

**Ministry of Environment and Forests
Wildlife Division**

Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) held on 13th October 2010 in 403, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.

The 20th meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL was held on 13th October, 2010 in Room No. 403, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment & Forests.

A list of delegates who attended the meeting is at **Annexure-1**.

At the outset, Hon'ble Chairman welcomed all the Members of the Standing Committee for National Board for Wildlife (NBWL). It was followed by discussion on agenda items.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

Confirmation of the minutes:

The Member Secretary informed that the draft minutes of last meeting was circulated to all the Members and no comments had been received in this regard. Thereafter, the minutes of 19th Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL were confirmed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

4.2(4): Diversion of 7.2871 ha of forestland for construction of Ropeway from Bhavnath Taleti to Ambaji Temple in Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary by Usha Breco Ltd, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

The Member Secretary apprised the Committee that this proposal was for construction of Ropeway from Bhavnath Taleti to Ambaji Temple in Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary by Usha Breco Ltd, Ahmedabad, Gujarat and was considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its 16th meeting held on 16th September 2009, wherein it was decided that Hon'ble Chairman would visit the site and thereafter, a final view would be taken on the proposal.

The Chairman desired that he would make the visit during a weekend in the month of November. He also desired that Dr. Divyabhanusinh Chavda and Dr. Nita Shah accompany him during the visit.

4(B)(12) Proposal for denotification from Radhanagri Sanctuary for Savarde minor irrigation project.

The Member-Secretary informed the Committee that the proposal was for denotification of 14.12 ha area (10.98 ha submerged area and 3.14 ha dam construction) from Radhanagri Sanctuary for Savarde minor irrigation project. He also informed that earlier, the committee had decided for a site inspection by Dr. Asad Rahmani . The Member-Secretary informed that Dr. Asad Rahmani had conducted the site inspection and the report had been circulated amongst the members. The Chairman, therefore, requested Dr. Rahmani to give a brief regarding the site inspection report.

Dr Asad Rahmani informed the Committee that Radhanagri Wildlife Sanctuary was one of the oldest Protected Area (Radhanagari bison sanctuary (19.2 sq km) in Maharashtra, declared in 1957) and as it lies in the Western Ghats, the plant life is very rich. Its boundaries were extended to the present level (351.16) in 1987 to include catchment and only source of water for two major irrigation projects – Shahu Sagar-Doodhganga (24.78 TMC) and Laxmi Sangar-Radhanagari (9 TMC) in Kolhapur district. Radhanagri Wildlife Sanctuary. The Irrigation Department wanted to denotify 14.12 ha area (10.98 ha submerged area, and 3.14 ha dam construction) for the Sarvade project. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra, in his capacity of Chairman, State Board for Wildlife, had also approved the proposal, but it has not been yet approved by the Maharashtra State Board for Wildlife.

Dr. Rahmani emphasized that although the minor irrigation project is at the edge of the Sanctuary and the cultivated areas lie within the Sanctuary (351.16 sq km) area, it would have great ecological impact by changing the crop pattern and restricting the movement of wildlife. The area to be submerged is under very good forest cover which will be destroyed irreplaceably. He also added that the positive aspect is that the reservoir will certainly increase the water availability for wildlife though there are several water sources in the neighbouring forest.

Dr. Rahmani also informed the Committee that he had recommended the project with certain conditions including that a cumulative impact study, of all major and minor irrigation projects in and around Radhanagri Wildlife Sanctuary, should be conducted first to know the total ecological impact of all such schemes on ecology of the region and biodiversity therein. And also that as the area falls under the Western Ghats, and the Government of India has constituted Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel under Prof. Madhav Gadgil, views of this Committee should be taken in to consideration before final permission is given.

The Chairman requested the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, & Chief Wildlife warden in-charge, Maharashtra to offer his views on the recommendation of Dr. Rahmani. However, the Chief Wildlife Warden informed that since he had not received the recommendations, it would be difficult for him to comment at this juncture.

In view of the above, the Chairman requested the Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra to examine the recommendations within 3 weeks time and submit his observations to the Ministry. The Committee would, thereafter, take a final view of the proposal in the next meeting.

4(2) Proposal seeking permission for construction of fencing and patrol road along the Indo-Bangladesh Border in Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram.

The Member Secretary apprised the Committee that during the last meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL held on 14th May 2010, a proposal seeking permission for construction of fencing and patrol road along the Indo-Bangladesh Border in Dampa Tiger Reserve, Mizoram was considered and the Committee had decided that Dr. M.K. Ranjitsinh and Dr. Rajesh Gopal, Member-Secretary, NTCA would conduct site inspection, suggest alternatives/precautionary measures.

Dr. Rajesh Gopal, Member-Secretary, NTCA informed that site inspection could not be carried out due to the rains and that he along with Dr. Ranjitsinh would be conducting the site inspection soon.

The Chairman requested Dr. Rajesh Gopal to expedite the site inspection at the earliest.

Agenda item No. 3

Agenda item No. 3.1: Wildlife Conservation Issues

(a) Framing ecologically sound policy for dealing with linear intrusions.

The Member Secretary gave a brief introduction on the various types of linear intrusions that have an adverse impact on the wildlife. Dr. T.R. Shankar Raman, Nature Conservation Foundation, Mysore, opined that this issue needs lot of discussions as it is very sensitive as well as serious issue. It would require the inputs from experts before framing a sound policy for dealing with such linear intrusions.

The Chairman, therefore, requested Dr. Shankar Raman to prepare a background paper on the issue which could be discussed during the next meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL.

(b) Need to take different sub-states bodies like Tribal and District Councils in the Northeast, on board in matters relating to conservation.

The Member Secretary gave a brief introduction on the issue. He informed that during the 5th meeting of NBWL, Dr. Bibhab Talukdar had raised this issue wherein it was suggested that there should be more representation of tribal and district autonomous

councils, especially in the North East region, in various conservation related committees. It was also suggested that adequate capacity building needs to be done to such councils so that they also actively take part in conservation related activities.

Ms. Purna Bindra, was of the opinion that no blanket permission should be granted for such issues. This could very well be discussed in detail and a final decision could be taken. In view of this, the Committee decided to take up this matter for detailed discussion in the next meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL.

(c) Measures to check damage to environment on account of extraction of minerals.

The Member Secretary gave a brief introduction on the issue. It was opined that there was already a Committee constituted by the National Tiger Conservation Authority for looking into aspect of mining in sensitive habitats. In view of this, the Committee felt that an opinion/discussion paper could be sought from the NTCA Committee, which could thereafter, be discussed in detail in the next meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL.

(d) Population control of Spotted deer in Andaman & Nicobar islands:

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that this was one of the proposed agenda items for the 5th meeting of the National Board for Wildlife, however, it was not discussed. He informed that the Chief Wildlife Warden, Andaman & Nicobar Islands had made a representation requesting for placing the Spotted deer in Schedule-V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as it had now become a threat for island ecosystem and the population of deer is increasing at a rapid pace and they have now spread over all the islands of Andaman Group.

Dr. Asad Rahmani opined that invasive species had become a serious issue in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and there was an urgent need for scientifically removing such invasive species. The Member-Secretary informed that the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 already had provisions empowering the Chief Wildlife Warden to grant permission for problematic animals. The Chief Wildlife warden could also initiate action for translocation, sterilization of alpha males and/or culling of alpha males. In view of this, the Committee unanimously decided to convey these provisions to the Chief Wildlife Warden for action at his level.

(e) Convening Park Manager's Congress and constituting Awards for best Managed Protected Areas:

The Member Secretary informed that Committee regarding this agenda item which proposes to convene Park Manager's congress and also constituting Awards for best Managed Protected Areas.

Shri Kishore Rithe, Satupda Foundation, Amravati, opined that in addition to constituting 'Best Managed Protected Area' there should also be a category for the 'Best Researched Protected Area'.

After a brief discussion on the issue the Committee agreed to the both the proposals. The Committee also desired that the MOEF in consultation with the Wildlife Institute of India could work out the modalities in this regard.

(f) Central funding to be restricted to Protected Areas directly under the Wildlife Wing and managed by trained officers:

The Member Secretary informed that Committee regarding this agenda item. He mentioned that this agenda was proposed by Dr. M.K. Ranjitsinh.

The Chairman desired that since Dr. Ranjitsinh was not present during the meeting, this item could be discussed in the next meeting.

(g) Access to agenda of meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL to all the Non-Government members of NBWL:

The Member-Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the agenda item. The Committee decided that in future, the agenda items for the Standing Committee meetings should be hosted on the official website of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

Agenda item No. 3.2: Declaration of Elephant as India's National Heritage Animal:

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that the Ministry had proposed to declare Elephant as India's National Heritage Animal and since, earlier, the National Animal (Tiger) and National Bird (Peacock), National Aquatic Animal (Gangetic Dolphin) have been declared as per decision/recommendation of the Indian Board for Wildlife (IBWL)/ National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), and as the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife has been authorized to delegate the functions of the National Board, the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife may consider adopting/approving the declaration of Indian Elephant as 'National Heritage Animal'.

The Standing Committee of NBWL unanimously agreed to the proposal for declaring Elephant as India's 'National Heritage Animal'.

Agenda item No. 4

Agenda item No. 4.1: Proposals for diversion of land from Protected Areas

4.1 (1) Diversion of 0.5325 ha of forestland from Gir Sanctuary for laying fibre composite cable from Khijadia to Talala, Gujarat.

The Member Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the said proposal. He informed that there is no tree felling involved in this proposal. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat mentioned that the proposal is by the Telecom Engineer Works, Western Railway and the optical fibre cable was to be laid along the existing Railway line. He also mentioned that he had recommended the proposal with the condition that the area would be brought back to its original condition after laying of the cable.

After deliberations and considering the fact that CWLW has recommended the proposal, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- i. 5 % of the project cost for the area falling within the Sanctuary will be paid for the development of the Gir Sanctuary
- ii. The trench will be dug up by user agency in such a way that no tree should be cut.
- iii. No night camping should be allowed in Sanctuary area during digging the trenches and laying of OFC cable in sanctuary use.
- iv. The area should be brought back to the original position after laying the optical cables.
- v. No further activity for diversion of the sanctuary in continuation of the present project will be allowed.
- vi. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.
- vii. The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- viii. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

4.1 (2) Permission to carry out study for Environmental Impact Assessment and risk assessment for establishment of Port at Poshitra Distt. Jamnagar.

The Member Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the said proposal. He informed that the proposal was rejected by the Standing Committee in its meeting held on 12th April 2010. Thereafter, the proponents had made an appeal before the Secretary (E&F) for reconsidering their proposal.

The Committee was of the opinion that the Marine National Park was highly rich in Marine Bio diversity and is highly ecologically fragile area which was also suggested by the site inspection team of Dr. M.K. Ranjitsinh and Dr. Asad Rahmani, who had in turn rejected the proposal in view of the biodiversity richness. Further, the Swaminathan Committee in their report on Development of New Ports, had also recommended no development of any port within 10kms from Ecological fragile area/Protected Areas.

In view of the above facts, the Standing Committee of NBWL unanimously rejected the proposal to carry out study for EIA for establishment of Port at Poshitra.

4.1 (3) Diversion of 124.054 ha of forestland from Majathal Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Kol Dam Project, Himachal Pradesh.

The Member Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the said proposal. He informed that the Chief Wildlife Warden, while forwarding the proposal had mentioned that since the date for holding the meeting of the State Board for Wildlife had not been finalized, the proposal had been approved through circulation.

The CCF (Biodiversity), Government of Himachal Pradesh informed the Committee that the State Government had submitted a fact sheet regarding the proposal to the Central Empowered Committee wherein, it was indicated that about 51,262 number of trees would be under submergence area. He also informed that Majthtal Sanctuary was the habitat for the endangered Cheer Pheasant

After deliberations and in view of the submission made by the State Government to the Central Empowered Committee regarding the large number trees coming under submergence, the Committee unanimously decided to reject the proposal.

4.1 (4) Diversion of 1.437 ha of forestland from Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary for up-gradation of Sidhra Surinsar Mansar road of existing single lane to intermediate lane by the Economic Reconstruction Agency (ERA), J & K.

The Member Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the said proposal. He mentioned that the State Board for Wildlife had recommended the proposal. After discussions, the Committee was of the view that since the proposal was for up-gradation of the already existing road and therefore, decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions as stipulated by the Chief Wildlife Warden:

- i. The user agency, while implementing the road construction project, will abide by the orders to be issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and follow provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife Protection Act, 1978 (Amended upto 2002) strictly.
- ii. The user agency will pay an amount of Rs. 143.153 lakhs for implementation of Environmental Management measures in the Wildlife Sanctuary had provided in the Environmental Management pan as per the condition No. 6 in the NOC granted by Wildlife Protection Department vide no. 257 of 2009 dated 17.01.2009.
- iii. The user agency shall also pay NPV charges on the land to be diverted as per Hon'ble Supreme Court orders.
- iv. The user agency will follow the eco friendly engineering practices during the construction.
- v. The project staff & labourers involved in the construction of the road will be informed about the do's & don'ts in Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary.

- vi. Under road passages/crossings for wildlife movement, 18 such places have been indentified where under road passages shall be provided.
- vii. Warning/information sign boards and hoardings shall be provided on the road sections passing through the wildlife sanctuary.
- viii. For control of soil erosion and slope destabilization the measures like retaining walls and breast walls have been included in the design.
- ix. The construction camps and construction yards shall be established at least 2 km away from the boundary of the wildlife sanctuary.
- x. No burrowing of soil/earth shall be carried out within boundary of the wildlife sanctuary.
- xi. No quarrying / mining operations shall be carried out within boundary of the wildlife sanctuary.
- xii. Better drainage facility in the form of hill side drain shall be provided throughout the length of the road.
- xiii. For control of dust emissions water sprinkling shall be carried out regularly on the road sections under execution.
- xiv. "No Horn" signage shall be provided by the user agency at the spots where the road passes through the wildlife sanctuary.
- xv. Noisy construction works shall be scheduled to coincide with the period when wildlife would least likely be affected. No construction works shall be carried out during night time.
- xvi. Speed limit with the stretch of road passing through the Sanctuary should be restricted to 20 Kms/hr.
- xvii. Speeds breakers shall be constructed at atleast every 400 meters of the road stretch passing through the Sanctuary.
- xviii. Monitoring of air, noise and water quality shall be carried out along the road to ensure the effectiveness of the environmental management measures.
- xix. Any form of poaching by anyone, particularly by the road construction workers, will be strictly prevented. In the event of any case of poaching noticed during the construction of the roads, the user agency would be held responsible.
- xx. The construction debris generated due to the construction of road will be disposed off in an environmental friendly manner in consultation with the Conservator of Forests (WL), Jammu or his representative.
- xxi. The user agency will ensure that littering of any kind is strictly avoided by its staff and also by construction workers. All waste material such as plastics, tar barrels, gunny sacks, bottles, tin cans etc. would be properly disposed off. No waste material will be left either near or away from the road in the sanctuary.
- xxii. A Committee under Conservator of Forests (WL), Jammu comprising of representatives form Wildlife, State Pollution Control Board and Project Implementation unit shall monitor the implementation of the Environment Management Plan.
- xxiii. The user agency will ensure that minimum damage is done to the local flora. Cutting of local flora by construction workers would be strictly prohibited. The concerned officials of the user agency would conduct surprise checks, in collaboration with the Conservator of Forests (WL), Jammu or his representative to see that no damage is caused to the flora and fauna.

- xxiv. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.
- xxv. The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- xxvi. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

4.1 (5) Diversion of 1.241 ha of forestland from Madhav National Park for investigation/survey and laying of underground pipeline for supply of drinking water to Shivpuri town, M.P.

The Member Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the said proposal. He informed that the proposal was for survey & investigation for laying of underground pipeline for drinking water supply to the Shivpuri town in Madhya Pradesh.

After deliberation and in view of the fact that the proposal was for survey & investigation for laying drinking water pipeline, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- i. 5 % of the project cost for the area falling within the National Park would be paid by the user agency for the development of the Madhav National Park.
- ii. Water would not be drawn from the dam.
- iii. No sewage water would be drained into the dam
- iv. The overall width of the trench dug for laying the pipeline should not exceed 1.30 mt. and should be within the right of way of the Agra-Mumbai National Highway no.3 and Narwar-Satanwara Road.
- v. The depth of the trench should not exceed 1 mt.
- vi. No material including earth should be used from the National Park area as it will affect flora as well as fauna particularly the micro fauna.
- vii. The agency should ensure that no damage to any flora or fauna is caused during the course of the execution of the work.
- viii. All construction materials should be brought from outside the National park area, including earth.
- ix. There should not be any labour camps permanent or temporary in the national park area during the construction of the road. Collection of firewood shall be prohibited.
- x. No tree shall be felled by the user agency. All the trees along the roads shall be protected by the user agency.
- xi. All quarry for sand/moorum shall be informed by user agency and previous sanction of Revenue Department (mining) Collector is mandatory. If any Private party found to violate rules or involved in illegal mining during construction, than user agency will be made responsible for it.
- xii. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.

- xiii. The user agency should also abide by any other condition that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- xiv. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

4.1 (6) Diversion of 3.03 ha of forestland from Orchha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of bridge & approach road across Jamni River on Tikamgarh-Orchha-Jhansi road in Km. 74/6 by M.P.P.W.D Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

4.1 (7) Diversion of 0.45 ha of forestland from Orchha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of bridge & approach road across, Betwa River on Tikamgarh-Orchha-Jhansi road in Km. 81/2 by M.P.P.W.D Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

4.1 (8) Proposal for permission for maintenance/repair work in “Tikamgarh-Orcha road, SH-37, passing through Orcha Wildlife Sanctuary, M.P.

The Member-Secretary informed that since the three proposal pertained to construction/ upgradation of bridge/road falling within the Orcha Wildlife Sanctuary, the proposals could be considered together.

The Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh informed that one bridge each was required to be constructed at two locations inside the Orcha Sanctuary on the Tikamgarh-Orcha-Jhansi road. He also informed that the roads were already blacktopped and needed repair. He informed that while the proposals involving construction of bridge would not involve any tree felling, the proposal for maintenance/repair of the road would require felling of about 115 trees.

The Committee after deliberations was of the view that since the construction of bridge was for making connectivity between Tikamgarh & Jhansi and that since the road was already blacktopped and required repair only, the proposals could be recommended with the following conditions:

- i. 5 % of the project cost for the area falling within the Sanctuary would be paid by the user agency for the development of the Orcha Wildlife Sanctuary
- ii. No new road would be constructed. Only the existing road would be repaired.
- iii. There shall be no widening of the existing road. The overall width of the road should not be more than existing width including shoulders on either side of the road.
- iv. The tree felling would be to the barest minimum
- v. No material including earth should be used from the sanctuary area. It will affect flora as well as fauna, particularly the micro fauna.
- vi. There should be provision of speed breakers at every 400 meters of the road inside the sanctuary so that the speed is regulated within the sanctuary so that the speed is regulated within the sanctuary so as to avoid accidental death of wild animals.

- vii. Speed limit with the stretch of road passing through the Sanctuary should be restricted to 20 Kms /hr.
- viii. Apart from mandatory sign boards along the road, boards depicting wildlife safety instructions and cautions relating to it should also be placed at every 500 m. using good material and having proper font size and pictures.
- ix. The agency should ensure that no damage to any flora or fauna is caused during the course of the execution of work.
- x. All construction materials should be brought from outside the sanctuary area including earth.
- xi. There should not be any labour camps permanent or temporary, in the sanctuary area during the course of construction of the road. Collection of firewood shall be prohibited.
- xii. All the trees along the road shall be protected by the user agency.
- xiii. All quarry for metal/sand/moorum shall be informed by user agency and previous sanction of Revenue Department (mining) collector is mandatory. If any Private party found to violate rules or involved in illegal mining during construction, than user agency will be made responsible for it.
- xiv. Heavy vehicular traffic should be avoided as it may cause permanent disturbance inside the sanctuary.
- xv. All vehicles shall pay prescribed entry fees.
- xvi. All vehicles will enter sanctuary area after sunrise and shall exit the sanctuary before sunset.
- xvii. No camping of vehicles shall be allowed inside the sanctuary.
- xviii. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.
- xix. The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- xx. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

4.1 (9) Construction and upgradation of following 12 existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary:

- (i). Construction and upgradation of 5.40 km of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Bicchi Tamai road to Tilaya, Madhya Pradesh.
- (ii). Construction and upgradation of 27.15 km of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Bagdara to Foothadwa, Madhya Pradesh.

- (iii). Construction and upgradation of 7.90 km of the existing Rural Road of under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Bagdara main road to Khamhardeeh, Madhya Pradesh.
- (iv). Construction and upgradation of 5.30 km of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Bicchi Tamai road to Khambariya, Madhya Pradesh.
- (v). Construction & upgradation of 18.30 km of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Bagdara to Bicchi under PMGSY, Madhya Pradesh.
- (vi). Construction & upgradation of 2.20 km of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Khamhardih to Newari, Madhya Pradesh.
- (vii). Construction & upgradation of 7.85 km road of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Karaundiya road to Kuldiha, Madhya Pradesh.
- (viii). Construction & upgradation of 3.00 km road of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Bicchi Tamai road to Kamrauha, Madhya Pradesh.
- (ix). Construction & upgradation of 2.20 km road of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Tamai to Padari Khurd, Madhya Pradesh.
- (x). Construction & upgradation of 8.30 km road of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Bagdara to Wargawan, Madhya Pradesh.
- (xi). Construction & upgradation of 8.65 km road of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Naudihawa to Barwadih, Madhya Pradesh.
- (xii). Construction & upgradation of 46.65 km road of the existing Rural Road under PMGSY to provide all weather road connectivity to the villages in Bagdara Sanctuary from Naudihawa to Amiliya (Khairpur), Madhya Pradesh.

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that there were 12 proposals involving up-gradation of roads passing through the Bagdara Sanctuary. The Members were of the opinion that site inspection looking into (i) conditions of existing road; (ii) width of each road; (iii) requirement for repair, of all the roads needs to be done before grant of approval to such large number of roads. The Committee, after discussions, decided that a team comprising of Ms. Perna Bindra, Shri Kishore Rithe, Satpuda Foundation, Amravati and Dr. T.R. Shankar Raman, NCF, Mysore would conduct a site inspection and submit a report to the Committee. The Committee would, thereafter, take a final view on the proposals.

4.1 (10) Diversion of 5.04 ha of forest land from Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary for construction & upgradation of 6.30 km road from Obedullaganj-Rehti road to Mathar ihawa to Khairpur) under PMGSY, Madhya Pradesh

The Member Secretary informed the Committee regarding the proposal. He informed that the proposal was for construction & upgradation of existing road under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

After deliberations, it was opined that since the proposal involved rural road connectivity under the PMGSY programme, the proposal could be recommended subject to conditions. Dr. Divyabhanusinh Chavda suggested that such proposals had earlier been recommended in the State of Rajasthan and Gujarat subject to certain conditions and the same conditions should be imposed in this case also. The Committee agreed to the suggestion and recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- i. 5 % of the project cost for the area falling within the Sanctuary would be paid by the user agency for the development of the Ratapani Wildlife
- ii. No black topping of the above roads would be done.
- iii. The road development shall be carried out with utmost care.
- iv. It shall be ensured that no damage is caused to the Wildlife and Sanctuary.
- v. No realignment shall be permissible.
- vi. For movement of runoff water and wildlife, minimum of one subway per 3 kms, culvert per every 8 meter for maintaining continuity of water
- vii. There should be provision of speed breakers at every 400 meters of the road inside the sanctuary so that the speed is regulated within the sanctuary so that the speed is regulated within the sanctuary so as to avoid accidental death of wild animals.
- viii. Speed limit with the stretch of road passing through the Sanctuary should be restricted to 20 Kms/hr.
- ix. All construction material and other material will be brought from outside the sanctuary and no digging for extraction material will be done in the sanctuary.
- x. All the conditions laid down by Government of Madhya Pradesh or any agency shall be binding on the user agency.
- xi. No further works would be approved on the above roads.
- xii. All vehicles will enter sanctuary area after sunrise and shall exit the sanctuary before sunset.
- xiii. Heavy vehicular traffic should be avoided as it may cause permanent disturbance inside the sanctuary.
- xiv. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.

- xv. The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- xvi. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

4.1 (11) Diversion of 1.59 ha of forest land from Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary for construction & upgradation of 5.30 km road from Gaganbada to Kartoli under PMGSY, Madhya Pradesh

The Member-Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the proposal. He informed that this proposal was similar to the earlier proposal. In view of the stand taken in the above proposal, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- i. 5 % of the project cost for the area falling within the Sanctuary would be paid by the user agency for the development of the Singhori Wildlife Sanctuary.
- ii. No black topping of the above roads would be done.
- iii. The road development shall be carried out with utmost care.
- iv. It shall be ensured that no damage is caused to the Wildlife and Sanctuary.
- v. No realignment shall be permissible.
- vi. For movement of runoff water and wildlife, minimum of one subway per 3 kms, culvert per every 8 meter for maintaining continuity of water.
- vii. There should be provision of speed breakers at every 400 meters of the road inside the sanctuary so that the speed is regulated within the sanctuary so that the speed is regulated within the sanctuary so as to avoid accidental death of wild animals.
- viii. Speed limit with the stretch of road passing through the Sanctuary should be restricted to 20 Kms/hr.
- ix. All construction material and other material will be brought from outside the sanctuary and no digging for extraction material will be done in the sanctuary.
- x. All the conditions laid down by Government of Madhya Pradesh or any agency shall be binding on the user agency.
- xi. No further works would be approved on the above roads.
- xii. All vehicles will enter sanctuary area after sunrise and shall exit the sanctuary before sunset.
- xiii. Heavy vehicular traffic should be avoided as it may cause permanent disturbance inside the sanctuary.
- xiv. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.
- xv. The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

- xvi. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

4.1 (12) Proposal for upgradation & Strengthening of 5.80 km existing State Highway-37 from Damon-Jabalpur passing through Veerangna Rani Durgawati Sanctuary under PMGSY, Madhya Pradesh

The Member-Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the proposal. It was informed that the existing State Highway 37 from Damoh to Jabalpur was in very bad condition and required urgent repair works.

The Committee, after discussions, decided that only repair works in the said road could be permitted and no expansion or widening of the existing road is permissible. The said recommendation was subject to the following conditions:

- i. 5 % of the project cost for the area falling within the Sanctuary would be paid by the user agency for the development of the Veerangana Rani Durgawati Wildlife Sanctuary.
- ii. No black topping of the above roads would be done.
- iii. The road development shall be carried out with utmost care.
- iv. It shall be ensured that no damage is caused to the Wildlife and Sanctuary.
- v. No realignment shall be permissible.
- vi. For movement of runoff water and wildlife, minimum of one subway per 3 kms, culvert per every 8 meter for maintaining continuity of water.
- vii. There should be provision of speed breakers at every 400 meters of the road inside the sanctuary so that the speed is regulated within the sanctuary so that the speed is regulated within the sanctuary so as to avoid accidental death of wild animals.
- viii. Speed limit with the stretch of road passing through the Sanctuary should be restricted to 20 Kms/hr.
- ix. All construction material and other material will be brought from outside the sanctuary and no digging for extraction material will be done in the sanctuary.
- x. All the conditions laid down by Government of Madhya Pradesh or any agency shall be binding on the user agency.
- xi. No further works would be approved on the above roads.
- xii. All vehicles will enter sanctuary area after sunrise and shall exit the sanctuary before sunset.
- xiii. Heavy vehicular traffic should be avoided as it may cause permanent disturbance inside the sanctuary.
- xiv. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.
- xv. The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- xvi. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project

4.1 (13) Maintenance/repair work of 17.15 km road from Indwar-tala-Parsi passing through Panpatha Wildlife Sanctuary & Bandhavgarh National Park, M.P.

The Member-Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the proposal. He informed that the said road passes through the Bandhavgarh National Park & Panpatha Wildlife Sanctuary.

Dr. Divyabhanusinh Chavda mentioned that the State Government has put a fence along the road side which was hampering the movement of wildlife. He suggested that this fence should be removed immediately. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh informed that the fence was erected to prevent a tiger from straying out to the nearby human habitations. He however, assured the Committee that the said fence would be removed immediately.

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

- i. Adequate speed breakers at suitable distance for safety of wildlife shall be provided. For this purpose, Dr. A.J. T. Johnsingh would visit the site and suggest mitigatory measures including the speed breakers.
- ii. 5 % of the project cost for the area falling within the Protected Areas would be paid by the user agency for the development of the Panpatha Wildlife Sanctuary and Bandhavgarh National Park.
- iii. The road development shall be carried out with utmost care
- iv. It shall be ensured that no damage is caused to the Wildlife and its habitat.
- v. No realignment shall be permissible
- vi. For movement of runoff water and wildlife, minimum of one subway per 3 kms, culvert per every 8 meter for maintaining continuity of water
- vii. Speed limit with the stretch of road passing through the Sanctuary should be restricted to 20 Kms/hr.
- viii. All construction material and other material will be brought from outside the sanctuary and no digging for extraction material will be done in the Protected Areas.
- ix. All the conditions laid down by Government of Madhya Pradesh or any agency shall be binding on the user agency.
- x. No further works would be approved on the above roads.
- xi. All vehicles will enter sanctuary area after sunrise and shall exit the sanctuary before sunset.
- xii. Heavy vehicular traffic should be avoided as it may cause permanent disturbance inside the sanctuary.
- xiii. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.
- xiv. The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

- xv. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

4.1 (14) Construction and Upgradation of rural road of the existing road under PMGSY which is connecting habitations to all weather BT road from Kerkeli Raipur bagdari road to chechariya, Madhya Pradesh

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that the proposal was for up gradation of existing rural road passing through Bandhavgarh National Park. He also informed that this was also a similar proposal like the earlier one.

After deliberations, the Committee decided that since Dr. A.J.T Johnsingh would be conducting a visit to Bandhavgarh National Park, he would also visit this road and suggest mitigatory measures. The Committee also felt that as black topping inside Protected Areas was prohibited, only gravel road repair works could be allowed. However, in case the road has been black topped, the final recommendation would be based on the suggestions made by Dr. A.J.T. Johnsingh after his site visit.

4.1 (15) Diversion of 12.88 ha of forestland from National Chambal Ghariyal Sanctuary for 400 kv S/C transmission line from Dahra to Bhilwara, Rajasthan

4.1 (16) Diversion of 1.15 ha of forestland from National Chambal Ghariyal Sanctuary for 400 KV S/C transmission line from Chhabra-TPS to Hindaun, Rajasthan

The Member-Secretary informed the Committee that these two proposals were recommended earlier by the Standing Committee with one of the condition being that 5% of the total project cost will be deposited for the development of National Chambal Sanctuary. However, now, the project proponent have requested that 5% of the estimated cost of the project towards the laying of the transmission lines in the area falling within the sanctuary may be deposited by the applicant in the Compensatory Afforestation Fund. Hon'ble Supreme Court had also approved this condition.

In view of the fact that Hon'ble Supreme Court had already agreed for the waiver, the Committee unanimously decided to recommend the proposal with the condition that 5% of the estimated cost of the project towards the laying of the transmission lines in the area falling within the sanctuary may be deposited by the applicant in the Compensatory Afforestation Fund.

4.1 (17) Diversion of 0.205 ha of forestland from Fambonglho Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Sang Naya Bazar water supply scheme from Lalichok to Sang in East Sikkim

4.1 (18) Diversion of 1.9718 ha of forest land from Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of water supply scheme from Mithuney to Rhenock in (South) Sikkim.

4.1 (19) Diversion of 0.50 ha of forest land from Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of water supply scheme from Jelep la stream to Kupup in (North) Sikkim

The Member Secretary informed that there were **three** proposals for construction of drinking water supply scheme passing through Fambonglho and Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuaries in Sikkim.

After brief discussion, the Committee decided that a team comprising of Ms. Prerna Bindra, Dr. A.J. T. Johnsingh would conduct a site inspection and submit a report to the Committee. A final view of the three proposals would be taken thereafter.

4.1 (20) Diversion of 52.70 ha of forest land from Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of defence road between Flag Hill to Dokala (Southern alignment) in the East Sikkim.

The Member Secretary informed that the proposal was for construction of Border road passing through Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary in Sikkim. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Sikkim briefed the Committee regarding the strategic importance of the road and also on the possible impacts of the road to the wildlife in the area.

Since the road was of utmost importance from national security point of view, the Committee unanimously decided to recommend the proposal subject to the safeguards to be suggested by the Hon'ble Chairman.

4.1 (21) Diversion of 6.00 ha of forest land from Maenam Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Skywalk at Bhaleydunga (South) Sikkim

The Member-Secretary informed the Committee that the proposal was for survey & investigation for construction of a sky walk falling within the Maenam Sanctuary, Sikkim. The Committee, however, did not find merit in the proposal from the point of view of wildlife conservation. It was opined that the proposal was not site specific. In view of these suggestions, the Committee decided to reject the proposal.

4.1 (22) Diversion of 4.54 ha of forestland in Asambu Reserved Forest in Thovalai Taluk in Kanniyakumar for providing drinking water facility to Nagercoil Municipality, Tamil Nadu

The Member Secretary briefed the Committee regarding the proposal. He also mentioned that the Chief Wildlife Warden had informed his inability to attend the meeting due to preoccupation.

Dr. A.J. T. Johnsingh mentioned that he was well aware of the site and that there would be only very minimum impact on the project on the wildlife in the area. Considering this and the fact that the proposal has been recommended by both the State Board for Wildlife and the Chief Wildlife Warden, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the conditions as suggested by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Tamil Nadu:

- i. Small deep water holes on the foreshore area to an extent of 0.5 acre to 1 acre may be created for the use of the wild animals as the water in the Reservoir may not be available for the use of the wild animals during summer season.”
- ii. The forest officials need to be permitted to visit that water hole and undertake maintenance operation whenever necessary.
- iii. The applicant shall assist the forest department to provide protection to the animals/forest in this area by passing on the information to the forest staff.
- iv. NPV and Compensatory afforestation Funds will be paid by the user agency to the Chief Wildlife Warden as per norms.
- v. The user agency should also abide by any other conditions that may be prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- vi. The Chief Wildlife Warden would submit a compliance report on the implementation of the conditions specified, before the Standing Committee of NBWL after completion of the project.

4.1 (23) Permission for construction of an Embankment on the Left Bank of River Ganga from village Sherpur to village Thet falling in the Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttar Pradesh

The Member-Secretary informed the Committee that the proposal was for construction of an embankment on left bank of river Ganga and falling within the Hastinapur Sanctuary. He informed that the proposal has been recommended by the Hon'ble Supreme Court with one of the condition that approval of Standing Committee of NBWL would be obtained before starting any work on the project. He also informed that the recommendation of the State Board for Wildlife was yet to be communicated for this proposal.

The Committee unanimously decided to refer the proposal to the State Board for Wildlife for their opinion before a final view is taken by the Standing Committee.

4.1 (24) Permission for the Sela Urthing HEP (230 MW) from Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary, Uttarakhand

The Member-Secretary informed that the proposal involves construction of 230 MW Hydro Electric Power Station in Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary.

The Committee was of the opinion that the capacity of the project was too high and there would be negative impact of the project on the habitat of the critically endangered Musk Deer. It was, therefore decided reject the proposal.

4.1 (25) Diversion of 6.07 ha of forestland from Rajaji National Park for establishment of Ayush Gram, Uttarakhand

The Member-Secretary informed that the proposal was for establishment of Ayush Gram within Rajaji National Park. The Committee after discussions decided that a team comprising of the Director, Wildlife Institute of India and Dr. A.J.T. Johnsingh would conduct a site inspection and submit a report to the Committee. A final view would be taken thereafter.

Agenda item No. 4.2: Proposals pertaining to activities within 10 Kms from the boundaries of the Protected Areas:

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that there were seven proposals pertaining to taking up activities falling within 10 Kms from the boundaries of Protected Areas and important/sensitive corridors.

4.2 (1) Enhancing the capacity of cement plant by M/s Parashakti Cements Ltd-reconsideration case-Reconsideration.

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that the proposal was a reconsideration case. However, the Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh had requested that the matter be postponed for the next meeting. In view of this, the Committee decided to defer the matter to the next meeting.

4.2(2) Reconsideration proposal for manufacture of ductile iron spun pipes as a downstream value added product and a sinter plant of 2,50,000 TPA capacity to utilize iron ore fines which are locally available and further to upgrade the blast furnace technology by M/s Aparant Iron & Steel Pvt. Ltd.

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that this was again a reconsideration case. He mentioned that the proposal had been rejected by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its meeting held on 12th April 2010. However, a representation was received from the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Goa for reconsideration of the proposal.

The Committee was of the opinion that as this proposal had been rejected after a detailed discussion and that there were no new grounds on which the case needed to be reconsidered, the Committee once again unanimously rejected the proposal.

4.2 (3) Diversion of 98.76 ha of forestland from Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary for renewal of lease area at Careamol iron ore mine (T.C.no.80 of 16/11/1959) situated in the village Pirla in Quepem Taluka by Shri Jaisinh Maganlal, Goa

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that this proposal was referred to the Standing Committee by the National Appellate Authority.

Ms. Prerna Bindra was of the opinion that the NEAA conducted a site visit of the proposed mine and gave its judgement on 12th of July, 2010 wherein it was mentioned that mining of iron ore in this area is not justified on environmental consideration even without taking into account its effect on sanctuary and the eventual orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on the distance in the context of Goa and therefore, the NEAA had cancelled the clearance order of the Ministry of Environment and Forest dated 18-09-2007 for the production of iron ore in Careamol Iron Ore Mine of Shri Jaisinh Maganlal at Village Pirla, Quepem Taluk is District South Goa.

In view of the above views, the Committee unanimously rejected the proposal.

4.2 (4) Diversion of 85.05 ha of forestland from Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary & Navegaon National Park for construction of Chhatisgarh /Maharashtra Border-Wainganga Bridge section form km 485 of NH-6 in the State of Maharashtra

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that proposal was for construction of road passing through the corridors between the Nagzira and Navegaon Tiger corridor. It was pointed out that the CCF(WL), Government of Maharashtra, in his report to the CEC had mentioned that the 4 laning of NH-6 would completely separate the North-South corridor between Nagzira Sanctuary and Navegaon National Park. Navegaon National Park has connectivity to Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve and forest areas of Gadchiroli district while Nagzira Sanctuary has connectivity to Pench Tiger Reserve of M.P and Maharashtra which extends to Kanha. The major carnivores and herbivores currently use this corridor for migration. Thus the corridor between Navegaon

National Park and Nagzira Sanctuary is one of the vital corridors for maintaining connectivity of Central India Tiger Conservation Landscape.

In view of the above, the Committee unanimously decided to reject the proposal.

4.2 (5) Diversion of 879.666 ha (840.00 ha of forestland & 39.666 ha Revenue forest land) for Mandla North underground mining coal block for M/s Jaiprakash Associates Ltd, Distt.Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that the proposal for mining activity to be taken up by M/s Jaiprakash Associates was falling within the corridor connecting the core-buffer areas of Pench and Satpuda Tiger Reserves, as informed by the NTCA.

The Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh informed that the proposed site was far from the Pench & Satpuda Tiger Reserves. In view of this, the Committee decided that the proposal be referred back to the NTCA for their comments within 1 month time. The Director, Wildlife Institute of India and Shri Kishore Rithe, Satpuda Foundation, Amravati, would also examine the proposal and give their suggestions to the NTCA.

The Standing Committee would take a final view on the proposal after receipt of the consolidated report of NTCA, Wildlife Institute of India and Shri Kishore Rithe, Satpuda Foundation, Amravati

4.2 (6) Diversion of land for lime stone mines due to location of Son Gharial Crocodile Sanctuary within 10 km of the Mining lease, Madhya Pradesh.

- (i) Badgawna Revenue, Distt.Sidhi-68.910 ha.(Revenue land)
- (ii) Majhigawan Extension, Distt.Sidhi-54.825 ha (Forest Land)
- (iii) Hinauti Extension, Distt.Satna, 258.864 ha (Forest land).

The Member Secretary informed that the proposal involved mining in area falling within 10 Kms from Son Gharial Sanctuary. Dr. Asad Rahmani suggested that the probable impact of the mining on Indian Skimmer also need to be ascertained.

The Committee, therefore, decided to have a site inspection by Dr. Asad Rahmani. Final view on the proposal would be taken thereafter.

4.2 (7) Construction of 96 MW Lethang Hydro Electric Project in West District, Sikkim

The Member-Secretary informed that the proposal was for construction of Hydro electric project within 10 Kms from the Kangchendzonga National Park.

It was informed that a letter had been received from the Sikkim Bhutia Lepcha Apex Committee indicating that the project would hurt the religious sentiments of the Butias & Lepchas. It was also mentioned in the letter that Prof. R.S. Ramakrishna, School of Environmental Sciences, JNU had in his report stated that he would not recommend the proposal keeping in view the social, cultural and religious sentiments of a large section of Sikkimese society in mind.

In view of the sentiments expressed in the letter, the Committee unanimously decided not to recommend the proposal.

Agenda item No. 5: Any other item with permission of the Chair

Agenda item no. 5.1 : Request of Government of Turkmenistan for donation of two elephants.

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that the Government of Turkmenistan had requested for donation of a pair of Elephants from India for their zoo. However as per the decision of the National Board for Wildlife, gifting of wild animals by Heads of state has been prohibited.

It was opined that since the elephants have been sought for Zoo, the proposal could be considered under the Zoo to Zoo exchange programme. The Committee decided that only zoo bred elephants should be given and for this purpose, the proposal should be forwarded to the Central Zoo Authority for further necessary action.

Agenda item No. 5.2: Opinion of National Board for Wildlife with respect to Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed against allotment of land from the National Chambal Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh.

The Member Secretary informed that a PIL was filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Bench at Gwalior against the allotment of land for sand mining lease from the National Chambal Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh. He informed that Hon'ble High Court, while hearing the matter had directed the NBWL and MOEF for opinion. The Member-Secretary also informed that an affidavit in this regard has been prepared.

The Committee decided that the affidavit could be circulated amongst the members of the Committee and the comments thus received could be incorporated and approval of

the Chairman could be solicited by MOEF and the affidavit be filed before the Hon'ble Court.

Agenda item No. 5.3: Bleaching of Corals- issue raised by Dr. Asad Rahmani.

Dr. Asad Rahmani informed the Committee that in recent times alarming levels of coral bleaching have been recorded in the Coral reefs in India. It was suggested to have in place a rapid and continuous coral reef monitoring programme to document coral bleaching locations along the Indian coastline. He suggested that appropriate institution/organization needs to be identified.

The Committee, after discussions, decided that BNHS should come up with a research project on this issue which would be considered by the MOEF.

Agenda item No. 5.4: Steel Plant adjoining Daroji Bear Sanctuary, Karnataka- issue raised by Dr. Asad Rahmani

Dr. Asad Rahmani informed that M/s Bhushan Steel Industries were setting up their Steel Plant in the vicinity of the Daroji Bear sanctuary and was causing significant adverse impact on the Bear Sanctuary. The Bear sanctuary is only one of its kinds in India and lot of care is being taken to protect one of the endangered schedule-1 species – the Sloth Bear. He also informed that the Daroji Bear sanctuary is situated very close to the World heritage site of Hampi near Hospet, in Bellary district and that urgent action needs to be taken for mitigation.

The Chairman suggested he would write to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Karnataka on this issue at the earliest.

The meeting thereafter, ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

ANNEXURE - 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING THE MEETING OF THE 20TH MEETING
OF STANDING COMMITTEE OF NBWL HELD ON 13TH OCTOBER, 2010

1	Shri Jairam Ramesh Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment & Forests	Chairman
2	Shri P.R. Sinha Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun	Member
3	Dr. Divyabhanusinh Chavda	Member
4	Dr. A.J.T. Johnsingh	Member
5	Dr. Asad Rahmani, Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai.	Member
6	Ms. Purna Bindra	Member
7	Dr. T.R. Shankar Raman, Nature Conservation Foundation, Mysore	Member
8	Shri Kishore, Satpuda Foundation, Amravati.	Member
9	Shri A.K. Srivastava, Inspector General of Forests (WL) & Director, Wildlife Preservation	Member- Secretary
10	Dr. H.S. Pabla Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh	Invitee
11	Shri S. Chandola Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttarakhand	Invitee
12	Shri H.M. Bhatia Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan	Invitee
13	Shri R.V. Asari Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat	Invitee
14	Shri N.T. Bhutia Chief Wildlife Warden, Sikkim	Invitee
14	Dr. Rajesh Gopal Member-Secretary, NTCA	Invitee
15	Shri A.N. Prasad Inspector General of Forests & Director, PE	Invitee
16	Shri V.K. Mohan Representing Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra	Invitee
17	Shri Sanjeeva Pande CCF(WL), Government of Himachal Pradesh	Invitee
18	Shri B.K. Singh Representing Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttar Pradesh	Invitee
19	Ms. Prakriti Srivastava	Invitee

	Deputy Inspector General (WL)	
20	Shri Yogendra Pal Singh Deputy Director (WL)	Invitee
