

**Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) convened on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2008 at 10.30 A.M. in Room No.403, Paryavaran Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State for Forests and Wildlife.**

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The 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) was convened on 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2008 at 10.30 A.M. in Room No.403, Paryavaran Bhavan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State for Forests and Wildlife. A list of participants is at **Annexure-I**.

At the outset, Director General of Forests and Special Secretary welcomed all the Members and with the permission of the Chairman (Hon'ble Minister of State for Environment and Forests ( F&WL), agenda items were taken for discussion as follows :-

**Agenda Item No.1 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.**

Member Secretary informed that the draft minutes of the last meeting were circulated to all the members and no comments had been received from any member. However, he mentioned that inadvertently while recommending a proposal submitted by National Highways Authority of India (falling within National Chambal Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan for four lanning of Dholpur-Morena National Highway No.3), the area for diversion had been shown as 12.8 ha instead of 19.331. Minutes of the meeting were taken on record with the change of area from 12.8 ha to 19.331 ha for the above referred project.

**Agenda Item No.2 : Action taken report on the recommendations of last meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.**

**3.1 Denotification/diversion of forest land of 46 ha from Radhanagari Sanctuary, Maharashtra for Dhamini Irrigation Project.**

Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW), Maharashtra, informed the Committee that the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their order dated 28.03.07 had exempted the State from declaration of 228 sq. km. forests area as Wildlife Sanctuary though rest of the conditions remained to be complied by the project proponents. A report regarding fulfillment of all the conditions was still awaited from the concerned authority i.e. Water Resource Department, Govt. of Maharashtra. The Standing Committee of NBWL requested the CWLW to monitor compliance of other conditions as envisaged in the Hon'ble Supreme Court's directives and keep the Standing Committee informed.

**3.2 Diversion of 31 ha from Tale Sanctuary for Lower Subhansri Hydro Electric Project by NHPC**

As decided in the last meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife, a site inspection was carried out by Dr. Asad Rahmani and the Deputy Inspector General (WL). It is important to mention that the Site inspection was carried out with respect to two conditions which were put up by the last Standing Committee while clearing the proposal. These are as follows:

- 1) The Reserve Forest land forming part of catchment of lower Subhansri including the reservoir should be declared as a National Park or a Wildlife Sanctuary. The NHPC to provide funds for the survey and demarcation.
- 2) There should be no construction of dam upstream of Subansri river in future.

The inspection team has recommended that the Reserve Forest falling in the catchment of lower Subhansri not less than 500 Sq. kms should be declared as a national Park or Sanctuary while other important hill sites could be declared as a Community Reserve or Conservation Reserve after due consultations.

Regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue, there were two opinions of the inspection team, i.e, Dr. Rahmani has advised for advanced cumulative Environment Impact Assessment of all

the proposed projects and a carrying capacity study of Subhansri river basin before considering any new project. On the other hand, Dr. Anmol Kumar, DIG(WL) has recommended a case to case approach while considering the future projects.

Representative s of NHPC informed the Committee that in addition to the present ongoing project, there were two more hydropower projects in the pipeline (middle and upper Subhansri) though no MOU with the State of Arunanchal Pradesh had so far been signed. He also informed that with respect to these projects, NHPC had all the information regarding the environmental impact etc. The Standing Committee members requested for a presentation by the NHPC. Representatives of NHPC promised to make a detailed presentation in the next meeting. before the Standing Committee with respect to their present and future projects and their cumulative Environment Impact Assessment.

### **3.3 Proposal for drinking water supply scheme for Mount Abu as Salgown Dam Project, Rajasthan.**

In the last meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 10.9.07, it was decided to carry out a site inspection. Accordingly, site inspection in this case has been carried out by Shri Divyabhanu Sinh Chavda, Member, NBWL; Shri Ashok Pai, Jt. Director, WLCCB and Dr. N.P.S. Chouhan, WII, Dehra Dun. Shri Chavda presented the inspection report recommending the proposal with the following conditions :-

- i) The entire catchment of the proposed dam would be declared as part of the sanctuary to improve vegetation cover thereby reducing the surface run off and silting of proposed dam.
- ii) The private land if any in the catchments should be acquired by the due process to stop any activity which would cause further degradation of the habitats.

- iii) The catchment to be intensely treated to improve habitat for resident wildlife in the area.
- iv) As the present area under sanctuary was not large enough to support the existing mega fauna in the ecosystem, the proposed addition of nearly 213 sq. km to the sanctuary would be notified along with dam construction. This would also help in checking the encroachment and other pressures on the fragile mountain ecosystem.

Members of the Standing Committee unanimously agreed with the recommendations of the inspecting team and recommended the proposal subject to compliance of the conditions mentioned above.

#### **3.4 Proposal for construction of Kutch Branch Canal passing through the Wild Ass Sanctuary for irrigation purpose from Wild Ass Sanctuary, Gujarat.**

During the last meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 10th September, 2007, it was decided to carry out a site inspection. Accordingly, the site inspection was carried out by Shri Divyabhanu Singh Chavda, Member, Standing Committee of NBWL, Shri Ashok Pai, Joint Director, WLCCB and Shri N.P.S. Chauhan of WII. The proposal involves diversion of 159.05 ha of land in Wild Ass Sanctuary for digging of Kutch Branch Canal by Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam. The inspecting team observed that the existing drinking pipeline could not meet the huge requirement of Kutch region and, therefore, there was a need for a separate canal. Since the cost of aqueducts and underground canal were highly expensive, the proposal for construction of open canal had been submitted by Sardar Sarovar Nigam Ltd. After detailed discussions with the officials and inspection of the site, the inspecting team recommended clearance of the proposal with the following conditions :-

- i) An independent survey by a credible agency would be carried out to ascertain presence of wildlife and its movement between canal chainage 46 km and 86 km and necessary mitigating measures as recommended by the agency would be undertaken by the project proponents.
- ii) The canal syphon between canal chainage 86 km and 87 km would be of 200 meters width.
- iii) The number of canal syphons between canal chainage 89 km and 94 km would be increased to four along with the width of 250 meters each.
- iv) The SSNNL would supply fresh water from KBC to the 'Bets' for wildlife within the sanctuary area, in addition to the canal escapes in order to decrease wild animals movement outside the sanctuary area as may be recommended by the wildlife wing of the forest department.
- v) The width of the super passages would be increased from 20 meters to 50 meters.
- vi) The parapets of the passages need to act as visual barriers rather than physical barriers. Hence, their height need not be more than 2 ft.
- vii) The bridges for wildlife passages would be 50 meters broad and the approach paths to them should not have slopes higher than 10-12%.
- viii) The cable for power evacuation and supply for lifting water would be put underground.
- ix) The finishing of all passages/bridges would be on landscape principle and would merge with natural surroundings.

After detailed deliberations, the Committee unanimously recommended the proposal subject to compliance of above mentioned conditions.

**3.4.1 Proposal for 4/6 lanning of National Highway No.7 from km.625 to 635 on the periphery of Mowgali PENCH Sanctuary of PENCH Tiger Reserve Seoni, M.P.**

As the proposal was awaited from the State Government, no action was required.

**3.6 I.A. No.52, 64 and 95 pertaining to resettlement of Gujjars from Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand**

During the last meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, the Committee observed that the concerns raised in I.A. No.64 i.e. resettlement of Gujjars in the Rajaji National Park were very important for Wildlife Conservation. Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttarakhand was requested to file a detailed report to the Committee and on the basis of which, if required, after carrying out site inspection, the Standing Committee would give its recommendation. Since report was still awaited from the State Government, the CWLW was once again requested to send detailed comments in the matter at the earliest.

**3.7 I.A. No.54, Great Indian Bustard Wildlife Sanctuary**

During the last meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 10.9.07, it was decided that the State Government should submit a proposal in the appropriate proforma for consideration of the Standing Committee with the recommendations/comments of CWLW, Maharashtra. As the proposal was not received from the State Government, no action was required.

**3.8 Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary**

During the last meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2007, the Committee decided that the project proponents should revise their proposal in the light of the studies carried out by WII, Dehradun and should also consult CWLW while finalizing the proposal. Since revised proposal was still awaited from the State Government, no action is required.

### **3.10 Marine Sanctuary – Proposal for Indian Oil Corporation**

The proposal of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) was for post-facto approval for use of 24 ha of land of Marine Sanctuary and 22.5 ha of Marine National Park over a distance of 1.2 kms within the Sanctuary and 900 meters in the Park. Though earlier clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act had already been obtained by the project proponents, clearance of Standing Committee of NBWL could not be obtained. As per the decision taken in the last meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL, a team consisting of Dr. Asad Rehmani, Dr. Anmol Kumar, DIG(WL) and Shri B.C. Choudhary of WII, Dehradun carried out the site inspection and had detailed discussions with the project proponents and State Wildlife officials. The inspecting team observed that the pipeline of IOC was linear and there was a very good growth of mangroves on both sides of the pipeline which have been very well protected also. During inspection, it was also observed that IOC was complying the general recommendations of the CWLW of Gujarat by taking necessary precautions against possible oil spill etc. After detailed discussions, the inspecting team had recommended the proposal with the following conditions in additions to the conditions envisaged by CWLW (Annexure-II) :-

- (i) Since the total area of around 46.50 ha mangrove land and marine habitat on being diverted to the IOC will be under their care and management, the IOC should develop an Environmental Management Plan for the area and manage them through the Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Sanctuary authorities. For this, the recommendation point 11 of the CWLW, Gujarat be revisited and required to be urgently complied with.
- (ii) The IOC has paid Rs.14 lakhs for establishing a monitoring unit and have been depositing an amount of Rs.4 lakhs annually to the Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Sanctuary for monitoring oil spills, the quality of habitat, water and biodiversity. The Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Sanctuary authorities have not utilized this money nor the monitoring has been carried out professionally. This needs to be taken up urgently either through a professional

- organizations for establishing a bench mark database and thereafter from the annual IOC contribution the monitoring exercise continued by the Gulf of Kutch Marine National park and Marine Sanctuary authorities by appointing a Biologist.
- (iii) The IOC should provide annual reports to the Gujarat Chief Wildlife Warden and Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Marine Sanctuary authorities on the environmental care and management activities taken by them in Vadinai including the sea water tests, water test results from OWS and annual testing of ground water for Ph and oil content.
  - (iv) The IOC should organize an oil spill response drill for the frontline staff of the Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary, if feasible with the coast guard, so that the oil spill response is well understood by all agencies.
  - (v) The consortium of industries in the region when they meet for taking up Corporate Social Responsibility related decisions and action should invite the Director of the Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park for suggestions with respect to the Protected Areas and substantially contribute for the well being of the Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Marine Sanctuary.

The Standing Committee of NBWL unanimously agreed with the recommendations of the inspecting team and recommended the proposal subject to compliance of the conditions mentioned by the inspecting team and also by the CWLW.

### **3.11 Marine Sanctuary – Proposal for regularization for diversion of 12.47 ha for Gujarat State Fertilizer Company.**

As decided in the last meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL, a site inspection was carried out by Dr. Asad Rehmani, Director, BNHS, Dr. Anmol Kumar, DIG(WL) and Shri B.C. Choudhary of WII. This is also a case of post-facto approval. The inspecting team observed that the Gujarat State Fertilizers Company has also maintained transferred/diverted area very well and there was good growth of mangroves in the area.

The proposal has been recommended by the inspecting team with following conditions :-

- (a) The GSFC has taken adequate care of the mangroves on either side of the road to the jetty and the mangroves are in a healthy state. However, the GSFC may consider allowing sea-water flow between the two sides of the jetty access road by constructing a few culverts so as to allow movement of mangrove propagules (seeds) and nutrients to both the sides.
- (b) The GSFC should prepare an Environment Management Plan for the diversion land and adjoining area in consultation with Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary authorities and other professional agency and allocate annual budget for implementing the plan.
- (c) A contingency disaster management plan may also be developed by GSFC and shared with the Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary for dealing with probable accidental spill or release of ammonia and sulphur. The GSFC should organize a disaster mitigation and management drill for the Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary staff and establish a protocol to deal with such eventualities.
- (d) As a part of their Corporate Social Responsibility, the GSFC may also develop appropriate Education and Awareness Programme and related materials on coastal and marine environment targeted at schools, colleges and their own staff and implement them through the Gulf of Kutch Marine National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary authorities at least twice a year.
- (e) All other conditions as recommended by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat (**Annexure-III**).

After detailed discussions, the Standing Committee of NBWL recommended the proposal with the above mentioned conditions:-

**Agenda Item No.3 : Proposals concerning Wildlife Conservation Issues**

**3.1 Delisting of Edible Nest Swiftlets from Schedule-1 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**

The proposal for delisting of Edible Nest Swiftlets (*collacalia fusciphaga*) which is found only in Andaman and Nicobar Islands was put up before the Standing Committee of NBWL for deliberations. Dr. Asad Rehmani of BNHS and Dr. Ravi Shankaran from SACON requested the Committee for delisting of this specie from the Schedule-1 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act so that trade in its nest could be permitted to locals. It was emphasized upon that it was very necessary for getting support of local people for conservation of this specie. A small presentation in this connection was also made by Dr. Ravi Shankaran. CWLW, Andaman and Nicobar Islands also supported these views. Member Secretary, Standing Committee of NBWL submitted that this proposal is against the existing policy of wildlife conservation under which no trade in products of scheduled animals/birds is permitted.

After detailed deliberations, the Committee decided to refer this case to the Members of Animal Committee who could meet under the Chairmanship of Director (Wildlife Preservation) and give their views.

**Agenda Item No. 3.2 Rationalization of Boundaries of National Parks and Sanctuaries**

Member Secretary apprised the members of the Committee that proposals of rationalization of boundaries of Protected Areas had been received from three States namely; Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Gujarat. It was also informed that after the directions of NBWL, a Committee to consider rationalization of boundaries of Protected Areas was also constituted. The Rationalization Committee had recommended six

proposals of Himachal Pradesh (i to vi of the Agenda) and one proposal of Sikkim. The proposal of Gujarat was also considered by the Rationalization Committee and after examination, CWLW, Gujarat was requested to revise the proposal by excluding certain areas and including better areas. CWLW, Gujarat had revised the proposal. However, the proposal could not be placed before the Rationalization Committee and instead it came up directly before the Standing Committee of NBWL. The Standing Committee unanimously decided that the proposal of Gujarat should first be considered by the Rationalization Committee before it is considered by the Standing Committee.

After getting brief from CWLW, Himachal Pradesh, Prof. R. Sukumar and Shri V.B Sawarkar who conducted the site inspection in Himachal Pradesh for rationalization of boundaries of protected areas also informed that there was immediate need in Himachal Pradesh to exclude certain areas out of the existing Protected Areas having human and cattle populations and in lieu of excised areas, better areas be included.

CWLW, Himachal Pradesh informed that there were more proposals under preparation for rationalization in Himachal Pradesh and were to be submitted to the Committee. After deliberations, the Standing Committee of NBWL unanimously directed the CWLW to complete all the proposals of rationalization of boundaries of all the Protected Areas in the State. After completion, the State Government should come up with a consolidated proposal clearly indicating the extent of area to be excised from the Protected Areas and details of the area to be included. It was also recommended that it must be put up before the Rationalization Committee and only after that the Standing Committee would be able to take a holistic view in the matter and give its recommendations.

With regard to Sikkim (Fambonglhu Wildlife Sanctuary), the Standing Committee of NBWL recommended the proposal of rationalization of boundaries subject to the compliance of following conditions as envisaged by the Inspecting Team.

- i) The entire 80 acre (32 ha) of area transferred to Animal Husbandry Department prior to issue of notification of Fambonglhu Sanctuary be excluded from the Sanctuary.
- ii) The area in possession of Dharma Chakra excluded in the notification be properly surveyed and demarcated and this should not form part of the Sanctuary.
- iii) Gangtok Srdong and Lingdok link road along with reserve forest on the northern flak of the road be excluded from the Sanctuary.
- iv) As regard area allotted to victims of natural calamity and under private holdings, a detailed survey needs to be conducted after field verification with the available documents and records.
- v) As the recent survey has shown an excess of 100 ha in actual area to what is recorded, the State Government should ensure that the area of the Sanctuary is in no case less than what had been recorded to 51.76 sq. kms.
- vi) An access be provided to the sanctuary through the area transferred to the Animal Husbandry Department.
- vii) While rationalizing the boundaries and demarcating the area, it should be ensured by the State Government that the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are strictly followed.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.3: FRESH PROPOSALS**

The agenda concerning fresh proposals was introduced by the Member Secretary. Shri Diyabhanu Singh Chavda placed a copy of the letter by non official members of NBWL addressed to Hon'ble Prime Minister. However, the Chairman suggested that the letter cannot be an agenda for discussion in this meeting.

#### **3.3.1) I.A. No. 91**

The I.A. No. 91 has been filed in Writ Petition No. 337/95 by the Uttaranchal Jal Vidyut Nigam for construction of 8000 KV power house in 0.334 ha of land falling within Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary of district Pithoragarh. The Member Secretary

informed the Committee that in the absence of the detailed proposal along with the specific comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden, it would be difficult for the Committee to arrive at a decision. The Standing Committee, therefore, decided that a detailed proposal, in the prescribed format, be submitted to the Ministry, for consideration by the Committee.

**3.3.2) I.A. No. 100**

The I.A. No. 100 has been filed in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 337/95 by the Centre for Bio-diversity, New Delhi seeking implementation of the lion relocation programme as recommended by the Wildlife Institute of India. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat informed the Committee regarding the various steps taken by the Gujarat Government for providing protection to Lions and their habitat. The Chief Wildlife Warden had elaborated on the following in this regard:

- a) That Kuno Palpur has a population of 6 to 8 tigers and co-existence of large cats of almost equal size was unlikely.
- b) That Lions world over are known to prefer grasslands in sub-tropical to near sub-tropical climates with normal temperature during hot period below 42° C (approx\_ while Kuno is known to have hot climate during summer with temperature exceeding 45° C for a number of days.
- c) The prey base at Kuno is also not adequate enough for the lions.
- d) Lions are increasing in number and geographical distribution in vicinity of Gir in Amreli & Bhavnagar districts. This is a natural increase in home range of lions which is well received by local population. Besides, Gir National Park and Gir-Paniya- Mithiyal Sanctuary and Devalia interpretation park, lions have made home in Girnar, grasslands of Savarkundla, Palitana and Mahuva hills and in the coastal region of Jafrabad and Rajula in Amreli districts, Mahuva and Palitana talukas of Bhavnagar district.
- e) The Barda Sanctuary area is being effectively prepared as home for lion with vegetation having improved while spotted deer are introduced.

- f) The natural expansion of home range being the effective way of establishing natural meta population that infrequently interact among populations located at different places in Gir region. Thus effectively isolated populations which may still receive genetic inputs from the base populations are establishing providing efficient method of conservation.
- g) During the year 2007-08, Government of Gujarat has launched a special programme for conservation of lion with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat announcing a five year action plan package of Rs. 40 crore for lion conservation which includes increase in protection force, habitat management, raising awareness to enlist peoples participation etc.

Thereafter, the Chairman sought the opinion of the Government of Madhya Pradesh on the points made by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat. The Addl. PCCF(WL), Government of Madhya Pradesh informed that the Kuno Palpur Sanctuary was waiting for the release of lions from Gujarat and that the Madhya Pradesh Government had taken all the necessary measures to make Kuno Palpur the ideal second home for the lions. They had also relocated 24 villages from the Sanctuary for this purpose. He further emphasized that Kuno Palpur was suggested as the second home for lions after due scientific studies conducted by Wildlife Institute of India and posed no threat to the conservation of lions. He also informed that the prey base was in plenty in Kuno Palpur. He requested that the lions be translocated to Kuno Palpur at the earliest.

Dr. Asad Rehmani, Director, BNHS apprised that historically lion was found in Haryana and Delhi areas as well where temperature even goes beyond 45° C in summers. Further, he said that sporadic presence of tiger in Kuno Palpur was in no case detrimental to lions.

At this juncture, Dr. Divyabhanusinh Chavda mentioned that there was a need to create a second home for lions. He cited the example of the death of large number of lions in the Serengeti Park and other areas in Africa and that in case of a similar calamity

in India, the whole population of lions could be wiped out and, therefore, it was scientifically highly prudent to have a second home for the lions away from Gujarat. Other members of the Committee also supported the translocation of lion from Gujarat to Kuno Palpur.

After these deliberations, the Committee unanimously recommended translocation of lions from Gujarat to Kuno Palpur.

**3.3.3) I.A. No. 101**

The I.A. no. 101 has been filed in the Writ Petition no. 337/95 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court seeking transfer of 0.604 ha of forestland within the Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary in district Rudrprayag for the purpose of laying pipe line for supply of drinking water under the Sari Karokhi Punargathan drinking water scheme to cover the Sari and Karokhi villages. The Member Secretary informed the committee that in the absence of the detailed proposal along with the specific comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden, it would be difficult for the Committee to arrive at a decision. The Standing Committee, therefore, decided that a detailed proposal, in the prescribed format, be submitted to the Ministry, for consideration by the Committee.

**3.3.4) I.A. No. 103**

The I.A. no. 103 in Writ Petition (civil) no. 337/95 has been filed by the State Government of Maharashtra seeking permission of Hon'ble Supreme Court to effect diversion of 13495.6133 ha of forest land from 4 forest divisions for regularization of Eksali plots and for diversion of 8037.0848 ha of forest land from 2 forest divisions for regularization of Dali plots in thane and Raigad districts of Maharashtra. The Member Secretary informed the Committee that in the absence of the detailed proposal along with the specific comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden, it would be difficult for the committee to arrive at a decision. The Standing Committee therefore decided that a detailed proposal, in the prescribed format, be submitted to the Ministry, for consideration by the Committee.

**3.3.5) I.A. No. 104 & 105**

The I.A. no. 104 & 105 has been filed in Writ Petition no. 337/95 by the Irrigation Department, Government Of Maharashtra for construction of dam under the Sawarde Multipurpose Irrigation Project for which an area of 14.12 ha of land falling within Radhanagari Sanctuary Of District Kolhapur is required. The Member Secretary informed the Committee that in the absence of the detailed proposal along with the specific comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden, it would be difficult for the committee to arrive at a decision. The Standing Committee, therefore, decided that a detailed proposal, in the prescribed format, be submitted to the Ministry, for consideration by the Committee.

**3.3.6) I.A. No. 106**

The I.A. no. 106 has been filed in Writ Petition No. 337/95 by the State Government Of Madhya Pradesh seeking permission of Hon'ble Supreme Court for issuance of final notification of the Gangau Sanctuary under Section 26 a of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, after excising the 1659.693 ha of revenue/private and protected forest land. The Member Secretary informed the Committee that in the absence of the detailed proposal along with the specific comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden, it would be difficult for the committee to arrive at a decision. The Standing Committee therefore decided that a detailed proposal, in the prescribed format, be submitted to the Ministry, for consideration by the Committee.

**3.3.7) I.A. No. 107**

The I.A. No. 107 has been filed in Writ Petition No. 337/95 by the Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Ltd for survey and investigation and implementation of the proposed 330 MW Bokang Bailang Hydroelectric project on river Dhauliganga falling within the Askot Musk Deer Sanctuary.

The Member Secretary informed the Committee that in the absence of the detailed proposal along with the specific comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden, it would be difficult for the committee to arrive at a decision. The Standing Committee therefore decided that a detailed proposal, in the prescribed format, be submitted to the Ministry, for consideration by the Committee.

**3.3.8) I.A. No. 895**

The proposal is for seeking permission for laying of water pipeline over 0.170 ha of forestland within Majathal Wildlife Sanctuary. The applicant agency, i.e, M/s Gujarat Ambuja Cements (Pvt) Ltd., is operating a cement plant at village Suli district Solan. The user agency is presently lifting water from a source falling in Majathal Wildlife Sanctuary on the Pazeena Khud.

The proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wildlife Warden of Himachal Pardesh After deliberations, considering the fact that the pipeline would be used for providing drinking water to the public and that the area required was also quite small, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal.

**3.3.9) Construction of road between Kilavan Koil and Kodikulam Kudisai in Tamil Nadu.**

The proposal is for diversion of 8.36 ha of forestland falling within the Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of road between Kilavan Koil and Kodikulam Kudisai in district Madurai. The Addl. PCCF, Government of Tamil Nadu briefed the Committee about the proposal. He mentioned that the construction of the road would help in better protection of the Sanctuary.

The Committee after deliberations decided to recommend the proposal with the condition that the State Government should adhere to the guidelines prescribed by the Wildlife Institute of India in their publication on construction of roads in protected areas alongwith following conditions:

- (i) No widening of road will be undertaken and no tree will be cut.
- (ii) Rumble strips will be provided at all animal crossings.
- (iii) Reflective pavement markers will be provided as road demarcations.
- (iv) Sufficient numbers of Retro Reflective Warning signs will be provided and installed near wildlife crossings.
- (v) Work will be carried out during daytime only.
- (vi) Stone crusher plant, Hot Mix Plant, Wet Mix Plant and DG set will be installed outside the park area.
  
- (vii) Construction material will be sourced from quarries and borrow and area outside the park.
- (viii) Disposal sites will be located outside the park area.
- (ix) Machineries will be removed from work site immediately after the work is over.
- (x) Labour and supervisors will be educated on wildlife protection.

**3.3.10) Construction of Chambal Development Scheme-Four Hydropower Projects (Rahu Ka Gaon, Gujjapura, Jaitpura & Barsala) on Chambal River, Rajasthan.**

The proposal is for survey and investigation for construction of Chambal Development Scheme-Four Hydropower Projects (Rahu Ka Gaon, Gujjapura, Jaitpura & Barsala) on Chambal River, Rajasthan. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan briefed the Committee of the proposal and mentioned that this is only for the survey purpose.

The Committee observed that a number of such projects were being proposed on Chambal River without conducting a study on the carrying capacity of the river and their impact on aquatic wildlife found in Chambal. The Chambal is one of the cleanest river in the country. The Committee after detailed discussions, decided to reject the proposal in view of the recent large scale mortality of Gharials in Chambal River.

**3.3.11) Construction of Mamer-Minor Irrigation Project, Rajasthan.**

The proposal is for diversion of 31.30 Ha of forestland falling within Phulwari Ki Naal Wildlife Sanctuary for construction of Mamer-Minor Irrigation Project. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan briefed the Committee about the proposal.

Considering the fact that area in question was drought prone and impounded water was to be used for drinking purpose also, the Committee, after discussions, decided to recommend the proposal.

**3.3.12) Seepage Control of Galai Sagar Dam, Rajasthan.**

The proposal is for seepage control of Galai Sagar dam, an existing dam constructed during 1934 and having problem of seepage since the time of construction. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan, briefed the Committee about the proposal.

Since the area is a Project Tiger area, the National Tiger Conservation Authority was requested to furnish their comments. Joint Director, National Tiger Conservation Authority inspected the dam site. He suggested that the proposal could be recommended with certain conditions. After deliberations, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the following conditions as suggested by the National Tiger Conservation Authority:

- a) No trees shall be cut from the area.
- b) No construction material such as earth, stone etc will be collected from the forest area for the repair works.
- c) The height of the dam, sluice, surplus weirs etc shall not be increased beyond the proposal.
- d) Sufficient water shall be left as reserve in the dam for the use by the wildlife of the area through out the season.

- e) The repair work should be allowed to be carried out only during day time and that also between after sun rise and before sun set period with break at regular interval and with minimal disturbances.
- f) Work may be got executed under the presence of sufficient staff of the forest department on deputation as decided by Forest Department, Ranthambhore at cost of user agency.
- g) The publicity on co-existence of man and wild animals due to the project may be undertaken for reciprocal public support on long term conservation of the Protected Area.
- h) The State Government would delineate the buffer zone and undertake restoration of the same at the earliest, to ensure safety of spillover tiger population from mortality on account of man-animal conflicts.
- i) An MOU with the local communities benefiting from the dam should be formalized through the village level Committees (EDC), on a *quid-pro-quo* basis with reciprocal commitments, for eliciting their support towards wildlife conservation.

**3.3.13) Construction of road from Harsani Girab Road to Sadhon Ki Basti, (10.5 Km) under The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Rajasthan.**

The proposal is for diversion of 15.75 ha forestland from Desert National Park for construction of road from Harsani Girab Road to Sadhon Ki Basti, (10.5 Km) under The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

After deliberations, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions that only gravel road would be constructed. Further, the Committee also decided to impose the following conditions:

1. No night camping shall be allowed during the construction of road by labour & construction activity will be permitted only during day time only.
2. Speed breakers will be constructed at an interval of 500 mts. in sanctuary area by user agency.

3. Barrier should be constructed at entry and exit of each village, where movement of vehicles during sunset will be recorded.
4. No tree cutting will be allowed.
5. The construction material for road will be brought from the area outside the DNP.
6. The user agency will not create borrow pit in DNP area, for the construction of road.
7. User agency will clear all the debris left after construction activity.
8. The user agency will put and maintain sign board at every two kilometers distance on both sides of the road mentioning that the road is passing through Desert National Park and drivers should be watchful about wildlife and drive cautiously.
9. In order to avoid crushing of reptiles, suitably designed under passes shall be constructed.

**3.3.14) Construction of gravel road from Barna to Tejsi km 0/0 to 4/500, (4.5 kms) under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Rajasthan.**

The proposal is for diversion of 6.75 ha forestland from Desert National Park for construction of gravel road from Barna to Tejsi km 0/0 to 4/500, (4.5 kms) under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. The Chief Wild Life Warden, Rajasthan, briefed the Committee about the proposal.

After deliberations, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions that only gravel road would be constructed. Further, the Committee also decided to impose the following conditions:

1. No night camping shall be allowed during the construction of road by labour & construction activity will be permitted only during day time only.
2. Speed breakers will be constructed at an interval of 500 mts. in sanctuary area by user agency.
3. Barrier should be constructed at entry and exit of each village, where movement of vehicles during sunset will be recorded.
4. No tree cutting will be allowed.
5. The construction material for road will be brought from the area outside the DNP.
6. The user agency will not create borrow pit in DNP area, for the construction of road.
7. User agency will clear all the debris left after construction activity.

8. The user agency will put and maintain sign board at every two kilometers distance on both sides of the road mentioning that the road is passing through Desert National Park and drivers should be watchful about wildlife and drive cautiously.
9. In order to avoid crushing of reptiles, suitably designed under passes shall be constructed.

### 3.3.15) **Improvement of the Rasula Cheruvu Tank, Andhra Pradesh**

The proposal is for improvement of the Rasula Sheruvu tank in Reserve Forest area near Bilkal village, Balmor Mandal, Mahboobnagar, falling within the Nagarjuna Sagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh gave a brief description on the proposal.

Since the area is a Project Tiger area, the National Tiger Conservation Authority was requested to furnish their comments. Joint Director, National Tiger Conservation Authority inspected the site. He has suggested that the proposal could be recommended with certain conditions. After detailed deliberations, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions as prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh and the National Tiger Conservation Authority. The conditions are as given below:

1. All those trees like *Ailanthus excelsa* and others on the bund be numbered and retained and no felling done. These trees shall not be felled.
2. No new roads shall be formed in the sanctuary; the existing approach road to the dam site alone be used.
3. No labour camp shall be located within the sanctuary.
4. Labour force used for the work and their cattle shall not stray into the sanctuary and disturb the animals.
5. The repair work shall be got done by involving the members of the local Eco-Development Committees.
6. No work shall be carried out from 6: 00 PM to 6:00 AM.
7. The user agency shall not excavate the sanctuary area for soil to be taken to strengthen the bund.
8. The height of the spill weir shall not be increased, as this will inundate the forest in the foreshore area.

9. Proposals may also be obtained from the User Agency for improvement of the distributory channels also since the present channels are silted up and infested with weeds.
10. No trees shall be cut from the area.
11. No construction material such as earth, stone etc shall not be increased beyond the existing structure.
12. The height of the bund, sluice, surplus weirs etc shall not be increased beyond the existing structure.
13. Sufficient water shall be kept as reserve in the tank for the use by the wildlife of the area through out the season.
14. The work may be got executed under the presence of sufficient staff of the Forest Department on deputation as decided by the Forest Department, Nagarjun Sagar Sri Sailam Tiger Reserve at the cost of user agency.
15. The publicity on co-existence of man and wild animals due to the project may be undertaken for reciprocal public support on long term conservation of the protected area.

**3.3.16) Construction of Pula Subbaiah Veligonda Irrigation Project, Andhra Pradesh.**

The proposal is for diversion of forestland falling within Rajiv Gandhi (Nagarjunasagar) Tiger Reserve [0.6 ha(surface area) & 106.31 ha (under ground area) for construction of Pula Subbaiah Veligonda Irrigation Project.. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh, briefed the Committee about the proposal and a presentation by the Secretary , Irrigation Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh was also made.

Since the area is a Project Tiger area, the National Tiger Conservation Authority was requested to furnish their comments. Joint Director, National Tiger Conservation Authority inspected the site. The National Tiger Conservation Authority in their report has suggested that the proposal could be recommended with certain conditions. After detailed deliberations, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions as prescribed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh and the National Tiger Conservation Authority. The conditions are as given below:

1. The noise and air pollution levels are to be monitored during drilling of tunnel.
2. No roads should be formed.
3. The excavated debris should be dumped away from the NSTR and the RF boundary and should be scientifically stabilized.

4. No labour camps inside the sanctuary.
5. The labour should be provided with cooking gas to prevent dependence on the forest for fire wood etc.,
6. The camps sheds and other structures should be dismantled after completion of the project wherever they are constructed.
7. Minimum trees shall be cut from the area
8. No construction materials such as earth, stone etc will be collected from the forest area for the construction works.
9. Transport of the construction material from outside may be made through water transport using ferries/boats alone.
10. Sufficient water shall be kept as reserve in the river for the use by the wildlife of the area through out the season.
11. The construction work especially at inlet portal site should be allowed to be carried out only during day time and that also between after sun rise and before sun set period with break at regular intervals with minimum disturbance.
12. Works may be got executed under the presence of sufficient staff of the Forest Department on deputation as decided by the Forest Department, Nagarjun Sagar SriSailam Tiger Reserve at the cost of user agency.
13. The latest technology may be used for making underground tunnel and other activities so that no disturbance takes place to wildlife in and around the area.
14. The publicity on co-existence of man and wild animals due to the project may be undertaken for reciprocal public support on long term conservation of the protected area.
15. The State Government should include the entire area of Gundla-Brhmeshwaram Wildlife Sanctuary (1140 Sq. Kms, having no human settlement) as a core/ critical tiger habitat of the Nagarjunsagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve.

### **3.3.17 Upgradation of metal-gravel surface road to B.T. Surface road under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Andhra Pradesh.**

The proposal is for upgradation of metal-gravel surface road to B.T. Surface road under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). 4 km of the proposed road passes through the Pulicat Lake Sanctuary. The Chief Wildlife Warden gave a brief description on the proposal. after discussions, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal as a special case, with the condition specified by the Chief Wildlife Warden that for the length of 4 kms road passing through the Sanctuary, for every 100 mts length, a box type of culvert of size 10 mts width be provided for free flow of water and also with the condition that the State Government should adhere to the guidelines prescribed by the

Wildlife Institute of India in their publication on construction of roads in protected areas alongwith following conditions:

- (i) No widening of road will be undertaken and no tree will be cut.
- (ii) Rumble strips will be provided at all animal crossings.
- (iii) Reflective pavement markers will be provided as road demarcations.
- (iv) Sufficient numbers of Retro Reflective Warning signs will be provided and installed near wildlife crossings.
- (v) Work will be carried out during daytime only.
- (vi) Stone crusher plant, Hot Mix Plant, Wet Mix Plant and DG set will be installed outside the park area.
- (vii) Construction material will be sourced from quarries and borrow and area outside the park.
- (viii) Disposal sites will be located outside the park area.
- (ix) Machineries will be removed from work site immediately after the work is over.
- (xi) Labour and supervisors will be educated on wildlife protection.
- (xii) Under passes/over passes for the unhindered movement of wildlife be provided.

**3.3.18. Rehabilitation and strengthening of existing single lane State Highway- 31A, Manasa-Rampura-Bhanpura road, Madhya Pradesh.**

The proposal is for rehabilitation and strengthening of existing single lane State Highway- 31A, Manasa-Rampura-Bhanpura road starting from Tehsil manasa (Dist. Neemach) and ending at Bhanpura and Jhalawar ( Distt. Mandsaur) via village Gandhisagar, 25 Kms of which passes through the Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh.

The Addl. PCCF(WL), Madhya Pradesh gave a brief description on the proposal. After discussions, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the conditions that the applicant would comply to the guidelines as prescribed by the Wildlife Institute of India in this connection as well as the conditions specified by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh, in the project proposal which are as given below:

1. Only the existing road will be upgraded with construction of murrum shoulder of 1.5m on either side.
2. Work will be carried out only during the day time.
3. No blasting will be allowed.

4. The labourers will not camp within the Sanctuary.
5. The work will be completed within a specified time limit.
6. the applicant will not allow any violation of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 near the work site.
7. The Wildlife Institute of India guidelines on construction of road would be adhered to strictly.
8. Rumble strips will be provided at all animal crossings.
9. Reflective pavement markers will be provided as road demarcations.
10. Sufficient numbers of Retro Reflective Warning signs will be provided and installed near wildlife crossings
11. Under passes and over passes would be provided at appropriate places for unhindered movement of wildlife.

**3.3.19) Construction of road from Rampurva-Matehai to Sujoli through Basahi road under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, Uttar Pradesh in Katarniaghat Sanctuary.**

The proposal is for construction of road from Rampurva-Matehai to Sujoli through Basahi road under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, Uttar Pradesh., passing through the Katarniaghat Sanctuary. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttar Pradesh, gave a brief description on the proposal.

Since the proposed road passes through a small patch of the Sanctuary on one side. And the proposal has been recommended by the Chief Wildlife Warden. After discussion, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal with the condition that the State Government should adhere to the guidelines prescribed by the Wildlife Institute of India in their publication on construction of roads in protected areas alongwith following conditions:

- (i) No widening of road will be undertaken and no tree will be cut.
- (ii) Rumble strips will be provided at all animal crossings.
- (iii) Reflective pavement markers will be provided as road demarcations.
- (iv) Sufficient numbers of Retro Reflective Warning signs will be provided and installed near wildlife crossings.
- (v) Work will be carried out during daytime only.
- (vi) Stone crusher plant, Hot Mix Plant, Wet Mix Plant and DG set will be installed outside the park area.
- (vii) Construction material will be sourced from quarries and borrow and area outside the park.
- (viii) Disposal sites will be located outside the park area.

- (ix) Machineries will be removed from work site immediately after the work is over.
- (x) Labour and supervisors will be educated on wildlife protection. with the following conditions.

**3.3.20) Construction of two log huts, Haryana.**

The Chief Wildlife Warden, Haryana gave a brief description of the proposal which involves construction of two log huts in an area of 0.75 acre of the Sultanpur National Park as part of the eco-tourism programme. The area is on the road side and for all practical purposes is useless as wildlife habitat and being a very small area, it cannot be developed in future also as habitat of any wildlife. After discussions, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal for promotion of eco-tourism.

**3.3.21) Construction of new alignment of NH-1A from Km 195.200 to km-199.100 by NHAI, Jammu Kashmir.**

The proposal involves the construction of new alignment of NH-1A by the National Highway Authority of India, involving the Jawahar Tunnel Conservation Reserve, Jammu & Kashmir. The Chief Wildlife warden, Jammu & Kashmir gave a brief about the proposal. The Member-Secretary, Standing Committee of NBWL opined that since the Conservation Reserves were not covered under the provisions of Section 29 and Section 35(6) of the Wildlife (protection) Act, 1972 and also does not fall under the directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court in their orders dated 13.11.2000 and 9<sup>th</sup> May 2002 in W.P (C) No. 337/95, Committee may take a view on whether such cases are to be taken by the Committee for consideration.

After detailed discussion on this issue, the Committee decided that the matter may be taken up with the Ministry of Law & Justice for further clarification.

**3.3.22) Madhya Ganga Canal Pariyojna, Uttar Pradesh.**

The proposal involves construction of Madhya Ganga Canal project involving Hastinapur Sanctuary. The Deputy Inspector General (WL), MoEF informed the Committee that the proposal was considered by the Standing Committee of NBWL in its

meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2006 wherein the committee decided for site inspection. In the mean time the term of the previous Standing Committee for NBWL was expired and the applicant agency approached Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Hon'ble Court had allowed the applicant agency to proceed with the work. It was brought to the notice of the Committee.

### **Additional proposals**

#### **4.1 Formation of link road from Chinnathota to Rayadoruvu/Nawabpet by SHAR, Andhra Pradesh.**

The Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh, informed the Committee regarding the proposal for diversion of 0.88 ha of forest land falling within the Pulicat Bird Sanctuary for formation of link road from Chinnathota to Rayadoruvu/Nawabpet passing through Pudiradyadoruvu by SDSC, SHAR..

Considering the national security angle and small extent of area required, the Committee recommended the proposal. However, it was also decided that Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh and Dr. Asad Rehamani would inspect the area and reconsider the conditions laid by the Wildlife wing in their earlier recommendations.

#### **4.2 (A) & 4.2 (B) Laying of Gas Pipeline by GAIL (India) Ltd, Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan.**

The proposal is for laying of Vijaypur- Dadri Gas pipeline (VDGP) for transportation of regasified liquefied natural gas/natural gas from Vijaypur, Madhya Pradesh to Dadri, Uttar Pradesh (48" X 505 Kms) (Phase-I) by GAIL (India) Ltd . The proposal involves the following Sanctuaries:

- a) 1.5 ha of National Chambal Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh.
- b) 1.5 ha of National Chambal Sanctuary in Rajasthan.
- c) 5.25 ha of Ramsagar Sanctuary, Rajasthan.

The Addl. PCCF(WL), Madhya Pradesh and Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan gave a brief regarding the project. After discussion, the Committee decided to recommend the proposal in view of the fact that the pipeline was to be laid underground which would have not effect the river water and the wildlife and that the pipeline was being laid to provide power for the Commonwealth games in Delhi.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the Member Secretary to the Chairman and all members and delegates for attending the meeting.

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**Annexure-I****LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING THE MEETING OF STANDING  
COMMITTEE OF NBWL HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2008**

1	Shri S. Regupathy	Chairman
2	Prof. Chander Kumar, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)	Member
3	Shri P.R. Mohanty, DGF&SS, MoEF	Member
4	Dr. Divyabhanusinh Chavda	Member
5	Dr. Asad Rehmani	Member
6	Dr. B. Talukdar	Member
7	Shri P.R. Sinha, Director, WII, Dehradun	Member
8	Shri S. Chandola, CWLW, Uttarakhand	Member
9	Dr. R.B. Lal, IGF(WL), MoEF	Member-Secretary
10	Shri B. Majumdar, CWLW, Maharashtra	Invitee
11	Shri Pradeep Khanna, CWLW, Gujarat	Invitee
12	Shri D.N. S. Suman, CWLW, Uttar Pradesh	Invitee
13	Shri V. Tandon, CWLW, Himachal Pradesh	Invitee
14	Shri Khazan Singh, CWLW, A&N Island	Invitee
15	Shri R.D. Jakati, CWLW, Haryana	Invitee
16	Shri Hitesh Malhotra, CWLW, Andhra Pradesh	Invitee
17	Shri R.N. Mehrotra, CWLW, Rajasthan	Invitee
18	Shri D.V. Negi, CWLW, Arunachal Pradesh	Invitee
19	Shri N.T. Bhutia, CWLW, Sikkim	Invitee
20	Shri H.S. Pabla, Addl. PCCF(WL), Madhya Pradesh	Invitee
21	Shri R. Sundararaju, Addl. PCCF, Tamil Nadu	Invitee
22	Shri A.N. Prasad, IGF& Director Project Elephant	Invitee
23	Dr. Anmol Kumar, DIG(WL), MoEF	Invitee
24	Shri Ashok Pai, Joint Director, WCCB	Invitee
25	Shri Ganga Singh, Joint Director, NTCA	Invitee
26	Prof. R. Sukumar	Invitee
27	Shri V.B. Sawarkar	Invitee
28	Dr. Ravi Shankaran	Invitee

**OPINION OF CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN IN PROPOSAL PERTAINING TO  
INDIAN OIL CORPORATION, GUJARAT**

CWLW has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:-

1. The company shall raise mangrove plantations in the vicinity area of its pipelines.
2. The company shall establish a modern laboratory for the monitoring the water quality for facilitating establishment of coral in this area.
3. The company shall keep all the necessary vigil so that there is no leakage of oil from its SBM and pipelines and shall also arrange for the clearing of even small leaks of oil.
4. Whenever the SBM and pipelines have to be replaced or repaired, the company shall obtain prior permission for doing so from the Chief Wildlife Warden.
5. To ensure that there is no harm to corals, various fishes, sea turtles and other marine life in its area study/research shall be arranged by the company in consultation with conservator of Forests, Marine National Park, Jamnagar.
6. Any additional conditions prescribed by the Government of India and the State Government in future shall be binding to the company.
7. The company shall maintain a sea worthy boat that shall monitor area around SMB and pipelines for guarding against any leakage.
8. The company shall establish the latest machines and equipments for the beach cleaning.
9. The company shall sponsor biennial study for documenting the status and suggesting management options to address concerns due to impact of oil pipelines on marine environment and marine flora and fauna. The agency for the study shall be fixed in consultation with Conservation of Forests. Marine National Park, Jamnagar.
10. Beach of prescribed conditions may attract closure of operations.
11. An expert committee under the chairmanship of Conservator of Forests. Marine National Park, shall be formed with representatives from the Gujarat Pollution Control Board of suitable rank and the company with the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Marine National Park, as Member Secretary of the Committee. The Committee shall prepare an Action Plan to address concerns regarding the impact on marine flora and fauna due to the activities of the company and suggest measures to the redress the same to the Chief Wildlife Warden, Gujarat State and provide funds for the purpose.

**OPINION OF CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN IN PROPOSAL PERTAINING TO,  
GUJARAT STATE FERTILIZER CORPORATION**

**The Chief Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal with the following conditions:-**

1. The company shall ensure that there is no leakage and arrange for a modern control room with required sensors so that any leakage is immediately detected and control measures are taken.
2. In case of loss due to pollutants or chemical to the marine life in Marine National Park, Marine Sanctuary and its vicinity the company shall be liable to compensate for the loss.
3. A study may be commissioned at the cost of the company by an expert agency to document the risk due to movement of ships and use of jetty for various purposes by the company and suggest mitigation measures. The company shall abide by the recommendations of such study by the expert organization measures. The company shall prepare detail plan to comply with MARPOL regulations to ensure that no ballast and bilge is released in the prohibited area.
4. The company shall prepare an action plan keeping in view the possible causes of damage to marine life. The action plan will be monitored by a committee that may include Conservator of Forests, Marine National Park, Jamnagar as Chairperson, a representative of Gujarat Pollution Control Board of suitable rank, a representative of the company and Dy. Conservator of Forests, Marine National Park as Member Secretary. The committee shall review the implementation of the action plan every six months.
5. The company shall make adequate financial contribution to conservation of marine flora and fauna in Marine Sanctuary and National Park.
6. Any conditions prescribed by the State Government or the Government of India in future shall be binding on the company.