



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

**6th Floor, Vayu Wing
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj**

**F.No.6-14/2016 WL (37th Meeting)
Dated: 15th March 2016**

To

**All Members,
Standing Committee of NBWL.**

Sub: Minutes of 37th Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL.

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the minutes of the 37th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 26th February 2016 at 3.00 PM in Teesta", 1st Floor, Vayu Block, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, New Delhi-110003 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

Yours faithfully,

**(Rajasekhar Ratti)
Scientist 'C'/Deputy Director (WL)**

Encl: As above

Distribution:

1. Secretary, MoEF & CC
2. Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF & CC.
3. Member Secretary, NTCA, New Delhi.
4. Addl. Director General of Forests (WL), MoEF&CC.
5. Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
6. Director, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
7. Prof. R.Sukumar, Central for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
8. Dr. H.S. Singh, Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat.
9. Pr. Secretary (Forests), Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble MOS (I/C) E&F.
2. PPS to DGF&SS.
3. PPS to Addl.DGF(WL) and Member Secretary, Standing Committee (NBWL).
4. PPS to IGF(WL)/PS to DIG(WL)/PS to JD(WL).

**Minutes of the 37th Meeting of the Standing Committee of
National Board for Wildlife held on 26th February, 2016**

The 37th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL) was held on 26th February 2016 in the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forests and Climate Change. List of participants is at **Annexure-1**.

Hon'ble Chairman welcomed all participants to the 37th Meeting and permitted IGF (WL) to present the agenda as Member Secretary had been granted leave of absence by the Chair.

**Agenda Item No. 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 36th Meeting of
Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife
held on 4th November 2015.**

IG F (WL) informed the Committee that the minutes of the 36th meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 4th November 2015, were circulated to all members of the Standing Committee on 9th November 2015. No comments were received.

Member Dr H S Singh requested that in the agenda item 33.4.1 (3) on rationalization of Maldhok Bird Sanctuary Maharashtra, the recommendation related to the proposed addition of private lands comprising grassland habitats interspersed with government lands came up as optional (would be attempted to be acquired). These recommendations may be made compulsory. Chair and the Committee agreed on this point. With this modification, the minutes of 36th meeting were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 2: Action Taken Report (ATR)

**37.2.1 Action taken on the decisions of the Standing Committee of NBWL
taken in its 36th meeting.**

**36.3.1.4 Request for reconsideration of proposal for exchange of 19.503 hectares of forest
land adjoining hospital with equal area of private land contiguous with forest
boundary- Representation by Shree Raghavendra Sewashram Samiti.**

IG (WL) explained the representation was considered by the Committee in 36th meeting and a team of representatives of Wild Life Institute of India, NTCA and Chief Wildlife Warden,

Uttarakhand was requested to hold a site visit and check the locational circumstances including the area proposed for inclusion in the Tiger Reserve. The team had visited the site and the report was placed for consideration. The report confirmed that the site proposed by the applicant to be given to them in exchange is a narrow strip of 10-100 m width, cut off from the main forest land by an elevated railway track, thereby separating the core/critical habitat from it. Its significance as ecological contiguous habitat would thus be compromised. On the other hand, the site offered to the Tiger Reserve at Banjarawala is contiguous to the habitat, with evidences of wild life presence though barren and uncultivated. Besides, there is no human habitation in vicinity.

Considering that the area offered has been reported to have potential of becoming an integral part of Tiger Reserve, if it is developed into an ecological wild life habitat, Committee found that the offer made in the representation of the applicant is feasible. Committee also considered the fact that earlier, in IA 20 in WP (C) 337/1995, when the applicant had sought permission of Hon'ble Supreme Court for this proposed exchange, the state had submitted in their affidavit that the proposal was favourable to Rajaji National Park.

Accordingly it was decided to accept the representation of Shri Raghavendra Seva Samiti and recommend the proposal. The applicant may take up the matter with the state government in due compliance of the related processes as per laws and rules applicable accordingly.

35.4.5.1 Proposal for boundary alteration of Kolleru Wild Life Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh.

IG WL briefed about the previous decision on the proposal for alteration of boundary and requested Dr.R.Sukumar to present the findings of site inspection. Dr.R.Sukumar briefed the biodiversity and conservation values of the sanctuary. He mentioned that the North Eastern part of the sanctuary, about 16000 ha, which is in private ownership and for which government has not been in a position to pay compensation, is suitable for de-notification from the sanctuary. The Special Chief Secretary, Andhra Pradesh requested the Committee to consider the boundary alteration on the basis of contour of the Kolleru, i.e., from +5m to +3 m. Expressing specific objective of concern for a balance in conservation of bird habitat and livelihood issues of communities, Chairman requested Dr. R.Sukumar and site inspection team to interact with the state government of Andhra Pradesh and finalise the report with recommendations for part of the sanctuary area, which is suitable for de-notification, which would cater the needs of the local land owners while preserving the conservation of the Kolleru Bird Sanctuary. The report will be submitted before next meeting.

36.4.2.4 Proposal for setting up of Solid Waste Management Project at village Jhuriwala in Panchkula District, Haryana

IG WL briefed that the proposal was deferred in the 36th meeting for the information on how the negative impact of the landfill on the ground water and ambient environment. The Chairman asked the user agency to present the proposed mitigation measures for preventing the ground water pollution and ambient environment. The user agency presented the engineering construction measures for composting of municipal solid waste, landfill of inert waste and leachate handling, transportation through pipeline and treatment in Common Effluent Treatment Plant which is away from the site.

Considering that arrangements are in place for ensuring that the leachates do not pollute the ground water and composting of biodegradable waste is also ensured, the Committee agreed to recommend the proposal with the following conditions in addition to those proposed by Chief Wild Life Warden in the proposal and SBWL, to be made part of EC clearance.

- 1. The landfill for inert waste will be based on the standard design and will be covered.*
- 2. Adequate water harvesting structure will be created in the Khol Hai Ratan WLS for providing sustained water and fodder to the wild life within the PA. The cost will be borne by the project proponent.*

36.4.1.17 Diversion of 3.571 ha of reserve forest land falling in Sohelwa Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Rapti Main Canal passing through Tulsipur Range, district Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh.

IG WL briefed that the proposal was deferred due to absence of the representative of the State in the 36th meeting. CWLW explained that out of total 125 km stretch of the Rapti main canal, 0.81 km (from Km 71.49 to Km 7203) falls in Tulsipur Range of Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary. After discussions the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with condition that user agency shall provide landscaped over bridges as animal crossings over the canal within the Sanctuary in consultation with Forest Department, Uttar Pradesh and also conditions prescribed by CWLW as below.

- 1. User agency will ensure that none of their employees/workers shall indulge into any kind of wild life/forest offence causing any loss of flora & fauna in the surroundings.*
- 2. Forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than for the purpose recommended.*
- 3. No tree cutting and soil digging will be allowed in sanctuary/Forest area other than workable area during the construction work.*
- 4. The user agency should not divert any waterways and ignite any fire inside the sanctuary adjacent to the area to be diverted.*

5. *The slope of the ramp should be properly designed (around 1:20) to ensure wild animals do not fall in the canal.*
6. *The user agency should ensure in case of any exigency, water can be pumped from the canal for wildlife purpose without any charge.*
7. *The user agency will create four waterholes between Km 71.490 to 72.300 (Two on either side of the canal) for the wildlife. The size and site of these waterholes will be suggested by the Divisional Forest Officer/protected area manager of the Suhelwa Wild Life Division, Balrampur.*
8. *The instructions/orders passed by the State Govt./Central Govt. and the directions passed by Hon'ble High Court/Supreme Court from time to time regarding such projects shall be complied with.*
9. *No labor camp shall be established within the sanctuary area.*

36.4.1.18 Proposal for Retail outlet (by Essar Oil Ltd) on private land khasra no.248 at village Kalai (within the boundary of Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary Area, Amroha forest Division), Tehsil-Dhanaura Uttar Pradesh.

IG WL briefed that the retail outlet of petrol pump is proposed in a private land within the notified area of the sanctuary.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with conditions prescribed by CWLW as below:

1. *Protection and mitigation measures for wildlife should be ensured as per standard practice in such cases.*
2. *Land shall not be used for any other purpose other than that specified in the proposal.*
3. *The instructions/orders passed by the State Govt./Central Govt. and the directions passed by Hon'ble High Court/Supreme Court from time to time regarding such project shall be complied with.*
4. *User agency will ensure that the project personnel engaged in the project shall observe the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 & Rules made thereafter.*
5. *Construction waste materials will not be thrown inside the sanctuary area or movement corridor of wildlife.*
6. *The project proponent shall provide the cost for plantation/forestation work by planting the native species in the area adjacent to project area/ in the sanctuary.*
7. *No labour camp shall be established in the sanctuary/forest area or other sensitive area.*
8. *Two GPS sets shall be provided to the Amroha Forest Division for the survey and demarcation of the sanctuary boundaries.*

36.4.1.19 Diversion of 7.3445 ha private land for construction of high level bridge and approach road across Kuwari River at Bithauli-Chaurela road near village Chaurela in district Etawah, Uttar Pradesh.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee that the proposal for use of revenue land in the National Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary was deferred in the 36th meeting due to absence of the representative of the State. CWLW explained that the proposed high level bridge provided rural infrastructure to the local people.

After discussions, considering that it was a public utility over revenue land over a tributary of Chambal, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions prescribed by CWLW as below.

- 1. User agency (PWD, U.P. Etawah) shall provide the funds for reduction in negative impact for conservation & eco-development activities of Wild Life.*
- 2. The land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.*
- 3. The instructions/orders passed by the State Govt./Central Govt. and the directions passed by Hon'ble Courts from time to time regarding such project shall be complied with.*
- 4. A Bolero vehicle shall be provided to the Chambal Wildlife Division for the protection and conservation of the wildlife.*
- 5. Four differential GPS instruments shall be provided for the survey and demarcation of the boundaries of the Chambal WLS.*
- 6. No labour camp shall be established within the Sanctuary area.*
- 7. Extraction of local river sand shall not be allowed in any circumstances and not be used in construction.*
- 8. In any case the proposed site shall not be used for any purpose other than the specified one.*
- 9. The user agency will set up a check post near the site and hand it over to National Chambal Wildlife Division, Agra so that the movement of illegal sand and other forest produce can be controlled. This will also secure the wildlife in the area.*

36.4.2.7 NOC for River Noon Lot No.8/1 Sand, Bajri& Boulder Mining project (Area 7.50 ha) falling at a distance about 7.5 km from the Mussoorie Wildlife Sanctuary, District-Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

36.4.2.8 Collection of Minor Minerals from Gulati river in the district Dehradun, to channelize the natural course and protect the river banks and adjoining forest area and habitat from flood. Uttarakhand.

- 36.4.2.9 NOC for Swarna Lot No.17/1 Sand Bajri& Boulder Mining Project, Area 51.463 ha falls about 8 km to the Mussoorie Wildlife Sanctuary, DistrictDehradun, uttarakhand.**
- 36.4.2.10 NOC for River Noon Lot No.8/2 Sand, Bajri& Boulder Mining project, (Area 7.60 ha) falling at a distance about 9 km from the Mussoorie Wildlife Sanctuary, District-Dehradun, Uttarakhand.**
- 36.4.2.11 Collection of minor minerals from Ramgarhrau river (20 Ha) in the district Dehradun, Uttarakhand to channalise the natural course and project the river banks and adjoining forest area and habitat from flood**
- 36.4.2.12 Construction of Singoli-Bhatwari Hydroelectric Project 99 MW by M/s L&T Uttaranchal Hydropower Limited. The proposed site falls within 10 kms from the boundary of Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary.**
- 36.4.2.13 Construction of 171 MW LataTapovan Hydro Power Project of NTPC Ltd, Uttarakhand.**
- 36.4.2.14 Construction of 520 MW (4x130) TapovanVishnugad Hydroelectric Project of NTPC Ltd, Uttarakhand. The proposed site falls outside Nanda Devi National Park at a distance of 7.5 km.**
- 36.4.2.15 Diversion of 1.610 ha Forest(Civil Land) for construction of Hapla-Guram-Nail motor road (5 km), Uttarakhand. The proposed site falls within 10 km aerial distance from the Kedarnath Musk Deer Wildlife Sanctuary.**

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal that all the 9 proposals, outside Protected Areas, were deferred in 36th meeting due to pending ESZ proposals from State Government of Uttarakhand. After discussions the Standing Committee requested CWLW to expedite the process of ESZ proposals to send to Ministry and decided to defer all the 9 proposals till the receipt of ESZ proposals from State.

37.2.2 Action taken on the decisions of the Standing Committee of NBWL taken in its previous meetings.

- 34.4.2.3 Construction of Simang-II HEP (66 MW) by Upper Simang Power Pvt. Ltd in East Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh.**
- 34.4.2.4 Construction of Tagurshit HEP (74 MW) by M/s L&T Arunachal Hydro Power Ltd. in West Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh.**

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the two proposals that these were recommended in the 35th meeting of the Standing Committee in light of the cumulative impact

assessment of the basin and Dr.RSukumar was entrusted to conduct site inspection to assess the impact of the project on wildlife. Accordingly, Dr.R.Sukumar conducted site inspection and submitted the report.

Dr.R.Sukumar explained the physiographic location of HEP (74 MW) with respect Tagurshit River and appraised the EIA report prepared by WAPCOS. He clarified that the conditions laid down in the FC and EC address rest of the issues and the project proponents shall be bound to abide by those as well as conditions for bio diversity conservation specified by the CWLW. Further, the State Govt. and user agency should address social tensions satisfactorily and the implementation of biodiversity conservation plan by user agency should include the community benefits.

Regarding Shimang – II HEP (66MW), he mentioned that the project proponents should abide by the conditions laid down in the clearances obtained under FCA, 1980 and E(P)A, 1986 as well as conditions for bio diversity conservation specified by the CWLW. He mentioned that the penstock of the project cuts through an area under Tocu Palm (*Livistonia jenkinsiana*) clumps, which is an endangered species. He recommended that the user agency, Upper Simang Pvt. Ltd., may take steps to cultivate a compensatory patch of the toku palm on private land close to the project site for benefit of the local community.

The Committee agreed on the recommendations of Dr.R.Sukumar in this respect and confirmed its recommendations of the projects as made in the 35th meeting.

34.4.2.1 Diversion of 300.00 ha of forest land in Kistasagar R.F of Paloncha Division for establishment of Pulp & Paper Industry by M/s ITC Ltd., at Khammam, in favour of APIIC, Hyderabad.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal that Forest Clearance was rejected for the proposal. In view of this, the Standing Committee decided to reject the proposal.

34.4.2.2 Diversion of 231.84 ha of forest land in Chatakonda Reserve Forest of Kothagudem Division for Koyagudem OC-II (Phase-II) coal mining project, in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., Telangana.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal that the proposal was deferred due to pending ESZ proposal of Kinnerasani WLS from the State of Telangana. The proposal of ESZ has been received in the Ministry and is under process for the draft notification. The proposed expansion project including the existing coal mine is outside proposed ESZ of the Kinnerasani WLS. State Board for Wildlife recommended with conditions of Chief Wildlife Warden, which includes cost of implementation of a Wild Life Management Plan for the forest area to be provided by the Project proponent.

Committee considered that the mineral extraction is a site specific activity and the present proposal is phase II of the project and total area involved in the mine is 678.04 out of which 463 ha is forests. Phase I involved 231.94 ha of forests and the consideration for use of the rest of 231.84 ha forest land was applied for now. After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal for use of 231.84 ha forest land outside Kinnerseni with the prescribed conditions of CWLW as recommended by the State Board for Wild Life as follows:

1. The cost and responsibility of settling the 150 forest rights in the lands involved will be the responsibility of the project proponents. No other forest land should be claimed in lieu of the forest land diverted.
2. Project proponent will pay Rs 10/- per tonne of coal extracted for wild life development in the state in BIOSAP account for the first 5 years after which this rate may be revised up[wards if felt necessary by Chief Wild Life warden.

ATR of 34th meeting

34.4.2.8 Residential & commercial project under slum rehabilitation authority, Mulund, near Veenanagar opposite LBS Marg, Mulund (West) Ta. Kurla by Aristo Developers.

(This is an expansion project in a total area of 15.97 ha. of which 2.68 ha is already developed/occupied and partly constructed buildings. The major part 13.29 ha is proposed for new development)

(This proposal was taken up with the similar building construction proposals in Agenda Item No 4.2.)

34.4.2.11 Proposal of Ms Stone International Pvt. Ltd Chechat for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone (Building) production in Mining lease no.22/92 situated in village Chechat in Tehsil RamganjMandi, District Kota which lies at about 6.4 km aerial distance from the Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary/Mukundra Hills National Park.

34.4.2.12 Proposal for renewal of existing lime stone mining lease no.24/87 in village Pipakhedi, Tehsil RamganjMandi District Kota near Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan by M/s Zahoor Ahmed, Abdul Majid. The proposed mining lease 8.5 km away from Darrah Wildlife Sanctuary.

34.4.2.13 Proposal of Ms Associated Stone industries (Kotah) limited for expansion and renewal of Kotah Stone production in mining lease no.1/89 situated in tehsil Ramganjmandi, District Kota, Rajasthan.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the three mining proposals that the proposal is in vicinity of Mukundara Tiger Reserve. The site inspection was conducted by NTCA and

comments were submitted by NTCA. The representative of the CWLW explained that the three working mining leases are 8 km away from the Mukundra Tiger Reserve/ National Park and ESZ proposal of Mukundra National Park/Tiger Reserve is yet to be finalized by the State.

After discussions, in view of non-finalization of ESZ proposal by state, the Standing Committee deferred the proposal till the receipt of the ESZ proposal from the State

In the meanwhile, the representative of CWLW informed that in compliance to the recommendation of SC NBWL in its 32nd meeting, regarding Lakheri-Chamovali mining lease of M/s ACC Limited, a proposal for modification of buffer zone was under consideration of NTCA. As part of the process, a rapid survey was conducted by NTCA for redefining the buffer zone of Ranthambore Tiger Reserve for delineation of boundaries. The Committee noted this information.

ATR of 32nd meeting

Alteration of boundary of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary for exclusion of part of limestone bearing mineral zone from the limits of sanctuary, Bihar.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal that in accordance with the recommendation of 32nd meeting of SC NBWL, the state sent the revised proposal but now, the state informed that they want to revise the proposal which was already sent and requested Standing Committee not to consider it. The Standing Committee considered the request of state and deferred the proposal.

ATR of 31st meeting

Proposal for Jakholsankri Hydroelectric project (51 MW), Uttarakhand by M/s Satluj Jal Vidhut Nigam Ltd.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal that the proposal was deferred by the Standing Committee in its 31st meeting pending orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court on the proposals of HEP in Uttarakhand. The user agency represented that the proposal of Jakholsankri Hydroelectric project (51 MW), is not in the list of the 24 projects on which Hon'ble Supreme Court had shown concern. Whereas, the proposed project is on a tributary of Yamuna and is not included in the said list. The CWLW clarified that the proposal is on the Yamuna tributary.

After discussions, the Standing Committee considered fact that ESZ proposals had not been received from the State. Therefore, the proposal was deferred till the receipt of the ESZ proposals from State.

Agenda Item no.3:

37.3.1 Proposal of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) under the section 38(1)(O) (b) and (g) of Wild Life (Protection) Act related to Gondia-Jabalpur Broad Gauge Conservation Project of M/s South East Central Railway.

IGWL explained that the proposal for railways had been referred to NTCA for comments in the application related to Forest Clearance (dealt in MoEF&CC in F no. 8-107/ 2008-FC). However, in accordance with the provision 38 (1) (O) (g) of the Wild Life (protection) Act 1972, mandating NTCA to ensure regulation of activities in the areas connecting one tiger reserve to another, NTCA had proposed to place it before the Standing Committee, as a case of public interest.

With permission of Chair, IG (NTCA) explained the details of the proposal and informed that the case relates to BalaghatNainpur section and lies in Kanha – Penchtiger corridor habitat. He clarified that the matter was considered by NTCA in context of the forest clearance proposal and a list of mitigation measures were prepared by Wild Life Institute of India and finalised and recommended by NTCA after consultation with railways. He explained that the matter requires recommendation of NBWL under the section 38 (1) (O) (g) of WIPA.

The Committee considered the circumstances of the proposal, proposed mitigation measures including underpasses and overpasses recommended by NTCA and agreeable to Railways. Accordingly the advice of NTCA were agreed to be recommended with the condition that all the mitigation measures and other conditions proposed by the state and NTCA will be complied with under the supervision of Railways and the State Forest Department. This recommendation however, will not have any bearing on the ongoing process of consideration for forest clearance as the area involved is not a part of a Protected Area.

Agenda item No. 4

37.4.1 Proposals for diversion of forest land of PAs

37.4.1.1 Proposal for laying of 11 KV insulated transmission line from Katni to Singrauli in Dubri Kala station passing through Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that the land of Dubrikala railway station, was transferred to railways before the notification of Sanjay-Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary. Railways have proposed to provide a chain linked fenced corridor with proper canopy cover to provide camouflage to railway station as a safety to wildlife from bright light and restricting entry thereof in the railway station area. The sanctuary being part of the Tiger Reserve, NTCA also was consulted and has given its concurrence to the proposal.

After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions prescribed by the state and NTCA as below:

- 1. Fencing of station and electric substation would be ensured to prevent entry of animals.*
- 2. Height of poles for transmission line shall be at least 11 meter with ground clearance of the line at least 10 meter.*
- 3. For existing transmission line up to the village Dubri, minimum ground clearance of 10 meters should be maintained.*
- 4. All poles existing and that will be installed for the transmission line for electrification of Dubri Kalan Railway Station should have suitable spikes up to a height of 3 m (10 Ft) to prevent rubbing of wild animals against electric poles.*
- 5. To prevent death of wild animals on the railway line, appropriate arrangements like under passes at appropriate locations are required to be provided after due need assessment by WII.*
- 6. Waste at the Railway Station and that of the staff colony should be collected in a suitable container and disposed outside the Tiger Reserve.*

37.4.1.2 Proposal for diversion of 1.908 ha of forest land from the Balaram Ambaji Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Ambaji Bye Pass road Km 0/0 to 4/526 (length 4.526 km) width 45 mtr. around Ambaji township, Gujarat.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He stated that the proposed Bye Pass road would facilitate the traffic during festive seasons. Out of the length of 4.526 km of the bye pass, a length of 424 meter traverses the sanctuary to join the main highway NH-14, which is located along the boundary of the sanctuary. The CWLW, Gujarat mentioned that this bye pass road around Ambaji Township would divert traffic from NH-14 along the sanctuary and especially during the festival season and thus reduce the traffic flow in the area adjacent to the sanctuary.

After discussions, the committee considered that small distance of the bye pass needed to connect it to the main road is saving disturbance to the sanctuary along the longer distance along the sanctuary boundary. This will have beneficial effect and only 424 meter area

will be affected rather than 4.5 km. Therefore, Committee agreed to recommend the proposal with the conditions prescribed by CWLW as below.

- 1. There should not be any damage of disturbance in the sanctuary area during construction.*
- 2. No labour shades/huts will be created in the sanctuary area during construction.*
- 3. No fire places will be created inside the sanctuary.*
- 4. The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.*
- 5. No blasting will be permitted within the sanctuary areas.*
- 6. After clearances from NBWL, clearance from FCA will have to be taken.*
- 7. The agency and/or contractor will strictly follow the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.*
- 8. Any other conditions that may be imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden/Government and/or the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife will be strictly complied with by the user agency.*

37.4.1.3 Diversion of 0.3507 ha of forest land from Gir Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of 11 KV overhead (Electric Line) for irrigation purpose at village Zankhiya of Una Taluka, Gujarat.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He stated that proposed 11KV overhead electric line would provide electricity facility and water supply to farmers of local settlement. The CWLW, Gujarat mentioned that the proposal would provide basic amenities to the villagers living in the enclosures within the sanctuary.

After discussions, the Standing Committee considering that the proposal is for a public utility of no impact to the wild life of the area, decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions prescribed by CWLW as below:

- 1. No damage should be caused to flora and fauna of the said area by the user agency and its establishment.*
- 2. Insulated cable should be used for transmission lines.*
- 3. Labour camp during laying of transmission line shall be kept away from the sanctuary area and necessary fuel wood and other requirement shall be met with by purchase from the market. In no case, the sanctuary shall be burden with such requirements.*
- 4. Approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980, if required, will be obtained separately for use of forest land.*
- 5. The agency and/or contractor will strictly follow the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.*
- 6. Any other conditions that may be imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden/ Government and/or the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife will be strictly complied with by the user agency.*

- 37.4.1.4 Diversion of 2.746 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting existing old metal Piplod, Pankhala, Sankli, Vagh Umar to Mathasar road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**
- 37.4.1.5 Diversion of 0.724 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting existing old metal Chokimali Approach road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**
- 37.4.1.6 Diversion of 1.9885 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting existing old metal Umarva, Joshi to Mathavadi, Mandan, Gora road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**
- 37.4.1.7 Diversion of 0.990 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting existing old metal Junvad, Kamodiya, Barkhadi road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**
- 37.4.1.8 Diversion of 1.323 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting existing old metal Mohbudi to Sisha road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**
- 37.4.1.9 Diversion of 0.794 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting existing old metal Nana – Thavadia Approach road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**
- 37.4.1.10 Diversion of 3.8929 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting Nigam to Jharwani road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**
- 37.4.1.11 Diversion of 0.240 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting existing old metal Kaltar to Panch Umar road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**
- 37.4.1.12 Diversion of 1.12 ha of land in Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary for Converting existing old metal Fulsar to Ladva road to pakka tar road Gujarat.**

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the nine proposals located in the area of a single sanctuary and mentioned that these nine existing roads are existing kutchha roads, having been constructed under Forest Rights Act, and the State is proposing to upgrade these roads to metalled tar roads. The CWLW, Gujarat explained that the sanctuary has 105 villages inhabited predominantly by tribes who are poor and deprived of basic civic amenities. The tarring of roads would facilitate in providing basic amenities to the tribal people.

After discussions, the Standing Committee considering the public utility nature of the works and minimum incremental increase in traffic in these rural roads from up-gradation, agreed to recommend all the above nine proposals with the conditions prescribed by CWLW as below.

- 1. All the material required for the work should be prepared outside the sanctuary.*
- 2. There should not be any damage or disturbance in the sanctuary areas during the work.*
- 3. No labour shades/ huts will be created inside the sanctuary area during the work.*
- 4. No fire will be ignited inside the sanctuary for any road or ancilliary work and hot mix preparation shall be organized outside the sanctuary limits.*

5. *The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.*
6. *Any other conditions that may be imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden/Government will be strictly complied with by the user agency.*

37.4.1.13 Proposal for diversion of 0.50913 ha of forest land from Balaram Ambaji Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of Optical Fiber Cable from Danta to Ambaji & Palanpur to Abu Road in, Gujarat.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that the proposal would provide telecom services (3G) to religious tourism places of Ambaji and Abu Road. The CWLW, Gujarat explained that the proposed route is all along the existing Right of Way (RoW) of the road from Danta to Ambaji and Palanpur to Abu Road.

After discussions, considering that the work is aligned along the existing road and not additional area is involved, the Standing Committee agreed to recommend the proposal with the conditions prescribed by CWLW as below:

1. *All the material required for the work should be prepared outside the sanctuary.*
2. *There should not be any damage or disturbance in the sanctuary area during the work.*
3. *No labour shades/huts will be created in the sanctuary area during the work.*
4. *No fire places will be created inside the sanctuary.*
5. *The work in the sanctuary will be allowed only in the day time from 8 AM to 6 PM.*
6. *Any other conditions that may be imposed by the Chief Wildlife Warden/Government will be strictly complied with by the user agency.*

37.4.1.14 Proposal for laying of 48 Core OFC line in 10 Kms in the Air Force Area in Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He stated that proposal involves laying of 48 core OFC (optical fibre cable) alongside the road under the territory to Nahargarh Forest reserve of the sanctuary along 10 km distance for providing operational communication to Indian Air Force.

After discussions, considering the strategic importance of the proposal, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions prescribed by CWLW, Rajasthan as below.

1. *No night camping by labour/survey personnel will be allowed inside the sanctuary area.*
2. *Project personnel engaged in the project work shall observe the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and rules made there under.*
3. *This recommendation will be subject to provisions of other laws like Forest Conservation Act, if and as applicable.*

37.4.2 Proposals for taking up activities within 10 kms from the boundaries of Protected Areas.

37.4.2.1 Proposal for diversion of 12.95 ha and 2.02 ha of forest land in mining lease No.1783 and 1616 for extraction of Manganese ore in Kadathi village of Alagilavada Reserve Forest, Harappanahalli Taluk, Davangere district in favour of M/s Yerrithatha Mining Company, Hospet, Karnataka.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that it is a case of renewal of lease of an existing mine located at a distance of 7.15 kms away from the boundary of the Ranebennur Blackbuck Sanctuary and falls outside the proposed Eco-sensitive zone of the sanctuary. It was informed that the mine area involves 2.02 ha of forest land also, which is subject to the approval of central government under Forest Conservation Act. Consideration of Standing Committee is part of the decision of the MoEF&CC to refer the cases located within 10 km of a protected area, to Standing Committee of NBWL.

After discussions, considering that the proposal is an existing mining operation, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with conditions prescribed by CWLW, Karnataka.

37.4.2.2 Diversion of 1.998 ha of private land for stone mining/Gitti which is 5.8 km away the boundary of Ralamandal Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that the proposed mining site is 5.8 km away outside the boundary of Wildlife Sanctuary. It was informed that the ESZ proposal for the sanctuary was under scrutiny and proposal is for a uniform 100 m width to be declared as ESZ. It was also informed that the ban on mining by the order of Honourable Supreme Court is for a zone of 1 km outside sanctuaries and national parks.

After discussions, the Standing Committee considered the local need of stone/ gatti, and agreed to recommend the proposal with the conditions that Wild Life Warden of the sanctuary will monitor the activities of the impact of the activity on conservation aspects and any default in the compliance of the conditions related to EC shall cause cancellation of this recommendation, meaning thereby environment clearance.

37.4.2.3 Proposal for development and redevelopment of Habibganj Railway Station, district Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The proposed site is 6.25 km away from Van Vihar National Park.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that the proposal is for development and redevelopment of buildings and railway station of Habibganj railway station in the city of Bhopal. The proposed site is outside the proposed Eco-sensitive zone of the Van Vihar National park.

After discussions, considering the need to expand the operational capacity of the railway station, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions prescribed by CWLW, Madhya Pradesh.

- 37.4.2.4 Construction of Residential complex by M/s Ashar Venchers at Chitalsar Manpada village, distt. thane survey no. 32/1/6, 32/2g on private land, Maharashtra.**
- 37.4.2.5 Construction of residential complex project by M/s Ashar Realators Mouja Pachpakhadi, Distt. Thane, survey No.254/1-B, 256/A pai, 277A pai, 278A pai, 279/3B of private land, Maharashtra.**
- 37.4.2.6 Proposal for construction project of Tapir construction Ltd. At Pachpakhadi survey no.53/1, 55, 70/1 (part), 70/2A, 70/4, 70/6, 70/7, 70/8, 70/9B, 71/1/A1/1, 71/1/A/3, 71/2. 71/3A/2, Maharashtra.**
- 37.4.2.7 Proposal for residential cum commercial project on plot bearing CTS No.24/1 PT, 24/2, at village Ghodbunder, Ta and Distt. Thane, Maharashtra.**
- 37.4.2.8 Proposal for residential cum commercial project at village Sy.No.110/1(PT), 224/1A(PT), 224/1B(PT) at village Ghodbunder thane, Maharashtra for SPH Agro Farms & Estates Pvt. Ltd.**
- 37.4.2.9 Proposal for residential cum commercial project, "Mahavir Universe" at Bhandup on C.T.S. No.420, 420/1 to 38, 421/1 to 3,422, 422/1 to 33 & 423 (PL), Bhandup, Mumbai, Maharashtra.**
- 37.4.2.10 Proposal for expansion of residential project at village Mulund (east) Mumbai Gautam Enterprises, comprising of C.T.S. no. 62/2, 62/5, 62/8, 62/11, 95/13A & 95/13B & 95/13B, 95/16, 97/1, 97/2A 98/A1, 98/B of village Mulund (East), Maharashtra.**
- 37.4.2.11 Proposal for residential and hotel building at plot bearing CTS No.554, 554/1 to 10, 555, 555/1 to 3,556-A, 557, 557/1 to 3.558 to 560, 561(pt), 562, 563, 580 to 583, 589A, 590, 591, 593A, 594A of village Valnai and CTS No.740, 740/1 & 2,728 of village Malad(W), Mumbai.**
- 37.4.2.12 Proposal for residential cum commercial project at Sy.No.280/2B2, 281/2A/1A, 288/2D/1B at village Majivade Ta. Thane, Distt. Thane, Maharashtra of M/s Ardent Properties Pvt. Ltd.**

37.4.2.13 Proposal for construction project of D.D. Associates at Kolshet, Distt., Thane survey no.85/1B, 85/1C, 85/2B, 85/4B, 85/5B, 85/1/1B, 86/1/1C, 86/4B, 87/17B, 87/17C, 87/18C, 87/19, 96/4B, 96/4C, 96/5B, 96/5C & 90, Maharashtra.

37.4.2.14 Proposal for construction project of Dosti Enterprises at village Balkum, Thane (W), Distt., Maharashtra.

37.5.9 Proposal for construction project of M/s Vihang Enterprises at Bhaidarpada survey no.220/1, 220/2, 220/3, 220/4, 220/5B, 221/1, 221/11, 217/29, 217/30/1, 217/30/4, 217/33, 217/34/195/1, 195/1, 219/1, 219/2 & 219/3 at village Bhayandarpada, Tal. Thane, Dist. Thane, Maharashtra.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the 13 proposals including the ATR item **34.4.2.8** together as all these proposals are located in the vicinity of Sanjay Gandhi National Park. The proposals were placed before the Standing Committee as part of Environmental Clearance process. It was informed that draft notification for ESZ outside Sanjay Gandhi National Park was published on 22 January 2016. Out of the proposals under consideration, 11 are located outside the proposed ESZ as per the draft notification and other two proposals of Ariisto Developers and Vihang Enterprises are located within the proposed ESZ.

The case of Ariisto Developers was deferred in 35th meeting as ESZ proposal for SGNP was not finalized. The proposal is for expansion wherein part of the existing project is abutting the boundary of the SGNP. The Environment Clearance for the expansion is under consideration of the SEIAA, Maharashtra. Vihang Enterprises is fresh proposal within the proposed ESZ of the SGNP and is located 410m towards east from the boundary of SGNP.

All proposals were presented before the Standing Committee on the Decision Support System with location of the projects displayed on Google Earth. Considering the habitations, geo-graphical boundaries and width of ESZ, distance of the project from the boundary of ESZ, the Standing Committee decided as below:

S no.	Distance from SGNP (KM)	Distance from ESZ (KM)	Width of ESZ (KM)	Recommendation of SC NBWL
37.4.2.4. M/s Asher Ventures Pvt Ltd	2.11	1.81	0.3	In middle of dense habitations. Recommended.
37.4.2.5. M/s Asher Realtors	0.63	0.41	0.22	In middle of dense habitations. Recommended.
37.4.2.6. M/s Tapir Construction Ltd	2.13	1.83	0.3	In middle of dense habitations. Recommended.

37.4.2.7. M/s Skylark Realtors Pvt. Ltd (Plot CTS 24/1 etc)	0.24	0.13	0.11	On west to NP. Within already developed area. Recommended.
37.4.2.8. M/s SPH Agro Farms Pvt. Ltd.	0.51	0.4	0.11	On west to NP. Within already developed area. Recommended.
37.4.2.9. M/s Universe Developers Pvt. Ltd	2.04	1.77	0.27	On east on southern part of NP, in middle of habitation. Recommended.
37.4.2.10. M/s Gautam Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	2.49	2.23	0.26	In middle of dense habitations on east of proposed ESZ. Recommended.
37.4.2.11. M/s American Spring & Pressing Works Pvt. Ltd	3.23	3.06	0.17	In middle of habitation on western side of NP and proposed ESZ. Recommended.
37.4.2.12. M/s Ardent Properties Pvt. Ltd.	0.48	0.23	0.25	In middle of habitation on eastern side of NP and proposed ESZ. Recommended.
37.4.2.13. M/s D.D. Associates	0.37	0.11	0.26	Located on east of ESZ. Separated from NP by Highway. Recommended.
37.4.2.14. M/s Dosti Enterprises Pvt Ltd	2.76	2.51	0.25	In middle of dense habitations on east of NP. Recommended.
Additional Item No. 37.5.9: M/s Vihang Enterprises	0.41	(Inside ESZ of SGNP)	1.20	Located in uninhabited area within ESZ. Information on EC, compliance of approved development plan and local bodies to be verified. Deferred.
ATR Item No. 34.4.2.8 : M/s Ariisto Developers, Mulund	0.08	(Inside ESZ of SGNP)	0.25	Located adjacent to the NP. Information on EC, compliance of approved development plan and local body to be verified. EC status and recommendation of SC NBWL for existing construction to be verified. Deferred.

The Environmental clearance for the projects recommended above shall be subject to monitoring of conditions by the Wild Life Warden and any incidence of non compliance of EC conditions will result in cancellation of recommendations.

37.4.2.15 Proposal for Badampahar Iron Ore Mines in Rairangpur Forest Division, Odisha. The proposed site is 6.10 km away from Similipal Tiger Reserve/Similipal Sanctuary.

IG WL briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He informed that it is a case of renewal of lease of an existing mine located at a distance of 6.10 km away from Similipal Tiger Reserve. Further, the NTCA has also accorded concurrence to the proposal. The user agency has submitted the site specific Wildlife Management Plan, approved by PCCF (Wildlife) with the financial cost of Rs. 68.4Lakhs.

Dr.R.Sukumar, member, mentioned that since Badampahar R.F is a part of elephant reserve of Mayurbhanj Elephant Project, adequate mitigation measures need to be undertaken taken to preclude human- wildlife conflict in the vicinity of the mining area. Google Earth image of the area indicated that the existing mine is a part of a large forest tract with connectivity with the nearby forests and corridor connectivity is not jeopardized by the existing mine.

After discussions, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions prescribed by CWLW, Odisha as given below:

- 1. Additional area of Badampahar shall not be brought under purview of mining area of 10.99 ha (mining forest land/safety zone.*
- 2. Existing mines shall use only rock beakers and fibro rippers for extraction.*
- 3. The user agency shall deposit an amount of 2% of project cost or Rs.1 crore, whichever in lower in the Tiger Conservation Foundation of the Similipal Tiger Reserve.*
- 4. Further, the user agency shall fund a project on elephant dispersal from the Similipal Tiger Reserve to adjoining landscapes to be prepared by State authorities in consultation with domain experts such as the IISc. and Wildlife Institute of India.*
- 5. For the future, expansion of NH-6 should be done in letter and spirit of section 38O(1)(g) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.*

Further, the Standing Committee requested Dr.R.Sukumar to conduct a site visit to assess the impact of mining on wildlife and suggest further measures for mitigating impact, if any on the wild life in the area, which shall be complied with by the state with cost from the project.

Agenda Item No.5: Additional Agenda for the 37th Meeting of SCNBWL

37.5.1 Review of the National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) and Formulation of National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031).

IGF (WL) informed the Committee that a group of experts was constituted as per the decision of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) in its 26th meeting held on 31st October 2012 to review the existing National Wildlife Action Plan and formulate National wildlife Action Plan for 2017-2031. The Group has held seven rounds of consultations across the country so far and is likely to complete its task of framing a new National Wild Life Action Plan.

The Plan proposes landscape approach in conservation of all uncultivated flora and undomesticated fauna that has ecological value to mankind irrespective of where they occur. It accords special emphasis to rehabilitation of threatened species of wildlife while conserving their habitats which include inland aquatic, coastal and marine eco-systems. It also takes note of concerns relating to climate change on wildlife by integrating it in to wildlife management Planning. The first draft was placed in public domain on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change from 2nd February 2016 till 17th February 2016 seeking comments and inputs from various stakeholders. The inputs received from the stakeholders were discussed during the 8th meeting of the said committee and relevant suggestions have been adopted in the draft. The draft NWAP is under finalization and would be ready for presentation in the Ministry soon. Committee noted the information.

37.5.2 Augmentation of fodder & Water scheme in protected areas-A scheme under financial assistance from CAMPA.

IGF (WL) informed the Committee that a pilot project 'Augmentation of Fodder and Water Scheme' aimed at improving habitat in forest areas by making provision for augmenting grass, fodder and water to the wild animals has been designed by Wildlife Division and approved by the National CAMPA Advisory Council. The scheme will be implemented in areas with prevalent human wildlife conflict, where paucity of water and fodder could be a reason for conflict. A tentative outlay of Rs.10.2 Cr. has been proposed for the scheme. 'Guidelines on augmentation of fodder and water scheme in protected areas' prepared by the Wildlife Division in consultation with CAMPA secretariat has been circulated to the State Governments inviting proposals. Ministry has received proposal from the State of Punjab for consideration of funding under this scheme. Ministry has requested CAMPA secretariat to allocate funds for the project and intimate the mode of release of funds.

Chair suggested that augmentation of water sources should be made with small structural modifications in existing/abandoned /old structures. This would improve the overall water table in and near the forests. Examples could be as follows as proposed by Shri Ravindra Joshi of Maharashtra.

- Utilization of old structures / old stop dams
- Artificial water pools in nallahs and small rivers (DOH)
- Conversion of unutilized old low level bridges into check dams
- With minor modifications to existing/proposed structures of culverts and small bridges
- Construction of check dams with nallah deepening

37.5.3 Realignment of core zone of Buxa Tiger Reserve.

IGF (WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that the proposal was forwarded by CWLW, West Bengal but the comments of the State Govt. have not been received. He stated that NTCA has recommended the proposal under sec 38(O) (b) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972(amended).

After discussions, the Standing Committee opined that the proposal may be agreed to after receiving the views/recommendation of the State Govt. In case there is no reduction of any part of the existing Tiger Reserve and only addition, it can be approved.

37.5.4 Proposal for Wildlife Clearance in respect to Ken- Betwa Link Project- Phase I reg. Madhya Pradesh.

IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that the proposal would link Ken and Betwa rivers. He stated that the proposal would result in direct loss of 58.03 sq km (10.07 %) of Critical Tiger Habitat (CTH) of Panna Tiger Reserve due to submergence, 50% loss of existing unique habitat of highly endangered Vulture spp., indirect loss of 105.23 sq km of CTH due to fragmentation and loss of connectivity, displacement of 10 villages etc. NTCA informed that the proposal is being examined under sec 38(O) (b) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972(amended) and it will take some time for finalizing the comments as the proposal involves alienation of large area of CTH. Chair permitted a presentation on the project by the project proponents.

The representative of user agency, Special Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, made a power point presentation on Phase –I of the project, and its importance in the region of water deficit area of Bundelkhand region. He stated that project would ensure availability of water to draught prone areas in the both the states of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Further, he mentioned that the project would provide annual irrigation to about 6.0 lakh hectares of land

and drinking water facility to 13.42 lakh people in both the states of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Dr.R.Sukumar, member expressed his concern on the impact of the project, in view of its huge submergence, habitat loss and impact on Ghariyal Sanctuary etc.

After discussions, considering the impact of the project on habitat and wildlife of Panna Tiger Reserve, the Standing Committee decided that a Committee comprising of Dr.R.Sukumar, Dr. H S Singh, a representative each from NTCA, WII, State Government and User Agency would conduct a site visit and submit the report in a month for further consideration. This visit can be clubbed with the consideration of NTCA of the project in accordance with the mandate of NTCA in Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

37.5.5 Diversion of 39.604 ha of forestland from Indravati Tiger Reserve for construction of air strip in district Bijapur, Chattisgarh.

IGF (WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that the proposed involves construction of an air strip in the buffer area of Indravati Tiger Reserve. Further, NTCA had given its concurrence to the proposal under section 38 (O) (b) of The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972(amended).

The representative of CWLW of Chattisgarh explained the importance and requirement of the project in view of left wing extremism in the region. After discussions, considering the strategic importance of the proposal, the Standing Committee agreed to recommend the proposal with conditions prescribed by NTCA as given below:

- 1. Saplings numbering 1, 22,000 will be planted to compensate trees removed for the project. Plantation of the above samplings will be taken up in buffer area of the Indravati Tiger Reserve for benefit of wildlife. Out of 1,22,000 saplings to be planted, 72,000 saplings of fruit bearing and other indigenous species will be planted at a spacing of 3m X 3m over area of 66 ha. Further 50,000 Dendrocalamus strictus bamboo saplings will be planted over an area of 125 ha at a spacing of 5m X 5m.*
- 2. A study shall be entrusted to Wildlife Institute of India to work out measures to reduce the effect of disturbance to wild animals and accident by vehicles as the Air strip will be located close to forest area and National Highway No.63.*
- 3. To distract animals from coming at the Air strip/habitation, development of habitat like creation of water bodies, deepening of old water bodies, development of grassland, eradication of weeds and fire protection will be taken up in the buffer ranges of Bijapur and Kutru.*

4. *An amount of Rs.574.59 lakhs, as assessed by the Field Director, Indravati Tiger Reserve should be deposited by the user agency in Tiger Conservation Foundation of the Indravati Tiger Reserve.*

37.5.6 Proposal for diversion of 97.8072 ha of forestland from Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Kutchh Branch Canal, Dhrangdra Branch Canal & Maliya Branch Canal their distribution net work in Kutchh, Patan, Morbi & Surendranagar district, Gujarat.

37.5.7 Proposal for diversion of 26.4221 ha of forest land from Kachchh Desert Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of distribution network system between chainage 113 to 189 km of Kachchh Branch Canal in Kachchh district, Gujarat.

IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the above mentioned two proposals. He informed that the Standing Committee had recommended use of 159.05 ha in Wild Ass Sanctuary in its 10th meeting 19th February 2008 and 134.0364 ha of forest land from Kachchh Desert WLS in its 31st meeting on 12th -13th August 2014 for the construction of Kutch Branch Canals. Further, he informed that the user agency had been asked to submit the status of compliances of the conditions stipulated while recommending the aforesaid projects by the Standing Committee.

The representative of user agency made a presentation on the status of compliances of the conditions insisted upon by Standing Committee on the previous two projects. He mentioned that adequate provisions have been made for animal crossings, underground cabling for power supply for lifting water, wildlife passage through canal siphon, 3 wildlife passages through Bridge, fresh water supply to Bets, width of super passages increased from 20m to 50m, slopes of the bridges as prescribed, modified box culverts, etc. It was clarified that the present proposals are for distribution canals for the water channelized through the main project.

After discussions, considering the compliance of the conditions stipulated for previous projects, the Standing Committee agreed to recommend the above two fresh proposals with conditions prescribed by CWLW, Gujarat as below.

- 1) *Labour camps during construction of canal and their distributaries shall be kept away from the sanctuary area and necessary fuel wood and other requirement shall be met with by purchase from the market. In no case, the sanctuary shall be burdened with such requirement.*
- 2) *The user agency or his contractor must ensure the minimum movement of the vehicles and project implementation.*

- 3) *User agency or his contractor will not use any area of the sanctuary other than the area permitted for the given purposes.*
- 4) *The land permitted for use will not be liable to sale or transfer the right and privileges to any other agency.*
- 5) *5% of the cost of the project shall be provided to Gujarat Forest Department for habitat improvement and wildlife conservation in the sanctuary area.*
- 6) *There should not be any hindrance to the natural flow of water during the construction of canal and distributary in the sanctuary.*
- 7) *The Chief Wildlife Warden or the State Government may impose other additional conditions at any stage which will be binding on the user agency.*

37.5.8 Proposal for use of 71.945 ha of forest land in Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary for laying of 765 KV D.C. Bhuj-Banaskantha Electric Transmission line by Power Grid Corporation India Ltd., Gujarat.

IGF (WL) briefed the Standing Committee on the proposal. He mentioned that the proposed involves erection of a power transmission line which is a part of Green Corridor and would interconnect the major points in Rajasthan and Gujarat.

The representative of user agency made a presentation on the proposal. He stated that the proposed transmission line crosses the Wild Ass WLS, a length of 10 km for which 26 towers are proposed within the sanctuary. He mentioned the due to strategic location specifics of the project, the proposed route is inevitable.

After discussions, considering the importance of the project in harvesting the renewable resources in the region and its specific strategic location, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal with mitigation measures prescribed by WII for linear infrastructures and conditions prescribed by CWLW as below:

1. *No damage/disturbance should be caused to flora and fauna of the said area by the user agency and its establishment. The User Agency must ensure that there should not be any damage or disturbance to the sanctuary or its wildlife during the work permitted.*
2. *Insulated cable/underground cable or reflectors should be used on transmission lines, wherever feasible, to avoid the hindrance in the movement of migratory birds.*
3. *In consultation with WII, appropriate reflectors and insulated platforms on the towers shall be provided to avoid bird casualties due to the transmission line.*
4. *The User Agency or his contractor must ensure the minimum movement of the vehicles and the staff in the sanctuary area during the project implementation.*
5. *User Agency or his contractor will not use any area of the sanctuary other than the area permitted for laying of the transmission line and its maintenance.*

6. *The land permitted for use will not be liable to sale or transfer the right and privileges to any other agency.*
7. *5% of the cost of the project shall be placed at the disposal of Forest Department for habitat improvement and wildlife conservation in the sanctuary area.*
8. *There should not be any hindrance to the natural flow of water during the laying of the transmission line in the sanctuary.*
9. *Labour camp during laying of transmission line shall be kept away from the sanctuary area and necessary fuel wood and other requirement shall be met with by purchase from the market. In no case the sanctuary shall be burden with such requirements.*

37.5.9 Proposal for construction project of M/s Vihang Enterprises at Bhaidarpada survey no.220/1, 220/2, 220/3, 220/4, 220/5B, 221/1, 221/11, 217/29, 217/30/1, 217/30/4, 217/33, 217/34/195/1, 195/1, 219/1, 219/2 & 219/3 at village Bhayandarpada, Tal. Thane, Dist. Thane, Maharashtra.

(This proposal was taken up with the similar building construction proposals in Agenda Item No 4.2.)

37.5.10 Request of Central Empowered committee for consideration of Standing Committee of NBWL for carrying out renovation/ up-gradation work of the Corbett Wild Life Training Centre located at Kalagarh in the Corbett Tiger Reserve.

With the permission of Chair, IGWL explained about the communication of Central Empowered Committee of Supreme Court. The work of renovation/ up-gradation of the training facility was proposed under the JICA project of MoEF&CC for which the state government had approached Hon'ble Supreme Court for permission. The matter was considered by the CEC and it recommended to the apex court for according permission. In view of the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court on 5 October 2015 permitting the Standing Committee to consider all cases related to Wild Life matters, CEC requested the case to be placed before this Committee.

Chief Wildlife Warden explained that the centre is an existing one and renovation/ up-gradation is proposed with central assistance available through JICA project for capacity building of forest personnel. He informed that the activity is part of the Tiger Conservation Plan of the Corbett Tiger Reserve.

Committee considered the request of CEC and circumstances and facts explained by the Chief Wild Life Warden. Committee agreed to accord recommend to the proposal.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to Chair.

ANNEXURE-1

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF THE 37TH MEETING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE OF NBWL HELD ON 26TH FEBRUARY 2016.**

1	Shri Prakash Javadekar Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment & Forests	Chairman
2	Shri Ashok Lavasa, Secretary, Environment, Forests and Climate Change	Invitee
3	Director General of Forests & Special Secretary	Member
4	Dr V.B. Mathur Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.	Member
5	Professor Raman Sukumar.	Member
6	Shri Bharat Pathak Director, GEER Foundation, Gujarat.	Member
7	Dr H.S. Singh	Member
8	Shri A.K. Parida, Special Chief Secretary, Forest Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.	Member
9	Dr Vivek Saxena, OSD(Forest), Haryana	Invitee
10	Shri Siddhanta Das, Pr.Chief Conservator of Forests(WL), Odisha	Invitee
11	Shri Meyipokyim Aier, Pr.Chief Conservator of Forests (WL), Government of Maharashtra.	Invitee
12	Shri P.K. Upadhyay, CCF(WL) Kota, Rajasthan on behalf of CWLW, Rajasthan.	Invitee
13	Shri P.P. Bhajvaid, Chief Wildlife Warden, Haryana	Invitee
14	Shri M.Prudhuvi Raju , Addl. PCCF (IT&WP), Telangana	Invitee
15	Shri Shahbaz Ahmad, O/o Pr. CCCF(WL), Government of Madhya Pradesh	Invitee
16	Shri S.B.L. Misra, Pr.Chief Conservator of Forests(WL) & CWLW, Andhra Pradesh.	Member
17	Shri Digvijay Singh Khati, Pr.Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttarakhand.	Invitee
18	Shri Anil Kumar, Addl. Director General of Forests (FC)	Invitee
19	Shri Rupak De, Pr.CCF(WL)/CWLW, Uttar Pradesh	Invitee
20	Shri S.C. Pant, Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests(WL)/CWLW, Gujarat	Invitee
21	Shri B.N. Dwivedi, Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests(WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Chattisgarh, Raipur	Invitee
22	Shri V. Rama Rao, Chief Conservator of Forests(Wildlife), Project Director, Indravati Tiger Reserve.	Invitee

23	Shri Hanumantaraj. G, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Wildlife Sub Division, Ranebennur, Karnataka Forest Department.	Invitee
24	Shri H.S. Negi, Inspector General of Forests (NTCA).	Invitee
25	Dr S.K. Khanduri, Inspector General of Forests (WL).	Invitee
26	Shri S.P. Vashishth, Deputy Inspector General of Forests(WL)	Invitee
27	Shir Roy P. Thomas, Joint Director(WL)	Invitee
28	Shri Rajasekhar Ratti, Deputy Director (WL).	Invitee
