife Sanctuary. The mining area does not form any part of tiger reserves corridor. This proposal may provide employment to the local people.	
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area Similapal Wildlife Sanctuary is natural abode for tiger, elephant, leopard, blue bull, chital, sambhar, bison, wild buffalo, four-horned antelope, sloth bear, wild dog, striped hyena, wild boar, porcupine, pangolins, etc.	
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following condition: A site specific Wildlife Conservation Plan to be prepared under the guidance of DFO, Raigang Division for protection and conservation of wildlife excluding the Similapal Sanctuary area and mining area of other leases. The Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan in addition to other mitigative measures will also include: (a) Gully plugging and soil and moisture measures in Badampahar Reserve forest outside the mining area. (b) ANR implementation of fodder and indigenous species @ 200 ha outside the lease area for improvement of forest and food supply to wildlife particularly to elephants. (c) Creation of 5 Nos of water outside the lease for water availability to elephants, wild pig, jackals, etc. (d) Construction 1 WHS to harvest water for water and people.	
15	Comments of Ministry NTCA Comments dated 21.07.2017 have been received. The following are the recommendations and mitigation measures: (1) To maintain the sanctity of the forest elephant and tiger corridor on the southern side of the	

	<p>mining lease area, the southern boundary of the lease area should be fenced using chain link so as to make the forest on the southern side from Human and Livestock pressure from the mining area.</p> <p>(2) The user agency should be charged a significant amount that should subsequently be used to manage the weak links of the Similapal tiger reserve with adjoining forest patches and meeting out the costs of the voluntary rehabilitation of villages which is very essential for tiger recovery in the landscape.</p> <p>(3) No bio resources should be used from the neighboring forests.</p> <p>(4) Laborers should strictly be prohibited from hunting. The mining company shall be held responsible if poaching is reported by its labourer and personal.</p> <p>(5) No labourer settlements should be allowed in the forest.</p> <p>(6) No transportation of minerals should be permitted towards the southern side of mining lease roads.</p> <p>(7) The mitigation measures suggested by Forest and Environment Department, Government of Odisha & Additional Chief Conservator of Forest (Central), MoEF&CC should be strictly adhere to.</p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

**MINUTES OF 43rd MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL
BOARD FOR WILDLIFE HELD ON 27th JUNE 2017**

The 43rd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife was held on 27th June 2017 in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change. List of participants is at **ANNEXURE I.**

Hon'ble Chairman welcomed all the participants to the 43rd Meeting and asked the IGF(WL) to initiate the discussions on the Agenda Items.

AGENDA ITEM No. 1

Confirmation of the minutes of the 42nd Meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 15th May 2017

The IGF(WL) informed the Committee that the minutes of the 42nd meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 15th May 2017, were circulated to all members of the Standing Committee on 30th May 2017. The DGF&SS mentioned that HOECL has represented against the discussions which did not take place in 42nd meeting of the Standing Committee but were minuted in the records. Accordingly, the minutes of 42nd meeting excepting the portion related to HOECL (Agenda Item 42.4.2.1 & 42.4.2.2) were confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM No. 2

ACTION TAKEN REPORT

36.4.2.1 Setting up 5.25 MTPA Development of Floating storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) facilities for import of LNG within the existing deep water port at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. The proposed site is 2.5 km away from the boundary of Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was discussed in the 40th Meeting of SC-NBWL. He also mentioned that according to Terms of Reference (TOR) for EC, impact on Marine Life would be assessed. Since the project site is located 2.5 km away from Coringa WLS, Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan is required to be submitted. A report on impact and other aspects related to marine life has been pending for one year and a half year. No response has been received from the State Government and therefore the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

- 36.4.2.12. Construction of Singoli-Bhatwari Hydroelectric Project 99 MW by M/s L&T Uttaranchal Hydropower Limited. The proposed site falls within 10 km from the boundary of Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary**
- 36.4.2.13. Construction of 171 MW Lata Tapovan Hydro Power Project of NTPC Ltd, Uttarakhand**
- 36.4.2.14. Construction of 520 MW (4 X 130) Tapovan Vishnugad Hydroelectric Project of NTPC Ltd., Uttarakhand. The proposed site falls outside Nanda Devi National Park at a distance of 7.5 km**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the above proposals and mentioned that the proposals were considered by the SC-NBWL in its 39th meeting held on 23rd August 2016. During the said meeting, it was decided by the Standing Committee to seek the comments of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWRD&GR) on the proposed projects. A letter was sent to Ministry of Water Resources on 23rd September 2016 for seeking its comments. Reminder letters were sent to Ministry of Water Resources on 31.03.2017 and 05.05.2017 respectively. However, no comments have been received from Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation. He also mentioned that in the 42nd meeting of SC-NBWL, the Chair suggested to the Chief Wildlife Warden to ask the State Government to take up the matter with the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation.

The State CWLW stated that a response has not been received from the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation. Accordingly, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal pending receipt of comments from MoWRD&GR.

- 34.4.2.11 Proposal of Ms Stone International Pvt. Ltd Chechat for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone (Building) production in Mining lease no.22/92 situated in village Chechat in Tehsil Ramganj Mandi, District Kota which lies at about 6.4 km aerial distance from the Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary/ Mukundra Hills National Park**
- 34.4.2.12 Proposal for renewal of existing lime stone mining lease no.24/87 in village Pipakhedi, Tehsil Ramganj Mandi District Kota near Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan by M/s Zahoor Ahmed, Abdul Majid. The proposed mining lease 8.5 km away from Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary**
- 34.4.2.13 Proposal of M/s Associated Stone Industries (Kota) limited for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone production in mining lease No. 1/89 situated in Tehsil Ramganj mandi, District Kota, Rajasthan**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that a committee of NTCA had visited the site and accorded concurrence to the proposal. In the 39th meeting, the Standing Committee had decided to defer the proposals in view of non-finalization of ESZ proposal of Mukundra Hills TR by the State Government. He also mentioned that in the 42nd meeting of SC-NBWL, the state Chief Wildlife Warden informed that ESZ proposals would be finalized and submitted to the Ministry in one month. He mentioned that no response has been received from the State Government. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

- 39.4.2.5 Proposal for International Amusement & Infrastructures Ltd for Jaipur Mega Tourism City, a Recreational Project at village Daulatpura Kotra, Tehsil Amer District Jaipur, Rajasthan**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SCNBWL in its 39th meeting held on 23rd August 2016. During the said meeting, the Chief Wildlife Warden mentioned that the Environment Clearance for the project is under consideration of SEIAA. He also mentioned that in the 42nd meeting of SC-NBWL the State CWLW informed that the Environment Clearance of project shall be submitted in 2-3

months. He mentioned that no response has been received from the State Government. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

40.3.2.1 Diversion of 9.94 ha of forest land from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of New Railway Line Broad Gauge (BG) between Agartala to Sabroom, Tripura

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SC-NBWL in its 31st Meeting held during 12th - 13th August 2014. He mentioned that the State Government has stated that there are difficulties in implementation of the condition of declaring Bhairabnagar Bison Conservation Reserve (BBCR) area as a part of the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary. He also mentioned that in the 42nd meeting of SC-NBWL the DGF&SS suggested that a Committee comprising of the Chief Wildlife Warden of Tripura, Dr. R. Sukumar, member, one representative of WII and one person from Wildlife Division would visit the site and submit a report to the Ministry for further consideration within June 2017. The site inspection report has not been received. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal and ask the members to furnish the report within 15 days. It was also decided to assign site visits based on the availability of members to ensure timely submission of reports.

32.4.2(19) Proposal for Lakheri Chamovali mining lease of M/s ACC Limited, Lakheri Cement Works, Lakheri, Dist. Bundi (Rajasthan) for mining purpose of limestone, Rajasthan

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SC-NBWL in its 40th meeting held on 3rd January 2017. A meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Secretary, MoEF&CC to discuss the aforesaid matter on 6th March 2017. The Secretary, MoEF&CC requested for the mining plan for 201.88 ha and 208 ha. He also enquired about the EC and FC clearance for the project from the ACC representatives. He also enquired on the requirement of law on de-notification as well as clarification on the conflicting stands taken by NTCA *vis-à-vis* this project. He mentioned that requisite information has been provided by the project proponent and NTCA. He mentioned that in the 42nd meeting of SC-NBWL, the Chair suggested that the DGF&SS, MoEF&CC would take a decision by convening

meeting with the project proponent and the NTCA. Accordingly, a meeting was held on 1st June 2017 under the chairmanship of DGF&SS.

After discussions, the Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan was requested to furnish additional information clarifying the mistake of facts committed while notifying the area of 409.88 ha as buffer of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in the year 2012. No response on the mistake of facts has been received from the State Government. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

40.3.2.2 Proposal for bauxite mining lease area 206.37 ha at village Talagaon in Taluka Radhanagari and village Baveli in Taluka Gaganbawada, Dist Kolhapur, Maharashtra

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the proposal was considered by the SC-NBWL in its 40th meeting held on 3rd January 2017. The PCCF, Maharashtra has not recommended the proposal. He added that the proposal has also not been recommended by the State Board for Wildlife. He also mentioned that in the 42nd meeting of SC-NBWL the representative of CWLW mentioned that meeting of State Board for Wildlife (SBWL) will be convened in 1-2 months and accordingly its decision on the aforesaid proposal shall be communicated to the Ministry. No response on the recommendation of SBWL has been received from the State Government. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

41.4.2.1 Proposal for CAPFIMS Central Armed Police Forces Institute of Medical Science (along with R&R Hospital and allied Institutes), New Delhi. The proposed site is 200 metres from the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal was recommended by the Standing Committee in its 41st meeting held on 2nd March 2017. He added user agency has requested to waive deposit of 5% of total project cost for undertaking soil-moisture conservation works as stipulated by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

After discussions, the Standing Committee recommended that the matter be examined by a Committee headed by Dr. H. S. Singh and comprising of one representative from Wildlife Division and one representative from the State of Delhi and submit the report within a fortnight for further consideration.

42.4.1.8 Proposal for Garh Mukteshwar as Religious and Hi-Tech Smart City on both bank of River Ganga falling within the boundary of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary in district Hapur & Amroha, Uttar Pradesh

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the development of Garh Mukteshwar as Religious Hi-Tech Smart City on both bank of River Ganga falling within the notified boundary of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary. An area of 7395 ha of non-forest land (6227 ha agricultural land, 1168 ha other Govt. land) would be developed under the Project. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (1) Protection & Mitigation measures for wild life should be ensured as per guidelines of Government of India.
- (2) A detailed impact assessment study will be carried out by a nationally reputed institute/organization having experiences and expertise in wildlife related issues suggested in col.(7), or as per guidelines of Government of India.
- (3) User agency/concerned Department (Upper Ganga Canal Modernization Division, Hapur, Irrigation & Water Resources Dept.) should provide the funds for the following mitigation measures and for the conservation and Eco-development activities of wildlife and its habitat as per guidelines of Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India.
 - (i) Habitat improvement work e.g., Gross land management/pasture development, creation of water holes, plantation, etc., in 1500 ha area to counter the loss of habitat for herbivores in the sanctuary.
 - (ii) Boundary demarcation/solar fencing of the reserve forest block which is likely to be fragmented due to such diversion.
 - (iii) 50 km fire line management along the forest boundary to enforce strict fire protection work.
 - (iv) Construction of check chowkies and residential staff quarters.

- (v) Procurement of two vehicles and four motor boats for patrolling in the area and other equipment such as tranquilizing equipment, cages, field equipment, spotting scopes, camera traps, etc. shall be borne by the project proponent.
 - (vi) Establishing a Nature Interpretation Centre in the area to educate and sensitize the tourists about conservation of the wildlife.
- (4) Labour camp during construction stage shall be kept away from any sensitive place/passage of the wild animal in the said forest & sanctuary area.
 - (5) Necessary fuel wood for the labourers shall be met with purchase from market. No quarrying/mining/borrowing of soil/operations shall be carried within the other sanctuary except project site.
 - (6) Any form of poaching or forest offence, particularly by the construction workers, will be strictly prevented. In the event of any case of poaching noticed during the construction of project, user agency would be held responsible.
 - (7) A survey/study shall be conducted for the critically endangered species of Amphibians & Reptiles such as gangetic dolphin, water lizard, otters, crocodiles, ganges soft shelled turtle and other wildlife species found in river ganga from Ramnagar to Balia and other Ramser site wetland which is situated within the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary. The expert body for survey will be decided by the competent authority of Forest Department and Wild Life Institute, Dehradun. According to the survey report a conservation plan shall be prepared in consultation of WII/expert for preparation of Wild Life Management Plan. The user agency shall provide funds for the above activities.
 - (8) Any other condition stipulated by Standing Committee of National board for Wildlife, Government of India will be complied with by user agency.

The IGF(WL) also stated that a decision was taken in the 42nd meeting of SC-NBWL that a committee comprising of Dr. H. S. Singh, member, one representative of WII and one person from Wildlife Division would visit the project site and submit a report to the Ministry for further consideration within June 2017. The site inspection report has not been received. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal and ask the members to furnish the report within 15 days. It was also decided to assign site visits based on the availability of members to ensure timely submission of reports.

42.4.1.13 Diversion of 9.1904 ha of forest land in Thally RF of Jawalagiri Range in Hosur Forest Division for construction of Dharmapuri (Salem)-Madhugiri 765 KV S/C transmission line in Thally Reserve Forest, Jwalagiri Range, Hosur Division under Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 9.1904 ha of forestland for construction of 765 KV transmission line through Cauvery North Wildlife sanctuary. He added that CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) The project proponent is requested to contribute under corporate social responsibilities (CSR) in the interest of Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (2) Considering the safety measures the project proponent may be directed to provide proper fencing around the tower area or electric power transmission (EPT) line wherever necessary and as directed by District Forest Officer.
- (3) The project proponent shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.
- (4) The project proponent shall submit an undertaking that the trees to be cleared due to this project the same will be handed over to Forest Department as directed by the District Forest Officer.
- (5) Any other condition stipulated by the Conservator of Forests/District Forest Officer shall be allowed.

The IGF(WL) also stated that Prof. R. Sukumar inspected the project site and recommended the proposal subject to the conditions laid down by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Tamil Nadu, that are reasonable and adequate.

After discussions, considering the public utility, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, NTCA, and Prof. R. Sukumar.

42.4.1.15 Diversion of 96.65 ha (Reduced from 131.67 ha) in Muthinakoppa Minor Forest & Aramballi State Forest in Koppa Division for construction of a

**irrigation canal under the Bhadra Upper Project Package I, Karnataka
Neeravari Nigam Limited, Division 1, Gajanur Shivamogga, Karnataka
&
Diversion of 110.10 ha of forest land (reduced from 186.42 ha) in
Bhadravathi Division for the construction of a lift irrigation canal under the
Upper Bhadra Project Package II, (lifting of water from Bhadra Tiger
Reserve at Ajjampura delivery Chamber) B R Project, Bhadravathi,
Karnataka**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposals are for the construction of irrigation canals. He added that the Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the condition that the revised mitigation plan be prepared by the user agency in consultation with the Forest Department, Wildlife Expert and the concerned, etc., and implemented as per the resolution of the State Board for Wildlife. The site specific conditions if any as imposed/suggested by the jurisdictional officers shall have to be adhered to by the user agency. Further the IGF(WL) also stated that the NTCA has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) Considering the significance of the landscape pertaining to tigers distribution/dispersal, leopards, elephants and other endangered species; it is recommended to propose retrofitting canal systems by closed conduit at ground level for UBP canals passing within the boundaries of Bhadra TR. Though initial installation of such underground pipeline system would demand slightly higher financial investment and technological skills, the benefits for irrigation would be much greater in comparison to traditional open canal system with little loss of water by evaporation and seepage, low maintenance cost, long life, flexible to operate, less soil erosion and utilization of the maintenance cost for some other purposes such as plantations, etc.
- (2) Although the UBP aims at diversion of water from Bhadra reservoir only during the monsoon (June to October), however, large scale water abstraction for irrigation and drinking purposes might have severe repercussions on water availability within the river and survival of endangered species living therein. It is recommended to have rigorous monitoring of this large scale water abstraction by the user agency and concerned forest authorities.

- (3) Moreover, the following mitigatory measures are also recommended so as to ensure compliance during implementation of the UBP within Bhadra TR:
- (i) The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged and the implementation of the project should be in strict adherence to all the mitigation measures suggested by (a) the Regional Empowered Committee, MoEF&CC Regional office (SZ) Bengaluru and (b) Karnataka Forest Department in the revised Wildlife Management and Mitigation plan for Upper Bhadra lift irrigation scheme.
 - (ii) The Irrigation pipeline passing through the Tiger Reserve should be at 1-2 meter depth under soil (depending upon the rock profile) and should be covered with native vegetation (plantation is to be carried at the cost of user agency).
 - (iii) The user agency should ensure minimal disturbances to the forest during the construction phase. These include controlled blasting during daytime while absolutely needed, no construction work at night, no night labour camp within the forest, dumping of the construction debris should be outside the forest boundaries, monitoring of labourers for extraction of any forest product, etc.
 - (iv) Local FRO should ensure that no additional tree (beyond permitted) is felled during the construction of the UBP canals within the Tiger Reserve.
 - (v) An old canal is also running in parallel to the proposed packaged II alignment of UBO up to some distance. Cross over bridges, culverts, super passages (see Glossary of green smart infrastructure) etc. at regular intervals (30 meter wide at every 400 meter intervals) need to be constructed over this canal (as long as it passes through the WLS or ESZ) for permitting unhindered animal movements. The precise locations of these structures should be decided in consultation with local DFOs & Field Director at site where wildlife crossing is likely to happen.
 - (vi) The old canal may get filled with water during the rainy season and in order to avoid accidental animal mortality by drowning, ramps of about 6 meter could be constructed at an interval of every 500 meter.
 - (vii) Chain link fencing should be avoided as much as possible since it is likely to fragment the habitat and disrupt animal movements. Construction of the water holes near the proposed canal along the entire length of both the packages should be cautiously

planned as those structures will attract animals to approach near the canal and may escalates conflicts.

- (viii) The State Govt. shall charge the Net Present Value of the forest land proposed for diversion from the user agency as per Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's order numbers IA 826 and 566 (dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008) related to a Writ Petition (Civil) No 202/1995.

Following are the observations and recommendations of Dr. R. Sukumar:

- (1) The lift irrigation project comprised two packages (Package I involving diversion of 96.65 ha of forestland in Muthinakoppa Minor Forest and Armballi State Forest of Koppa Forest Division for a canal to lift 17.4 TMC water from Tunga River to Bhadra Reservoir and Package 2 involving diversion of 110.0 ha of forestland in Bhadravathi forest Division for a canal to lift 29.90 TMC water from Bhadra Reservoir to Ajjampura).
- (2) The canals run through the Eco-sensitive zone of the Bhadra Tiger Reserve but are outside the core and buffer zone of TR.
- (3) National Tiger Conservation Authority has carried out a site inspection during 16-17 March 2107 and submitted a report with detailed recommendations.
- (4) Karnataka Forest department has also prepared a detailed revised Wildlife management and Mitigation Plan in the context of this project in April 2107.
- (5) The main issue is the potential for habitat fragmentation the scale of the larger landscape around the Bhadra Tiger Reserve because of the proposed construction of two open cut canals passing through the forest areas mentioned above. This region harbors a fairly intact fauna typical of the Western Ghats: tiger, leopard, elephant and several ungulates have been recorded in the forest areas around Bhadra Tiger Reserve through which the canals would pass.
- (6) The management plan of Karnataka Forest Department lays stress on construction of single lane bridges, box culverts / underpasses and super passages for animal crossing at various places.
- (7) The NTCA report on the other hand observes that "the canals might redefine the spatial distribution of wildlife species in the region and thereby might escalate conflicts with human communities and that they proposes retrofitting canal systems by closed conduit at ground level for UBP canals passing within the boundaries of Bhadra TR."

- (8) There is merit in the NTCA's recommendation that a part of the canal should be underground so as to minimize habitat fragmentation. In particular the canal under Package I running through Aramballi State Forest has the potential to fragment the broader landscape. From discussions with various officials and conservationists, it seems that there is scope of an underground canal under package I between the 2nd Pump house point eastward to the Bhadra Reservoir, a distance of about 2 km to 2.5 km with gentle slope. The project proponents should consider this recommendation seriously.
- (9) The proposed canal under Package II runs initially outside the tiger Reserve and reserve forests parallel to an existing canal. It then cuts through the Gurupur State Forest. Construction of bridges across the canal would suffice in this sector as the area of Gurupur State Forest to the north of the canal is relatively small. This area is also a heavily populated and cultivated. It may not be advisable for large mammals such as elephant to move into northern part and cause conflicts. This aspect may be examined in more detail.
- (10) Locations and dimensions of bridges across the canals should be decided in consultation with Karnataka Forest Department and conservationists working in around the Bhadra Tiger Reserve.

The project may be cleared subject to the above recommendations, NTCA's observations as well as conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka.

After discussions, considering the public utility, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, NTCA, and Dr. R. Sukumar.

42.4.3.1 Diversion of 1007.29 ha of forest land from Palamau Tiger Reserve for construction of North Koel Reservoir Project, Dist. Latehar, Jharkhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 10007.29 ha of forestland from Palamau Tiger Reserve for construction of North Koel Reservoir. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) During construction or installation of gates, the project authorities should construct Jetty at important locations. Motor boat as well as paddle boat should also be made available to monitor and control illicit fishing and birds poaching.
- (2) The total number of trees to be felled is approx. 3,44,644 as per joint enumeration of trees. Such loss of trees should be compensated by planting same numbers of trees through Jan Van Yojana, Kisan nursery, etc., within Project Tiger jurisdiction.
- (3) The height of gates was initially proposed as 367.28 m FRL and accordingly compensation has been paid to villages of 13 villages against their land holdings. The new Khatiyani has been created and all land has been shown in Nadi Ghati Pariyojana land. The Govt. may consider transferring all such land to Palamau Tiger Reserve.

Further the IGF(WL) stated that the site inspection committee has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures:

- (i) The project mentions that the maximum water level exceeding the crest height of the dam is very rare. If water level reaches to the present crest height of the dam during exceptionally high rains, it will be brought down at 341.0 m level within 5 days by allowing the water to pass through the existing sluices and power intakes. However, if water discharge capacity of these sluices and power intake gates is not enough to maintain the ponding level at 341.0 m during very heavy rains, some arrangements should be made so that effective submergence area does not exceed 1007.29 ha.
- (ii) The bed level of the river is about 305 m and Dead Storage Level (DSL) at 330 m. Thus, the discharge of water should be strictly stopped when the water level reaches the DSL.
- (iii) By the time sluice gates are readied for installation, the submergence villages should be shifted out of the tiger reserve. As per the project proponents, all the affected families have been given relief and rehabilitation assistance at the time of construction of the dam. However, many of them still reside in the same villages inside the tiger reserve. Keeping the interests of local people, the observation of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, and to avoid agitation of the people, a comprehensive plan should address grievances of all families in these villages. If necessary, funds from other sources may be made available to settle these people under an attractive settlement plan. If it is not done properly, some of the families may move into the upper catchment of the PTR after submergence of the villages. In such a

situation, the loss of tiger habitat would be multiplied, causing enormous pressure on the PTR in future. The non-forest land in these 15 villages may be notified as forest land.

- (iv) After ponding at 341.0 m, the linear water lake will partly fragment the PTR. This may compel elephants, tiger and other wildlife species to shift their movement/dispersal routes through other villages (such as the 13 Lat group of villages). As a good elephant population would continue to survive in the PTR after completion of the project, the conflicts between local people and elephant may turn serious in future. Hence, for better ecological integrity of the tiger reserve and minimizing human-wildlife conflicts, it is advisable to explore the resettlement of at least some of these 13 Lat group of revenue villages outside the tiger reserve after obtaining their willingness. Villages willing for resettlement should be provided special financial and social development packages that go beyond the standard NTCA package for tiger reserves. In addition, sufficient funds should be provided to Palamau Tiger Reserve for dealing with human-wildlife conflicts including handling problematic animals and providing ex-gratia payments to the affected families.
- (v) After completion of the project, the tiger may lose substantial resource rich habitat. To compensate loss of the habitat, adjoining government wasteland (GM land / Raiyati land) in the landscape should be transferred to PTR and its management should be integrated with the existing tiger habitat.
- (vi) The core area should be expanded suitably to cover adjoining uninhabited buffer zone or other forest areas to strengthen conservation measures, as proposed by the state wildlife board in its site-specific wildlife management plan for mitigation of impacts due to Mandal dam.
- (vii) Extent of Protected Areas in Jharkhand is only 2.7% of its geographical area against the national average of 4.9%, although Jharkhand is a forest rich state. There is logic and reasons for improving the size of the PTR by extending its boundary to cover suitable forests and the government wasteland.
- (viii) Betala area is loosely connected with the main area of the PTR through narrow width of forest. This corridor should be strengthened through transferring adjoining forest and government wastelands. This issue should be examined and if possible, the families from a few villages such as Kerh and Garhi, fully or partly, should be settled outside the PTR under a very attractive settlement package. The population of wild animals in Betla Range

is isolated from the rest of the forest area due to swelling of size of these two villages and occupying the erstwhile thin corridors for wildlife management.

- (ix) Hunting by local people is one of the main reasons for depletion of wildlife. The management of PTR should increase their control and surveillance over the tiger reserve. The remnant population of herbivores should be intensively protected to build up population again. At same time, the rapport between the staff of the PTR and villagers should be strengthened through establishing Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) and engaging them in the conservation activities through implementation of eco-development programmes. A comprehensive education campaign through effective groups or institution may be done in all villages in and around the PTR. The youth from these villages may be recruited as forest guards, foresters and RFOs to establish a strong management system to achieve standards prevailing in some of the outstanding Protected Areas in the country. Although the existing Naxalite activities are a hurdle to achieving the goal, it is possible over a period to change the management environment. If problems in wildlife protection arise due to local people, the solutions also lie in involving them. The BMCs or *Vanyaprani Mitra*, as practiced in Gir National Park, in the villages may establish a strong link between people and the management. The existing organization - Palamau Tiger Conservation Foundation- may be strengthened for more effective communication, education and eco-development activities in the villages within and around the PTR. Funds for eco-development as provided in the site-specific wildlife management plan may be transferred to Palamau Tiger Conservation Foundation for such activities.
- (x) A large number of trees will be submerged in the dam waters. Ten times the number of submerged trees should be raised at suitable areas in the PTR landscape to compensate the loss in accordance with a scientific landscape-scale management plan. However, such plantation areas should be largely outside the tiger reserve, particularly outside the core area, as the tiger reserve needs grasslands along with woodland for augmenting the herbivore population.
- (xi) The project proponents and the management of PTR should ensure that during pre-construction and construction phases of the dam, there should be least disturbance to the animals and their habitat. As suggested by the tiger reserve management itself, only temporary structures should be created near the dam site by the project proponents.

Permanent structures, godowns, etc. should be at Bawardih, outside the tiger reserve. During nights, no construction activity should take place at the dam site.

- (xii) Other suggestions and recommendations in the Site Specific Wildlife Management Plan of North Koel Reservoir Project (Mandala Dam) and accepted by the State Board for Wild Life should be put into operation.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden and the conditions and mitigation measures as may be prescribed by the NTCA and the site inspection committee.

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

43.1 PROPOSALS WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREAS

43.1.1 Proposal for laying underground Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) from Kakkanalla to Thoraapalli (km 0/0 to km 15-910) for Defence Services passing through Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (Core Area Thepakkadu to Mysore Road)

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.72 ha of forestland from Mudumalai Tiger Reserve for laying underground optical fiber cable (OFC). He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) Any other condition stipulated by the Chief Conservator of Forest and Field Director/ Deputy Director shall be followed.
- (2) All the material required for the work should be prepared outside the sanctuary.
- (3) No fire places will be created inside the sanctuary.
- (4) The work in the Tiger Reserve will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM – 6 PM.
- (5) No night camping of labourers/ survey personal will be allowed inside the sanctuary area.
- (6) Project personal engaged in the project work shall observe the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and rules made there under.
- (7) The legal status of the land remains unchanged.

- (8) While undertaking the periodical maintenance works if any by the project proponent shall obtain prior approval of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and the Chief Wildlife Warden well in advance. The project proponent shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.

Further he mentioned that the NTCA has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures and conditions:

- (i) Although the proposed project of OFC laying passes through high tiger density area, the site appraisal team is of the opinion that the proposed activity may not have any significant impact on the forest and wildlife of the area as it involves trenching and laying of OFC only.
- (ii) While digging the trench, shorter lengths may be taken at a time and laying of cable and refilling of the trench should be undertaken simultaneously within the shortest possible period so as to avoid disruption in animal movements and wildlife (especially calf) mortality by falling in the open trench.
- (iii) No alteration in the exiting drainage pattern should be allowed within the tiger reserve for implementing the proposed construction.
- (iv) Use of heavy machinery such as earth movers/or drilling machines should not be used so as to minimize noise pollution.
- (v) Work should be finished within specified time of the day (9 AM – 5 PM) and no camping of labourers beyond this time frame should be allowed. Local beat officer(s) and forester(s) should be responsible strictly on daily basis and report the progress to Deputy Director/ or Field Director.
- (vi) As the project area passes through the core of tiger reserve the user agency will be solely responsible for the safety of workers engaged in OFC works.
- (vii) The user agency will abide by all other terms and conditions as given in project proposal document by tiger reserve management and Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- (viii) The user agency may assist the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve Management in renovation/ installation of signages for spreading awareness about wildlife to general public passing through tiger reserve.

After discussions, considering the importance of project in improving telecommunication, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the NTCA and the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.2 Diversion of 0.45 ha of forestland from Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of Optical Fiber Cable falls within the existing NH-2 and NH-33, Jharkhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.45 ha of forestland from Gautham Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary and Hazaribagh Sanctuary for laying of underground optical fiber cable(OFC). He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) The maximum size of trench is not more than 2.0 meters depth and 1.0 meter width.
- (2) No felling of trees.
- (3) During implementation of the project the user agency must prevent:
 - (i) Any commission of offence against WPA-1972 and IFA-1927.
 - (ii) Shooting, teasing, chasing of animal or littering of grounds.
- (4) Extinguish any fire in sanctuary of which has/or she has knowledge or information and to prevent from spreading.
- (5) No labour camp will be allowed in the sanctuary area.

After discussions, considering the importance of project in improving telecommunication, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.3 Construction of (1) CRPF CAMP (MB-01), (2) CRPF CAMP (MB-02), and (3) CRPF CAMP (MB-03)

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 6.06 ha (2.02 ha X 3) of forestland from Parasnath Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of three CRPF camps for deployment of security personnel. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) Shooting, teasing or chasing of animal will be strictly prohibited
- (2) Littering is strictly prohibited
- (3) Hunting and fishing will be strictly prohibited
- (4) Use of flash and plastic will not be allowed

After discussions, considering the strategic importance of the camps in tackling law and order, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.4 Diversion of 0.735 ha of forestland from Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary for reconstruction of damaged trench weir and related works for Choragaliya Canal System, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.735 ha of forestland from Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of underground optical fiber cable(OFC). He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) Reconstruction of 100 years old damaged trench weir and related works for Choragaliya Canal System only by applicant department with due permission of the higher Authority.
- (2) No damage to the wildlife, aquatic life and environments during execution of work.

After discussions, considering the importance of project in improving the telecommunication, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.5 Proposal for use of 0.9874 ha of Gir Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of optical fiber cable by RJICL, Ahmadabad

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.9874 ha of forestland from Sasan Gir Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of underground optical fiber cable . He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 and 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (2) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Gir Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (3) The user agency shall not use the area for the proposed work other than the area permitted.

- (4) The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Gir Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Gir Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (6) All the materials 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 1980, if required shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.
- (9) The user agency shall deposit Net Present Value for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates.
- (10) The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.

After discussions, considering the importance of telecommunication in economic and social development, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.6 Proposal for use of 0.1134 ha of land in Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary for laying of optical fiber cable by RJICL, Ahmedabad

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.1134 ha of forestland from Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary for laying of underground optical fiber cable. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation conditions:

- (1) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 and 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (2) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary.
- (3) The user agency shall not use the area for the proposed work other than the area permitted.
- (4) The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary.
- (5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary.
- (6) All the materials 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 1980, if required shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.
- (9) The user agency shall deposit Net Present Value for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates.
- (10) The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.

After discussions, considering the importance of telecommunications in economic and social development, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.7 Proposal for use of 1.1981 ha of Wild Ass Sanctuary for laying of optical fiber cable by RJICL, Ahmadabad

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 1.1981 ha of forestland from Wild Ass Sanctuary for laying of underground optical fiber cable. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 and 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (2) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Wild Ass Sanctuary.
- (3) The user agency shall not use the area for the proposed work other than the area permitted.
- (4) The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Wild Ass Sanctuary.
- (5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Wild Ass Sanctuary.
- (6) All the materials 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 1980, if required shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.
- (9) The user agency shall deposit Net Present Value for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates.

- (10) The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.

After discussions, considering the importance of telecommunications in economic and social development, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.8 Proposal for use of 1.68 ha land for laying of pipeline for drinking water from Dolatpar to Godhatadi in Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary in Kutch District, Gujarat

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 1.68 ha of forestland from Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary for laying underground drinking water pipe line. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following safety measures:

- (1) The user agency or his contractor must ensure the minimum movement of the vehicles and the staff in the sanctuary area and vehicles will move on the prescribed route as decided by local DCF in-charge of the sanctuary/national park.
- (2) No damage/disturbance to be caused to flora and fauna of the said area by the user agency and its establishment.
- (3) The user agency or his contractor will not use any area of the sanctuary other than the area shown on the map and permission sought for laying of drinking water pipeline. Any shifting of area will attract the provision of cancellation of permission.
- (4) The land permitted for use will not be liable to sale or transfer the right and privileges to any other agency
- (5) The user agency or contractor will strictly follow the provision under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (6) 5% of the total cost of the project should be spent for habitat improvement and wildlife conservation in the sanctuary area.
- (7) Approval under forest conservation Act, 1980 for use of will be obtained separately for use of forestland, NPV will be deposited as per the existing rates.
- (8) Water supply at appropriate locations for wildlife will be provided free of charge by the user agency.
- (9) The Chief Wildlife Warden or the State Government may impose other additional conditions at any stage which will be binding on the user agency.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.9 Diversion of 1.20 ha forestland for laying of electric line along Lakki Nala road in Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary, Gujarat

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 1.20 ha of forestland from Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary for laying electric line. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following safety measures:

- (1) The user agency or his contractor must ensure the minimum movement of the vehicles and the staff in the sanctuary area and vehicles will move on the prescribed route as decided by local DCF in-charge of the sanctuary/ or national park.
- (2) No damage/disturbance to be caused to flora and fauna of the said area by the user agency and its establishment.
- (3) The user agency or his contractor will not use any area of the sanctuary other than the area shown on the map and permission sought for laying of drinking water pipeline. Any shifting of area will attract the provision of cancellation of permission.
- (4) The land permitted for use will not be liable to sale or transfer the right and privileges to any other agency
- (5) The user agency or contractor will strictly follow the provision under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (6) Reflectors on transmission line for the birds will be installed by the user agency.
- (7) The Chief Wildlife Warden or the State Government may impose other additional conditions at any stage which will be binding on the user agency.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend laying of underground electric line along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.10 Diversion of 0.54 ha land for laying of drinking water pipeline from Naredo Samp to Laxmirani in Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary, Gujarat

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.54 ha of forestland from Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary for laying underground drinking water pipe line. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following safety measures:

- (1) The user agency or his contractor must ensure the minimum movement of the vehicles and the staff in the sanctuary area and vehicles will move on the prescribed route as decided by local DCF in-charge of the sanctuary/national park.
- (2) No damage/disturbance to be caused to flora and fauna of the said area by the user agency and its establishment.
- (3) The user agency or his contractor will not use any area of the sanctuary other than the area shown on the map and permission sought for laying of drinking water pipeline. Any shifting of area will attract the provision of cancellation of permission.
- (4) The land permitted for use will not be liable to sale or transfer the right and privileges to any other agency
- (5) The user agency or contractor will strictly follow the provision under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (6) 5% of the total cost of the project should be spent for habitat improvement and wildlife conservation in the sanctuary area.
- (7) Approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for use of forestland and will be obtained separately. NPV will be deposited as per the existing rates.
- (8) Water supply at appropriate locations for wildlife will be provided free of charge by the user agency.
- (9) The Chief Wildlife Warden or the State Government may impose other additional conditions at any stage which will be binding on the user agency.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.11 Strengthening of forest road from Chikhla to Kalibel road km 7/0 to 12/870

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the project is for the strengthening of existing road. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) All the material required for the work should be prepared outside the sanctuary.
- (2) There should not be any damage or disturbance in the sanctuary during construction.
- (3) No labour shades/ or huts will be created in the sanctuary areas during construction.
- (4) No fire places will be created inside the sanctuary.
- (5) The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM - 6 PM.
- (6) Any other conditions that may impose by the CWLW/Government/or Standing Committee of NBWL will be strictly complied with by the user agency.

After discussions, considering the connectivity the road would provide to Chikhla village in accessing basic amenities, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.12 Proposal for change of surface of Fulsar - Kanjal road from Executive Engineer, R&B (Panchayat), Rajpipla, Dist. Narmada, Gujarat

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 2.047 ha of forestland from Shoolpaneswar Wildlife Sanctuary for tarring of WBM (*kachcha*) road. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 and 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (2) The user agency shall not destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Shool Paneswar Sanctuary.
- (3) The user agency shall not use the area for the proposed work other than the area permitted.
- (4) The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Shool Paneswar Sanctuary.
- (5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Shool Paneswar Sanctuary.
- (6) All the materials required for 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 1980, if required shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.
- (9) The user agency shall deposit Net Present Value for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates.
- (10) The user agency shall create a speed breaker at a distance of every 500 meters.

After discussions, considering the connectivity the road would provide to 105 villages dominated by deprived poor and tribals, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.13 Proposal for land transfer of 4.047 ha Sonam (New) for construction of operational development and accommodation for troops

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the transfer of 4.047 ha of forestland from Gangotri National Park for the construction of accommodation for operational deployment of the army personnel. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) No quarrying of stone shall be permissible in the national park.
- (2) The debris in the national park should be deposited in area in consultation with the park officials and not thrown in areas with steep slopes.

After discussions, considering the strategic importance of the project in guarding the international border, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.14 Electrification of Himri Tok in village of Devel under DDUGY in District Uttarkashi, Block-Mori, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 4.20 ha of forestland from Govind Pashu Vihar National Park and Sanctuary for electrification of Himri Tok village. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) Underground laying of electric lines be explored as an alternative to overhead lined cables. This would reduce felling/or looping of trees, risk of accidental fire, accidental electrocution of wildlife and possible future damage to the cables from falling branches/or other reasons.
- (2) Since extension of electric lines will be required from the Himri Tok for electrification of six more villages, more forestland could be required to accomplish the project/or scheme objectives in to. Therefore a cumulative proposal regarding the same should be submitted.

After discussions, considering the fact that project would electrify Himri Tok village, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal for underground laying of electric cable along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.15 Construction of 775 m Viaduct (bridge) from Sonprayag design km 75.345 to Mundkatiya km 76.120 (existing km 70.350 to km 71.200) of NH-109 (New NH-107) Rudraprayag District of Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.9300 ha of forestland from Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of 775 m span of Viaduct. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project without imposing any condition.

After discussions, considering the public utility of the project in ensuring safe and proper connectivity of high altitude portions of Uttarakhand State, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.16 Acquisition of land at 0.607 ha/1.5 acres at old Sonam for defence work

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.607 ha of forestland from Gangotri National Park for the construction of accommodation for operational deployment of the army personnel. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) No quarrying of stone shall be permissible in the national park.
- (2) The debris in the national park should be deposited in area in consultation with the park officials and not thrown in areas with steep slopes.

After discussions, considering the strategic importance in guarding international border, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.17 Construction of Motor Road Galrad to Divya in District Almora

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 1.80 ha of forestland from Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of motorable road. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project without imposing conditions.

After discussions, the Committee decided that the WII would visit the site and submit a report for further consideration of the Committee by the end of July 2017.

43.1.18 Electrification of Rosemala area under Total Electrification Scheme of Govt. of Kerala

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.035 ha of forestland from Schendurney Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of 1 km HT UG cable. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project without imposing any condition.

After discussions, considering the fact that project would electrify the Rosemala area, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal for underground laying of electric cable.

43.1.19 Realignment of area of the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve, Chattisgarh

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the rationalization of the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve. He added that there were no recommendations of the State Chief Wildlife warden in the proposal.

Dr. H.S. Singh, member suggested that the opinion of the State Chief Wildlife Warden, a statutory authority under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (amended), may be sought for further

consideration. After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to seek the opinion of the State CWLW for further consideration.

43.1.20 Proposal for diversion of 0.69 ha of forestland for laying of underground 11KV electricity line to Shettihalli–Chitrashettihalli villages located in Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.69 ha of forestland from Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of underground electricity cable. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following mitigation measures:

Project is recommended subject to the conditions specified by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Shimoga. With regard to Sections 29 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is concerned destruction of forest is minimal in implementation of the project. The proposed route passes through a well defined, wider road which is regularly used by both villagers and department personnel. At the same time the work include excavation of earth of width 0.6 m which gets closed after laying the electric cable. This excavation work is done along the mentioned route. Hence the destruction of forests is minimal. All the statutory requirements to be considered at the time of implementation of work shall be followed as per the conditions laid down by the jurisdiction officers in the interest of protection and conservation of wildlife. After the approval of the SC-NBWL, further action may be taken up as per the provision of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 with regard to the Compensatory Afforestation (CA) and collection of Net Present Value.

After discussions, considering the fact that project would bring prosperity to Shettihalli and Chitra Shettihalli villages through electrification, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal for underground laying of electric cable along with the conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.21 Proposal for exclusion of 228.87 sq. km from Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary for rationalization of the boundary of the sanctuary, Odisha

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the rationalization of the boundary of Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary. He added that there were no recommendations of the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

Dr. H.S. Singh, member suggested in-principle approval with refer to have views of the State CWLW in week's time for further consideration. After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to seek the opinion of the State CWLW for further consideration.

43.1.22 Diversion of forestland for proposed realignment on the existing Lachung-Yumthang road to bypass heavy landslide between 14.00 km to 15.00 km in North Sikkim

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.5310 ha of forestland from Shingba Rhododendron Sanctuary for realignment of the existing road. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) User agency should not be allowed to throw the muck generated by developing the proposed alignment.
- (2) Labour camps should not be permitted within the sanctuary.
- (3) Sufficient number of signages to avoid disturbance to the existing habitat to be erected along the road.

After discussions, considering the public utility and strategic importance of the road, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.23 Diversion of 0.0248 ha of forestland for implementation of Rural Water Supply Scheme from Tharey Kholas to Chingthang GPU, West Sikkim

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.0248 ha of forestland from Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary for laying underground drinking water pipe line. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following mitigation measures:

- (1) The pipeline will be underground except in the rocky cliffs where digging the rocks will make the land more fragile and use of stones should be minimized.
- (2) Labour camps will not be permitted to be set up inside the sanctuary.
- (3) All workers need to obtain permits for working inside the sanctuary.
- (4) Construction materials should be stored in the identified area.
- (5) No additional felling of trees produce from sanctuary should take place.
- (6) Authorized sanctuary personnel will check the construction sites as and when required.
- (7) The project implementing authorities and workers will obey Dos and Don'ts of the sanctuary.
- (8) Even after completion of the project, the implementation agency shall inform and take permission from the Department of Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management for any kind of maintenance work.

After discussions, considering the importance of project in providing drinking water to people of Chingthang GPU, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.1.24 Permission for investigation and survey for construction of National Highway (NH-3) bypass road in Son Chiriya Wildlife Sanctuary, Ghatigaon, Madhya Pradesh

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the construction of NH-3 bypass road in Son Chiriya Wildlife Sanctuary. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing any condition. He mentioned that proposal for investigation and survey for this Project was recommended by the Standing Committee in its 31st meeting held during 12-13 August 2014. The user agency has suggested 3 options of which the CWLW has opted for option 1 whereas the State Board for Wildlife has preferred option 3.

After discussions, the Standing Committee recommended that a committee comprising of one representative of WII and one person from Wildlife Division would visit the project site and submit a report to the Ministry within a fortnight for further consideration.

43.1.25 Installation of collocated Strong Motion Sensors, GPS receivers and Metrological Sensors with real time VSAT connectivity in Interview Island, East Island and Narcondam Island Sanctuary

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.03 ha (0.01 ha X 3) from Interview Island, East Island and Narcondam Island Sanctuaries. He added that the CWLW has recommended the project with the following conditions:

- (1) The user agency should share the information gathered through this centre with the Department of Environment & Forests.
- (2) The user agency should also allow the park official to use the communication system in case of any emergency.

After discussions, considering the scientific usefulness of the observatory in early warning tsunami disaster, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the recommendation of the State Board for Wildlife and the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2 PROPOSALS WITHIN 10 KM FROM THE BOUNDARIES OF PROTECTED AREAS

43.2.1 Proposal for provision of 3-lane slipway 500 ton capacity near coast guard jetty, Port Blair by Coast Guard Region, HQ, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Port Blair

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the provision of 3-lane slipway of 500 ton capacity. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the condition that the user agency should minimize the disturbance to local flora and fauna during the construction and operational phase of the project.

After discussions, considering the strategic importance of the project to Coast Guard in maintenance of Ships, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the condition prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.2 The proposed Govt. of India Jetty site along the east bank of Willington Island in the Ernakulum Channel

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the construction of jetty at a distance of 3.1 km from the boundary of Mangalvanam Bird Sanctuary. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal without any condition.

After discussions, considering the strategic importance of the project, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.3 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining on Yamuna River bed (14.97 ha) at Village Kulhal, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions specified by the Divisional Forest Officer of Chakrata Forest Division:

The project is essential to prevent widening of the river bed due to deposition of sediments which if not mined out will cause flooding, damage to the adjoining areas, destruction of life and property. This will also enhance revenue and greater employment opportunities for the local people. Moreover there is no adverse impact on the flora and fauna. The proposed project has public interest.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.4 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining (60.983 ha) on Sheetla River bed at Village Charwa Kedarwala and Jassowala, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions specified by the Divisional Forest Officer of Chakrata Forest Division:

The project is essential to prevent widening of the river bed due to deposition of sediments which if not mined out will cause flooding, damage to the adjoining areas, destruction of life and property. This will also enhance revenue and greater employment opportunities for the local people. Moreover there is no adverse impact on the flora and fauna. The proposed project has public interest.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.5 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining (34.94 ha) on Yamuna River bed at Village Dhakrani, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions specified by the Divisional Forest Officer of Chakrata Forest Division:

The project is essential to prevent widening of the river bed due to deposition of sediments which if not mined out will cause flooding, damage to the adjoining areas, destruction of life and property. This will also enhance revenue and greater employment opportunities for the local people. Moreover there is no adverse impact on the flora and fauna. The proposed project has public interest.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.6 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining (69.785 ha) on Baldi River bed at Villages Mirota, Mandawali, Pustadi, Kulhaan, Mansingh, Kheri Mansingh, Reniwala, Dist. Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Mussoorie Wildlife Sanctuary. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- (1) No mining activity in the night.

- (2) Speed breakers should be made on the road to avoid high speed of vehicles involved in mining for protection of wildlife.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.7 Proposal for transfer of land outside Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary at a distance of 3.5 km away from the boundary for Bowlanand Prayag Hydroelectric Project (300 MW)

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal for the construction of Bowlanand Prayag Hydroelectric Project at a distance of 3.5 km away from Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case related to the hydroelectric power projects (HEPs) in Alakananda-Bhagirathi basin.

43.2.8 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining (32.218 ha) on Aasan River bed at Village Sahaspur, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions specified by the Divisional Forest Officer of Chakrata Forest Division:

The project is essential to prevent widening of the river bed due to deposition of sediments which if not mined out will cause flooding, damage to the adjoining areas, destruction of life and property. This will also enhance revenue and greater employment opportunities for the local people. Moreover there is no adverse impact on the flora and fauna. The proposed project has public interest.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.9 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining (32.0 ha) on Aasan River bed at Village Khushaampur, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions specified by the Divisional Forest Officer of Chakrata Forest Division:

The project is essential to prevent widening of the river bed due to deposition of sediments which if not mined out will cause flooding, damage to the adjoining areas, destruction of life and property. This will also enhance revenue and greater employment opportunities for the local people. Moreover there is no adverse impact on the flora and fauna. The proposed project has public interest.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.10 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining (4.0 ha) on Aasan River bed at Village Dhamolo, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions specified by the Divisional Forest Officer of Chakrata Forest Division:

The project is essential to prevent widening of the river bed due to deposition of sediments which if not mined out will cause flooding, damage to the adjoining areas, destruction of life and property. This will also enhance revenue and greater employment opportunities for the local people. Moreover there is no adverse impact on the flora and fauna. The proposed project has public interest.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.11 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining (45.0 ha) on Aasan River bed at Jassuwala, Lakhanwala, Mednipur and Bandripur, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions specified by the Divisional Forest Officer of Chakrata Forest Division:

The project is essential to prevent widening of the river bed due to deposition of sediments which if not mined out will cause flooding, damage to the adjoining areas, destruction of life and property. This will also enhance revenue and greater employment opportunities for the local people. Moreover there is no adverse impact on the flora and fauna. The proposed project has public interest.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.2.12 Obtain NOC for Sand, Bajri & Boulder mining on Aasan River bed (32.709 ha) at Village Sahaspur, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the collection of river bed materials from Asan Wetland Conservation Reserve. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions specified by the Divisional Forest Officer of Chakrata Forest Division:

The project is essential to prevent widening of the river bed due to deposition of sediments which if not mined out will cause flooding, damage to the adjoining areas, destruction of life and property. This will also enhance revenue and greater employment opportunities for the local people. Moreover there is no adverse impact on the flora and fauna. The proposed project has public interest.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the mitigation measures prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

43.3 ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

- 42.4.2.1 Proposal for Dirok Field Development Phase I & II for re-entry and completion of existing well, commissioning of Gas Gathering Station (GGS) and Gas procession plant (GPP) and laying of underground gas pipeline in the Dirok field in onshore block AAP-ON-94/1, Tinsukia District, Assam by the Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Ltd.**
- 42.4.2.2 Proposal for Dirok Field Development Phase III for drilling wells, development exploratory wells, commissioning of Gas Gathering Station (GGS) and Gas Processing Plant (GPP) and laying of underground gas pipeline in the Dirok Field in onshore block AAP-94/1, Tinsukia District, Assam by Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Ltd.**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that these proposals were recommended by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 42nd meeting held on 15th May 2017. It was recommended that the existing wells located within 1 km distance from the boundary of the sanctuary shall be plugged permanently and no oil/gas shall be extracted from such wells. He added user agency requested to waive the condition of plugging permanently the wells located within 1 km imposed by the Standing Committee as oil exploration/drilling is different from mining activity.

IGF(WL) further mentioned that opinion of Impact assessment Division was obtained. The IA Division has opined that oil drilling is different from mining activity as per EIA notification. He read out the opinion furnished by the Sr. Consultant (Legal), MoEF&CC which confirms the views of the IA Division.

After discussions, based on the opinion of IA Division and legal opinion of Sr. Consultant (Legal), MoEF&CC, the Standing Committee came to conclusion that oil drilling activity is a separate activity from mining as per EIA notification and agreed to the waiver of the condition of plugging permanently the wells located within 1 km distance from the boundary of the sanctuary. Other condition imposed in the 42nd Standing Committee of NBWL will be followed.

AGENDA ITEM No. 4

NO ITEMS WERE TAKEN UP BEFORE THE STANDING COMMITTEE WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE 43rd MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
OF NBWL HELD ON 27 JUNE 2017**

1	Shri Harsha Vardhan Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forests & Climate Change	Chairperson
2	Shri Ajay Narayan Jha Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change	Member
3	Shri Siddhanta Das Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF&CC	Member
4	Shri Anil Kumar Additional Director General of Forests (FC), MoEF&CC	Invitee
5	Shri Debabrata Swain, Additional Director General of Forests & Member Secretary, NTCA	Invitee
6	Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.	Member
7	Dr. H.S. Singh, Member, NBWL	Member
8	Shri R.D. Kamboj, Director, GEER Foundation, Gujarat.	Member
9	Shri Nishant Verma, Deputy Inspector General of Forests, NTCA	Invitee
10	Shri M.P. Singh, Field Director, Palamau Tiger Reserve, Jharkhand	Invitee
11	Shri J.S. Sharma, Chief Engineer, CPWD, New Delhi	Invitee
12	Dr. Thomas Chandy, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Sikkim	Invitee
13	Shri C. Jayaram, Addl. Pr.Chief Conservator of Forests, Karnataka	Invitee
14	Shri D.S. Khatri, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttarakhand	Invitee
15	Shri A.K. Misra, PCCF, Maharashtra	Invitee
16	Shri B. Brahma, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam	Invitee
17	Dr. S. Panda, Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha	Invitee
18	Shri G.K. Sinha, Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat	Invitee
19	Shri Nishant Verma, Inspector General of Forests (NTCA)	Invitee
20	Shri Soumitra Dasgupta, Inspector General of Forests (WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee
21	Shri S.P. Vashishth, Deputy Inspector General of Forests (WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee
22	Pasupala Ravi, Deputy Director (WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee

Summary of the meeting held on 1st June 2017 at 10.00 p.m in the Krishna Conference Hall under the Chairmanship of Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF&CC

- (1) The meeting was chaired by the DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
- (2) The meeting was attended by
 - (1) MS, NTCA
 - (2) IG, NTCA
 - (3) CWLW, Rajasthan
 - (4) FD, RTR
 - (5) IGF (WL)
 - (6) DIGF (WL)
 - (7) DD (WL), and
 - (8) Representatives of M/s. ACC Ltd.
- (3) In the beginning the IGF (WL) gave brief chronology of the events leading to the meeting.
- (4) Representative of NTCA made power point presentation and mentioned that the M/s ACC Ltd obtained Forest Clearance for 208 ha and had been mining it till year 2013 when the said area along with another fresh area of 201.88 ha was notified as buffer area of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve (RTR). He mentioned that 8 years is enough to mine the area of 409.88 ha completely and after that mining shall not be permitted under any circumstances. He further also mentioned that shutting down the mining activities shall not affect the livelihood of people of Lakheri-Chamavoli. Member Secretary, NTCA stated that the conditions laid down by them are appropriate and should be adhered to for the larger cause of tiger conservation. In their deliberation the NTCA pointed out that the committee suggested the conditions (also represented by the state of Rajasthan) was the best the committee could suggest as per the available social and ecological imperatives.
 Representative of NTCA also mentioned that the matter is sub-judice in the National Green Tribunal against in *O.A. 431/2016, Babulal Jajoo V/s Union of India and ors.*
- (5) The Field Director RTR mentioned that there are about 43-45 tigers in the Ranthambhore TR. He informed that 409.88 ha was earlier a part of protected forest under Bundi Territorial Division before it was notified as buffer of RTR in 2012. Further the territorial Division did not indicate the mining lease on the said area. He stated that allowing mining inside the tiger

reserve would be against the rules and would set a bad precedent for similar cases elsewhere. He added that as the area of 409.88 ha was added to RTR by mistake of facts, the said area should be de-notified first from the tiger reserve and then only the mining should be allowed on it.

- (6) The CWLW, Rajasthan mentioned that there was a *bonafide* mistake on the part of the State Govt. of Rajasthan while notifying the area of 409.88 ha as buffer of tiger reserve. This has been captured in the minutes of State Board for Wildlife which is headed by Hon'ble Chief Minister of the State. The CWLW was agreeable to the proposal of the ACC on de-notifying the area. He informed that pursuant to decision of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife in its 32nd meeting (21st January 2015), the State submitted a proposal to NTCA for de-notification of 436.67 ha. NTCA constituted a Committee on this and recommended that mining be allowed on this area for 8 years without de-notifying it.
- (7) The DGF&SS requested CWLW, Rajasthan to furnish additional information clarifying the mistake of facts committed while notifying the area of 409.88 ha as buffer of RTR in the year 2012 within next 15 days.
- (8) The CWLW, Rajasthan also mentioned that the buffer area has two ridges separated by a valley. The mines of M/s. ACC Ltd is on the outer edge of the ridge on the eastern side. A tiger in the past might have used the ridge on the western side to go to the connecting Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife Sanctuary. But it is highly improbable that a tiger would use the eastern ridge as it will not only has to cross an active mine but also cross habitation in the valley between the two ridges as the eastern is not connecting the Ramgarh Vishdhari Wildlife.
- (9) M/s. ACC Ltd mentioned that area of 409.88 ha be de-notified from the tiger reserve as allowing mining within the tiger reserve would lead to lot of litigation in Courts of Law and would not be a practical solution.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Inspection Report of Garh Mukteshwar as Religious and High-Tech Smart City on the bank of River Ganga falling within the boundary of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary in districts Hapur and Amroha, Uttar Pradesh

1. Introduction

A proposal for diversion of 7,395 ha area from Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary in Hapur and Amroha, districts in Uttar Pradesh for development of Garh Mukteshwar as Religious and Hi-Tech Smart City on both bank of River Ganga was recommended by the Uttar Pradesh Board for Wild Life. The proposal from the State Wild Life Board was submitted to the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) for an appropriate decision. The proposal was discussed in the 42nd meeting (15th, May 2017) of the Standing Committee of the NBWL. After brief discussion, the Standing Committee decided that a Committee comprising of Dr. H. S. Singh, Dr. R. Sukumar, and a representative Wildlife Institute of India (WII), State Government and User Agency, would conduct a site visit and submit a report for further consideration. Subsequently, the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India communicated vide letter no. F.No. 6-58/2017WL dated 17th July, 2017 that the inspection report was to be submitted after inspection by the following members.

Dr. H. S. Singh, Member, NBWL

Dr. S. A. Hussain, Scientist-G, WII, Dehradun

Dr. Pasupala Ravi, Scientist, Wildlife Division, MoEFCC, New Delhi

In order to look into the issues concerning wildlife and their habitats with respect to this project, the above team conducted field inspections on 22nd and 23rd July, 2017.

2. Filed visit

Executive Engineer, Upper Ganga Canal Mod, Division, Hapur and his officials briefed the team about the project – Development of Garh Mukteshwar as Religious and High –Tech Smart City on the Bank of River Ganga – in the forenoon on 22nd July, 2017. The project proposal and its possible impact on wildlife habitat and ecological dynamics of Ganga River were discussed in detail. A team of scientists of the WII, Dehradun presented the status of the wildlife in and around the proposed area for diversion from the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary.

After presentation and discussion in the meeting at Hapur, the team along with the representatives of the project proponent, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department and scientists of the WII, Dehradun visited Braj Ghat -a religious site at the bank of Ganga where people take bath in the Ganga water. The existing bridge is the eastern boundary of the proposed area of the project

as well as Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary. The southern part of the Ganga and its high flood area is a Ramsar Site – the area of International Conservation Significance. This is also a site where proposed canal terminate and merge with the Ganga.

The team inspected Garh Mukteshwar site of Ganga where construction of barrage is proposed. Other site of the Ganga is Tigris religious site. In upper site of the proposed barrage is a prime habitat of Gangetic dolphin. With respect to the previous and present survey, the scientists of the WII, Dehradun explained about the Criticality of Ganga Water at the proposed construction of barrage for conservation of Gangetic dolphin and *Gharial*. The team inspected Ganga flood area, Ganga temple and other areas which are proposed under the High Tech City.

In the afternoon, the team visited Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary in Meerut district and the Middle Ganga Canal. The high flood area and its land use practice were also inspected. The marshy areas which were once a part of the Ganga were also visited by the team to know the typical habitat for swamp deer and hog deer.

In the forenoon on 23th July, 2017, the team members and the official of the project proponent discussed matter in detail. The team deliberated different issues connected with the project and the sanctuary to finalise the report.

3. About the project

The Department of Irrigation and Water Resources, Government of Uttara Pradesh has proposed a project titled “Development of Garh Mukteshwar as a Religious and Hi-tech Smart City” covering both the bank of Ganga River at Garh Mukteshwar in Hapur and Bijnor Districts. The project aims to create a barrage on Holy Ganga River at Garh Mukteshwar. The barrage will have 6 lane highway. There will be two canals at each side of the Ganga River which will draw approximately 6000 cusec of water from the barrage and take it through 8.5 km long canal for providing water for bathing and promotion of religious tourism. The water after bath and domestic use will be released back to the Ganga River. The total cost of the project is Rs. 3,069 crores. The project is at the consultation phase. Except demarcation of sites, no work as such has been initiated.

The project site is located in the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary area in Distt. Hapur and Amroha. The project proposes for diversion of 7,395 ha of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary (2894 ha in Hapur district and 4501 ha in Amroha district). This comes out approx. 3.57% of total area of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary. The project falls in Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary Garh Mukteswar range under jurisdiction of Hapur Forest Division and Dhanora range under the jurisdiction of Amroha Forest Division.

Garh Mukteshwer town, a famous religious site is situated near Delhi-Moradabad National Highway at the bank of Ganga River. A large number the religious people from Uttar Pradesh and neighbouring states visit this site to take bath in the Gang Water. The facilities for taking bath have been proposed in the canal. The lands available between Ganga and canals will be used for development of High-Tech City.

The project proposes following construction activities

- (i) Construction of barrage across Ganga River
- (ii) Construction of canals covering 17 km in length (8.5 km in the western side of Ganga and 8.5 km. in the eastern side) to allow flow of 300 cusec water
- (iii) Construction of bathing sites (Ghats) along both canals
- (iv) Construction of two over bridge over railway lines
- (v) Construction of 34 bridges at interval of 500 m over the canal to facilitate movement of people
- (vi) Construction of 6 lane- road along with strong barriers at both sides of the river
- (vii) Construction of steps at interval of 200 m on canals and the river
- (viii) Construction of road connecting the National Highway

This will follow the development of High Tech city between canal and Ganga River

Land required for the project (entirely in non-forest sanctuary area):

- | | |
|---|------------|
| (i) Land for barrage in addition to the Gang River | 1242.7 ha |
| (ii) Area of the river | 1168.0 ha |
| (iii) Area for proposed construction | 167.3 ha |
| (iv) Area in the left bank of the river for commercial activities in Hapur district | 2810 .3 ha |
| (v) Area in the left bank of the river for commercial activities in Hapur district | 2006.6 ha |
| (vi) Planning for security against flood in flood zone | 4817.0 ha |

Total

7395 ha



Bridge and bathing site where canal terminate and connect with Ganga Marsh land-high water land where barrage is proposed



The project: Two canals and barrage with plan of High Tech City



The bridge divides the sanctuary and Ramsar site (above)



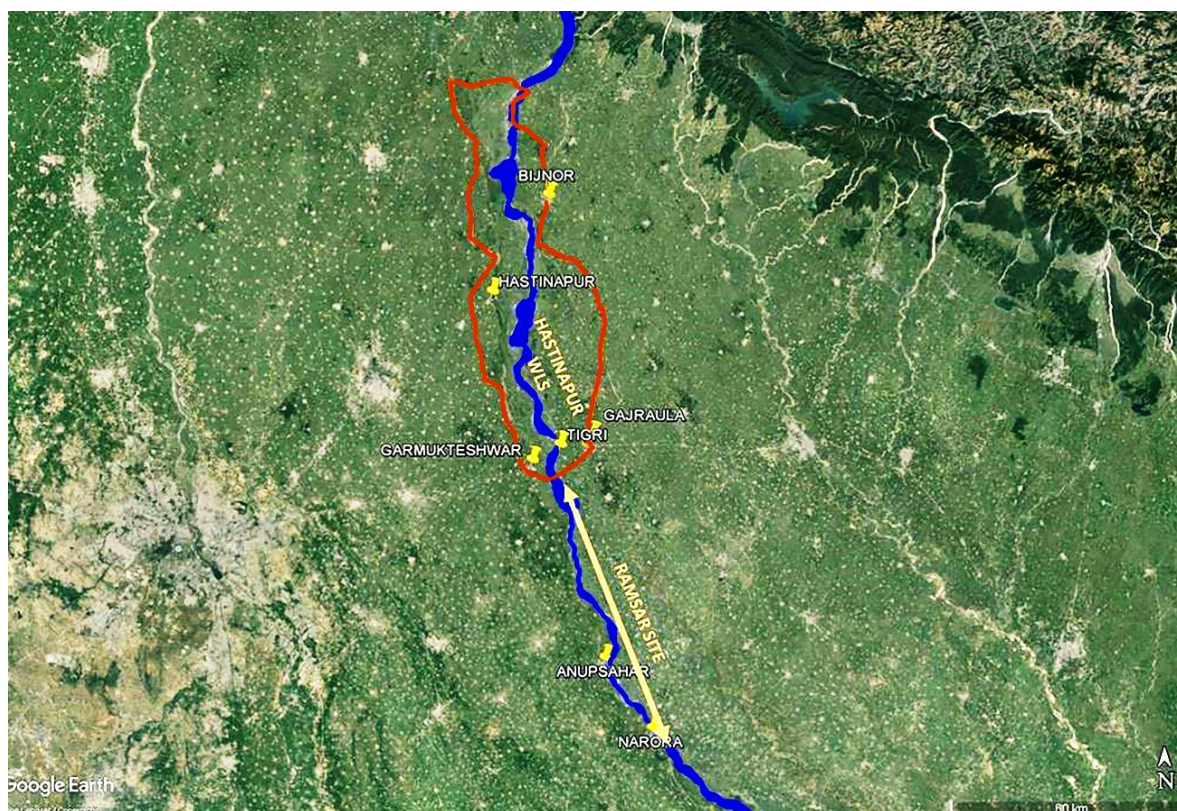
Forest habitat in the sanctuary

4. Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary

Hastinapur wildlife sanctuary (HWLS) was declared by the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh in 1986 with an aim to conserve the last remaining natural forest and relict tall grasslands of Middle Ganga basin and its floral and faunal assemblages. This was also a step to conserve the endangered Gangetic grasslands. It is the sole protected area in India, conserving such grasslands. The HWLS covers an area of 2073 km² along the banks of Ganges in five districts of Uttar Pradesh, namely Muzaffarnagar, Bijnor, Meerut, Ghaziabad and Jyotiba Phule Nagar. The Sanctuary is divided into 8 forest ranges and 106 forest blocks belonging to the five Forest Divisions. HWLS is located in alluvial soils of Upper Gangetic plains, one of the least protected biogeographic zone. Most of the area of sanctuary is under marshland, forests, cultivation, township and human disturbances. The Sanctuary falls within Upper Gangetic Biogeographic Zone (7A) and represents large tract of tall grasslands interspersed with woody vegetation in upland areas.

The Ganga River traverse through the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary entering at Bijnor Barrage and flows downstream till Garh Mukteshwar spanning a length of 95 km. The River then flows downstream from Brij Ghat to Narora with a legal protection status of International importance under Ramsar Convention. The Ganga River dissects the Sanctuary almost into two equal halves.

Altitude of the area ranges from 130 to 150 m above mean sea level. HWLS is a part of Upper Gangetic plains, the flat alluvial region formed by the deposition of silt through the rivers. Most of the HWLS area lies in the “Khadar” region, lowland areas after the Bangar belt. It is made up of fresh newer alluvium which is deposited by the rivers flowing down the Gangetic plains. The area includes high level “Khola” on either side of the Ganges, stretching parallel to it. Khola is greatly dissected belt due to conversion of large area in to agricultural land. There is a more or less permanent ravine, the *Budhi Ganga* an old branch of Ganges River, which flow parallel to it for some distance and eventually merges into it. In rainy season, *Budhi Ganga* floods the neighbouring low lying area of Khadar.



Map showing Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary and Upper Ganga Ramsar site

This stretch supports rich diversity of fauna including Gangetic dolphin, Swamp deer, Chital, Sambar, Hog deer, Nilgai, Wild pig, Smooth coated otter, fresh water turtle, residential and migratory birds (180 species), Mugger and Gharial. This stretch of River Ganga is an important nesting site for threatened Indian skimmer, River lapwing, Black bellied tern and River tern.

River Ganga within the Sanctuary area has been inhabited by wild Gharial until fairly recent times. A female Gharial (3.63 m) is known to have inhabited this area as late as 1994. Another

Gharial was rescued here in 2006 - 2007 and later released into the Ganges at a spot further upstream. In 2009 WWF-India initially released 131 Gharial in the Sanctuary and population of these individuals is flourishing in the area.

The vegetation of the sanctuary can be classified into three main types, Tall wet grasslands, in low lying areas remain inundated for most part of the year, Short wet grasslands remain dry from mid winters till the onset of monsoon and Dry scrub grasslands on raised grounds amidst the Ganges and on highland also called as “Khola”. Out of total area of the sanctuary, tall wet grasslands occupy 4% and dry scrub grasslands and plantation occupy 5% and 2% respectively. Aquatic vegetation in 9.7% out of total vegetation of the area.

The riparian zone supports many plant species that are of both ecological and economic importance. Some play an important role in nutrient and water conservation and in controlling soil erosion, while many possess important medicinal properties.

A total of 731 species of flowering plants have been reported from the Sanctuary of which 532 species (72.77%) belonged to dicot families and 199 (27.22%) belonged to monocot families. Only twenty families (16.36% of total families) account for 486 species (66.48% of total species). There were 34 species of aquatic plants. Eleven hydrophytic species (32.4%) belonged to dicot families and twenty-three (67.6%) to monocot families. This indicates high floral diversity of the Sanctuary that was once characteristics of the Ganga river flood plain.



Forests at sides of Middle Ganga canal (below) and typical marsh grassland in Budhi Ganga



A total of 28 species of mammals are recorded from the Sanctuary. The prominent mammalian species are Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), Striped hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*), Indian Fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*), Golden jackal (*Canis aureus*), Leopard cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*), Fishing cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*), jungle cat (*Felis chaus*), Swamp deer (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Hog deer (*Axis porcinus*), Sambar (*Rusa unicolor*), Chital (*Axis axis*), Nilgai (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) Smooth-coated Otter (*Lutrogale perspicillata*), Ganges river Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*), and Greater short nosed fruit bat (*Cynopterus sphinx*) etc.

The Sanctuary is home to around 195 avifauna species, noteworthy among which are Sarus Crane (*Antigone antigone*), Indian Skimmer (*Rynchops albicollis*), Gull billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*), Black bellied Tern (*Sterna acuticauda*), White Rumped Vulture (*Gyps*

bengalensis) and Red Necked Falcon (*Falco chicquera*) etc. Reptilian fauna accounted for 25 species (11 species of turtles, eight species of snakes, two species of crocodilians, two species of lizards, one species each of gecko and skink) of which Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*), Mugger (*Crocodylus palustris*) and Indian Softshell turtle (*Nilssonia gangetica*) are of conservation significance.

5. Observations

As per the discussion with people and forest officials, it was an excellent area for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife in 1980s when the sanctuary was notified. The sanctuary covers the forest lands, marsh grassland owned by the Government, Ganga River and Her high flood area and the agricultural lands, including human settlement. Over a period, in the absence of effective management, the cultivation and human habitation progressed in the non-forest sanctuary areas. As a result, a large part of the Government land (marshy grasslands) and the high flood zone of the river have under cultivation of sugar cane and paddy. Human habitation also expanded in the high flood zone. This process continues till date. Unfortunate, the typical ecologically superior fresh water marsh grassland could not be protected due to various reason. The patches of typical grassland in the high flood zone still survive which may disappear completely, if present trend continues.

The linear forest area in the south-west of the Middle Ganga Canal is intact but survive under intense grazing pressure. As per the official records and personal discussion with the local field staff, sambar, chital, swamp deer, hog deer, leopard, python, jungle cat and variety of other mammals, reptiles and birds occur in the area. This linear forest habitat is disconnected with the marsh land, high flood zone of Ganga due to the Middle Ganga Canal between the linear forest and the High Flood Zone of the Ganga River. The over passes at interval may facilitate movement of the animal from the forest zone to the marsh land of High Flood Zone of the Ganga.

A total of 28 species of mammals are recorded from the Sanctuary. The prominent mammalian species are Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), Striped hyena (*Hyaena hyaena*), Indian Fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*), Golden jackal (*Canis aureus*), Leopard cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*), Fishing cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*), jungle cat (*Felis chaus*), Swamp deer (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), Hog deer (*Axis porcinus*), Sambar (*Rusa unicolor*), Chital (*Axis axis*), Nilgai (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) Smooth-coated Otter (*Lutrogale perspicillata*), Ganges river Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*), and Greater short nosed fruit bat (*Cynopterus sphinx*) etc.

The Sanctuary homes 195 avifauna species, noteworthy among which are Sarus Crane (*Antigone antigone*), Indian Skimmer (*Rynchops albicollis*), Gull billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*), Black bellied Tern (*Sterna acuticauda*), White Rumped Vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*) and Red Necked Falcon (*Falco chicquera*) etc. Reptilian fauna accounted for 25 species (11 species of turtles,

eight species of snakes, two species of crocodilians, two species of lizards, one species each of gecko and skink) of which Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*), Mugger (*Crocodylus palustris*) and Indian Softshell turtle (*Nilssonia gangetica*) are of conservation significance.

A pilot survey on biodiversity of Ganga River was conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun under project NMCG-WII” Biodiversity Conservation & Ganga Rejuvenation” during April 2017 from Bijnor to Narora. The preliminary findings of the survey are:

Turtle species between Bijnor to Brijghat (95 Km stretch): (i) Indian tent turtle (*Pangshura tentoria*), (ii) Brown roofed turtle (*Pangshura smithii*), (iii) Indian roofed turtle (*Pangshura tecta*), (iii) Three-striped roofed turtle (*Batagur dhongoka*), and Indian softshell turtle (*Nilssonia gangetica*).

Turtle species between Brijghat to Narora (92 Km stretch): (i) Indian tent turtle (*Pangshura tentoria*), (ii) Brown roofed turtle (*Pangshura smithii*), (iii) Three-striped roofed turtle (*Batagur dhongoka*), (iv) Indian softshell turtle (*Nilssonia gangetica*)

Table 1: Number of turtle groups of different sizes encountered in the different stretches of River Ganga

Stretch	Age Class		
	Large groups (>100 individuals)	Medium sized groups (50 – 99)	Small sized groups (10 - 49 individuals)
Bijnor - Brijghat	3	1	4
Brijghat - Narora	0	1	8
Total	3	2	12

Table 2: Number of Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica gangetica*) individuals of different age class encountered in the different stretches of River Ganga

Stretch	Distance (Km)	No. of Individuals	Age Class			No. of Groups
			Juvenile	Sub- Adult	Adult	
Bijnor - Brijghat	95	7	0	1	6	4
Brijghat - Narora	92	31	10	1	20	19
Total	187	38	10	2	26	23

Table 3: Number of gharial individuals observed and their age class from different stretches of River Ganga

Stretch	Age Class				No. of Individuals
	Juvenile -I (0.6m-1.2m)	Juvenile-II (1.2m-1.8m)	Sub Adult (1.8m-2.7)	Adult (>2.7m)	
Bijnor - Brijghat	9	7	9	2	27
Brijghat - Narora	0	0	0	0	0
Total	9	7	9	2	27

Note: Above figures are not for population of the species but indications of their abundance.

Above survey indicates that Bijnor-Brijghat section of the Ganga River has high abundance of the wildlife. As per the scientists of the WII, Dehradun, the Ganga River falling at the site of construction of barrage is most suitable for Gangetic dolphin after a stretch in Bihar. The impact of construction of barrages on the Gangetic dolphin is known. The extermination of the Gangetic dolphin in Bijnor-Brijghat is high after construction of the barrage. The barrage will disconnect/block the movement of Gangetic dolphin, fish and reptiles.

Recent studies indicate a declining trend of Swamp deer population in the HWLS. The present population of Swamp deer in the Sanctuary and its surrounding areas is estimated to be around 190 individuals (Khan & Khan, 1999). Discussions with Forest Officers of the Sanctuary revealed an appreciable number of Hog deer and Sambar in the area.

Most of the Ganga water is harvested for irrigation by constructing barrages and their connecting canals. Very small quantity of water flow in the Ganga River during the winter and summer. This has serious negative impact on Gangetic dolphin, Gangetic *Gharial*, Marsh Crocodile and fresh water turtles. As per the IUCN category of threatened species, some of these species fall in Critically Endangered or Endangered category. Construction of the proposed barrage will completely block flow of Ganga water in the winter and summer. The Ganga water in winter and summer will flow in two artificial canals. After intensive use of the water for bathing and other purpose, the water will be released in the Ganga River. This will result into complete disruption of the ecological process of the Ganga River.

The proposed construction of barrage and transforming Ganga into two canals during winter and summer is contrary to recognition of the Ganga as living entities. Indian society consider Ganga more than a river but this proposal defeat that spirit. If the two proposed canals are essential to meet present religious and cultural need, why bathing facilities area not created along the three Ganga canals-Upper Ganga Canal, Middle Ganga Canal and Lower Ganga Canal. Can artificial canals replace true Ganga? Transforming Ganga into two canals during winter and summer may result into killing Ganga at certain site and then reviving through used polluted water of the

canals. People's faith is in Ganga and water of Ganga for bath, not in the artificial Ganga or Ganga water in canal. Intervention in this faith is against thousand years of evolved culture.

Another component of the proposal is development of High tech city along with roads and barriers. Entire project area covers high flood zone of the Ganga. This may transform the ecology of Ganga. It is very difficult to assess the impact of a large high tech city on the natural ecosystem, including Ganga River. Adjoining the proposed city is the Ramsar Site which has international conservation significance.

The direction of the National Green Tribunal Bench New Delhi

Recognising the ecological and cultural significance of Ganga, the National Green Tribunal Bench New Delhi. in the original application no 133/2017 (Writ Petition (C) No. 200/2013), pronounced directions on 13th July, 2017 for compliance by representatives from MoWR, Senior Officer from Department of Irrigation, State of Uttar Pradesh, Revenue Department of Uttar Pradesh and Central Water Commission. Some of the directions related to the area of the proposed projects are as follow:

- (i) The committee has to identify and demarcate the floodplains of river Ganga in Segment B of Phase-I on one in twenty five year's cycle.
- (ii) Till the said identification and demarcation of floodplain is completed, the NGT directed that 100 meters from the edge of the river would be designated as no development/construction zone in Segment B of Phase-I i.e., Haridwar to Unnao, Kanpur.
- (iii) The Special Committee would also identify no development/construction zone, regulatory zone and the activities that can be/cannot be carried on in the regulatory zone of the floodplain.
- (iv) There shall be a complete prohibition on disposing of MSW, E-waste or bio-medical waste on the floodplain or in river Ganga or its tributaries falling in Segment B of Phase-I.
- (v) As directed in the order dated 11th April, 2017, for each default, the defaulter would be liable to pay Environmental Compensation of Rs.50,000/- per default for such dumping and/or throwing the waste of any kind into the river.
- (vi) All the concerned authorities including the UPPCB, UPJN and State of UP shall be responsible for carrying out these directions as well as the directions contained in our order dated 11th April, 2017 (supra).

- (vii) There shall be no dumping or landfill sites for any kind of waste irrespective of any technology for waste processing, within 500 meters from the edge of the river Ganga and/or its tributaries.



Indian skimmer: The breeding bird of Ganga



Freshwater turtles



Gharail – One of the Critically endangered species

6. Recommendations

In view of the above observations, and the reason mentioned below, the proposed project titled “Development of Garh Mukteshwar as a Religious and Hi-tech Smart City” is **Not Recommended in the present form.**

- (i) *Construction of this project will change the morphology and hydrodynamics of the Ganga River at the proposed site and will kill approximately 7 km of the holy river.* This will hinder the efforts made by Government of India in the restoration effort of the Ganga River and will negatively affect the success of making a clean and vibrant Ganga which is

one of the main agenda of the Government of India. The construction of the barrage will cause disruption of the ecological process in Ganga

- (ii) Some of the construction activities, as proposed in the project, will violate the judgement on Writ Petition No. 3727/1985 and M.A. No. 594/2017 & 598/2017 of National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench dated 13th July 2017.
- (iii) The stretches of the Ganga River at the proposed project site is one of the cleanest part of the Ganga river in Uttar Pradesh ***which holds the significant population of National Aquatic Animal - the Ganges River dolphin, critically endangered Gharial and several species of Threatened turtle species.*** The project will disrupt the population structure of these threatened species.
- (iv) The construction of proposed canal between Tigri to Brij Ghat (8.5 km long at each side of the ganga river encircling the Religious and Hi-Tech City ***will affect the integrity of the habitat thereby hindering migration of terrestrial species like swamp deer, hog deer, honey badger, sambar, chital, nilgai and wild boar.***
- (I) ***Once the work of creation of barrage and associated canals are completed the project proposes to build the Religious City and Hi-tech City covering both the banks of Ganga River. The project proposes to divert 7395 km² area of the Sanctuary. This is will negatively affect the population of endangered swamp deer, sambar and host of other rare and threatened species of Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary.*** This may also have negative impact on the adjacent to Ramsar Site.
- (v) The project is based on the premises of drawing a minimum of 6000 cusec of water from the Ganga River for sustaining the project. The Ganga river is already water stress. As evident from the 48527 cusec of water is already being extracted before the proposed site (CPCB 2016). Diverting 6000 cusec of water from the barrage will render the downstream to the project site ecologically dead. The unregulated extraction of water without ecological consideration is one of the major factors that is affecting the integrity of the Ganga.

Annexure-I: Officials who accompanied the team for field visit

Dr. H. S. Singh	Member, National Board for Wildlife
Dr. S. A. Hussian	Scientist-G, Wildlife Institute of India
Dr Pasupala Ravi	Scientist, MoEF&CC
Mr Shri Sanjiv Kumar	Executive Engineer
Mr C.P.S. Malik	DFO, Hapur Forest Division
Mr Karn Pal	Assistant Engineer
Mr Rakesh Kumar	Junior Engineer
Mr Sachin Tyagi	Junior Engineer
Mr Ravi Kumar	Senior Assistant
Mr Goura Chandra Das	Project Associate, Wildlife Institute of India
Mr Aftab A. Usmani	Project Associate, Wildlife Institute of India
Mr Rakesh Kumar Sharma	Forest Range Officer, Hapur



Presentation by the project proponent at Hapur forest



Field visit by the team-a water hole within

Summary records of the meeting held on 24/07/2017 at 11 AM in pursuance of the Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 17/07/2017 in I.A. no. 3934 in W.P. (C) 202/1995 (T.N. Godavarman Vs. UOI) to discuss M/s OIL India Ltd proposal.

Date: 24th July 2017

Venue: Krishna Conference Hall.

1. A meeting, chaired by Shri Siddhanta Das (DGF&SS) and Member Secretary, Standing Committee of NBWL, on 24th July, 2107, in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 17/07/2017 in IA no. 3934 in W.P. (C) 202/1995 (T.N. Godavarman Vs. UOI) discussed the issues relating to placing of proposal of the M/s Oil India before the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife. The list of participants who attended the meeting is at **Annexure**.
2. Welcoming all the participants, the Chair requested M/s Oil India Limited to brief about the project.
3. Shri J.Lahiri, DGM from Oil India Limited gave a brief presentation on the various aspects of the project. He mentioned about the uniqueness of the project(first of its kind in the country) for drilling of seven wells beneath the Dibru-Saikhowa National Park in Assam, using Extended Reach Drilling (ERD) technology from outside the forest boundary without creating any impact on forest surface of the National Park as well as the 10 Km Eco-sensitive Zone. The oil would be extracted from the three operating wells located in non-forest area of ESZ.
He informed that already there are existing projects and gas wells operating in the area since decades. Activities related to said Project are outside Protected Area of Dibru-Saikhowa National Park (in non-forest Eco Sensitive Zone area) However, Approval from SC-NBWL is required in pursuant to Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 4th December, 2006 in WP (C) 460/2004.
4. DGF&SS mentioned that there is a laid down procedure for placing the proposals seeking wildlife clearance from the Standing Committee of NBWL. It involves submission of the proposal by the User Agency to the Protected Area Manager/ DFO. PA manager scrutinizes the proposal and furnishes his comments and forwards it to Chief Wildlife Warden who with his comments would place it before the State Board for Wild Life and the State Govt. along

with the recommendation of SBWL would forward it the Ministry for placing it before the Standing Committee of National Board Wildlife.

However, considering this as a special case and on the direction of hon'ble Supreme Court, the matter was placed in the Standing Committee and the Committee desired that the views of Chief Wildlife Warden of Assam may be obtained for further consideration.

5. IGF(WL) mentioned that the matter was discussed by the Standing Committee in its 42nd meeting on 15.05.2017. It was decided that issue would be resolved only after receiving the report from Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam. Accordingly the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal pending receipt of report/comments from the State of Assam.
6. CWLW Assam mentioned that the user agency applied for the wildlife clearance in the Ministry's portal on 31.10.2016 and not on 29.02.2016. It was mentioned by the user agency in the application that the proposal involved an area of 2000ha inside the core area of Dibrus-Saikhowa National Park. Upon examination of the application, certain queries were raised by Divisional Forest Officer, Tinsukia Wildlife Division seeking clarification and rectification of data through online on 25.11.2016. However, the user agency responded to the queries of DFO only on 19.07.2017.

He further stated that due to some technical difficulties, DFO is not able to forward the proposal to next level of scrutiny.

IGF(WL) mentioned that Ministry would accept the hard copy of the proposal and there is no bar in not accepting the hard copy.

7. DIG(WL) mentioned that although the oil wells are located outside the National Park but extraction would be done from the reservoirs located beneath the National Park by ERD technology. Consequently the wildlife clearance of NBWL would be needed as per the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. He opined that since this kind of oil extraction is happening for first time in the country, it's a special case and comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden are very crucial for further consideration by Standing Committee.
8. Part III & IV of the application form contain critical parameters which are needed to be furnished by the State Govt. and in the absence of the same, it would be difficult for Standing Committee to examine the proposal.

9. After the detailed discussions, the Chair decided that CWLW, Assam will furnish his views on the proposal at the earliest so that the matter may be placed in the meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife scheduled on 29 July, 2017.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Sh. Siddhanta Das, DGF&SS
2. Sh. Soumitra Dasgupta, IGF(WL)
3. Sh. S.P. Vashishth, DIG (WL)
4. K.V. Eapen, Addl. Chief Secretary, Environment and Forests, Assam
5. B.Brahma, PCCF & CWLW, Assam
6. Dr. Pasupala Ravi, Scientist (WL)
7. J. Lahiri, DGM, Oil India Ltd.
8. R. Dasgupta, ED Corporate Affairs, Oil India Ltd.
9. K. Buragohain, Chief geologist, Oil India Ltd.
10. Ravi Kumar, Legal Asst. (WL)

1	Name of the Proposal	Realignment of area of the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve, Chattisgarh																				
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Indiravati Tiger Reserve																				
3	File No.	6-193/2015 WL																				
4	Name of the State	Chattisgarh																				
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not mentioned																				
6	Area of the protected area	2799.07 sq. km																				
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/Denotification	513.351 sq. km <table><tr><td></td><td>existing area (sq km)</td><td>area for re-alignment (sq km)</td></tr><tr><td>Reserved forestland in the buffer zone</td><td>639.330</td><td>475.863</td></tr><tr><td>Protected area in the buffer zone</td><td>221.260</td><td>36.288</td></tr><tr><td>Unincorporated land in buffer zone</td><td>577.670</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>Revenue land of the buffer area</td><td>102.440</td><td>1.200</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>1540.700</td><td>513.351</td></tr></table>				existing area (sq km)	area for re-alignment (sq km)	Reserved forestland in the buffer zone	639.330	475.863	Protected area in the buffer zone	221.260	36.288	Unincorporated land in buffer zone	577.670	-	Revenue land of the buffer area	102.440	1.200	Total	1540.700	513.351
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Total	1540.700	513.351																				
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	Not mentioned																				
8	Name of the applicant agency	Government of Chattisgarh																				
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Not Mentioned.																				
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	yes																				
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 13 th May 2015.																					
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency Presently, the reserve's buffer zone is spread in an area of 1540.7 sq km where as many as 81 villages are located. Keeping in view the convenience of the forest dwellers that largely depend on collecting minor forest produce to earn livelihood and development of the region, an experts committee was constituted to review the situation and had been asked to submit a report on it. The experts committee has recommended the proposal in its report to decrease the buffer area to 513 sq km. Earlier, 81 villages were affected by the tiger project while after recommendations total of 77 villages will be out of the purview of buffer zone.																					
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area The species found in this tiger reserve are wild buffalos, barasinghas, tigers, leopards, gaurs,																					

	nilgai, sambar, chausingha, sloth bear, dhole, striped hyena, muntjac, wild boar, flying squirrel, porcupine, pangolins, monkeys, langurs, etc.																				
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden Not mentioned in the proposal.																				
15	Comments of Ministry Comments were sought from the NTCA. Now the comments has been received from the NTCA vide letter no.15-30(10)/2015-NTCA dated 24th April 2017. NTCA has concurred the proposal to alter boundaries of Indravati Tiger Reserve. Details of the new dispensation <i>vis-a-vis</i> the old are as follows: <table><tr><th>S.No.</th><th>Parameter</th><th>Old</th><th>New</th><th>Remarks</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Area of core</td><td>1258 sq km</td><td>1258 sq km</td><td>No change</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Area of buffer</td><td>1540.7 sq km</td><td>1382.6 sq km</td><td>Reduction of 158.1 sq km</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Villages in buffer</td><td>81</td><td>4</td><td>Reduction of 77 villages</td></tr></table> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>	S.No.	Parameter	Old	New	Remarks	1	Area of core	1258 sq km	1258 sq km	No change	2	Area of buffer	1540.7 sq km	1382.6 sq km	Reduction of 158.1 sq km	3	Villages in buffer	81	4	Reduction of 77 villages
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1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for <i>exclusion of 228.87 sq km</i> from Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary for rationalization of the boundary of the sanctuary, Odisha																													
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary																													
3	File No.	6-58/2014WL																													
4	Name of the State	Odisha																													
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not mentioned in the proposal																													
6	Area of the protected area	636.49 sq. km																													
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/Denotification	228.87 sq. km																													
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	Not mentioned																													
8	Name of the applicant agency	Government of Odisha																													
9	Total number of tree to be felled	Not Mentioned.																													
10	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes																													
11	Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife The State Board for wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 11 th February 2014.																														
12	Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency Proposal for exclusion of 228.87 sq km from Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary for rationalization of the boundary of the sanctuary, Odisha. Satkosia Gorge Sanctuary has been notified U/s-18 vide Government Notification No.12727/FFAH dated 9.05.1976 falling in the erstwhile districts of Dhenkanal, Cuttack, Phulbani and Puri, now districts of Angul, Boudh, Cuttack and Nayagarh, as Wildlife Sanctuary. While determining the rights of the local inhabitants in or over the land coming within the Satkosia Gorge WLS U/s-19 to U/s-26(3) before issuing final notification U/s-26(A) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Collectors of the Districts of Angul, Boudh, Cuttack and Nayagarh have recommended for relocation, exclusion and ringing out of few villages from the limits of existing sanctuary as per details furnished below: <table><tr><th rowspan="2">Name of District</th><th colspan="3">Villages to be</th></tr><tr><th>Relocated</th><th>Ringed</th><th>Excluded</th></tr><tr><td>Angul</td><td>1</td><td>27</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>Cuttack</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>Boudh</td><td>4</td><td>-</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>Nayagarh</td><td>6</td><td>20</td><td>-</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>11</td><td>47</td><td>57</td></tr></table>				Name of District	Villages to be			Relocated	Ringed	Excluded	Angul	1	27	16	Cuttack	-	-	27	Boudh	4	-	14	Nayagarh	6	20	-	Total	11	47	57
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Total	11	47	57																												
13	Rare and endangered species found in the area The species found in Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary animals found here include the tiger, leopard, jungle cat, civet, small Indian mongoose, wolf, jackal, stripped hyena, wild dog, elephant, common langur, sloth bear, sambar, chital, chausingha, mouse deer, barking deer,																														

	wild pig, etc.																		
14	Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden The State Chief Wildlife Warden recommended the proposal for <i>exclusion of 186.93 sq.km and addition of 359.79 sq.km</i> forest area for rationalization of the boundary of the protected area/tiger reserve.																		
15	Comments of Ministry Proposal was considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 32 nd Meeting held on 21 st January 2015. During the meeting, the Committee was of the view that as large area was being proposed for exclusion from the Sanctuary, which was also part of Tiger Reserve, a team comprising of Dr. R. Sukumar and one representative of NTCA shall carry out site inspection and submit a report to the Standing Committee within one month. State government was requested to reconsider the proposal of drastic reduction of the proposed area of the sanctuary in view of the fact the facilities and rights of the people in the villages in the area can be accommodated appropriately keeping a balance between the nature and people’s needs. During the 33 rd Meeting held on 14 th March 2015, The Member Secretary briefed the Committee on the proposal. The matter related to proposal of exclusion of area from the Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972. Standing Committee had requested Prof. Sukumar member to visit the area and apprise the committee on the matter. Prof. Sukumar stated that he, along with a representative of NTCA, had completed conducted the site inspection and had discussed the matter with the state authorities. He presented an interim report stating that a few errors in boundary demarcation and a few suggestions had been given to the state related to the area in the proposal. Prof. Sukumar stated that state government of Orissa was by and large agreeable for re-demarcation of boundary and a new proposal is required to be drafted. Committee agreed to the suggestion and representative of Odisha was requested to recast the proposal accordingly. Prof Sukumar was requested to make the report available at the earliest. The NTCA vide letter No.15-5(8)/2014-NTCA dated 24 th December 2014 has communicated their decision that the project proposed in respect of exclusion of 228.87 sq.km from Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary which is part of the Satkosia TR, for rationalization of the boundary, has not been recommended by the Competent Authority, owing to inadequate justification with no alternate areas to compensate the loss of habitat. The NTCA vide letter No.1.11/2008-NTCA (Vol.1) dated 9 th May 2017 has concurred the proposal to alter the boundaries of Satkosia Tiger Reserve. Details of the new dispensation <i>vis-a-vis</i> the old are follows: <table><tr><th>S.No.</th><th>Parameter</th><th>Old</th><th>New</th><th>Remarks</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Area of core</td><td>523.61</td><td>523.61</td><td rowspan="3">Overall addition of 172.83 sq. km to the tiger reserve</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Area of buffer</td><td>440.26</td><td>613.09</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Total</td><td>963.87</td><td>1136.7</td></tr></table> The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	S.No.	Parameter	Old	New	Remarks	1	Area of core	523.61	523.61	Overall addition of 172.83 sq. km to the tiger reserve	2	Area of buffer	440.26	613.09	3	Total	963.87	1136.7
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