

Office of the Conservator of Forests, Territorial Circle, Hazaribag

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Site Inspection Report of Conservator of Forests, Territorial Circle, Hazaribagh

The proposed area for diversion was inspected by me on 26.09.2018. The total land proposed for diversion in Hazaribagh West Forest Division is 121.003 ha. passes through twelve villages i.e. Chaube, Bariyan, Maskedih, Naraina, Maishkhar, Jagodih, Sadharwatand, Mahuas, Ambatari, Brinda, Kanti, Phulbaria. On inspection of the area, it was found that the proposed forest area in Chouparan Range, adjacent to areas of the Koderma Forest Division is having rich biodiversity and density around 0.7. The proposed area has very good natural vegetation of important species like sal, kend, sidha, palas, khair, sisam, aanwla, mahua, arjun, jamun etc. As per the enumeration list 48571 trees are likely to be affected, which consists of very good matured as well as growing stocks and therefore the railway department shall carry out felling of only those trees, which are absolutely essential for construction of the railway line project.

The local staff informed about the presence of variety of animals like Nilgai, Wild boar, Sloth bear, Hyena, Jungle Cat, Fox, Jackal and also many species of reptiles. Few live streams, nalas where found around pilar no. J 12 and J 13. The proposed railway line will also intersect one forest road, therefore, while constructing the proposed railway line, proper care has to be taken for construction of under/ over pass for movement of wild animals and also construction of culverts, bridges is also necessary for smooth passes of water of streams, nalas, rivers and there is necessity of construction of underpass for movement of vehicles on the existing forest road.

In the forest area of Chaube, Bariyon and Nariana mouza (Barhi Range) there has been report of elephant movement and therefore proper safety measures in the form of three or four under pass has to be constructed by the user agency in these areas for safe passes of wild elephant and proper signage and lighting facility has to be developed in this area on both sides of the railway track.

The proposed line will cross areas in Koderma Forest Division, Hazaribagh West Forest Division (Chouparan Range) which is just adjacent to the Hazaribag Wildlife Sanctuary and consist of very good miscellaneous forest, with good presence of various species of wild animals and hence comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan by some reputed organisation like Wild Life

Institute of India, Dehradun or Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR), Hyderabad is required to be prepared.

Apart from that, as per the report, the area is vulnerable to soil erosion, hence the user agency should prepare a time bound soil and moisture conservation scheme under the guideline of local forest officials.

The proposed area is recommended, considering the national importance of the project for meeting the demand of additional capacity of rail freight transportation along the eastern and western routes and for providing safe, faster and economical goods transportation subject to condition mentioned above.

(Sanjay Kumar Sinha, VFS)
Conservator of Forests
Territorial Circle, Hazaribag
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