

Recommendation for:

a. Widening and strengthening of road from New NH 9(Old NH 24) to proposed Solid Waste Management Plant at Upper Ganga Canal, Ghaziabad mile 106.775 to 107.0

I have inspected the above mentioned site alongwith representative from Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA), Mr. Manvendra Singh, Executive engineer GDA. The site has protected forest of area **0.144** ha which is required for widening and strengthening of road from New NH 9(Old NH 24) to proposed Solid Waste Management Plant at Upper Ganga Canal, Ghaziabad mile 106.775 to 107.0 which is falling in District Ghaziabad. The protected forest is along the full length of the road under consideration for this project. Requirement of land in this project is minimum as per the project proposal submitted by the user agency.

There are 5 different plant species in the form of trees, poles and saplings present in protected forest area on one (left) side of the road under consideration in the project (**List Enclosed**). These plant species are mostly endemic and of medicinal importance along with their impact on environment. Since the road was laid, constructed and maintained by Irrigation Department, U.P., it was basically for inspection of works undertaken by the department. The forest cover in the protected forest area on left side of the road has average canopy density of approximately 60-70% and consists of biodiversity with different life forms. The area has its own microclimate which keeps the different parameters of environment health within limits.

At present, the protected forest cover along the road is a kind of green belt which adds to the green cover of district Ghaziabad wherein only 100 ha is the recorded protected forest area. The protected forest area under consideration in the project will get shrunken in area and forest cover due to widening and strengthening of the said road. There is already immense biotic pressure on the said protected forest as on one side of the protected forest, there is road under consideration in this project while on the other side, there are agricultural fields. The local population also depends on this forest for their daily needs.

Thus, in the light of the above observations, I recommend that the protected forest area which will be lost in the process of this project needs to be re established with greater conservation efforts through following measures:

1. A permanent chain linked fencing of adequate height should be constructed and maintained alongside the road to prevent any wild animal from coming to the widened and strengthened road, so that accidental deaths can be avoided.
2. Inspection hut in form of porta cabin with all basic amenities and solar light system should be provided to forest division, Ghaziabad at the site for protection and conservation of forests as there will be increase in heavy vehicular movement on the said road after the completion of the project.
3. Since there is scope of only urban forestry in urban areas of district Ghaziabad wherein isolated green patches or green belts are present, the user agency should provide appreciable land area for development and maintenance of urban green landscape in the

form of arboretum) to the Social Forestry division, Ghaziabad. The cost for the development and maintenance of this landscape will be borne by the user agency.

- b. Widening and strengthening of road from Upper Ganga Canal, mile 107.00 to 107.984 in village Galland, Pipalheda, tehsil Dhaulana, district Hapur and connecting link road for Solid Waste Plant crossing the protected forest area.**

I have inspected the above mentioned site alongwith representative from Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA), Mr. Manvendra Singh, Executive engineer GDA. The site has protected forest of area **0.6716 ha** which is required for **widening and strengthening of road from Upper Ganga Canal, mile 107.00 to 107.984 in village Galland, Pipalheda, tehsil Dhaulana, district Hapur and connecting link road for Solid Waste Plant crossing the protected forest area** which is falling in District Hapur. The protected forest is along the full length of the road under consideration for this project Requirement of land in this project is minimum as per the project proposal submitted by the user agency.


There are 10 different plant species in the form of trees, poles and saplings present in protected forest area on one (left) side of the road under consideration in the project (**List Enclosed**). These plant species are mostly endemic and of medicinal importance along with their impact on environment. Since the road was laid, constructed and maintained by Irrigation Department, U.P., it was basically for inspection of works undertaken by the department. The forest cover in the protected forest area on left side of the road has average canopy density of approximately 60-70% and consists of biodiversity with different life forms. The area has its own microclimate which keeps the different parameters of environment health within limits.


At present, the protected forest cover along the road is a kind of green belt which adds to the green cover of district Hapur wherein only 80 ha is the recorded protected forest area. The protected forest area under consideration in the project will get shrunk in area and forest cover due to widening and strengthening of the said road as well as protected forest area will lose its continuity due to construction of **connecting link road for Solid Waste Plant crossing the protected forest area**. The diversion of protected forest area for the said purpose will divide the protected forest into two parts and will lead to discontinuity of forest. This will also cause restriction of movement of fauna present in the area as well as the dispersal and natural regeneration of flora will be affected permanently. The ecology of the site will change irreversibly.

There is already immense biotic pressure on the said protected forest as on one side of the protected forest, there is road under consideration in this project while on the other side, there are agricultural fields. The local population also depends on this forest for their daily needs.

Thus, in the light of the above observations, I recommend that the protected forest area which will be lost in the process of this project needs to be re established with greater conservation efforts through following measures:

1. A permanent chain linked fencing of adequate height should be constructed and maintained alongside the road to prevent any wild animal from coming to the widened and strengthened road, so that accidental deaths can be avoided.
2. Inspection hut in form of Porta Cabin with all basic amenities and solar light system should be provided to forest division, Hapur at the site for protection and conservation of forests as there will be increase in heavy vehicular movement on the said road as well as on the connecting link road which will pass through protected forest, after the completion of the project.


(वी.के.सिंग)
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