ANNEXURE-V

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

6th Floor, Vayu Wing
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi-110003

F.No 1-20/2014 WL (Pt.)
Dated: 28th October 2015

Subject: **Advisory on cost of Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation for the projects located in the vicinity of Protected Areas/Wildlife Sanctuaries/National Parks for consideration of Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife.**

The decision for identification of certain areas around/ near National Parks or Wildlife Sanctuaries and declaration thereof as Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 was made for regulating certain activities in such areas in order to avoid potential adverse impacts of these activities on the conservation values of the Protected Areas (PAs). In light of this fact, a plan for Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan becomes an integral part of the Environment Management Plan of proposed project. Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (SC NBWL) recommended a few projects in the vicinity of Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks subject to conditions for implementation of Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan by the user agencies. The cost of such plan is borne by the user agency including cost of preparation of such plans.

The SC NBWL in its 34th meeting considered the representations of such user agencies on the conditions of cost norms and appointed a committee for policy recommendation on cost of Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan. In 35th meeting, the SC NBWL discussed the matter in detail and accepted the recommendations of the Committee. The following are the recommendations to be implemented by the all the user agencies and authorities while sending the proposals for consideration of SC NBWL in the areas located in the vicinity of the PAs.

(i) The user agencies proposing industries/mining/development activities in the vicinity of Wildlife Sanctuaries/National Parks would pay for implementation of the management, conservation and impact mitigation plan for the sanctuary or national park. The Chief Wildlife Warden would propose an Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation plan for ten years keeping in view the assessed impact of the proposed project proposal in the area. Such proposal, duly vetted/ approved by the Chief Wild Life Warden would be sent along with the proposal to the SC NBWL for its consideration.

(ii) In case of new project proposals, the 2% of the project cost or cost of Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan for 10 years, whichever is more, would be payable by user agencies.

(iii) Normally, the projects for expansion or capacity augmentation or plant optimisation have less incremental impact on flora and fauna and their habitat compared to the new project of the same nature and size. In such case therefore, the agency would pay 2 % of the project cost or cost of Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan for 10 years, whichever is less.

(iv) In case of linear projects or those falling partially within the zone of regulation, proportionate cost of the project taking within the zone will be taken into consideration for calculating the 2% amount.

It is requested that the recommendation as accepted by the SC NBWL may be adopted as minimum for any approach to be placed before the Committee.

(Dr.S.K.Khanduri)
Inspector General of Forests (WL)

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