



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

6th Floor, Vayu Wing
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi 110 003
Date: 31.01.2019

F.No. 6-181/2018 WL

To
The Principal Secretary
Forest Department
Aranya Bhawan, Pandit Nehru Complex
Gorkha Basti, P.O. Kurja
Agartala 799 006

Sub: Minutes of 52nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife- reg.

Sir / Madam,

The 52nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife was held on 10th January 2019 through Video Conference under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change. The following proposal pertaining to your State was considered:

Proposal for diversion of 11.9328 ha forestland from Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary and 2.6310 ha of non-forestland from the draft ESZ of Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of 133 kV single circuit transmission line from Ganganagar 33 kV sub-station to Barabari

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves diversion of 11.9328 ha forestland from Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary and 2.6310 ha of non-forestland from the default eco-sensitive zone of Gumti Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of 133 kV single circuit transmission line from Ganganagar to Barabari. He added that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) Construction of artificial water holes and salt licks for wild animals needs to be taken up for development of wildlife habitat. Fund for the purpose should be provided by user agency.
- (2) Alternative grazing land for wild animals i.e., plantation of Napier grass & fruit bearing species needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat. Funds for the purpose should be provided by user agency.

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

- (a) Permission for starting the work on the project shall be granted by the state government only when animal passage plan is prepared by the project proponent in consultation with State Chief Wildlife Warden on the basis of WII guidelines named *Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts on Linear Infrastructures on Wildlife*.
- (b) The project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (c) The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Gol.

Diversion of 0.646371 ha of forestland from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary and 9.318984 ha forestland from the draft ESZ of Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for collection and transportation of natural gas underground pipeline from Gojalia – GCS to OTPC – Palatana

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves diversion of 0.646371 ha of forestland from the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary and 9.318984 ha of forestland from the draft eco-sensitive zone of the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for collection and transportation of natural gas underground pipeline from Gojalia to Palatana. He added that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) 1% of the cost of gas supply through Gojalia – GCS to OTPC – Palatana should be paid to the Wildlife Warden for following works & development of sanctuary on quarterly basis.
- (2) Construction of artificial water holes and salt licks for wild animals needs to be taken up for development of wildlife habitat. Fund for the purpose should be provided by the user agency.
- (3) Alternative grazing land for wild animals i.e., plantation of Napier grass & fruit bearing species needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat. Fund for the purpose should be provided by the user agency.
- (4) Construction of double chain link wire mesh fencing with RCC pillars (height 7 feet) along with RCC pillars embedding at bottom and 3 (three) strands of barbed wire on top around Sanctuary and the project site for restriction of entry of wild animals specially bison.
- (5) Development of alternative grazing area for Bison i.e., plantation of Congo signa grass, fruit bearing species, Kallai bamboo (*Oxytenethera nigrociliata*) needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat. Fund for the purpose should be provided by the user agency.
- (6) Tourist amenities i.e., vehicle parking place, purified drinking water facility, public toilets (gents & ladies), visitor shed and souvenir shop needs to be constructed at entry point of Bison Eden at Chillapathar, Joychandpur.

- (7) Construction of 4 feet width of walking trail with cement concrete all along inside the chain link wire mesh fencing at Bison Eden at Chillapathar, Joychandpur. For promoting eco-tourism.
- (8) Eco-friendly project operation with minimum noise level is required to be undertaken at work site and movement of vehicles needs to be restricted to avoid any adverse behavioral effect in wild animals specially bison.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal tentatively subject to the conditions that

- (a) The State Government shall obtain legal opinion from the Advocate General on that extraction of natural gas / oil cannot be considered as mining in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 4.8.2006 in IA-1000 in WPC-202/1995 (Godavarman vs. Union of India). The Ministry shall also seek the legal opinion from the Solicitor General of India on similar lines.
- (b) The project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (c) The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to GoI.

Diversion of 1.42 ha of forestland from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves diversion of 1.42 ha of forestland from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for the construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road. He added that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) Construction of double chain link wire mesh fencing with RCC pillars (height 7 feet) along with RCC embedding at bottom and 3 (three) strands of barbed wire on top around the drill site for restriction of entry of wild animals specially bison.
- (2) Alternative grazing land for bison i.e., plantation of Congo signa grass, fruit bearing species & Kallai bamboo (*Oxytenethera nigrociliata*) needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat. Fund for the purpose should be provided by user agency.
- (3) Eco-friendly drilling operation with minimum noise level is required to be undertaken at drilling site and movement of vehicles to the drilling locations needs to be restricted to avoid any adverse behavioral effect in wild animals specially bison.
- (4) Construction of artificial water holes and salt licks for wild animals needs to be taken up for development of wildlife habitat. Fund for the purpose should be provided by user agency.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the project tentatively subject to the conditions that

- (a) The State Government shall obtain legal opinion from the Advocate General on that extraction of natural gas / oil cannot be considered as mining in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 4.8.2006 in IA-1000 in WPC-202/1995 (Godavarman vs. Union of India). The Ministry shall also seek the legal opinion from the Solicitor General of India on similar lines.
- (b) The project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (c) The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Gol.

Diversion of 1.112 ha of forestland and 0.404 ha of non-forestland for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road for the location TIDD project falling within Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves diversion of 1.112 ha of forestland and 0.404 ha of non-forestland from the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road. He added that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) Rs.60 lakhs should be paid to the Wildlife Warden for following works & development of Sanctuary.
- (2) Construction of artificial water holes and salt licks for wild animals needs to be development of wildlife habitat.
- (3) Alternative grazing land for wild animals i.e., plantation of Napier grass & fruit bearing species needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (4) Construction of double chain link wire mesh fencing with RCC pillars (height 7 feet) along with RCC embedding at bottom and 3 (three) strands of barbed wire on top around Sanctuary and the project site for restriction of entry of wild animals specially bison.
- (5) Alternative grazing land for bison i.e., plantation of Congo signa grass, fruit bearing species, Kallai bamboo (*Oxytenethera nigrociliata*) needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (6) Eco-tourism amenities and awareness activities in different locations.
- (7) Eco-friendly project operation with minimum noise level is required to be undertaken at work site and movement of vehicles needs to be restricted to avoid any adverse behavioral effect in wild animals specially bison.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the project tentatively subject to the conditions that

- (a) The State Government shall obtain legal opinion from the Advocate General on that extraction of natural gas / oil cannot be considered as mining in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 4.8.2006 in IA-1000 in WPC-202/1995 (Godavarman vs.

Union of India). The Ministry shall also seek the legal opinion from the Solicitor General of India on similar lines.

- (b) The project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (c) The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Gol.

Diversion of 1.367 ha of forestland from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves diversion of 1.367 ha of forestland from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road. He added that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) Rs.70 lakhs should be paid to the Wildlife Warden for following works & development of Sanctuary.
- (2) Construction of artificial water holes and salt licks for wild animals needs to be development of wildlife habitat.
- (3) Alternative grazing area for wild animals i.e., plantation of Napier grass & fruit bearing species needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (4) Construction of double chain link wire mesh fencing with RCC pillars (height 7 feet) along with RCC pillars embedding at bottom and 3 (three) strands of barbed wire on top around Sanctuary and the project site for restriction of entry of wild animals specially bison.
- (5) Alternative grazing area for Bison i.e., plantation of Congo signa grass, fruit bearing species, Kallai bamboo (*Oxytenethera nigrociliata*) needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (6) Eco-tourism amenities and awareness activities in different locations.
- (7) Procurement of one battery operated mini bus for the tourist fully equipped with tranquilizing gun and other equipments.
- (8) Eco-friendly project operation with minimum noise level is required to be undertaken at work site and movement of vehicles needs to be restricted to avoid any adverse behavioral effect in wild animals specially bison.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the project tentatively subject to the conditions that

- (a) The State Government shall obtain legal opinion from the Advocate General on that extraction of natural gas / oil cannot be considered as mining in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 4.8.2006 in IA-1000 in WPC-202/1995 (Godavarman vs. Union of India). The Ministry shall also seek the legal opinion from the Solicitor General of India on similar lines.
- (b) The project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.

- (c) The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Gol.

Diversion of 1.76 ha of forestland from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves diversion of 1.76 ha of forestland from Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road. He added that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) Rs.70 lakhs should be paid to the Wildlife Warden for following works & development of Sanctuary.
- (2) Construction of artificial water holes and salt licks for wild animals needs to be development of wildlife habitat.
- (3) Development of alternative grazing area for wild animals i.e., plantation of Napier grass & fruit bearing species needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (4) Construction of double chain link wire mesh fencing with RCC pillars (height 7 feet) along with RCC embedding at bottom and 3 (three) strands of barbed wire on top around Sanctuary and the project site for restriction of entry of wild animals specially bison.
- (5) Development of alternative grazing area for Bison i.e. plantation of Congo signa grass, fruit bearing species & Kallai bamboo (*Oxytenethera nigrociliata*) needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (6) Tourist amenities and awareness activities in different locations.
- (7) Procurement of one battery operated mini bus for the tourist fully equipped with tranquilizing gun and other equipments.
- (8) Eco-friendly project operation with minimum noise level is required to be undertaken at work site and movement of vehicles needs to be restricted to avoid any adverse behavioral effect in wild animals specially bison.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the project tentatively subject to the conditions that

- (a) The State Government shall obtain legal opinion from the Advocate General on that extraction of natural gas / oil cannot be considered as mining in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 4.8.2006 in IA-1000 in WPC-202/1995 (Godavarman vs. Union of India). The Ministry shall also seek the legal opinion from the Solicitor General of India on similar lines.
- (b) The project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (c) The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Gol.

Diversion of 1.96 ha of forestland for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road for the location TIDF project falling within Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves diversion of 1.96 ha of forestland from the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road. He added that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

- (1) Rs.80 lakhs should be paid to the Wildlife Warden for following works & development of Sanctuary.
- (2) Construction of artificial water holes and salt licks for wild animals needs to be development of wildlife habitat.
- (3) Development of alternative grazing area for wild animals i.e., plantation of Napier grass & fruit bearing species needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (4) Construction of double chain link wire mesh fencing with RCC pillars (height 7 feet) along with RCC pillars embedding at bottom and 3 (three) strands of barbed wire on top around Sanctuary and the project site for restriction of entry of wild animals specially Bison.
- (5) Development of alternative grazing area for Bison i.e., plantation of Congo signa grass, fruit bearing species, Kallai bamboo (*Oxytenethera nigrociliata*) needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (6) Tourist amenities and awareness activities in different locations.
- (7) Procurement of one battery operated mini bus for the tourist fully equipped with tranquilizing gun and other equipments.
- (8) Eco-friendly project operation with minimum noise level is required to be undertaken at work site and movement of vehicles needs to be restricted to avoid any adverse behavioral effect in wild animals specially bison.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the project tentatively subject to the conditions that

- (a) The State Government shall obtain legal opinion from the Advocate General on that extraction of natural gas / oil cannot be considered as mining in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 4.8.2006 in IA-1000 in WPC-202/1995 (Godavarman vs. Union of India). The Ministry shall also seek the legal opinion from the Solicitor General of India on similar lines.
- (b) The project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (c) The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Gol.

Diversion of 1.496 ha of forestland for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road for the location TIDE project falling within Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal and stated that the proposal involves diversion of 1.496 ha of forestland from the Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of drill site, waste pit and approach road for TIDE project. He added that the State Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:

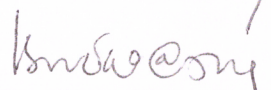
- (1) Rs.60 lakhs should be paid to the Wildlife Warden for following works & development of Sanctuary.
- (2) Construction of artificial water holes and salt licks for wild animals needs to be development of wildlife habitat.
- (3) Development of alternative grazing area for wild animals i.e., plantation of Napier grass & fruit bearing species needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (4) Construction of double chain link wire mesh fencing with RCC pillars (height 7 feet) along with RCC pillars embedding at bottom and 3 (three) strands of barbed wire on top around Sanctuary and the project site for restriction of entry of wild animals specially Bison.
- (5) Development of alternative grazing area for Bison i.e., plantation of Congo signa grass, fruit bearing species, Kallai bamboo (*Oxytenethera nigrociliata*) needs to be created for development of wildlife habitat.
- (6) Tourist amenities and awareness activities in different locations.
- (7) Procurement of one battery operated mini bus for the tourist fully equipped with tranquilizing gun and other equipments.
- (8) Eco-friendly project operation with minimum noise level is required to be undertaken at work site and movement of vehicles needs to be restricted to avoid any adverse behavioral effect in wild animals specially bison.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the project tentatively subject to the conditions that

- (a) The State Government shall obtain legal opinion from the Advocate General on that extraction of natural gas / oil cannot be considered as mining in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 4.8.2006 in IA-1000 in WPC-202/1995 (Godavarman vs. Union of India). The Ministry shall also seek the legal opinion from the Solicitor General of India on similar lines.
- (b) The project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden.
- (c) The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Gol.

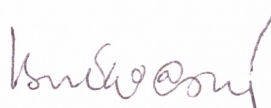
The above recommendation(s) are subject to the existing directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court and provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. Pasupala Ravi)
Scientist C

Copy to

1. Chief Wildlife Warden, Forest Department, Aranya Bhawan, Pandit Nehru Complex Gorkha Basti, P.O. Kurja, Agartala 799 006
2. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (NEZ), Law-U-Sib, Lumbatngen, Near MTC Workshop, Shillong 793 021
3. Joint Secretary, IA Division, MoEF&CC
4. Inspector General of Forests, FC Division, MoEF&CC


(Dr. Pasupala Ravi)
Scientist C


Issued
05/02