

No. FCA/29-C/A/ 763 /2024-25
Office of the,
Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests,
Aranya Bhavan, Block No.A/3,
Sector-10/A, Gandhinagar,
Dt. 20 /08/2024

To
The Principal Secretary,
Forest & Environment Department,
Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar.

Sub: Diversion of **5.052375 ha.** protected forest/reserved & Wildlife Sanctuary area Widening of Existing Road from Gabbar Taleti to Gabbar Circle road KM 166/520 to 169/015 in Danta Taluka in Banaskantha District.
(Online Proposal no. FP/GJ/ROAD/152654/2022)

Ref-: Regional Office, Gandhinagar Letter No.
FP/GJ/ROAD/152654/2022, dated 31/07/2024

Sir,

With reference to the above subject and letter the required information is submitted as follows:

1. The proposal diversion area is part of Balaram Ambaji Wildlife Sanctuary. The State Government recommends this proposal to National Board of Wildlife. The State Board of Wildlife recommends this proposal in its meeting date 24/08/2023. A Copy of the minutes is attached herewith. Now the proposal is pending at National Board of Wildlife for further necessary action.
2. The revise cost benefit analysis is attached herewith.

In view of the above its is requested to forward this information to IRO for issue stage-I approval under section-2 of the Forest Conservation Act-1980 for the above proposal.

Donw
(Dr. Jaipal Singh)
Addl. Pri. Chief Conservator of Forests
Land
Gujarat State, Gandhinagar

Office Phone No.02742-252430
Fax No. 02742-257088
Email:exen.rmbpln@gmail.com



Office of the Executive Engineer
Road and Building Division,
Jorawar Palace, Palanpur. 385001

Ref: PB/Palanpur/ 6175 /2024.

Date: - 08/08/2024.

To,
The PCCF -Cum Nodal Officer (FCA),
Aranya Bhawan, Block No. A/3,
Sector - 10A, Gnadhinar.

Subject: - Diversion of 5.052375 Ha of Protected / Reserved Forest & Wildlife Sanctuary area widening of existing road from Gabbar Taleti to Gabbar Circle Road Km 166/520 to 169/015 in Danta Taluka in Banaskantha district in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B Division Palanpur.

Ref:- RO query Letter Dated 31/07/2024 Proposal No.
FP/GJ/ROAD/152654/2022.


Dear Sir,

In the context of the above-mentioned subject here we have furnished the required information and attached the documents to obtain the necessary permission.

- 1) The State Government recommends this proposal. The State Board of Wildlife recommends this proposal in its meeting dated 24/08/2023. A copy of the minutes is attached herewith. Now the proposal is pending at the National Board of Wildlife for further necessary action.
- 2) Cost Benefit Analysis certificate is attached herewith.

We request you to consider the provided documents and early process for necessary action of Stage - I approval.

Thanking You,


Executive Engineer,
Road & Building Division,
Palanpur.

Encl:- AA.



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE
CHANGE



क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गांधीनगर / Regional Office, Gandhinagar

ए 407, 409 "अरण्य भवन", सीएच-3 सर्कल के पास, सेक्टर-10 ए, गांधीनगर-382010/ A-407 & A-409,
"ARANYA BHAWAN" Near CH-3 Circle, Sector-10A, Gandhinagar-382010
Tel No: +9179-23255067 Email: iro.gandhinagr-mefcc@gov.in

दिनांक: 31st जूलाई, 2024

To
अपर मुख्य सचिव (वन)/The Additional Chief Secretary (Forests)
गुजरात सरकार/Govt. of Gujarat
ब्लॉक नं. 14, आठवां तल, न्यू सचिवालय
Block No. 14, 8th Floor, New Sachivalaya
गांधीनगर, गुजरात/Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

(प्रस्ताव संख्या: FP/GJ/ROAD/152654/2022)


विषय: Diversion of 5.052375 ha of Protected/ Reserved Forest & Wildlife Sanctuary area widening of existing road from Gabbar Taleti to Gabbar Circle road Km 166/520 to 169/015 in Danta Taluka in Banaskantha District in favour of Executive Engineer, R & B Division Palanpur.

Madam/Sir,

This refers to Govt. of Gujarat letter no. FED/FLP/e-file/6/2024/0943/F dated 01.07.2024 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under section-2 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980.

The Central Government duly examined the proposal and it has observed that the proposal needs further clarification. Thus, The State Government of Gujarat is requested to submit the following information/ documents:

1. Since the proposed diversion area is a part of Balaram Ambaji Wildlife Sanctuary, State Govt. is requested to submit the recommendations of Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife.
2. Cost-benefit analysis of the project shall be submitted in prescribed format.

भवदीय/Sincerely,

(श्रवण कुमार वर्मा/Shrawan Kumar Verma)
क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी/Regional Officer (RO)
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गांधीनगर/Regional Office, Gandhinagar.

प्रतिलिपि/Copy to:

1. The Inspector General of Forests (Central), ROHQ Division, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Indra Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi- 110003.
2. The PCCF-cum-Nodal Officer (FCA), Aranya Bhawan, Block No. A/3, Sector-10A, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

No: WLP/28/A/ 72/ /2023-24
Office of the
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Block No.B/1, Aranya Bhavan,
CH-3 Circle, Sector-10-A,
Gujarat State Gandhinagar.
E-mail: cwlvguj@gmail.com
Phone: 079-23254125
Date: /6/09/2023

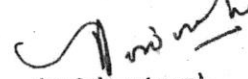
To,
All the Members,
(As per list attached)
State Board for Wildlife
Gujarat State

Sub :- Minutes of 22nd meeting of State Board for Wildlife.

Sir,

The 22nd meeting of the State Board for Wildlife was held on 24-08-2023 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister and Chairman of the Board.

Yours faithfully,



(N.Srivastava)

Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat &
Member Secretary,
State Board for Wildlife
Gujarat State, Gandhinagar

- Copy Submitted to :** The Personal Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister of Forest, Environment, Climate Change, Printing and Stationary and Vice Chairman of the State Board for Wildlife for the favour of information.
- Copy Submitted to :** The Personal Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister of State, Forest and Environment, Gujarat State, Gandhinagar for the favour of information.
- Copy Submitted to :** The Chief Secretary, Gujarat State, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar for the favour of information.
- Copy Submitted to :** The Additional Chief Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister and Chairman, State Board for Wildlife for the favour of information.
- Copy Submitted to :** The Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar for the favour of information.

Minutes of the Meeting of 22nd SBWL held on 24.08.2023

The 22nd meeting of State Board for Wildlife (SBWL) Gujarat State was held on 24.08.2023 at 11:00 hrs. under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister and Chairperson of the State Board for Wildlife at Tapi Hall, Swarnim Sankul-1, Sachivalay, Gandhinagar. The list of participants is enclosed at **Annexure I**.

At the outset, Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment Department welcomed the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the members of the newly constituted Board and invitees.

The Principal Secretary, Forest & Environment Department apprised the Board members about the major achievements of the wildlife wing during the period since last Board meeting.

With the permission of the Hon'ble Chair, the Member Secretary, SBWL, introduced the Agenda of the meeting. A brief presentation covering Agenda items was made before the SBWL.

Details of discussions on each agenda and decisions / resolution of the Board as given as under.

Agenda – 1: Confirmation of minutes of 21th meeting of SBWL held on 05.03.2022

The Member Secretary informed the Board members that the 21th meeting of SBWL was held on 05.03.2022. The minutes of said meeting, duly approved by Chairman, were circulated to the members and invitees vide letter no. WLP/28/A/1139, dt. 09.03.2022. Since no comments were received, the minutes were put before the Board members for confirmation.

The Board confirmed the minutes of 21nd SBWL meeting.

Agenda-2: Action taken report on decisions taken in 21th meeting of SBWL.

The Member Secretary informed the Board that one proposal received was not recommended by the Board for consideration.



Agenda-3: Overview of Wildlife Management and Conservation Action.

The Member Secretary appraised the Board regarding notable achievements of the Forest Department namely;

- a. Population estimation exercise undertaken for herbivores, leopard, Sloth Bear, Vulture and Dolphin in the state during the last one year.
- b. Notification of Prempara reserve forest area as sanctuary by the State Government.
- c. Processes to be undertaken for declaration of Eco-Sensitive Zone of Gir National Park, Gir, Paniya and Mitiyala Sanctuaries after Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat's order dated 03.07.2023 lifting the status-quo order dated 19.04.2017.
- d. Launching of celebration of World Lions Day- 2023 by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat State.
- e. Special mention about activities undertaken for conservation and protection of lions in the state.
- f. Steps undertaken for Conservation and Protection of wolf and soft release of wolf on dated 13.08.2023 in Devaliya Safari Park, Ambardi Safari Park and newly constructed soft release centre at Nadabet.
- g. Delegation of certain power by NBWL to SBWL for laying of underground drinking water pipeline, underground optical fiber cable and laying of underground 11 kv electric feeder lines.
- h. Apprising members on recent amendments dated 19.12.2022 made in Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.



2. The User agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Sanctuary.
3. The User Agency shall not use the area for any other work other than the work permitted.
4. The User Agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Sanctuary.
5. The User Agency will have to prepare a conservation plan relevant to the biological entity affected due to the project and deposit the fund before initiating any work on the land.
6. The User Agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Sanctuary.
7. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
8. The work in the Sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
9. Approval under Forest (Conversation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
10. The User Agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates before initiating any work on the land.
11. The User Agency will create adequate facilities for safe transit of wildlife across the road.

Agenda 4.6: Proposal for use of 3.4202 ha. Land of Balaram-Ambaji Sanctuary for Widening of existing road.

Agenda No.	Proposal	User Agency	Name of Sanctuary	Area (ha.)	Purpose
4.6	Proposal for use of 3.4202 ha. Land of Balaram-Ambaji Sanctuary for Widening of existing road of Gabbar Taleti to Gabbar Circle road	Executive Engineer, Road and Building Division, (State), Palanpur	Balaram – Ambaji Sanctuary	3.4202	Widening of existing road.



The Member Secretary informed the Board that the proposal was submitted by Executive Engineer, R&B Division, (State), Palanpur for Widening of Existing road of Gabbar Taleti to Gabbar Circle passing through Balaram – Ambaji Sanctuary. 511 trees cutting is involved.

The Board deliberated the proposal and **decided to recommend** the same to State Government for consideration and necessary clearance subject to following conditions.

1. The User Agency shall not violate any regulatory provisions under Section - 9, 17 A, 27, 29, 30, 31 & 32 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The User agency shall not harm or destroy wildlife habitat including fauna and flora of the Sanctuary.
3. The User Agency shall not use the area for any other work other than the work permitted.
4. The User Agency shall not establish any temporary or permanent labour camp in the Sanctuary.
5. The User Agency will have to prepare a conservation plan relevant to the biological entity affected due to the project and deposit the fund before initiating any work on the land.
6. The User Agency or his contractor shall not create any fire places inside the Sanctuary.
7. All the material required for the work shall be prepared outside the sanctuary.
8. The work in the Sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.
9. Approval under Forest (Conversation) Act, 1980, if required, shall be obtained separately for use of forest land.
10. The User Agency shall deposit NPV for the use of land of Protected Area as per the existing rates before initiating any work on the land.
11. The User Agency will create adequate facilities for safe transit of wildlife across the road.

Agenda 4.7: Proposal for use of 0.49 ha. Land of Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary for establish of 66 K.V. Substation.

Agenda No.	Proposal	User Agency	Name of Sanctuary	Area (ha.)	Purpose
4.7	Proposal for use of 0.49 ha. Land of Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary for establish of 66 K.V. Substation	Executive Engineer (Construction). Getco, Anjar-Kutch	Kutch Desert Sanctuary	0.49	66 KV Sub station

The Member Secretary informed the Board that the proposal was submitted by Executive Engineer (Construction) GETCO, Anjar-Kutch for establish of 66 K.V. Sub Station in survey no. 107 paiky of Kanoj village of Lakhpatt taluka of Kutch district in Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary. No tree cutting is involved.



Annexure - I

**List of Participants of 22th Meeting of State Board for Wildlife – Gujarat,
Date: - 24.08.2023**

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1	Hon'ble Chief Minister	Chairperson
2	Hon'ble Minister Forest and Environment Department, Gujarat.	Vice-Chairperson
3	Hon'ble Minister of State, Forest and Environment Department	Co-vice Chairperson
4	Shri Maheshbhai Laljibhai Keswala (Hon'ble MLA, Savarkundla)	Member
5	Member Secretary, Gujarat Ecology Commission, Gandhinagar	Member
6	Shri Dhanraj Nathwani, Group Senior Vice President, Reliance Industries Ltd.	Member
7	Shri Suresh Bhatt, Trustee-Lakhota Nature Club, Jamnagar	Member
8	Shri Sanjay Kelaiya, Natural Heritage Conservation Society, Junagadh	Member
9	Shri Chandravijaysinh Rana, Former Honorary Wildlife Warden, Jamnagar	Member
10	Shri Rohit Shashikant Vyas, Former Member of.SBWL, Vadodara	Member
11	Shri Devratsinh H. Mori, Wadhwan, Surendranagar.	Member
12	Shri R. D. Kamboj, IFS, APCCF (Retd.)	Member
13	Dr. C.N.Pandey, PCCF and HoFF (Retd.), Prof. IIT, Gandhinagar	Member
14	Chief Secretary, Gujarat State	Permanent Invitee
15	Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, Gandhinagar.	Member
16	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and HoFF, Gandhinagar	Member
17	Principal Secretary, Tribal Development Department, Gandhinagar.	Member
18	Managing Director, Gujarat Tourism Development Corporation, Gandhinagar	Member
19	Director General of Police, Gujarat State, Gandhinagar.	Member
20	Director, Animal Husbandry, Gandhinagar.	Member
21	Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat State, Gandhinagar.	Member Secretary



Subject: - Diversion of 5.052375 Ha of Protected / Reserved Forest & Wildlife Sanctuary area widening of existing road from Gabbar Taleti to Gabbar Circle Road Km 166/520 to 169/015 in Danta Taluka in Banaskantha district in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B Division Palanpur.

Cost-benefit analysis

(As per MoEF &CC Guideline for conducting Cost Benefit Analysis vide its Handbook 28th march, 2019 & letter-3/2011-FC (Vol-1), Dated: 06.01.2022)

Table-A: Cases under which a cost-benefit analysis for forest diversion are required

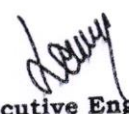
S. No.	Nature of proposal	Applicable/ not applicable	Remarks
1	All categories of proposals involving forest land up to 20 hectares in plains and up to 5 hectare in hills.	Not applicable	-
2	Proposal for defense installation purposes and oil prospecting (prospecting only).	Not applicable	-
3	Habitation, establishment of industrial units, tourist lodges complex and other building construction.	Not applicable	-
4	All other proposals involving forest land more than 20 hectares in plains and more than 5 hectares in hills including roads, transmission lines, minor, medium and major irrigation projects; hydro projects, mining activity, railway lines, location specific installations like micro-wave stations, auto repeater centers, TV towers etc.	Applicable	The proposed project covers an area of 5.052375 Hectares. Forest land Therefore, the CBA applies.

Table B: Estimation of cost of Forest Diversion

S.No.	Parameters	Remarks
1	Ecosystem services losses due to proposed forest diversion.	The proposed forest area to be diverted is mostly characterized by dry deciduous forest. Considering Open forest of Eco-Class III, an average value of NPV of INR 9,57,780/- say INR 9.58 Lakhs per ha. has been considered as per MoEFLCC letter 5-3/2011-FC (Vol-1) dated 06.01.2022. Therefore, ecosystem services losses due to proposed diversion of 5.052375 Ha. of forest land = Rs. 48,40,175.00/- (5.052375 Ha x 9.58 lakh) considered as total NPV.
2	Loss of animal husbandry productivity, including loss of fodder.	There is no loss in animal husbandry, productivity including loss of fodder due to the diversion of forest land.
3	Cost of human resettlement.	There is no displacement of people in the forest area proposed for diversion
4	Loss of public facilities and administrative infrastructure (Roads, building, schools, dispensaries, electric lines, railways, etc.) on forest land, which would require forest land if these facilities were diverted due to the project.	There are no loss in public facilities and administrative infrastructures (road, buildings, schools, dispensaries, electric lines, railways etc.) on proposed diverted forest land.
5	Possession value of forest land diverted	30% of environmental costs (NPV) 48,40,175 x 0.3 = 14,52,053 lakh
6	Cost of Suffering to oustees	Nil. There are no oustees involved in the forest area
7	Habitat Fragmentation Cost	50% of total NPV 48,40,175 x 0.50 = 24,20,087 lakhs
8	Compensatory afforestation and soil & moisture conservation cost	Total CA Area Consider is 3.4202 Ha (Double Degraded Forest area) This Project Total Value of CA calculated 24,73,589/-
Therefore, Cost of forest Diversion: - 48,40,175 lakhs + 14,52,053 lakhs + 24,20,087 lakhs + 24,73,589 lakhs =		1,11,85,904/-

Table-C-Existing guidelines for estimating benefits of forest-diversion in CBA

S. No.	Parameters	Remarks
1	Increase in productivity Attribute to the specific project.	Directly generate maximum employment opportunities in these areas, which boost up the economy of the region and the state. Due to the proposed project there will be overall development of the project area in terms of fast connectivity, transportation of agriculture produces, easy access to education, health, etc.
2	Benefits to economy	Economic benefit in terms of increase in trade, saving in vehicular operation and maintenance cost, faster and better connectivity, safer journey to commuter and saving of travel time. Improved road connectivity helps in better implementation and management of government schemes. Proposed improved connectivity will accelerate the growth in these areas. It will provide last and economical transport of goods. After completion, the local people and industries situated in the area will be greatly benefited. The proposed project road will provide safe, fast, economic and environmental friendly transportation to the state which in term will accelerate the rate of growth in this area. In addition to that there are several other benefits that may accrue due to proposed development are saving in fuel, reduction in time to commute, vehicle maintenance, reduction in carbon emission etc. "However, they have not been quantified as it will be a function of various govt. policy variables." Exact quantification of the value is not possible as it is time and policy dependent.
3	No. of population benefited.	Approx up to 5 lakhs
4.	Economic Benefit due to direct and indirect Employment due to the project	Approximately-1000-man days employment
5	Economic Benefit due to Compensatory	Benefits from such Compensatory Afforestation accruing over next 50 years.


Executive Engineer,
Road & Building Division,
Palanpur