F.No.WL-6/20/2023-WL

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Wild Life Division)

2nd Floor, Vayu Wing, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi 110003. Tele: 011-20819214

Date: 10th April, 2023

To All Members Standing Committee of NBWL

Corrigendum: Meeting Notice

Sub: 72nd Meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life on 25th April, 2023 at **9:00 AM instead of 11:00 AM**.

Sir/Madam,

The undersigned is directed to inform you that the 72nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life is to be held on <u>25th April, 2023 at 9:00</u> <u>AM instead of 11:00 AM</u> under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at New Delhi.

It is requested to kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting.

Yours faithfully,

udharlan

(Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati)

Scientist 'E'

Email: adwl-mefcc@gov.in

Distribution:

- 1. Secretary, MoEF& CC
- 2. DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
- 3. ADGF(WL), MOEF&CC.
- 4. ADGF(FC), MoEF&CC.
- Member Secretary, NTCA.
- 6. Director/IGF, PE Division, MoEF&CC.
- 7. Director, WII, Dehradun.
- 8. Director, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar.
- 9. Dr.R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL.
- 10. Dr.H.S. Singh, Member, NBWL.

11. Secretary, Environment, Forest, Science and Technology Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Copy with request to be present during the meeting:

- Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary, Forest Department, Government of Arunachal Pradesh/Andhra Pradesh/ Bihar/ Karnataka/ Maharashtra/Madhya Pradesh /Haryana/ Rajasthan/ Ladakh/ Tamil Nadu/ Telangana/ Uttarakhand/ Uttar Pradesh.
- 2. PCCF and HoFF, Government of Arunachal Pradesh/ Andhra Pradesh/Bihar/ Karnataka/ Maharashtra/ Madhya Pradesh/ Haryana /Rajasthan /Ladakh /Tamil Nadu/ Telangana/ Uttarakhand/ Uttar Pradesh.
- 3. CWLW, Government of Arunachal Pradesh/ Andhra Pradesh/Bihar/Karnataka/ Maharashtra/Madhya Pradesh/ Haryana /Rajasthan/Ladakh/Tamil Nadu/ Telangana/ Uttarakhand/Uttar Pradesh.

Copy to:

- 1. PS to Hon'ble MoEF&CC.
- 2. PS to Hon'ble MoS, EF&CC.
- 3. PPS to Secretary, MoEF& CC
- PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC.
- 5. PSO to Addl. DGF (WL)/PPS to IGF (WL).
- 6. NIC Cell/IT Division with request to make arrangements and coordinate with State Nodal Officers for the Video Conference on the above mentioned date and time.
- 7. Reception.

(Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati) Scientist 'E'

Sudheela

TENTATIVE AGENDA OF 72 TH MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE				
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE				
INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, JOR BAGH ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110003				

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AGENDA No. 1

71.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 71st Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 29th December, 2022.

The 71stMeeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life was held on 29th December, 2022. The minutes of the meeting were circulated vide letter F. No.6-259/2022 dated 27th January, 2023 amongst all the Members. Copy of the minutes is placed at **ANNEXURE-I**.

Comments of the Ministry: The matter is placed before the Committee for consideration.

AGENDA No.2

71.2 ACTION TAKEN REPORT

S. No.	Age	nda Item	Action Taken	Catego ry
				-
1	a.	1, 2 of Dehradun	These proposals for mining of River Bed Materials in the default Eco-sensitive Zones were considered by the Standing Committed and deferred. The Proposal no. FP/UK/MIN/38285/2020 is from Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation involves four mining lots within default 10 km ESZ of Rajaji Tiger Reserve. The proposed areas for mining are situated at different distances viz. 0.7 to 8.5 km from the norther	
		FP/UK/MIN/382 85/2020	boundary of the western part of Rajaji Tiger Reserve (Song 1-8.5 km (202 ha), song 2-5.1 km (136.85 ha), Song 3-0.2 km (93.5 Ha) & Jakhan-5.4 km (96.5 ha). The factsheet of the	
	b.	Proposal for	proposal is placed as ANNEXURE -II	
		extraction of RBM over an area of 9.878 ha by Windlass RBM Mining Project	The proposal no. FP/UK/MIN/5052/2020 is for use of an area of 13.161 ha by Windlass RBM Mining Project a distance of 1.1 km from the boundary of Rajaji Tiger Reserve. The factsheet of the proposal is placed as ANNEXURE-III	
		9/2020	The proposal no. FP/UK/MIN/5059/2020 is for use of an area of 9.878 ha by Windlass RBM Mining Project at a distance of 1.4 km from Rajaji Tiger Reserve. The factsheet of the proposal is placed as ANNEXURE-IV	
	C.	Proposal for extraction of RBM over an	The Standing Committee in the 67 th meeting held on 25 th March 2022 had decided that the	

area of 13.161 RBM Mining **Project**

2/2020

Wildlife Institute of India (WII) shall be requested ha by Windlass to prepare a holistic plan for critical passage of wild animal for the landscape around 10 km from the Rajaji Tiger Reserve to identify zones for sand and boulder mining within two months. It FP/UK/MIN/505 was therefore, decided to defer the proposal.

> WII Accordingly, Ministry requested for preparation of a holisite plan for critical passage of wild animal for the landscape around 10 km from Rajaji Tiger Reserve. WII has submitted the plan which is placed at **ANNEXURE V**. WII has identified a Holisitc plan area of 2689 sq.km (10 km from Rajaji TR) and other delineation done by WII are as follows:

AREA DESCRIPTION

- a. 10 km-radius landscape from Rajaji TR -2689.00 sq.km
- b. Holistic Plan Area (within Uttarakhand) -2242.78 sg.km
- c. ESZ within HPA 341.77 sq.km
- corridors within HPA d. Wildlife 123.72 sq.km
- e. RET species' occurrences, habitats & corridors - 1633.19 sq.km
- 'Critical Zone' (RET species' occurrences, habitats, corridors, PAs & ESZ) within HPA - 1662.22 sq.km
- g. 'Non-critical Zone' within **HPA** 580.58 sq.km
- h. HEC-affected beats within HPA 700.20 sq.km
- Critical Zone including HEC-affected beats within HPA - 1724.31 sq.km
- Non-critical Zone (when HEC-affected beats data included) - 518.49 sq.km.

Further, as per the report, an area of about 1,662 sq.km of the c. 2,250 sq.km HPA (around 74 percent) is delineated as "critical zone" while the rest may be classified as "non-critical zone". In the non-critical zone. RBM mining may be permitted subject to comprehensive (wherever relevant) cumulative/site-specific appraisal of such proposals. Further, for the critical zones, WII has presented two decision making scenarios. The three proposals mentioned above are falling within the critical zone, for which, WII has recommended that

positively they may be appraised commissioning of cumulative impact assessment studies, and thereafter strict & regular monitoring statutory compliance conditions applicable rules, guidelines, statutes except for Song 3 lot (which has been proposed for rejection) proposal no. FP/UK/MIN/38285/2020.

Proposal was discussed in 71st meeting SC-NBWL held on 29.12.2022.

discussion. Standing Committee the directed that the Chief Wild Life Warden. Uttarakhand shall inspect the area mentioned in WII Report and submit a report to the Ministry. It was decided to defer the proposals till the receipt of the report from the Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand.

Report is awaited from the Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttarakhand.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Amendment minutes of corridor linking Kawal road Tiger Reserve existing the within boundary in Asifabad Mancherial Telangana State.

the The proposal for amendment in the minutes of Railway 57th the 57th Meeting held on 7th April, 2020 regarding Line Meeting held on 7th use of 21.2642 ha forest land falling in the tiger April, 2020 regarding corridor linking Kawal Tiger Reserve proposal for use of Kagaznagar Division for laying of new third BG 21.2642 ha forest land railway line along the existing track within the falling in the tiger railway boundary between Makhudi and Rechni railway stations in Komarambeem, in Asifabad and Mancherial District, Telangana Kagaznagar Division State was considered in the 68th meeting of the for laying of new third Standing Committee held on 30th May 2022 BG railway line along wherein it was decided that a meeting would be trackheld under the Chairmanship of Member railway|Secretary, National Tiger Conservation Authority between with the representatives of the Ministry of Makhudi and RechniRailways and NHAI and the Chief Wild Life road railway stations Wardens of Telangana and Maharashtra to Komarambeem, examine the project and that the proceedings of and the meeting would be placed before the District, Standing Committee in the next meeting. A meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Member Secretary, NTCA on 6th of June, 2022. The representatives of NHAI and the Ministry of Railways agreed with all the conditions imposed by NTCA except retrofitting of the underpass

bridge numbers 226, 227 and 240 in Forest Section B along the existing tacks within the railway boundary. The representative of the Ministry of Railways also assured that for future activities along the said line, adequate underpasses /over-passes for tiger crossing would be provided. The Member Secretary, National Tiger Authority Conservation requested representative of the Ministry of Railways to send a written confirmation to this effect to the Ministry at the earliest. The proposal was again considered in the 69th meeting held on 29th July. 2022. After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to defer the matter till the receipt of written confirmation from the User agency as decided in the meeting held on 6th June 2022 under the Chairmanship of the Member Secretary, National Tiger Conservation Authority.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana has communicated the written confirmation from the Chief Engineer, South Central Railway, Secunderabad stating that during future activities along the railway line in the forest area between Makudi-Rechni Road Railway Stations, two overpasses at Railway km: 178/28-30 and km: 191/0-2 and one underpass at km: 193/22-24 for tiger crossing will be provided.

Proposal was discussed in 71st meeting SC-NBWL held on 29.12.2022.

The Standing Committee decided that the report submitted by the Ministry of Railways needs to be examined further. It was therefore decided to defer the matter.

The letter of the South Central Railway was examined in the Ministry wherein the Chief Engineer has stated that during future activities along the railway line in the forest area between Makudi-Rechni Road Railway Stations, two overpasses at Railway km: 178/28-30 and km: 191/0-2 and one underpass at km: 193/22-24 for tiger crossing. The letter is in conformity with the decision taken in the meeting dated 6th June, 2022 chaired by the Member Secretary, NTCA.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

3. Hubli – Ankola New A proposal for wildlife clearance for Hubli-Ankola Railway Railway line project was received by the

Karnataka

Government Ministry from the State Karnataka in 2017. The project involves diversion of an area of 595.64 ha of forest land for the construction of a new broad gauge railway line from Hubballi to Ankola passing through tiger corridors connecting Kali Tiger Reserve with Sharavathi Sanctuary Karnataka.

Ministry constituted a seven-member committee as per the decision taken by the SCNBWL in the 68th meeting held on 30th May, 2022 vide letter dated 3rd June 2022. The Committee held a meeting on 16th June, 2022 and carried out site inspection and hearing of stakeholders in North Kanara and Dharwad districts of Karnataka from 26.09.2022 till 29.09.2022. The committee further met on 12.12.2022 and 19.12.2022. The Committee submitted its report to the Ministry on 26.12.2022. The committee found gaps/discrepancies in the project proposal. The committee therefore, recommended that the project proposal in the present form should not be considered. The project may qualify for consideration by the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life only when all gaps/discrepancies and issues raised by the committee members, as mentioned above in this report, are addressed to minimise ecological loss and submitted afresh. The report of the Committee is placed as ANNEXURE-VI.

Proposal was discussed in 71st meeting SC-NBWL held on 29.12.2022.

It was decided that the Ministry shall organise a workshop under the chairmanship of ADG Wildlife with officials of the Ministry of Railways, National Highways Authority of India, Gati Shakti, Karnataka Government and experts from Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and CPWD to discuss the project proposal in detail.

Subsequently, Ministry organized a meeting under the Chairmanship of ADGF (WL) on3rd February, 2023 wherein following action points emerged:

a. The report of the committee will be

- communicated to the Ministry of Railways, National Highways Authority of India, State Government of Karnataka, and Gati Shakti for development of an integrated regional
- development plan for the region and follow-up action on therecommendations made in the report of the committee.
- b. An inter-ministerial meeting may be discuss the convened to development of a regional master plan for transport with the involvement of NHAI. GatiShakti. and Government Karnataka. WII will compile the best practices adopted for railway line and its implementation India and in make a presentation during the meeting.
- c. An integrated infrastructure development plan should be developedin order to harmonise the transportation needs of the region with theconservation of forest and wildlife.
- d. As the committee has not recommended the proposal in its currentform, the proposal for Hubli Ankola New Railway Line needs to be revised in accordance with the recommendations of the committee.
- The Ministry of Railways may request WII mitigation to prepare а for the project that can be plan showcased as a model. Bridges and tunnels under the project should be designed in an ecologically friendly manner and state-of-the-art technology should be used to prevent deaths of wild animals due to collisions with trains.

As a follow-up, the report of the Committee was provided to the Ministry of Railways and another meeting on Hubli-Ankola New Railway Line Project was held on 15th March, 2023 under the Chairmanship of ADGF (Wildlife). After discussions, the following points were agreed:

a. The Ministry of Railways, National Highways Authority of India and State Highways Authority of Karnataka shall work out a transportation infrastructure development plan for the area along with the Infrastructure Development Department.

- proposals Alternative route for linear outside PAs have to be provided in proposals.
- c. Every linear infrastructure proposal passing through or along PAs/ RF should have appropriate environmental friendly mitigation plan for protecting wildlife. This can be included in consultation with Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- d. Fresh proposals should have Carbon footprint under Cost Benefit Analysis, Wetland Development plan as per the Wetland (Conservation and Development) Rules, 2017, Plastic free zone promotion of traditional knowledge in 10 km radius of the proposal site.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the matter.

Amendment in 2015 Gandhi Januarv. based Feroz Unchahar, Sanctuary.

the The proposal for clearance to expansion of the Therm minutes of the 32nd existing coal based power project by adding one al meeting held on 21st unit 500 MW under stage IV of NTPC Ltd Feroz Power Unchahar. Uttar Pradesh regarding proposal for considered by the SCNBWL in its 32nd Meeting to held on 21st January, 2015. The proposal was expansion of existing recommended by the Standing Committee power subject to implementation of mitigation measures project by adding one and the conditions stipulated by the CWLW and unit 500 MW under Environment Clearance obtained under the stage IV of NTPC Ltd Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and EIA Gandhi Notification 2006. Under the conditions, a sum Uttar amounting to 2% of the project cost shall be Pradesh within 10 kms placed with the Chief Wild Life Warden by the from Samaspur bird User agency. The Feroz Gandhi Unchahar Thermal Power Project, Stage-IV (1x500 MW) is located at 7.9 km away from Samaspur Bird

Sanctuary and beyond the boundary of ESZ of Samaspur Bird Sanctuary. The ESZ of the Samaspur Bird Sanctuary was notified on much 27.09.2019 later than recommendations of the SCNBWL. NTPC has informed the Ministry that all the conditions have been complied with except the condition relating to payment of 2% of the project cost. NTPC has requested that the condition be reviewed since the project does not fall inside the notified ESZ of Samaspur Sanctuary. A meeting was organised by Member Secretary, NBWL to discuss the matter with Chief Wild Life Warden, Uttar Pradesh and officials of NTPC on 19th July. 2022. However, the officials of the NTPC did not attend the meeting. It was decided to get the project area inspected by the officials of the Integrated Regional Office to check the status of compliance of the conditions by NTPC. The proposal for amendment in the minutes of the 32nd meeting was considered in the 69th meeting held on 29th July, 2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the matter till the receipt of the report from the Deputy Director General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Lucknow.

IRO, Lucknow has submitted their report vide letter dated 14.10.2022. The site inspection was carried out by Scientist from IRO, Lucknow. Several non-compliances of conditions imposed in Environment Clearance and those imposed by SCNBWL in 32nd meeting held on 21.01.2015 have been reported. The IRO Lucknow has sought certain certificates, reports, justifications have been requested by the IRO, Lucknow. The report of IRO, Lucknow is placed at ANNEXURE VII.

Proposal was discussed in 71st meeting SC-NBWL held on 29.12.2022.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided that the officials of Feroz Gandhi Unchahar NTPC should be present before the Standing Committee in its next meeting to explain the reasons for not complying with the conditions.

The officials of the NTPC Unchahar have been invited for the meeting.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the matter.

Bird Sanctuary laying underground MSH-05 24" Steel Pipeline Ahmednagar Aurangabad within

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

the RoW of MSH-05 The proposal was first considered in the 69th in Ta. Gangapur & meeting of the Standing Committee held on 29th Newasa for city gas July, 2022 wherein it was decided to defer the distribution by BGRL.

FP/MH/Pipeline/5827 /2021

proposal till the submission of contingency plan by the State Government in case of leakage of gas which may affect the ecosystem.

The proposal was again considered in the 70th meeting held on 13.10.2022. As the report from the State Government was not received, the proposal was deferred.

Thereafter, the State Government submitted a report which categorised three levels of risk and response identification. The plan highlights initial procedures to be followed in case of gas leak, notification of gas leak to concerned authorities, preliminary estimate of response tier, notifying key team members and authorities, identifying resources immediately at risk, preparation of resources list and their readiness, gas leak report form. Further, the plan also provides for designation of Chief Co-ordinator, Operations Co-ordinator, Operations squad, Maintenance Co-ordinator, Restoration Squad, Materials Sauad. Communication Co-ordinator. Administration and Finance Co-ordinator. Evacuation Squad in case of gas leakage.

Proposal was again discussed in 71st meeting held on 29.12.2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided that the State Government would be asked to submit a standard operating procedure along with the contingency plan. It was decided to defer the matter till the next meeting.

The State Government of Maharashtra was requested to provide the report as per the decision taken in the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee vide Ministry letter no. 6-111/2022 WL dated 6th February, 2023.

The State Government of Maharashtra has forwarded Emergency Response Plan and Standard Operating Procedure for handling emergency/gas leakage situations prepared by Bharat Petroleum Gas Limited vide their letter dated 20th April, 2023.

The SOP for emergency handling identifies three levels of emergencies. It identifies the agencies to be liaison during emergency, designation of authorities for handling emergencies and their

roles and responsibilities. It also highlights the nature of records to be maintained and communication to be established. It also defines the roles of various line department authorities such as district administration, medical personnel, traffic officers, water and irrigation authorities, PWD, railways, NDRF and SDRF, SPCB. The Plan designates pipeline control room at Ahmednagar as Emergency Control Centre. The SOP identifies pre-emergency planning requirements, forms to be maintained, emergency preparedness measures such as emergency drills and mock exercises, training capacity building, mutual aid. communication protocol.

The SOP mentions the procedure for handling emergency at site which includes – reporting gas leakage, flow of information, shutting down of operations and venting, procedure for declaration of emergency, operation control at site. The SOP also provides for notification of completion of emergency phase of operation, emergency recovery procedure and post incident procedures. The SOP received from the State Government is placed as **ANNEXURE-IX**

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the matter.

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

The proposal is for use 0.2787 ha from Great Gas Indian Bustard Sanctuary for laying gas pipeline pipeline by Bharat Gas Resources Ltd. on Limpangaon-Nagar Road in Shrigonda Ta. of Ahmednagar District, Maharashtra. The factsheet of the proposal is placed as **ANNEXURE-X**

The proposal was considered in the 70th meeting held on 13th October, 2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of a contingency plan by the State Government to deal with incidents of gas leakage.

FP/MH/Pipeline/555

7/2020

Thereafter, the State Government submitted a report which categorised three levels of risk and response identification. The plan highlights initial procedures to be followed in case of gas leak, notification of gas leak to concerned authorities, preliminary estimate of response tier, notifying key team members and authorities, identifying resources immediately at risk, preparation of resources list and their readiness, gas leak report form. Further, the plan also provides for designation of Chief Co-ordinator, Operations Co-ordinator, Operations squad, Maintenance Co-ordinator, Materials Restoration Squad, Communication Squad, Co-ordinator. Administration and Finance Co-ordinator. Evacuation Squad in case of gas leakage.

The proposal was again considered in the 71st meeting held on 29th December, 2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided that the State Government would be asked to submit a standard operating procedure along with the contingency plan. It was decided to defer the matter till the next meeting.

The State Government of Maharashtra was requested to provide the report as per the decision taken in the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee vide Ministry letter no. 6-212/2022 WL dated 6th February, 2023.

The State Government of Maharashtra has forwarded Emergency Response Plan and Standard Operating Procedure for handling emergency/gas leakage situations prepared by Bharat Petroleum Gas Limited vide their letter dated 20th April, 2023.

The SOP for emergency handling identifies three levels of emergencies. It identifies the agencies to be liaison during emergency, designation of authorities for handling emergencies and their roles and responsibilities. It also highlights the nature of records to be maintained and communication to be established. It also defines the roles of various line department authorities such as district administration, medical personnel, traffic officers, water and irrigation authorities, PWD, railways, NDRF and SDRF, SPCB. The Plan designates pipeline control

room at Ahmednagar as Emergency Control Centre. The SOP identifies pre-emergency planning requirements, forms to be maintained, emergency preparedness measures such as emergency drills and mock exercises, training and capacity building, mutual aid. communication protocol.

The SOP mentions the procedure for handling emergency at site which includes – reporting gas leakage, flow of information, shutting down of procedure operations and venting, declaration of emergency, operation control at site. The SOP also provides for notification of completion of emergency phase of operation, emergency recovery procedure and post incident procedures. The SOP received from the State Government is placed as **ANNEXURE-XI**

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders. we restrain authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

mining Rama Minerals.

Proposed Silica Sand The proposal is for use of 4.2682 ha Silica Sand Mining project mining project ML.No.09/2003 (Area 4.2682 Ha) ML.No.09/2003 (Arealin village Manoharpura, Tehsil, district-Karauli of 4.2682 Ha) in village-M/s Rama Minerals. Proposed site is 5.1 Km Manoharpura, Tehsil, away from the Kaila Devi Wildlife Sanctuary district-Karauli of M/s|(WLS) which is a part of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. The factsheet of the proposal is placed as **ANNEXURE-XII**

FP/RJ/MIN/4863/2020

The proposal was considered in the 70th meeting held on 13th October, 2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of proposal for declaration ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. Standing Committee also directed that a cumulative impact study be carried out by Wildlife Institute of India in order to determine areas where mining can be allowed around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.

The State Government of Rajasthan submitted a

proposal for declaration of ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. However, as the proposal lacked clarity, essential information has been sought from the State Government as follows:

- a. Soft copy of the proposal in word format;
- coloured and legible A-4 size map with coordinates for both (PA and ESZboundary) on the toposheet (Maps provided with the proposals not in A-4 size).
- c. Gazette Notification of the above Protected Areas and GIS/KML Files of Protected Areas and their ESZ.
- d. The list of activities which are proposed to prohibited, regulated and permitted should mandatorily include the activities as mentioned in the Ministry's guidelines dated 9th February, 2011 as per the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 03.06.2022.

The above details are awaited from the State Government.

The Wildlife Institute of India submitted the report with the following recommendations:

- a. Mining leases not falling within ESZ or wildlife corridors may only be extended/ permitted after commissioning detailed site-specific and cumulative (wherever relevant) environment and biodiversity impact studies.
- b. All mining leases-either currently operational or pending statutory appraisal-located within the legally valid ESZ and in wildlife corridors may be rejected; it is also important that the ESZs of RTR, RVTR and NCSP, Rajasthan are finalised as early as possible following existing guidelines on the matter and as per relevant orders of higher courts of judicature in this regard.
- c. Similarly, all mining leases-either currently operational or pending appraisal-located within the occurrence/ suitable habitat zones of globally threatened and Sch. I species of prime conservation concern such as tiger, leopard, caracal, wolf,

- dhole, sloth bear, Indian pangolin etc. may not be positively appraised to allow for wildlife use of these areas.
- d. Mining leases not falling within ESZ or wildlife corridors may only be extended/permitted after commissioning detailed site-specific and cumulative (wherever relevant) environment and biodiversity impact studies.

The report received from the Wildlife Institute of India is placed as ANNEXURE-XIII

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Proposed silica sand M.L.No.06/1982 Kumar Herbals Silica, Rajasthan.

Richhoti The proposal is for use of 23.1726 ha Richhoti Mining andsilica sand and masonry stone mine masonry stone mineM.L.No.06/1982 M/s Kumar Herbals & Silica, M/s|Rajasthan. Proposed site is 8.2 Km away from & the Kaila Devi Wildlife Sanctuary which is part of Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve (RTR). factsheet of the proposal is placed

FP/RJ/MIN/5863/2021 ANNEXURE-XIV

The proposal was considered in the 70th meeting held on 13th October, 2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the submission of proposal for declaration ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. Standing Committee also directed that a cumulative impact study be carried out by Wildlife Institute of India in order to determine areas where mining can be allowed around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.

The State Government of Rajasthan submitted a proposal for declaration of ESZ around Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. However, as the proposal lacked clarity, essential information has been sought from the State Government as follows:

- a. Soft copy of the proposal in word format;
- b. coloured and legible A-4 size map with coordinates for both (PA and **ESZboundary**) on the toposheet (Maps provided with the proposals not in A-4 size).
- c. Gazette Notification of the above Protected Areas and GIS/KML Files of Protected Areas and their ESZ.

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The above details are awaited from the State Government.

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- a. Mining leases not falling within ESZ or wildlife corridors may only be extended/ permitted after commissioning detailed site-specific and cumulative (wherever relevant) environment and biodiversity impact studies.
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- c. Similarly, all mining leases-either currently operational or pending appraisal-located within the occurrence/ suitable habitat zones of globally threatened and Sch. I species of prime conservation concern such as tiger, leopard, caracal, wolf, dhole, sloth bear, Indian pangolin etc. may not be positively appraised to allow for wildlife use of these areas.
- d. Mining leases not falling within ESZ or wildlife corridors may only be extended/permitted after commissioning detailed site-specific and cumulative (wherever relevant) environment and biodiversity impact studies.

The report received from the Wildlife Institute of India is placed as **ANNEXURE-XIII**

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

widening upgradation of existing road Bhadradri

Telangana.

20

Proposal for use of The proposal is for use of 1.25 ha of forest land Road 1.25 ha of forest land from Kinnerseni Sanctuary for widening and and upgradation of the existing road from Allapalli to the Mailaram in Bhadradri Kothagudem District, from Telangana. The factsheet of the proposal is Allapalli to Mailaram in placed as ANNEXURE-XV

Kothagudem District, The proposal was first considered in the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee held on 29th July, 2022 wherein it was decided the Inspector FP/TG/ROAD/5487/20 General of Forests (IGF), Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad shall inspect the project site and submit report regarding the violations.

> report submitted IGF. bv the Hyderabad indicated violations. The proposal was again considered in the 70th meeting along with the report of the IGF, IRO, Hyderabad. After discussions, the Standing Committee directed the Chief Wild Life Warden that action against erring officials both from the Forest Department and the User Agency should be initiated within 15 days. The Chief Wild Life Warden shall inform the Standing Committee regarding the action taken under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the next meetina.

> The proposal was again discussed in the 71st meeting held on 29.12.2022wherein the Standing Committee decided that the Chief Wild Life Warden shall submit a report by 10th January, 2023 highlighting the action taken against all the officials responsible for the violations including registration of offences under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act. 1980.

> The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana in this report has mentioned that the Forest Division Office. WIM Kinnern division Paloncha Rc.No.459/2020/K3, dt.23.12.2022 had informed that, show cause notices were issued to Sri B.Sukya, Forest Section Officer, Allapally and Sri S.Ramesh, Forest Beat Officer, Allapally Rc.No.459/2020/K3, Mylaram best vide dt.13.09.2021 directing them to submit their explanation. Further, the Superintendent Engineer, PR region Khammam was requested to furnish explanation for carrying of the said

works in violation of FC.Act. 1980 and WLPA. 1972 in Rc.No.459/2020/K3, dt.11.06.2021.

Further, CWLW informed that as a follow up reminders were also issued to the Officials of the Forest Department and User Agency. Further action will be taken after receipt of replies.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders. we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the matter.

Bhadradri

10. Proposal for use of The proposal is for use of 3.43 ha of forest land Road 3.43 ha of forest land from Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary for widening Kinnersaniand upgradation of the existing road from Wildlife Sanctuary for Mondikunta Mamilavai to in and Kothagudem District, Telangana. The factsheet widening the of the proposal is placed as ANNEXURE-XVI upgradation of existing road from

Mondikunta Mamilavai Bhadradri

Telangana.

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

FP/TG/ROAD/4418/20 19

The proposal was again considered in the 70th meeting along with the report of the IGF, IRO, Hyderabad. As per the report received from the Inspector General of Forests. Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad, the mud road has been upgraded to metalled road in the year 2006-07, thereby indicating violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. After discussions, the Standing Committee directed the Chief Wild Life Warden that action against erring officials both from the Forest Department and the User Agency should be initiated within 15 days. The Chief Wild Life Warden shall inform the Standing Committee regarding the action taken under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the next meeting.

The proposal was again discussed in the 71st meeting held on 29.12.2022wherein theStanding Committee decided that the Chief Wild Life Warden shall submit a report by 10th January, 2023 highlighting the action taken against all the officials responsible for the violations including registration of offences under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana in this report has mentioned that the Forest Divisional Officer, WLM Kinnerasani division Paloncha in Rc.No.351/2019/K3, dt.23.12.2022 has informed that Sri K.Bhadraiah, Forest Section Officer of M. Venkatapuram section and Sri Md. Qutbuddin, Forest Beat Officer of Venkatapuram beat of Yanambail Range are the Forest Officers concerned when violations took place and they have retired from service on 31.03.2011 and 31.04.2016 respectively. The Executive Engineer which is the user agency in Rc.No. AE/PMGSY-LWF/Forest clearance/02/2018, dt.06.08.2021 (copy enclosed) has informed that the Field Officers who have executed the work at the time in violation in the year 2006-07 have retired from service.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the matter.

11. Proposal for use of The proposal is for use of 18.083 Ha of forest Irrigation 18.083 Ha of forest and default ESZ of Pranahita Wildlife Sanctuary land default ESZ offor execution of left flank main canal and 8-R Wildlife distributary for Nilwai Medium Irrigation project in Pranahita for Mancherial district (Package No.12) in favour of Sanctuary execution of left flank Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department, MIP main canal and 8-R Division, Mancherial, Telangana. The proposed distributary for Nilwaisite is 6.64 Km away from Pranahitha Wildlife Irrigation Sanctuary. The factsheet of the proposal is Medium project in Mancherial placed as ANNEXURE-XVII district (Package No.12) in favour of The proposal was first considered in the 70th

Executive MIP Mancherial, Telangana.

017

Engineer, meeting held on 13th October, 2022 wherein the Irrigation Department, Standing Committee decided to defer the Division, proposal till submission of action taken report for violations by user agency and suitable animal passage plan. The Standing Committee also recommended that site inspection shall FP/TG/IRRIG/30173/2 carried out by Inspector General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad and a report regarding violations shall be submitted.

> Hyderabad IRO, submitted inspection report vide letter dated 6th December. 2022. The IGF, IRO, Hyderabad has reported that the canal work is almost completed in Patch-[partly completed in case of Patch-2 & Patch-4 and there is no work carried out in case of Patch-3 (8-R Distributary). The work appears to be taken up a few years back and stopped later. As of now, there is no active canal work noticed in the entire alignment. The distributary which is designated as Patch-3 in the description is catering to the encroached forest land only. IGF. IRO. Hyderabad has further recommended that 8-R distributary may not be considered.

> The proposal was again discussed in 71st meeting held on 29.12.2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided that the Chief Wild Life Warden shall submit a report by 10th January, 2023 highlighting the action taken against all the officials responsible for the violations including registration of offences under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

> Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana in his report has submitted that the Chief Conservator of Forests/ Field Director, Kawal Tiger Reserve, Rc.No.6608/2017/D2, Mancherial vide dt.28.12.2022 has informed that the User Agency has committed violation of the FC Act, 1980 by carrying work in an area of 13.829 ha (cement concrete work over an extent of 8.725 ha and earth work excavation over 5.104 ha area). Further, it was informed that, the Regional Empowered Committee has considered the proposal and issued Stage-I approval under section 3(E) of the Ministry's guide line dated 23.01.2018(unintentional violation of FCA, 1980

due to discrepancies in land records).

User Agency as а part of Penal Compensatory Afforestation (PCA) and maintenance over an extent of 14.00 ha of degraded Forest land identified in Compartment number 372 of Jajjaravelly RF of Kushlepally Range of Bellampally division has deposited an amount of Rs. 101.636 Lakhs into the Adhoc Telangana CAMPA account.

The animal passage plan including construction of one under pass, four box culverts, six RCC silt traps, one check dam has already been furnished along with the undertaking from the User Agency. Further, the Field Director has included construction of animal passage over the canal as Eco-bridges i.e., cut and cover design similar to the design adopted in the right plan of the project with a length of 40 m and width of 3.50 m at an interval of 250 m.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Wildlife Sanctuary for km 0/0 lto Veerampet km 0/0

Mandal Telangana.

FP/TG/ROAD/123095/Life 2021

12. Proposal for use of The proposal is for use of 5.9359 ha of forest Road 5.9359 ha of forest|land from Pakhal Wildlife Sanctuary for formation Pakhallof BT road from L032-Mattewada to Veerampet to 8/000 at Gudur Mandal formation of BT roadMahabubabad District, Telangana. The factsheet from L032-Mattewada of the proposal is placed as ANNEXURE-XVIII

to 8/000 at GudurThe proposal was first considered in the 70th of meeting held on 13th October, 2022 wherein the Mahabubabad District. Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till submission of action taken report by the State Government regarding violation of Wild (Protection) Act. 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

> The proposal was again discussed in the 71st meeting held on 29.12.2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided that the Chief Wild Life Warden shall submit a report by 10th January, 2023 highlighting the action taken against all the officials responsible for the violations including registration of offences under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

> The Chief Wild Life Warden, Telangana in his report has mentioned that the District Forest

Officer. Mahabubabad vide Rc.No.1402/2020/TO, dt.27.12.2022 has informed that the User Agency has committed completing the earthwork. by construction of culverts and laying of concrete over an area of 5.9359 ha. However, black topping is yet to be completed. The Forest staff has issued Preliminary Offence Report (POR) collected against the user agency and Compounding fee from the concerned as under:

- The Forest Beat Officer, Ootla(N) has No.1234/25. booked POR а dt.29.05.2019 against the offender Sri Saranpally Venkatreddy S/o Aga Reddy, R/o K.Samudram for illegal felling and of non-teak poles worth storage Rs.8331/-. Α sum of Rs.25,000/compounding fee was collected.
- ii. The Forest Beat Officer, Ootla(E) has booked a POR No.102/OR/G/2020-21, dt.20.11.2020 against the offender Sri Saranpally Venkatreddy S/o Aga Reddy, R/o K.Samudram for storage of gravel of 8 cmt valuing Rs.3360/-. A sum of Rs.10,080/-compounding fee was collected.
- iii. The Forest Beat Officer, Ootla(N) has booked a POR No.81/OR/G/2018-19, dt.25.02.2019 against the offender Sri Saranpally Venkatreddy S/o Aga Reddy, R/o K.Samudram for storage of gravel of 13 cmt valuing Rs.4953/-, A sum of Rs.15,000/- compounding fee was collected.

Further, the Forest Range Officer. Gudur has issued show cause notice to the Divisional Engineer. Panchayat Rai Department. Mahabubabad vide Rc.No.110/FCA/2020/G, .02.09.2020. The DE, Panchayat Raj Department requested to explain reasons commencing the upgradation of existing gravel road to BT road from Oodla to Karlai in compartment No.996, 997 and 1006 of Gudur Range of Gudur WLM division.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the

authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

13. De-notification 348.12 Revenue land Sardarpur Sanctuary sanctuary Madhya

FP/MP/Others/5589/ 2021

of A proposal for de-notification of 348.12 sq. km. of Alterati sq.km | Sardarpur Kharmor Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh on of of and notification of 16.82 sq.km of forest area in sanctua Kharmor lieu of the proposed denotification was first ry and considered in the 67th meeting held on 25th bounda notification of 16.82 March 2022 and the Standing Committee had ries sq.km forestland as decided that a committee comprising of Dr. H.S. in Dhar, Singh and Member Secretary, National Tiger Pradesh Conservation Authority (NTCA) shall examine the proposal and submit report to the Ministry for placing before the Standing Committee in the next meeting.

> Ministry constituted the committee which has submitted its report on 26.05.2022. The committee opined that the proposal for denotification does not appear to have been prepared based on field reality. Certain patches have been proposed denotification which should have been excluded from the proposal. After taking into consideration grasslands habitat for species such as lesser florican black buck wolves etc. about 348 sq.km. was notified as sanctuary. Due to lack of management focus in past three decades, the area became fragmented. Revenue land of the existing sanctuary having area above ha, free from cultivation and private 100 ownership may be retained in the proposed sanctuary. The Standing Committee in its 68th meeting held on 30th May, 2022 decided that the State Government shall submit a revised proposal as per recommendations of the Site Inspection Committee by 30th August, 2022 and therefore deferred the matter. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted a revised proposal for denotification of 348.12 sq. km area of the sanctuary and re-notification of the sanctuary as follows:

Present area proposed		348.12
for denotification of		sq.km.
Sardarpur sanctuary		
Area of the reorganised	Protected areas	44.4262

Sardarpur sanctuary boundaries	in Jhabua Division	sq.km
	Reserved Forest Areas in Jhabua	36.0636 sq.km
	Division	Sq.KIII
	Protected area in	51.4815
	Dhar Division	sq.km.
	Revenue area	0.8631
		sq.km
Total for reorganised sand	132.83	
	sq.km	
Area added to Kuno sanc	55.9285	
		sq.km.
Area added to New Karma	14.1042	
		sq.km
Area compensated with no	153.588	
sanctuaries i.e., Sonawan	sq.km.	
Balaghat, Dr. Bhimrao Ar		
sanctuary, Sagar and Mah Sanctuary, Burhanpur		
		I

The State Government informed that the area of the re-organised Sardarpur Kharmor sanctuary shall be 132.83 sq. km. and the balance area compensated or being compensated by addition of area to other sanctuaries or notification of new sanctuaries is 223.612 sq. km. totalling to 356.442 sq. km.

The State Government has submitted the revised proposal with the recommendations of the State Board for Wild Life. The proposal from the State Government is placed at **ANNEXURE-XIX**.

The proposal was again discussed in the 71st meeting held on 29.12.2022 wherein the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till submission of a proper justification by the State Government for denotification of the sanctuary.

Ministry had communicated the decision of the Standing Committee to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh vide letter no. 6-125/2021

dated February, 2023. However. justification from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh is yet to be received.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

14 Proposal construction areenfield Bangalore-Chennai range of (West) Division which Koundinva Elephant favour of NHAI.

/2022

for The proposal for use of 61.73 ha of forest land for Road of construction of greenfield 4 laneBangalorelane Chennai Expressway Phase-II from Km 71.000 to Km156.000 falling in Palamaner RF and Expressway Phase-II Tekumanda Extn. RF ofPalamaner Beat & range from Km 71.000 to of Chittoor (West) Division which are part ofthe Km 156.000 falling in ESZ of Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary and Palamaner RF and RayalaElephantReserve under Bharatmala in Tekumanda Extn.RF favour of NHAIwas first discussed in 71stheld on of Palamaner Beat & 29.12.2022. The factsheet of the proposal is Chittoor placed as **ANNEXURE-XX**

are part of the ESZ of After discussions, the Standing Committee had Wildlife decided that a committee comprising Sanctuary and Rayala Dr. Sukumar, Member, NBWL, Dr. H. S. Singh, Reserve Member, NBWL and Deputy Inspector General of under Bharatmala in Forests (Wildlife) would carry out site inspection for the proposed greenfield highway, examine animal passage plan submitted along with the FP/AP/ROAD/154254 proposal and the requirement of animal passage structures in the existing highway and submit report to the Ministry. It was therefore decided to defer the proposal.

> Ministry vide letter no. 6-256/2022 WL dated 3rd February, 2023 constituted the committee which after carrying out site inspection and meetings submitted its report on 18th April, 2023 and is placed as ANNEXURE-XXI.

> The committee made following recommendations:

1. The animal passage plan for the 4-lane expressway along the 7.1 km stretch

- passing through the forests of Chittoor Forest Division and Rayala Elephant Reserve should considerably be strengthened following the quidelines issued by Wildlife Institute of India. Overall, this should ensure that at least half of this 7.1 km stretch should allow free movement of the largest mammal, elephant by namely, the providing underpasses of adequate height (8m) and breadth at multiple locations. The NHAI has revised the length of clear passage for animals to 3090 m in the proposed road as per the proposal. This may be reexamined by the NHAI in consultation with the DFO, Chittoor to maximise it, if feasible.
- While working in the forest area, the planning and execution of work by NHAI should be done with the concurrence of the DFO-Chittoor so that disturbance to the forest and wildlife can be minimised.
- The underpass design and openness ratio has to be adhered to the Wildlife Institute of India's Eco-friendly measures to mitigate impacts of Linear Infrastructure on Wildlife. This has also been mandated by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India vide their order No RW-NH-11013/02/2019-S&R (P&B) dated 29th May 2019.
- Wherever terrain permits, there should be underpasses to facilitate movement of smaller animals and filling (as is currently proposed) should not be undertaken.
- 5. The entire 7.1 km stretch of the proposed expressway should not allow the crossing of animals aboveground. Along the nonelevated sections of the expressway, this can be ensured for the elephant by adopting the mechanical railway barrier design used bν Karnataka **Forest** Department at places in Bandipur and Nagarhole National Parks, but should be further modified by adding an extra horizontal rail line to the prevailing 2 rail lines in the Karnataka PAs and raising the overall height of the topmost line by about 0.5 to 1.0 metres. Chain-link fence may also be added along the lower part of the barrier to prevent mammals such as

- leopards, sloth bear, and others to cross the expressway.
- 6. The animal passages planned for retrofitting in the National Highway (NH69old NH4) running close to and parallel to the proposed 4-lane expressway should be consistent with the structures proposed with the present project proposal and included in the stage 2 compliance of the present proposal. This passage plan should conform to the detailed recommendations of Shri M. S. Negi (Member, EAC) who visited the site during 4-5th March 2022 (as per report dated 22nd March 2022).
- 7. A research project to study the movement of elephants and other fauna in this landscape, including GPS collaring, with the funding from NHAI, involving regional institutions. researchers. Wild Warden/DFO and field staff should be carried out to ensure the efficacy of the animal passages as well as monitor possible repercussions such as wildlifehuman conflicts.
- 8. A Biodiversity Conservation plan, including setting up a rapid response team and other measures for the mitigation of wildlife-human conflicts, for the entire 48 km stretch of the NHAI road within 10 km of ESZ prepared should be implemented by the Forest Department of Andhra Pradesh with funding from NHAI.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

15 Proposal for use of The proposal for use of 1.309ha of forest land Touris 1.309 ha of forest land from Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary for construction m from Kaimur Wildlife of ropeway transportation system to Sanctuary for Mundeshwari Temple in Bhagwanpur Block, construction of Kaimur District, Bihar was discussed in 71st meeting held on 29.12.2022. After discussions. Ropeway transportation system the Standing Committee decided that the to Maa Mundeshwari proposal needs to be examined further. It was Temple in therefore decided to defer the proposal. The Bhagwanpur Block, factsheet of the proposal is placed Kaimur District, Bihar. ANNEXURE-XXII

2019

FP/BR/Others/42268/ The proposal was further examined in the Ministry. As per the justification provided by the User Agency, Mundeshwari Temple is one of the most ancient functional temples in the world. This tourist destination located within the limits of the sanctuary has no feasible accessother than traversing through the sanctuary area. As such, provision of an access routefor visitors allowing minimum incursion in the WLS is essentially a must in theinterests of wildlife.Bihar Rajya Pul Nirman Nigam Ltd as envisages the use of forest land for construction of Mundeshwari ropeway work project under forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of 1.309ha of protected forest land for nonforestry purpose. The requirement of forest land asproposed land unavoidable due to nonavailability of any alternate land and barestminimum required for the project.

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- a. The operation of Ropeway carriage/transit facility for tourism purpose shall beregulated under directions of the Chief Wildlife Warden. Bihar and shall becoordinated as per eco-tourism guidelines so that any adverse impact onwildlife interests are prevented or mitigated.
- b. The user/work agency shall ensure that any type of pollution, including sound pollution, in the area during the operation of ropeway is checked andappropriate steps are taken for waste management.
- c. During the construction and installation of the ropeway facility in thesanctuary area, the practicable restrictions andprecautionary measures as prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Bihar shall be complied with.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Proposal for use of The proposal for use of Road 38.025 ha of forest 38.025 ha of forest land from Son Chiriya Hukna land from Son Chiriya Bird (Great Indian Bustard)Sanctuary Madhya

Bird (Great Pradesh for construction of Western Bypass road Hukna Indian Bustard) with 8.3 km length and 45 mtr to 60 mtr in width, for was discussed in 71st Sanctuary meeting held on construction of 29.12.2022. The factsheet of the proposal is Western Bypass road, placed as ANNEXURE-XXIII Madhya Pradesh.

/2021

After discussions, the Standing Committee FP/MP/ROAD/120435 decided to defer the proposal for re-examination of the mitigation plan including animal passage plan.

> Wildlife Institute of India has forwarded the report which is placed as ANNEXURE-XXIV with the following recommendations vide letter dated 31st March, 2023:

> Careful on-ground examination of the habitat to develop a scientifically informed passage and mitigation plan is required, if the proposed road is permitted, that should include, inter alia,

- a. Long underpasses (viaduct) of about 300 width Х 5 m height noise attenuation at approximately every 3 along the road through open habitat for crossings of species, all particularly ungulates large and carnivores.
- b. Long overpasses (land bridge) of about 4 height 150 m width m Х and underpasses of about 300 m width x 5 height alternately with and noise attenuation at approximately every 3 km along the road through forest habitat for crossings of species, all particularly ungulates and large carnivores.
- c. Box culverts of 30 m width x 4 m height at every 1 km along the road for mediumsize animals (meso-carnivores, small mammals and reptiles).
- d. Pipe culvert of 1.5 m diameter at every approximately 250 m along the road for small animals (hedgehogs, rodents, reptiles, amphibians etc.)
- e. All the above crossing structures need to appropriately landscaped be to make them naturalistic for appear facilitating passage.
- f. Fencing of road sections without passages using 2 m height chain-linkfence buried in concrete 30 cm above and

60 cm below ground (to deter digging by semi/fossorial animals), to reduce vehicle-animal collisions.

The report further mentioned that the exact and mitigation plan (placement, passage structures and designs) wouldrequire a detailed study of the landscape. Additionally, the plan should include acompensation component as offset for the serious habitat loss (25 sq.km.) eastern patchof the WLS rendered ecologically non-viable and potentially dysfunctional for sensitivespecies) to be caused by the proposed the hierarchy as per measuresrecommended in WII's guidelines (pg 53, chapter 5 of WII 2016). This compensation offset plan should include, inter alia,

- a. funds for enclosing two grassland patches of >25sqkm cumulative area using chainlink-fencing and restoring the enclosed habitat byscientifically informed management practices that benefit grassland species, and
- expanding grassland habitat within the Sanctuary by suitable restoration activities, so asto consolidate ~200 sqkm habitat suitable for GIB for future reestablishment of birds,that will benefit associated grassland taxa.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Proposal for use of The proposal foruse of 2.2634 haof forest land in Road 2.2634 ha of forest tiger corridor linking Kawal Tiger Reserve with land in tiger corridor IndravatiTiger Reserve and Tadoba Andheri TR linking Kawal Tiger in Maharashtra for widening andstrengthening of Reserve with Indravati Kaghznagar to Penchikalpet road from km 20/0 Tiger Reserve and to 25/0 and25/0 to 30/0 in Kadamba Ext-X RF in Tadoba Andheri TR in Kagaznagar Forest Division of KB Maharashtra for Asifabad district, Telanganawas discussed in 71st widening and meeting held on 29.12.2022. The factsheet of the

strengthening of proposal is placed as ANNEXURE--XXV Kagaznagar to

road After Penchikalpet detailed discussions, the Standing from km 20/0 to 25/0 Committee decided that Chief Wild Life Warden and 25/0 to 30/0 in shall submit the report by 10th January, 2023 Kadamba Ext-X RF in highlighting the action taken against all the Kagaznagar Forest officials responsible for violations including offence KB registration Wild Division of of under Asifabad district, (Protection) Act, 1972 and Forest (Conservation) Telangana Act, 1980. It was decided to defer the proposal.

FP/TG/ROAD/1442 72/2021

The Chief Wild Life Warden in his report has mentioned that the User Agency has violated the provisions of the FC Act, 1980 by taking up Black Topping of the existing road from Kaghaznagar to Penchikalpet in Kadamba Ext-X Reserve Forest falling in Compartment No.137 in from Kaghaznagar to penchikalpet beat and Section Chedwal Penchikalpet Mandal in Penchikalpet Range in Kaghaznagar Division with a length of 3017.81 meters width 7.50 meters in an area of 2.2634 ha.

The Forest Range Officer, Penchikalpet has offence case No.1619/148. registered an dt.25.08.2021 on DEE, R&B Kaghaznagar. The Forest Divisional Officer, Kaghaznagar has issued a show cause notice to the District R&B Officer (Executive Engineer), KB. Asifabad district for carrying out works in violation to the FC Act. Further necessary action shall be taken on receipt of the reply to the show cause notice.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

18 Re-notifying the The proposal for re-notification / rationalization of Alterati of Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary with an area of on of boundaries Shettihalli Wildlife 395.608 Sanctuary 395.608 Karnataka

sg.kmbounda without excluding ~300 sq.km from the inadvertent arealries reducing the area and of 695.608 sq.km was considered by Standing extent from 700 sq km Committee in its 50th meeting held on 7th sq.km. September, 2018. The justification provided for rationalization of the wildlife sanctuaryboundaries mentioned that an area of more than 300 Sq Kmcomprising of townships. villages agricultural lands was included inadvertently in the notification of the sanctuary in 1974.

After discussions in the 50th meeting held on 7th

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

The State Government of Karnataka has submitted the draft notification vide letter dated 19.08.2022 along with the report of the boundary revision committee constituted by the State Government of Karnataka. The justifications and the recommendations provided by the committee and forwarded by the State Government include:

- The earlier boundary description is not rational and prepared without adequate ground trothing.
- b. The polygon area calculated as per the boundary description of the original notification of 1974 is about 695.608 sq. km which is much more than the notified area of 395.608 sq. km.
- c. Inadvertently, agricultural lands, dwelling places, villages, township, revenue lands, lands released for rehabilitation of the people of dam submerged area have got incorporated in the sanctuary boundary owing to the original boundary descriptions.
- d. Most of the non forest area is situated in the fringes of the original boundary of the sanctuary.
- e. Inclusion of non forest areas into the sanctuary area has caused undue inconvenience to the people which results in constant confrontation with the public.
- f. Some of the small isolated patches of forests like sec-4 areas etc. that are located towards the fringes are not suitable to be incorporated into the proposed sanctuary boundary, owing to their small size, being isolated and the status of the settlement rights is yet to be finalized which is a prerequisite for declaration of a sanctuary.
- g. The realigned boundary has been proposed keeping the effective administration and management of the

sanctuary in view.

The present draft notification of Shettihalli sanctuary covers an extent of 395.608 sq. km. The draft notification received from the State Government is placed as ANNEXURE-XXVI

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Construction Affordable Housing in Dhorka, revenue estate Village-Dhorka,

> measuring acres -regarding.

FP/HR/Others/4493/ 2019.

an The proposal was considered by the SCNBWL in Group Group its 67th and 68th meeting. In the 68th meeting held Housin village on 30th May, 2022, the Standing Committee g Sector-95, decided that the State Government officials shall Gurugram, Haryana of provide all the details regarding the project Infrabuild proposal to the DGF&SS in person and therefore Pvt Ltd. The project decided to defer the proposal for the next site is located in the meeting. The factsheet of the proposal is placed of as **ANNEXURE-XXVII**

Sector-95, Gurugram, The Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana informed Haryana on a land that he had met DGF & SS in person on 5.1125 29.07.2022 and based on his directions sought certain details from the Member Secretary, Haryana State Pollution Control Board as follows:

- a. The Status of compliance of measures for disposal of solid waste generated by the project in terms of the provision for Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- b. The compliance of ToR contained in the MoU signed between the agency authorized by the State Pollution Control Board and the Project Proponent.
- c. As whether the measures suggested in the above MoU are sufficient enough to manage the solid waste.
- d. As whether the agency authorized by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board is competent enough technically to handle the disposal of solid waste to be generated under the project.

The Haryana State Pollution Control Board in their report forwarded by the Chief Wild Life Warden has informed that there is no concept like authorized agency for solid waste management on part of HSPCB. They have further informed that the project is construction and there is no solid waste generated within the premises and only excavation work was observed during inspection. Excavated top soil was within the premises of said construction project. The HSPCB had not received the agreement made by the unit for the disposal of the solid waste.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 3.6.2022 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995 has directed that no permanent structure of whatsoever nature may be constructed in the ESZ.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Affordable Private Limited. is 2.96 ha. - regarding.

FP/HR/Others/5208 /2020.

Group The proposal was considered by the SCNBWL in Group Housing Colony Project its 67th and 68th meeting. In the 68th meeting held Housin at Revenue Estate of on 30th May, 2022, the Standing Committee g Village-Dhorka, Sector-decided that the State Government officials shall by M/s Sternal Buildcon provide all the details regarding the project The proposal to the DGF&SS in person and therefore total area of project site decided to defer the proposal for the next meeting. The factsheet of the proposal is placed as ANNEXURE-XXVIII

> The Chief Wild Life Warden, Haryana informed that he had met DGF & SS in person on 29.07.2022 and based on his directions sought certain details from the Member Secretary, Haryana State Pollution Control Board as follows:

- a. The Status of compliance of measures for disposal of solid waste generated by the project in terms of the provision for Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- b. The compliance of ToR contained in the MoU sianed between the authorized by the State Pollution Control Board and the Project Proponent.
- c. As whether the measures suggested in the above MoU are sufficient enough to manage the solid waste.
- d. As whether the agency authorized by the Haryana State Pollution Control Board is competent enough technically to handle

disposal of solid waste to be generated under the project.

The Haryana State Pollution Control Board in their report forwarded by the Chief Wild Life Warden has informed that there is no concept like authorized agency for solid management on part of HSPCB. They have further informed that the project is under construction and there is no solid waste generated within the premises and only excavation work was observed during inspection. Excavated top soil was within the premises of said construction project. The HSPCB had not received the agreement made by the unit for the disposal of the solid waste.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 3.6.2022 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995 has directed that no permanent structure whatsoever nature may be constructed in the ESZ.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Motion EC 2000 MW Subansiri 2022 in the National Green Tribunal. Eastern Zone

21. Tribunal On Its Own Diversion of Tale Sanctuary for LowerSubhansri Court Regarding Hydro Electric Project by NHPC approved by the Matter Non-Compliance of StandingCommittee in its meeting held on 6th **Conditions** By May, 2003 with 11 conditions. After approval by **Lower** the Standing Committee, the State Government Hydel filed aWrit Petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court **Project-O. A. 18 of** to review two conditions viz:

- i. Banning of upstream H.E. Projects on Subhansri River; and
- Declaration of whole catchment of ii. Subhansri as Protected Area.

Hon'ble Supreme Court referred the matter to the Standing Committee forreconsideration of the conditions. The Standing Committee in the 13thmeeting held on 12th December, 2008 decided to recommend the proposalmodifying the two conditions as follows:

- Any proposal in the upper stream of Subhansri river would beconsidered independently on its merit by the Standing Committee asand when submitted by the proponents.
- ii. State Government would declare 168 sq. kms immediately asSanctuary and make

serious efforts to bring additional 332 sq kmreserved forests under the category of Conservation Reserve inconsultation with MoEF. The recommendation was subject to thecompliance of all other conditions, which have been made in theclearance by Supreme Court as well as in the environmentalclearance given by the Ministry.

National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata had taken suo-moto cognizance of the report published in a newsarticle dated 4.2.2022 and has filedan O. A. 18 of 2022.

State Government of Arunachal Pradesh has stated

that the declaration of 332 sq. km. of area as Conservation Reserve assuggested by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is notfeasible.

The matter was considered by the Standing 71st meeting held Committee in the 29.12.2022 wherein it was decided that a committee shall be constituted comprising Dr. R. Member. Sukumar. NBWL, officials from Integrated Regional Office, Shillong WildlifeDivision, and Ministry Environment, Forest Climate and Change, representative Wildlife of Director. Institute of India, Dehradun and ChiefWild Life Warden, Arunachal Pradesh to carry out site inspection, examinethe proposal and submit report to the Ministry.

A committee was constituted by the Ministry vide office memorandum no. 1-8/2022 WL dated 6th February, 2023. The committee carried out site inspection and hearing of stakeholders from 21.02.2023 to 25.02.2023. The Committee has submitted its report on 27.03.2023 and following recommendations in order to compensate for the remaining 332 sq. km. area which was supposed to be declared as conservation reserve:

 The Government of Arunachal Pradesh should take steps to notify the Subansiri-Dulungelephant corridor within the Panir Reserved Forest and Dulung Reserved Forest and prepare and implement a management plan with the funding

- support from the NHPC to ensure that elephants continue to move across this critical passage.
- The water spread area upto the full reservoir level should be declared as conservation reserve and ecotourism activities may be actively promoted.
- Along the banks of the water spread area of the Lower Subansiri reservoir, the State Government shall explore the possibility to declare community reserves in order to meet any further shortfall up to the target of 332 sq. km.
- 4. The water depth and e-flow required for the key aquatic wildlife species need to be maintained during the operational phase of the project. The impact of the water flow should be monitoredonyearlybasis. Acommittee comprising members from Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam Forest Departments, Scientific In stitutions and local NGOs may be constituted for the purpose.
- 5. The NHPC should provide funds for consultation with local communities as well as survey and demarcation of the areas proposed for declaration as community reserves/conservation reserves as per the conditions imposed by the SCNBWL.
- The State Government should create awareness among the people about the constitution of conservation reserves or community reserves, their management through management committees and the representation of local people in these committees.
- 7. The State Government should take measures to build capacity of the forest department staff including the Divisional Forest Officers and submit proposals under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Development of Wildlife Habitats and involve the local communities more for protection and management of protected areas.
- A study may be conducted by the Wildlife Institute of India and regional scientific

institutes to determine the ecological impacts of peaking due to Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project and NHPC should compensate for mitigation of those impacts.

The report of the Committee is placed as ANNEXURE--XXIX

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal heard the matter on 27th February, 2023and observed that Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 21.08.2009 has mentioned in the operative part as follows:

- 12. It is stated that any proposal in the upper stream of Subansiri River would be considered independently on its own merit by the Standing Committee as and when submitted by the proponents and the State Government would declare 168 sq km of reserve forest as sanctuary and make serious efforts to bring an additional area of 332 sq km reserved forest under the category of conservation reserve in consultation with MoEF.
- 13. This suggestion is acceptable to the State Government and NHPC and IAs are disposed of and Conditions (ii) and (vii) are substituted by the following: (i) Any proposal in the upper stream of Subansiri River would be considered independently on its merit by the Standing Committee as and when submitted by the proponents. (ii) The State Government would declare 168sq km immediately as sanctuary and make serious efforts to bring additional 332 sq km reserved forests under the category of conservation reserve in consultation with MoEF."

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal with these observations disposed of the application stating that the matter is already covered by the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court and 168 sq km has to be included as sanctuary. There is no discretion to reduce the same for any perceived difficulty so long as order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court is operative. Any pending proceedings may be finalized in the light of orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court noted above.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the matter.

Proposal for diversion The proposal for diversion of 82.54 ha of land Touris of 82.54 ha of land [i.e. for construction of Golf Course (42.14 ha) m [i.e. for construction of and Resort (40.40 ha)] falling within the Eco-Golf Course (42.14 Sensitive Zone of Keibul Lamjao National Park ha) and Resort (40.40 and Khongjaingamba Ching Sanctuary for the ha)] falling within the proposed Loktak Lake Eco-Tourism Project of Eco-Sensitive Zone of Tourism Department, Manipur was considered Keibul Lamjao by the Standing Committee its 67th and 68th National and meetings. The factsheet of the proposal is Park Khongjaingamba placed as ANNEXURE-XXX Ching Sanctuary for the proposed Loktak The Standing Committee its 68th meeting held on Lake Eco-Tourism 30th May 2022 had decided that the State Project Tourism Government of Manipur shall organise a two-day Department, Manipur joint meeting of Wildlife Division and Wetlands Division of the Ministry, IIT Roorkee, State FP/MN/Others/5539/2 Forest Department, Manipur and State Pollution 020 Control Board, Manipur in the month of July to discuss the wise use plan of Loktak Wetland. State Government of Manipur organized an online meeting on "Wise Use Plan of Loktak Wetland, Manipur and construction of Golf Course & Resort" held on 6th October 2022 under the Chairmanship of the Addl.Chief Secretary (Forest, Environment &CC), Manipur. The following actions were decided in the said meeting: Loktak Development Authority (LDA) may pursue the matter with MoEF&CC for obtaining approval to the draft Wise Use Plan/Integrated Management Plan Loktak Lake. The MoEFF&CC shall examine the draft wise use plan of the Loktak Wetland submitted by LDA for according approval at an early date. A copy of the record of discussion shall be C. provided to the Wildlife Division. MoEF&CC, Govt. of India for further necessary action. d. Tourism Department to inform about the status of the proposed Eco-Tourism Project/Eco-restoration activities. The Standing Committee may like to take a

view on the matter.

Wildlife renewal/extension

proposal

ofLease

of

for

use

is

from 2.0243 ha from Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary for

2.0243

Hastinapur

Proposal for use of The

ha

Sanctuary already Shri ShukdevAshram Kalyandev Seva Samiti Village-Sukratal Bangar in DistrictMuzaffarnagar Shukdev AshramSwami Kalvandev Trust, district Muzaffarnagar).

FP/UP/Others/15719

9/2022

for already leased reserve forest land to Shri renewal/Extension of Shukdev Ashram Seva Samiti atVillage-Sukratal leased Bangar in District-Muzaffarnagar(changed name reserve forest land to of User Agency is Shri Shukdev Ashram Swami Sukratal, district Seva Trust, at Muzaffarnagar). The factsheet of the proposal is placed as ANNEXURE--XXXI

The proposal was discussed in the 71stmeeting (changed name of held on 29th December, 2022 wherein the User Agency is Shri Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal till the notification of the sanctuary with altered boundaries in accordance with the Seva | recommendations of the Standing Committee in Sukratal, lits 59th meeting held on 5th October, 2020.

> The State Government of Uttar Pradesh vide notification dated 6th February, 2023 has notified Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary under section 26A of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 over an area of 1159.163251 sq.km. The notification of the sanctuary is placed as ANNEXURE-XXXII

> Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

> Until further orders, we restrain authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

> The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Wildlife land +0.04809 ha of Banger, protected forest land Hapur, Uttar the right hand side of (NH-709) Km.01.

24 Proposal for setting The proposal is for setting up of the Retail Outlet Petrol up of the Retail Outlet for total project area 0.22699 ha of forest land pump for total project area from Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary (0.1789 haloutlet 0.22699 ha of forest Private land +0.04809 ha of protected forest land land from Hastinapur for entry and exit of vehicles) situated on the Sanctuary right hand side of Meerut-Bareilly road (NH-709) (0.1789 ha Private within Km.01, (Chainage 0.920) at village Garh Tehsil Garhmukhteshwar, Pradesh by M/s Indian for entry and exit of Corporation Limited (IOCL). The factsheet of the vehicles) situated on proposal is placed as ANNEXURE- XXXIII

Meerut-Bareilly road The proposal was discussed in the 71st meeting within held on 29th December, 2022 wherein the (Chainage | Standing Committee decided to defer the 0.920) at village Garh proposal till the notification of the sanctuary with Banger, Garhmukhteshwar, Pradesh bγ M/s Indian (IOCL).

FP/UP/Others/60710 /2020

Tehsil altered boundaries in accordance with the recommendations of the Standing Committee in District Hapur, Uttar lits 59th meeting held on 5th October, 2020.

Oil The State Government of Uttar Pradesh vide Corporation Limited notification dated 6th February, 2023 has notified Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary under section 26A of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 over an area of 1159.163251 sq.km.The notification of the sanctuary is placed as ANNEXURE-XXXII

> Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

> Until further orders. we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

> The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

AGENDA No. 3

71.3 POLICY MATTERS, COURT ORDERS

1. Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1972

The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022 after passing by both the houses of the Parliament and receiving assent from Hon'ble President of India on 19th December, 2022 was published in the Government of India Gazette on 20th December, 2022. The Bill amends the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The amended Act has now come into force from 1st April, 2023. Key amendments to the Act include:

Provisions for CITES: CITES is an international agreement between governments to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten the survival of the species. The amended Act incorporates a new Chapter VB to implement the provisions of CITES and prescribes designation of CITES Management and Scientific authorities, a separate schedule IV for CITES listed species, prohibition of export, import, re-export and introduction from the sea of specimens of species listed in this schedule, confiscation of and penalties for violations.

Rationalising schedules: The amended Act has four schedules as follows (i) two schedules I and II for wild animals to two, (ii) Schedule III for specified plants and (iii) inserts a new schedule IV for specimens listed in the Appendices under CITES (scheduled specimens). Schedule for vermin has been removed.

Standing Committee of the State Board for Wild Life: A new section 6A has been incorporated to provide for constitution of Standing Committee for the State Board for Wild Life in line with that for the National Board for Wild Life.

Invasive alien species: The Act empowers the central government to regulate or prohibit the import, trade, possession or proliferation of invasive alien species. Invasive alien species refers to plant or animal species which are not native to India and whose introduction may adversely impact wild life or its habitat. The central government may authorise an officer to seize and dispose the invasive species.

Control of sanctuaries: The Act now entrusts the Chief Wild Life Warden to control, manage and protect in accordance with the management plans for the sanctuary. These plans will be prepared as per guidelines of the central government, and as approved by the Chief Warden. For sanctuaries falling under special areas, the management plan must be prepared after due consultation with the concerned Gram Sabha. Special

areas include a Scheduled Area or areas where the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is applicable. Scheduled Areas are economically backward areas with a predominantly tribal population, notified under the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution.

Conservation reserves: Under the Act, state governments may declare areas adjacent to national parks and sanctuaries as a conservation reserve, for protecting flora and fauna, and their habitat. The Bill empowers the central government to also notify a conservation reserve.

Surrender of captive animals: The Bill provides for any person to voluntarily surrender any captive animals or animal products to the Chief Wild Life Warden. No compensation will be paid to the person for surrendering such items. The surrendered items become property of the state government.

Penalties: The Act prescribes imprisonment terms and fines for violating the provisions of the Act. The Bill increases these fines.

Species involved	Before Amendment	Species involved	After amendment
In case of wild animals listed in Schedules other than Schedule I and Part II of Schedule II	Up to Rs 25,000	In case of schedule II and appendices II and III of Schedule IV	Up to Rs 1,00,000
In case of Schedule I	At least Rs 10,000	In case of Schedule I and Appendix I of Schedule IV	At least Rs 25,000

Further, the maximum compounding fee that can be collected for composition on an offence has been increased from twentyfive thousand rupees to five lakh rupees.

Central Government to issue directions: The section 62B of the amended Act empowers the Central Government to call for any information or report from a State Government or any such other agency or body or issue any direction to a State Government or any such other agency or body for effective implementation of the provisions of the Act for the protection, conservation and management of wild life in the country.

Submitted for the information of the Standing Committee.

2. Permission for hunting of Schedule-species under Section -12 of The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

Section 12 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for grant of permission for "Hunting" of Wild animal for the purposes of education, scientific research and scientific management, by the Chief Wild Life Warden, with prior permission of the State Government. However, in case the wild animal to be dealt is listed in Schedule-I of the Act, prior permission of Central Government is required.

The State Chief Wild Life Wardens have been forwarding proposals to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, seeking approval of Central Government for a wide range of activities like capture of wild animals, radio-collaring of animals, collection of blood, tissue samples, translocation etc. for the purposes of scientific research and/or wildlife management.

The proposals seeking permission of Central Government under Section 12 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, pertain to critically endangered species and, therefore, would need to be considered in the background of the risks involved in the operation and precautions to be taken while undertaking the requisite activity, and the experiences of the handlers in dealing with such animals. This Ministry would, therefore, need all related information, including specific recommendation of the Chief Wild Life Wardens to the least. Not mentioning the technical information by the Chief Wildlife Wardens, would lead to undue delay in grant of permissions, due to back-referencing.

In view of the above, a template for submission of proposals for permission of Central Government under Section 12 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been prepared and is placed below.

In accordance with the provisions contained under Section 62B of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (as amended in 2022), the State Governments may, henceforth, use this template for submission of proposals for permission of Central Government under Section 12 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

Format for submission of proposals for permission of Central Government under Section 12 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

1	(a) Name of the applicant	
	(b) Address of applicant with aadhaar number and mobile number	
2	Title and duration of project under which permission is sought	

		3 Whether it involves capture of live animals Yes/								
										No
		4	If 'Yes'	', the det	ails of	anir	mals to be	e captured		
		Comm	Scie	Age of			Place/lo		Size	
		on name	ntific nam	animal	of the		cation propose	of individual	specir (in ca	
		Harro	е		ani		d to	proposed	`	
					a	I	capture the	to be captured		
							animal	Capturca		
		5	In ca	se of sa	mple o	colle	ction			
		Comm	Scient		ge of		ample	Place/loc	Quanti	-
		name	nam	e ar	nimal		details issue/bl	ation proposed	sample collec	
						00	d, skin,	to capture		
						na	ir, etc.)	the animal		
		6	The experience available with the applicant for the							
			work	propos	ed and	d the	e action a	arising under	Section	
		7						pecies conce		
				s of like opulatio		or n	nortality a	and impact th	iereor on	
		8	Deta	ils of pre	ecautic			oposed to be		
		9						proposed ac nservation of		
		- 10	cond	erned pa	articula	arly.			•	
		10	Spec		s of t	ne (niet Wild	d Life Warde	n on the	
		11	Deta	ails of th	•			(attach syno		
				iled me: ect, etc.)	tnodol	ogy	tor capt	ure, outcom	e ot the	
		12	Deta	ils of				ons granted		
			MoE lette		the s	ame	applica	nt (attach c	copies of	
		13	Copy	y of the i				permission gr	anted by	
		14		stry to th				ought to the	notice of	
				FCC		0		- 3-11 10 1110		
		Date:								
		PlaceSi	gnatui	re of th	e Ch	ief	Wild Li	fe Warden		
		The Stan	ding C	ommi	tee r	nay	like to	take a vie	w on th	e
3.	Hon'ble		ection 3	3 of the	e Wild	d Lii	fe (Prote	ection) Act,	1972.	
	Supreme Court							Vild Life W		hall be

of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 the authority who shall control, manage and protect all sanctuaries in accordance with such management plans for the sanctuary approved by him as per the guidelines issued by the CentralGovernment and in case the sanctuary also falls under the Scheduled Areas or areas where the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is applicable, in accordance with the management plan forsuch sanctuary prepared after due consultation with the Gram Sabha concerned and for that purpose, within the limits of any sanctuary,—

(a) may construct such roads, bridges, buildings, fences or barrier gates, and carry out such other works as he may consider necessary for the purposes of such sanctuary:

Provided that no construction of commercial tourist lodges, hotels, zoos and safari parks shall be undertaken inside a sanctuary except with the prior approval of the National Board.

- (b) shall take such steps as will ensure the security of wild animals in the sanctuary and the preservation of the sanctuary and wild animals therein;
- (c) may take such measures, in the interests of wild life, as he may consider necessary for the improvement of any habitat;
- (d) may regulate, control or prohibit, in keeping with the interests of wild life, the grazing or movement of live-stock.

Further, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 5.10.2015 in W.P. (C) No. 202/1995 directed that all matters for grant of permissions 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") and also requested the NBWL to furnish a copy of the orders passed by it within 30 days' time to the C.E.C who if, for any reason, they are aggrieved by the decision of the Standing Committee of NBWL approach this Court by filing appropriate an petition/application.

However, Hon'ble Supreme Court while considering the Contempt Petition (C) NO.319/2021, I.A. Nos.186910/2022 and 20650/2023 (ITEM NO.8.) pleased to pass following directions:

- 1. Issue notice in I.A. Nos.186910/2022 and 20650/2023 to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), returnable on 15.03.2023.
- 2. In addition to the usual mode, liberty is granted to the petitioner to serve notice through the Standing Counsel for the respondent/State.
- 3. A perusal of the report(s) would reveal that various constructions have been carried out within the area of

- the Tiger Reserve. The photograph would show that a cordoned area has been constructed between the Tiger Reserve.
- 4. Mr.Abhishek Attri, learned counsel appearing for the State of Uttrakhand, submits that the concept of jungle tourism permits such a safari to be constructed in jungle areas, and according to the learned counsel, such a phenomenon is acceptable worldwide.
- 5. Prima facie, we do not appreciate the necessity of having a zoo inside Tiger Reserves or National Parks. The concept of protecting Tiger Reserves and National Parks is that the fauna must be permitted to reside in the natural habitat and not the artificial environs.
- 6. We, therefore, call upon the NTCA to explain the rationale behind granting such a permission for permitting Tiger Safaris within Tiger Reserves and National Parks.
- 7. Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- 8. The State of Uttarakhand is directed to file its reply in I.A. Nos.186910/2022 and 20650/2023, within three weeks."

Submitted for information of the Standing Committee.

4. Management of Grassland ecosystem

Policy matter forwarded by Dr. H. S. Singh

Achievements of the MoEFCC and the State Forest Departments for conservation of Indian wildlife are noteworthy but there are major gaps in certain areas, especially policy, planning and institutional arrangement for conservation of the tropical grassland ecosystems of India.

There is policy, planning and institutional approach for conservation of forested habitats, wetlands, mangrove and coral reef. Planning and institutional arrangements such as Project Tiger, NTCA, Project Elephant, Project Lion, Wetlands, Mangroves and Coral Reefs have been placed from the level of MoEFCC, New Delhi to the State Levels and results from such arrangements are impressive.

Semi-arid and arid regions in the Western India - Dry region of Maharashtra covering about half dozen districts from Sangli to Ahmedanagar districts; semi-arid region of Madhya Pradesh covering over half dozen districts from Indore-Ratlam-Dhar-Jhabua-Alirajpur; Saurashtra and Kutch regions in Gujarat and semi-arid and arid zone of Rajasthan had supported extensive grasslands. Maximum number of the threatened wildlife species - medium and small mammals and birds occur in the tropical grasslands. Grassland ecosystems are home for important mammals such as Blackbuck, Chinkara, Indian Wolf, Caracal,

Desert Cat, Desert Fox etc. Grassland ecosystem is also habitat for the majority of threatened birds such as the Great Indian bustard, Lesser Florican, Houbara Bustard, other grassland birds and raptors. The institutions from MoEFCC to the State level are tiger-elephant-lion-wetland centric, which is desirable for conservation of the flagship species. But tropical grasslands and wildlife therein are undermined over a period. In the absence of a focused conservation programme and priority from the MoEFCC to the State Forest Departments, grasslands are fragmented and degraded. Some of the big sanctuaries in grassland such as GIB Sanctuary in Maharashtra and two sanctuaries for GIB and Lesser Florican in Madhya Pradesh and Narayan Sanctuary in Gujarat are partly denotified and many more may land in similar situation due to progress of illegal cultivations and their fragmentation.

In the background of the facts mentioned above, there is a need of establishing a Grassland Conservation Cell/Unit in the MoEFCC to evolve policy, programme and institutional arrangement for protection, restoration and consolidation of conservation of tropical grassland ecosystem in India.

Comments of the Ministry: As per section 5C (2) (a) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, one the functions of the National Board for Wild Life is framing policies and advising the Central Government and the State Governments on the ways and means of promoting wild life conservation and effectively controlling poaching and illegal trade of wild life and its products.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the matter.

AGENDA No.4

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

ANDHRA PRADESH

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

1. 6-29/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 19.13 ha of forest land from Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary (part of Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve) for construction of Varikapudisela foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir in Veldurthi Mandal of Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh in favour of Superintendent Engineer, Irrigation Circle Office. FP/AP/Pipeline/144181/2021

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 19.13 ha of forest land from Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary (part of Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve) for construction of Varikapudisela foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir in Veldurthi Mandal of Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh in favour of Superintendent Engineer, Irrigation Circle Office. FP/AP/Pipeline/144181/2021						
2	Name of the protected	Raji		Gandhi Wildlife		arv	(part of	
	area involved			asagar Srisailam		•	(100.11	
3	File No)/202					
4	Name of the State	And	Andhra Pradesh					
	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice						
	Area of the protected area	·						
	diversion / De- notification							
	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)		S.no	Name of project	Agency		Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)	
					AP GENCO, Macherla	2006	81	
				Diversion of 0.37 ha. of forest land in Veligonda	· ·	2008		
				Diversion of 7 Ha. of forest land in Markapur and	AP GENCO, Hyderabad	2009	5.35	
				Diversion of (2063+106.91 ha = 3069.61 Ha) of fore	•		1752.07	
			5	Diversion of 0.3 Ha. of forest land in Compt.No. 8	ldea Cellular Ltd, Hyderabad	2015	0.3	

6 Diversion of	PICG 2018 0.275						
0.275 ha of	Defence						
forest land in	Service						
Compt.No.	State Co-						
	Ordinator,						
	Suryalank						
	1839.365						
8 Status of ESZ if any The Eco-sensitive Zone	of Nagarjunasagar Srisailar						
Tiger Reserve has be	een finally notified on 18t						
October, 2021 and it	October, 2021 and it extends from 0 (zero) to 26						
kilometres around the	kilometres around the boundary of Nagarjunasagar						
Srisailam Tiger Reserv	e and the area of the Eco						
sensitive Zone is 2149).68 square kilometres. (Zer						
	Zone is due to Krishna Rive						
and interstate boundary	with Telangana)						
	ere studied and the presen						
	be the best out of the various						
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	e is no other alternative excep						
	•						
10 Whether linear / non- Linear	proposing the diversion of 19.13 ha of forest land.						
l linear							
linear 11 Whether EC obtained No							
11 Whether EC obtained No	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant Water Resource Departs	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency Water Resource Department	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 30/06/2021	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 30/06/2021 14 Total number of tree 3104 trees	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 30/06/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 30/06/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 30/06/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 30/06/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal	ment, Andhra Pradesh						
11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 30/06/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	ment, Andhra Pradesh						

State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal through circulation with the mitigation measures suggested by the Chief Wild Life Warden..

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

Several alternatives have been studied and the present proposal is best out of proposals studied. The water course of the river is at 10 mts to proposed pump house and location is on varikapudivagu which is located on the fore shore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir, which is advantageous feature for the scheme in which sufficient water is available throughout the crop period, the forest land is required to construct pump house, pressure main, break pressure tank, certain portion of gravity. Main & inspection path of Varikapudisela lift irrigation scheme to an extent of 19.13 ha near Gangulakunta Beat Compartment No.67, Gottipalla Beat Compartment No.68 of Gangulakunta RF, V.P.South Range & Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary in Markapur WL Division.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary is home to tiger (*Panthera tigris*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*), sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*), wild dog (*Cuon alpinus*), jackal (*Canis aureus*), ratel (*Mellivora capensis*), porcupine (*Hystrix sp.*), giant squirrel (*Ratufa indica*), mouse deer (*Moschiola sp.*), four horned antelope (*Tetracerus quadricornis*), sambar (*Rusa unicolor*), spotted deer (*Axis axis*), nilgai (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*), wild boar (*Sus scrofa*).etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the above proposal with the following conditions:

- The User Agency should strictly follow the conditions while executing the work.
- 2. The status of the area shall remain as RF/PF.
- 3. The proposed area will be utilized only for the purpose for which the User Agency has sought, but not for any other commercial purpose.
- The User Agency should inform the commencement of the work. The diversion work will be executed under the supervision of the Forest Department.
- The User Agency should invariably demarcate the proposed land for diversion with any suitable permanent stones / pillars. After File No.EFS02-21024/48/2020-WILD LIFE SEC-PCCF demarcation only the works should be commenced.
- The User Agency should not resort to excavation of the surrounding forest land for collection of earth to be used. If such excavation is found during work period or later, the User Agency will be charged under suitable provisions of relevant acts.
- 7. The User Agency shall obey to any other conditions stipulated by the Forest Department as per Acts and Rules.
- 8. The User Agency will be solely responsible for every violation which attracts the provisions of A.P. Forest Act, 1967, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.
- The User Agency shall give an undertaking in accordance with the conditions stipulated.
- Wildlife Mitigation Plan for Rs.235.50 lakh to be deposited Wildlife Conservation Projects & CSR (WLC & CSR).
- 11. Wildlife signage boards to be erected in and around the entire project
- 12. Work shall be carried out only from 6 AM to 6 PM.
- 13. No labour camps to be established in the protected area.

21 Details regarding Mitigation Measures as per proposal

The proposed pump house, pressure main, break pressure tank, certain portion of gravity main & inspection path of Varikapudisela lift irrigation scheme pass through comp No.67 Gagalakunta RF and beat and comp No.67 Gangalakunta RF Gottipalla beat of Sirigiripadu Section which is in the core area of Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve V.P.South Range of Markapur (WL), Division and falls in the core area of Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve.

Around 3,104 trees are proposed to be felled due to this project. Deforestation can lead to a direct loss of wildlife habitat as well as a general degradation of their habitat and negative impacts viz., habitat fragmentation, scarcity of water resources, obstruction to the free movement of wildlife and fire hazards are perceived, to combat which, the following mitigation measures are proposed at the cost of the User agency:

- The User Agency may be instructed to take up barbed wire fencing around the pump houses so as to avoid danger to the wild animals which venture into the area. As it is a technical work, the User Agency may be advised to include this component of work in their project proposal and execute the work on their own.
- Varikipudisela vagu, the location at which Pump house 1 is proposed to be constructed under this project is located in Comp 67, Gangalakunta RF and beat, Sirigiripadu section of V.P South Range, Markapur (WL), Division. Three other streams viz., Kanuthulakuppa, Cheekatisela and Yerrabondatapenta vagu, which are located in the same compartment also join Varikipudisela vagu. Wild animals mostly frequent Varikipudisela vagu for drinking water. As pump house 1 of the proposed project will be constructed near varikipudiseta vagu, there will be an obstruction for drinking water for the wild animals due to this project. Hence, to overcome this obstacle and to restrict the movement of wild animals, it is proposed to construct new check dams at 3 locations viz., yerrabondala plp 4, Cheekatisela and Yerrapenta vagu.
- It is also proposed to take up repairs and maintenance of the 2 existing old check dams located at Yerrabondalapenta and Cheekatisela.
- It is also proposed to take up other water harvesting structures viz., Mini
 percolation tanks (Cheekatisela, Yerrabondalapenta, Mukkooti sela) and
 RFDs along Vankasela stream to cater to the ground water table
 improvement as well as drinking water needs of the wild animals.
- Around 20 Nos saucer pits are proposed to be constructed at Varikipudisela rastha, Vankasela and Mukkooti sela areas to provide drinking water to the wild animals during the pinch period, when all the natural water sources dry up. A tractor along with tanker, maintenance charges for driver, POL charges is proposed at the cost of the user agency. It is also proposed to draw water from river Krishna through a solar pump and store the water in sump, which will be used for watering of saucer pits. Necessary proposals have been made at the cost of the user agency.
- During the initial 5 years of the project (which includes construction period of around 3 years), it is very essential to regulate the entry and exit of the persons entering the sanctuary area. There is a likely chance of poachers entering the sanctuary in the guise of project workers. Hence, it is proposed to establish a check post at Katuva location, which is the entry point. This check post will be manned by 5 protection watchers 24x7. A wireless repeater station is proposed to be established at this checkpost so as to enable communication with the range headquarter at Sirigirpadu as well as with the protection watchers of Sirigiripadu basecamp.
- A Wildlife Protection and Rescue Party (WPRP), comprising of 5

- protection watchers headed by field staff is proposed to patrol the entire sanctuary area so as to avoid harm to wild animals. To facilitate effective patrolling, the user agency may be requested to provide a Mahindra Bolero Camper vehicle at their own cost.
- Repairs and maintenance of the road from Katuva to Cheekatisela is proposed to be taken up, which will facilitate effective patrolling and wildlife monitoring by the wildlife protection and rescue party.
- Monitoring of the on-going activities along river Krishna is equally important, to accomplish which a floating checkpost consisting of 5 PWs is proposed at Kayya location. A new basecamp structure is proposed at Kayya location to facilitate their stay. The User agency may be requested to provide one speed boat apart from providing driver, bearing POL and maintenance charges for 5 years at their own costs.

SI. No	Item of work	Phy	Unit cost (Rs.in lakhs	Fin (Rs.in lakhs)
	Idlife Monitoring			
(i)	Establishing floating basecamp at Kayya (including wages to 5 persons including boat driver and helper) for 5 years		LS	25.00
(ii)	Establishing new basecamp shelter for protection watchers at Kavya		LS	2.00
(iii)	Repairs and maintenance of the road from Katuva to Cheekatisela	8Km	LS	10.00
(iv)	Providing new wireless repeater station at Katuva locality (including walky talky sets and other accessories)		LS	6.00
(v)	Providing Yamaha Diesel Engine 40 HP patrolling boat (including fuel and maintenance charges for 5 years		LS	35.00
(vi)	Engaging Wildlife Protection and Rescue Party for wildlife monitoring for 5 years (including wages to 5 persons)		LS	25.00
(vii)	Providing new Mahindra camper vehicle for wildlife monitoring (including repairs, maintenance and	LS	LS	26.00

/s.:::\	diesel charges for 5 years)	10	0.05	2.5
(viii)	Providing solar lights at	10	0.25	2.5
	strategic locations in the			
	project area	T - 4 - 1		404 F
/IIX X471		Total		131.5
<u> </u>	Idlife Protection	l	L	1
(i)	Establishing Checkpost at	LS	LS	10.00
	katuva location to regulate			
	the entry of persons			
, ···\	entering the sanctuary		1.0	5.00
(viii)	Providing rescue and	LS	LS	5.00
	tranquilizing material for rescue of wild animals			
	rescue or wild ariimals			
		Sub-To	<u> </u> 	15.00
/III\ H :	abitat Improvement	Sub-10	, cai	13.00
	ater Source Development			
. ,	Construction of new check	2	I 5 00	15.00
(i)	dams	3	5.00	15.00
(ii)	Repairs to old check dams	2	LS	4.00
(iii)	Construction of Saucer pits	20	0.20	4.00
(iv)	Providing RFDs	50	0.10	5.00
(v)	Providing tractor with	1 No.	LS	10.00
	tanker (including POL and			
	maintenance charges for 5			
	years)			
(vi)	Engaging drivers for tanker	1 No	•	10.00
	for 5 years		actuals	
(vii)	Providing Mini Percolation	6	0.50	3.00
,	tanks			
(viii)	Providing solar pump to	1 No.	LS	13.00
	draw water from river			
	Krishna through pipeline to a sump (5000 lts) at			
	a sump (5000 lts) at Varikipuduisela basecamp			
	for watering of saucer pits			
	lor watering or saucer pits	Sub-To		64.00
(R)Fir	e Protection	Oub It	, cai	04.00
(i)	Creation and maintenance	l S	LS	5.00
(1)	of firelines and view lines			0.00
	Providing fire fighting	I.S.	LS	5.00
	equipment			0.00
	очанить	Sub-To	ı otal	10.00
	ublicity and Extension	12000 1		1. 3.33
(IV) Pi		I S	LS	10.00
	Providing hublicity hoards		<u></u>	1. 5.55
(IV) Pi (i)	Providing publicity boards and interpretation signages			
	and interpretation signages			
		Sub-To	otal	10.00

hea	ds:		
(i)	Office expenditure		5.00
		Sub-Total	5.00
		Grand Total	235.50

22 Violation, if any

The User agency did not carry out any work in violation of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

23 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

The National Tiger Conservation Authority has recommended the proposal with the following conditions under section 38O(1)(g) of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972:

- 1. Explosives shall not be used inside the TR and ESZ.
- 2. The pumps and motors shall be operational only from July to December as and when required.
- 3. Pipelines shall be laid underground and alignment will be done in such a manner to avoid tree felling in the core area of the Tiger Reserve.
- A patrolling post/Forest Guard Post shall be constructed along with the pump house & sub-station on the bank of Varakapudisela stream at the cost of user agency.
- No labour camps shall be allowed inside the core area of the Tiger Reserve.
- 6. Construction works shall be allowed only between sunrise and sunset.

24 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1	6-250/2022 WL	FP/AR/ROAD/148555/2021
2	6-251/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 6.18 ha of forest land from Pakke Tiger Reserve for Flood Protection Work near General ground at Up-Stream side of Decoral Irrigation Project at Seijosa in Pakke Kessang District, Arunachal Pradesh. FP/AR/Others/122946/2021

1	Name of the Proposal	FP/AR/	ROAD/148555/20	021			
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Dibang	Wildlife Sanctuar	У			
3	File No.	6-250/2	2022 WL				
4	Name of the State	Arunac	hal Pradesh				
5	Whether proposal is sub- judice	Not sub	o-judice				
6	Area of the protected area	4149 Sq.km					
7(a)		r 103.95 ha					
` ´	diversion/ Denotification	Component wise breakup					
		S.no Component Under Protected Prote					
				Area(ha.)	Area(ha.)		
		1	NHSL Road	88.8	31.2		
		2	Muck Disposal Area	7.5	3.75		
		3	Camp/ Dett Establishment Area	7.65	5.1		
		Total	71100	103.95	40.05		
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)						
8	Status of ESZ, if any		otified on 24/12/20 from zero to 1 knotuary.				
	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	plan an has be		pact Assess preserve and	ment Report protect the		
10	Whether project		present in the pre	posca area	•		
	linear/non-linear						
		No					
12	Date of submission by user agency	15/11/2	021				
13	Name of the applicant agency	t Arunachal Pradesh					
14	Total number of tree to be felled	NA					
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes					
16	Recommendation of State B	Board fo	or Wild Life				

Proposal was recommended by State Board for Wild Life in its 3rd meeting held on 17.09.2022

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

- 1. Proposed Mipi-Andrala road from Km 0.00 to Km 50.00 in Upper Dibang Valley district of Arunachal Pradesh is strategically very important for the safety of nation and is used for defence purpose and Military personnel to reach and carriage of goods & ammunition etc. to protect Indian Territory upto international line of control. Therefore, diversion of required forest land will be essential for construction the high altitude project road.
- 2. The approved alignment of this road falls in the Forest Area that need to be acquired under Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

S. No	District	Proposed road	Track from	То	Length in Km
1	Upper Dibang Valley		E-95 ⁰ 48'31.66" & N-	Andrala E-95 ⁰ 37'3 .31" & N- 29 ⁰ 4'12.26"	50.00

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary is home to blue throated forest lizard, common sunskink, Asian long tailed grass lizard and Monitor lizard, Chinese pangolin, Assamese macaque, wild dog, leopard cat, Marbled cat, Tiger and Mishmi Takin etc.

19 Type of Forest

It is wet temperate forest type IV/11/11B/C1, v/11/18/c2, IV/12/C1/3a, IV/12/C/3b, V/c2, Vi/iSC3, Vi/16/C1, and E1 of vegetation classification of India. (Campion & Seth 1968).

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to implementation of mitigation plan.

21 Animal Passage Plan

Road way /Carriage way width of 3.75 Mtr is being provided information width is 7.00 Mtr. Major section of the project length is going through plain terrain wherein no obstruction / hindrance is being envisaged for animal crossing as the width is very less.

Furthermore, 300 Nos Culverts of 2-3mtr width and 2-3m height along the nallahs/small streams are being provided as cross-drainage structures alongwith 28Nos Minor bridges of varying spans< 40 Mtrs with a clearance of 5-7 m height all through the project length of 50.00 Km.

All the mitigation measures related to structural and Engineering part such as Bridges, Signages etc. as mentioned in the mitigation plan would be undertaken by the User Agency at their own cost as part of their Project while

the mitigations measures that need to be implemented by the Forest Administration, the cost of it would be borne by the User Agency by transfer to the Forest Department.

SI. No	Description of work	Amount (in lakh)
1.	Construction of Rescue, Treatment and Rehabilitation center in Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary including fencing, land purchase or lease of land subject to land availability within the sanctuary or nearby areas	75.00
2.	Purchase of Equipment, Medicines, Tools, Rescue cages and other tools for rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife and also for equipment required for population monitoring.	25.00
3	Patrolling, Ambulance and Monitoring and Rescue Vehicles, 3 numbers	42.00
4	Staff wages (10000 X 12 Month X 2Labourer X 10 Year) for rescue and rehabilitation and other works for conservation of wildlife	24.00
5	Creation of Awareness amongst the stakeholders	5.00
6	Creation of Interpretation centre for training of stakeholders	100.00
7	Population monitoring exercise, migration and landscape studies of wild animals and scientific research	5.00
8	Creation of Avenue Plantation along Highway (200 Plants per Kms * 20Kms* Rs.I000)	60.00
	Sub Total	336.00
9	Contingency (3% of total financial outlay	10.08
	Total	346.08

*The conservation plan period, works and the amount are subject to revision as per the field conditions subject to approval by Chief Wildlife Warden, Arunachal Pradesh. It will be preferable if the user agency may arrange for the land required for construction of wild animal Rescue Centre.

22 Violation, if any

No Violation has been done by the User Agency.

23 | Biodiversity Impact Assessment Report

As the project area falling within the protected area exceeds 50 ha, Biodiversity Impact Assessment is mandatory. The User Agency has submitted a report on rapid biodiversity assessment and impact study of a proposed road alignment Mipi-Andrala of about 50Km length in Dibang Valley District carried out by the Zoological Survey of India. The report is placed as **ANNEXURE-XXXIV.** The proposed measures to be adopted by the User Agency and the DFO Anini as per the report are as follows:

Activities to be done by the User Agency:

- 1. Creation of an underpass for wildlife species, box culverts for proper drainage of waterflow should be implemented in the proposed alignments at regular interval of road stretch. This recommended underpass should have at least 4-5m height, 8-10m width and length equal to the width of the proposed road and should be rectangular in shape. Small underpasses are suitable for small mammal passage, reptiles and amphibians. A proper maintenance of the road sides should be taken care off as ground feeder bird species were mostly killed in search of food grains at the sides of the roads. Further the road should be constructed as per the National Green Highway Policy (2015).
- 2. Creation and maintenance of proper muck disposal sites along with constructions of guard wall for post muck disposal rehabilitation must be taken to mitigate soil erosion.
- 3. Installation of signage about conservation of wildlife and forest fire do's and don'ts.
- 4. Signages about wildlife movement with restricted speed limit inside Protected area (Dibang wildlife sanctuary) stretch of proposed road.

The budget for implementing the above shall be included in the planned project by the.

Activities to be done by the Divisional Forest Office, Anini:

- 1. Habitat improvement in selected segments of the proposed alignment. Area base habitat management including habitat improvement through adopting agroforestry plantation models, should be appointed in the post muck disposition sites to prevent soil erosion.
- 2. Conservation and management activities for the schedule-I species as per the plan suggested.
- 3. Training programmes for the local communities for rural enterprise development, wildlife monitoring training programmes for the Forest Department frontline staff, and capacity enhancement of the Forest Division through procurement of equipments necessary for monitoring and animal handling to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts.
- 4. Construction of watch tower and Guard post along the proposed alignment for actively monitoring the hunting practices and other illegal activities destroying the rich wildlife in the landscape.
- 5. Monitoring and Evaluation of the progress towards achieving the management recommendations as well as the impacts of the strategies through hiring a third party government agency once in five years.

The estimated cost for the above activities is as follows as per the report:

S.No.	Activity	Estimated Cost (in Lakh Rs.)		
	Habitat improvement in selected segments of the proposed alignment (plantation models, soil and water conservation activities)			
2	Conservation and management activities for the	100.00		

	schedule-I species.	
3	Training and awareness programmes.	55.00
4	Construction of at least 3-Watch Tower along with a guard post for monitoring and protection	30.00
5	Monitoring and Evaluation	25.00
6	Conservation and monitoring research	150.00
	Total	480.00

24 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 6.18 ha of forest land from Pakke Tiger Reserve for Flood Protection Work near General ground at Up-Stream side of Decorai Irrigation Project at Seijosa in Pakke Kessang District, Arunachal Pradesh.
		FP/AR/Others/122946/2021
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Pakke Tiger Reserve
_	File No.	6-251/2022 WL
4	Name of the State	Arunachal Pradesh
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	
	Area of the protected area	861.95 Sq. Km
	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	6.18 ha
	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	
8	Status of ESZ, if any	Proposal received from the State Government and is under examination.
	w.r.t section 29 to the	The proposed structure is at the boundary of protected area i.e., Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary and Tiger Reserve U/A WPA 1972. Hence, destruction inside protected area is of less possibility but the passage of wildlife movement may be disrupted due to construction of the proposed embankment.
	Whether project linear/non-linear	Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Date of submission by user agency	
	agency	Water Resources Department, Lemmi
	Total number of tree to be felled	
	Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	
	I	ate Board for Wild Life ded by State Board for Wild Life in its 23rd meeting held
	on 17.09.2022.	

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The "Flood protection Work near General ground at up-stream side of Decoral Irrigation Project at Seijosa in Pakke Kessang District, Arunachal Pradesh." is very important project for the Administrative Head Quarter. The Seijosa administrative HQ is situated at Latitude 26* 57'32.20" N and Longitude 93* 00, 36.20" E. The alignment of embankment is comes under Khellong Forest Division'.

This area is a flood prone area which threatened by Pakke river during every monsoon and people of this area suffered by losing their agril land, houses, cattle's and other valuable properties. Hence this project is identified as urgent needs of the people of this area. The construction of this Flood Protection Project will check the losses occurred due to flood every year and the affected people will raise their income by using the affected land for their agriculture, horticulture, Pisciculture activities.

The construction of this project will be dreams come true for the people of the Seijosa Administrative HQ.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Pakke Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, leopard, clouded leopard, jungle cat, wild dog, jackal, Himalayan black bear, binturong, elephant, gaur, sambar, hog deer, barking deer, wild boar, yellow-throated marten, Malayan giant squirrel, flying squirrel, squirrel and Assamese macaque etc.

19 Type of Forest

ΝΔ

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to implementation of mitigation plan.

21 Mitigation Measures:

- Changing the slope of embankment on the river side from 26.5 degrees to 18.5 degrees for easy access to wildlife especially elephants in areas where animal migration happens.
- 2. Construction of stairs against the flow of river course shown in drawing attached in the mitigation plan to facilitate the crossing of wildlife
- Keeping the slope of village side as natural mud slope with vegetation as it need be concretized.
- 4. Four numbers of watchtowers one each at firing nallah, pate nallah, SBI nallah and near General Ground have been proposed each with the following cost as follows with total cost of four watch towers equal to Rs. 24, 40,000/-.

SI.No	Particulars of works						Qnty	Rate	Amou (in	nt Rs.	Rema	rks	
										Lakhs	_		
1.	C/o	Hill	type	watch	tower	as	per	9m3	60,000/-	5,40,0	00/-	As	per

	plan&specification with pre-fabricated			cost
	iron structure fitted over RCC post,			analysed
	iron pre-fabricated staircase, railing,			
	truss, purlins etc. with wooden flooring			
	of best available local wood. Tata			
	Shakti, 45 mm CGI sheet roofing with			
	GI ridging & AC board ceiling all			
	complete as per plan and			
	specification.			
2	TDS & GST @ 2% each		21,600/-	
3	1% labour cess		2,160/-	
_	D It DDM		4.500/	
4	Royalty on RBM-		1,560/-	
	Aggregate-15 cum@104/-		975/-	
	Sand-15 cum@65/-			
5	1.5% contingency		8,100/-	
6	Transportation charge		25,000/-	
7	Cost of POL for monitoring of works		10,000/-	
		Total	6,09,395/ -	
			each	
	Therefore cost of four towers	Grand	24,40,000/-	
		Total		

- 5. Changing the specifications of culvert for passage of wildlife. The height of culvert shouldn't be less than 4 m. Additionally mitigation measures suggested at s.no. 2 should be constructed at both ends of the culvert.
- 6. Erection of signages and hoardings at each of the four locations mentioned at s.no. 4 at the cost of Rs. 14,80,000/- at the rate of Rs. 3,70,000/- each.

The mitigation plan is placed as ANNEXURE- XXXV.

22 Violation, if any

No

23 Comments of the National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-39/2022-NTCA dated 1st March, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures

- Considering presence of wildlife in the area, moderate sloped ramps/stairs should be constructed at regular intervals (preferably every 500 meter) along the embankment and the width of the ramps/stairs should be adequate enough (around 20-30 m) for allowing passage of group living animals such as elephants.
- 2. The Project Proponent has informed that locally available materials would be used for construction. This should be subject to consideration of extraction of river bed materials on water flow and channel dynamics. Otherwise, construction materials may have to be procured form outside and an appropriate muck disposal plan should be prepared for approval of

- competent authority of Arunachal Pradesh Forest Department.
- 3. All construction work should be during daytime and no labor camp should be established within forested areas.
- 4. Once the project is implemented, the forest department should keep vigilance over the dam by constructing manned watch tower(s) at strategic location(s) near the dam at their cost of the user agency.
- The CWLW, Arunachal Pradesh to have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this OM during various phases of project implementation.

24 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

BIHAR

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	WL-6/37/2023- WL	Proposal for use of 2.54 ha from Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary for beautification of Brari Ghat (RFD) Bhagalpur under Smart City Mission, Bihar.
		FP/BR/Others/6298/2022
2.	WL-6/47/2023- WL	Proposal for use of 4.22 ha from Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary for construction of 2x2 lane Bridge across river Ganga between Sultanganj and Aguwani ghat with approach Road connecting NH-80 and NH-31, Bihar.
		FP/BR/ROAD/36499/2018

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 2.54 ha from Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary for beautification of Brari Ghat (RFD) Bhagalpur under Smart City Mission, Bihar.
		FP/BR/Others/6298/2022
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary
3	File No.	WL-6/37/2023-WL
4	Name of the State	Bihar
5	Whether proposal is sub- judice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	60 km
	diversion/Denotification	2.54 ha
` '	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	-
8	Status of ESZ, if any	Draft notified on 9 th November, 2015 expired on May, 2017. Revised proposal received from the State Government of Bihar. Additional information is awaited from the State Govt.
	section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	Since, the project falls in Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary and its environs, the proposal is under consideration for wildlife clearance. The project proponent agency is Bhagalpur smart City Ltd., Bhagalpur. No particular destruction of any wildlife is envisaged inside the sanctuary u/s section 29 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 under this project, as the project is least invasive and preventive measures shall be taken by the project proponent during construction as directed and additionally pre-construction, construction & post-construction phase mitigation measures shall be taken by the department also which shall be funded by the Project Proponent. Further, all necessary steps will be taken to ensure compliance of Section 29 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
	Whether project linear/non- linear	
	Whether EC obtained	No
	Date of submission by user agency	
13	Name of the applicant agency	Bhagalpur Smart City Limited

14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the	Yes
	Sanctuary and the diversion	
	proposal included or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

Proposal was recommended by State Board for Wild Life through circulation.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

There is an existing crematorium area since a long time and adjacent ghat are being used for holy purpose and other rituals since inception. So, the development of proposed ghat has no alternative apart from this land.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary is home to Gangetic Dolphin, smooth Coated otters, Jackal, Black Buck, Indian Mongoose and Five Stripped squirrels etc.

19 Type of Forest

NA

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- During construction in the sanctuary area, the user agency shall not destroy or change or regulate the dolphin habitat, including stopping or changing or regulating the flow of water.
- 2. The user agency shall not harm, exploit or destroy any wildlife in the sanctuary area and shall strive to ensure the same.
- 3. No plastic, solid or liquid waste or sewage shall be released/thrown in the river.
- 4. The work will not be executed between sunset and sunrise.
- 5. High mast light and street lights shall be installed in a manner that the lighted portions remain within the civil work of riverfront and do not fall in the sanctuary area during night. For this purpose, low height pathway lights shall be used in river bank portion so that only the walking area gets illuminated.
- Light and sound show as well as water sports in the sanctuary area are harmful from point of view of wildlife and its management, hence it will not be allowed.
- 7. The user agency shall bear the cost of mitigation measures as per the estimate submitted and appended by the Divisional Forest Officer-cum-Wildlife Warden, Bhagalpur to ensure wildlife and aquatic flora/fauna conservation during pre-construction, construction and post-construction phases. This amount of Rs. 2.02 crores, which is less than 2% of the project cost, shall be deposited by the user agency in CAMPA, under the head 'Additional Charges for Protected Areas'.
- 8. Every possible effort will be done to minimize the effect of construction on wildlife in that area and noise shall be kept under limits.
- 9. No debris shall be dumped in the river. The construction debris will be

disposed of outside the sanctuary and at a safe distance.

- 10. All debris originating from riverbed will be checked for fossils before being removed out of river and its flood plain. Any fossil found shall be deposited with the Wildlife Warden, Bhagalpur.
- 11. The project proponent/user agency shall comply with any additional conditions imposed by Chief Wildlife Warden, Bihar as deemed necessary in the interest of wildlife protection and management in the sanctuary area.
- 12. Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court passed in IA No. 1000 of 2003 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995 T.N. Godavarman Vs Union of India & Ors. and any such other order/orders passed in this context shall be complied with.

21 Violation, if any

Yes, the project proponent started the work in the non-sanctuary area in absence of information regarding requirement of wildlife clearance.

22 Comments of Ministry

The project involves land levelling and clearance, construction of retaining walls along ghat area, ghat development along river edge, food kiosks, vending stalls, toilet blocks, cafeteria, water sports facility, water laser and light show on Vikramshila bridge pillars (2 nos.), parking lot, landscaping, crematorium, mortuary etc. The project also includes a component for Dolphin Conservation. However, the details are not clear. The detailed project report may be seen at **ANNEXURE-XXXVI**

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 4.22 ha from Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary for construction of 2x2 lane Bridge across river Ganga between Sultanganj and Aguwani ghat with approach Road connecting NH-80 and NH-31, Bihar.					
		FP/B	R/ROAD/364	99/2018			
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Vikra	mshila Gang	etic Dolphin S	anctu	ary	
3	File No.	WL-6	5/47/2023-WL	-			
4	Name of the State	Bihar	•				
5	Whether proposal is sub- judice						
6	Area of the protected area	60 kr	n				
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/Denotification	4.22	ha				
` '	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)	
		1.	Bhagalpur Water Supply Project (BWSP-2)	Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation (BUIDCO)		•	
		2.	Construction of New 4 lane Bridge (Parellel to existing Vikramshila Setu) from Km 8+920 to Km 13+375 (including Approach road 35 m Naugachhia side and 53 m Bhagalpur side) across river Ganga	Pul Nigam Limited	2021	4.147	

8 Status of ESZ, if any	on newly declared NH-131B at Bhagalpur in the State of Bihar Draft notified on 9th November, 2015 expired on May, 2017. Revised proposal received from the State Government of Bihar. Additional information is awaited from the State Govt.
section 29 to the Wild	The site was first inspected by the DFO, Bhagalpur in the year 2018 (DFO's inspection report attached under additional documents in Part IV), where no violation under section 29 of Wild Life (Protection), Act 1972 was found. However, during the period after raising of EDS and its subsequent compliance, the site was again inspected by DFO, Bhagalpur in 2023, where it was found that the project proponent had started construction in sanctuary without clearance from wildlife angle. Hence, there has been a violation under Section 29 by the project proponent. As per the report by DFO, Bhagalpur, offence has been booked under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and case filed in court. The work has been halted by the DFO, Bhagalpur and necessary steps have been taken to ensure that there is no further violation of WPA, 1972.
10 Whether project linear/non-linear	Linear
11 Whether EC obtained	EC under process
12 Date of submission by user agency	26/02/2019
13 Name of the applicant agency	Senior Project Engineer Bihar Rajya POul Nirman Nigam Ltd, Special Works Division Khagaria
14 Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	
on 13 th August, 2020.	d by State Board for Wild Life in its 9 th meeting held
17 Brief justification on the p	roposal as given by the applicant agency

Option 1

Option -1 starts at approx. 4500m distance from existing ROB in Sultanganj town on NH-80 towards Bhagalpur (starting of town) and passes through Agricultural Land towards theriver bypassing the residential area adjoining to National Highway, Nawada Village, Commercial Area, Abjuganj Shahabad and Kashimpur villages. then hits eastern bank of river adjoining cremation ground (approx 600m away from the Sultanganj Ghat). Further ahead, thisalignment crosses river Ganga perpendicularly to reach other bank on Aguwani Ghat. The approximate width of river at this location is 1350m. From Aguwani Ghat, alignment crosses adjoining water course of Ganges and joins high PWD road near Dumariya village. Approximate length of this alignment is 6970m.

Option 1A

Alternate option 1A is almost similar to option 1 except the approaches joining NH 80 from bridge are reduced/ minimized provided least damage and land acquisition near NH 80 is possible which in our opinion does not seem possible proposition. Option 1A .may be adopted after verifying possibility and extent of land acquisition in the vicinity of the proposed starting point near Kashimpur village on NH-80 (approx 2400m from root of ROB) to minimize the length of approaches at this end and total length pf this alignment becomes 4350m as against 6970m for option 1.

Option 2

Option -2 starts at approx. 1450m distance from existing ROB in Sultanganj town on NH-80 toward Deoghar (near PWD 's Inspection Bungalow) and passes **through** Agricultural Land towards the river behind the agricultural area of Masdi Paschim Village adjoining to National highway and then hits eastern bank of river, which is approx 1900m away from the Sultanganj Ghat. Further ahead, alignment crosses river Ganges perpendicularly to reach other bank on Aguwani Ghat. The approximate width of river at this location is 1260m. From Aguwani Ghat, alignment passes through adjoining wider water course of Ganga and joins PWD road near end of the Dumariya village. Approximate length of this alignment is 6050m.

Option 3

Alignment Option 3 starts from existing ROB in Sultanganj town on NH-80 and passes through Sultanganj congested commercial area, residential area and agriculture Land towards the river bank and then hits eastern bank of river (approx.. 1400m away **from** the Sultanganj Ghat). Further ahead, alignment crosses river Ganga perpendicularly to reach other bank on Aguwani Ghat. The approximate width of river at this location is 1250m. From Aguwani Ghat, alignment passes through adjoining wide water course of Ganga and joins PWD road near end of Dumariya village. Approximate length of this alignment is 4800m.

Recommendation

Each alignment option has approximately same length of bridge in river portion whereas length of viaduct portions is very large in case of Option 2 &3 when compared to Option1. There is a requirement of two major bridges(MJB) in alignment options 2 & 3 whereas in Option 1, only one major bridge is required.

Total length of approach roads is more in case of option 1 in comparison to option 2 & 3. Length of curved portion of bridge is small in Option 1 when compared with Option 2 & 3. Proposed new Ganga Bridge connects existing road with least highway complexities in case of option 1. Working conditions will be more conducive in case of option 1 as it passes outside the habitation.

It will be very convenient in construction considering transportation of material and handling equipment's, space for construction in the adjoining area of construction etc for Option 1 as it falls outside of Sultanganj main inhabited area whereas same may not be the scenario in case of Option 2 & 3. Lease public intervention is expected in choosing Option 1 alignment. Tentative cost of construction of main bridge in river portion, major bridge, viaduct, approach roads including cross drainage works and land acquisition is least in case of adopting option 1 amongst all other alignments. So considering all above stated benefits, option 1 being cost effective alignment, it is the most preferred option hence recommended.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary is home to Gangetic Dolphin, smooth Coated otters, Jackal, Black Buck, Indian Mongoose and Five Stripped squirrels etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

The proposed project area is a River Sanctuary. No forest cover is available.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The user agency shall not stop or change or regulate the flow of water during construction of the bridge.
- 2. The user agency shall not harm, exploit or destroy any wildlife in the sanctuary area and shall strive to ensure the same.
- The legal status of the proposed area will remain as part of the sanctuary and will remain under control of the Environment, Forests and Climate Change Department, Bihar.
- 4. Every possible effort will be done to minimize the effect of construction on wildlife in that area and noise shall be kept under limits.
- 5. No debris shall be dumped in the river. The construction debris will be disposed off outside the sanctuary and at a safe distance.
- All debris originating from riverbed will be checked for fossils before being removed out of river and its flood plain. Any fossil found shall be deposited with the Wildlife Warden, Bhagalpur.
- 7. Except for pier construction, the river bed will not be disturbed.
- 8. The work will be executed in daytime from dawn to dusk.
- 9. The project proponent/user agency shall comply with any additional

conditions imposed by Chief Wildlife Warden, Bihar as deemed necessary in the interest of wildlife protection and management in the sanctuary area.

21

Wildlife Mitigation Plan

	Management Plan	(Rs.)	
Population estimation of threatened fauna in VGDS	7.2.6	8,00,000	Population estimation of threatened fauna and indicator species in VGDS including Gangetic Dolphin, Gharials, Greater adjutant stork and threatened turtles
Awareness campaign about wildlife of VGDS	7.2.4	30,00,000	Targeted awareness programmes and ecotourism for various stakeholders and enhance awareness about the wildlife in VGDS ecosystem and the importance of conservation
Wildlife Monitoring and conservation	7.2.6	50,00,000	Satelite-tagging of threatened species including Gharials, Gangetic Dolphins, threatened turtles, otters and birds, habitat improvement identification of nesting sites, patrol boats and monitoring equipment
Habitat improvement	7.2.2	50,00,000	To develop grassland in the sanctuary area on embankment
Infrastructure for wildlife conservation, monitoring and rescue Community	7.2.8 7.2.5	50,00,000	To purchase infrastructure required to monitor wildlifelike patrol boat, equipments related to locating and monitoring wildlife, equipment for wildlife rescue and mitigating human-wildlife conflict To mobilize community

	participation and livelihood			participation for conservation of wildlife and enhance livelihoods of people
7	Wages	7.2.7	1,00,00,000	For payment of wages to wildlife experts, boatmen, drivers, technicians who monitor wildlife, computer operators etc
8	Long term measures	7.2.6	50,00,000	Post-construction study to be done at the end of construction period to ascertain the impact of construction of wildlife and delineable future mitigation measures
Tot	al	•	3,88,00,000	

Note*:

Apart from the above cost of wildlife mitigation, a penalty of 2% (of project cost inside protected area-Rs.194.33 crores), i.e. Rs.3.88 crores is recommended. This amount may also be deposited by the user agency along with the cost of wildlife mitigation.

22 Violation, if any

Violation of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 by User Agency in Vikramshila Gangetic Dolphin Sanctuary as reported by the DFO. Bridge construction began without obtaining wildlife clearance. An offence has been booked under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and a tipper truck was seized from the work area. This case is pending in court.

23 Comments of Ministry

The proposal involves construction of 2X2 lane cable-stayed bridge of length 3.16 km across river Ganga between Sultanganj and Aguwani Ghat, out of which 1.15 km falls within the sanctuary. The proposal also includes a Dolphin Observatory near pier no. P10.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

LADAKH

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-248/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 157.93 ha Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of 220 kV Phyang-Diskit S/C Transmission Line under plan PMDP-2015, UT of Ladakh.
		FP/LA/TRANS/151731/2022

1 -	Proposal	Proposal for use of 157.93 ha Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of 220 kV Phyang-Diskit S/C Transmission Line under plan PMDP-2015, UT of Ladakh.
		FP/LA/TRANS/151731/2022
	Name of the protected area involved	Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary
	File No	6-248/2022 WL
	Name of the State	UT of Ladakh
	Whether proposal is sub- judice	
6	Area of the protected area	<u> </u>
, ,	diversion/De-notification	157.93 ha
. ,	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	
		Proposal not received from UT of Ladakh
		The area though devoid of any trees as per joint
		survey report falls within the Wildlife Sanctuary
	(Protection) Act, 1972	and as such attracts the provisions of section 29 of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
		or whalle r folection Act, 1972.
		The user agency shall have to ensure that there is no damage to the landscape of the area during the execution of the project causing any adverse impact on the habitat and movement of the fauna.
		The muck generated during the execution of the project will be disposed off in accordance with the approved muck disposal plan.
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
		Chief Engineer, Ladakh Power Development
	agency	Department
	Date of submission	29/01/2022
	Total number of tree to be felled	
	Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	
16	Recommendation of State E	Board for Wild Life
	State Board for Wild Life reco 20 th October, 2022.	ommended the proposal in its 7 th meeting held on

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The Ministry of Power, Govt. of India has approved the following 220 KV transmission line to UT, Ladakh under Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP) 2015.

	Package No. and related detail		Awarded route Length(km)
	TL Package-01 (EPC Agency: M/s Transrail)	Phyang to North Pullu	37.60
Tower	TL Package-02 (EPC Agency: M/s RS Infra)		40.00
	Total route Length		77.60

Note: The transmission line has been divided into 2 packages to ensure the timely completion of the project.

The aforesaid transmission line shall be constructed by REC Power Development Consultancy Ltd (RECPDCL, a 100% subsidiary of REC Limited, a Navratna CPSU under Ministry of Power) on behalf of Ladakh Power Development Department (LPDD).

The envisaged benefits under the project are as follows:

- 1. Act as catalyst in the socio-economic development of Nubra valley.
- 2. Strategic in natural and will provide grid connectivity to the border areas.
- 3. Ensure power evacuation from upcoming hydroelectric projects.
- 4. Link far-flung villages to the Grid and phase out DG sets, thus take one more step towards achieving Carbon Neutrality in Ladakh.
- 5. Ensure 24X7 grid-connected power supply as compared to present 7-8 hours of power supply through DG sets.

The section of the aforesaid transmission line from Old Khardungla top to the GIS Diskit S/Stn falls under the Wildlife Karakoram Sanctuary which cannot be avoided as the entire area is in the wildlife sanctuary. Hence, the diversion of the wildlife sanctuary is the only choice to construct the transmission line.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Karakorum Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Tibetan Antelope, Shapo, Wild Yak, Bharal, Leopards, Himalayan Mouse and Lynx etc.

19 Type of Forest

--

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- The land shall be used for the purpose stated in the Wildlife Clearance order. Any diversion of land to any other purpose except the stated purpose shall not be admissible without fresh approval from the Standing Committee of NBWL.
- The User Agency shall pay Net Present Value (NPV) and other charges in accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the MoEF&CC guidelines.
- The User Agency shall be responsible for obtaining requisite clearances under any other law in vogue, including Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Environmental Protection Act, 1986, if applicable before the initiation of work.
- User Agency will report accidents of any wild animals and deposit the carcases to the office of concerned wildlife warden to be dealt according to the prevailing laws.
- 5. User agency shall abide by all the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, Provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, directions of the Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change, conditions imposed in the Wildlife Clearance sanction and orders of the UT Administration in force and as may be issued from time to time.
- 6. The project activities shall be liable to periodic check by the officers/officials of the Wildlife Protection Department. The officer(s)/Officials may order stoppage of work if it is found that any provisions of the preceding clause have not been complied with.
- 7. Dumping of solid and liquid waste shall be dealt with as per the provisions of Environmental Protection Act, 1986 and rules made there under.
- 8. Detailed muck disposal plan shall be prepared by the user agency and approved by the chief Wildlife Warden/Wildlife Warden before commencement of work on ground. If any deviation from the approved disposal plan is noticed, the permission granted for transmission line is liable to be revoked.
- 9. The officers/officials of the wildlife protection department shall have unhindered access to the project site for discharging of their duties.

21 Violation, if any

No violation of provisions under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 occurred in the said area by the applicant.

22 Management Plan for area below transmission line

Being a cold desert region, the vegetation in Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary is quite sparse. Arnebia euchroma, Bergena stracheyi, and Ephedra gerardiana, etc. are the threatened and medicinally important plants that grows in the wildlife sanctuary.

Nubra valley is home to large carnivores such as snow leopard, Himalayan

grey wolf, and lynx. It is also home to prey species such as ibex, Ladakh urial, blue sheep, marmot, WooHy hare, red fox, weasel and pika. The vegetation of Nubra valley is dominated by seabuckthorn, somlata and wild rose.

Various regions across the Nubra valley has importance as these areas are staging point for migratory birds travelling between their breeding grounds in Central Asia and Siberia and their wintering grounds in the Indian subcontinent. In addition, many birds are also resident of the Nubra Valley which breed here. The region have various villages have an average of 50-70 people per village. The region is facing the added stress of anthropogenic use primarily in the context of material poverty and lack of sustainable alternative livelihoods for local communities.

The proposed 220 KV transmission line will be laid from Phyang to Diskit, where a substantial region is under the Karakuram Shayok Wildlife Sanctuary. The details of the transmission line are given below:

S. No	Package	Route	Approx. Length	Issue
1.	TL Package-01	Phyang to North pullu		Only 7.49 kms inside the Karakuram Shayok Wildlife Sanctuary (WL Unit 1).
2.	TL Package-02	North Pullu to Diskit	37.67 kms	Entirely inside Karakuram Shayok Wildlife Sanctuary (WL Unit 2-6).

Total 138 towers are to be constructed for the transmission line which falls within the Karakuram Shayok Wildlife Sanctuary area. Region's climate condition along with its soil and moisture condition is not conducive for vegetation. The survey of the line route also visually confirmed that along the TL there is hardly any vegetation. However, the study identified that out of its 73.67 km of total line length 6.5 km line could be considered for dwarf species plantation under the TL given its local microclimatic condition such as higher soil moisture due proximity to river, less rocky condition, slope etc. Based on survey the following patches has been identified for plantation.

WL Unit	Patch No.	Tower No.(AP)	Length	(meter)
6	1.0	1113	1114	250
6	2.0	1094	1100	1870
5	3.0	1072	1073	770
3	4.0	1025	1027	610
2	5.0	1001	1003	810
1	6.0	132	139	2180
Total				6490

23 Animal Passage Plan and Bio-diversity Impact Assessment Report

The User Agency has submitted an animal passage plan which may be seen at

ANNEXURE-XXXVII

The User Agency has also submitted Bio-diversity Impact Assessment Report. The report identifies possible impacts due to the project which include felling of tress, ground clearance, noise and dust, discharge of regimes into water bodies, disturbance to wildlife, injury to wildlife and proposed certain mitigation measures. The report is placed as **ANNEXURE-XXXVIII**

24 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

MAHARASHTRA

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S.	File No	Name of the Proposal
No.		
1.	WL	Proposal for use of 2.3 ha of forest land from Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary which is a part of buffer zone of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve for strengthening and upgradation of Morni to Metshindi, district border road MDR-120 for Morni, Arav, Valvan, Metshindi villagers in Tal.Mahabaleshwar Dist.Satara. FP/MH/ROAD/155542/2022.

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 2.3 ha of forest land from Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary which is a part of buffer zone of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve for strengthening and upgradation of Morni to Metshindi, district border road MDR-120 for Morni, Arav, Valvan, Metshindi villagers in Tal.Mahabaleshwar Dist.Satara.				
			H/ROAD/155			
	Name of the protected area involved	Koyna	a Wildlife Sar	nctuary		
3	File No	WL-6	/19/2023-WL	-		
	Name of the State	Maha	rashtra			
	sub-judice		ub-judice			
	Area of the protected area	423.5	5 sq. km			
. ,	diversion/De-notification	2.3 h	a			
	Area so far diverted		_	T		
	from the protected area(s)	S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area diverted
		1.	Survey and investigation of Koyna Hydro electric Project (Stage V) 400 MW Pumped Storage Scheme	Exe. Engineer,Hydro electric Division No.2 Kothrud Pune		4.12
		2.	Survey and investigation of Koyna Hydro electric Project (Stage VI) 400 MW Pumped Storage Scheme	Exe. Engineer,Hydro electric Division No.2 Kothrud Pune		47.36
8	Status of ESZ if any	Revis Gove		l is awaited f	rom th	e State
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild	The p	proposed upg	radation of the r Western side o	oad sha of Sahy	all improve adri Tiger

	Life (Protection) Act, 1972	Reserve. The proposed road is to be laid partly in forest and non-forest lands in Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary which is part of Buffer of Sahyadri TR.
1	Whether linear / non- linear	Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
	Name of the applicant agency	Executive Engineer Public Work Division (West) Satara
13	Date of submission	29/08/2022
	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

State Board for Wildlife recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held on 21st September, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The road repair project between Shindi to Moni village in Mahabaleshwar tahsil Satara district. The location of project in Koyana Wildlife Sanctuary. This road is upgraded vide state Govt. GR No.fe-o2 3/7.35.0 2/rata.2 dated no 11/02/2020. The total length of road approximately 14 km. whereas the width of road 6.00 mts to 7.5 mts also this road crossing through 4 minor arch bridges, 25 culverts and 28 CD work. Once the project work will be complete it will be helpful to Wildlife division for protection and conservation of wildlife. However, it will be very useful for the villagers to access adjoining district Ratnagiri at Khopi Khed and towards Mumbai as well as tourist can visit famoUS places like Mahableshwar and Tapola. The project cost approximately 2.50 cr. The proposal for permission to repair BT surface from Morni (85/100) to Shindi (99/140) 14 km. with 6.00 mts to 7.5 mts width for approval.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Indian leopards, Indian gaur, sloth bears, sambar deer, barking deer and Indian giantetc.

19 **Type of Forest**

NΑ

20 Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden

The State CWLW has recommended the proposal subject ot following conditions:

- 1. The following mitigation measures shall be implemented:
- a. Speed Breakers in forest area at every 200-300 meter & at every sharp turn.
- b. Speed limit in Sanctuary area should be 20 km./hr. The state of the art speedometer, should be erected erect along the road like those are in Kaziranga Tiger Reserve.

- c. Erect signages of do's & don'ts along the road in consultation with Forest Department.
- d. Permanent ban for heavy vehicles during night & outsider vehicle from dusk to dawn. Only vehicles of local villagers may be allowed during night.
- e. Canopy ladder for arboreal mammals like Giant Squirrel, Hanuman Langoor, bonnet macaque etc. to cross the road should be laid whenever possible.
- f. Necessary mitigation measures for Herepetofauna for safe crossing of road should be implemented.
- 2. During construction period, technology should used which cause minimum disturbance to wildlife.
- 3. Proper mechanism for disposal of waste materials should be under taken.
- 4. Labour camp shall not be established inside tiger reserve.'
- 5. No work shall be allowed after sunset.
- 6. 1% amount of total project cost should be deposited as penalty for the violation with Sahyadri Tiger Reserve Conservation Foundation.
- 7. Project proponent should deposit 2 % of the total project cost which falls under the Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary which is part of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve Buffer Area Executive Director, Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Sahyadri Tiger Conservation Foundation, Kolhapur for development of wildlife conservation and management of wildlife in the state.

21 Violation, if any

A POR was registered for clearing of forest for laying the same road 3/96-97 and 3/1999-2000.

22 | Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-10/2023-NTCA dated 19th April, 2023 has following Observations and recommendation:

- 1. The project site lies within buffer zone of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve.
- 2. The project site had very low density of tigers in its vicinity as per 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018 cycles of all India tiger estimation.
- 3. However, Sahyadri forms the northern most limit of Western Ghats tiger population which consists of Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Chandoli National Park, Radhanagri Wildlife Sanctuary and forests of Sindhudurg. The northern Sahyadri acts as a connecting zone for tigers in between Western Ghats and the central highlands, through the Saputara hills in Dang district of southern Gujarat. Within and around the corridors, changes in habitat quality coincide with mining activities, agricultural expansion and linear infrastructures in terms of highways.
- The project site had presence of large mammals such as leopard, sloth bear, dhole, gaur and sambar in its vicinity as per 2018 cycle of all India tiger estimation.
- Implementation of the project entails removal of 127 trees from Koyna WLS.
- 6. Since the project site is situated within multiple use buffer landscape

- of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve with low tiger abundance, the project is recommended for approval under Section 38 O (1)(g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- 7. Linear infrastructures have been a major impediment for recovery of tiger population in this biodiversity rich landscape. Therefore, it is important that all developmental projects are appropriately mitigated. Currently, no mitigation plan has been proposed by the Project Proponent. Therefore, the State Government shall prepare and implement a mitigation plan/ animal passage plan in consultation with the User Agency and NTCA, Regional office, keeping in view the guidelines on mitigation measures for linear infrastructure.

23 Comments of Ministry

The current status of the road is partially WBM and partially BT road in width of 3.75 m carriage way and average roadway (ROW) width is 9-10 m and in damaged condition. The proposal involves widening of approximately 14 km of the road to a width of 6 to 7.5 m entailing a diversion of 2.3 ha of forest land in Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary and 12.44 ha of land in eco-sensitive zone.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in IA 1000 of 2003 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995 in its order dated 3.6.2022 in para 44 (e) has directed that no new permanent structure shall be permitted to come up for whatsoever purpose within the ESZ.

The project is proposed to be located within Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary which is buffer zone of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve. About 12.44 km though not part of the present proposal falls within the ESZ.

Further, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view.

B. PROPOSAL FALLING OUTSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-279/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 14.0718 ha of forest land from Pench-Bor-Melghat Tiger corridor for up-gradation of Nagpur Katol National Highway NH- 353 J from existing KM 13+000 (Outer ring road, Nagpur) to 62+900 (Katol Bypass) two/four lane with paved shoulder in state of Maharashtra in favour of National Highway Authority of India.
		FP/MH/ROAD/37601/2018
2.	6-1/2023 WL	Proposal for use of 121.58 ha of forest land in the tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve with Kawal Tiger Reserve for Durgapur extension deep Open Cast mining project by Western Coalfields Ltd, Maharashtra.
		FP/MH/MIN/6638/2022
3.	6-280/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 467.45 ha of non-forestland from Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve in compt.No.C-26, C-27 & C-33A falling in village Hirapur, Govindpur and Pimparwadi in Pandharkawda division of Yatamal Circle in favour of RCCPL Private Ltd.
		FP/MH/MIN/4954/2020
4.	6-258/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 83.841 ha (revised 71.72 ha) of forest land from corridor connecting Navegaon-Nagzira-Tadoba-Andhari-Tiger Reserve for construction of New Broad Gauge Railway Line between Wadsa-Gadchiroli Maharashtra.
		FP/MH/RAIL/26520/2017
5.	6-262/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 34.1914 ha of forest land from corridor connecting Navegaon-Nagzira-Tadoba and Kanha Tiger Reserve for construction of 3 rd railway line from Darekasa Salekasa Station in Gondia district (Rajnandgaon-Kalumna 3 rd line project), Maharashtra.
		FP/MH/RAIL/45255/2020
6.	6-278/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 0.9286 ha of forest land from Melghat Tiger Reserve (buffer Zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve which is also final ESZ area) for construction of Rope Suspension Bridge (Skywalk) connecting Hurricane Point and Goreghat Point at Chikhaldara Hill Station, District Amravati, Maharashtra.
		FP/MH/Others/35309/2018

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 14.0718 ha of forest land from Pench-Bor-Melghat Tiger corridor for up-gradation of Nagpur Katol National Highway NH- 353 J from existing KM 13+000 (Outer ring road, Nagpur) to 62+900 (Katol Bypass) two/ four lane with paved shoulder in state of Maharashtra in favour of National Highway Authority of India.
	Name of the material	FP/MH/ROAD/37601/2018
	Name of the protected area involved	Pench Tiger Reserve Bor Tiger Reserve
		Melghat Tiger Reserve
3	File No	6-279/2022 WL
		Maharashtra
	Whether proposal is sub- judice	·
6		Pench Tiger Reserve- 442.29 sq.km
	area	Bor Tiger Reserve - 138.11 sq.km
7(2)		Melghat Tiger Reserve- 1500.49 sq.km 14.0718 ha
	diversion / De- notification	14.07 10 Ha
` '	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	NA
	Status of ESZ if any	Pench Tiger Reserve-Final notified on 13.09.2017. The Eco-sensitive Zone is spread over an area of 419.40 square kilometres with an extent varying from 0.12 to 9.5 kilometres Bor Tiger Reserve-Final notified on 17.01.2022. The Eco-sensitive Zone shall be to an extent of 0.5 kilometre to 26.50 kilometre around the
		boundary of Bor Tiger Reserve. Melghat Tiger Reserve- Final notified on 27th December, 2016. The Eco-Sensitive Zone is spread over an area of 126803.67 hectares with an extent from 2.2 kilometres to 14.85 kilometres from the boundary of Melghat Tiger Reserve.
9		As the area does not fall within Wildlife Sanctuary
		or National Park, there will not be any impact in relation to Sec.29 and Sec.35(6) of Wildlife
	1972	(Protection) Act, 1972.
10		Linear
_	linear	
		No
12	Name of the applicant	National Highways Authority of India PIU

	agency	II, Nagpur
13	Date of submission	22/07/2022
	Total number of tree to	6779 trees
	be felled	
15	Maps depicting the	Yes
	Sanctuary and the	
	diversion proposal	
	included or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held on 21st September, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

NΑ

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Pench Tiger Reserve is home to Tiger, Leopard, Jungle Cat, Sambhar, Chital, Barking Deer, Wild Pig, Sloth Bear, Common Langur, Wild dog, Jackal etc.

Bor Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, leopard, sloth bear, wild dog, four horned-antelope, and sambar deer etc.

Melghat Tiger Reserve is home to Tigers, Leopard, Bison and Sloth Bear etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Eco Class-III & IV-Southern Dry Deciduous Forest.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The project falls within the "Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape" identified by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun i.e. the corridor connecting Pench Tiger Reserve-Bor Tiger Reserve and Melghat Tiger Reserve. Hence proper mitigation measures proposed by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun are to be implemented by the Project Proponent. The mitigation structures will benefit tiger and other wild animal movement in long run.

The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- The project agency should implement all the mitigation measures that are proposed in mitigation plan proposed by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun:
- All the box culverts in the alignment falling within forest patches should be of 5x5 m dimension.
- b. All minor bridges proposed should have minimum height of 5 m.
- c. The proposed alignment between chainages 54.075 and 55.800 should be realigned. Two additional box culverts are to be provided in the realigned stretch of 20x5 m dimension each.

- d. All other general recommendations like noise and sound barrier, cattle guard, speed limit etc. should be implemented.
- 2% amount of project cost falling in Tiger Corridor of Pench Tiger Reserve-Bor Tiger Reserve and Melghat Tiger Reserve shall be deposited by project agency for wildlife conservation and management activities in the State with the Pench Tiger Reserve Conservation Foundation.

21 Animal Passage Plan

Mitigation Plan has been submitted along with the proposal which is placed at **ANNEXURE-XXXIX**

22 Violation, if any

There is no work executed in corridor villages till inspection date and no violation of Wild Life (Protection), Act, 1972 has been done.

23 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-43/2023-NTCA dated 27th February, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- Wildlife Institute of India has already prepared a detailed mitigation plan for the project including proposing realignment of some section of the highway, placement and dimensions of animal passage structures etc. These recommendations should be duly implemented by the NHAI.
- 2. Attempt should be made to keep tree felling minimal.
- Construction work inside corridor and forest area should be done during daytime and no night camp of labors and User Agency officials should be allowed within forest area.
- NHAI should ensure that the construction period within tiger corridor area is kept minimal.
- No construction material should be procured from forest. Construction debris should be disposed outside the forest area.
- Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by NHAI at appropriate places along the highway.
- The CWLW, Maharashtra should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.

23 | Comments of Ministry

	Proposal	Proposal for use of 121.58 I tiger corridor connecting Reserve with Kawal Tiger extension deep Open Ca Western Coalfields Ltd, Maha FP/MH/MIN/6638/2022 Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserven	Fadoba Andl Reserve for st mining p arashtra.	hari Tiger Durgapur
	area involved	Kawal Tiger Reserve	V C	
	File No	6-1/2023 WL		
4	Name of the State	Maharashtra		
	sub-judice	Not sub-judice		
	Area of the protected area			
` '	• •	Proposal involves total of 12		
	diversion / De- notification	of which 115.40 ha land is r ha land is Zudpi Jungle		
		Reserve Forest land. The de		•
		given in below table:		
			1	
		S. Compartment/Survey	Area in Ha.	Purpose
		1 Reserve Forest Comptt.No.400	59.20	Mining
		2 Reserve Forest Comptt.No.401	54.26	
		3 Reserve Forest Comptt.No.402	1.94	
		4 Zudpi Jungle-Survey No.26/12, Sinhala village	6.18	
		Total	121.58	
		80.77 ha forest land diverte No. F.No.8-12312003-FC, o years. Renewal of forest lan	dated 08.11.2	2005 for 8
		the State Government.	a propodur di	
8	Status of ESZ if any	Final notified on 11th Septe		
		sensitive Zone shall be to an 16 kilometre kilometres.	extent of 3 k	kilometre to
		As the proposed area is no	•	•
		Park, Wildlife Sanctuary or E will not be any adverse effective		
	Act, 1972	Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972) 050.23 UI
_	Whether linear / non- linear	, , ,		
	Whether EC obtained	EC has been obtained	d vide lett	ter no.J-

		11015/56/2008-1A-II
12	Name of the applicant	Western Coalfields Ltd
	agency	
13	Date of submission	23/08/2022
14		As per forest clearance records it is estimated 13457 trees and 64349 bamboos to be felled.
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held on 21st September, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The location of the site for coal mining operation fully depends upon availability of nature's deposit of minerals or coal seams. Due to the location specific nature of coal reserve, forest land has to be chosen for this project and a question of exploring alternative site for the purpose does not arise.

The coal reserve proposed to be extracted through this expansion project is 47.27 million tonnes (MT) as on 01.04.2016. Out of this 24.27 MT Coal Reserve is located within 121.58 ha forest land. Hence, locating the project in forest land is unavoidable and this project requires minimum of 121.58 ha forest land for continuation of production of coal to meet the energy demand of the nation.

Durgapur OC project is operating since 1978 and the present forest clearance is applied for the expansion of the project. Feasibility Report(FR) for Durgapur OCP was for the capacity of 1.80 Mty with a stripping ratio of 3.09 m3/t and was approved by Govt. of India in October 1978. The project was directly linked to pit head of Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station (CSTPS) for generation of electricity which is supplied for the public utility through MAHAGENCO. Currently the Durgapur Opencast Project is working with 3.00 MT capacity per annum. The very basis of expansion & operation of the Durgapur OC Project lies in acquisition of 121.58 ha forest land. Hence, forest land is required for continuation of coal mining operation of the project.

The project has generated 274 new permanent employment to the local public and is presently providing total employment to 1081 persons directly as on 1st April 2022. Apart from this, generation of informal employment is also expected.

Adjoining Sinhala, Masala(Old) and Navagaon villages of Chandrapur Taluka & district have been already been rehabilitated due to the expansion of this project. Out of total 1005 Project affected families (PAFs), nearly, 90% of the families have resettled in the alternative rehabilitation site. Out of total of required 410.96 ha land all land except 121.58 ha (i.e.289.38 ha), has already been acquired and possessed by user agency, project can be started as soon

as the possession of this FC is given.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, leopard, sloth bear, wild dog, gaur, chital and sambar etc.

19 Type of Forest

Tropical dry deciduous forest and subgroup 5A/C3 southern tropical dry mix deciduous forest.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- 1. The project agency should implement all the mitigation measures that are proposed in mitigation plan proposed by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun and the committee under the Chairmanship of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Maharashtra State.
- 2% (Rs.1.37 Crore) amount of project cost falling in Tiger Corridor of Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve-Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary-Tipeshwar Wildlife Sanctuary shall be deposited by project agency for wildlife conservation and management activities in the State with the Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve Conservation Foundation.

The Mitigation plan submitted along with the proposal is placed as **ANNEXURE-XL.**

21 Violation, if any

No violation has been done by the User Agency.

22 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-3/2023-NTCA dated 27th February, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- In order to prevent entry of wild animals, the entire mining area should be fenced with solar/ electric pulse monitored fences of at least 10 feet height.
- The vehicular transportation should be avoided and be replaced with modern closed conveyor system. Belt conveyors should be fully covered to avoid air borne dust.
- Control blasting techniques with proper delay detonators and explosives should be used for mitigation of dust generation and ground vibration during blasting operations.
- 4. Installation of Wind barriers should be done for dust trapping.
- 5. Thick green belt of 30-40 m width to be provided to mitigate/check the dust pollution. 3-tier avenue plantation should also be developed along vacant areas, storage yard, loading/ transfer points and also along internal roads/ main approach roads.

- 6. A survey carried out by WII in the area demonstrated that WCL has used *Prosopis* for reclamation and this has proliferated profusely. From 2004 till 2013, the *Prosopis* spread was estimated to be from 8.33% in 2004 to 65.83% in 2013. This is unwarranted since this has suppressed the diversity of native fauna thereby reducing forage availability and provided suitable cover for leopards and wild pigs causing incidents of human wildlife conflicts. The WCL, in consultation with Maharashtra Forest Department, should take the responsibility of removing *Prosopis* in the existing plantation areas (WCL) within Chandrapur in a phased manner by replacing it with native species, which is likely to help in reducing the human-wildlife conflicts in the area.
- WCL should carry out a base line biodiversity survey of plants and animals including birds, herpeto fauna etc. which will be useful in rehabilitation of the area.
- 8. There should be no movement of transport vehicles during night within forested/corridor/ESZ areas of TATR.
- 9. WCL should have appropriate waste disposal mechanism for the mining site so that no waste is disposed in the forested or any natural area.
- 10. As a part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), WCL should attempt to strengthen Tiger Conservation Foundation of Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve.
- 11.CWLW, Maharashtra should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid by this Authority during various phases of project implementation.

23 Comments of Ministry

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 467.45 ha of non-forestland from tiger dispersal corridor in between Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve and Tipeswar WLS as delineated in Tiger Conservation Plan of Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve in compt.No.C-26, C-27 & C-33A falling in village Hirapur, Govindpur and Pimparwadi in Pandharkawda division of Yatamal Circle in favour of RCCPL Private Ltd. FP/MH/MIN/4954/2020					
2	Name of the protected area involved	Tadob	a Andhari Tige	er Reserve)		
3	File No	6-280/	2022 WL				
			ashtra				
	Whether proposal is sub-						
	judice		,				
6	Area of the protected area	625.40) Sq.km.				
7(Area proposed for	467.45	ha of non-fo	restland	from Ta	adoba Andl	hari
a)	diversion / De- notification	from 7	Reserve. The property of the p	dlife Sand	ctuary-Ta	adoba-Andl	hari
			Reserve and rgaon Wildlife			ire Sanctua	ary-
7/	Area so far diverted from	S.n Name of o project Agency Year Afrea Diverted/Permitted for use (ha.)					
,	the protected area(s)	0	project	Agency		Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.)	
,					Year 2010	Diverted/ Permitted for use	
b) 8	the protected area(s) Status of ESZ if any	1. Final sensiti	project NH 7 notified on 11 ve Zone shall I metre kilometr	Agency NHAI th Septembe to an eles.	2010 nber, 20 extent of	Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.) 4.94 19. The E	ico- e to
b) 8	Status of ESZ if any Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild	1. Final sensiti 16 kild The p (i.e, T tiger Tadob	project NH 7 notified on 11 ve Zone shall I metre kilometr roposed project	Agency NHAI th Septembe to an eles. ct is outsilife Sanct ipeshwar	2010 aber, 20 extent of de the place ary), be Wildlift erve ar	Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.) 4.94 19. The Earlier orotected about falls in fe Sanctuand Tipesh	rea the ary- war
8 9	Status of ESZ if any Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 Whether linear / non-linear	1. Final sensiti 16 kild The p (i.e, T tiger Tadob Wildlif Non-L	project NH 7 notified on 11 ve Zone shall I metre kilometr roposed project ipeshwar Wildl corridor of T a-andhari Tige e Sanctuary-Ka	Agency NHAI th Septembe to an eles. ct is outsilife Sanct ipeshwar ger Reseanhargaoi	2010 aber, 20 extent of de the place ary), be Wildlift erve ar	Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.) 4.94 19. The Earlier orotected about falls in fe Sanctuand Tipesh	rea the ary- war
8 9 10	Status of ESZ if any Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 Whether linear / non-linear Whether EC obtained	The p (i.e, T tiger Tadob Wildlift Non-L	project NH 7 notified on 11 ve Zone shall I metre kilometr roposed project ipeshwar Wildl corridor of T a-andhari Tig e Sanctuary-Ka inear has been /145/2009-1A-	Agency NHAI th Septement of the to an experiment of the second of the	2010 aber, 20 extent of de the plant of tuary), berve ar n Wildlife vide	Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.) 4.94 D19. The Expression of the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.) In the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.) In the Expression of the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.)	ico- e to the ary- war y.
8 9 10 11	Status of ESZ if any Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 Whether linear / non-linear Whether EC obtained Name of the applicant agency	The p (i.e, T tiger Tadob Wildlift Non-L RCCF	project NH 7 notified on 11 ve Zone shall lanetre kilometr roposed project ipeshwar Wildl corridor of Ta-andhari Tig e Sanctuary-Katinear has been /145/2009-1A-PL Private Ltd.	Agency NHAI th Septement of the to an experiment of the second of the	2010 aber, 20 extent of de the plant of tuary), berve ar n Wildlife vide	Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.) 4.94 D19. The Expression of the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.) In the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.) In the Expression of the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.)	ico- e to the ary- war y.
8 9 10 11 12	Status of ESZ if any Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 Whether linear / non-linear Whether EC obtained Name of the applicant agency Date of submission	1. Final sensiti 16 kild The p (i.e, T tiger Tadob Wildlif Non-L EC 11011 RCCF 05/03	project NH 7 notified on 11 ve Zone shall I metre kilometr roposed project ipeshwar Wildl corridor of T a-andhari Tig e Sanctuary-Ka inear has been /145/2009-1A-PL Private Ltd.	Agency NHAI th Septement of the to an experiment of the second of the	2010 aber, 20 extent of de the plant of tuary), berve ar n Wildlife vide	Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.) 4.94 D19. The Expression of the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.) In the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.) In the Expression of the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.)	ico- e to the ary- war y.
8 9 10 11 12 13	Status of ESZ if any Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 Whether linear / non-linear Whether EC obtained Name of the applicant agency	The p (i.e, T tiger Tadob Wildlift Non-L RCCF 11011 RCCF 17719	project NH 7 notified on 11 ve Zone shall I metre kilometr roposed project ipeshwar Wildl corridor of T a-andhari Tig e Sanctuary-Ka inear has been /145/2009-1A-PL Private Ltd.	Agency NHAI th Septement of the to an experiment of the second of the	2010 aber, 20 extent of de the plant of tuary), berve ar n Wildlife vide	Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.) 4.94 D19. The Expression of the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.) In the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.) In the Expression of the Sanctuary letter notes (ha.)	ico- e to the ary- war y.

Sanctuary	and	the
diversion	pro	posal
included or no	t	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The proposal is for use of 467.45 ha. it has been mentioned that the project proponent will not carry out any work in 54 ha land.

State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held on 21st September, 2022 subject to the conditions that the project proponent will submit an undertaking to implement all the mitigation measures suggested by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun as well as to carry out all the activities proposed in the 'Strategic plan for conservation of this corridor and nearby tiger area' prepared by the Project proponent and also by PCCF (WL) if any in future as per the requirements.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

Mukutban Mining Project is located outside protected area at a distance of about 29.39 Kms. Therefore, there is no need to justify its location inside the protected area.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, leopard, sloth bear, wild dog, gaur, chital and sambar etc.

19 Type of Forest

Tropical dry deciduous forest and subgroup 5A/C3 southern tropical dry mix deciduous forest.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden in the PARIVESH portal Part IV forwarded dated 19.12.2022 has recommended the project proposal. However, in the uploaded recommendation letter dated 29.09.2021 he has mentioned that the project is not recommended.

21 Violation, if any

No violation has been done by the User Agency.

22 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-5/2023-NTCA dated 21st March, 2023 has following observations and recommendation:

- The forest land of 467.45 ha required for Limestone mine is a reserve forest (RF) spread in three compartments of Mukutban range of Pandharkawada forest division of Yavatmal Circle in Maharashtra. The forest area of these three compartments are C-26 (Hirapur-130 Ha), C-27 (Govindpur-80 Ha) and C-33A (Pimparwadi-257.45 Ha).
- The project has been accorded Stage I and Stage II clearances by MoEFCC in 2012 and 2017 and Environmental Clearances in 2013 and 2021.

3. Project site of the RCCPL is strategically located within an intervening landscape complex of 5 Protected Areas namely the Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, Tipeshwar Wildlife Sanctuary, Painganga Wildlife Sanctuary, Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary in Maharashtra and the Kawal Tiger Reserve in the Telangana State. Distance of the project site from these areas are as below:

From Area	Distance km)
Tipeswar WLS 25 Eco- sensitive zone of Tipeswar WLS	22.25
Kawal TR buffer	35
Tadoba Andhari TR buffer	50
Tadoba Andhari TR core	63
Kanhargaon WLS	68
Painganga WLS	69.5
Tadoba Indravati least cost pathway tiger dispersal corridor	60.2

- 4. However, the project area is part of stepping stone tiger dispersal corridor in between Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve and Tipeswar WLS as delineated in Tiger Conservation Plan of Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve. Pawnar to Penganga river forest patch is a tiger habitat and plays a role in maintaining its functional connectivity with Tipeshwar- TATR corridor and Tipeshwar-Kanhargaon corridor. TCP of TATR has identified this area as a gap and suggested eco-restoration initiatives for these areas. This corridor connectivity is of paramount importance for maintaining metapopulation dynamics for tigers in the landscape and for future recovery of tiger population in Kawal Tiger Reserve.
- 5. The project area connects the two important corridors- Tipeshwar to TATR (east-west) and Tipeshwar to Kanhargaon (south-east). Proposed project area compartments of C-26, C-27 and C-33A have the forest cover (with two streams), Penganga river in the south (just 2 km from project location) and the private agriculture landuse (between Penganga river and the cement factory set up in private land) which makes it a good wildlife habitat for prey and tiger dispersal.
- 6. Technical publication of the Wildlife Institute of India titled "Telemetry based tiger corridors of Vidarbha Landscape, Maharashtra, India" dispels the myth that that tigers use only forested areas for movement. The best of parts of corridors are through forested tracts where there is good cover for tigers throughout the year. It is followed by areas of agriculture and to some extent wasteland areas.
- 7. As per all India tiger estimation exercises of 2014 and 2018, the project

site has presence of tigers in its vicinity.

- Apart from tigers, the project area and its adjoining landscape support many small carnivores such as dhole, wolf and major tiger prey such as chital, barking deer, wild pig and nilgai.
- 9. Forests of Pandharkawada Division serve as sink habitats to dispersing tigers from high tiger density Tadoba Andhari TR. Evidence exists to suggest that breeding nuclei of tigers do exist in this area. They are, therefore, important not only for long term viability of this important central Indian tiger population but also for minimizing human carnivore interface in this agro-pastoral-industrial landscape.
- 10. The project proposal originally entails cutting of 20,219 trees. However, the project proponent has reduced the forest land diversion area by 54 ha which involves removal of 17,719 trees.
- 11. Considering the conservation significance of the project site and irrefutable impact of the project on landscape connectivity and future tiger persistence in the landscape, the project was not recommended by DCF, Pandharkawada and Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra state. It is noteworthy to mention that report submitted by an expert committee constituted by CWLW, Maharashtra in 2022 explicitly mentions that "as the project area falls in the tiger corridor, avoidance will be the best mitigation strategy".
- 12. State Board for Wildlife of Maharashtra recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held on 21.09.2022 subject to implementation of a "Strategic Plan for Conservation of Corridors and Tiger Dispersal Areas in Mukutban Range and its surrounds in Pandharkawda Division, Yavatmal Forest Circle: A Special Emphasis on the RCCPL Cement Project Mining Site" submitted by the User Agency.
- 13. The Strategic Plan submitted by RCCPL has been examined and is found to be broad and generic in nature without highlighting the wildlife mitigation measures pertaining to the project.
- 14. In light of this, the proposal is recommended for approval subject to vetting of the Strategic Plan by Wildlife Institute of India for appropriate mitigation measures for implementing the project.

23 Comments of Ministry

Name of the Proposal Name of the protected area involved File No Name of the State	of forest land Nagzira-Taction construction between Water FP/MH/RAI	on Nagzira Tige WL	connecting I ger Rese I Gauge Ra Maharashtra	Navegaon- erve for ilway Line a.
5 Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-jud	ice		
6 Area of the protected area		Nagzira-133.9 So dhari Tiger Rese		sg.km.
	r 83.431 ha (revised 71.72 h		,
7(b) Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	S. No.	Name of the project	Area Diverted	Year of diversion
	1.	765 K.V. Double Circuit (Hexa) Raipur Pooling Station Wardha Transmission line-1 (First)		
	3.	Double Circuit (Hexa) Raipur Pooling Station Wardha transmission Line-II (Second) 765 K.V.D/C	253.729 ha 176.24 ha	2015
0 040445 24 507 1/2 22		Transmission line Raipur-Rajnadhgaon Warora		
8 Status of ESZ if any	Navegaon-N 24.02.2023.	NagziraTiger Re	serve-Draft	notified on

total area of 1346.61 sq.km. 9 Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (Protection) Act, 1972 (Protection) Act, 1972. 10 Whether linear / non-linear 11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency (Construction Organization) 13 Date of submission (Construction Organization) 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held			Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve-final notified on 11 th September, 2019 which extends from 3 km to	
9 Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, relation to Sec.29 and Sec.35(6) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, relation to Sec.29 and Sec.35(6) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. 10 Whether linear / nonlinear 11 Whether EC obtained 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held			16 km from the boundary of the tiger reserve over	
section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, relation to Sec.29 and Sec.35(6) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. 10 Whether linear / non-linear 11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency Construction Organization 13 Date of submission 31/12/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held				
Life (Protection) Act, relation to Sec.29 and Sec.35(6) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. 10 Whether linear / non-linear 11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant South East Central Railwa Construction Organization 13 Date of submission 31/12/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held	9	Specific comments w.r.t	As the area does not fall within Wildlife Sanctuary	
10 Whether linear / non- linear 11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency Construction Organization 13 Date of submission 31/12/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held		section 29 to the Wild	or National Park, there will not be any impact in	
10 Whether linear / non- linear 11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant agency Construction Organization 13 Date of submission 31/12/2021 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held		Life (Protection) Act,	relation to Sec.29 and Sec.35(6) of Wildlife	
linear 11 Whether EC obtained No 12 Name of the applicant South East Central Railwa Construction Organization 13 Date of submission 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held			l ' '	
11 Whether EC obtained 12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held	10	Whether linear / non-	Linear	
12 Name of the applicant agency 13 Date of submission 14 Total number of tree to be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held		linear		
agency Construction Organization 13 Date of submission 31/12/2021 14 Total number of tree to 780 be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held	11	Whether EC obtained	No	
13 Date of submission 14 Total number of tree to 780 be felled 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held	12	Name of the applicant	South East Central Railway	
13 Date of submission 14 Total number of tree to 780 15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held		agency	Construction Organization	
be felled 15 Maps depicting the Yes Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held	13	Date of submission	31/12/2021	
15 Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held	14	Total number of tree to	780	
Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held		be felled		
diversion proposal included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held	15	Maps depicting the	Yes	
included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19 th meeting held		Sanctuary and the		
included or not 16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19 th meeting held		diversion proposal		
State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 19 th meeting held				
	16	Recommendation of State	Board for Wild Life	
		State Board for Wild Life re	ecommended the proposal in its 19th meeting held	
on 21 st September, 2022.		on 21st September, 2022.		

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

Construction of New B.G Railway line between Wadsa-Gadchiroli has been sanctioned in the year 2011-12 on 50-50 cost sharing with Government of Maharashtra. The project section spreads over Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra. It is an undeveloped district with total population of about 10 lakh. Minerals like iron ore, Granite, boulder, stone chips etc. are found in and around Gadchiroli district. Commodities like agriculture product, forest goods, industrial products, mineral products etc. can be transported through railway. Length of railway line proposed to be constructed between Wadsa and Gadchiroli is 52.36 km there are numerous patches of forest in between Wadsa and Gadchiroli. All efforts were made to find a viable route which involves minimum/least forest land. However it was found that, there is no viable route that could avoid forest land.

Wadsa is an existing station on Gondia-Ballarsha line. New line from Wadsa to Gadchiroli is sanctioned on 50:50 cost sharing basis between Ministry of Railways and Government of Maharashtra. The project has been sanctioned mainly for the development of back word and Naxal infested area. There will be large demand of transportation of rice, fertilizers and timber after completion of this project. Gadchiroli District is rich in mineral resources like deposits of iron ore and lime stone. This also can be mined and transported through this new Rail line to all parts of India further aiding in economic development of the region. Broad gauge connectivity of Gadchiroli district will lead to rapid socio-economic development of the underdeveloped area. The Rail line can be extended towards Chhattisgarh and also towards Telangana

in future and will become the growth engine to Gadchiroli district. Length of the project is 52.68 km. There are five new PH stations Kondhala Thanegaon, churmura, sakara, Gogaon and two crossing stations Armori & Gadchiroli in this project. The alignment passes through forest land in two patches. The 1st patch from Ch 9900 to 16100 &the 2nd patch is from Ch 29260 to 42100. It is estimated that the project will generate permanent employment for 120persons & indirect employment for 1580 people for 4 years. The benefit Cost ratio has been estimated as 66.13 Total 217.161 Ha of land is required for construction of the project. Out of which 117.378 Ha is private land, 83.431 Ha (revised 71.72 Ha) is forest land and 16.352 Ha Government land. Three alternative alignments have been explored and the most economical and feasible alignment has been finalized. The finalized alignment passes through the fringes of forest land with less number of curves, less number of ROBs. less linear water way of bridges, well connected by road network involving no rehabilitation of peoples and avoiding flood prone area near this alignment there by making it convenient for construction and maintenance and more economical as the construction cost is less. The forest land required for diversion is mostly of zudpi jungle.

The sanctioned cost of project is Rs 403 Cr. Railway has agreed to provide the mitigation measures suggested by state forest department and the project cost has increased to 852.50 Cr due 4tional cost of mitigations suggested by State Forest department and also due to increase in cost of private land. The proposal for diversion of forest land was submitted to regional office of MOEF &CC vide in GoM's letter no FLD-2018/CR-236/F-10Dtd 14.08.2018. The MoEF & CC has accorded in principle approval for the stage -1 clearance vide no FC-III-MH-31/2018-NGP/5190 Dtd 12.04.2019 with conditions. Two of the conditions which were not agreed to by Railway were waived by the MoEF & CC in Aug & September, 2021. As advised vide condition no (xxx) of MoEF & CC, the combined team of NTCA& WII has visited the project site and submitted the mitigation measures report on 19.12.19. Railway has initially proposed 14 bridges in first forest patch (from Ch 9900 to Ch 16100) and 23 bridges in 2 forest patch (from 29260 to 42100). The joint team of NTCA&WII has suggested to provide one additional under pass in 13t patch and also to increase the size of remaining bridges in both the forest patches. Railway has agreed to provide the mitigation measures as suggested by NTCA &WII to increase the permeability in forest patches. Implementation of these mitigation measures requires upward variation of the project cost. The detailed estimate cost is approximately estimated as Rs.1096 Cr. Consent of Maharashtra state Government for increase in cost from the earlier403Crto 1096 Cr is awaited. Demand of Rs.16.82Cr for NPV & CA was received on 30.10.2021 and the same was deposited in CAMPA account on 02.02.202.2 Similarly Rs 11.98 Lakhs was paid to state forest department for cutting of 1089trees. In the FOCA proposal, forest land of 83.431 Ha from villages Wadsa, Kondhala, Rawi, Mular, Arsoda, Armori, Palora, Shegaon, Palora, Shegaon, Thanegaon, injewari, Deualgaon, Akapur, Churmura ,Katli, Sakara and Gogaon villages has been diverted in the two patches i.e fom Ch 9900 to 16100& Ch 29260 to 42100.A part of proposed alignment in 1st patch of forest land between Ch 11 km to Ch 15km crosses Tiger Corridor. The width of tiger corridor is 4km and the land involved for diversion in the corridor is 16 Ha only. Hence as suggested by MoEF&CC and

as per the Central Government Guidelines dated 16.07.2020 this project requires sanction of NBWL. Therefore the proposal is submitted for wild life board clearance

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Nawegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, Leopard, Sloth bear, wild dog, gaur, Chousinga, Spotted deer, Sambar, Porcupine, Mongoose and Grey Langur etc.

Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve is home to Tiger, Indian leopards, sloth bears, gaur, small Indian civet, jungle cats, sambar, barking deer, chital, chausingha and honey badger etc.

19 Type of Forest

Southern tropical dry deciduous forest..

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- The proposed alignment of Broad gauge railway line between Wadsa to Gadchiroli passes through forest land in 2 patches which falls in Kanha-Navegaon-Nagzira - Tadoba-Andhari-Indravati Tiger Reserve Tiger Corridor. Mitigation measures for this project are prepared by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- 2. Proposed mitigation measures consists of modification of structures planned on railway line by Indian Railway and few new structures. In patch-I, 14 mitigation structures consisting of 3 major bridges, 1 underpass and 10 minor structures ranging between 20-100 m in width and 4-6 m in height are proposed. In patch II, 25 mitigation structures are proposed which includes 1 overpass, 1 culvert & 23 major/minor structures ranging between 20-100 m in width & 2-5.5 m in height. Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun also proposed to elevate formation level of the railway line by a minimum one meter so as to increase the height of proposed mitigation measures. The project agency should implement all the above mitigation measures that are proposed by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- 2% amount of project cost falling in Tiger Corridor of Kanha- Navegaon -Tadoba -Indravati Tiger Reserve shall be deposited by user agency for wildlife conservation and management activities in the State of Maharashtra with Tiger Conservation Foundation of Tadoba - Andhari Tiger Reserve.

21 Animal Passage Plan

Mitigation Plan is placed at Annexure- XLI

22 Violation, if any

NA.

23 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-11/2023-NTCA dated 18th April, 2023 has following observations and recommendations:

- The proposed track is at approximate distance of 42 km from Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve (NNTR) and 44 km from Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR).
- However, 4 km of the track (chainage 11 km to chainage 15 km) cuts through tiger dispersal corridor in between Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve and Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve delineated by NTCA and Wildlife Institute of India (WII) entailing diversion of 16 ha forest land in the corridor landscape.
- The project site had presence of tigers in its vicinity during 4 cycles of all India tiger estimations carried out in 2006, 2010, 2014 and 2018.
- 4. As per 2018 all India tiger estimation, the project site had presence of mammalian species such as leopard, sloth bear, dhole, gaur, sambar, chital and barking deer in its vicinity.
- 5. The project entails cutting of 780 trees in the corridor landscape.
- 6. Besides wildlife mortality, railway infrastructures cause population fragmentation and act as a barrier for movement of wild animal populations. Species having either large area requirements or highly dependent on specific habitat type (such as tigers) are highly affected by such habitat fragmentations. In addition to the habitat fragmentation noise and vibration from railway traffic also affects a wide range of ecological and biological processes related to wildlife. Among the most obvious responses to noise by wildlife are site abandonment and decrease in spatial abundance.
- 7. A committee comprising of the members from NTCA and WII had made a site appraisal for the project and submitted a report with proposed mitigation plan in November 2019. Proposed mitigation measures consists of modification of structures planned on railway line by Indian Railway and few new structures. In patch-I, 14 mitigation structures consisting of 3 major bridges, 1 underpass and 10 minor structures ranging between 20-100 m in width and 4-6 m in height are proposed. In patch II, 25 mitigation structures are proposed which includes 1 overpass, 1 culvert and 23 major/minor structures ranging between 20-100 m in width and 2-5.5 m in height. WII also proposed to elevate formation level of the railway line by a minimum one meter so as to increase the height of proposed mitigation measures for better openness ratio. The mitigation plan submitted by WII has been appraised and found to be comprehensive and suitable for substantially mitigating the ecological impacts of the project.
- 8. Considering this and larger socio-economic benefits associated with the project, the proposal for construction of new broad gauge track is recommended for approval under Section 38 O(1)(g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 subject to the complete implementation of the mitigation plan suggested by WII in the letter and spirit.

24 Comments of the Ministry

The User Agency in the proposal had initially mentioned the requirement of the forest land as 83.431 ha which was subsequently revised to 71.72 ha. As per the site inspection report of the DFO and the comments received from the NTCA, the total requirement for land within the tiger corridor connecting Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve and Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve delineated by NTCA and Wildlife Institute of India (WII) is 16 ha forest land in the corridor landscape.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view.

1 I	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 34.1914 ha of forest land from
		corridor connecting Navegaon-Nagzira-Tadoba
		and Kanha Tiger Reserve for construction of 3rd
		railway line from Darekasa Salekasa Station in
		Gondia district (Rajnandgaon-Kalumna 3 rd line
		project), Maharashtra.
		FP/MH/RAIL/45255/2020
2	Name of the protected	Corridor connecting Navegaon-Nagzira- Tiger
	area involved	Reserve and Kanha Tiger Reserve
3	File No	6-262/2022 WL
4	Name of the State	Maharashtra
5	Whether proposal is sub-	Not sub-judice
l j	judice	·
6	Area of the protected area	Navegaon-Nagzira-133.9 Sq.km
		Kanha Tiger Reserve – 2074.31 Sq.km.
7(a)		34.1914 ha
` '	diversion / De-notification	
7(b)	Area so far diverted from	NA
	the protected area(s)	
	Status of ESZ if any	Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve-Draft notified
	•	on 24.02.2023.
		Kanha National Park-final notified on 12th March,
		2021 extending from zero to 30 km around Kanha
		Tiger Reserve
9	Specific comments w.r.t	As the area does not fall within Wildlife Sanctuary
		or National Park, there will not be any impact in
		relation to Sec.29 and Sec.35(6) of Wildlife
	,	(Protection) Act, 1972.
10	Whether linear / non-	Linear
	linear	
11	Whether EC obtained	No
h +		South East Central Railway, Gondia
	agency	,
	Date of submission	17/12/2021
14	Total number of tree to be	As per forest clearance records, it is
1	felled	estimated 13457 trees and 64349 bamboos to
		be felled.
15 I	Maps depicting the	Yes
	Sanctuary and the	
	diversion proposal	
i	included or not	
16	Recommendation of State	Board for Wild Life
		ommended the proposal in its 19 th meeting held on
1 /	21 st September, 2022.	
		oposal as given by the applicant agency

The railway line between Rajnandgaon-Kalumna (Nagpur) from a part of Howrah-Mumbai trunk route. The route length of the project from Rajnandgaon-Kalumna section is 228.3 Kms and 11.43 Km for Darekasa-Salekasa section. This line plays an important role in transportation of freight and passenger traffic from Eastern and Southern reasons to Northern and Western regions and vice versa over the country. This route is a nerve centre of railway by virtue of connecting trunk route of Howrah-Mumbai line and playing important role for transportation. Many power plant and other industries are growing gradually in this section. The existing traffic in the form of either raw materials or finished products move both ways. Many existing industries are functioning and many under process over this projected section. With the expansion and modernisation of existing steel and cement pants and setting of new subsidiary industries along the project section, there had been substantial increase in the various industrials requirements.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Nawegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, Leopard, Sloth bear, wild dog, gaur, Chousinga, Spotted deer, Sambar, Porcupine, Mongoose and Grey Langur etc.

Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve is home to Tiger, Indian leopards, sloth bears, gaur, small Indian civet, jungle cats, sambar, barking deer, chital, chausingha and honey badger etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Southern tropical dry deciduous forest.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- 1. Mitigation Plan for this project is prepared by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. Mitigation measures proposed in plan includes modification of structures on existing railway line and also structures planned on new railway line by Railway and this includes 3 composite girders, 1 overpass and 11 box culverts. Fencing along the railway tract is also proposed in corridor area. The project agency should implement all the mitigation measures that are proposed by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun and also implement the Wildlife Management plan that will be prepared by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun for this area.
- 2% amount of project cost falling in Tiger Corridor of Navegaon -Nagzira Tiger Reserve, and Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve shall be deposited by project agency for wildlife conservation and management activities in the State with the Field Director of Naveogaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve.

21 | Animal Passage Plan

Mitigation Plan has been submitted by the User Agency which is placed at **ANNEXURE-XLII**

22 Violation, if any

No violation of Wildlife (Protection Act, 1972 or of forest Conservation Act, 1980 by Project Proponent.

23 | Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-9/2023-NTCA dated 18th April, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- 1. At the request of SECR, WII has prepared a technical document titled 'Mitigation measures for construction of 3rd railway line from Darekasa-Salekasa station in Gondia, Maharashtra and submitted it in May 2022. Subsequently, a joint inspection was made by a Committee with representatives of WII, SECR and Maharashtra Forest Department in June 2022 which modified some of the recommendations made by WII due to technical limitations. Mitigations suggested consist of construction of overpasses, underpasses, Girder bridges, RCC boxes and PSC slabs and fencing at appropriate sections along all three (old and new) lines.
- Both the WII report and the Committee report have been examined in details and were found to be comprehensive and reasonably effective in mitigating the ecological impacts of the project.
- 3. Attempt should be made to keep tree felling minimal within the tiger corridor landscape.
- Construction work inside the corridor area should be done during daytime and no night camp of labors and User Agency officials should be allowed within corridor area.
- SECR should ensure that the construction period within tiger corridor area is kept minimal. Pre-fabricated structures should be used to the maximum possible extent to reduce the extent of disturbance in the habitat.
- No construction material should be procured from forest. Construction debris should be disposed outside the forest area taking adequate care for air/dust pollution.
- Caution signboards (fluorescent/radium) about animal crossing as per the advice of the Forest Department should be provided by SECR at appropriate places along the railway tracks.
- 8. Railway authorities should utilize latest technological tools for deployment of early warning system for train drivers about wildlife movement to prevent wildlife from getting hit by trains.
- 9. The railway authorities shall ensure prohibition of throwing catering / food material on to the tracks while trains move through forest/corridor areas. Appropriate sensitization must be given both to passengers and catering staff. A team needs to be engaged by Railways for disposing of the food waste and other garbage from all three tracks on daily basis which otherwise might attract animals to approach the tracks.

24 Comments of Ministry

The user agency has applied for use of 34.1914 ha of forest land. However, 33.9964 ha falls within corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape connecting Nagzira Tiger Reserve with Kanha Tiger Reserve.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view.

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 0.9286 ha of forest land from Melghat Tiger Reserve (buffer Zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve which is also final ESZ area) for construction of Rope Suspension Bridge (Skywalk) connecting Hurricane Point and Goreghat Point at Chikhaldara Hill Station,
		District Amravati, Maharashtra.
		FP/MH/Others/35309/2018
	Name of the protected area involved	Melghat Tiger Reserve
3	File No	6-278/2022 WL
4	Name of the State	Maharashtra
5	Whether proposal is subjudice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	
7(a)	diversion / De-	0.9286 ha
7(1)	notification	N. A.
, ,	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	
8	Status of ESZ if any	Final notified on 27th December 2016. Extent from 2.2 kilometres to 14.85 kilometres from the boundary of Melghat Tiger Reserve
9	section 29 to the Wild	Project falls in reserve forest land within buffer area of Melghat Tiger Reserve. No significant destruction which is mentioned under Section 29 and/or section 35(b) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is foreseen, but certainly this will increase disturbance due to escalated tourism activity.
_	Whether linear / non- linear	Linear
	Whether EC obtained	No
	Name of the applicant agency	City and Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra LTD(CIDCO)
13	Date of submission	20/01/2020
14	Total number of tree to be felled	2 trees having girth more than 60 cm.
	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	
16	Recommendation of State	Board for Wild Life
	State Board for Wild Life re on 21 st September, 2022.	commended the proposal in its 19th meeting held

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

Government of Maharashtra is giving emphasis on development of tourist spot by providing infrastructure and facilities to attract domestic, national and international tourists. Chikhaldara Hill State, rich in biodiversity and scenic beauty is one of the major attraction of tourists.

Providing skywalk of state of art has been proposed to attract more tourist. Construction of Skywalk to connect strategic location (only two location) through a pedestrian skywalk (Single rope bridge) will involve some of the forest land location required for wind anchors and area under the bridge. Since there are no such non forest locations for this project, there is no alternative but to use the minimum forest land.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Melghat Tiger Reserve is home to Tiger, Leopard, sloth bear, Jackal, Striped hyens, spotted deer, Chausinga, Sambar, Gaur, Barking deer, ratel, Flying Squirrel, Wild boar, Langur and Rhesus Macaque etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Eco Class III-Southern Dry Deciduous Forest

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- 1. No plastic/other disposable items to be allowed on the skywalk. Strictly no littering in the area around.
- 2. Suitable measures to be adopted by the user agency to prevent monkeys from climbing the bridge to reduce man-animal conflict as much possible.
- 3. User agency shall deposit 2 % of amount of the project falling in buffer and Eco-Sensitive Zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve with Melghat Tiger Conservation foundation for wildlife management and conservation activities in the State.

21 Violation, if any

No violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 has been committed by the Project Proponent.

22 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-8/2023-NTCA dated 19th April, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- 1. Littering with plastic wastes/non-disposable materials should be prohibited on the skywalk and its adjoining areas. The area should be maintained as a 'no plastic' zone.
- Since the valleys underneath the proposed bridge has presence of tigers, tourism activity in between sunset and sunrise on the skywalk should preferably be restricted. Lights on the skywalk and adjacent areas should be dimmed at night.
- 3. Tourism Department, Government of Maharashtra should ensure that no tourist trespasses in the forest underneath the skywalk.
- 4. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra, should have appropriate

mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions mentioned in this OM.

23 **Comments of Ministry**

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in IA 1000 of 2003 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995 in its order dated 3.6.2022 in para 44 (e) has directed that no new permanent structure shall be permitted to come up for whatsoever purpose within the ESZ.

The project is proposed to be located within buffer zone of Melghat Tiger Reserve which is also part of finally notified ESZ.

Further, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view.

RAJASTHAN

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-269/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 4.239 ha land from National Chambal Ghariyal Sanctuary for construction of Kaliteer Lift Scheme to provide drinking water to 483 villages of 4 tehsils of Dholpur District, (Basedi, Sarmathura, Badi and Saipau), Dholpur Town, Rajasthan.
		FP/RJ/WATER/150690/2021

1	Name of the Proposal	Ch Kal 483 (Ba To	oposal for use of 4 ambal Ghariyal Sa iteer Lift Scheme to villages of 4 to asedi, Sarmathura, wn, Rajasthan.	inctuary for to provide on the provide of the Badi and S	r cons drinkin Dholps	struction of ng water to ur District,
	Nome of the material		/RJ/WATER/15069			
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Na	tional Chambal Gha	ariyal Sanct	uary	
3	File No.	6-2	69/2022 WL			
4	Name of the State	Raj	asthan			
5	Whether proposal is sub- judice	No	t sub-judice			
6	Area of the protected area	5,4	00 km²			
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/Denotification	4.	239 ha			
<i>(</i> (b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	1.	765 KV TRANSMISSION LINE FROM ANTA(BARAN) TO PHAGI CKT-ii passing through National Chambal Sanctuary near Village-Gainta (Forest Block- Genta) Construction of	Kota SE PWD		Area Diverted/ Permitted for use (ha.) 1.6384
		2.	Bridge over River Chambal between village Makhida District Bundi and Gainta District Kota on SH No -1	Kota		

		3. Development of 8 NHAI lanes (Green field Sawai Highway) from madhopur ltwa village (Ch. 284.00) to after Chambal River near Banda Hera (Ch.392.800) Section of NH-148 N (Total length 108.800 Km), Under Bharatmala Pariyojana Lot-4/Pkg-4 in the state of Rajasthan 4. Diversion of Irrigation 0.9007 Ha. of Dholpur forest land in favour of water resource department Dholpur for Dholpur lift irrigation cum drinking water project (Lift from River Chamba District Dholpur) Total	
8	Status of ESZ, if any	The proposal for declaration of the E	SZ was
		received in the Ministry vide Govern Rajasthan letter dated 16.10.2018. Base comments received on the proposal from Ministry has requested revised proposal vidated 15.03.2019 and subsequent rehowever, the revised proposal from the Government is awaited.	d on the WII, the vide letter eminders.
9.	section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	Minor disturbances to wildlife habitat caused during project implementation. I measures are being prescribed.	
10	Whether project linear/non-linear	Linear	
11	Whether EC obtained	No	
12	Date of submission by user agency	12/12/2022	
13		Superintendent Engineer,WRD, Dholpur (I	RAJ)
14	Total number of tree to be		

felled	
Maps depicting the diversion proposal	
included or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

Proposal was recommended by State Board for Wild Life in its meeting held on 13th September, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

Extensive survey and alternatives have been made in selection of sites for projects. No alternatives are possible as the selected sites are best suitable for project. The forest land coming under alignment of construction of Kaliteer Lift Scheme district Dholpur, Rajasthan is unavoidable.

The Parvati dam and Ramsagar dam is proposed to be filled during the rainy season by lifting water from Chambal river near Village Kalitir Tehsil Sarmathura district Dholpur in Kalitir Lift Irrigation and Drinking Water Project.

At present, the Public Health Engineering Department has demanded 1548.00 MCFT for drinking water for the urban areas and 170 villages of rural area of Tehsil Bari, urban area of Sarmathura tehsil, urban area and 193 villages in rural area of Basedi tehsil, 59 villages of Dhaulpur tehsil Area, and 61 villages of Saipau Tehsil from these dams.

On completion of the said project, it will be possible for the Public Health Engineering Department to met the said demand.

In this project, a total of 3553 MCFT water from Chambal river, which is necessary on 90 percent dependability for compete filling of Parvati Dam and Ramsagar Dam has to be lifted for a height of 180 meters which will be released in Bohra's pond located at a distance of 8.40 km from the Chambal river. After that, the water from this pool will flow into the Ram Sagar through gravity and for Parvati dam water will be discharged into a drain located 2.00 km away from Bohra's pool from where it will reach Parvati Dam through gravity.

It is proposed to lift water from Chambal river only during the rainy season.

Under the said project, an intake structure cum pump house will be constructed 0.500 km from the banks of Chambal river. One intake from river to intake Canal (size 50m x 20m) is to be constructed. It is proposed to lift water through pipe line (MS/HDPE) till Pump House-1. This discharge will be 20 cumex. which will ultimately reach already constructed departmental Ramsagar and Parvati Dam. Thus storage of surplus water available in the Chambal river during the rainy season, which is necessary for the project, has been proposed in Parvati Dam and Ramsagar Dam.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

National Chambal Ghariyal Sanctuary is home to Ghariyal Hanuman langur, Golden jackal, Bengal fox, Common palm civet, small Asian mongoose, Indian grey mongoose, jungle cat, Wild boar, Sambar, Blackbuck, Indian gazelle, northern palm squirrel, Indian crested porcupine, Indian hare and Indian flying fox etc.

19 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its order dated 17.10.2008 in IA No.1648 in W.P.(C) 202/1995, while approving the project for supply of drinking water to Karauli and Sawai Madhopur districts, directed that the prescribed minimum flow of water (4.78 cusecs) will be maintained in Chambal river.

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

General Conditions:

- GC 2: In compliance of decision taking in the meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL dated 07.08.2021, 2% of the proportional project cost falling within the Protected Area should be deposited in RPACS by the user agency for management and protection of wildlife in the Protected Area.
- 2. **GC 3:** No work shall be done before sunrise and after sunset in the project area.
- 3. **GC 4:** No material of any kind should be extracted from the Protected Area.
- 4. **GC 5:** There will be no felling of trees and burning of fuel wood inside the Protected Area.
- 5. **GC 6:** The waste material generated should be disposed outside the Protected Area.
- GC 7: There will be no labor camp within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area.
- 7. **GC 8:** The trench dug for laying the pipeline should be filled and levelled after completion of the work.
- GC 9: No blasting will be carried out within 1 km from the boundary of Protected Area during the work.
- GC 13: There shall be no high mast/ beam/search lights & high sounds within 1 km from the Protected Area boundary.
- 10.**GC 15:** The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- 11.**GC 16:** Maintenance activity of any nature should be carried out only after seeking formal approval from competent authority of tiger reserve/PA.
- 12.GC 18: The user agency and project personnel will comply with the provisions of standard SOP/Guidelines issued by WII, Dehradun for linear projects.
- 13.GC 19: Any permission/clearance required under FCA-1980 or other acts may be taken as per rules.

Site Specific Conditions:

SSC 1: User agency will provide water facilities to wild animals & forest staff through a dedicated pipeline.

SSC 2: In the proposed project, there should be no obstruction in the minimum flow of Chambal River etc.

SSC 3: User agency will seek permission/comply with the directions of Hon'ble

Supreme Court in IA 1648 in Writ Petition (Civil) 202/95 and other relevant cases.

20 Violation, if any

No Violation of WL (P) 1972 and FCA 1980 are committed by the User Agency.

21 Comments of Ministry

A committee wasconstituted by the Ministry in accordance with the decision taken in the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wild Life held on13.10.2022 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble MEFCC to prescribe theminimum flow in the Chambal river that should be maintained for theconservation of Dolphins and associated species in the river Chambal. The committee held its 1st meeting on 1st December, 2022 under theChairmanship of Addl. Director General of Forests (Wildlife). The Committee decided that WII in coordination with CWC conduct a comprehensive study based onthe flow rate and water level in the Chambal River. While continuing theextensive study, an interim report will be submitted by WII in May 2023for consideration of NBWL.

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

TELANGANA

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-162/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 7.8813 ha of forest land from Eturunagaram Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Chinnaboinapally to Kondai road via Shapally Dodla and Malyal from Km 0/0 to 16/0 of Tadvai, dodla Ext and Shapally Ext II RFS in WLM Eturnagaram Forest division of Mulugu district, Telangana. FP/TG/ROAD/57142/2020
2.	6-236/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 0.2115 ha of forest land from
2.	0 200/2022 ***	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for conversion of existing electrical line by using ABC lines in Chinthavari Habitation, Laxmidevipally Habitation, Bhadradri Kothagudem District, Telangana.
		FP/TG/TRANS/6376/2022
3.	6-237/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 0.5921 ha of forest land from Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for conversion of existing electrical line by using ABC cable at Siddaram ST Habitation Tekulapally mandal of Kothagudem District, Telangana.
		FP/TG/TRANS/6379/2022
4.	6-238/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 0.6759 ha of forest land from Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for conversion of existing electrical lines using by ABC cable at Singaram and Kothasingaram to ST Habitation, Telangana.
		FP/TG/TRANS/6383/2022
5.	6-239/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 0.4898 ha of forest land from Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for conversion of existing electrical line by using ABC lines for Thipagutta Habitation, Bhadradri Kothagudem District, Telangana.
		FP/TG/TRANS/6612/2022
6.	6-243/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 1.4043 ha of forest land from Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for conversion of existing electrical line by using ABC cable and extension of 3 phase power supply to Venkatapuram ST Habitation in Allampally Mandal of Bhadradri Kothgudem District Telangana. FP/TG/TRANS/155864/2022
		11/10/11/11/0/10007/2022

7	Proposal for use of 5.1285 ha of forest land from Kawal Tiger Reserve (2.3485 ha in Khanapur division and 2.78 ha in Utnoor FDPT Division) for improvement of the existing road and widening of road from R&B road to Allampally of Kadam Mandal in Nirmal and Adilabad district, Telangana. FP/TG/ROAD/142208/2021
8	Proposal for use of 3.412 ha of forest land (1.819 ha area falling in core area of Kawal Tiger Reserve and 1.593 ha area falling in buffer area of Kawal Tiger Reserve) for construction of BT road from Govena to Jambuldhara from Km 0/0 to 9/400 via Sidamguda, Nagaguda and Maraguda villages of Lingapur Mandal, Tiryani and Kawal RFs of Asifabad Forest Division of KB Asifabad district, Telangana.
	FP/TG/ROAD/119263/2021
9	Proposal for use of 3.4692 ha of forest land from Kawal Tiger Reserve, Tiger corridor and ESZ for laying of OFC for execution of T-Fiber Project in Asifabad division of Komarambheem Asifabad District in favour of Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited.
	FP/TG/OFC/145010/2021

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 7.8813 ha of forest land from Eturunagaram Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of BT road from Chinnaboinapally to Kondai road via Shapally Dodla and Malyal from Km 0/0 to 16/0 of Tadvai, dodla Ext and Shapally Ext II RFS in WLM Eturnagaram Forest division of Mulugu district, Telangana. FP/TG/ROAD/57142/2020
2	Name of the	Eturunagaram Wildlife Sanctuary
	protected area involved	
	File No.	6-162/2022 WL
	Name of the State	Telangana
	Whether proposal is sub-judice	•
	Area of the protected area	·
	diversion / De- notification	7.8813 ha Total 8 projects have been recommended by the SC-
	from the protected area(s)	NBWL in Mulugu district till date for laying of drinking water pipelines, roads & causeways, lift irrigation systems etc. The following 3 drinking water projects belonging to Telangana drinking water supply project (TDWSP) were approved by the SC-NBWL in Mulugu district till date.
		SI. Name of the segment Area diverted in Ha 1 17/3-Kothaguda 1.771 2 20/2-Mangapet 1.989 3 20/3-Eturnagarm 22.258
		Total Area Diverted 26.018
		All these drinking water supply related diversion projects aim at supplying drinking water to Gram Panchayat and Municipalities through distribution pipelines in an optimized manner which will improve the health and living standards of the people of the area. There might be certain impact in terms of increased biotic pressure which may lead to habitat destruction. These are addressed through a wildlife mitigation plan funded by the User Agency including

planting of low height shrubs for sheltering smaller mammals and reptiles.

The following 3 projects for laying of roads and causeways are approved by the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife.

	1		
SI.No	Road/Causeway		Area diverted
			in Ha.
1	Causeway a	cross	0.05
	Jampannavagu		
2		cross	0.1339
	Jampannavagu		
3	Upgradation	_	22.725
	Urattum to lylapu	r road	
Total area diverted			23.3589

proposed roads and causeways providing better medical facilities, schooling for children, transport of goods and agricultural produce to the market. There might be certain impact of the projects on the Wildlife Habitat of the area of terms of Habitat Fragmentation. Hence, to mitigate any sort of impact on Wildlife, a Wildlife Mitigation Plan has been proposed with the funds deposited by the User Agency.

The following 2 irrigation projects have been approved by the Standing Committee for National Board for Wildlife.

SI. No	Name of the project	Irrigation	Area diverted in Ha
1	JCR Devadula Lift Scheme-Package V	Irrigation	0.409
2	P V.Narsimha Kanthanapally Sravanthi Project Package-I	sujala	18.2316
Tota	Total area diverted 18.6406		

The irrigation projects aim at providing irrigation facilities to agricultural lands. To mitigate any sort of impact on Wildlife, a mitigation plan was proposed.

Status of if any

ESZ, Draft notification has expired. Letter sent to State draft/finally notified, Government on 28.07.2020 & 16.10.2020 to submit the revised proposal. Response is awaited.

Specific w.r.t. 29/35(6) Wildlife(Protection) Act, 1972

comments The road proposed for construction is an existing cart **Section** road which is existing prior to 1980 and is mapped in the the SOI topo sheet. The said road has right of way in RF Gazette notification whereas the length and width of the road are not mentioned. The length of the road passing through the Eturanagaram Wildlife Sanctuary is

		11259.00 m with a width of 7.00 m. Felling of 286 no. of trees is involved in the proposed project area for diversion. There would be certain impact of the proposed project on wildlife habitat of the area due to soil erosion, restriction of movement of wildlife etc. Hence, no mitigate any sort of impact on wildlife, Wildlife mitigation measures along with Animal Passage Plan is proposed for implementation.
10	Whether project	Linear
	linear/non- linear	
11	Whether project	No
	require EC	
12	Name of the	R AND B Division Warangal
	applicant agency	-

13 Date of submission 15/11/2020

14 Total number of tree 286

to be felled

15 Maps depicting the Yes Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 4th meeting held on 24th February, 2022 with the following suggestions:

- The maximum vehicular speed on the above roads shall be prescribed as 30 kmph and it shall be ensured that this is implemented strictly and speed breakers are laid at regular intervals on the road stretches in forest areas.
- Movement of vehicles shall be restricted during the night hours from 9.00 PM to 6.00 AM to avoid accidental death of animals and minimize disturbance to wildlife habitat.
- Provision of Salt Licks and Saucer pits nearer to the under passes would ensure the usage of the under pass by the Wild animals.
- Regular monitoring of the movement of Wildlife near the under passes can be ensured by installing camera traps in the under passes.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The existing road stretch from Km 0/0 to Km 16/0 is a single lane earthern, BT road passing through WLM area over a length of 11.259 Km and it was damaged at many places due to frequent floods in the forest area leading to un-connectivity to the remote habitations. There is no alternate path from 0/0 to Km 16/0 other than this road to connect the remote habitations of Shapally, Kothagudem, Dodla, Malyal, Kondai and Iylapuram & other Hamlet villages, gudems in Eturnagarm & Kannaigudem mandals of Mulugu district.

Further the main objective of this road construction is to combat the left wing extremism in the area effectively by providing road network fit for brisk movement of CRPF and State forces and for smooth movement of heavy armed vehicles.

The improvement of road helps to the pilgrims of Bhadrachalam, Manuguru, Eturnagaram, Tupakulagudem, Venkatapuram areas of Telangana State & Bhupalaptna, Beejapur & Jagdalpur areas of Chattisgarh state, attending the Great Tribal festival of Sri Sammakka, Sarakka festival celebrated at Medaram once in every two years.

This road connects number of remote villages with Mandal/ITDA headquarters and district headquarters which helps the public to cater their essential needs such as medical, education, employment, marketing etc. and thus improves the socio-economic status of the tribes and helps to detract the public from attraction towards left wing extremism.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Eturunagaram Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Indian Bison, Sloth Bear, Leopard, Spotted Deer, Wild Dogs, Jackal and Wild Pig etc.

19 Type of Forest

Dry Deciduous Forests with the following species Terminalia, Pterocarpus marsuplum, Anogeis is latifolia, Tuniki etc.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to User Agency complying with the following conditions:

- As per the specifications issued by WII a minimum of two passage ways per Km length of the infrastructure with a minimum of 30.00 m width and 3.00 m height shall be incorporated in animal passage plan to be implemented by the User Agency.
- 2. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct sixteen (16) under passes as per the dimensions and at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to facilitate movement of wild animals.
- Chain link fencing shall be installed for a length of 100 m on either side of the underpasses on either side of the road which shall be periodically maintained by the User Agency.
- 5. The user agency shall install speed control devices with proper caution sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
- 6. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/CF, Warangal is

SI. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road along with chain link fencing for 50 m on either side of the check gate to curb movement of domestic animals and tresspassers	each	10 No	4.50

2	Construction of solar powered percolation tanks along with drilling of borewells.	6.00 each	3 No	18.00
3	Integrated camping site-creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two Solar Powered Borewells (cost Rs.3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site		3 No	60.00
4	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)		60 ha	24.00
5	Raising of fodder plots with chain link fencing	2.50 per ha	10 ha	25.00
6	Procurement of camera traps	0.25 each	20 No	5.00
7	Development of approach path each to the integrated camping facility.	LS	LS	1.50
8	Procurement of equipment like GPS, binoculars etc., to monitor wildlife	LS	LS	1.00
9	Installation of large hoardings	1.00 each	5 No	5.00
10	Conducting awareness programmes	0.25 each	4 No	1.00
11	Creation of fire lines and maintenance for 3 years	0.25 per km	20 km	5.00
12	Engaging fire watchers (5 No.for 5 years @9,000 per month per person for five months in a year)	0.09 per month per person	5 No	11.25
13	Supply of field kit to the staff for wildlife monitoring	LS	LS	2.00
14	Engaging anti poaching squad (5 No. for 3 years @ 10,000 per month per person) to curb the poaching of tigers in the land scape	0.10 per month per person	5 No	18.00
15	Maintenance and POL charges of the vehicle involved in wildlife monitoring and tracking	0.25 per month	1 No	9.00
16	Mitigation Human animal conflict issues	LS	LS	2.00
17	Modernization and maintenance of EEC with installation of exhibits, dioramas, modern interpretation material, Audio Visual aids etc	LS	LS	10.00
18	Engaging a biologist for a period for a period of two years to monitor the turtle and other mammals in the riverine ecosystem	0.30 per month	1 No	7.20
19	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	7.55
Tota	al		_	217.00

- 7. The works shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing /damaging flora and fauna of the area.
- 8. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
- All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
- 10. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
- 11. There shall be no violation of FCA Act or Wildlife (Protection) Act, during the execution of work. If already committed, the violation has to be resolved under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.
- 12. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
- 13. The mitigation amount of Rs.217.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.

21 | Animal Passage Plan

Animal Passage Plan has been submitted by the user agency which is placed at **Annexure- XLIII**

22 Violation, if any

No violation has been committed by the User Agency

23 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view.

	Name of the Brown and	ь		
1	Name of the Proposal		al for use of 0.2115 h om Kinnerasani Wildlife	
			version of existing elect	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
			using ABC lines in Chinthavari Habitatio	
		_	levipally Habitation,	
			udem District, Telangan	
			TRANS/6376/2022	
	involved	Kinner	asani Wildlife Sanctuary	
3	File No.	6-236/2	2022 WL	
4	Name of the State	Telang	ana	
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice		o-judice	
6	Area of the protected area	640.33	sq km	
. ,	Area proposed for diversion / Denotification		ha	
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the			ave been
	protected area(s)		mended by the SC-N	
			s of the projects are is ta	abulated as
		below		-
		S.No.	Name of the project	Area
				diverted (Ha.)
		1	Laying of water pipe line segment No.25/7 (Banjara)	6.926
		2	Construction of 400 Kv QMDC line	13.57
		3.	Construction of 400 KV QMDC line	
			Total	30.9978
8	Status of ESZ if any	Eco-se	notified on 30 th August, nsitive Zone is spread c 9.44 sq.kms with an ex	ver an area
		from 1	kilometer to 21 kilomete	ers from the
		bounda	ary of the Kinnersa	ıni Wildlife
		Sanctu		
9	Specific comments w.r.t. section			
	29 to the Wild Life (Protection)			
	Act, 1972		nversion of existing ele	
			ng Aerial Bunched (AB	
			ed conductor and exter	
			agriculture power suppl Habitations at Chir	ıy to ∠ ivos. nthavarri(V),
		_	levipally(M) in	Bhadradri
			udem District"	Diladiadil
	1	, whitay	adom District	

10	Whether linear / non-linear	Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Name of the applicant agency	NORTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED (TSNPDCL)
13	Date of submission	25/05/2022
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	
	<u> </u>	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wildlife

The State Board for Wildlife recommended the proposal in its 5th meeting held on 27th July, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The TSNPDCL has proposed for conversion of existing electrical lines by using aerial bunched (AB) Cable (or) Insulated conductor and extension of 3-phase agricultural power supply to ST Habitation at Chinthavarri (V), Laxmidevipally(M) in Bhadradri Kothagudem district for 24 Hrs power supply to water grid services, agriculture services and local village, as the existing 11 KV line (Mailaram feeder) is length of 25.0 KM which is emanating from 33/11 KV SS Regalla.

Erection of proposed line may increase the cultivation to the farmers with 24 hours uninterrupted electricity and also provide an option for developing new industries which creates employment. Hence, proposed for conversion of electric lines.

The extent of forest land required is as follows:

Division	Block Name	Length in	Width in	Area in Ha
name		Mts	Mts	
Kinnerasani	Chinthavarri	881.26	2.4	0.2115

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Bison, Tiger, Panther, Jungle Cat, Small Indian Civet, Palm Civet, Wild Dog, Sloth Bear, Wild Boar, Jackal, Hyena, Indian, Gaint Squirrel, Sambar and Spotted Deer etc.

19 Type of Forest

Southern Dry mixed deciduous forests (5 A/C 3)

20 **Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden**

The State CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. That the user agency will provide Rs.1.745 lakhs for the following activities as part of Wildlife mitigation measures.

SI.	Name of the item	Phy.	Amount
No			
	Habitat improvement work		
a)	Removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFL CA	10 ha	0.528
b)	1 st year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA		0.579
c)	2 nd Year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA	10 ha	0.638
	Total		1.745

- The mitigation amount of Rs.1.745 lakhs shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/c No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
- 3. The proposal works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging flora, Fauna or habitat of wildlife.
- The area under the electric lines shall be planted immediately with dwarf varieties of tree species native to the forests of Telangana such that top pruning may be avoided or reduced in frequency.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- 6. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the sanctuary and carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the sanctuary.
- 8. The debris or waste generated due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the sanctuary every day.
- 9. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area with big pillars to entry point, exit point, at every deviation and every kilometers and small pillars at every 20 meters interval on either side at their own cost in accordance with P Circular no.5/2017 issued by PCCF(HoFF), Telangana.

21 Violation, if any

It is mentioned in Part-III of the proposal that the user agency has informed that, the existing single phase electrical line was provided long back i.e., before 1980.

22 Management Plan

Transmission line is passing through the Kinnerasani wildlife Sanctuary over a length of 881.26 m with a width of 2.40 m. The area under the transmission line shall be maintained as grasslands and on either side of the transmission line low height shrub species shall be planted to harbour smaller mammals and reptiles.

The grasslands are to be raised with the locally available grass species. I4 species of low height shrub/tree species have been identified for plantation like Annona Squamosa, Ximenia Americana, Lawsonia inermis, Vitex negundo, Muntingia calabura, Holorhena antidysentrica, Cassis auriculata, Bixa orellana, Gardenia latifolia, Ixora parviflora, Randia dumatoram, Dodonia viscose, Diospyros chloroxylon, Carissa carandus. In every km 1000 plants shall be planted i.e., 500 plants on each side of the transmission line two meters apart.

Cost of management of grassland along with 1st and 2nd year maintenance is Rs.0.3 lakh/ha. Cost of plantation of the low height shrub species is Rs.1.54 lakhs per km i.e., for 1000 plants. These rates are worked out based on the approved Forest Schedule of Rates (FSR).

Accordingly, the User Agency shall deposit an amount of Rs.1.43 lakhs into the account of the CWLW to implement the management plan. This is in addition to the Wildlife Mitigation measures approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

(Rs.in Lakhs)

				(1101111 = 0111110)
S.	Activity	Unit cost	Phy. (ha or	Fin
No			km)	
1.	Management of grassland along with 2 years of maintenance	0.3/ ha	0.2115	0.064
2.	Plantation of the low height shrub species	1.54/km	0.88126	1.357
Total	• •	-	•	1.421 or 1.430

23 | Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposa	l for use of 0.5921 ha	a of forest land	
'	Name of the Froposal		Kinnerasani Wildlife	Sanctuary for	
			on of existing electrication	•	
		ABC c			
		Tekulapally mandal of Kothagudem District,			
		Telangana.			
			FP/TG/TRANS/6379/2022		
2	Name of the protected area involved	Kinneras	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary		
3	File No.	6-237/20)22 WL		
4	Name of the State	Telanga			
5	Whether proposal is sub-				
	judice				
6	Area of the protected area	640.33 s	sq km		
7(a)	<u> </u>	0.5921 h	na		
	diversion / Denotification				
7(b)	Area so far diverted from	A tot	al three projects	have been	
	the protected area(s)	recomm	nended by the SC-NBV	VL. The details	
			rojects are is tabulated	as below:	
		S.No.	Name of the project	Area diverted	
				(Ha.)	
		1	Laying of water pipe	6.926	
			line segment No.25/7		
			(Banjara)		
		2	Construction of 400	13.57	
			Kv QMDC line		
		3.	Construction of 400	10.5018	
			KV QMDC line		
			Total	30.9978	
<u>L</u>					
8	Status of ESZ if any	Final no	tified on 30th August, 2	2017. The Eco-	
			e Zone is spread ov		
			sq.kms with an extent		
			r to 21 kilometers from		
			ersani Wildlife Sanctua	•	
9			sent proposal is for pr		
	section 29 to the Wild Life				
	(Protection) Act, 1972		sion of existing electrication		
			Bunched (AB) cable	` '	
		conduct		of 3 - phase	
		agricultu			
			ons at Siddaram (V), Te	ekulapally (M) in	
			Iri Kothagudem District.		
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Linear			

12	Willettiet LC Of	btained	No		
_	Name of the	he applica	ant Northern Po	wer Distribution	Company O
	agency			nited(TSNPDCL)	
13	Date of submis		25/05/2022		
14	Total number felled	of tree to	be Nil		
15		•	t he Yes		
	Sanctuary		the		
	diversion prop	osal includ	led		
4.0	or not	tion of Ctots	Dograf for Wild	1:4-	
16	Recommendat	tion of State	Board for Wild	Lite	
	The State Boa held on 27 th Jul		Life recommende	ed the proposal i	n its 5 th meeting
17	Brief justificat	ion on the p	proposal as give	n by the applica	nt agency
	using aerial but phase agricult Tekulapally(M) water grid serv KV line (Ganga 33/11 KV SS B	nched (AB) (tural power in Bhadradi rices, agricul aram feedei	sed for conversi Cable (or) Insulated supply to ST ri Kothagudem di Iture services and r) is length of 40 y.	ted conductor and Habitation at istrict for 24 Hrs d local village, as	d extension of 3- Siddaram (V) power supply to s the existing 11
	hours uninterru industries whic electric lines.	pted electric ch creates e	nay increase the city and also provemployment. Here	vide an option for nce, proposed fo	developing new
	hours uninterru industries whic electric lines.	pted electric ch creates e	city and also provemployment. Here quired is as follow ne Length	vide an option for nce, proposed fo	developing new or conversion of
	hours uninterrulindustries whice electric lines. The extent of for Division name	pted electric ch creates e prest land rec	city and also provemployment. Her quired is as follow me	vide an option for nce, proposed fo vs: in Width in Mts	developing new or conversion of
	hours uninterrulindustries whice electric lines. The extent of form	pted electric ch creates e	city and also provemployment. Here quired is as follow ne Length	vide an option for nce, proposed fo vs: in Width in Mts	developing new or conversion of
18	hours uninterruindustries whice electric lines. The extent of for Division name Kinnerasani	pted electric ch creates e prest land rec Block Nar Siddaram	city and also provemployment. Here quired is as follow ne Length Mts 2467.26	vide an option for nce, proposed for vs: in Width in Mts 2.4	developing new or conversion of
18	hours uninterruindustries whice electric lines. The extent of for Division name Kinnerasani Rare and enda Kinnersani Wild Small Indian Comments	pred electrices of creates of cre	city and also provemployment. Her quired is as follow me	vide an option for nce, proposed for vs: in Width in Mts 2.4 e area ison, Tiger, Pant, Sloth Bear, Wi	developing new or conversion of Area in Ha 0.5921 ther, Jungle Cat
18	hours uninterruindustries whice electric lines. The extent of for Division name Kinnerasani Rare and enda Kinnersani Wild Small Indian Comments	pred electrices of creates of cre	city and also provemployment. Here quired is as follow me	vide an option for nce, proposed for vs: in Width in Mts 2.4 e area ison, Tiger, Pant, Sloth Bear, Wi	developing new or conversion of Area in Ha 0.5921 ther, Jungle Cat
	hours uninterruindustries whice electric lines. The extent of formal distriction name. Kinnerasani Rare and endate Kinnersani Wildersani Wildersani Undian Company Indian, Type of Forest	pred electrices of creates of cre	city and also provemployment. Here quired is as follow me Length Mts 2467.26 ecies found in the ary is home to B Civet, Wild Dog el, Sambar and S	vide an option for nce, proposed for ws: in Width in Mts 2.4 e area ison, Tiger, Pant, Sloth Bear, Wispotted Deer etc.	developing new or conversion of Area in Ha 0.5921 ther, Jungle Cat
19	hours uninterruindustries whice electric lines. The extent of formal distriction name. Kinnerasani Rare and endate of the small Indian of the hyena, Indian, Type of Forest Southern Dry mandant indian of the hyena of the hye	pred electrices of creates of cre	city and also provemployment. Here quired is as follow me	vide an option for nce, proposed for ws: in Width in Mts 2.4 e area ison, Tiger, Pant, Sloth Bear, Wispotted Deer etc.	developing new or conversion of Area in Ha 0.5921 ther, Jungle Cat
	hours uninterruindustries whice electric lines. The extent of formal distriction name. Kinnerasani Rare and endate Kinnersani Wildersani Wildersani Undian Company Indian, Type of Forest	pred electrices of creates of cre	city and also provemployment. Here quired is as follow me	vide an option for nce, proposed for ws: in Width in Mts 2.4 e area ison, Tiger, Pant, Sloth Bear, Wispotted Deer etc.	developing new or conversion of Area in Ha 0.5921 ther, Jungle Cat
19	hours uninterruindustries whice electric lines. The extent of formal distriction name. Kinnerasani Rare and endate Kinnersani Wild Small Indian Control Hyena, Indian, Type of Forest Southern Dry mopinion of the second secon	pred electrices of creates of cre	city and also provemployment. Here quired is as follow me	in Width in Mts 2.4 e area ison, Tiger, Pant, Sloth Bear, Wispotted Deer etc.	Area in Ha 0.5921 ther, Jungle Catellid Boar, Jackal

activities as part of Wildlife mitigation measures.

SI.	Name of the item	Phy.	Amount
No			
ı	Habitat improvement work		
a)	Removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFL CA	25 ha	1.318
b)	1st year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA	25 Ha	1.449
c)	2 nd Year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA	25 ha	1.595
	Total		4.362

- The mitigation amount of Rs.4.362 lakhs shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/c No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
- 3. The proposal works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging flora, Fauna or habitat of wildlife.
- 4. The area under the electric lines shall be planted immediately with dwarf varieties of tree species native to the forests of Telangana such that top pruning may be avoided or reduced in frequency.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- 6. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the sanctuary and carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the sanctuary.
- 8. The debris or waste generated due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the sanctuary every day.
- 9. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area with big pillars to entry point, exit point, at every deviation and every kilometers and small pillars at every 20 meters interval on either side at their own cost in accordance with Circular no.5/2017 issued by PCCF(HoFF), Telangana.

21 Violation, if any

It is mentioned in Part-III of the proposal that the user agency has informed that, the existing single phase electrical line was provided long back i.e., before 1980.

22 Management Plan

Transmission line is passing through the Kinnerasani wildlife Sanctuary over a length of 2467.26 m with a width of 2.40 m. The area under the transmission line shall be maintained as grasslands and on either side of the transmission line low height shrub species shall be planted to harbour smaller mammals and reptiles.

The grasslands are to be raised with the locally available grass species. It species of low height shrub/tree species have been identified for plantation like Annona Squamosa, Ximenia Americana, Lawsonia inermis, Vitex negundo, Muntingia calabura, Holorhena antidysentrica, Cassis auriculata, Bixa orellana, Gardenia latifolia, Ixora parviflora, Randia dumatoram, Dodonia viscose, Diospyros chloroxylon, Carissa carandus. In every km 1000 plants shall be planted i.e., 500 plants on each side of the transmission line two meters apart.

Cost of management of grassland along with 1st and 2nd year maintenance is Rs.0.3 lakh/ha. Cost of plantation of the low height shrub species is Rs.1.54 lakhs per km i.e., for 1000 plants. These rates are worked out based on the approved Forest Schedule of Rates (FSR).

Accordingly, the User Agency shall deposit an amount of Rs.4.00 lakhs into the account of the CWLW to implement the management plan. This is in addition to the Wildlife Mitigation measures approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

(Rs.in Lakhs)

S. No	Activity	Unit cost	Phy. (ha or km)	Fin
1.	Management of grassland along with 2 years of maintenance	0.3/ ha	0.5921	0.178
2.	Plantation of the low height shrub species	1.54/km	2.46726	3.800
Total				3.978 or 4.00

23 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

Name of the Proposal Name of the protected area involved	Proposal for use of 0.6759 ha of forest land from Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for conversion of existing electrical lines using by ABC cable at Singaram and Kothasingaram to ST Habitation, Telangana. FP/TG/TRANS/6383/2022 Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary
3 File No.	6-238/2022 WL
4 Name of the State	Telangana
5 Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice
6 Area of the protected area	640.33 sq km
7(a) Area proposed for diversion Denotification	/0.6759 ha
7(b) Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	A total three projects have been recommended by the SC-NBWL. The details of the projects are is tabulated as below:
	S.No. Name of the Area project diverted (Ha.)
	1 Laying of water pipe 6.926 line segment No.25/7 (Banjara)
	2 Construction of 400 13.57 Kv QMDC line
	3. Construction of 400 10.5018 KV QMDC line
	Total 30.9978
8 Status of ESZ if any	Final notified on 30 th August, 2017. The Eco-sensitive Zone is spread over an area of 1449.44 sq.kms with an extent varying from 1 kilometer to 21 kilometers from the boundary of the Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary.
	The present proposal is for prior approval for diversion of 0.6759 Ha of the Forest Land under F (C) Act, 1980 for the purpose of "Conversion of existing electrical lines by using Aerial Bunched (AB) cable (or) insulated conductor and extension of 3 - phase agriculture power supply to 2 Nos. ST Habitations at Singaram & Kothasingaram(V), Allapalli (M) in in Bhadradri Kothagudem District. Linear

11	Whether EC obtained	No
12		Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (TSNPDCL)
13	Date of submission	11/07/2022
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 5th meeting held on 27th July, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The present proposal is for prior approval for diversion of 0.6759 Ha of the forest land under F(C) Act 1980 for the purpose of "Conversion of existing electrical lines by using Aerial Bunched (AB) cable (or) insulated conductor and extension of 3 - phase agriculture power supply to 2 Nos. ST Habitations at Singaram & Kothagudem district.

The electrical (11 KV) line requires a length of 2816.2 Mts with the width of 2.4 Mts. Hence the forest area proposed for diversion is 0.6759 ha in Kothagudem division of Bhadradri Kothagudem Circle.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Bison, Tiger, Panther, Jungle Cat, Small Indian Civet, Palm Civet, Wild Dog, Sloth Bear, Wild Boar, Jackal, Hyena, Indian, Gaint Squirrel, Sambar and Spotted Deer etc.

19 Type of Forest

Southern Dry mixed deciduous forests (5 A/C 3)

20 Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden

The State CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. That the user agency will provide Rs.5.2341 lakhs for the following activities as part of Wildlife mitigation measures.

SI.	Name of the item	Phy.	Amount
No			
I	Habitat improvement work		
a)	Removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFL CA	30 ha	1.5813
b)	1st year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA		1.7394
c)	2 nd Year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA		1.9134

Total	5.2341	
-------	--------	--

- The mitigation amount of Rs.5.2341 lakhs shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/c No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
- 3. The proposal works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging flora, Fauna or habitat of wildlife.
- The area under the electric lines shall be planted immediately with dwarf varieties of tree species native to the forests of Telangana such that top pruning may be avoided or reduced in frequency.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- 6. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the sanctuary and carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the sanctuary.
- 8. The debris or waste generated due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the sanctuary every day.
- 9. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area with big pillars to entry point, exit point, at every deviation and every kilometers and small pillars at every 20 meters interval on either side at their own cost in accordance with Circular no.5/2017 issued by PCCF(HoFF), Telangana.

21 Violation, if any

It is mentioned in Part-III of the proposal that the user agency has informed that, the existing single phase electrical line was provided long back i.e., before 1980.

22 Management Plan

Transmission line is passing through the Kinnerasani wildlife Sanctuary over a length of 2816.2 m with a width of 2.40 m. The area under the transmission line shall be maintained as grasslands and on either side of the transmission line low height shrub species shall be planted to harbour smaller mammals and reptiles.

The grasslands are to be raised with the locally available grass species. I4 species of low height shrub/tree species have been identified for plantation like Annona Squamosa, Ximenia Americana, Lawsonia inermis, Vitex negundo, Muntingia calabura, Holorhena antidysentrica, Cassis auriculata, Bixa orellana, Gardenia latifolia, Ixora parviflora, Randia dumatoram, Dodonia viscose, Diospyros chloroxylon, Carissa carandus. In every km 1000 plants shall be planted i.e., 500 plants on each side of the transmission line two meters apart.

Cost of management of grassland along with 1st and 2nd year maintenance is Rs.0.3 lakh/ha. Cost of plantation of the low height shrub species is Rs.1.54 lakhs per km i.e., for 1000 plants. These rates are worked out based on the approved Forest Schedule of Rates (FSR).

Accordingly, the User Agency shall deposit an amount of Rs.4.54 lakhs into the account of the CWLW to implement the management plan. This is in addition to the Wildlife Mitigation measures approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

(Rs.in Lakhs)

S. No	Activity	Unit cost	Phy. (ha or km)	Fin
1.	Management of grassland along with 2 years of maintenance	0.3/ ha	0.6759	0.203
2.	Plantation of the low height shrub species	1.54/km	2.8162	4.337
Total				4.54

23 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

1	Name of the Proposal	Dropos	ed for use of 0.4909 be of	forcet land	
'	Name of the Proposal		Proposal for use of 0.4898 ha of forest land from Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary for		
				•	
		conversion of existing electrical line by using ABC lines for Thipagutta Habitation,			
			ndri Kothagudem District, Te		
		Dilaura	dan Romagudem District, Te	aligalia.	
			/TRANS/6612/2022		
	•	Kinner	asani Wildlife Sanctuary		
	involved				
			2022 WL		
	Name of the State	Telang			
	Whether proposal is sub-judice		Not sub-judice		
6	Area of the protected area	640.33	sq km		
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion /	0.4898	ha		
	Denotification				
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the	A to	otal three projects ha	ave been	
	protected area(s)	recom	mended by the SC-NBWL.	The details	
			projects are is tabulated as		
		S.No.	Name of the project	Area	
				diverted	
				(Ha.)	
		1	Laying of water pipe line	6.926	
			segment No.25/7		
			(Banjara)		
		2	Construction of 400 Kv	13.57	
			QMDC line		
		3.	Construction of 400 KV	10.5018	
			QMDC line		
			Total	30.9978	
8	Status of ESZ if any	Final n	otified on 30th August, 201	7. The Eco-	
			ve Zone is spread over a		
			4 sq.kms with an extent var	, ,	
			ter to 21 kilometers from the	•	
		of the Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary.			
			esent proposal is for prior a		
			on of 0.4898 ha for the		
	(Protection) Act, 1972		ersion of existing electrication		
		using Aerial Bunched (AB) cable (or)			
		insulated conductor and extension of 3-			
		phase agriculture power supply to 2 Nos. ST			
		Habitations at Thippagutta (V),			
		Laxmidevipally (M) in in Bhadradri			
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Kothagudem District".			
		No Northern Power Distribution Company of			
12	Name of the applicant agency Northern Power Distribution Company of				

		Telangana Limited (TSNPDCL)
13	Date of submission	11/07/2022
	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 5th meeting held on 27th July, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The present proposal is for prior approval for diversion of 0.4898 Ha of the forest land under F(C) Act 1980 for the purpose of "Conversion of existing electrical lines by using Aerial Bunched (AB) cable (or) insulated conductor and extension of 3-phase agriculture power supply to ST Habitations at Thippagutta (V), Laxmidevipally (M) in Bhadradri Kothagudem district".

The electrical (11 KV) line requires a length of 2040.83 Mts with the width of 2.4 Mts. Hence the forest area proposed for diversion is 0.4898 ha in Kothagudem division of Bhadradri Kothagudem Circle.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Bison, Tiger, Panther, Jungle Cat, Small Indian Civet, Palm Civet, Wild Dog, Sloth Bear, Wild Boar, Jackal, Hyena, Indian, Gaint Squirrel, Sambar and Spotted Deer etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Southern Dry mixed deciduous forests (5 A/C 3)

20 Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden

The State CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. That the user agency will provide Rs.3.488 lakhs for the following activities as part of Wildlife mitigation measures.

SI. No	Name of the item	Phy.	Amount (in lakhs)
I	Habitat improvement work		,
a)	Removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFL CA	20 ha	1.054
b)	1 st year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA	20 Ha	1.159
c)	2 nd Year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA	25 ha	1.275

Total 3.488

- The mitigation amount of Rs.3.488 lakhs shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/c No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
- 3. The proposal works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging flora, Fauna or habitat of wildlife.
- 4. The area under the electric lines shall be planted immediately with dwarf varieties of tree species native to the forests of Telangana such that top pruning may be avoided or reduced in frequency.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- 6. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the sanctuary and carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the sanctuary.
- 8. The debris or waste generated due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the sanctuary every day.
- 9. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area with big pillars to entry point, exit point, at every deviation and every kilometers and small pillars at every 20 meters interval on either side at their own cost in accordance with Circular no.5/2017 issued by PCCF(HoFF), Telangana.

21 Violation, if any

It is mentioned in Part-III of the proposal that the user agency has informed that, the existing single phase electrical line was provided long back i.e., before 1980.

22 Management Plan

Transmission line is passing through the Kinnerasani wildlife Sanctuary over a length of 2040.83 m with a width of 2.40 m. The area under the transmission line shall be maintained as grasslands and on either side of the transmission line low height shrub species shall be planted to harbour smaller mammals and reptiles.

The grasslands are to be raised with the locally available grass species. It species of low height shrub/tree species have been identified for plantation like Annona Squamosa, Ximenia Americana, Lawsonia inermis, Vitex negundo, Muntingia calabura, Holorhena antidysentrica, Cassis auriculata, Bixa orellana, Gardenia latifolia, Ixora parviflora, Randia dumatoram, Dodonia viscose, Diospyros chloroxylon, Carissa carandus. In every km 1000 plants shall be planted i.e., 500 plants on each side of the transmission line two meters apart.

Cost of management of grassland along with 1st and 2nd year maintenance is Rs.0.3 lakh/ha. Cost of plantation of the low height shrub species is Rs.1.54 lakhs per km i.e., for 1000 plants. These rates are worked out based on the approved Forest Schedule of Rates (FSR).

Accordingly, the User Agency shall deposit an amount of Rs.3.30 lakhs into the account of the CWLW to implement the management plan. This is in addition to

the Wildlife Mitigation measures approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

(Rs.in Lakhs)

S. No	Activity	Unit cost	Phy. (ha or km)	Fin
1.	Management of grassland along with 2 years of maintenance	0.3/ ha	0.4898	0.147
2.	Plantation of the low height shrub species	1.54/km	2.04083	3.143
Tota	ıl			3.29 or 3.30

23 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

		from Kin conversion ABC cabl supply to Allampally District Te	RANS/155864/2022	inctuary for ine by using phase power labitation in
	Name of the protected area involved	Kinnerasa	ani Wildlife Sanctuary	
3	File No.	6-243/202	22 WL	
4	Name of the State	Telangana	a	
	judice	Not sub-ju	udice	
	•	640.33 sq		
. ,	Area proposed for diversion / Denotification			
` '	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	recomme	I three projects hended by the SC-NBWL pjects are is tabulated as	
		S.No. Na 1 Lay	me of the project	Area diverted (Ha.)
		(Ba	anjara) onstruction of 400 Kv MDC line	13.57
		Q۱	onstruction of 400 KV MDC line	
		10	tal	30.9978
		sensitive of1449.44 1 kilome boundary	fied on 30th August, 20° Zone is spread over sq.kms with an extent eter to 21 kilometers of the Kinnersani Wildlift and prepagal is for prior	er an area varying from the e Sanctuary.
9	section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	diversion of electric (AB) Cab corridor Bhadradri of "Conve	cal lines using 11 KV ae ole/Insulator conductor of falling in Kinnersani is Kothgudem district for ersion of existing electrial Bunched (AB) cable (rial Bunched with 2.4 Mts Division in the purpose ical lines by

		agriculture power supply to 2 Nos. ST Habitations at Pedda Venkatapuram (V), Allapalli (M) in in Bhadradri Kothagudem District".
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	<u> </u>	Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited, (TSNPDCL)
13	· ·	26/05/2022
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 5th meeting held on 27th July, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The TSNPDCL has approved for conversion of existing electrical lines by using Aerial Bunched (AB) Cable (or) Insulated conductor and extension of 3-phase agriculture power supply to ST Habitation at Pedda Venkatapuram (V), Allapalli (M) in Bhadradri Kothagudem district for 24 hrs supply to water grid services, agriculture services and local village, as the existing 11 KV line (Ramanjagudem feeder) is length of 12.0 KM which is emanating from 33/11 KV SS Allapalli.

Erection of proposed line may increase the cultivation to the farmers with 24 hrs uninterrupted electricity and also provide an option for developing new industries which creates employment. Hence, proposed for conversion of electrical lines.

The extent of forest land required is as follows:

Division	Block Name	Length in	Width	Area in
Name		Mts	in Mts	Ha
Kinnersani	Pedda Venkatapuram	5851.29	2.4	1.4043

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Bison, Tiger, Panther, Jungle Cat, Small Indian Civet, Palm Civet, Wild Dog, Sloth Bear, Wild Boar, Jackal, Hyena, Indian, Gaint Squirrel, Sambar and Spotted Deer etc.

19 Type of Forest

Southern Dry mixed deciduous forests (5 A/C 3)

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to the

following conditions:

1. That the user agency will provide Rs.10.468 lakhs for the following activities as part of Wildlife mitigation measures:

SI. No	Name of the item	Phy.	Amount
ı	Habitat improvement work		
a)	Removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFL CA	60 ha	3.163
b)	1st year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA	60 Ha	3.478
c)	2 nd Year maintenance of removal of obnoxious weed within vicinity of DFLCA	60 ha	3.827
	Total		10.468

- The mitigation amount of Rs.10.468 lakhs shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/c No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
- 3. The proposal works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging flora, Fauna or habitat of wildlife.
- 4. The area under the electric lines shall be planted immediately with dwarf varieties of tree species native to the forests of Telangana such that top pruning may be avoided or reduced in frequency.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- 6. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the sanctuary and carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the sanctuary.
- 8. The debris or waste generated due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the sanctuary every day.
- 9. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area with big pillars to entry point, exit point, at every deviation and every kilometers and small pillars at every 20 meters interval on either side at their own cost in accordance with Circular no.5/2017 issued by PCCF(HoFF), Telangana.

21 Management Plan

Transmission line is passing through the Kinnerasani wildlife Sanctuary over a length of 5851.29 m with a width of 2.40 m. The area under the transmission line shall be maintained as grasslands and on either side of the transmission line low height shrub species shall be planted to harbour smaller mammals and reptiles.

The grasslands are to be raised with the locally available grass species. I4 species of low height shrub/tree species have been identified for plantation like Annona Squamosa, Kimenia Americana, Lawsonia inermis, VVitex negundo, Muntingia calabura, Holorhena antidysentrica, Cassis auriculata,

Bixa orellana, Gardenia latifolia, Ixora parviflora, Randia dumatoram, Dodonia viscose, Diospyros chloroxylon, Carissa carandus. In every km 1000 plants shall be planted i.e., 500 plants on each side of the transmission line two meters apart. Cost of management of grassland along with 1st and 2nd year maintenance is Rs.0.3 lakh/ha. Cost of plantation of the low height shrub species is Rs.1.54 lakhs per km i.e., for 1000 plants. These rates are worked out based on the approved Forest Schedule of Rates (FSR).

Accordingly, the User Agency shall deposit an amount of Rs.9.45 lakhs into the account of the CWLW to implement the management plan.

(Rs.in Lakhs)

S. No	Activity	Unit cost	Phy. (ha or km)	Fin
1.	Management of grassland along with 2 years of maintenance	0.3/ ha	1.4043	0.422
2.	Plantation of the low height shrub species	1.54/km	5.85129	9.011
Total				9.433 or 9.45

22 Violation, if any

It is mentioned in Part-III of the proposal that the user agency has informed that, the existing single phase electrical line was provided long back i.e., before 1980.

23 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

1	Name of the Proposal	froi in FD exi: roa Nir	m Kawa Khanapu PT Divis sting road Id to All mal and A	use of 5. I Tiger I division Sion) for I and wide Adilabad d	Reserve and 2.7 improvening of of Kada listrict, T	e (2.34) 8 ha in ement road froam Mai	85 ha Utnoor of the om R&B ndal in
2	Name of the protected area involved	Ka	wal Tiger	Reserve			
3	File No.	6-1	37/2022	WL			
4	Name of the State	Tel	angana				
5	Whether proposal is sub- judice		t sub-judi	ce			
6	Area of the protected area	892	2.23 squa	re kilomet	res		
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / Denotification						
. ,	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)						
8	Status of ESZ if any		aft notifie pired.	ed on 12	th Marc	h, 2018	B. Now
9	Specific comments w.r.t. section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	pro wid div	posed to Ith and a ision wise	area of the	k toppe e road ows:	d. The to be d	length, diverted
				Name of	_		Area
		No	of circle			in	in Ha.
		_		Division			
			Kawal tiger Reserve	Khanapur	3355	7	2.3485
		2.	Adilabad	Utnoor (FDPT)	6950	4	2.78
			Total		10305		5.1285
		BT hea the the exis rec No pro div	road of avy dama interior I impact sting roa commende felling of oject area ersion a	or (FDPT) 7.00 me ge to Bio- ocation of of the roa d width o ed. trees is in a for dive area is d does no	eters wi diversity f the roa ad on b of 4.00 avolved i ersion. unavoi	dth will and in and, to mile and, to mile and, to mile and	cause view of ninimize sity the is only coposed parest

		There might be certain impact of the proposed project on wildlife habitat of the area like causing disturbance to wildlife and habitat increased smuggling of Teak timber, increase fire incidence and road kills. Hence, to minimize any sort of negative impact on Wildlife, Wildlife mitigation measures along with Animal Passage Plan are being proposed.
10		Linear
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Name of the applicant agency	Panchayat Raj Engineering Department
13	Date of submission	10/05/2021
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 3rd meeting held on 7th September, 2021 with the following suggestions:

- The maximum vehicular speed on the above roads shall be prescribed as 30 kmph and it shall be e ensured that this is implemented strictly and speed breakers include at regular intervals on the road stretches in forest areas.
- Movement of vehicles shall be restricted during the night hours from 9.00 PM to 6.00 AM to avoid accidental death of animals and minimize disturbance to wildlife habitat.
- Dense grass and low height shrubs shall be planted on either side of the under pass in bell shape with chain link fence of size 8 x 8" x 10 gauge to create a natural ambience and facilitate movement of reptiles through the fence.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The Government of India has decided to provide connectivity to interior unconnected tribal villages with all weather roads for uplift of tribal villages under Pradhana Manthri Grama Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) programme.

Accordingly, Panchayathi Raj department prepared and submitted the proposals for "R/F R&B Road to Allampally of Kaddam (M)" of Nirmal District of Telangana for a length of 10190 mtrs.

The above road is passing through many interior tribal villages like Allampally-569, Gurammadira-91, Gangannapet-42, Chintagudem-97, Chintagudem Lambadi Tanda-80 Baba Naik Tanda-176, Kasiram Tanda-99, Addala Timmapur-52, Mangalsingh Tanda-263. Dattojipet-137, Palaregadi-69, Meesalabumannagudem-49. This road is also useful for public of many villages in Khanapur Mandal to reach the Mandal headquarters as well as District Head Quarters.

This road very essential to make Black topping. The people of above villages deprived of essential needs such as medical, educational, marketing facilities etc. due to unconnectivity to mandal headquarters and important villages. Improvement of these roads provides connectivity to mandal headquarters district headquarters by which people get access to medical, educational, cultural, marketing facilities etc. It is very use full to the Forest Department to transport their needs in the season. There is no alternative route is found to improve as the above villages are located in reserve forest and wild life sanctuary. This is the only way created very long back by local tribal for their transport by walking.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kawal Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, leopard, gaur, cheetal, sambar, barking deer, chowsingha and sloth bear etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Based on the revised classification of forest by Champion and Seth, the following two types of forest are found in these areas:

- i. 5A/C1b-Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest-Dry Teak Forest.
- ii. 5A/C3-Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest-Southern Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to User Agency complying with the following conditions:

- 1. As per the specifications issued by WII a minimum of two passage ways per Km length of the infrastructure with a minimum of 30.00 m width and 3.00 m height shall be incorporated in animal passage plan.
- Therefore, the User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct underpasses at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to attract movement of wild animals.
- 4. The FDO, Khanapur has suggested 7 locations for construction of underpasses. Further, the FDO, Utnoor (FDPT) has informed that the existing culverts shall be converted to animal passage ways. Apart from the existing culverts, nalas and depressions on existing roads shall be converted into animal passage ways which will be enable the wild animals to cross the road without using the BT surface. The User Agency shall construct the under passes at locations specified by FDO,

- Khanapur and Utnoor following the WII guidelines.
- 5. The user agency has to install Chainlink on either side of the passages on both side of the road to a length of 100.00 meters.
- The user agency shall construct check post with the required infrastructure as desired by the concerned FDO at R&B Allampally junction.
- The user agency shall install speed control devices at every 500.00
 meters with proper sign boards at animal crossing points identified by
 the FDO at R&B Allampally junction.
- The user agency shall install speed control devices at every 500.00 meters with proper sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
- 9. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/FDPT, KTR and CCF/CF, Adilabad is approved for Rs.80.014 lakhs.

(Rs.in lakh)

SI. No	Name of the item Unit Cost		•		Utnoor Division	
			Qty.	Financial	Qty.	Financial
1.	Erection of check gates	0.12	5 No	0.60	5 No	0.60
2.	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)		0	0.00	5 ha	2.00
3	Raising of Fodder plots with chainlink	2.60	2 ha	5.20	2 ha	5.20
4.	Borewell with solar pump set	6.00	1 No	6.00	1 No	6.00
5.	Formation of Percolation tanks	1.00	2 No	2.00	2 No	2.00
6	Procurement of camera traps for monitoring wild animals		10 No	2.50	10 No	2.50
7	Installation of large hoarding and sign boards to propagate the needs for the conservation of flora and fauna of the area		1 No	1.00	1 No	1.00
8		0.25	2 No	0.50	2 No	0.50

	programme for Wildlife					
9	Procurement of fire fighting equipments	LS	LS	1.00	LS	1.00
10	Engaging of Anti- poaching cum fire watchers 5x10115x12=606900 per year (3 years)		5 No	18.207	5 No	18.207
11	Administrative cost	LS	LS	2.00	LS	2.00
Total			39.007		41.007	
Gran	d Total				80.0	14

- 10. The work shall be carried out only between 9.00 AM to 5.00 PM without disturbing/damaging the flora and fauna of the area.
- 11. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
- 12. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
- 13. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest conservation Act or Wildlife (Protection) Act during the execution of work.
- 14. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
- 15. The mitigation amount of Rs.80.014 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.

21 Animal Passage Plan

Animal Passage Plan has been submitted by the User Agency is placed at Annexure- **XLIV**

22 Violation, if any

The User Agency has not violated the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 or Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

23 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-7/2023-NTCA dated 10th March, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- 1. Telangana Forest Department has proposed 7 animal passages in Khanapur and 16 animal passages in Utnoor each with a length of 30 m and 2.75 m height in Khanapur and 50 m length and 5 m height in Utnoor over a road length of 3.355 km in Khanapur and 6.95 km in Utnoor. Since the landscape has presence of tiger and gaur, the minimum height of the underpasses should be of 4 m adhering to WII's guidelines.
- 2. As proposed by Telangana Forest Department, chain link fencing

- should be done by the user agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funnelling wildlife through the animal passages.
- 3. The animal passages should be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures should, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
- 4. User Agency should ensure that no drainage is blocked by desilting the existing water passageways and additional culvert(s) for passage of water may be provided wherever applicable. Box and pipe culverts need to be placed at additional places (wherever possible) permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Details of these structures may be adopted from WII guidelines on linear infrastructures and placement of these structures should be decided in consultation with forest department.
- 5. The remaining portion of the road should be provided with speed breakers/rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Speed breakers and rumble strips should be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed by the user agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.
- Construction work should be during daytime and no night camp of labours and contractor / user agency officials inside the forest should be allowed.
- 7. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by user agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
- Attempt should be made to keep tree felling minimal inside the Tiger Reserve.
- CWLW, Telangana should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.

24 | Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

1.	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 3.412 ha of forest land (1.819 ha area falling in core area of Kawal Tiger Reserve and 1.593 ha area falling in buffer area of Kawal Tiger Reserve) for construction of BT road from Govena to Jambuldhara from Km 0/0 to 9/400 via Sidamguda, Nagaguda and Maraguda villages of Lingapur Mandal, Tiryani and Kawal RFs of Asifabad Forest Division of KB Asifabad district, Telangana. FP/TG/ROAD/119263/2021
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kawal Tiger Reserve
3	File No.	6-154/2022 WL
4	Name of the State	Telangana
5	Whether proposal is subjudice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	892.23 sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/Denotification	3.412 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	The following 9 drinking water projects belonging to Telangana drinking water supply project (TDWSP) were approved by the SC-NBWL in KB Asifabad district of Kawal Tiger Reserve till date. SI. Name of the Area diverted in Ha No Segment 1 22/9-Asifabad 0.903 2 22/17- 17.4145 Powerguda 3 22/8-Wankidi 3.655 4 22/5-Dahegoan 0.22 5 22/15-Dhanora 1.073 6 22/1-Kowtala 4.714 7 22/2-Bejjur 3.876 8 22/3-Sirpur 4.684 9 22/4- 2.425 Khagaznagar Total area diverted 38.9645 All the drinking water supply related diversion projects aim at supplying drinking water to

		Gram Panchayat and Municipalities through distribution pipelines in an optimized manner which will improve the health and living standards of the people of the area. There might be certain impacts in terms of increased biotic pressure which may lead to habitat destruction. These are addressed through a wildlife mitigation plan funded by the user agency including planting of low height shrubs for sheltering smaller mammals and reptiles. It is mentioned that no projects of R&B department have been sanctioned by the SC-NBWL in the district of Komaram Bheem Asifabad falling in Kawal Tiger Reserve
8	Status of ESZ, if any	Draft notified on 12th March, 2018. The extent of Eco-sensitive Zone varies from 0.25 kilometre to 1 kilometre around the Kawal Tiger Reserve.
9	Specific comments w.r.t section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	This is a cart track (Shown in the SOI topo sheet No.56M/3 and 56M/4 surveyed in the year 1975-76) which is proposed to be black topped. The total length of the road is 6204.90 m (3307.80 m passing through core area and 2897.10 m passing through the buffer area of the Kawal Tiger Reserve) with a width of 5.50 m. Felling of 16 no.of trees and 3 no.of poles is involved in the proposed project area for diversion. There will be certain impact of the proposed project on wildlife habitat of the area due to its fragmentation. Hence, to mitigate any sort of impact on wildlife, Wildlife mitigation measures along with Animal Passage Plan is
10	Whether project	being proposed. Linear
11	linear/non-linear Whether EC obtained	No
12	Date of submission by user agency	11/1/2021
13	Name of the applicant agency	Roads and Buildings Department
14	Total number of tree to be felled	16 no. of trees and 3 no. of poles
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 4th meeting held on 24th February, 2022 with the following suggestions:

- The maximum vehicular speed on the above roads shall be prescribed as 30 kmph and it shall be ensured that this is implemented strictly and speed breakers are laid at regular intervals on the road stretches in forest areas.
- Movement of vehicles shall be restricted during the night hours from 9.00 PM to 6.00 AM to avoid accidental death of animals and minimize disturbance to wildlife habitat.
- Provision of Salt Licks and Saucer pits nearer to the under passes would ensure the usage of the under pass by the Wild animals.
- Regular monitoring of the movement of Wildlife near the under passes can be ensured by installing camera traps in the under passes.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The Government of Telangana State has decided for construction of BT road from Govena to Jambuldhara from km 0/0 to 9/400 via Sidamguda, Nagaguda and Maraguda village of Lingapur Mandal of Lingapur Mandal of Kumaram Bheem Asifabad district. The Govt.vide GO Rt.No.200, Transports, Roads & Buildings (R.I) dept proposals of 2019-20, dated 14.05.2020 has approved administrative sanction for laying of BT and maintenance of roads under LWE(RCPLWE) Batch-I scheme". The proposed project is one among them. Cost of the proposed road is sanctioned under this scheme is around Rs.9.63 crores.

The existing road is passing through forest reach to a length of 6204.89 mts and width of 7.50 mts proposed from moved to Chorpalli village to the mandal head quarters of Lingapur Mandal. These villages has population about 450 in numbers. It is also an important road connecting these villages to the Lingapur Mandal Headquarter enrooting number of interior villages, and also vehicular movement for transportation of goods.

As per the DGPS survey authentication report, the extent of area passing in the Reserve Forest Area is 4.654 ha (Length-6204.86 mts, Width-7.50 mts).

As there is no alternative to that of construction of BT road, proposal is being furnished for diversion of forest land.

The details of forest area required are as follows:

Division Name		9	Width in Mts	Area in Ha
Asifabad	Tiryani, Kawal RF	6204.89	7.50	4.654

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kawal Tiger Reserve is home to Tiger, Leopard, Gaur, Cheetal, Sambar, Barking deer, Chowsingha and Sloth bear etc.

19 Type of Forest

The Kawal Tiger Reserve has Southern Tropical dry deciduous Forests-Dry Teak forests and Southern Tropical dry deciduous Forests-Southern dry mixed deciduous Forests

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to User Agency complying with the following conditions:

- 1. As per the specifications issued by WII a minimum of two passage ways per Km length of the infrastructure with a minimum of 30.00 m width and 3.00 m height shall be incorporated in animal passage plan.
- 2. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct twelve(12) under passes six (06) each in core and buffer area of the tiger reserve as per the dimensions and at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- 3. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to facilitate movement of wild animals.
- 4. Chain link fencing shall be installed for a length of 100 m on either side of the underpasses on either side of the road which shall be periodically maintained by the User Agency.
- 5. The user agency shall install speed control devices with proper caution sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.
- 6. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/CF, Adilabad is

SI. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty.	Amt.
1	Engaging animal trackers (5 No. for 3 years @ 9,000 per month per person)	0.09 per month per person	5 No.	16.20
2	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road along with chain link fencing for 50 m on either side of the check gate to curb movement of domestic animals and tresspassers		10 No	4.50
3	Construction of solar powered percolation tank along with drilling of borewell.		1 No	6.00
4	Integrated camping site-creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two Solar Powered Borewells (cost Rs.3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site		2 No	40.00

Tota	al			100.00
15	Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure	As per actual	LS	1.80
14	9	LS	LS	2.00
13	Engaging fire watchers (5 No.for 3 years @9,000 month per person for five months in a year)	•	5 No	6.75
12	Creation of fire lines and maintenance for 3 years	•		3.75
11	3 1 3	0.25 each	4 No	1.00
10	Installation of large hoardings	1.00 each	2 No	2.00
9	Procurement of equipment like GPS, binoculars etc., to monitor wildlife	LS	LS	1.00
8	Development of approach path each to the integrated camping facility.	LS	LS	1.00
7	Procurement of camera traps	0.25 each	4 Nos	1.00
6	Raising of fodder plots with chain link fencing	2.50 per ha	2 ha	5.00
	obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)			
5	Management of Grasslands by uprooting		20 ha	8.00

- 7. The works shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing /damaging flora, fauna of the area.
- 8. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.
- 9. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
- 10. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
- 11. There shall be no violation of FCA Act or Wildlife (Protection) Act, during the execution of work.
- 12. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
- 13. The mitigation amount of Rs.100.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of
- 14. Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.

21 Animal Passage Plan

Animal Passage Plan has been submitted by the User Agency which is placed at **Annexure- XLV**

A total of 12 underpasses have been proposed (6 each in core and buffer areas).

22 Violation, if any

It has been mentioned in the proposal that the User Agency has not violated any provision of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

23 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-1/2023-NTCA dated 27th February, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- 1. Telangana Forest Department has already proposed 12 animal passages (6 in core and 6 in buffer), each of length of 30 m and height of 3 m along the stretch of the road passing through the forest for which widening has been proposed. Since the landscape has presence of tiger and gaur, the minimum height for proposed animal underpasses should be made 4 m.
- 2. As proposed by Telangana Forest Department, chain link fencing should be done by the user agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funnelling wildlife through the animal passages.
- 3. The animal passages should be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
- 4. User Agency should ensure that no drainage is blocked by desilting the existing water passageways and additional culvert(s) for passage of water may be provided wherever applicable. Box and pipe culverts need to be placed at additional places (wherever possible) permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Details of these structures may be adopted from WII guidelines on linear infrastructures and placement of these structures should be decided in consultation with forest department.
- 5. The remaining portion of the road should be provided with speed breakers and rumble strips at every interval of 500 meters. Speed breakers and rumble strips should be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed by the user agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These should be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.
- 6. The User Agency should ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures should be done by the project proponent.
- 7. User Agency shall construct a forest check post along the road at the junction between core and buffer of the Tiger Reserve. The check post should be manned for 24X7 to monitor vehicular movement. Attempt should be made to regulate night traffic inside the core of the Tiger Reserve.
- 8. Construction work should be during daytime and no night camp of labours and contractor/ user agency officials inside the forest should be allowed.

- 9. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by user agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
- 10. User Agency should ensure that the construction period is kept minimal.
- 11.CWLW, Telangana should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.

24 Comments of the Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal

1	Name of the Proposal	land fr corridor execution division District Corpora	al for use of 3.4692 om Kawal Tiger R and ESZ for laying on of T-Fiber Project of Komarambhed in favour of Telanga ation Limited. OFC/145010/2021	eserve, Tiger g of OFC for ct in Asifabad em Asifabad
			iger Reserve	
	File No.	WL-6/3	8/2023-WL	
4	Name of the State	Telanga	ana	
	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub		
		892.23		
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / Denotification	3.4692		
	protected area(s)	by the SC-NBWL in KB Asifabad district of Kawal Tiger Reserve till date. The following 9 drinking water projects belonging to Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project (TDWSP) and three more projects belonging to Railways, National Highway, Transmission lines were approved by the NBWL: Drinking Water Projects:		
			Segment	Area diverted in Ha.
				0.903
			22/17-Powerguda	17.4145
				3.655
			<u> </u>	0.22
		.	22/15-Dhanora	1.073
				4.714
			22/2-Bejjur	3.876
			22/3-Sirpur	4.684
			22/4-Khagaznar rea diverted	2.425 38.9645
		Other p	projects:	

			Name of Proposal		Area diverted in Ha.
		10	Third BG railway lalong the exist track	line	21.2642
			NH-363 fr Mancherial Chandrapur	to	5.7414
		12	Warangal (New) 7 KV [Transmission line	ool, 765 D/C	
			Total Area Diverte	d	30.1198
	Status of ESZ if any	extent 0.25 ki Kawal	otified on 12th Notes of Eco-sensitive of Iconetre to 1 kilor Figer Reserve.	Zon meti	e varies from re around the
		nThe proposed area for diversion is falling in Core, Buffer Corridor, Eco-sensitive Zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve. The OFC IS passing through Marlawai, Bheempur, Maniagarh West, Chorpally, Kawai, Tiryani, Ryali, Chopdi, Dhanora, Girelli RFs over a length of 77093 meters with a width of 0.45 meters and an area of 3.4692 ha. The area of OFC falling in core, buffer, corridor, Eco-Sensitive Zone of Kawal Tiger Reserve is tabulated as under:			
		SI. No	Status	,	Area(Ha)
		1 (Core area		0.0535
			Buffer Area		1.3664
			Corridor area		0.2079
			Eco-sensitive zone Total		1.8414 3.4692
		No felli propose barest availab OFC d notifica meters Tiger C RF.	ng of tree growth ed area for diversion minimum with le. Further, the oes not have right tion except for a and area of 0.05 corridor areas pass	n is on is no who ht o len 513	involved. The sunavoidable, alternatives ole stretch of way as per egth of 1140.7
10	Whether linear / non-linear	Linear			

11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Name of the applicant agency	Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited
13	Date of submission	07/07/2022
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and	Yes
	the diversion proposal included	
	or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 5th meeting held on 27th July, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

Telangana Fiber Grid (T-Fiber) is envisioned to establish a state-of-the-art network infrastructure to facilitate the realization of 'Digital Telangana' objective. T-Fiber provides infrastructure for affordable and high-speed broadband connectivity and Digital services to "10 zones (33 Districts), 589 Mandals, 12,751 Gram Panchayats, 10,128 villages, 83.58 lakh households and more than 3.5 Cr people"

T-Fiber will provide various services to the government departments. The following are some of the services that will provide by T-fiber.

High Speed intranet: T-fiber will provide high speed data to connect departments internally.

High speed internet: T-fiber will provide high speed connectivity to web, mail & messaging services. T-fiber will ensure that there is no requirement for a separate mail server.

Data center services: Availability of cloud storage and development kits for creating and hosting applications.

Security & encryption: T-fiber will prevent from cyber-attacks, ransom ware, spyware etc.

Smart content services: T-fiber will provide high definition content streaming services.

Such a strong IT establishment will give a strong boost to multiple Economic activities including creation of employment for the youth, development of opportunities for IT export, increase in productivity through use of automation etc. Further with ever increasing number of government services moving to cyber space and internet becoming the new medium of connectivity between citizens and government, a robust IT eco-system will enable people to use these services in a seamless and hassle-free manner.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kawal Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, leopard, gaur, cheetal, sambar, barking deer, chowsingha and sloth bear etc.

19 Type of Forest

Based on the revised classification of forest by Champion and Seth, the

following two types of forest are found in these areas:

5A/C1b-Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest-Dry Teak Forest.

5A/C3-Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest-Southern Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. That the user agency will provide Rs.28.00 lakh for the following activities as part of Wildlife mitigation measures:

(Rs in lakh)

			(Rs.in lakh)		
SI. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty	Amt.	
1.	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)		10 ha	4.00	
2.	Construction of Percolation tank	1.00 each	2 No.	2.00	
3.	Engaging Animal trackers for monitoring tiger movement for 2 years	month	3 Nos	6.48	
4.	Procurement of cameras traps for wildlife monitoring	0.25 each	20 Nos.	5.00	
5.	Procurement of fire fighting equipments	LS	LS	2.00	
6.		1.00 each	3 No	3.00	
7.	Conducting awareness programmes	0.25 each	4 No.	1.00	
8.	Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering to road along with chain link fencing for 50 m on either side of the check gate to curb movement of domestic animals and trespassers		2 Nos	0.90	
9.	Procurement of wireless network system	LS	LS	2.00	

Administrative cost & As per actuals unforeseen expenditure	LS	1.62
Total		28.00

- 2. The mitigation amount of Rs.28.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/c No.110310100030284, IFSC code UBIN0811033.
- 3. The proposed works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging Flora, Fauna or habitat of Wildlife.
- 4. The trench excavated for laying OFC shall be covered immediately and the topsoil consolidated to prevent erosion on day to day basis.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the Tiger Reserve. As and when required they should be carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the Tiger Reserve during the execution of the work.
- 8. The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Tiger Reserve on day-to-day basis.
- 9. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meter interval at their own cost.

21 Mitigation Plan

Details of mitigation measures are given below:

SI. No	Item of works	Units	Qty.	Rate	Amount (Rs.in lakhs)
I	Wildlife protection				
1	Tiger monitoring for Special Squad Team(vehicle)(1 No@15.00 Lakhs)		1	15.00	15.000
2	Anti-poaching squad for tiger monitoring for special squad (3 Nos xRs:9000/-x12 months=3.240 lakhs per year) for protection and conservation of Wildlife		1	3.24	3.240
3	Forest and Wildlife Protection through check posts	Nos.	1	4.00	4.000
H	Habitat Improvement measures				
1	Formation of Percolation Tanks	Nos	2	1.00	2.000
2	Construction of saucer pits	Nos	5	0.10	0.500
Ш	Monitoring of wildlife				
1	Procurement of camera tramps for monitoring wild animals		5	0.30	1.500
2	Procurement of batteries,	Nos	20	0.03	0.600

	memory cards etc for camera traps				
3	Maintenance of Vehicles incl. POL of staff engaged in wildlife monitoring		3	1.00	3.000
4	Procurement of wireless networking system includes walkie talkies satellite phones for monitoring of wildlife for non-covering net-work area with maintenance		10	0.20	2.000
IV	Publicity & awareness and Eco Development activities				
1	Installation of hoarding and sign boards to propagate the needs for the conservation of flora and fauna of the area		5	0.300	1.500
2	Setting up of regulatory sign boards on speed limits and wild animals crossing zones @Rs.0.60 per each		5	0.300	1.500
3	Conducting of awareness programme for wildlife	Nos.	6	0.250	1.500
V	Fire management				
1	Procurement of fire blowers @Rs.0.60	Nos.	1	0.600	0.600
2	Procurement of firefighting equipments like shoes, glouse, helpmates, spades, crowbars fire beaters etc., @Rs.		LS		1.680
	Total				38.620

22 Violation, if any

No violations of provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 occurred and will not be allowed to having in the area except then that can be approved.

23 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-12/2023-NTCA dated 20th April, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- No construction material should be procured from within the forest. The OFC should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the user agency.
- 2. The construction work should be done in between sunrise and sunset and no labor camp should be allowed inside the forested areas at nights. The

- user agency shall ensure that no labor trespasses inside the forests apart from the construction site.
- 3. No tree shall be felled during laying of underground OFC.

24 Comments of Ministry

Though the proposal has been submitted for use of 3.4692 over a length of 77093.53 m, only 1.6278 ha falling within core and buffer area of the tiger reserve and tiger corridor area requires consideration by the Standing Committee as the balance areas falls within default ESZ and the project does not require Environment Clearance.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

B. PROPOSAL FALLING OUTSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-271/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 5.6901 ha of forest land in corridor area linking Kawal Tiger Reserve and Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve for erection of 33 KV interlinking transmission line at Sulugupally village in Bejjur Mandal of Kumarambheem Asifabad district, Telangana. FP/TG/TRANS/146646/2021
2.	WL-6/39/2023- WL	Proposal for use of 1.8584 ha of forest land from tiger corridor landscape in between Kawal, Tadoba and Indravati for laying of OFC along the road within the existing RoW for execution of T-Fiber Project in Kagaznagar division of Komarambheem Asifabad District in favour of Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited. FP/TG/OFC/145452/2021
3.	WL-6/42/2023- WL	Proposal for construction of four lane access controlled New Greenfield Highway from Mancherial Warangal section of NH-163G under Nagpur-Vijaywada Corridor in the state of Telangana under Intercorridor route of Bharatmala Pariyojana. FP/TG/ROAD/6336/2022

1 Name of the Proposal	corridor Tadoba	I for use of 5.6901 ha area linking Kawal Tig Andheri Tiger Reserve for	er Reserve and erection of 33 KV	
		ng transmission line at S ır Mandal of Kumaram		
	,,,	Telangana.	znoom nomasaa	
	ED#O#	TD A NO./4 400 40/0004		
2 Name of the protected	+	RANS/146646/2021	or Bosonia and	
2 Name of the protected area involved		Andheri Tiger Reserve	ei Keseive allu	
3 File No.	6-271/20			
4 Name of the State	Telanga	na		
5 Whether proposal is subjudice	Not sub-judice			
	Kawal Tiger Reserve – 892.23 sq.km			
area	Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve – 625.40 sq.km r5.6901 ha			
7(a) Area proposed for diversion / Denotification	5.69011	la		
	n A total of 12 projects have been approved by the			
the protected area(s)	SC-NBWL in KB Asifabad district of Kawal Tiger			
	Reserve till date.			
	The following 0 drinking water projects belonging to			
	The following 9 drinking water projects belonging to Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project (TDWSP)			
		ee more projects belong		
	National			
	approve	d by the NBWL:		
	Drinking	Water Projects:		
	S. No	1	Area diverted in Ha.	
	1	22/9-Asifabad	0.903	
	2	22/17-Powerguda	17.4145	
	3	22/8-Wankidi	3.655	
	4	22/5-Dahegaon	0.22	
	5 6	22/15-Dhanora 22/1-Kowtala	1.073 4.714	
	7	22/2-Bejjur	3.876	
	8	22/3-Sirpur	4.684	
	9 22/4-Khagaznar 2.425			
	Total Area diverted 38.9645			
	Other pr	<u></u>		
	S. No	Name of the Proposal	Area diverted in Ha.	
		<u> </u>		
	10	Third BG railway line along the existing track	21.2642	

		11 NH-363 from Mancherial 5.7414 to Chandrapur				
		12 Construction of Warora 3.1142 Pool, Warangal (New) 765 KV D/C Transmission line				
		Total Area Diverted 30.1198				
8	Status of ESZ if any	Kawal Tiger Reserve - draft notified on 12 th March, 2018. Now expired. Revised proposal yet to be received from the State Government. Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve – Final notified on 11.09.2019 extending for a distance from 3 km to 16km from the boundary of the tiger reserve over an				
9	Specific comments wrt	area of 1346.61 sq.km. The proposed project for erection of 33 KV interlink				
		line for 24 hours uninterrupted power supply,				
	(Protection) Act, 1972	provides 24 hours supply to water grid services and				
	, ,	also provide an option for developing new industries				
		which creates employment, impact of the project				
		would be fragmenting of habitat but mitigative				
10	Whether linear/non-linear	measures will normalize the impacts.				
	Whether EC obtained	No				
12		Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited				
13	Date of submission	12/09/2021				
	Total number of tree to be felled	1474				
15		Yes				
	Sanctuary and the					
	diversion proposal included or not					
	Recommendation of State	Board for Wild Life				
	The State Board for Wild Lit on 27 th July, 2022.	fe recommended the proposal in its 5 th meeting held				
17	Brief justification on the n	roposal as given by the applicant agency				

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The TSNPDCL has proposed for erection of 33 KV Inter Link line facilities at Sulugupally village in Bejjur (M) of Komarambheem Asifabad for 24 Hrs supply to water grid services, agriculture services and local village, as the existing 33 KV line in length of 170 KM which is emanating from 132 KV SS Easgaon, due to lengthy line, frequently power interruption is occurring.

Erection of proposed line may increase the cultivation to the farmers with 24 hours uninterrupted electricity and also provide an option for developing new industries which creates employment. Hence, proposed for erection of 33 KV line.

The extent of forest land required is as follows:

Division Name	Block Name	Length in Mts	Width in Mts	Area in Ha
Kagaznagar	Bejjur	3793.38	15	5.6901

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kawal Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, leopard, gaur,cheetal, sambar, barking deer, chowsingha and sloth bear etc.

19 Type of Forest

Based on the revised classification of forest by champion and Seth, the following three types of forest are found in this areas.

- i. 5AC1b-Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest-Dry Teak Forest.
- ii. 5A/C3-Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous forest-Southern Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest.
- iii. 5D/SI-Dry Deciduous Scrub

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to following conditions:

1. That the user agency will provide Rs.15.60 lakh for developing natural grass lands/meadows below the. power transmission lines as under:-

(Rs.in lakh)

SI. No	Component	Units	Unit cost	Financial target
I	Wildlife Protection			
1	Anti-Poaching Squad 5*24*9000/	(1 Units-5 Nos) x 2 year		10.80
2	Hiring of vehicle	24 months	20000	4.80
	Total			15.60

- The mitigation amount of Rs.15.60 lakhs shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing Ne No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
- 3. The proposed works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging Flora, Fauna or habitat of wildlife.
- The area under the electric lines shall be planted immediately with dwarf varieties of tree species native to the forests of Telangana such that Lop pruning may be avoided or reduced in frequency.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- 6. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the Tiger Reserve and carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the Tiger Reserve.
- 8. The debris or waste generated due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Tiger Reserve everyday.

9. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area with big pillars at entry point, exit point, at every deviation and every kilometer and small pillars at every 20 meters interval on either side at their own cost in accordance with Circular no 5/201 7 issued by PCCF (HOFF) Telangana.

21 Animal Passage Plan

It is submitted that, the proposal is for erection of 33 KV passage transmission line which is at a height of 9.5 m. In view of the height of the transmission line, an animal passage plan will not required. However, bird deflectors shall be installed by the User Agency while installing the transmission line.

22 Management Plan for the area below transmission line

This transmission line is passing through the corridor of Kawal Tiger reserve over a length of 3793.38 m with a width of 15.00 m. The area under the transmission line shall be maintained as grasslands and on either side of the transmission line low height shrub species shall be planted to harbour smaller mammals and reptiles.

The grasslands are to **be** raised with the locally available grass species. 14 species of low height shrub/tree species have been identified for plantation like Annona Squamosa, Ximenia Americana, Lawsonia inermis, Vitex negundo, Muntingiacalabura, Holorhena antidysentrica, Cassis auriculata, Bixa Orellana Gardenia latifolia, Ixora parviflora, Randia dumatoram, Dodonia viscose, Diospyros chloroxylon, Carissa carandus. In every km 1000 plants shall be planted i.e., 500 plants on each side of the transmission line two meters apart.

Cost of management of grassland along with 1st and 2nd year maintenance is Rs.0.3 lakh/ha. Cost of plantation of the low height shrub species is Rs.1.54 lakhs per km i.e., for 1000 plants. These rates are worked out based on the approved Forest Schedule of Rates (FSR).

Accordingly, the User Agency shall deposit an amount of Rs.7.55 lakhs into the account of the CWLW to implement the management plan. This is in addition to the Wildlife Mitigation measures approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden in Part IV of the Wildlife format at the time of recommending the proposal.

S.No	Activity	Unit cost	Phy (ha or km)	Fin (Rs. In Lakhs
1	Management of grassland along with 2 years of maintenance	0.3/ha	5.69	1.704
2	Plantation of the low heightshrub species	1.54/ km	3.794	5.843
Total				7.55

23 Violation, if any

No violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been carried out by the User Agency.

24 Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-6/2023-NTCA dated 19th April, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- Insulated cables (aerial bunched cables) based on technical feasibility should be used on the proposed transmission line instead of overhead lines so as to avoid electrocution to avifauna and other arboreal species as well as avoid poaching using electricity.
- 2. Width of the right of the way for the 33 kV DC transmission line on forest land should not be over 15 m as per MoEFCC Guidelines. The alignment of the powerline should be made such that minimum numbers of trees are felled. Any felling/ pollarding/ pruning of trees for allowing electrical clearance/ maintenance should be done with the permission of the Forest Department.
- 3. The plantation of native, palatable species should be actively promoted by the user agency in collaboration with the Forest Department below the powerline. This will not only prevent growth of invasive unpalatable species like but also will provide excellent food for wild ungulates in form of its leaves and fruits.
- No construction work shall be permitted within forest in between sunset and sunrise.
- 5. No construction material (including soil, stones etc.) should be collected from the forest. Construction debris should not be dumped inside the forest areas and they should be transported by the user agency outside the forest area taking due care of air/dust pollution.
- CWLW, Telangana should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

1	Name of the Proposal	from ti Kawal, OFC al for exec division in favou Limited	al for use of 1.8584 ger corridor lands Tadoba and Indra ong the road within cution of T-Fiber Proof Komarambheen ur of Telangana Fiber COFC/145452/2021	cape in between wati for laying of the existing RoW ject in Kagaznagar n Asifabad District
2	Name of the protected	Tiger c	orridor landscape i	n between Kawal
	area involved		eserve, Tadoba And	
		and Ind	ravati Tiger Reserve)
3	File	WL-6/39	9/2023-WL	
	No.			
4	Name of the State	Telanga		
5	Whether proposal is sub- judice		•	
6	Area of the protected area		「iger Reserve - 892. Andhari Tiger Rese	-
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion / Denotification	1.8584	ha	
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	A total of 12 projects have been approved by the SC-NBWL in KB Asifabad district of Kawal Tiger Reserve till date. The following 9 drinking water projects belonging to Telanganan Drinking Water Supply Project (TDWSP) and three more projects belonging to Railways, National Highway, Transmission lines were approved by the NBWL: Drinking Water Projects:		
		S. Name of the Area divert		the Area diverted
		No	Segment	in Ha.
		1	22/9-Asifabad	0.903
		2	22/17-Powerguda	17.4145
		3	22/8-Wankidi	3.655
		4	22/5-Dahegaon	0.22
		5	22/15-Dhanora	1.073
		6	22/1-Kowtala	4.714
		7	22/2-Bejjur	3.876
			22/2-Bejjur 22/3-Sirpur	3.876 4.684

		Total	Area diverted	38.9645		
			Other projects:			
		S. No	Proposal	the Area diverted in Ha.		
		10	Third BG railway along the exist track			
		11	NH-363 fr Mancherial Chandrapur	om 5.7414 to		
		12	Warangal (New) 7 KV D/C Transmiss line	sion		
			Total Area Diverte	d 30.1198		
8	Status of ESZ if any		Tiger Reserve - Dra , 2018 and now expir			
		on 11 3 km	oa Andhari Tiger Re th September, 2019 w to 16 km from the bo we over total area of 13	which extends from oundary of the tiger		
9	section 29 to the W	r.t. The p /ild Corrid Act, OFC Ext.1, Guder 41299	It. The proposed area for diversion is falling in Corridor area of Kawal Tiger Reserve. The OFC is passing through Garlapet, garlapet Ext.1, Achally, Vempally, Kadamba Ext.10, Gudem, Gangapur, Bijjur RFs over a length of 41299.84 meters with a width of 0.45 meters over an area of 1.8584 ha. No felling of tree growth is involved. The proposed area for diversion is unavoidable, barest minimum with no alternatives available. Further, the whole stretch of OFC does not have right of way as per notification except for an area of 0.4926 ha falling in Tiger Corridor areas passing through Achally, Vempally, Gudem, Gangapur RFs.			
		propos bares Furthe have i an are areas				
		on wi Hence wildlife propo		its fragmentation.		
10	Whether linear / no linear	on-Linear	•			

11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Name of the applicant	Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Ltd.
	agency	
13	Date of submission	23/10/2021
14	Total number of tree to	Nil
	be felled	
15	Maps depicting the	Yes
	Sanctuary and the	
	diversion proposal	
	included or not	
16	Recommendation of State	Board for Wild Life
	L	

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 5th meeting held on 27th July, 2022.

- 17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency
 - Telangana Fiber Grid (T-Fiber) is envisioned to establish a state-ofthe-art network infrastructure to facilitate the realization of 'Digital Telangana' objective.
 - T-Fiber provides infrastructure for affordable and high-speed broadband connectivity and Digital services to "10 zones (33 Districts), 589 Mandals, 12,751 Gram Panchayats, 10,128 villages, 83.58 lakh households and more than 3.5 Cr people"
 - T-Fiber will provide various services to the government departments. The following are some of the services that will provide by T-fiber.
 - High Speed intranet: T-fiber will provide high speed data to connect departments internally.
 - High speed internet: T-fiber will provide high speed connectivity to web, mail & messaging services. T-fiber will ensure that there is no requirement for a separate mail server.
 - Data center services: Availability of cloud storage and development kits for creating and hosting applications.
 - Security & encryption: T-fiber will prevent from cyber-attacks, ransom ware, spyware etc.
 - Smart content services: T-fiber will provide high definition content streaming services.
 - Such a strong IT establishment will give a strong boost to multiple Economic activities including creation of employment for the youth, development of opportunities for IT export, increase in productivity through use of automation etc. Further with ever increasing number of government services moving to cyber space and internet becoming the new medium of connectivity between citizens and government, a robust IT eco-system will enable people to use these services in a seamless and hassle-free manner.

Silent Features:

- The State aims to usher in digital democracy through affordable & reliable high-speed broadband connectivity to very household, government, and private institution in Telangana.
- T-Fiber is based on the idea of providing access of infrastructure to different players on a non-discriminatory and non-monopolistic basis where the government will not become a service provider to

- deliver internet services to households and enterprises while different players shall be allowed to provide internet services to households and private enterprises.
- Theis project covers Sirpur T, Kagaznagar, Chintalamunepalli, Bejjur and Penchikapet Mandals.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kawal Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, leopard, gaur, cheetal, sambar, barking deer, chowsingha and sloth bear etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Based on the revised classification of forest by Champion and Seth, the following two types of forest are found in these areas:

- i. 5A/C1b-Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest-Dry Teak Forest.
- ii. 5A/C3-Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest-Southern Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest

20 **Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden**

The State CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. That the user agency will provide Rs.11.00 lakh for the following activities as part of Wildlife mitigation measures:

(Rs.in lakh)

SI. No	Name of the item	Unit Cost	Qty	Amt.
1.	Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years)		5 ha	2.00
2.	Construction of Percolation tank		1 No.	1.00
3.	Engaging Animal trackers for monitoring tiger movement for 2 years	month	3 Nos	3.24
4.	Procurement of cameras traps for wildlife monitoring	_	LS	1.00
5.	Procurement of fire fighting equipments	1.00	1 No	1.00
6.	Installation of large hoardings	1.00 each	1 No	1.00
7.	Conducting awareness programmes	0.25 each	2 No.	0.50

8.	Erection of check 0.	.45 ha each	2 Nos	0.90
	gates to control			
	wildlife entering to			
	road along with chain			
	link fencing for 50 m			
	on either side of the			
	check gate to curb movement of			
	domestic animals and			
	trespassers			
9.	Procurement of LS	S	LS	2.00
	wireless network			
	system			
10.	Administrative cost & A	s per actuals	LS	1.36
	unforeseen			
	expenditure			
	Total			11.00

- 2. The mitigation amount of Rs.11.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/c No.110310100030284, IFSC code UBIN0811033.
- The proposed works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging Flora, Fauna or habitat of Wildlife.
- 4. The trench excavated for laying OFC shall be covered immediately and the topsoil consolidated to prevent erosion on day to day basis.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the Tiger Reserve. As and when required they should be carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the Tiger Reserve during the execution of the work.
- 8. The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Tiger Reserve on day-to-day basis.
- The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meter interval at their own cost.

21 Mitigation Plan

The mitigation measures are proposed to prevent adverse effects of proposed laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road within the existing right of way for execution of T-Fiber project to wildlife both Flora and Fauna of the area and also at the same time improving the water resources and controlling soil and water erosion.

Details of mitigation measures are given below:

	Item of works	Units	Qty.	Amount (Rs.in
No				lakhs)
I	Wildlife protection			

1	Anti-poaching squad for tiger monitoring for special squad (3 Nos xRs:9000/-x12 months=3.240 lakhs per year) for protection and conservation of Wildlife		1	3.240	3.24
2	Forest and Wildlife Protection through check posts		1	4.000	4.00
II	Habitat Improvement measures				
1	Formation of Percolation Tanks	Nos	1	1.000	1.00
2	Construction of saucer pits	Nos	5	0.100	0.50
Ш	Monitoring of wildlife				
1	Procurement of camera tramps for monitoring wild animals		1	0.300	0.30
2	Procurement of batteries, memory cards etc for camera traps		5	0.030	0.15
3	Maintenance of Vehicles incl. POL of staff engaged in wildlife monitoring		1	1.000	1.00
4	Procurement of wireless networking system includes walkie talkies satellite phones for monitoring of wildlife for non-covering net-work area with maintenance		1	0.200	0.20
IV	Publicity & awareness and Eco Development activities				
1	Installation of hoarding and sign boards to propagate the needs for the conservation of flora and fauna of the area		1	0.300	0.30
2	Setting up of regulatory sign boards on speed limits and wild animals crossing zones @Rs.0.60 per each		1	0.300	0.30
3	Conducting of awareness programme for wildlife	Nos.	1	0.250	0.25
٧	Fire management				
1	Procurement of fire	Nos.	1	0.600	0.60

)	blowers @Rs.0.60 Procurement	ofLS	LS	1.10
		_	LS	1.10
	firefighting equipmen			
	like shoes, glous	se,		
	helpmates, spade	es,		
	crowbars fire beaters et			
	@Rs.			
	Total			12.94

22 Violation, if any

No violations of provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 occurred and will not be allowed to having in the area except then that can be approved.

23 Comments of Ministry

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-13/2023- NTCA dated 20th April, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- No construction material should be procured from within the forest. The OFC should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the user agency.
- 2. The construction work should be done in between sunrise and sunset and no labor camp should be allowed inside the forested areas at nights. The user agency shall ensure that no labor trespasses inside the forests apart from the construction site.
- 3. No tree shall be felled during laying of underground OFC.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

(3)

1		Proposal for construction of four lane access controlled New Greenfield Highway from Mancherial Warangal section of NH-163G under Nagpur-Vijaywada Corridor in the state of Telangana under Intercorridor route of Bharatmala Pariyojana. FP/TG/ROAD/6336/2022
2	Name of the protected area involved	
3	File No.	WL-6/42/2023-WL
4	Name of the State	Telangana
5	Whether proposal is sub-	Not sub-judice

	judice]			
6	Area of the protected area	29.8	1 Sq. Kms		
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion /		Division w	ise details of	land
	De-notification	S.	Division	Protected	Project
		no	Name	Area Name	Area
					under
					Non-
					Protected
					Area
		1.	Mancherial	ESZ of	49.3 ha
				Sivaram	
				Wildlife	
				Sanctuary	
		2.	Peddapalli	ESZ of	80.7 ha
				Sivaram	
				Wildlife	
				Sanctuary	
			Total	·	130 ha
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the	NA			
	protected area(s)	<u> </u>		0.441	0 ' 1
8	Status of ESZ, draft/finally notified, if any	Draf	t notified on 2	24th May, 201	8 expired.
9	Specific comments w.r.t.			road projec	
	Section 29/35(6) of the Wild				
	Life (Protection) Act, 1972		•	a length of 1	
				0 Mts in Mand	
				13.910 Km an	
				eddapally dis	
				Sanctuary area	
				in the propose	
				<i>i</i> ill be no on Wildlife (•
		_	•	due to wider	
				likelihood in	•
				which will d	
				Id animals a	
				lar traffic will	
		in hi	gher level of	noise and air	pollution.
			•	pacts can be	•
			•	wildlife mitiga	
		prepa	ared by Fo	orest Departr	nent with
				ser agency	
		-	_	passage at c	_
		locat			sign and
				ribed by WII, [Dehradun.
	Whether project linear/non-	Line	ar		
	linear				
11	Whether project require EC			nder proces	
		⊦.No	.IA/ I G/INTFI	RA1/421775/2	023

12	Name of the applicant	National Highways Authority of India
	agency	
13	Date of submission	12/05/2022
14	Total number of tree to be	NA
	felled	
15	Maps depicting the	Yes
	Sanctuary and the diversion	
	proposal included or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its 6th meeting held on 13th February, 2023.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The project Aims to:

- i. To reduce travel time, fuel requirements and pollution.
- ii. To meet the increased demands of the traffic in the area.

The Government of India, MoRTH (by NHAI) under other economic corridor under NH(O) programme has taken up the "Proposed construction of 4 lane access controlled New Greenfield Highway Section of NH163G from Mancherial to Warangal of length 108.406 km from Narva village to Oorugonda village (Design Chainage 3+834 to 112+240) under other economic corridor under NH(O) scheme in the State of telangana in favour of Project Director, PIU, NHAI, Warangal".

Out of the aforementioned stretch a length of 24.998 km from Ch.14+885 to Ch.39+882 is falling in the 10 Km radius of Eco-Sensitive Zone from Siwaram Wildlife Sanctuary boundary.

The importance of the project is to connect three states viz Maharashtra, Telangana & Andhra Pradesh under Nagpur-Vijawada corridor with faster, efficient and seamless travel of freight and passenger traffic and indirectly connects ports in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu States with central India. The project stretch is part of newly declared NH163G Highway from Mancherial to Vijayawada. This connectivity will help industries in Macherial, Peddapalli, Jayashankar, Bhupalpally, Hanamkonda, Mahabubabad, Khammam and Krishna districts to grown and increase employment opportunities and contribute to the progress of the country and the state.

In addition, this proposed highway will benefit in changing the socioeconomic condition of the people living in the region. Installation of proper road safety system through signage, barricades, crash barriers, noise barrier etc., on project highway will further improve the road safety and minimize human animal conflicts with the fasting moving vehicles on highway. The project will also create direct and indirect employment benefit to the local districts of the States. The indirect benefits include savings in vehicle operating costs, less fuel consumption and decreased cost and time of passenger travel.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Siwaram (Crocodile) Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Indian Flying Fox, Common Langur, Sloth bear, Indian Wild Dog, Indian Fox, Jackal, Spotted deer and Chousingha etc.

19 Type of Forest

Type of forest in Siwaram (Crocodile Wildlife Sanctuary is i) 5A/C1b-Dry Teak Forests and ii) 5A/C3-Southern Tropical Dry mixed deciduous Forests.

In the proposed project area (93) species of trees, (26) species of shrubs, (123) species of herbs, (42) species of grasses, (37) species of climbers, (11) species of Hydrophytes, (4) species of Epiphytes and (31) species of Medicinal plants are found.

The Siwaram (Crocodile) Wildlife Sanctuary is a largely perennial water body of Godavari River with rich aquatic fauna including Crocodiles, Turtles, Mammals, Reptiles, fishes, Amphibians, Birds and invertebrates.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to compliance with the following conditions:

 That the user agency will provide Rs.1052.50 lakh for implementing the wildlife mitigation plan approved by the CWLW consisting of following activities as part of wildlife mitigation measures

(Rs.in lakhs)

SI.	Name of the item	Amt.
No		
Mano	cherial District:	
ı	Habitat Improvement	
1	Erection of solar pumps with PTs for rescued animals	23.100
2	Providing basking sandy platforms and nesting sites along the banks in RF areas adjoining river Godavari.	19.60
3	Providing chain link fence to the basking areas & nesting sites	10.85
II	Wildlife Protection	
1	Construction of watch tower and patrolling shed	15.00
2	Construction of rescue and treatment centre of animals straying out of habitat.	50.00
Ш	Monitoring of wildlife	
1	Camera traps and other equipment for monitoring, inventory of riverine species	15.00

2	Engaging patrolling staffs for river monitoring and rescue release of conflict animals with 5 members	124.31
3	(5x12 months x Rs.0.13 lakh per month for 10 years. Engaging of field biologist for data collection, analysis and documentation during construction and after the completion of the proposed project.	57.37
4	Creation and maintenance of inspection paths for staff and trek paths for staff and trek path for visitors along river bank.	19.20
IV	Publicity, Extension and Education	
1	Research and evaluation on project impact and effectiveness of mitigation measures implemented	6.00
2	Training staff on rescue and rehabilitation of crocodiles and other wildlife	1.50
3	Providing caution & educative sign boards along the roads in ESZ area & sanctuary	5.00
٧	Disaster Management	
1	Procurement of Boat for monitoring riverine species	30.00
2	Procurement of wild animal rescue van and tranquilizing equipment to address man animal conflict	30.00
3	Procurement of crocodile rescue nets, stretchers, rescue tools, transport cages etc.	2.00
4	Engaging drive for rescue van	19.12
VI	Administrative Cost	
1	Computers, printers, stationary for O/o Chief Wildlife Warden office, Aranya Bhavan	20.00
2	Upkeep of district forest office including misc and unforeseen expenditure	
	Total	468.62
	Pedapally district	
I	Habitat Improvement	
1	Erection of solar pump with PTs for rescued animals	11.00
II	Basking ground improvement	
1	Creation of basking platforms and sand banks for nesting, breeding and hatching	30.00
2	Providing boulders for crocodile basking	20.00
III	Wildlife Protection	
1	Construction of watch towers	50.00
IV	Monitoring of Wildlife	
1	Camera traps and other equipments for monitoring, inventory or riverine species, batteries, memory cards etc	15.00

2	Engaging patrolling staff for river monitoring and rescue, release of conflict animals 5 members (5 Nos X12 months X Rs.0.15 lakhs per month for 10 years)	143.44
3	Creation and maintenance of inspection paths and nature trek path for visitors along river bank etc.	30.00
4	Engaging of field biologist for data collection, analysis and documentation during construction and after highway operation. Study of impact of project and mitigation measures	57.375
V	Disaster Management	
1	Procurement of Crocodile rescue nets, sketchers, rescue tools, cages etc	10.00
VI	Construction of DFO office building	90.00
VII	Vehicle for district forest officer	20.00
VIII	Publicity, Extension and education	
VIII 1	Publicity, Extension and education Research and evaluation on project impact	10.00
	•	10.00 5.00
1	Research and evaluation on project impact	
1 2	Research and evaluation on project impact Training on rescue and rehabilitation to staff	5.00
1 2 3	Research and evaluation on project impact Training on rescue and rehabilitation to staff Providing caution boards in ESZ area, Sanctuary Conducting nature camps for students under	5.00
1 2 3 4	Research and evaluation on project impact Training on rescue and rehabilitation to staff Providing caution boards in ESZ area, Sanctuary Conducting nature camps for students under Vanadarshini	5.00 10.00 20.00
1 2 3 4 IX	Research and evaluation on project impact Training on rescue and rehabilitation to staff Providing caution boards in ESZ area, Sanctuary Conducting nature camps for students under Vanadarshini Administrative Cost Computers, Printers, Stationary for Chief Wildlife	5.00 10.00 20.00

Mitigation Plan of Mancherial Dist.- Rs468.62 lakh0

Mitigation Plan for Pedapally dist. - Rs.583.88 lakh

Total-Rs.1052.50 lakh

The above mitigation plan shall be implemented over a period of 10 years commencing 2023-24 till 2032-33. The year wise flow chart of physical and financial targets for the 10 year period is provided in Annexure-I for Mancherial Dist. And Annexure-II for Pedapally dist.

The above amount of Rs.1052.50 lakh shall be deposited by the User agency in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana, UnionBank of India, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad, A/C No.110310100030284, IFS Code UBIN0811033.

Other conditions prescribed are:

1. The user agency shall take up construction of underpasses/eco-

- bridge/elevated road at 2 locations as indicated by the DFO, Pedapally at Adavi Srirampur andRamaiahpally as per the designs and dimensions prescribed by WII, Dehradun to provide safe passage for wild animals and to avoid accidents.
- The user agency shall take up construction of 4 animal underpasses at locations indicated by DFO, Mancherial as per the design and specifications of WII, Dehradun to facilitate safe movement across the proposed NH and to avoid accidents.
- 3. The user agency shall install speed control devices at animal crossing zones and locations shown by the DFOs Mancherial and Pedapply along with caution boards. These devices shall be maintained by the User agency on regular basis.
- 4. The proposed project road works shall be carried out without disturbing or damaging flora, fauna or habitat of the area.
- 5. The air and noise and water pollution shall be kept under control during and after completion of the project.
- 6. Work shall be carried out from 6.00 am to 6.00 pm only.
- 7. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside the ESZ area. As and when required they should be carried to the site during execution of work.
- No labour camp should be established inside the ESZ during the execution of the work.
- 9. The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the ESZ on day-to-day basis.
- 10. The user agency shall install proper road safety system through signage, barricades, crash barriers, noise barriers etc., from the project highway to improve road safety and minimize human animal conflicts.

21 Animal Passage Plan

The project involves construction of 6 major bridges, 26 minor bridges, 157 box culverts, 41 pipe culverts, 23 vehicular underpasses etc. The State Government has proposed 6 animal underpasses with each a span of 30 m and height 5.5 m along the total length of 24.998 km passing within the default ESZ of Sivaram Sanctuary. The closest distance of the road from the sanctuary is 1.5 km as per the DFO. The Mitigation Plan prepared by the Pr.CCF & CWLW is placed as **Annexure**....

22 Violation, if any

No work has been carried out in violation of the Forest Conservation Act and Wildlife Act.

23 Comments of Ministry

The Standing Committee may like to take a view.

TAMIL NADU

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	WL-6/35/2023- WL	Proposal for use of 0.312 ha (Noganur RF 0.042 ha and Panai RF 0.270 ha) of forest land from Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along road side from Anchetty to Denkanikottai for a distance of 10.4 Kms in Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu. FP/TN/Others/30208/2017
2.	WL-6/36/2023- WL	Proposal for use of 0.258 ha of forest land from Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along road side from Dharmapuri-Anchetty State Highway for a distance of 8.6 Kms in Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu. FP/TN/Others/30207/2017

	h	_			/h i				
1	Name of the Proposal		osal for use o						
			na and Panai RF 0.270 ha) of forest land from Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of						
			underground Optical Fiber Cable along road side						
		from Anchetty to Denkanikottai for a distance of							
		10.4 Kms in Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu.							
			N/Others/302						
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Cauv	ery North Wil	ldlife Sanctu	ary				
3	File No.	WL-6	/35/2023-WL	-					
4	Name of the State	Tami	l Nadu						
5	Whether proposal is sub- iudice	Not s	ub-judice						
6	Area of the protected area	504.3	33 sq.km						
7(a)	Area proposed for	0.312	2 ha						
	diversion/Denotification								
7(b)	Area so far diverted from	S.no	Name of	User	Year	Area			
	the protected area(s)		project	Agency		Diverted/			
						Permitted			
						for			
						use(ha.)			
		1.	Diversion of			3.35			
			3.35 ha of	Corporation					
			forest land	of India Ltd,					
			for	Bangalore					
			construction						
		2.	Laying of	Powergrid		9.1904			
				Corporation					
			transmission	,					
			line	Bangalore					
8	Status of ESZ, if any		notified on 1	•					
			sensitive Zo			ter (unifor	,		
			ot area adjoir						
			s 0 (zero) Inamalam r			ilometers	at		
			ery North Wil		lage	around t	he		
9.	Specific comments w.r.t		lestruction, e			moval of a	nnv		
] 3.	section 29 to the Wild Life								
	(Protection) Act, 1972		pected. No						
			uary area an						
		area.	•		 .				
			proposed alig	gnment is a	linea	r project. It	is		
			ng through F	•					
			ery North W						
			g undergroun		•				
		,	sed along	•		` ,			

		Denkanikottai State Highway.
10	Whether project	Linear
	linear/non-linear	
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Date of submission by	25 th January, 2021
	user agency	
13	Name of the applicant	Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited
	agency	-
14	Total number of tree to be	Nil
	felled	
15	Maps depicting the	Yes
	Sanctuary and the	
	diversion proposal	
	included or not	
10	Decemberdation of State F	Poord for Wild Life

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

Proposal was recommended by State Board for Wildlife in its 7th meeting held on 16th November, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The Optical Fibre Cables are always laid along the road side due to easy supervision, quick maintenance and low cost of maintenance. The applicant does not have to acquire land for this project purpose, as the road side land is under the control of State Highway / National Highways Authority of India. However, the land classification is forest land. The area requested for the laying of the Optical Fibre Cable is the minimum considering the requirements and also considering the safety of the cables so laid. Since the telecommunication cables also carry the communication from the Government Offices, Defence & Strategic Establishments and from the different industrial organizations apart from the general public, for the safety and confidentiality of the conversation so made it is not advisable to lay such important cables on the private land belonging to different parties. The cable alignment will be suitably diverted to avoid any cutting of trees and laid within the road land boundary by excavating a narrow trench of 0.30 meters width and up to 1 to 2 meter depth. The same strip of trench will be reinstated to its original condition. It is also intimated that no structure will be erected on the cable route. The area required for the laying of the Optical Fibre Cables is bare minimum which is a part of the protected forest land. The project area does not involve any diversion of forest area in any manner. No alternative was considered as the project is site specific.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary is home to grizzled giant squirrel, four-horned antelope, leopard, elephants, dhole, sloth bear, grey francolin, jungle bush quail, painted bush quail, red spurfowl, grey jungle fowl, Indian peafowl, lesser whistling duck, Indian spot-billed duck and northern shoveler etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- The project proponent shall obtain all other statutory clearance, impact mitigation and wildlife conservation plan of Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary, Google map with GPS coordinates along with Land use pattern map.
- All the material required for the work should be prepared outside the sanctuary.
- 3. No fire places will be created inside the sanctuary.
- 4. The work in the Sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 9 AM to 5 PM.
- No night camping by labour/survey personnel will be allowed inside the sanctuary area.
- 6. Project personnel engaged in the project work shall observe the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and rules made there under.
- 7. The legal status of the land remain unchanged.
- While undertaking the periodical maintenance works if any by the project proponent shall obtain prior approval of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden well in advance.
- 9. The project proponent shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.
- 10. The project proponent (Reliance Jio Infocomm) also should offer facility of free data connection (unlimited 4G and upgraded version then there) to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden office/Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri and Wildlife Warden, Hosur office for facilitating the cause of conservation protection.
- 11. Any other condition stipulated by the Conservator of Forests / Wildlife Warden shall be followed

21 Violation, if any

NΑ

22 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

	Name of the Proposal Name of the protected	Cauv unde from distar Nadu	Proposal for use of 0.258 ha of forest land from Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along road side from Dharmapuri-Anchetty State Highway for a distance of 8.6 Kms in Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu. FP/TN/Others/30207/2017 Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary				
_	Area involved	Oddv	Cry North Wha	ine Garietaary	,		
3	File No.	WL-6	/36/2023-WL				
4	Name of the State	Tamil	Nadu				
	Whether proposal is sub- judice						
6	Area of the protected area	504.3	33 sq.km				
. ,	diversion/Denotification	0.258					
	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	S.no	Name of project	User Agency		Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)	
		1. 2.	Diversion of 3.35 ha of forest land for construction Laying of 765	Bangalore Powergrid	2016 2018	3.35 9.1904	
	0	F: 1	kv S/C transmission line	Corporation of india Ltd, Bangalore	00 T		
8	Status of ESZ, if any	Final notified on 1st January, 2020. The extent of Eco-sensitive Zone is 1 kilometer (uniform) except area adjoining the Karnataka State where it is 0 (zero) and 1.75 kilometers at Chennamalam revenue village around the Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary.					
	-	No destruction, exploitation or removal of any wildlife including forest produce by the applicant is expected. No water will be drawn from the sanctuary area and no water is let into sanctuary area. The proposed alignment is a linear project. It is passing through Anchetty RF, which is part of the Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary. The site for laying underground Optical Fiber cable (OFC) is proposed along the stretches of Dharmapuri-					
			osed along the etty State High		of D	harmapuri-	

10	Whether project	Linear
	linear/non-linear	
11	Whether EC obtained	No
12	Date of submission by	24th January, 2021
	user agency	
13	Name of the applicant	Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited
	agency	
14	Total number of tree to be	Nil
	felled	
15	Maps depicting the	Yes
	Sanctuary and the	
	diversion proposal	
	included or not	

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

Proposal was recommended by State Board for Wild Life in its 7th meeting held on 16th November, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

The Optical Fibre Cables are always laid along the road side due to easy supervision, quick maintenance and low cost of maintenance. The applicant does not have to acquire land for this project purpose, as the road side land is under the control of State Highway / National Highways Authority of India. However, the land classification is forest land. The area requested for the laying of the Optical Fibre Cable is the minimum considering the requirements and also considering the safety of the cables so laid. Since the telecommunication cables also carry the communication from the Government Offices. Defence & Strategic Establishments and from the different industrial organizations apart from the general public, for the safety and confidentiality of the conversation so made it is not advisable to lay such important cables on the private land belonging to different parties. The cable alignment will be suitably diverted to avoid any cutting of trees and laid within the road land boundary by excavating a narrow trench of 0.30 meters width and up to 1 to 2 meter depth. The same strip of trench will be reinstated to its original condition. It is also intimated that no structure will be erected on the cable route. The area required for the laying of the Optical Fibre Cables is bare minimum which is a part of the protected forest land. The project area does not involve any diversion of forest area in any manner. No alternative was considered as the project is site specific.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary is home to grizzled giant squirrel, four-horned antelope, leopard, elephants, dhole, sloth bear, grey francolin, jungle bush quail, painted bush quail, red spurfowl, grey jungle fowl, Indian peafowl, lesser whistling duck, Indian spot-billed duck and northern shoveler etc.

19 Type of Forest

Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- The project proponent shall obtain all other statutory clearance, impact mitigation and wildlife conservation plan of Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary, Google map with GPS coordinates along with Land use pattern map.
- All the material required for the work should be prepared outside the sanctuary.
- 3. No fire places will be created inside the sanctuary.
- 4. The work in the Sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 9 AM to 5 PM.
- 5. No night camping by labour/survey personnel will be allowed inside the sanctuary area.
- 6. Project personnel engaged in the project work shall observe the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and rules made there under.
- 7. The legal status of the land remain unchanged.
- While undertaking the periodical maintenance works if any by the project proponent shall obtain prior approval of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden well in advance.
- The project proponent shall submit an undertaking stating that no disturbance will be caused to the wildlife during project implementation.
- 10. The project proponent (Reliance Jio Infocomm) also should offer facility of free data connection (unlimited 4G and upgraded version then there) to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden office/Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri and Wildlife Warden, Hosur office for facilitating the cause of conservation protection.
- 11. Any other condition stipulated by the Conservator of Forests / Wildlife Warden shall be followed

21 Violation, if any NA

22 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

UTTAR PRADESH

A. PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.		Proposal for use of 15.1577 ha (9.4722 ha forest land + 5.6855 ha of non-forest land) from Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary for widening & strengthening of Patwadh to Basuhari road from km. No. 0.000 to 61.500 under road connectivity project on left wing extremism area (RCPLWEA) in Tehsil:- Robertsganj, district, Sonbhadra under PMGSY, Uttar Pradesh.
		FP/UP/ROAD/59458/2020.

1		Proposal for use of 15.1577 ha (9.4722 ha forest land + 5.6855 ha of non-forest land) from Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary for widening & strengthening of Patwadh to Basuhari road from km. No. 0.000 to 61.500 under road connectivity project on left wing extremism area (RCPLWEA) in Tehsil:- Robertsganj, district, Sonbhadra under PMGSY, Uttar Pradesh. FP/UP/ROAD/59458/2020.						
	Name of the protected Area involved	Kaimu	ır Wild Life Sanctuar	у				
3		WL-6/	/17/2023-WL					
4	Name of the State	Uttar	Pradesh					
	Whether proposal is sub-judice		•					
	Area of the protected area							
	diversion/ Denotification	15.15						
	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	S.no	Name of project	User Agency		Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)		
			400kV D/C Jaunpur Obra Transmission Line	Obra C Badaun Transmission Limited	2021	55.447		
			765 kv Anpara UnnaoTransmission Line		2016	45.132		
			Adwa Baraj Colony to Adwa Baraj approach road	Irrigation & Water Resources Department	2011	1.05		
			Adwa Baraj construction	Irrigation & Water Resources Department	2011	1.92		
		5. Adwa Meja Link Irrigation & 2013 71.97 Canal Water Resources Department						
			Total			175.519		
8	Status of ESZ, if any	Final	notified on 20th Mar	ch, 2017. The	exte	nt of Eco-		

_		,					
		sensitive zone shall be 1 km all around the boundary of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, with an area of 475.102 Sq. Km					
9.	Specific comments	Govt. of U.P. vide its notification No.908/14-3-44-78					
0.	•	Van-3 dated 10.08.1982 declared 50074.00 ha forest					
	Wild Life (Protection)	land as Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, which lies in					
	Act, 1972	district, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra (erstwhile district-					
	,	Mirzapur) for the purpose of protecting, propagating					
		and developing the wildlife and its environment.					
		Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary has rich vegetation having					
		various important species of flora & fauna.					
10	Whether project						
1'0	linear/non-linear	Linear					
11	Whether EC obtained	no					
12	Date of submission	23/11/2020					
	by user agency						
12		PMGSY Division Public Works Department					
13		!					
	agency	Sonebhadra					
14	Total number of tree	89					
	to be felled						
15	Maps depicting	Yes					
'	the diversion						
	proposal included or						
	not						
16	Recommendation of St	ate Board for Wild Life					
	Proposal was recommen	ided by State Board for Wild Life in its 13 th meeting held					
	on 10 th June, 2022.	dod by clate beard for this Ene in ite to meeting here					
47	•	a proposal as given by the applicant arenay					
17	brief justification on th	e proposal as given by the applicant agency					
	Proposed forest land to	be diverted for widening & strengthening of Patwadh to					
		No.0.000 to 20.000 under road connectivity project on					
		(RCPLWEA) in Tehsil Robertsgani, district Sonbhadra					
		,					
	1 -	D. Proposed route passing through the Kaimoor Wildlife					
	Sanctuary situated in Sc	onbhadra district, having forest land area 9.4722 ha and					
	non-forest land area is	5.6855 ha within protected area boundary of wildlife					
	· ·						
	Isanctuary Forest land a	sanctuary. Forest land area is 1.1478 ha and non-forest land area in 1.6945 ha					
1							
	inside eco-sensitive zone	e of Wildlife Sanctuary.					
18	inside eco-sensitive zone						
18	inside eco-sensitive zone	e of Wildlife Sanctuary.					
18	inside eco-sensitive zone Rare and endangered s	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. species found in the area					
18	inside eco-sensitive zone Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. Species found in the area ary is home to Black Bucks, Sloth Bears, Wild Boars,					
	inside eco-sensitive zone Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua Striped Hyena, Sambhar	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. species found in the area					
	inside eco-sensitive zone Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. Species found in the area ary is home to Black Bucks, Sloth Bears, Wild Boars,					
	inside eco-sensitive zone Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua Striped Hyena, Sambhar	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. Species found in the area ary is home to Black Bucks, Sloth Bears, Wild Boars,					
	inside eco-sensitive zone Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua Striped Hyena, Sambhar	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. Species found in the area Bry is home to Black Bucks, Sloth Bears, Wild Boars, Judian Fox, Jackals, Spotted Deer and Chinkara etc.					
19	Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua Striped Hyena, Sambhar Type of forest Tropical dry deciduous for	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. Species found in the area Bry is home to Black Bucks, Sloth Bears, Wild Boars, Judian Fox, Jackals, Spotted Deer and Chinkara etc.					
19	Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua Striped Hyena, Sambhar Type of forest	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. Species found in the area Bry is home to Black Bucks, Sloth Bears, Wild Boars, Judian Fox, Jackals, Spotted Deer and Chinkara etc.					
19	Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua Striped Hyena, Sambhar Type of forest Tropical dry deciduous for Animal Passage Plan	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. Species found in the area Try is home to Black Bucks, Sloth Bears, Wild Boars, Try Indian Fox, Jackals, Spotted Deer and Chinkara etc. Direct					
19	Rare and endangered s Kaimur Wildlife Sanctua Striped Hyena, Sambhar Type of forest Tropical dry deciduous for Animal Passage Plan	e of Wildlife Sanctuary. Species found in the area Bry is home to Black Bucks, Sloth Bears, Wild Boars, Judian Fox, Jackals, Spotted Deer and Chinkara etc.					

21 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged. The user agency will have right only for construction, maintenance and use of the road and the land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- As forest land and trees standing over it are also involved in the project, Forest Clearance as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 will also be required and user agency will be required to comply all conditions stipulated in forest clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.
- 3. Amount of Net Present Value (N.P.V.) shall be paid by the User Agency as per directions issued by Ministry of Environment of Forest (FC Division), New Delhi vide letter No.F.No.5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 for proposed forest land 18.00 ha land within Kaimur WLS and its ESZ.
- 4. The user agency shall provide 2% of the proportionate cost of the project falling inside protected area and eco-sensitive zone for mitigation of negative impact and ecological development of wildlife habitat area as per guidelines of Government of India. This amount will be spent on the mitigation measures within the same protected area.
- 5. The personnel of user agency working on the site should be well aware and shall be bound to follow the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- The user agency will ensure that no labour camp shall be established inside the sanctuary or any other sensitive area in its eco-sensitive zone. Neither firewood nor any other forest produce from the forest will be used.
- 7. The user agency will keep firefighting equipment's as well as equipments for minimizing air and noise pollution at the site.
- During the construction period, the user agency will establish one temporary forest check post along with the required manpower at its own cost.
- 9. User agency will fix sign board at appropriate point of the project.
- 10. Construction waste materials shall not be thrown inside the protected forest area or eco-sensitive zone area or on the movement corridor of Wildlife.
- 11. No work shall be allowed from sunset to sunrise.
- 12. User agency will take all precautions including technical measures to contain the noise and air pollution, protection from fire due **to during construction** activities and shall also obtain consent to operate the project work from U.P. Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
- 13. The project proponent shall undertake plantation/afforestation work by planting the 378 plants of native species in the buffer area of the sanctuary to compensate the felling of 194 trees during the construction of proposed road, for which necessary finance will be provided by the user agency as per the proposal put up by Divisional Forest Officer, Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, Mirzapur after approval of Chief Wild Life Warden.
- 14. User agency shall prepare and submit the Animal Passage Plan.
- 15. Blasted ammunition materials shall not be carried by user agency in

wildlife area.

The above conditions will be ensured by DFO Kaimur Wildlife Division, Mirzapur.

22 Violation, if any

Any complaint about violation of Wildlife Protection act committed by Project proponents is not reported.

23 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

UTTARAKHAND

A.PROPOSAL FALLING INSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal				
1.		Proposal for use of 0.089 ha of forest land from Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Chintal Sthal in Bhimbali and Choti Lincholi, Uttarakhand. WL/UK/Others/416953/2023				

1	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for use of 0.089 ha of forest land from Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Chintal Sthal in Bhimbali and Choti Lincholi, Uttarakhand.					
		WL/UK/Others/416953/2					
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kedarnath Wildlife Sanct	tuary				
3	File no.	WL-6/24/2023-WL					
4	Name of the State	Uttarakhand					
5	Whether proposal is sub-judice	Not sub-judice					
6	Area of the protected area	975.2 sq. Km					
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/ Denotification	0.089 ha					
7(b)	Area so far diverted	10.9266 ha					
	from the protected area(s)	Name of project	Area diverted	Year of diversion			
		Kotma-Chilond foot track route	1.845 ha	1990			
		Anusuya-Atrimuni foot track route	0.3891 ha	1991			
		Pipalkoti-Math-Bimru- Syun-Dumark foot track route	0.314 ha	1997			
		Barsal drinking water supply	0.159	2000			
		Jagasu-Raulaink-Ransi- Gaundar LVMR	0.84 ha	2000			
		Kotma-Jalmalla- Chaumasi motor road	0.81	2002			
		High altitude plant research centre field station		2003			
		Construction of 2 lane motor road with paved shoulders configuration from km 73.600 to km 75.345 (Sonprayag bypass) of NH-109 in the State of Uttarakhand		2020			

		Construction of 775 m conduct bridge) from (Sonprayag) design 75.345 to sundkatiya) km 76.120 (existing km 70.350 to I, 200) of NH-109 (New NH-107) Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand State		2020		
8	Status of ESZ, if any	Draft notification issued Revised proposal is a Government.		•		
9.	section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	In terms of section 29 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, it is relevant to mention here that during the construction phase certain disturbance to wildlife will be very common. But the intensity of disturbance can be minimized by following strictly the prescriptions/condition given in mitigation plan. After the construction phase, the User Agency shall clear all the debris and construction materials from the Protected Area of Wildlife (Protection) act, 1972, is not applicable in Wildlife Sanctuary area.				
10	Whether project linear/non-linear	Non-Linear				
11		NA				
12	Date of submission by user agency	6/02/2023				
13	Name of the applicant agency	Directorate of culture Dehradun, Uttarakhand	MDDA Char	ider Road		
14	Total number of tree to be felled	NA				
	Maps depicting the diversion proposal included or not					
	Proposal was recommended	ed by State Board for Wi	ld Life in its 18	3 th meeting		
	held on 10 th December, 202 Brief justification on the p		applicant age	ency		
	With the construction of Kedarnath, religious travelle travellers will be able to enj	ers visiting there will get ir	nformation abo	ut religious		

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary is home to yellow-throated Marten, leopard, jackal, snow leopard, Himalayan black bear, leopard, wild boar, the Himalayan musk deer, the Royles Mountain Vole and the red giant flying squirrel etc.

19 Type of Forest

9/C1/DS1 (Himalayan Sub-tropical scrub Forest), Upper Temperate 12/C2b (Kharsu Oak Forest), Western Himalayan 14/DS4 and Western Himalayan 15/C3 (alpine Pastures).

20 Mitigation Measures Plan

The following mitigation measures shall be adopted by Regional Archaeological officer Garhwal during execution of the project for protection of forest and wildlife.

- Before start of work in the areas of Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary awareness campaign will be taken up by Regional Archaeological Officer Garhwal in association with Forest Dept. To create maximum awareness among the construction workers regarding safeguard of forest and wildlife.
- User agency shall comply with all conditions stipulated in forest clearance under Forest (Conservation) act, 1980 and in Wild Life Clearance by NBWL.
- The legal status of diverted land shall remain unchanged and the User agency will not transfer this forest land to other any agency.
- Land shall not be used for any other purpose other than specified in the proposal.
- All Rules, Acts and regulation of the concerned department for establishing and running of the project shall be complied by user agency.
- The instruction/orders passed by the State Government/Central Government and the directions passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court/Hon'ble High Court/NGT and direction/guidelines issued by the CWLW of Uttarakhand from time to time regarding such project shall be complied with.
- User Agency will ensure that the project personnel engaged in the project shall follow the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection), 1972 & Rules made thereafter.
- During construction work no tree should be felled.
- Construction waste materials will not be thrown inside the sanctuary and its eco-sensitive zone area or the movement corridor of wildlife.
- No labour camp shall be established in the sanctuary/forest area or other sensitive areas.
- Use of fuel wood for cooking purpose will not be allowed. The user agency will manage alternative energy for their labourers.
- There will be no permission to carry ammunition and explosive inside the sanctuary area.
- 2% amount of project cost will be paid by user agency to forest department for the implementation of wildlife mitigation plan for wildlife protection and wildlife habitat improvement works.

The following activities have to be carried out as mitigation measures:

- Construction of Higher altitude patrolling shelter-approximate cost is Rs.6.00 lac.
- 2. Construction of water holes to provide drinking water for wild animals-approximate cost is Rs.0.50 lac.
- Under the Habitat Improvement activities, eradication of Polygonum and riverine treatment work for construction of vegetative check dams and plantation of fodder, fruit bearing plants and shrubs of local speciesapproximate cost is Rs.5.00 lac.

21 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- No damage to the flora and fauna of the surrounding area shall be caused.
- The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than the specified in the proposal.
- 4. The concerned territorial Divisional Forest Officer, Kedarnath Wildlife Division/Director, NDBR shall monitor the implementation of the project regularly and report for violations, if any.
- 5. It shall be ensured that no labourer camps will be set up inside the forest area.
- 6. The User agency shall comply all the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) act, 1972 and all other acts, Rules, Regulations, guidelines, Hon'ble court order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

22 Violation, if any

The project authority has not committed the violation of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 or Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

23 Comments of Ministry

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 8.2.2023 in the W.P. (C) no. 202 of 1995 has directed that

Until further orders, we restrain the authorities from making any construction within the areas notified as Tiger Reserves and National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

B. PROPOSAL FALLING OUTSIDE PROTECTED AREAS

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	WL-6/18/2023- WL	Proposal for collection/extraction of minor minerals (RBM) i.e. sand, bajri, boulders from a part of Mandakini river bed, area-6.00 ha in favour of Sh.Khusal Singh S/o Sh.Chandra Singh Negi. The proposed site is 7.4 km away from Kedarnath Musk Deer Sanctuary-reg. FP/UK/MIN/5321/2020.

1	•	Proposal for collection/extraction of minor minerals (RBM) i.e. sand, bajri & boulders from part of Madakini river bed, area-0.60 ha, Tehsil-Basukedar, district-Rudraprayag in favour of Sh.Khusal Singh S/o Sh. Chandra Singh Negi. The proposed site is 7.4 km away from the boundary of Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary. FP/UK/MIN/5321/2020					
2	Name of the protected Area involved	Kedarn	ath Wildlife Sa	nctuary			
3		WL-6/1	8/2023-WL				
4	Name of the State	Uttarak					
5	sub-judice		o-judice				
6	Area of the protected area	975.2	·				
7(a)	Area proposed for		Distric	t wise break			
	diversion/ Denotification	S.no	District Name	Project Area under Protected Area(ha.)	Project Area under Non- Protected Area(ha.)		
		1.	Almora	0	0.6		
7(b)	Area so far diverted from						
	the protected area(s)	Name	of project	Area diverted	Year of diversion		
		Kotma- track ro		oot1.845 ha	1990		
		Anusuy track ro	ya-Atrimuni fo oute	ot0.3891 ha	1991		
		Pipalkoti-Math-Bimru- 0.314 ha 1997 Syun-Dumark foot track route					
		Barsal supply	drinking wat	er0.159	2000		
		_	ı-Raulaink- Gaundar LVMF	0.84 ha	2000		
			-Jalmalla- nasi motor road	0.81	2002		
		High	altitude pla	int2.00	2003		

		research centre field station			
		Construction of 2 lane motor road with paved shoulders configuration from km 73.600 to km 75.345 (Sonprayag bypass) of NH-109 in the State of Uttarakhand		2020	
		Construction of 775 m conduct bridge) from (Sonprayag) design 75.345 to sundkatiya) km 76.120 (existing km 70.350 to I, 200) of NH-109 (New NH-107) Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand State		2020	
		Total	10.9266 ha		
8	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Draft notification issue Revised proposal is Government.		•	
9.			a NP/WLS Wild Life Sa	however the anctuary falls	
10		Non-Linear	, ,		
11		EC under Application no. SIA/UK/		process vide 119	
12	Date of submission by user agency				
13	Name of the applicant agency	Nagarsal RBM Projects			
14	Total number of tree to be felled	Nil			
15	Maps depicting the diversion proposal included or not	Yes			
16	Recommendation of State	Board for Wild Life			
	Proposal was recommended by State Board for Wild Life in its 17 th meeting held on 21 st June, 2022.				
17	Brief justification on the pr	roposal as given by the	applicant ag	ency	

Sand, bajri & boulders etc., which flows from the hilly river in rainy season, gets deposited in the bed of the river, due to lack of drainage, the course of the river gets changed and the nearby population becomes a threat. There is an expectation that if the extraction of minor minerals is not done in these areas, then due to continuous accumulation of minor minerals in the foothills of the area, there will be aspiration to change the form of the river and the area of the population located on the banks of the river will be affected by the flood. In the direction of controlling the earth-keeping and water flow on the banks of the river, extraction of sub-minerals deposited in the bed of the river is absolutely necessary.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary is home to Himalayan Brown, Black bear, Himalayan Thar, snow leopard, common leopard, serow, Ghurad, Barshing deer and Blue sheep etc.

19 Type of Forest

9/c1/b(Sub-Tropical Himalayan chir pine forest). 9\C1\DS1(Himalayan sub-Tropical scrub) 12 C1a (Banj oak forest) and 12\C1b(Moru oak forest)

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The State Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- No mining shall be allowed in the area by Khusal Singh which has not been identified in the comprehensive mining plan of the district.
- 2. Replenishment study should be conducted on regular basis by Khusal Singh.
- Mining area shall be identified and put for auction with proper geo-tagged details by Khusal Singh.
- 4. The latitude and longitude of each mining area shall be clearly mentioned in letter of intent issued to Khusal Singh. Such information shall be provided on the website of the district administration.
- There shall be no river bed mining operation allowed in monsoon period Khusal Singh. The period as defined by IMD Nagpur for each state shall be adhered with.
- 6. The monitoring infrastructures including weighbridge and adequate fencing of lease area, CCTV, Transport permits etc, shall be ensured by Khusal Singh in order to reduce recorded dispatch.
- 7. Regular monitoring of mined minerals and its transportation and storage shall be ensured by Khusal Singh and all information shall be captured at centralized database so that easy tracking of illegal material can be done.

21 Violation, if any

No violation of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 or Forest Conservation Act 1980 is recorded.

22 Comments of Ministry

AGENDA No.5

Any other item with the permission of the Chair

ADDITIONAL AGENDA

72.Additional Agenda (Fresh Proposals falling inside / Outside the Protected Area)

S. No.	File No	Name of the Proposal
1.	6-256/2022 WL(pt)	Bangalore-Chennai Expressway Phase-II-Wildlife Proposal for Non-Forest stretch falling within ESZ of Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary in Chittoor District in the state of Andhra Pradesh.
		WL/AP/ROAD/418292/2023
2.	6-112/2022 WL	Proposal for use of 198.3084 of forest land from Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve for development of Economic Corridors, Inter-corridors, feeder routes and Coastal Road to improve the efficiency of freight movement in India (Lot-3/Odisha & Jharkhand/Package-2) Raipur-Vishakhapatnam (Ch.0.000-Ch.124.661) in the State of Chhattisgarh under Bharatmala Pariyojana.
		FP/CG/ROAD/119866/2021
3.	WL-6/40/2023 WL	Proposal for use of 1.3105 ha of forest land from Amrabad Tiger Reserve for laying of OFC along the road within the existing RoW for execution of T-Fiber Project in Nagarjunasagar division of Nalgonda District in favour of Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited.
		FP/TG/OFC/142849/2021.
4.	ATR	Proposal for use of 21.29924 ha from Sultanpur Wildlife Sanctuary for SGT University" (Medical College cum Hospital and Research Institute) at Village-Budhera DistGurugram, Haryana.

1	Name of the Proposal	Bangalore-Chennai Expressway Phase-Il-Wildlife Proposal for Non-Forest stretch falling within ESZ of Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary in Chittoor District in the state of Andhra Pradesh. WL/AP/ROAD/418292/2023
2	Name of the protected	Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary
3	Area involved File No.	6-256/2022 WL (pt)
4	Name of the State	Andhra Pradesh
5	Whether proposal is subjudice	Not sub-judice
6	Area of the protected area	357.63 Sq.km
7(a)	Area proposed for diversion/Denotification	41.5 kms (396.973 ha)
7(b)	Area so far diverted from the protected area(s)	Nil
<u>8</u> 9.	Status of ESZ, if any Specific comments w.r.t	Draft notified on 4 th May, 2022
3.	section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	The proposal for construction of greenfield 4 lane Chennai-Banglore Expressway passes through the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu of which 85 km, passes through Andhra Pradesh of which around 47 km i.e., from km 86.5 to km 135.5 passes through 10 km default ESZ of Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary. This proposal is in addition to clearance of 61.73 ha of forest land in ESZ. The present proposal is for 396.973 ha of non-forest area falling under 10 km default ESZ of KWLS.
10	Whether project linear/non-linear	
11	Whether EC obtained	Yes, EC obtained
12	Date of submission by user agency	
13	Name of the applicant agency	NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF INDIA, PIU-CHITTOOR
14	Total number of tree to be felled	NA
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes
16	Recommendation of State E Proposal was recommende	Board for Wild Life d by State Board for Wild Life through

circulation.

- Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency Bangalore-Chennai Expressway Phase-II Wildlife Proposal for Non-Forest stretch falling within ESZ of Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary in Chittoor District in the state of Andhra Pradesh (WL Proposal No. WL/AP/ROAD/418292/2023) The Government of India has decided to take up about 1000 Km of expressways to facilitate high speed travel under NHDP, Phase-VI. Under this program, Bangalore Chennai Expressway (BCE) has been taken up. The BCE is a Greenfield project which connects Bangalore with Chennai. The project is of high National Importance with the following objectives:
 - To enhance much needed and best form of connectivity to states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu by joining two metropolitan capitals (Bangalore & Chennai).
 - To provide high speed corridor with objective to Reduce the travel time between these two Metropolitan cities.
 - Savings in Vehicle Operation Costs (VOC).
 - To promote Industrial growth in the existing Special Economic Zones of two states.
 - To boost the Commercial and Tourism activities between the Bangalore and Chennai.
 - · It will pass through the business corridor and will be used for transportation of different types of materials like food grains, fruits, vegetables, fertilizers, petroleum, building materials, textiles, household goods, mineral oils, heavy machineries etc. The Proposed BCE alignment has been divided into 3 Phases, Viz. BCE Phase-I, BCE-Phase-II & BCE Phase-III. The proposed BCE Phase-II, for which the application for ESZ Clearance is sought, is a part of Bangalore-Chennai Expressway. The alignment of the project has been carefully selected keeping in consideration of minimum land acquisition, avoiding settlement areas to avoid mass displacement and social impacts, minimizing the impact on Forest, Wildlife and other sensitive natural environmental features avoiding encroachment into the boundary of protected area viz. Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS) and Engineering Feasibility. The Project alignment of BCE Phase-II has to provide continuity between the alignment of BCE Phase-I and Phase-III. The land use and land cover of Chittoor district reflects that there is continuous forest area consisting of a number of Reserved forest pockets and is extended from the central part of the district boundary to the southern boundary of district including Kaundinya Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS) and Rayala Elephant Reserve (RER). The entire boundary of the Notified Protected area of KWLS is avoided. The ESZ boundary of KWLS is yet to be notified therefore, the default ESZ of 10Km in line with directions of supreme court has been considered because of this reason, the project alignment falls in the default ESZ. There are rigged hills situated in an around the proposed project alignment and the forest pockets which create a geographical constrains for the road development. Keeping in view of the above consideration, project

alignment of BCE through the Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of KWLS and Palamner Reserved Forest Area is the only option and is unavoidable. Depending upon the Engineering features and Geographical constrains, the proposed alignment has been finalized in order to keep the diversion of forest area to minimum, avoid the Protected area i.e. KWLS and least interference with the Wildlife. NHAI has already applied for the diversion of 61.73 ha. of Palamner RF land and Tekumanda Ext. RF land and ESZ Clearance for the same forest stretch of 7.1043 Km project section vide proposal no. FP/AP/ROAD/154254/2022. The Stage-I (In-Principle) Clearance for the diversion of above Forest area has been accorded by the IRO (MoEFCC), Vijayawada vide their letter no. 4- APA184/2022-VIJ/577 dated 23.09.2022. The SBWL has already recommended for ESZ Clearance for the project section falling in forest section of ESZ and the proposal is under the consideration with NBWL. The present WL proposal is for seeking recommendation of SC-NBWL for the remaining section of the project falling in default Eco-Sensitive Zone of KWLS other than RF section.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary is home to leopard, jungle cat, hyena, sloth bear, Indian fox, golden jackal, wild dog, wolf, grey mongoose, Small Indian civet, common palm civet, Indian flying fox ,Indian pangolin, Indian porcupine and three-striped palm squirrel etc.

19 Type of Forest

NA

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The Chief Wild Life Warden has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- The proposed area will be utilized only for the purpose for which the user agency has sought, but not for any other commercial purpose.
- The User Agency should inform the commencement of the work to the Concerned DFO. The diversion work will be executed under the supervision of the Forest Department.
- The User Agency should invariably demarcate the proposed land for diversion with any suitable permanent stones/pillars. After demarcation only the works should be commenced.
- The User Agency should not resort to the excavation of the surrounding forest land for collection of the earth to be used. If such excavation is found during the work period or later, the User Agency will be charged with suitable provisions of relevant acts.
- The User Agency shall obey any other conditions stipulated by the Forest Department as per Acts and Rules.
- The User Agency will be solely responsible for every violation which attracts the provisions of A.P. Forest Act and Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

- Wildlife signage boards to be erected in and around the entire project.
- Work shall be carried out only from dawn to dusk.
- No labour camps to be established in the protected area.
- Animal Passage Plan submitted by the User Agency for the Section falling in ESZ of KWLS outside the forest area is subject to the decision on the Committee Report, of consequent to the Committee Visit on 04.03.2023.

21 | Animal Passage Plan

Animal Passage Plan has been submitted by the User Agency.

22 Violation, if any

No violation has been done by the user agency

23 | Comments of Ministry

Proposal for construction of greenfield 4 lane Bangalore-Chennai Expressway Phase-II from Km 71.000 to Km 156.000 falling in Palamaner RF and Tekumanda Extn.RF of Palamaner Beat & range of Chittoor (West) Division which are part of the ESZ of Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary and Rayala Elephant Reserve under Bharatmala in favour of NHAI has been considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in 71st meeting held on 29.12.2022.

The Standing Committee had decided that a committee will be constituted and would carry out site inspection. Ministry vide letter no. 6-256/2022 WL dated 3rd February, 2023 constituted the committee which after carrying out site inspection and meetings submitted its report on 18th April, 2023.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

1	Name of the Proposal	Udan Econd Coast move Jhark (Ch.0 under	ti-Sitanadi T omic Corrido tal Road to ment in hand/Packag	ge-2) Raipur 661) in the State Pariyojana.	development of eeder routes and ciency of freight :-3/Odisha & -Vishakhapatnam
2	Name of the protected area involved	J. Control of the con			
3	File No.	6-112/2022 WL			
4	Name of the State	Chattisgarh			
5	Whether proposal	Not sub-judice			
	is sub-judice				
6	Area of the protected area	1842.54 sq.km			
7(a)	Area proposed for				
	diversion /	Division wise details of land			
	Denotification	S. No	Division Name	Protected Area Name	Project Area under Protected Area
		1.	Dhamtari	Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve	0
		2.	Kanker	Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve	100.416
		3.	Keshkal Forest Division	Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve	97.8924
					198.3084

7(b)		4.29 Ha		
diverted from the protected area(s)		Name of the	Area diverted	Year of
	protected area(3)	project		diversion
		Laying of	0.510 ha	2006-2007
		reliance telecom		
		optical Fibre		
		Cable in Sitanadi		
		Wildlife		
		Sanctuary	4.00.1	2222 2227
		Laying of	1.00 ha	2006-2007
		reliance telecom		
		optical fibre cable from		
		Manpur to Devbhog		
		Laying of Optical	2 780 ha	2007-2008
		Fiber for Bharat	2.700 Ha	2007-2000
		Sanchar Nigam		
		Limited from		
		Manpur to		
		Devbhog		
		Construction of	26.876 ha	2016
		132 KB DCSS		
		Nagri-Indagaon		
		Transmission		
		line (Proposal		
		No.FP/CG/Trans		
		/22047/2016		
8	Status of ESZ if	Revised proposal has been forwarded to WII and		
	any	NTCA for comments		
9	Specific comments	NA		
	w.r.t. section 29 to			
	the Wild Life			
	(Protection) Act, 1972			
10		Linear		
10	non-linear	Linear		
11	Whether EC	EC obtained vide le	etter No.10-3/2020)-IA-III
	obtained	EC obtained vide letter No.10-3/2020-IA-III		
12	Name of the	NHAI PIU DHAMTARI		
	applicant agency			
13	Date of submission	17/08/2021		
14	Total number of	-		
	tree to be felled			
15	Maps depicting the	Yes		
	Sanctuary and the			
	diversion proposal			
	included or not			

16 Recommendation of State Board for Wild Life

The State Board for Wild Life recommended the proposal in its meeting held on 13th Meeting held on 19th December, 2022.

17 Brief justification on the proposal as given by the applicant agency

Due to increase in traffic and to enhances connectivity the proposed road would act as the prime artery for economic flow to this region. This alignment is chosen as:

- ➤ It is the best suitable alignment and design from technical point of view and requiring minimum forest area and tree cutting.
- > Earthwork cutting and banking is minimum.
- Minimum possible numbers of trees are affected.
- ➤ There is no suitable alternative non-forest land to construct the road and avoid laying of alignment through (ESZ) of Wildlife and forest area.
- In chattisgarh project road length is of 124.661 km. The proposed National Highway is Green Field alignment and proposed for 6 lane National Highway which further connect to Visakhapatnam.

18 Rare and endangered species found in the area

Udanti-Sitanadi Tiger Reserve is home to Tiger, Panther, Wild Buffalo, Barking Deer and Sloth Bear etc.

19 | Type of Forest

Dry deciduous Eco Class-III.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wild Life Warden

The State CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- 1. The Construction work shall be allowed from dawn to dusk only.
- 2. Any other condition imposed from time to time by forest department.

21 | Animal Passage Plan

Animal Passage Plan has been submitted by the User Agency which is placed at **ANNEXURE XLVII.**

22 Violation, if any

The user agency has not violated the provisions of Forest (Conservation), Act 1980 and no work has been started without proper sanction-till date no work started and violation noted.

23 Comments of Ministry

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7/21/2023-NTCA dated 21st April, 2023 has mentioned that Mitigation proposed by the user agency is adequate for the section of road passing through ESZ and wildlife corridor. Looking at the significance of the road, project can be recommended with additional minor conditions:

- There shall be caution sign boards at every 500 meters about animal passing, restriction on feeding animals, garbage dumping, no stopping/honking and hunting etc. as per the advice of forest department.
- All forest patches within ESZ and wildlife corridor not covered under

- clear opening of mitigation structures shall be provided with a small pipe/cc culvert at every 100 meters (where there are no existing/proposed cross drainage structures) for the movement of reptiles, amphibians and small animals.
- Underpasses will also have integrated options of light and sound barriers, camouflaging, and landscaping including restoration of habitat beneath underpasses after construction for the forest patch through which corridor is passing.
- There will not be a right of passage to the public via the underpass.
- The CWLW should have an adequate monitoring mechanism in place.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

2 Name of the protected area involved 3 File No. WL-6/40/2023-WL 4 Name of the State Telangana 5 Whether proposal is sub-judice 6 Area of the protected area 7(Area proposed for diversion / Denotification 7(Area so far diverted from			
4 Name of the State 5 Whether proposal is sub-judice 6 Area of the protected area 7(Area proposed for diversion / Denotification Telangana Not sub-judice 2166.37 sq.km 1.3105 ha	Amrabad Tiger Reserve		
5 Whether proposal is sub-judice 6 Area of the protected area 7(Area proposed for diversion / Denotification 1.3105 ha	WL-6/40/2023-WL		
sub-judice 6 Area of the protected 2166.37 sq.km area 7(Area proposed for diversion / Denotification 1.3105 ha	Telangana		
7(Area proposed for a) diversion / Denotification	•		
a) diversion / Denotification	2166.37 sq.km		
7/ Area so far diverted from	1.3105 ha		
b) the protected area(s) S. Name of the proposal N o	Area		
1 Erection of 400 KV transmission lien from Hyderabad to N.Sagar	0.76 ha		
2 Construction of tailpond dam	20.00 ha		
	12.953 ha		
4 OFC (M/s idea cellular ltd)	0.35 Ha		
	0.2400		
Total	0.3198 ha		
8 Status of ESZ if any Draft notified on 13 th March, 2018.			

9	Specific comments w.r.t. section 29 to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972	The proposed area for diversion is falling in Amrabad Tiger Reserve. The length of the Optical Fiber Cable passing through Ambvrabad Tiger Reserve through Nidguyl, Azmapur-I, Nambapur, Nellikal, Rajawaram RFs 29127.40 m with a width of 0.45 mk. The proposed OFC is passing for away from the existing right of way. The alignment of the OFC is passing through the middle of many compartments through the Reserve Forest mentioned above. Further there is existing tree growth (8 No. of trees and 15 tons of firewood) in the proposed alignment of the OFC involving felling of tees. The proposed area is unavoidable, barest minimum with no alternatives available.	
10	Whether linear / non- linear	Linear	
11	Whether EC obtained	No	
12	Name of the applicant agency	TELANGANA FIBER GRID CORPORATION LIMITED	
13	Date of submission	29/05/2021	
14	Total number of tree to be felled	8	
15	Maps depicting the Sanctuary and the diversion proposal included or not	Yes	
16	Recommendation of State	Board for Wildlife	
	The State Board for Wildlife held on 24 th February, 2022.	recommended the proposal in its 4 th meeting	
17	Brief justification on the p	roposal as given by the applicant agency	
	• Telangana Fiber Grid (T-Fiber) is envisioned to establish a state-of-the- art network infrastructure to facilitate the realization of 'Digital Telangana' objective.		
	•	astructure for affordable and high-speed d Digital services to"10 Zones (33Districts),	

589 Mandals, 12,751 Gram Panchayats, 10,128 villages, 83.58 lakh households and more than 3.5 Cr people"

- T-Fiber will provide various services to the government departments. The following are some of the services that will be provided by T-Fiber.
- High speed intranet: T-fiber will provide high speed data to connect departments internally
- High speed internet: T-fiber will provide high speed connectivity to web, mail & messaging services. T-fiber will ensure that there is no requirement for a separate mail server
- Data center services: Availability of cloud storage and development kits for creating and hosting applications
- Security & encryption: T-fiber will prevent from cyber-attacks, ransom ware, spyware etc.
- Smart content services: T-Fiber will provide High-definition content streaming services
- Such a strong IT establishment will give a strong boost to multiple Economic activities including creation of employment for the youth, development of opportunities for IT export, increase in productivity through use of automation etc. Further with ever increasing number of government services moving to cyber space and internet becoming the new medium of connectivity between citizens and government, a robust 1T eco-system will enable people to use these services in a seamless and hassle-free manner
- The State aims to usher in digital democracy through affordable & re1iable high-speed broadband connectivity to every household, government, and private institution in Telangana.
- T-Fiber is based on the idea of providing access of infrastructure to different players on a non-discriminatory and non-monopolistic basis where the government will not become a service provider to deliver internet services to households and enterprises while different players shall be allowed to provide internet services to households and private enterprises.
- This Project covers Chandampet, Pedda_Adiserlapalle, Neredugommu, Peddvura, Tirumalagiri Sagar Mandals.

Government of Telangana has envisioned to establish a state-of-the-art network infrastructure to serve as backbone for Digital Telangana. The State aims to usher in digital democracy through affordable& reliable high-speed broadband connectivity to every household, Government and private institution in Telangana.

The vision of BBNL is to change lives of rural India through digital empowerment of the people of rural India by creating network infrastructure as a national asset, accessible on a non-discriminatory basis to all service providers such as TSPs, ISPs etc to provide affordable broadband services to citizens and institutions in rural and remote areas, which will facilitate human development, boost economic development, and improves quality of life of people in Rural India. Through its constant endeavours BBNL will be able to provide secure, reliable, affordable, and high-quality connectivity in rural India. As per BharatNet mandate in NOFN (Phase-I), BBNL has provided connectivity from Block/ Mandal head quarter to Gram Panchayats.

To implement the Fiber Grid project and manage its operations, a special purpose vehicle (SPY) has been incorporated by the name Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited (T-Fiber). T-Fiber will establish state of the art end-to-end IP-MPLS infrastructure creating the backbone for Digital Telangana. T-Fiber will offer high-speed broadband connectivity to every government/Private institution and every household across the state. With a mandate from USOF/DoT, Government of India as part of BHARATNET Phase JJ to connect Mandal to Gram Panchayats in the State of Telangana.

T-Fiber provides Infrastructure for affordable and high-speed broadband con ectivity and Digital services to "10 Zones (33 Districts), 585 Mandals, 140 ULBs, 12,751 Gram Panchayats, 10,128 villages, 83.58 lakh households (Rural and Urban) and more than 3.S Cr people"

The Optical Fiber Cable is generally laid along the roads such as State R&B roads, Panchayat roads, Municipal roads, MoRTH & National Highway roads, if such road are passing through the protected forest under the Indian Forest Act. As per the procedure in vogue required to be obtained permission from Forest Department. The cable alignment will be to avoid any cutting of trees within the road boundary by excavating a narrow trench of 0.45m width. The strip of trench excavated shall be reinstated to its original condition. It is also intimated that no permanent structure will be erected. The area utilized for the laying of the Optical Fiber cables will be with is bare minimum trenching.

Amarabad Tiger Reserve is home to tiger, panther, sloth bear, wild dog,
jungle cat, fox, spotted deer, sambar and chousingha etc.

19 **Type of Forest**

Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous thorny scrub Forests.

20 Opinion of the Chief Wildlife Warden

The State CWLW has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

1. That the user agency will provide Rs.13.00 lakh for the following activities as part of Wildlife mitigation measures:

(Rs.in lakh)

SI. No	Activity	Amount (Rs.in lakh)
1.	Water Management	6.00
	a) Installation of one solar bore wells with construction of mini percolation tranks to store water for wild animals in all seasons. 1 Nos @Rs.6.00 lakh each	
	b) Digging of percolation tank 2 Nos. @ Rs.1.00 lakh each	2.00
2	Publicity & Awareness	2.00
	Hoardings & Publicity to propagate the need for conservation of flora and fauna of the area 2 Nos.@Rs.1.00 lakh each	
3.	Procurement of cameras traps for Monitoring of Wildlife 10 Nos@0.25 lakh each	2.50
4.	Administration Cost	0.50
	Total	13.00

- 2. This amount of shall be deposited by user agency in BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden.
- 3. The proposed works shall be carried out manually engaging local work force without disturbing or damaging Flora, Fauna or habitat of Wildlife.
- 4. The trench excavated for laying OFC shall be covered immediately and the topsoil consolidated to prevent erosion on day to day basis.
- 5. Work shall be carried out only from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
- 6. The material for carrying out the proposed works shall be kept outside

- the Tiger Reserve. As and when required they should be carried to the site during execution only.
- 7. No labour camp should be established inside the Tiger Reserve during the execution of the work.
- 8. The debris formed due to the execution of the works shall be taken away from the Tiger Reserve on day-to-day basis.
- 9. The User Agency shall construct Masonry pillars to demarcate the proposed project area at every 25 meter interval at their own cost.

21 Violation, if any

NA

22 | Comments of Ministry

National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) vide letter no.F.No.7-14/2023- NTCA dated 21st April, 2023 has suggested following mitigation measures:

- 1. No construction material should be procured from within the forest. The OFC should be covered with excavated materials after the construction. Construction debris should be disposed of away from the forest by the cost of the user agency.
- 2. The construction work should be done in between sunrise and sunset and no labor camp should be allowed inside the forested areas at nights. The user agency shall ensure that no labor trespasses inside the forests apart from the construction site.
- 3. No tree shall be felled during laying of underground OFC.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.

The proposal was considered by the SCNBWL in the 67th

Proposal for use of 21.29924 ha from Sultanpur Wildlife Sanctuary for SGT University" (Medical College cum Hospital and Research Institute) at Village-Budhera Dist.-Gurugram, Haryana.

meeting held on 25th March 2022. As the details regarding the disposal of bio-medical waste were not made available to the Standing Committee by the State Government officials, the Standing Committee decided to defer the proposal to the next meeting.

Infra Structure

3.The aforementioned proposal was deliberated in the 68th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SCNBWL) held on 30.5.2022. After due deliberation, the Standing Committee has decided to furnish all the relevant details concerning the project proposal to the Deputy Director General (Forests and Wildlife) and the Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (DGF&SS) in person. In view thereof, it has been decided to defer the proposal.

Subsequently, it has been apprised that the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) has contacted the Deputy Director General (Forests and Climate Change) (DGF&CC) in this regard. The aforementioned communication seeks the following information:

Ref: FP/HR/Ot hers/5100/ 2020.

- The status of the compliance of measures for containment of flow of bio-medical waste generated by the project in terms of the provision provided for in Bio-Medical Waste Management Rule, 2016
- The compliance of the ToRs contained in the MoU (copy enclosed) signed between the agency authorized by State Pollution Control Board and the Project Proponent.
- As whether the measures suggested in above MoU are sufficient enough to manage the bio-medical waste.
- As whether the agency authorized by Haryana State Pollution Control Board is competent enough technically to handle the disposal of bio-medical waste to be generated under the project.
- 4. Accordingly, PCCF requested Member Secretary Haryana State Pollution Control Board to provide the reply on the above points vide letter dated 29.08.2022 and 22.07.2022. HSPCB has provided the replies vide letter dated 28.07.2022.

5. Further, on the basis of the 67th meeting of SC-NBWL, PCCF requested the PP to provide certain information vide letter dated 05.05.2022. PCCF has forwarded the information provided by the Project Proponent which is reproduced below:

1. Light reflector be established opposite to the WLS:

The instruction regarding establishment of light reflectors opposite to the Wildlife Sanctuary will be complied with.

2. Flow of medical bio-waste generated not towards to the WLS:

No flow of medical bio-waste is generated towards the Wildlife Sanctuary. For disposal of Bio-medical and solid waste, we have already signed the MoUs (Memorandurn of Understanding) with the authorized agency i.e. Biotech Waste Limited and M/S Gurugram Waste Management System (P) Ltd. by Pollution Control Board, Gurugrarn and Municipal Corporation of Gurugram. Copies of the MoUs are enclosed herewith for ready reference and perusal. However, the tenure of the MoU wrt compliance of the Biomedical Waste with the third party has been terminated on 31st March 2023. Similarly, the tenure of the MoU wrt compliance of the Solid Waste with the third party has been terminated on 31st July,2022.

3. The construction of any building more than two storey (twenty-five feet) shall not be allowed in the area falling between three hundred meters to fivehundred meters from the boundary of Sultanpur National Park:

The construction site is at 1.4 Kilometer from the Sultanpur National Park.

4. The laying of new high-tension transmission wires shall not be allowed from the boundary of Sultanpur National Park to a distance of five

hundred meters.

High tension transmission wires is not the scope of work of the University. Transmission wires are laid by the State Government.

5. After examination, it is found that the MoUs signed by the User Agency and the authorisation received from the HSPCB for the User Agency have expired and accordingly EDS has been raised. The information from State Government is received on 20.04.2022.

The Standing Committee may like to take a view on the proposal.
