

PART – III

(To be filled by the concerned Conservator of Forests)

14. Whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Conservator of Forests (Yes/No). If yes, the date of inspection & observation made in form of inspection note to be enclosed.

Yes, inspection was done on 28.02.2020. Copy of site inspection report is attached herewith.

15. Whether concerned Conservator of Forests agree with the information given in Part-B and the recommendations of Deputy Conservator of Forests.

Yes,

16. Specific recommendation of concerned Conservator of Forests for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.

The present proposal for diversion involves 331.198 Ha of forest land out of which 306.366 ha. is Protected Forest and the rest 24.832 ha. GM Jungle Jhari. The compact forest proposed for diversion is in a single patch and spread across 7 PFs namely Beltu PF, Bariatu PF, Basariya PF, Nawadih PF, Sirma PF, Jabra PF, and Kandaber PF.

The location of this project is just adjoining to the already diverted area of 1026.438 Ha. of forest towards NTPC Pakri-Barwadih Coal Mining and the forest patch proposed for diversion is in continuity with larger forest landscape spread across kandaber, Itij, Nagri, Darikalan and Chepakalan Mauzas.

The forest is very rich in floral composition and the predominant species is sal (*Shorea robusta*) along with the associated species like Harra (*T. Chebula*), Bahera (*T. Bellirica*), Haldu (*Adina cordifolia*) *Syzigium Cumini*, Mahua (*Madhuca indica*), Bamboo, Neem (*Azadirachta indica*) and other species like Kendu (*Diaspyros melanoxylon*), Khair (*Acacia catechu*), *Boswellia serrata* etc. The fauna reported in the area include Striped Hyena (*Hyena*), Spotted deer, Nilgai, Common mongoose and Asiatic Elephant apart from other reptiles and amphibians.

Deforestation of this patch would disturb the hydraulic region of soil in the area, hence proper care should be taken to preserve the streams originating or flowing through this part of the forest. The entire area is undulating and highly vulnerable to soil erosion. The soil depth of the proposed area is very rich, hence special care should have to be taken while excavating the menirai.

The entire patch of 306.36 Ha. of forest land proposed for diversion is in a single compact patch, rich in floral and faunal diversity.

The proposed area for diversion is the catchment area of Khorrah Nallah and the several perennial streams are either originating or flowing through the proposed area and culminating in the Khorrah Nallah. This Khorrah Nallah separates the two blocks in one side already diverted coal mining of NTPC Pakri-Barwadih of 1026.438 ha. and in other side is the proposed area.

The removal of the forest cover and perennial streams will disturb the ecological stability, livelihood security of the people and also lead to water insecurity in the region.

I totally agree with the recommendation of the Divisional Forest Officer. The proposal may be accepted with the following conditions or as considered and decided by the GOI.

1. A water security plan should be prepared by the group of expert and adhered to,
2. A green belt on either sides of Khorrah Nallah should be developed to prevent sedimentation and choking of the this Nallah

3. As the area is rich in species composition, eco-restoration plan, Conservation Plan and Reclamation Plan may be prepared conducting proper study before initiating mining activities and should be implemented in its spirit.
4. An integrated soil and water conservation plan should be prepared and implemented treating the entire landscape.
5. The mining in the area should be in consonance with the "Integrated Wildlife Management Plan" of North Karanpura and a site specific WLMP will be prepared and implemented on the basis of IWLMP of North Karanpura.
6. A special team comprising of subject matter specialists and forest officials may be constituted to study and monitor with regard to soil erosion, water conservation, ecological restoration and other activities proposed by MoEF & CC from time to time and the team would be submitting the reports of the forest officials. The entire cost for the study, monitoring and logistics should borne by the user agency.

Signature : 

Name : Ajit Kumar Singh, IFS

Official seal : *Conservator of Forests*
TERRITORIAL CIRCLE
Hazaribagh

Date : 08.01.2021

Place : Hazaribag