

**45<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF  
THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE  
4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAVAN, JOR BAGH ROAD  
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# **AGENDA FOR 45<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE**

## **AGENDA ITEM NO. 1**

### **Confirmation of the minutes of 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

The minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of **the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife** were circulated on 16<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017. No comments have been received till date.

**Copy of the minutes is at ANNEXURE 45.1**

## AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

### 45.1. Action taken on the decisions of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife taken in its 44<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017

S.No.	Agenda Item	Action taken	Category
1	<b>36.4.2.1</b> 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 for EC, impact on Marine Life would be assessed.  <b><i>Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan was received from the Project Proponents on 4<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017. The Plan has been sent to CWLW, AP on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 for comments.</i></b>  <b><i>Comments of CWLW, AP on the Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan are awaited.</i></b>	Oil/Gas
2	<b>36.4.2.12</b> 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 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 2016 for their comments.	Power
3	<b>36.4.2.13</b> Construction of 171 MW Lata Tapovan Hydro Power Project of NTPC Ltd, Uttarakhand		
4	<b>36.4.2.14</b> 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	The Chair suggested to the CWLW to ask the State Govt. to take up the matter with the MoWR&RDRR.  <b><i>(i) Comments are still awaited from Ministry of Water Resources. V<sup>th</sup> Reminder has been sent on 10<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017.</i></b>  <b><i>(ii) Response is still awaited from the State Government.</i></b>	
5	<b>34.4.2.11</b> 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	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 the State.	Mining

	Sanctuary/ Mukundra Hills National Park	The CWLW, Rajasthan informed that ESZ proposal of Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary would be finalized and submitted to the Ministry in one month. Revised ESZ proposal of the Mukundra Hills TR is still awaited from the State.	
6	<b>34.4.2.12</b> 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	<i>In the 43<sup>rd</sup> SC-NBWL meeting the CWLW was requested to submit the proposals within 2 months.</i>  <i>V<sup>th</sup> Reminder has been sent on 10<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017.</i>	
7	<b>34.4.2.13</b> 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	<i>Response is still awaited from the State Government.</i>	
8	<b>39.4.2.5</b> 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 Standing Committee of NBWL in its 39 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2016. During the meeting, the CWLW, Rajasthan mentioned that the Environment Clearance for the project is under consideration of SEIAA, Rajasthan.  <i>V<sup>th</sup> Reminder has been sent on 10<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017.</i> <i>In the 43<sup>rd</sup> SC-NBWL meeting the CWLW was requested to submit the proposals within 2 months.</i>  <i>Response is still awaited from the State Government.</i>	Tourism
9	<b>40.3.2.1</b> 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 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting held on 15.05.2017 decided that a Committee comprising of the CWLW 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. The Committee has completed site visit.	Railways

		<p><i>The site inspection report was received on 24<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017 (ANNEXURE 45.2).</i></p> <p><i>The Committee has recommended the proposal for the diversion of 9.94 ha of forestland from Trishna WLS for the construction of new railway line (BG) from Agartala to Sabroom with strict adherence to the mitigation measures and conditions.</i></p>	
10	<p><b>32.4.2(19)</b> 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>	<p>The Committee in its 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting held on 15.5.2017 decided that the Secretary, MoEF&amp;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 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 under the chairmanship of DGF&amp;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. Response from the State Govt. was received.</p> <p>The Standing Committee in its 44<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017 requested that the NTCA would examine the issue and submit the report in three weeks.</p> <p><b><i>Report is awaited from the NTCA.</i></b></p>	Mining
11	<p><b>40.3.2.2</b> 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>	<p>The Standing Committee in its 42<sup>nd</sup> Meeting held on 15.05.2017 decided that the Secretary, MoEF&amp;CC would convene a meeting of project proponent, State Government and NTCA to take a decision on the proposal.</p> <p><b><i>A meeting in this regard was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug 2017 under the Chairmanship of Secretary, MoEF&amp;CC. Minutes of meeting are placed at ANNEXURE 45.3.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>It has been decided that a committee</i></b></p>	Mining

		<i>of DIG(NTCA), DIG(WL), representative from IA Division and a representative of Maharashtra Govt., in the presence of project proponent, would visit the site and submit a report within 15 days.</i>	
12	<b>41.4.2.1</b> Proposal for Construction of Central Armed Police Forces Institute of Medical Science (CAPFIMS) along with R&R Hospital and allied Institutes, New Delhi. The proposed site is 200 meters away from the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary	<p>Proposal was considered and recommended by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 41<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar 2017. However the user agency has requested to waive deposit of 5% of total project cost for undertaking soil-moisture conservation work as stipulated by the CWLW. The request to waive deposit of 5% of total cost was placed before the 43<sup>rd</sup> SC-NBWL held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017. The Standing Committee decided that the matter be examined by a Committee headed by Dr H S Singh, the State CWLW and a representative of Wildlife Division would conduct a site visit and submit a report for further consideration.</p> <p>The Committee has completed the site visit and furnished the report.</p> <p><b><i>The Site Inspection Report was received on 20<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017 (ANNEXURE 45.4).</i></b></p> <p><b><i>The Site Inspection Committee has recommended that the user agency is required to deposit 2% of total cost of the project for soil-moisture conservation and improvement of wildlife habitat in the Asola wildlife sanctuary</i></b></p>	Hospital / Medical College
13	<b>44.3.2.</b> Diversion of 1136.0138 ha of forestland for the construction of <b>Dr. B R Ambedkar Pranahita Irrigation Canal</b> falling in Tiger Corridor area linking Kawal Tiger Reserve in Telangana with Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve in Maharastra and Indravathi Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh	<p>Proposal was considered in the 44<sup>th</sup> SC-NBWL held on 29.07.2017. The State CWLW has requested the Standing Committee to reduce the number of 18 eco-friendly crossings across the Pranahita Irrigation Canal. The Standing Committee decided that the WII would visit the project site and submit a detailed report to</p>	Irrigation

		<p>this Ministry in a fortnight for further consideration of the proposal.</p> <p><i>The Site Inspection Report was received on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2017 (ANNEXURE 45.5).</i></p> <p><i>The Site Inspection Committee has recommended that the (i) 9 eco-friendly bridges are not required and (ii) the width of 9 eco-friendly bridges may be changed.</i></p>	
13	<b>43.1.24</b> Permission for investigation and survey for construction of National Highway (NH-3) bypass road in Son Chiriya Wildlife Sanctuary, Ghatigaon, Madhya Pradesh	<p>Proposal was considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting held during 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017. The user agency has suggested three options of which the CWLW has opted for <b>Option 1</b> whereas the SBWL has preferred <b>Option 3</b>. 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.</p> <p><i>The Site Inspection Report was received on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2017 (ANNEXURE 45.6).</i></p> <p><i>The Site Inspection Committee noticed discrepancy between the alignments shown in the map of proposal and the alignments shown by the User Agency in the field visit.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requested to carry out joint resurvey by the User Agency and the State Forest Department and furnish information to this Ministry within a month.</i></p>	Road
14	<b>41.4.1.4</b> Proposal for establishment and operating Retail Outlet with required facilities in private land situated in village Mishirpur, Plot Khasra No.223M right side of	<p>Proposal was considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 41<sup>st</sup> meeting held during 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017. Dr H S Singh, member NBWL observed that Govt. land also is</p>	Retail Outlet



	Asifabad - Garh road (MDR), Meerut District	<p>involved in the proposal. He opined that the Govt. land should not be allowed to be used for setting up the facility on Govt. land. Further the Member suggested to seek the comments of the State CWLW.</p> <p><i>Comments of the State CWLW received on 6<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017. The CWLW, Uttar Pradesh has mentioned that there is no private land adjacent to the outlet and therefore 0.0576286 ha Govt. land is required for the entry and exists of vehicles from Retail Outlet.</i></p>	
15	<b>44.1.6.</b> 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	<p>Proposal was considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 44<sup>th</sup> meeting held during 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017. <i>The proposal involves the diversion of 4.20 ha of forestland from the Rupi Bhaba Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of Attargoo Sagam - Mudh Bhawa Road. However the DFO, Himachal Pradesh mentioned that the diversion of 43.50 ha of forestland is required for the laying of Attargoo Sagam-Mudh Bhawa road.</i> The Standing Committee requested the State Govt. to submit the revised proposal.</p> <p><i>The State PCCF has requested to consider the proposal sent earlier as final one.</i></p>	Road
16	<b>43.1.19</b> Realignment of area of the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve, Chhattisgarh	<p>The proposal was considered in the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of SC-NBWL held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017, and 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of SC-NBWL held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017. The Standing Committee suggested seeking the recommendations of the CWLW for further consideration.</p> <p><i>In the 44<sup>th</sup> meeting, the State CWLW informed that the recommendations would be submitted in two weeks.</i></p>	

		<i>Response is still awaited from the State Government.</i>	
17	<b>41.3</b> Change of status of forest land to revenue land when the former has been used to rehabilitate villages from core areas of National Parks / Wildlife Sanctuaries / Tiger Reserves forest land	<p>This policy issue was considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 41<sup>st</sup> meeting held during 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017. It was decided that in all those cases where the <i>reserve forest</i> has been used to rehabilitate villages from core areas of National Parks / Wildlife Sanctuaries / Tiger Reserves, status of <i>forestland</i> would be changed to <i>revenue land</i>.</p> <p><i>Govt. of Maharashtra has requested that in all those cases where the forestland has been used to rehabilitate villages from core areas of National Parks / Wildlife Sanctuaries / Tiger Reserves, status of forestland would be changed to revenue land.</i></p>	Policy

### AGENDA ITEM NO. 3

#### **45.3.1. Integrated Wildlife Management Plan for West Singhbhum District of Jharkhand State examined by Multidisciplinary Expert Committee (MDEC)**

1. The Government of India set up Justice M.B. Shah Commission of Inquiry for Illegal Mining of iron ore and Manganese (Commission) vide Notification NO.S.O. 2817(E) dated 22 Nov 2010.
2. The Commission submitted its First Report on illegal mining of iron and manganese ores in the State of Jharkhand on 14 Oct 2013.
3. The MoEF&CC submitted its Action Taken Report (ATR) on the observation of Hon'ble Shah Commission to the Ministry of Mines and the consolidated ATR of MoEF&CC, Ministry of Coal, State Government of Jharkhand was considered by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 30 July 2014 and the cabinet accepted the consolidated ATR submitted by the Ministry of Mines.
4. Further taking cognizance of the findings of Hon'ble Justice M.B. Shah Commission of Enquiry on the illegal mining in the Saranda forests and also proposed conservation reserve, the MoEF&CC in its ATR has *inter-alia* mentioned that a Multi-Disciplinary Expert Committee will be constituted to examine the Integrated Wildlife Management Plan (IWMP). The MoEF&CC in its ATR has also mentioned that carrying capacity of the Saranda forest will be assessed to assess the optimum production level in the Saranda forest.
5. Subsequently after receipt of finalized IWMP from the State Government, the MoEF&CC vide its O.M dated 26 Aug 2014 constituted a Multidisciplinary Expert Committee (MDEC) under the chairmanship of Shri S S Bisht. Similarly Indian Council of Forestry, Research and Education (ICFRE) to assess the carrying capacity of Saranda Forests and to suggest annual cap (for ore production) and other ameliorative measures to mitigate impact of mining on flora and fauna.
6. The Bisht Committee, after examination of IWMP on 8 June 2015, submitted its report to the Ministry *inter-alia* recommending that the proposed conservation reserve in Saranda forest is required to be revisited by the State Government. A letter was sent to State Government for incorporating the recommendations of MDEC in IWMP.
7. In the meantime, the ICFRE, Dehradun also submitted its interim report to MoEF&CC. Report of the Bisht Committee and also the interim report was discussed in a meeting held under the chairmanship of DGF&CC on 5 Oct 2015. Officers / representatives from the FC Division, Project Elephant, ICFRE, Dehradun, WII, Dehradun, ISM, Dhanbad and members of MDEC were also present in the meeting. During the meeting, after thorough discussion on the relevant issues, following decision were taken:

- (i) MDEC will be provided with the maps of the Saranda Forest area, depicting the elephant corridors and on receipt of the opinion of the MDEC about the proposed Conservation Reserve after the examination of the above maps submitted by the State Government, if necessary, revisiting of the constitution of the Conservation Reserve would be done by the State forest Department of Jharkhand.
  - (ii) It was also decided that the State government should evolve the mechanism of implementation of the IWMP's proposed plans and the recommendations of the MDEC.
  - (iii) Dr Biswajit Paul, Associate Professor of ISM, Dhanbad was also requested to provide his inputs on the tabled report, as a member of MDEC as he had not done so earlier. Dr Paul assured that the same would be provided expeditiously.
  - (iv) The officers also discussed the Interim Report in Carrying Capacity Study submitted by the ICFRE and it was noticed that in its interim report, ICFRE has taken into the consideration only the mining leases falling in Saranda Forest Division of the Saranda region, PCCF Jharkhand intimated that there are some mining leases in the Chaibasa Forest Division of the Saranda region. It was decided that in addition to the mines of the Saranda Forest Division, mines of the Chaibasa Forest Division should also be taken into account while conducting the carrying capacity study. The ICFRE was asked to complete the carrying capacity study immediately. It was also decided that the present report of MDEC, though may require revision in future, be sent to ICFRE.
8. A copy of the minutes of the meeting along with the report of the MDEC has been communicated to the State Government of Jharkhand and all other concerned vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 9 Oct 2015 (**ANNEXURE 45.7**).
  9. Subsequently a committee was constituted by this Ministry under the Chairmanship of ADG(FC) to analyze the report on carrying capacity study of Saranda Forest to suggest annual cap. Meanwhile Shri S S Bisht, Chairperson, MDEC furnished their comments on the Integrated Wildlife Management plan for West Singhbhum District (revised in March 2106). With reference to meeting held on 2 Sept 2016 under the chairmanship of ADG(FC) comments on Management plan for Sustainable Mining and IWMP by Dr D S Srivastava have been sent to the Principal Secretary, Government of Jharkhand.
  10. The conditions referred in the Management Plan for the Sustainable Mining (MPSM) in Saranda and Chaibasa Region as approved by the Ministry and IWMP as prepared by the State Government and examined by the Expert Committee headed by the Dr Bisht constituted by the MoEF&CC shall be strictly implemented by the State Government and User Agency wherever applicable. The User Agency shall contribute proportionately towards execution of IWMP.

***Final report of the MDEC has not been approved by the competent authority in the Ministry.***

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on this policy issue.

**45.3.2. Delegation of powers to the State Government for sanctioning proposal regarding drinking water pipeline in Protected Areas by the Chief Wildlife Warden**

1. The Government of Gujarat has requested for the delegation of powers for sanctioning drinking water pipeline proposals falling inside Protected Areas.
2. As per the present procedure, any project proposal for laying of pipeline for supply of drinking water has to be recommended by the State Board for Wildlife and the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife.
3. *Projects like drinking water supply to the masses cannot be delayed as this is the basic need for sustenance of human life as well as livestock particularly water scarce areas.*
4. *If the power of taking an immediate decision for implementation of drinking water project is given to the Chief Wildlife Warden, then the immediate need of water supply during the water scarce seasons can be taken care of.* In the last meeting of SBWL, it was decided that cases of drinking water projects may be sanctioned by CWLW of the State in anticipation of post facto approval by SBWL and Standing Committee of NBWL.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on this policy issue.

### **45.3.3. Landscape Scale Conservation**

India's wildlife conservation efforts have so far almost entirely focused on the Protected Area approach. While this has been partly successful and has served the immediate needs of protecting and increasing the population of many endangered species, the need for a broader landscape-scale approach is becoming clearly in several contexts. First in species such as the tiger whose conservation almost entirely focused on relatively small Tiger Reserves for a quarter of a century since the launch of Project Tiger in 1973, there has been a distinct shift towards tiger landscapes for managing meta-populations. Project Elephant took a landscape from the beginning of its launch in 1992 but is still grappling with issues such as protecting corridors. Second adaptations if a host of plant and animal species to climate change requires dispersal and migration across human-dominated landscapes. The draft National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2022) recognizes these needs in a newly introduced chapter. However landscapes in India are complex mosaics of PAs, territorial forests, revenue forests, follow revenue lands and privately-owned lands under various forms of land use. For conservation landscapes to achieve the goals of wildlife/biodiversity conservation, it is essential to enlist the cooperation of people through clear policies and laws as well as a system of incentives to ensure that wildlife / biodiversity friendly values are maintained on non-forest lands. Although newer categories of PAs such as Conservation reserves and Community Reserves have been introduced more than a decade ago, these have yet to be adopted to any significant degree or accepted by society at large because of suspicious on implications for people's rights and livelihoods. It is requested that a sub-committee of members who can hold wider consultative meeting may be constituted for preparing policy document on landscape scale conservation.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on this policy issue.

## AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

### 45.4.1. 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	Bihar	6-168/2017 WL	Proposal for provision of ropeway facility in Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary
2	Chhattisgarh	6-157/2017 WL	Erection of 11 KV overhead line from CRPF camp Netanar to village Koleng on XLPE cable for 23.60 km in Kangar Valley National Park
3	Chhattisgarh	6-160/2017 WL	Upgradation of forest road from Aktwar to Chule in Guru Ghasidas National Park
4	Chhattisgarh	6-162/2017 WL	Diversion of 2.393 ha of forestland to Superintendent of Police for establishment of CRPF camp compartment No. PF 184 of Chinnakodepal village under buffer zone of Indravati Tiger Reserve, Chhattisgarh
5	Chhattisgarh	6-163,164,166/2017 WL	Diversion of (i) <b>9.45 ha</b> of forestland from the Kanger Ghati National Park for the construction of Nangur – Netanar – Koleng road, (ii) <b>13.50 ha</b> of forestland from the Kanger Ghati National Park for the construction of Darbha – Koleng - Chandameta road, and (iii) <b>5.76 ha</b> of forestland from the Kanger Ghati National Park for the construction of G.K Road – R.D. road - Chamrupara road under the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Scheme in Jagdalpur of Bastar region in Chhattisgarh State
6	Chhattisgarh	6-143/2017 WL	Diversion of 27.355 ha of forestland for construction of proposed 132 KV Nagri-Indagaon transmission line
7	Gujarat	6-151/2017/WL	Proposal for change of surface of Jharvani-Mathasar road in 1.88 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Gujarat
8	Gujarat	6-154/2017/WL	Proposal for change of surface of Dumkhal-Mathasar road in 2.04 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Gujarat
9	Gujarat	6-155/2017/WL	Proposal for use of 0.549 ha land in Gir Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of optical fiber cable by Idea Cellular Ltd., Ahmadabad
10	Odisha	6-135/2017/WL	Bulk water supply to IIT, NISER, INFOCITY II & other adjoining areas
11	Telangana	6-71/2017 WL	Diversion of 0.3198 ha of forestland in Nagarjunasagar division for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable for a length of 7106.44 m along RF at Puttichelama to Vijaypuri Road (134/200 to 136/200 km and 73/395 to 78/395 km) along the road

(1)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Proposal for provision of ropeway facility in Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-168/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Bihar
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	51824.022 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>1.30 ha</b>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	<b>98.197 ha</b> was diverted for construction of Durgavati reservoir in 2011
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Department of Tourism, Govt. of Bihar
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	<b>NIL</b>
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b>	The SBWL has recommended the proposal in its 7 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 26.04.2017.
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b>	The aim of the project is to promote tourist facilities in Bihar. To reach Rohtasgarh fort tourists have to cover 1.5 km distance by dilapidated very hard 2000 steps and very arduous journey. The Dept. of Tourism of Bihar has decided to construct a passenger ropeway at Rohtasgarh fort. The chair system applying new and latest technique through RITES Ltd. This project will help in the better communication of villages in the upper side of Kaimur plateau and also in promoting eco-tourism. The ropeway project is largely aerial and minimum disturbance will be in the ground forest area. It is mentioned in the proposal that the proposed project will not affect wildlife.
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b>	Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary is the habitat of Bengal tiger, leopard, Indian boar, sloth bear, sambar deer, chital, four-horned antelope, nilgai, etc.
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b>	The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) The operation of ropeway carriage/transit facility for tourism purpose shall be regulated under the directions of the Chief Wildlife Warden, Bihar coordinated as eco-tourism activities so that any adverse impact on wildlife interests are prevented or mitigated. (2) Eco-friendly vehicles (battery operated) should be used for transport of tourists over 5 km of road distance from top landing site of Chaurasan Mandir to Rohtasgrah Fort. (3) During the construction and installation of the ropeway facility in the sanctuary area, the practicable restrictions and precautionary measures as prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Bihar shall be compiled.
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b>	<i>Proposal would promote eco-tourism in the Protected Area.</i>  The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.



(2)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Erection of 11 KV overhead line from CRPF camp Netanar to village Koleng on XLPE cable for 23.60 km in Kangar Valley National Park
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Kangar valley National Park, Jagdalpur
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-157/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Chhattisgarh
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	200.00 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>1.216 ha</b>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	NIL
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Ltd, Jagdalpur
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	<b>NIL</b>
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b>	The SBWL has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 23.05.2017.
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b>	Electrification of village Koleng by laying 11 KV overhead line from CRPF camp Netanar to village Koleng on XLPE cable for 23.60 km out of which 12 km of line will pass parallel beside the existing Netanar-Kileng forest road through Kangar Valley National Park by erecting 340 Nos 9 m long PCC poles in which each pole requires earth pit digging of size 2.5' X 1.5 X 5'.
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b>	Kangar valley National Park is the habitat of 49 species of mammals namely tiger, leopard, mouse deer, wild cat, chital, sambar, barking deer, jackal, langurs, rhesus macaque, sloth bear, flying squirrel, wild boar, striped hyena, rabbits, etc.
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b>	The CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions.
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b>	<i>Project would provide electricity to Koleng village.</i>  The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

(3)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Upgradation of forest road from Aktwar to Chule in Guru Ghasidas National Park
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Guru Ghasidas National Park
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-160/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Chhattisgarh
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	<i>1440.71 sq.km</i>
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	NIL
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	NIL
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Executive CGRRDA, Pui, Dist. Korea
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	NIL
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The SBWL has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 23.05.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> The proposed project is concerned with the upgradation of forest road which runs from Aktwar to Chule covers distance of 5.97 km out of which 1.40 km area (0.84 ha comes under Guru Ghasidas National Park. Since there is no alternative road available for the nearby villagers. Therefore to facilitate the management of forest and provide facility to connect villages as per demand to provide facility of transport and better livelihood opportunities for villagers, upgradation of forest road (WBM with black tapping) is proposed for the welfare of the villagers.	
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Guru Ghasidas National Park is home to tiger, leopard, chital, nilgai, chinkara, jackal, sambar, four-horned antelope, jungle cat, barking deer, porcupine, bison, striped hyena, sloth bear, wild dog, spotted deer, civet, wild boar, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions.	
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b> <i>Proposal would facilitate in accessing basic amenities of life.</i> The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

(4)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Diversion of 2.393 ha of forestland to Superintendent of Police for establishment of CRPF camp compartment No. PF 184 of Chinnakodepal village under buffer zone of Indravati Tiger Reserve, Chhattisgarh
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Indravati Tiger Reserve
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-162/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Chhattisgarh
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	1258.372 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>2.393 ha</b>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	NIL
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Superintendent of Police, Bijapur
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	Not mentioned
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 23.01.2015.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> 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	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> 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	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions.	
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b> NTCA has recommended the proposal with the strict adherence to the following condition: <i>Joint DGPS survey by State Forest Department and User Agency should be carried out for rectification in the actual extent and location mentioned in the original proposal and implications thereof.</i>  The project area falls inside the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve. <b><i>Proposal has strategic importance.</i></b> The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

(5)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	<p>Diversion of (i) <b>9.45 ha</b> of forestland from the Kanger Ghati National Park for the construction of Nangur – Netanar – Koleng road,</p> <p>(ii) <b>13.50 ha</b> of forestland from the Kanger Ghati National Park for the construction of Darbha – Koleng - Chandameta road, and</p> <p>(iii) <b>5.76 ha</b> of forestland from the Kanger Ghati National Park for the construction of G.K Road – R.D. road - Chamrupara road</p> <p>under the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Scheme in Jagdalpur of Bastar region in Chhattisgarh State</p>
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Kanger Valley National Park
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-163,164,166/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Chhattisgarh
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not Sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	200 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	9.45 + 13.50 + 5.76 ha = <b>28.71 ha</b>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	Not mentioned
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Executive Engineer, PIUM No.01, CGRRDA, Jagdalpur, Bastar District
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	Not mentioned
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b>	The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 23.05.2017.
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b>	<p>Prime Minister's Rural Roads Scheme) is a nationwide plan in India to provide good all-weather road connectivity to unconnected villages. This Scheme aid to provide roads to interior villages. Further this Scheme would change the lifestyle of villagers by constructing new roads and upgrade of inter-village routes in the country. These proposals are for converting <i>kachcha</i> roads to convert it into <i>pakka</i> roads. The sanctuary has 48 villages inhabited predominantly by tribes who are poor and deprived of basic civic amenities. The remote villages are connected by <i>kachcha</i> roads 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> roads to <i>pakka</i> roads by black tapping which provide better connectivity round the year. The proposed roads in the Bastar region will create connectivity to the interior areas and thus facilitate easy management of the park.</p>
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b>	Kanger Valley National Park is home to tiger, leopard, mouse deer, wild cat, chital, sambar, barking deer, jackal, langur, Rhesus macaque, sloth bear, flying squirrel, wild boar, striped hyena, rabbit, etc.

	The avian fauna includes hill myna, spotted owlet, red-jungle fowl, racket-tailed drongos, peacock, parrot, steppe eagles, red-spur fall, phakta, bhura teeter, tree pie, heron, etc.
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The State CWLW has recommended the proposals without imposing conditions.
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b>  <i>Project would provide all-weather connectivity to interior villages.</i> The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

(6)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Diversion of 27.355 ha of forestland for construction of proposed 132 KV Nagri-Indagaon transmission line
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-143/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Chhattisgarh
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	184254 ha
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	Forestland : <b>27.355 ha</b> Revenue land : <b>16.603 ha</b> <hr/> <b>Total : 42.958 ha</b>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	NIL
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Executive Engineer EHT (Construction) Dn.CSPTCL, Gudhiyari, Raipur
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	Felling of <b>4303 trees</b>
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 23.05.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> The proposed project comes from the State Government Scheme under CSPTCL in the name of 132 KV Nagri to Indagaon line which falls in the Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve and covers distance of 15.911 km. Since there is no electricity till today in the villages, villagers have been facing darkness, without communication and television affecting better livelihood opportunities. The proposed transmission line will strengthen electricity of the area providing better power supply and solving low voltage problem in the area. It will result in overall socio-economic development of the area. There is no alternative route in which the forest can be avoided. The selected route involves least disturbance to the wildlife habitat.	
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Udanti Sitanadi Tiger Reserve is natural abode for tiger, panther, blue bull, chital, sambhar, bison, wild buffalo, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions	
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b>  The NTCA recommended the project subject to the strict/mandatory adherence to the following mitigation strategies:  (1) In compliance with MoEF&CC guidelines, no clearance of vegetation shall be allowed for open areas with sparse vegetation (such as grasslands, wetlands, etc0. A 5.8 m vertical clearance above ground, 2.5 m vertical clearance from the vegetation and 1.2 m horizontal clearance from vegetation could be permitted in other areas of the transmission line. These dimensions are based on clearance requirements for power lines under Indian Electricity rules, 1956 (as amended up to 25 November 2000) and local forest officials should monitor strict implementation of this on ground.  (2) The user agency should design the power pole configuration in accordance with the guidelines provided in the <i>Eco-friendly Measures to mitigate impacts of Linear</i>	

	<p><b><i>Infrastructure on Wildlife documented by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun</i></b> in order to prevent the instances of collision of migratory birds with transmission lines. To minimize bird and bat collisions and electrocutions, the following preventive measures /safeguards need to be adopted by the user agency. Making of power lines wires and earth wires with reflectors or other items that will prevent bird collisions and deaths needs to be adopted. Marker devices are available in several colours and are visible to birds from a long distance. Many types of marker devices are available such as spheres, swinging plates, spiral vibration dampers, strips, flight diverters, bird flappers, ribbons, tapes, flags, and crossed bands.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(3) The user agency should adhere to the guidelines issued by Hon'ble National green Tribunal in its judgment in Janajagarithi Samiti vs. Union of India and others (Appeal No. 10 of 2102) related to transmission line passing through the forest in Western Ghats.</li> <li>(4) Forest Clearance Division of MoEF&amp;CC in consultation with the Central electricity Authority had also issued guidelines pertaining to transmission line passing through the forests. The user agency should follow these guidelines while constructing the power lines.</li> <li>(5) No construction / maintenance work shall be permitted in between 6 PM to 7 PM.</li> <li>(6) Labour camps should be away from the boundaries of Protected Area / Reserve Forest / Protected Forest along the entire length of the proposed transmission line.</li> <li>(7) No construction materials (including soil, stones, etc) should be collected from the forest. The topsoil to a depth of 30 cm should be first gathered, piled aside and covered with a tarpaulin or suitable other material. The topsoil should be re-spread as early as possible over the distributed or excavated area after completion of work to a depth of 30 cm.</li> <li>(8) Construction debris should be dumped inside the forest areas and they should be transported by the user agency to suitable dumping sites outside the forest.</li> <li>(9) Movement of vehicles should be strictly restricted to existing roads and tracks and creation of new roads and tracks or off-roading shall be prohibited. All vehicles delivering loose constructions materials and any such material gathered at the site must be covered by appropriate material such as tarpaulins to prevent dust spreading, pollution or wastage.</li> <li>(10) Movements of vehicles and use of heavy machinery along riverine areas and water courses along the entire length of the proposed transmission line should also be kept minimal.</li> <li>(11) The clear-felled area should be annually cleaned on the line of and coinciding with the schedule of fire line preparation.</li> <li>(12) The clear-felled area and transmission line should be jointly patrolled regularly by user agency and Forest Department.</li> <li>(13) Erection, repair and maintenance work will be carried out under intimation to Forest Department. Existing subsidiary electricity line providing electricity to the villages in core and buffer area will be insulated and realigned along the road to check possible electrocution.</li> <li>(14) The user agency may decommission other power lines and distribution facilities, preferably in the area or in other afforested parts of the State, which have become obsolete, defunct or damaged. Decommissioning activities may include demolition and removal of the installed infrastructure (e.g., transmission towers, substations, aboveground and underground utilities and access /approach road decommissioning) and reclamation of the project site, including ground stabilization and re-vegetation with native species typical to the natural vegetation of the area.</li> </ol> <p><b><i>Felling of 4303 trees is required for the laying of transmission line.</i></b></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(7)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Proposal for change of surface of Jharvani-Mathasar road in 1.88 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Gujarat
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-151/2017/WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Gujarat
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	60770.78 ha
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	1.88 ha
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	3184.13 ha diverted for Sardar Sarovar Project dam in 1987
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Executive Engineer, Roads & Building (Panchayat) Rajpiplala
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	No felling of trees
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> 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	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife 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	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> 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. (5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary. (6) All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.	



	<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 m.</p>
15	<p><b>Comments of Ministry</b></p> <p><i>Project would provide all-weather connectivity to tribal villages.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(8)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Proposal for change of surface of Dumkhal-Mathasar road in 2.04 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Gujarat
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-154/2017/WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Gujarat
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	60770.78 ha
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>2.04 ha</b>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	3184.13 ha diverted for Sardar Sarovar Project dam in 1987
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Executive Engineer, Roads & Building (Panchayat) Rajpiplala
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	NIL
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> 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	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife 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	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> 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. (5) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary. (6) All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.	

	<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><b>Comments of Ministry</b></p> <p><i>Project would provide all-weather connectivity to tribal villages.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(9)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Proposal for use of 0.549 ha land in Gir Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of optical fiber cable by Idea Cellular Ltd., Ahmadabad
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Gir Wildlife Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-155/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Gujarat
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	12650172 ha
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>0.549 ha</b>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	105.5759 ha diverted for 59 various developmental project
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Idea Cellular Ltd
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	<b>Felling of 176 trees</b> is required
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> Sasan Gir Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the tourist places. Tourists from all over the world visit this place. However this place has no proper mobile network due to which the tourists face many problems. There is an urgency of building proper network area within this circle. This project promotes tourisms and shall provide network facility to locals and tourists. The laying of OFC would be along the road side in the Gir Wildlife Sanctuary. The work shall be carried out by digging the trench 1.65 m deep and 0.45 m wide, the cable will be laid down and trench will be filled with soil and the surface will be leveled as it is.	
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Gir Wildlife Sanctuary is the sole home for Asiatic lion, sloth bear, Indian leopard, Indian cobra, jungle cat, striped hyena, golden jackal, Indian mongoose, honey badger, desert cat, rusty-spotted cat, chital, nilgai, sambar, four-horned antelope, chinkara, wild boar, blackbucks, porcupine, hare, pangolin is rare, mugger crocodile, tortoise, monitor lizard, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> 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 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	

	<p>forestland.</p> <p>(9) The user agency shall deposit Net Present Value for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates.</p> <p>(10) The user agency shall restore the land in its original form after completion of the work.</p>
15	<p><b>Comments of Ministry</b></p> <p><i>Project would enhance the telecom connectivity.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(10)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Bulk water supply to IIT, NISER, INFOCITY II & other adjoining areas
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Chandaka Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-135/2017/WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Odisha
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	19339 ha
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>22.106 ha</b> (4.31 ha forestland + 17.796 ha non-forestland)
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	<b>0.552 ha</b> diverted for 400 KV DC Baripada Mendhasala Transmission Line PG in 2011
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Executive Engineer Phase Division III
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	<b>Felling of 243 trees</b>
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 6 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23.05.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> The proposal for is for laying of additional pipeline for supply of drinking water to educational and research institutions namely NISER, IIT, INFOCITY II and other adjoining areas. The additional pipeline will be laid in the already diverted forestland in the same RoW in the Chandaka Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary to meet the requirement of already established and upcoming institutions. This will also facilitate supply of drinking water to protection camps in and around the sanctuary coming along the pipeline.	
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Chandaka Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary is home to langur, the macaque, spotted deer, barking deer, and mouse deer, wild pig, porcupine, hare, panther, sloth bear, hyena, wolf, fox, jackal, mongoose, Civet tree shrew, Pangolin etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the condition that the Executive Engineer, PH Division III, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar will facilitate supply of drinking water to protection camps in and around the sanctuary coming along the pipeline.	
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b>  <i>Project will provide improvement to the existing transportation system of the area.</i>  The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

(11)

1	<b>Name of the proposal</b>	Diversion of 0.3198 ha of forestland in Nagarjunasagar division for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable for a length of 7106.44 m along RF at Puttichelama to Vijaypuri Road (134/200 to 136/200 km and 73/395 to 78/395 km) along the road
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Amrabad Tiger Reserve
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-71/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Telangana
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	2611.09 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/Denotification</b>	<b>0.3198 ha</b>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	20.76 ha diverted for various development activities
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	PICG, Ministry of Defence, NFS Project
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	NIL
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2016.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> This is the Govt. of India, Ministry of Defence network for spectrum project and is dedicated to Defence Tri-services only. There is no other alternative except proposing trenching of Optical Fibre Cable for a length of 7106.44 m. Along RF at Puttichelama-Vijayapuri Road (134/200 to 136/200 km and 73/395 to 78/395 km) along the road.	
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> It is mentioned in the proposal that there is no rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna in the proposed area and also in the adjacent forest area.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions.	
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b> NTCA has recommended the proposal with following conditions and mitigation measures: (1) There shall be no construction work of the project between 6.00 PM to 6.00 AM. (2) The signages shall be erected along the said alignment highlighting tiger and wildlife conservation at the cost of user agency. (3) The concerned RFO shall depute a forest official to monitor the laying of OFC till the work is complete. (4) The user agency shall offer facility of free data connection to the concerned tiger management authorities deputed in the said area for facilitation protection through surveillance.  The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

#### **45.3.2 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:

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>F.No.</b>	<b>Subject</b>
1	Assam	6-147/2017 WL	INDMAX REVAMP of Guwahati Refinery
2	Assam	6-148/2017 WL	INDAdeptG project of Guwahati Refinery
3	Bihar	6-167/2017 WL	Upgrading (widening into 6 lane) of National Highway NH-2 through Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary in Gaya District
4	Gujarat	6-152/2017/WL	Proposal for use of 4.00 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
5	Gujarat	6-153/2017/WL	Proposal for use of 4.90 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
6	Gujarat	6-156/2017/WL	Proposal for use of 1.48 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
7	Maharashtra	6-140/2017 WL	Development of residential and commercial project on Plot bearing CTS No. 827A/4A/1 at Village Malad (E), Mumbai. Developer: Ferani Hotels Private Limited



(1)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	INDMAX REVAMP of Guwahati Refinery
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-147/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Assam
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	7864 ha
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>NIL</b> (project located within the premises of Guwhati Refinery within 10 km distance from the boundary of Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary)
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	Not mentioned
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Guwahati
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	<b>NIL</b>
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b>	The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 19.09.2015.
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b>	Indmax is a residual fluidized catalytic cracking technology developed by IOCL, R&D to convert low value product into high value products like LPG, gasoline, diesel, etc. the proposal is for the augmentation of Indmax unit from 0.1 MMTPA to 0.15 MMTPA. Further it is mentioned in the proposal that the proposed project is important for increasing of output of existing capacity of high value products like LPG, gasoline, and diesel. The project site is situated at 5 km away from the boundary of Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary.
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b>	Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary is home to endangered mammals namely Chinese pangolin, flying fox, slow loris, Assamese macaque, rhesus macaque, capped langur, hoolock gibbon, jungle cat, leopard cat, leopard, elephant, wild pig, sambar, barking deer, gaur, porcupine, etc.
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b>	The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: Periodic monitoring of pollution level by the State Pollution Control Board may be made mandatory in area close to Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary. Man Animal Conflict Mitigation is emergent need of that area. Therefore it is pertinent that a fund may be provided by IOCL Guwahati Refinery, which will be utilized for Wildlife Conservation and mitigation of man-animal conflict.
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b>	<i>User Agency has obtained EC on 18 April 2016.</i>  The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

(2)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	INDAdeptG project of Guwahati Refinery
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-148/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Assam
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	7864 ha
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>NIL</b> (area 0.145 ha falls at 5 km distance from the boundary of Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary)
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	Not mentioned
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Indian Oil Corporation Limited
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	<b>NIL</b>
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 19.09.2015.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> INDAdeptG project of Guwahati Refinery is proposed to be installed in Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Guwahati refinery in order to reduce the sulfur of existing MS(PETROL) for meeting BS-IV MS specifications. The project site is situated at 5 km away from the boundary of Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary.	
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary is home to endangered mammals namely Chinese pangolin, flying fox, slow loris, Assamese macaque, rhesus macaque, capped langur, hoolock gibbon, jungle cat, leopard cat, leopard, elephant, wild pig, sambar, barking deer, gaur, porcupine, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: Periodic monitoring of pollution level by the State Pollution Control Board may be made mandatory in area close to Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary. Man Animal Conflict Mitigation is emergent need of that area. Therefore it is pertinent that a fund may be provided by IOCL Guwahati Refinery, which will be utilized for Wildlife Conservation and mitigation of man-animal conflict.	
15	<b>Comments of Ministry</b>  <i>User Agency has obtained Environment Clearance on 22 Jan 2015.</i>  The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.	

(3)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Upgrading (widening into 6 lane) of National Highway NH-2 through Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary in Gaya District
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-167/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Bihar
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	138.33 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>0.5554 ha</b> from the ESZ of Gautam Buddha WLS
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	<b>NIL</b>
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	National Highways Authority of India
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	<b>NIL</b>
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 7 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 26.04.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> The aim of the project is widening of NH-2 from existing 4-lane to 6-lane divided carriageway. The stretch of the project road is from 180 km near Madanpur, District Aurangabad in Bihar to 400 km at Barwa Adda, District Dhanbad. In the existing NH-2 from 232 km (Padumchak) to 242 km (Barwadih), total 10 km road falls within the proposed ESZ of Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary. The six laning of the project road in the sanctuary would be carried out within the existing right of way. <i>No sanctuary land is required from 242.00 km to 249.32 km for the project. However 0.5554 ha land from the ESZ is required for the project from 232.00 km to 242.00 km.</i> The benefits of the proposed project like enhancement of safety, reduction in travel time, and reduction in operation cost. This project is a part of National Highways Development Project Programme Phase V.	
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary supports wildlife namely leopard, jungle cat, Indian civet, Mongoose, striped hyena, wolf, golden jackal, fox, sloth bear, palm squirrel, porcupine, Indian hare, chital, blue bull, sambar, barking deer, wild boar, rhesus macaque, langur, mouse, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions: (1) Underpasses for safeguarded passages of wild animals should be provided at the project cost at appropriate locations in the segment between Barwadih and Chauthia in the stretch of highways inside the sanctuary as per the advice of the Chief Wildlife Warden, Bihar. (2) No constructions of facility like toll plaza, fuel stations/ retail outlets, hotel and other traveler amenity shall be permitted in the 17.32 km stretch of highway in the sanctuary and its eco-sensitive zone. (3) During the construction works of the highway upgradation and strengthening, practicable restrictions and precautions as specified by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Bihar shall be compiled with.	

	(4) Speed restrictions and other appropriate regulations may be imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Bihar in the highway stretch within the sanctuary and the ESZ.
15	<p><b>Comments of Ministry</b></p> <p><i>Proposed project falls within the proposed ESZ of Gautam Buddha Wildlife Sanctuary.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

(4)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Proposal for use of 4.00 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Kutch Desert Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-152/2017/WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Gujarat
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	7505.22 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>NIL</b> (Mining in an area of <i>4.00 ha of the proposed ESZ</i> )
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	NIL
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Juma Alimamad Bhima, Post Ratadiya (Khavda), Taluk Bhuj, District Kachchh
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	No felling of trees
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> This is a proposal of ordinary morum mining situated in the revenue waste land of Ratadiya village. The project falls 6.80 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	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife hyena, fox, wolf, chinkara, nilgai, wild ass, black buck, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> 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	<b>Comments of Ministry</b> The project proposal is of semi-mechanized opencast mining. The project falls in the proposed ESZ, 6.80 km away from the boundary of Kutch Desert Sanctuary.	

	<p><i>The status of Environmental Clearance is not known.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(5)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Proposal for use of 4.90 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Kutch Desert Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-153/2017/WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Gujarat
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	7505.22 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>NIL</b> <i>(Mining in an area of 4.90 ha of the proposed ESZ)</i>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	NIL
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Sama Alana Ibrahim, Post Ratadiya (Khadva), Taluk Bhuj, District Kachchh
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	No felling of trees
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> This is a proposal of ordinary morum mining situated in the revenue waste land of Ratadiya village. The project falls 6.80 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	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife hyena, fox, wolf, chinkara, nilgai, wild ass, black buck, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> 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 m 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	<b>Comments of Ministry</b> The project proposal is of semi-mechanized opencast mining. The project falls in the proposed ESZ, 6.80 km away from the boundary of Kutch Desert Sanctuary.	

	<p><i>The status of Environmental Clearance is not known.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(6)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Proposal for use of 1.48 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Kutch Desert Sanctuary
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-156/2017/WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Gujarat
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	7505.22 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	<b>NIL</b> <i>(mining in an area of 1.48 ha of the proposed ESZ)</i>
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	NIL
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Sama Mamad Alimamad, Post Ratadiya (Khavda), Taluk Bhuj, District Kachchh
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	No felling of trees
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25.04.2017.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> This is a proposal of ordinary morum mining situated in the revenue waste land of Ratadiya village. The project falls 6.90 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	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Kutch Desert Sanctuary supports healthy wildlife namely hyena, fox, wolf, chinkara, nilgai, wild ass, black buck, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> 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	<b>Comments of Ministry</b> The project proposal is of semi-mechanized opencast mining. The project falls in the proposed ESZ, 6.90 km away from the boundary of Kutch Desert Sanctuary.	

	<p><i>The status of Environmental clearance is not known.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>
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(7)

1	<b>Name of the Proposal</b>	Development of residential and commercial project on Plot bearing CTS No. 827A/4A/1 at village Malad (E), Mumbai. Developer: Ferani Hotels Private Limited
2	<b>Name of the protected Area involved</b>	Sanjay Gandhi National Park
3	<b>File No.</b>	6-140/2017 WL
4	<b>Name of the State</b>	Maharashtra
5	<b>Whether proposal is sub-judice</b>	Not sub-judice
6	<b>Area of the protected area</b>	86.96 sq.km
7(a)	<b>Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification</b>	NIL
7(b)	<b>Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)</b>	98.4332 ha for various development activities.
8	<b>Name of the applicant agency</b>	Ferrani Hotels Private Limited, Mumbai
9	<b>Total number of tree to be felled</b>	Not mentioned
10	<b>Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not</b>	YES
11	<b>Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife</b> The State Board for Wildlife has recommended the proposal in its 12 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 26.11.2016.	
12	<b>Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency</b> The proposed project is adjacent to the boundary of Sanjay Gandhi National Park. The project site falls on the private land of Survey No 239/1 & related CTS No 827A/4A/1 admeasuring an area of 132.6 ha protected by the owner by constructing the concrete wall on the joint forest boundary of Sanjay Gandhi National Park. The project is not the part of Sanjay Gandhi National park, Borivali and is located in private area which is also inside the proposed draft notified ESZ of Sanjay Gandhi National Park. The entire area is urbanized and developed.	
13	<b>Rare and endangered species found in the area</b> Sanjay Gandhi National Park is an ideal habitat for many wild animals namely leopard, jungle cat, small Indian civet, common palm civet, jackal, four horned antelope, mouse deer, barking deer, sambar, spotted deer, crested porcupine, etc.	
14	<b>Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden</b> The CWLW has partly recommended the proposal i.e., 81.86% of the total proposed area of the project which falls outside the ESZ. The CWLW imposed the following conditions: (1) The construction will be allowed only to the extent of outside proposed ESZ area (i.e., 81.86%). No construction will be done inside the proposed ESZ (i.e., 18.14%). On this condition this proposal is recommended. (2) The proponent assures and abides to comply the conditions laid down by GoI, MoEF (IA.III) Division for environmental clearance. (3) Natural growing trees which has may be earmarked for retention during EIA exercise of wildlife species like Wad, Pair, Mango, Karanj & other fruit bearing trees shall be retained from list of the trees enumerated in EIA report as submitted by project proponent. (4) The project on the condition that excavated material at the time of construction will not be thrown in sea, bay of sea and natural drainage. (5) The project is recommended subject to the condition of Natural Green Tribunal Order dated 03/12/2015. (6) The project proponent will deposit an amount of 3% of the project cost with the Chief	

	Conservator of forests & Director, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali for habitat development, protection and conservation of Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali and Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary in accordance with the approved management plan.
15	<p><b>Comments of Ministry</b></p> <p><i>Part of the project area is located inside the notified ESZ area of Sanjay Gandhi National Park.</i></p> <p>The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.</p>

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

## **MINUTES OF 44<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILDLIFE HELD ON 29<sup>th</sup> JULY 2017**

The 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife was held on 29<sup>th</sup> July 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 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting and asked the IGF(WL) to initiate the discussions on the Agenda Items.

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

#### **Confirmation of the minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

The IGF(WL) informed the Committee that the minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017, were circulated to all members of the Standing Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017. No comments/suggestions have been received and accordingly the minutes of 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting 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 40<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SC-NBWL. He also mentioned that according to Terms of Reference 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 and half year. No response has been received from the State Government. The Chairman of the board suggested that the Senior Official of Wildlife Division would speak and write to the State Government to furnish information at the earliest. If they do not take action within 30 days then the proposal will be returned to the State. Accordingly 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 Hydropower 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 39<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016. During the said meeting, it was decided by the Standing Committee to seek the comments of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWRD&GR) on the proposed projects. A letter was sent to the Ministry of Water Resources on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016 for seeking its comments. Reminder letters were sent to the Ministry of Water Resources on 31.03.2017 and 05.05.2017 respectively. However, no comments have been received from the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation. He also mentioned that in the 42<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Further IGF(WL) also mentioned that no response has been received from the State Chief Wildlife Warden and MoWRD&GR. 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 39<sup>th</sup> 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 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of SC-NBWL, the state Chief Wildlife Warden informed that ESZ proposals would be finalized and submitted to the Ministry in one month.

The State CWLW stated that the revised ESZ proposals would be submitted within two months. 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 39<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of SC-NBWL the State CWLW informed that the Environment Clearance of project shall be submitted in 2-3 months. The State CWLW stated that the EC of project would be submitted within two months. 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 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting held during 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> 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 42<sup>nd</sup> 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. If the present Committee fails to submit the report then a new Committee of 2 members shall be constituted who would submit the report within 15 days. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

**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 40<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. A meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Secretary, MoEF&CC to discuss the aforesaid matter on 6<sup>th</sup> 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 42<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. The response on the mistake of facts has been received from the State Government. The Standing Committee

requested that the NTCA would examine the issue and submit the report in three weeks. 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 40<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. The PCCF, Maharashtra has not recommended the proposal. He also mentioned that in the 42<sup>nd</sup> 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. It was resolved in the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of SC-NBWL that the Secretary, MoEF&CC will hold a meeting with the stakeholders. The meeting will be convened shortly.

**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 accept 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 the site inspection committee has not recommended the proposal in its present form with the following reasons:

- (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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 sq.km 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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to reject the present form of the proposal and requested the State Government to submit the revised proposal for the consideration of the Standing Committee of NBWL.

#### **42.3.2      Proposal of the Oil India Limited to Extract Hydrocarbon beneath 3900-4000 meters of Dibru Saikhowa National Park**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal of the Oil India Limited was considered by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife in its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017, wherein the comments were sought from the State Government of Assam on the proposal. The State Government of Assam vide its letter 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

Further IGF(WL) stated that as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order vide dated 17.07.2017 in I.A. No.3934 in W.P.(C) 202/1995, a meeting was convened on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017 under the chairmanship of DGF&SS. It was decided that the State Government of Assam would submit the proposal. The State Government of Assam submitted the proposal very recently. He mentioned further that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following safety and mitigation measures:

1. Environment Impact Assessment and Environment Management Programme (EIA/EMP)
2. Preventive measures to ensure there is no contamination of surface water
3. Flaring of gas
4. Measure to prevent noise pollution
5. Measures to prevent oil spills
6. Measures to prevent fire hazard
7. To erect 10 feet high barricade around the drilling plinths of each well. Also a safety zone of 7.5 meters around the barricade may be fenced with chain link fencing and planted with indigenous plant species to prevent any injuries / mortality of wildlife and also environmental damage and pollution in the mining locality.

In addition to the above specified safety measures certain protection and mitigation measures are to be taken by the Forest Department for the welfare of the existing wildlife population as well as to prevent environmental damage and pollution in and around the vicinity of the National park. Thus the user Agency shall have to provide a reasonable

amount to PCCF, WL & CWLW, Assam as Corpus Fund, which will be utilized for wildlife conservation and other allied activities in the interest of the wildlife prior to allowing the use of the area.

Accordingly the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **43.1.19 Realignment of area of the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve, Chhattisgarh**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal was considered in the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of SC-NBWL held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and the Standing Committee suggested to seek the recommendations of the CWLW for further consideration. He also mentioned that recommendation of the State Chief Wildlife Warden has not been received.

The Chief Wildlife Warden, Chhattisgarh informed that the recommendations would be submitted in two weeks. Consequently the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal.

#### **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 was considered in the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of SC-NBWL held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and suggested to seek the recommendations of CWLW for further consideration. He mentioned that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal for *exclusion of 186.93 sq.km and addition of 359.79 sq.km forest area* for rationalization of the boundary of the Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary. Further IGF(WL) stated that there is discrepancy in the area of exclusion from the sanctuary.

The State Chief Wildlife Warden requested the Standing Committee *to exclude 186.93 sq km and add 359.79 sq km forestland for the rationalization of the boundary*. The matter was discussed and resolved.

After discussion the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal for exclusion of 186.93 sq.km and addition of 359.79 sq.km forestland for the rationalization of the boundary of the Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary.

### **AGENDA ITEM No. 3**

#### **44.3.1. National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031)**

Dr. V B. Mathur, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun gave a detailed presentation mentioning all the Chapters of the proposed National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031). Some suggestions were received from the Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan and Dr. H S. Singh, Member, NBWL. Most of these were covered in the proposed Chapters of National Wildlife Action Plan. The Plan was approved with few modifications such as inclusion of the critically endangered species and clarification of funding process. The National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031) will now be launched at an appropriate program.

### **AGENDA ITEM No. 4**

#### **44.1 PROPOSALS WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREAS**

##### **44.1.1 Diversion of 1.9545 ha of forestland in the buffer of Indravati Tiger Reserve for corundum mineral mine by Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 1.9545 ha of forestland from the buffer of Indravati Tiger Reserve for mining of corundum mineral by CMDCL, Chhattisgarh. He added that 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.

Further the IGF(WL) stated that the 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.
- (5) The families relocated from core of Indravati Tiger Reserve shall get priority in employment created.
- (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.
- (7) The Environment Management Plan (part of Mining Plan) shall be adhered completely.
- (8) The 5% of project cost and CSR funding shall be made available to Indravati Tiger Foundation for conservation work.
- (9) The forest Department authorities shall ensure compliance to the conditions.

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

- 44.1.2. (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, and**
- (3) Construction CRPF check post in 0.700 ha, Kasara No. 131 of Indravati Tiger Reserve at Gudma**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 4.740 ha ( $2.020 \times 2 = 4.040$  ha + 0.700 ha) of forestland from the buffer of Indravati Tiger Reserve for construction of CRPF check posts. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposed conditions.

Further the IGF(WL) stated that the NTCA has recommended the proposal subject to the strict/mandatory adherence to the following condition:



*Joint DGPS survey by the State Forest Department and user agency shall be carried out for rectification in the actual extent and location mentioned in the original proposal and implications thereof.*

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the condition imposed by the NTCA.

**44.1.3. Proposal for change of surface of Morjadi-Kanda road in 0.76 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, Gujarat**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.76 ha of forestland from the Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary for the change of surface of Morjadi-Kanda road. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (11) The user agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section 9, 17A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (12) The user agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (13) The user agency shall not use the area for the proposed work other than the area permitted.
- (14) The user agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Shoorpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (15) The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- (16) All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
- (17) The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
- (18) Approval under Forest conservation Act, 1980, if required shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.
- (19) The user agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of protected area as per the existing rates.
- (20) The user agency shall create a speed breaker at a distance of every 500 meters.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.1.4. Proposal for change of surface of Khatam-Gadh road in 0.272 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.272 ha of forestland from the Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary for the change of surface of Morjadi-Kanda road. He added that 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 Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.
5. The user agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Shoolpaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.
6. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
7. The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
8. Approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980, if required shall be obtained separately for use of forestland.
9. The user agency shall deposit NPV 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 the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.1.5. Erecting of 11 KV overhead electric line by Paschim Gujarat Vij Company Ltd.**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.0525 ha of forestland from the Gir National Park & Sanctuary for

the erection of 11 KV overhead electric lines. He added that 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 provisions under the Wildlife Act.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

**44.1.6. 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**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 4.20 ha of forestland from the Rupi Bhaba Wildlife Sanctuary for the Attargoo Sagam-Mudh Bhawa Road. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions.

The DFO, Himachal Pradesh mentioned that the diversion of 43.50 ha of forestland required for the laying of Attargoo Sagam-Mudh Bhawa road.

After discussions the Standing Committee requested the State Government of Himachal Pradesh to submit the revised proposal for the consideration of the Standing Committee of NBWL.

#### **44.1.7. Construction of Moreh bypass from NH-102 near Indo-Myanmar Border to Land Custom Port of India to bypass Moreh Town**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 6.552 ha of forestland from the Yangoupokpi Lokchao Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of Moreh bypass road. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with 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 Sanctuary.
- (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.
- (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.
- (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.
- (7) The user agency shall not take any such activity which contravenes Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the rules made therein.
- (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.
- (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.
- (10) There should be no damage to the surrounding forests, environment, wildlife, natural resources and other properties.
- (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.

- (12) No labour camps shall be set up inside the Sanctuary.
- (13) The User Agency shall provide fuel wood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers working at the site to avoid damage/felling of trees.
- (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.
- (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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.1.8. 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**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 1.32 ha of forestland from the Maenan Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of water pipeline. He added that 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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

**44.1.9. 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**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.231 ha of forestland from the Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of water pipeline. He added that 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.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

**44.1.10. 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**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 38.798 ha of forestland from the Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of water pipeline. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal 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 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.
- (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.
- (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.
- (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.
- (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.
- (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.
- (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).
- (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.

- (10) The user agency shall fell only barest minimum number of trees while executing the work
- (11) The works shall be carried out manually without disturbing or damaging flora, fauna or habitat of the area.
- (12) Work shall be carried out from 6 AM to 6 PM only.
- (13) The material for carrying out 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.
- (14) No labour camp should be established inside the tiger reserve during the execution of the work.
- (15) The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the tiger reserve on day to day basis.

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

1. The user agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meter interval.
2. We suggest that the existing road (3.5 meters) could be repaired for the 28.975 km passing through the forested area for smooth passing of traffic. We suggest that the widening the existing road should not be allowed in the stretch of forested area of Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary.
3. Once the road is widened/ repaired, traffic volume will inevitably increase and may cause wildlife mortality once the prey and tiger population build up in the area. Therefore, the user agency should put speed breakers and rumble strips at an interval of every 400 meters. Exact placement of these structures should be on those areas where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be decided after consulting the local forest department.
4. The team has observed many existing culverts on the current road. The culverts need to be retrofitted in the form of underpasses as per the specification details of such alignment should be as per the guide viz., *Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure by Wildlife Institute of India*. User agency should retrofit all these culverts occurring within the sanctuary area with a dimension of 7 m height and 30 m width with a minimum openness ratio of 1:2 as recommended by WII. These dimensions will allow



mega-herbivore like Gaur to cross the road without much hindrance. User agency should ensure that at least 10% of the road should be under these underpasses.

5. No existing drainage system should be disrupted by the user agency for widening/repairing the road.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden and the NTCA.

**44.1.11. 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 Bhadrachari Kothagudem District**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 13.57 ha of forestland from the Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of 400 KV QMDC line from Bhadadhri TPP to Padamati Narasapuram substation. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following 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 BIOSOT Account of Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (2) The user agency shall fell only the barest minimum number of trees while executing the work.
- (3) The work shall be carried out without disturbing or damaging flora, fauna or habitat of the area.
- (4) Work shall be carried out from 6 AM to 6 PM.
- (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.
- (6) The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Tiger reserve on day-to-day basis.
- (7) The user agency shall construct Manonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meters interval.

Further IGF(WL) mentioned that the NTCA has also recommended the proposal subject to the strict adherence to the following mitigation strategies:

- (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.
- (2) Work should be finished within specified time of the day (9 AM to 5 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.
- (3) The user agency shall abide by other terms & conditions prescribed by Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana in the proposal.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden and the NTCA.

**44.1.12. 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 Bhadrachalam District**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 10.5018 ha of forestland from the Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of 400 KV QMDC line from Paloncha TPP to Padamati Narsapuram

substation. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following 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 BIOSOT Account of Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (2) The user agency shall fell only the barest minimum number of trees while executing the work.
- (3) The work shall be carried out without disturbing or damaging flora, fauna or habitat of the area.
- (4) Work shall be carried out from 6 Am to 6 PM.
- (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.
- (6) The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Tiger reserve on day-today basis.

The user agency shall construct Manonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meters interval.

Further IGF(WL) mentioned that the NTCA has also recommended the proposal subject to the strict adherence to the following mitigation strategies:

- (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.
- (2) Work should be finished within specified time of the day (9 AM to 5 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.

- (3) The user agency shall abide by other terms & conditions prescribed by Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana in the proposal.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden and the NTCA.

#### **44.1.13. Electrification of village Gaundar and its hamlets**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 1.176 ha of forestland from the Kedarnath Musk Deer Sanctuary for the electrification of Gaundar village and its hamlets. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal without imposing conditions.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal.

### **44.2 PROPOSALS FOR TAKING UP ACTIVITIES WITHIN 10 KM FROM THE BOUNDARIES OF PROTECTED AREAS**

#### **44.2.1 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**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the construction of 24.64 km road from Meka to Hunli. He added that 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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.2.2. Proposal for use of 1.00 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the mining of morum in an area of 1.00 ha, located at 6.0 km away from the boundary of Kutch Desert Sanctuary. He mentioned that the project is of semi-mechanized opencast mining. He added that 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.

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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.2.3. Proposal for use of 4.50 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the mining of morum in an area of 4.50 ha, located at 6.0 km away from the boundary of Kutch Desert Sanctuary. He added that 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.

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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.2.4. Proposal for use of 3.55 ha land for mining activity within 10 km ESZ of Kutch Desert Sanctuary**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the mining of morum in an area of 3.55 ha, located at 2.06 km away from the boundary of Kutch Desert Sanctuary. He added that 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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.2.5. Raibazar Kaolinised Sandstone**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the mining of silica/china clay in an area of 65.197 ha, located at 4.5 km away from the boundary of Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary. He added that 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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.2.6. Rajmahal Kaolinised Sandstone Mines**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the mining of silica/china clay in an area of 24.281 ha, located at 8.0 km away from Udhuwa Lake Bird Sanctuary. He added that 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.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.2.7. 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**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal is for the mining of iron ore in an area of 618 ha, located at 7.5 km away from the boundary of Similapal Wildlife Sanctuary. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) Gully plugging and soil and moisture measures in Badampahar Reserve forest outside the mining area.
- (2) 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.
- (3) Creation of 5 Nos of water outside the lease for water availability to elephants, wild pig, jackals, etc.

(4) Construction of 1 WHS to harvest water.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

### **44.3 ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **44.3.1 Construction of Rural Water Supply Scheme for SFB border outpost at Chittrey under Maneybong Dentam Constituency in West Sikkim**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 0.074 ha of forestland for the laying of drinking water pipeline in the Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary. He added that 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 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 addition felling of tree 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 Department of Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management for any kind of maintenance work.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

#### **44.3.2 Diversion of 1136.0138 ha of forestland falling in Tiger Corridor area linking Kawal Tiger Reserve in Telangana with Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra and Indravathi Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh**



The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves the diversion of 622.0128 ha of forestland for the construction of Pranahita Irrigation Canal in the tiger corridor of Kawal Tiger Reserve, Andhari Tiger Reserve, and Indravathi Tiger Reserve). He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to compliance with the following conditions:

1. The user agency shall construct at their own cost 16 eco-bridges at locations indicated in the biodiversity Impact Assessment and Management Plan. The eco-bridges shall be constructed as per the design to be provided by NTCA, WII, and GoI.
2. The user agency shall provide the money required for implementation of the above Wildlife Mitigation Plan (in rupees) as under:

(a) Wildlife habitat improvement	: 320.000
(b) Water conservation/ Rain harvesting	: 419.000
(c) Fire management	: 104.600
(d) Publicity and awareness	: 166.000
(e) Protection of forest and wildlife	: 176.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>: 1185.000</b>

3. The user agency shall fell only the barest minimum number of trees while executing the work and ensure minimum disturbance to wildlife and the habitat.
4. The user agency shall provide drinking water for wild animal by filling up the percolation tanks/ check dams and for raising fodder plots all along the length of canal passing through forest areas at locations to be indicated by FDOs concerned.
5. Work shall be carried out from 6 AM to 6 PM only.
6. The material and machinery for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the wildlife sanctuary. As and when require they should be carried to the site during execution only.
7. No labour camp should be established inside the wildlife sanctuary during the execution of the work.
8. The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the wildlife sanctuary on day to day basis.
9. The user agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meters interval.

The NTCA has recommended the proposal with the following mitigative measures:

- (i) The legal status of the forestland shall remain unchanged and the implementation of the project be in the strict adherence to all the mitigation measures suggested by the MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Chennai and the State Board for Wildlife, Telangana State.
- (ii) A total of 18 eco-friendly crossings (eco-bridges and cut & cover) across the Pranahita Canal have been proposed to avoid fragmentation of the corridor and permit free movement of tigers and other wildlife animals. NTCA appointed team has already suggested some modifications in the placement of the proposed structures. Precise locations of these structures should be decided in consultation with local district Forest Officer & Field Director at sites where wildlife crossing is likely to happen the most.
- (iii) The percentage of forest area covered under eco-crossings is calculated to be approximately 15.69% of the entire length of the canal passing through the wildlife corridor area; which should be sufficient for supporting animal crossings and unhindered movement.
- (iv) 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 corridor landscape should be cautiously planned as those structures will attract animals to approach near the canal and many escalate conflicts.
- (v) Care should be taken that such eco-friendly crossings are constructed far from human habitations so as to minimize human and livestock movement. It has been observed that portion of forest areas have been encroached illegally by local people especially in nearby proposed crossings. Stringent action need to be initiated to make the surrounding area at crossings is free from encroachments so as to ensure minimal disturbances.
- (vi) About 6-8 meter wide ramps should be constructed at an interval of every 500 meter along the stretches of the canal passing through wildlife areas/corridor. This will enable even smaller forms of animals to move easily.
- (vii) Spoil bank a pile of refuse created by excavation of earth material while construction canal will be formed by the user agency. Approximately 300 meter width of soil deposits are piled up in the form of spoil bank all along the canal. While excavating process top soil is to be kept aside separately and use this soil to cover the spoil bank. The afforestation activity is proposed on this soil bank along the canal falling in forest area. The afforestation plan need to be prepared from the user agency and should get approve after consulting the State Chief Wildlife Warden. Priority must be given to those species which are likely to enhance nutritional carrying capacity for the wildlife ungulates and are useful for habitat restoration.

- (viii) The user agency should avoid constructing the inspection road/path along 2 km of the canal passing through this stretch. Only the existing road passing in the stretch may be used for this purpose.
- (ix) Compensatory afforestation should be carried out as prescribed by the Regional Office, MoEF&CC while approving Stage-1 approval.
- (x) Trees that will be cut for implementing this project should be identified before and marked on ground. Forest Department should ensure that any additional tree is not cut while constructing the canal.
- (xi) The money deposited for NPV may be utilized in the manner prescribed in the annexed site appraisal report. Moreover the State Government shall charge the Net Present value of the forestland proposed for diversion from the user agency as per Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's Order Number IA 826 and 566 9dated 28.03.2008 & 09.05.2008) related to a Write Petition (Civil) No.202/1995.
- (xii) A monitoring committee should be constituted with representatives from State Forest Department, Irrigation department and External Agencies to oversee implementation of the mitigation measures in short and long runs.

The Chief wildlife Warden, Telangana has requested the Standing Committee to reduce the number of 18 eco-friendly crossings across the Pranahita irrigation Canal.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided that the WII would visit the project site and submit a detailed report to this Ministry in a fortnight for further consideration of the proposal.

#### **44.3.3. Construction of Multilevel flyover at four road junctions around the KBR National Park**

The IGF(WL) briefed the Committee on the proposal and mentioned that the felling of ~1400 trees is required for the construction of multilevel flyovers at six junctions in the ESZ of KBR National Park. He added that the CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

1. Below the proposed multilevel flyovers at junctions around the KBR NP, the user agency shall ensure multi-tier planting of trees/shrubs species having higher efficiencies or sequestering carbon.

2. The present jogging track around KBR NP shall be continued with greenery on both sides of the track, giving emphasis on aesthetics.
3. The user agency will ensure installing of LED sign posts displaying the ambient air quality.

After discussions the Standing Committee felt that the National Board for Wildlife has got no role in this matter. Hence the matter may be decided at the State level.

#### **AGENDA ITEM No. 4**

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

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE 44<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STANDING  
COMMITTEE OF NBWL HELD ON 29<sup>th</sup> JULY 2017**

1	Shri Harsh Vardhan Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change	Chairman
2	Shri Siddhanta Das Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF&CC	Member
3	Shri Debabrata Swain, ADGF & Member Secretary (NTCA)	Invitee
4	Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, WII, Dehradun	Member
5	Dr. H.S. Singh, Member, NBWL	Member
6	Shri R.D. Kamboj, Director, GEER Foundation, Gujarat	Member
7	Shri Nishant Verma, DIGF (NTCA)	Invitee
8	Shri B. Brahma, PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam	Invitee
9	Shri Anurag Bajpai, CCF(WL) & CWLW, Manipur	Invitee
10	Dr. G.S. Bhardwaj, CCF & Field Director, Sariska Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan	Invitee
11	Shri P.K. Mohan, Addl.Pr.CCF(WL), Odisha	Invitee
12	Shri K. Pandey, Conservator of Forests (WL), Jharkhand	Invitee
13	Shri Dhananjai Mohan, Addl.Pr.CCF (WL), Uttarakhand	Invitee
14	Shri G.V. Reddy, Addl.Pr.CCF & CWLW, Rajasthan	Invitee
15	Shri Rajat Kumar, Pr. Secretary EFST, Telangana	Invitee
16	Shri P.K. Jha, PCCF (HoFF) & CWLW, Telangana	Invitee
17	Dr. R.K. Singh, PCCF & CWLW, Chhattisgarh	Invitee
18	Shri G.K. Sinha, PCCF, Gujarat	Invitee
19	Shri Kunal Angrish, DFO(WL), Himachal Pradesh	Invitee
20	Shri Soumitra Dasgupta, IGF(WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee
21	Shri S.P. Vashishth, DIGF(WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee
22	Shri Roy. P.Thomas, Joint Director (WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee
23	Dr. Pasupala Ravi, Scientist (WL), MoEF&CC	Invitee

Site Inspection Report on

**Diversion of 9.94 ha of Forestland from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for the  
Construction of New Railway Line (BG) from Agartala to Sabroom, Tripura**



**21-23 August 2017**

## **BACKGROUND**

The proposal for the diversion of 9.94 ha of forestland from the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary is for the construction of a new 114.39 km long Broad Gauge railway track from Agartala to Sabroom in southern Tripura. The forestland required for the proposed project within the sanctuary is 1780 m long and 60 m broad. It is further mentioned that an earlier committee comprising Dr. M.K. Ranjitsinh and Dr. A.J.T. Johnsingh visited the project site and submitted a report to Standing Committee of NBWL on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014.

From Agartala to Sabroom, the new railway line will provide improved connectivity to the towns of West Tripura and South Tripura Districts of Tripura State. The alignment of the railway track between Agartala and Sabroom passes through ten important towns, namely, Sekerkot, Bishalgarh, Bishramganj, Udaipur, Garjee, Santir Bazar, Belonia, Julaibari and Manu Bazar. Moreover, the railway line would also be of strategic importance as it will provide rail connectivity up to Bangladesh International Border (i.e., up to Sabroom). Possibilities are being explored to establish rail connectivity between proposed Belonia Station (India) and Feni (Bangladesh). This could eventually provide rail connectivity to Chittagong Port (Bangladesh), which will not only help in the socio-economic development of the landlocked Tripura State but also of northeastern India and Bangladesh [The laying of the proposed railway line is a national project and is essential for the land-locked State of Tripura. It would create more jobs for the local people and help wean them away from their dependency on the forests].

Three possible alignments have been explored for the construction of the railway line between Udaipur and Sabroom. Of these, Alignment No.2 which requires 9.94 ha of forest land in Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary was found to be the most viable and acceptable from technical, financial, social and conservation viewpoints. For the same, diversion of 9.94 ha forestland in Mouja Purba Patichari and Garjee Reserve Forest of Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary under Trishna Wildlife Forest Division is required for construction of a new single line railway track in the Udaipur-Sabroom section.

This project was sanctioned in 2008-09 at a cost of Rs. 1141.75 crore. The project is being executed in two phases, Phase I (Agartala- Udaipur) is in progress while Phase II (Udaipur – Sabroom) will begin once the necessary forestland is made available.

## TRISHNA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary (TWS) is located in southern Tripura (23°12'N to 23°32'N and 91°15'E to 91°30'E). The sanctuary, covering an area of 194.8 sq. km, was established in 1988. The altitude in this area ranges from 48m to 76m above sea level. The area has a tropical climate, with cool weather from November through February. Annual average rainfall is 256 cm. Temperatures is varying from a minimum of 6.8 °C in January to a maximum of 37.7 °C in June. The sanctuary harbours four different vegetation types: tropical semi-evergreen forest, east Himalayan lower bhabar sal forest, moist-mixed deciduous forest and savannah woodland. The major vegetation was moist-mixed deciduous secondary forest, about 4.5 m in height and interspersed with dense bamboo clumps. Trishna WLS is known to contain 230 tree species, 110 species of shrubs, 400 species of herbs and 150 species of climbers (Economic Review of Tripura, 2008-2009). The sanctuary has several perennial water rivulets. The sanctuary is well-known for its population of gaur (*Bos gaurus*) and migratory water birds in winter among other wildlife. Notably, the primate species recorded in this forest are Bengal Slow Loris (*Nycticebus bengalensis*), Rhesus macaque *Macaca mulatta*, Pig-tailed macaque *M. nemestrina*, Phayre's langur *Trachypithecus phayrei*, Capped langur *T. pileatus* and Hoolock gibbon *Bunopithecus hoolock*. A large number of human settlements and cultivated land is interspersed within the forests of Trishna WLS.

## FIELD VISIT

On 21<sup>st</sup> August 2017, after arrival in Agartala, team members (Prof. R. Sukumar, Dr. C. Ramesh and Dr. P. Ravi) had a meeting with Dr. A.K. Gupta, PCCF (HoFF) & CWLW, Shri P. Biswas, IFS, CF, and Shri Biolan Datta, Wildlife Warden, Trishna Wildlife, where the forest officials made a presentation on the proposed rail track. The forest officials emphasized the point that this rail link is a new gateway to northeast India and, in fact, to the Trans-Asian Railway Network.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 the team visited Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary (TWS) FRH and Chillapathar Watch Tower, near Joychandpur in the TWS, which is an ideal location for gaur with waterholes and extensive, managed grasslands. The gaur population is reported to be close to 120 individuals. Further, the team visited Bhairavnagar Bison Conservation Area, which along the Siddhinagar Mouza, has a tenuous connectivity with the main TWS. This conservation area is reported to have a population of about 30 gaur. This population together



with the one in the adjacent TWS is the only one surviving species in Tripura. The team also visited the Butterfly Park which is reportedly rearing more than 50 species of butterflies. The team ended the site visit with an inspection of Garjee Railway station which is under construction.

The railway line traverses various disjunct forest patches that constitute the corridor between Atariya and Padrigang of 6 km; Mahake Pata and Lamta of 4.4 km and the last patch between Kumhari and Mohagaon Khud of 4.5 km. This 15 km forest strip is the only remnant viable wildlife habitat. Since this landscape is under considerable anthropogenic pressure, no further development should be done without appropriate mitigation measures. These three forest patches should be considered for wildlife underpasses as a mitigation measure to minimize the impact of a broad gauge railway line and increased train traffic.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

This committee has actively considered the observations and recommendations made by the earlier committee in 2014. We support most of the recommendations made earlier with some changes and additions for mitigation and management of the forests of this region in southern Tripura. The proposal for the diversion of 9.94 ha of forestland from Trishna WLS for the construction of new railway line (BG) from Agartala to Sabroom is **recommended** by us with strict adherence to the following mitigation measures and conditions:

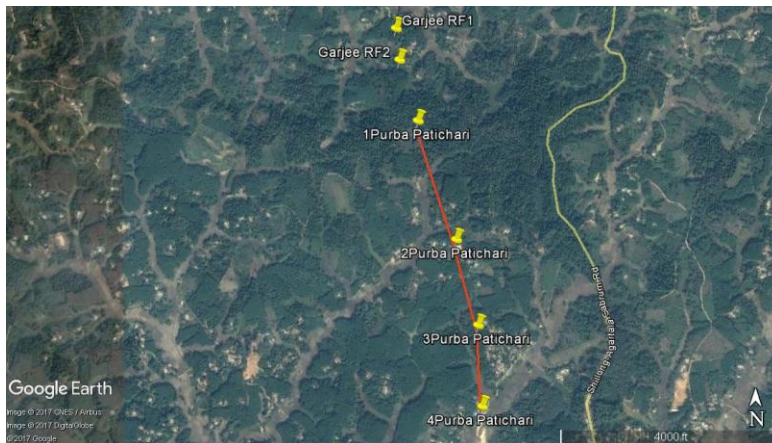
1. Among the three alignments explored for the construction of railway line between Udaipur and Sabroom, the committee is convinced that Alignment-2 requiring 9.94 ha of sanctuary land is the most practical for the construction of railway line with least conversation impact and technical/economic/social viability.
2. Fencing /funneling in vicinity of underpass on either side of the track passing through the forest should be done at least for 100 m distance. Any steep embankment on either side of the railway line needs to be made more gentle or flattened as these often trap wildlife on the railway track causing mortality by fast moving trains. The speed of the trains plying through the forest patches of the sanctuary need to be regulated to below 45 km per hour.
3. Separate smaller passage ways for small mammals, reptiles and amphibians are required with herp-fences all along the railway track when passing the forest corridor patches. Design of these provided in *Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear*

*Infrastructure on Wildlife* (2016) compiled by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, shall be considered while according stage approval for this project. Precise locations of these passages can be decided by the Railways in consultation with the Tripura Forest Department.

4. This committee deliberated at length the appropriate management category of the 13 sq. km Bhairavnagar Bison Conservation Area. Based on the field visit to this area, discussions with senior officials including PCCF of Tripura Forest Department, the presence of cultivation and settlement in this relatively-isolated small forest patch and its proximity to the Bangladesh border, the committee recommends that the Bhairavnagar Bison Conservation Area is managed as a “Conservation Reserve” under the Wildlife Protection Act. This would be the most appropriate and practical means of ensuring conservation of the forest and the wildlife.
5. About 30 sq. km of the Garjee Reserve Forest, close to Paratia FRH (Garjee beat) should also be established as a Conservation Reserve under the Wildlife Protection Act.



The site inspection committee at Garjee Railway Station near the Garjee Reserve Forest



Google Map showing the alignment of the proposed railway line between Agartala and Sabroom

## **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

1. Prof. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL
2. Chief Wildlife Warden, Tripura
3. Dr. Ramesh Chinnasamy, Scientist, WII, Dehradun
4. Dr. Pasupala Ravi, Scientist, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
5. Shri P. Biswas, IFS, Conservator of Forest (FP & WL)
6. Shri Biolan Datta, Wildlife Warden, Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary
7. Shri Suman Mitra, AWLW, Tripura
8. Shri Bimal Bhadra, AWLW, Tripura
9. Shri Sukanta Sarkar, Forester, Tripura

**Summary records of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Secretary,  
MoEF&CC on the proposal of the M/s Puntambekar Minerals for bauxite mining on an  
area of 206.37 ha near Radhanagri Wildlife Sanctuary held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017**

1. A meeting, chaired by Secretary (MoEF&CC) in pursuance of the decision of the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 15 May, 2017 discussed the proposal of the M/s. Puntambekar Minerals for bauxite mining on an area of 206.37 ha near Radhanagri Wildlife Sanctuary. The list of participants who attended the meeting is at **ANNEXURE I**.
2. Welcoming all the participants, the agenda was taken up for discussion.
3. IGF(WL) briefed about the various aspects of the project. He stated that Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its orders dated 21.04.2016 and 06.09.2016 directed the Standing Committee of NBWL to consider the proposal of the applicant in accordance with the law and on its own merits. Accordingly, the proposal was considered in the 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL. This ministry vide letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 gave a time limit of 15 days to the State Govt. of Maharashtra to forward its specific comments on the proposal. He mentioned that the PCCF (HoFF) Maharashtra has not recommended the proposal citing various reasons but has suggested to place the matter in the State Board for Wild Life.
4. Representative of the M/s Puntambekar minerals explained that the Environment Clearance (EC) for the project was granted in 2008 and after the judgement of Goa Foundation case in W.P.( C) 435/2015, mining activities are prohibited in 1 km zone of national Parks and Wildlife sanctuaries. He also cited the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 05/10/2015

*“All matters for grant of permission for implementation of projects in areas falling in National parks/sanctuaries, including rationalization of boundaries etc. will be considered by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (“NBWL”) on its own merits and in conformity with the orders and directions passed by this Court from time to time.”*

5. He informed there is mining activity taking place in the area adjoining the boundary of the Radhanagri WLS. The law should treat everybody equally.

The Project proponent also mentioned that under the Right to Information Act the information provided by the Maharashtra Forest department wherein the State Government has stated that there are no wildlife corridors notified in Maharashtra and in the lists of the Tiger Areas of Maharashtra, name of the Radhanagri WLS is missing. And it's been 11 years since they have got EC for the mine from MoEF&CC. There was a condition in the EC letter to obtain wildlife clearance. He said that there online

application dated 29.04.2016 has been pending at the State level. The project proponent submitted a representation to the Secretary.

6. APPCF (Wildlife), the State of Maharashtra mentioned that this proposal would be placed in the next State Board for Wild Life meeting. However, they couldn't get a date from the Hon'ble CM's office for the next meeting of SBWL.

He also stated that the area where mining is proposed is an important Tiger Corridor. Sahayadri Tiger reserve which comprises of Chandoli National Park and Koyna WLS is in the vicinity. He talked about source and sink population areas of Tiger and emphasised that a linkage through tiger corridor needs to be maintained. The proposed mining site is within that area. There is an old ongoing mine in Durgwadmani area, the mining lease of which is going to expire in 2 years. The proposal of the Radhanagri ESZ is under consideration in the Ministry and the proposed mine is located within the proposed ESZ.

He also elaborated about the history of the area and informed that Tigers used to roam in that area. It used to be the hunting ground of Maharaja of Kolhapur. The area is heritage of Kolhapur and needs to be preserved. There is already habitat fragmentation in that area.

APCCF (WL) Maharashtra mentioned that online database is Maharashtra has not been updated yet but they have considered the application of the project proponent offline and showed recommendations of Chief Wildlife Warden to the Chair.

7. Member Secretary, NTCA mentioned that Sahayadri Tiger Reserve which comprises of Chandoli National Park and Koyna Wildlife sanctuary is located in the north of the Radhnagri WLS. He said that in Radhanagri WLS there is a presence of Tiger and because of mining Tigers are not going there. He suggested minimising the mining activity in that area for the free movement of the Tigers. He stated that NTCA has given written opinion about the project. He also submitted a self contained report wherein he informed that the mining area is at the fringe of identified minimal tiger corridor of Sahydari TR and Radhanagri WLS.
8. DGF&SS explained that there is a laid down procedure for seeking wildlife clearance. If the project is located within the Protected Area, it needs recommendations of the Standing Committee of NBWL as the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. But when the proposal is located within 10 km or the notified ESZ of National parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, these are referred to the Standing Committee of NBWL as a part of environment clearance condition. In this case, the State Govt. is not recommending the proposal. But the State Board for Wild Life has not considered the proposal yet.

The DGF&SS mentioned that as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 04.12.2006 in W.P. 460/2004, there is a default eco-sensitive zone of 10 km, which would be applicable when the ESZ is not notified. The proposed mine is located inside proposed ESZ area. He further explained that corridors are not notified under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. These are just management units where the wildlife stays for a short

time and linkage between two or more large wildlife habitats is ensured. The proposed mine is in proposed ESZ area and normally the Standing committee of NBWL considers the proposal after the recommendations of the CWLW and SBWL. The crucial information about the area is given by the CWLW and in this case the CWLW has not recommended the proposal.

9. The Secretary sought to know from representative of Maharashtra that although many proposals have been sent by the State, why the State has not sent this particular proposal. The Chair also directed to get the minutes of the EC meeting wherein this proposal was considered. After the detailed discussion, the chair decided that the APCCF(WL) Maharashtra will submit the details of the number of operational projects within 10 kms of the sanctuary, number of mines operating in the proposed eco sensitive zone area, inside the corridor as well as outside the corridor, by Monday i.e., 7<sup>th</sup> August 2017. After examining the information given by the State Government and the project proponent, a decision would be placed before the Standing Committee of NBWL.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

1. Sh. A. N. Jha, Secretary, MoEF&CC
2. Sh. Siddhanta Das, DGF&SS
3. Sh. D. Swain, Member Secretary, NTCA.
4. Sh. Soumitra Dasgupta, IGF(WL)
5. Sh. S.P. Vashishth, DIG (WL)
6. Sh. Nishant Verma, DIG, NTCA.
7. Sh. M.K. Rao, APCCF (Wildlife), Maharashtra
8. Sh. Pasupala Ravi, Scientist (WL)
9. Sh. Dilip Madake, M/s Puntambekar Minerals Pvt. Ltd.
10. Ravi Kumar, Legal Assistant (WL)



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

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The proposal for construction of Central Armed Police Forces Institute of Medical Science (CAPFIMS) along with R&R Hospital and allied Institutes by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The project site is located at 200 meters away from the boundary of Asola Bhatti wildlife sanctuary. It is mentioned in Part-V of the proposal that recommendation of SBWL is not applicable as SBWL has not been constituted in NCT Delhi. The proposal was discussed in the 41<sup>st</sup> meeting (2 Mar 2017) of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife. After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal along with the conditions prescribed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden. The User Agency has requested vide letter dated 2 May 2017 to waive deposit of 5% of total project cost for undertaking soil-moisture conservation works as stipulated by the State Chief Wildlife Warden. Accordingly the request to waive deposit of 5% of total cost was placed before the 43<sup>rd</sup> Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life held on 27 June 2017. After discussions the Standing Committee recommended that the matter be examined by a Committee headed by Dr H S Singh, the State Chief Wildlife Warden and a representative of Wildlife Division 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. 6-15/2017 WL dated 31 July 2017 and 10 Aug 2017 that the inspection report was to be submitted after inspection by the following members:

1. Dr H S Singh, Member, NBWL
2. Shri A K Shukla, CWLW, NCT Delhi
3. Dr Pasupala Ravi, Scientist, MoEF&CC, New Delhi

In order to look into the issues concerning wildlife and their habitats with respect to this project, Dr H S Singh and Dr Pasupala Ravi along with the Dy. Conservator of Forests and representative of proponent authority conducted field inspections on 17 Aug 2017.

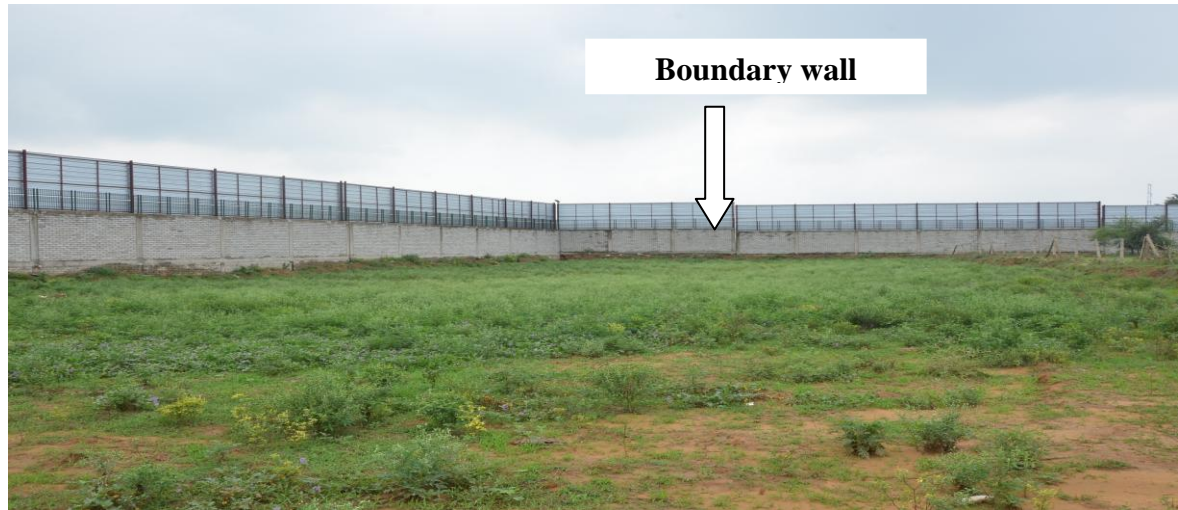
## 2. FIELD VISIT

Executive Engineer, CPWD, NCT Delhi and his officials briefed the team about the proposed project– Construction of Central Armed Police Forces Institute of Medical Science (CAPFIMS) along with R&R Hospital and allied Institutes in the forenoon on 17<sup>th</sup>, Aug 2017. The list of participants are placed at **ANNEXURE I**. The project proposal and its possible impact on wildlife habitat and ecological dynamics of CAPFIMS were discussed. The DCF, South Delhi presented the status of the wildlife in Asola Wildlife Sanctuary. After discussion in the meeting at Maidan Garhi, the team along with the representatives of the User Agency and Delhi Forest Department visited the project site. The team deliberated different issues connected with the project and the sanctuary to finalise the report.

## 3. PROPOSED PROJECT

CAPFIMS is a referral and research hospital proposed to be established at Maidan Garhi, New Delhi in an area of 51.4 acres located within 1 km of Asola wildlife sanctuary. The total plot area is 2,08,009.30 sq.m (51.4 acres) out of which 44200.00 sq.m shall be utilized as Ground coverage. The land has been allotted by the Delhi Development Authority vide allotment letter No.F.22(3)10/1L/1429 dated 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012. The project site, strong wall between the sanctuary and the project, and the construction work going on are shown in **Figure 1**. The proposed national level CAPFIMS will provide medical facilities with highest standards. It will render tertiary and specialized facilities to army troops (CRPF, BSF, ITBP, SSB, NSG and Assam Rifles) and their families. The total population of the Hospital has been estimated to be 6960, out of which the patients (IPD) will be 800, patients (OPD) will be 4000, hospital staff and visitors will be 2160, hospital attendants will be 1200, hostel students will be 2144, mess capacity will be 200, barracks residents will be 462, college staff will be 1140, visitors will be 114 and residential will be 3520. Besides having multi-specialty hospital (1100 bed), the CAPFIMS will also have its medical institute, college of nursing, school of paramedical sciences, residential campus for students, doctors and its health workforce, air ambulance unit, and fast field mobile hospital.

The Forest Department of Delhi has requested the WII, Dehradun to prepare Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan, which include development of soil-moisture conservation and ground water improvement in and around the ESZ of the sanctuary falling in the CAPFIMS jurisdiction. The proposal has not been yet submitted by the WII, Dehradun.



**Figure 1:** Project site and progress of the construction work.

Implementation of the project may result into negative and positive impact. The impact of the project can be minimize by raising the greenery of the surrounding buffer zone by planting native species as indicated in the mitigation plan of the project. The waste generated by the hospital will have negative environment but can be minimize by putting environment management of the hospital in operation. Presently, the waste / or malba is dumped in and around the area which can be checked by the very presence of the institute. However the chances of shifting the waste / malba to other site exist there. Chances of illegal entry into sanctuary by breaking of boundary wall will be minimized thereby preventing encroachments.

Further the proposed project shares a common boundary wall with the sanctuary and may have negative impact. Air pollution due to operation of DG sets will go towards ABWLS when the wind direction is towards the sanctuary. Noise with the campus, though may be minimal, and may affect immediate adjoining areas up to a distance of 100 m. The wildlife will be deprived from the use of the land due to construction of hospital and its campus.

#### **4. Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary**

Asola Wildlife Sanctuary is located on Southern Ridge of the northern terminal of Aravalli Hills. It is one of the oldest mountain systems of the world. Biodiversity significance of Ridge lies in its merger with Indo-Gangetic plains. Sanctuary is located on Southern Ridge, the northern terminal of Aravalli Hills, one of the oldest mountain systems of the world. Biodiversity significance of Ridge lies in its merger with Indo-Gangetic plains. Semi-arid thorny shrub forest in Asola wildlife sanctuary and presence of wildlife therein is shown in **Figure 2**. The Delhi Administration Authority vide notification N.F.31(116)/CWLW/84/897-906 dated 09.10.1986 had declared 7827 Bigha, 17 Biswa of Gaon Sabha land in village Asola, 2845 Bigha, 17 Biswa of Gaon Sabha land of village Sahurpur and 2186 Bigha 10 Biswa of Gaon Sabha land in village Maidan Garhi as Wildlife Sanctuary under Section 18 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 considering that the said area is of adequate ecological, faunal, flora, geomorphological, natural or zoological significance for protecting, propagating or developing of wildlife or its environment. In continuation of the above notification, the Delhi Administration, vide notification N.F.22(19)/DCF(90-91)/1383-91 dated 15.04.1991 had declared area falling in Khasara Nos. 708, 712, 713, 715, 1895 to 1900, 1903 to 1938 and 1940-1942 ad-measuring 2166.2 acre in village Bhatti as Wildlife Sanctuary on similar grounds.

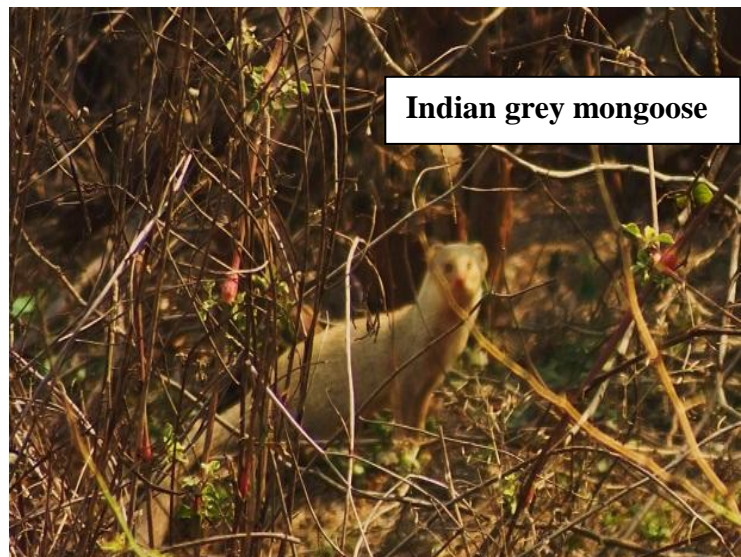




**Thorny shrub flora**



**Nilgai**



**Indian grey mongoose**

**Figure 2:** Semi-arid thorny shrub flora of Asola wildlife sanctuary and presence of wildlife therein.

The main faunal species includes nilgai, jungle cat, Indian civet, Indian grey mongoose, hyena, blackbuck, small Indian mongoose, pea-fowl, spiny tailed lizard, and about 200 species of resident and migratory birds.

## **5. Observations**

- (1) The construction site is located adjacent to Asola wildlife sanctuary, falling within the proposed Eco-sensitive zone around the sanctuary area.
- (2) The project area 51.4 acres has been earmarked as Institutional Area and was purchased by the User Agency from the Delhi Development Authority. Out of the total project area of 51.4 acres, area of 17.5 acres, a portion of southern ridge/ or geo-morphological ridge has been excluded from the project site. There should not be construction activity in the southern ridge by the User Agency.
- (3) Fencing boundary wall, sheds and buildings have already been constructed between the Asola wildlife Sanctuary and the proposed CAPFIMS and 40% of construction activity (buildings, parking area, etc.) have been completed.
- (4) The Moisture Conservation Plan and Wildlife Management Plan have not been submitted by the CAPFIMS.

## **6. Recommendations**

The proposal for construction of Central Armed Police Forces Institute of Medical Science (CAPFIMS) along with R&R Hospital and allied Institutes, NCT Delhi has already been ***recommended*** with the strict adherence to the conditions and mitigation measures. The committee reconsider the request of the proponent for waiving deposit of 5% of the total cost. The proponent is the Central Government Organisation of the Armed Police Force. After deliberation in the meeting on 17 August 2017, the committee make following recommendations.

- (1) The User Agency is required ***to deposit 2% of total cost of the project for the undertaking soil-moisture conservation and improvement of wildlife habitat in the***

*Asola wildlife sanctuary* in the larger interest of conservation of wildlife habitat as stipulated by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

- (2) *No construction activity / soil / Badarpur excavation is permitted in the area of 17.5 acres* of the geo-morphological ridge area contiguous to the project site. The natural character of the area should be restored to merge with the ridge forest and it should not be disconnected with the ridge forests.
- (3) The boundary wall of 10 feet height should be designed and constructed such that no waste can be thrown over the wall into the sanctuary.
- (4) Thick green belt of native plant species should be developed in the maximum available patch to buffer air / sound / water pollution inside the sanctuary. And the green belt should be declared as out-of-bound for the staff / public use.
- (5) Exhaust fans, vents of air-conditioners should not be fixed towards the face of the sanctuary. The municipal solid/liquid waste generated during construction / after full-fledge functioning of hospital, medicos'/ or nurses' hostel and residential colony should not be disposed in and around the sanctuary. The ***biomedical waste generated from the hospital should be disposed 5 km away from the boundary of the sanctuary.***

### **General recommendation**

*The project is not specific to the capital city and it is for the personals of the armed police force from different parts of the country. Delhi is already over populated and suffers from the increasing pollution load. Construction of such institute may result into visit of personnel of arm forces, their relatives. As a result, the traffic on Delhi roads, pollution in air and the waste on ground will further increase the existing pollution level. This will add to traffic and environmental burden to a highly polluted mega-city. Can't authority think of constructing such institute in B-class city properly located in the country? In future such projects, which are not specific to Delhi, should be constructed in Delhi. The ridge forests and its surrounding areas should be preserved and improved as lung of the mega-city.*

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

1. Dr H S Singh, Member, NBWL
2. Dr Pasupala Ravi, Scientist, MoEF&CC
3. Shri S K Muan Guite, DCF, South Delhi, NCT Delhi
4. Shri D N Katewa, EE (C), CPWD, NCT Delhi
5. Shri M L Koli, AE (C), CPWD, NCT Delhi
6. Shri Ankur Singh, AE (C), CPWD, NCT Delhi
7. Shri S N Rao, AE (C), CPWD, NCT Delhi
8. Shri K K Prasad, AE (C), CPWD, NCT Delhi