

Specific recommendation on the FCA proposal No. FP/WB/MIN/43000/2019

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited proposal against 338.74 ha. of forests land in Barjora Range forests is having rich biodiversity. The total area of that patch of forest is about 2900 ha, out of that the above said quantum of land is proposed for open cast mining. The Divisional Forest Officers has enumerated the floral diversity. The area adjoining to this forest cover was being used by Asian elephants.

By looking at the energy security of our nation on one side and the importance of conservation of precious biodiversity of our forest on other side, this case is being **recommended** with following prerequisites namely

1. The boundary line area between the proposed land to be transferred and the remaining forests should be covered with multi-layered fencing @ Energy fencing; Elephant proof trenches; patrolling path along with few watch towers at strategic locations; few layers of special plantation along the boundary areas; electric line (electrification), a Taskforce to guard the mining area @ 24X 7 to avoid any undue incidence both for human being and wildlife are most important.
2. A comprehensive Biodiversity conservation plan to conserve the native fauna and flora of this area, which may be replicated in any suitable place at similar soil and forests area of south Bengal.
3. A scientific soil-moisture conservation plan is found to be essential at the adjoining forest cover to safeguard the local flora and fauna.
4. A long-term comprehensive wildlife conservation plan for the adjoining forest cover will take care of any human-wildlife conflict shortly.
5. Essential livelihood and support activities for the adjoining local inhabitants including Forest Protection committees, Forest Fringe population and forest-dependent dwellers will bring more peace and stability to the local area.


Chief Conservator of Forests,
Central Circle, Govt. of West Bengal