

# **SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF DCF BHARATPUR**

**Name of the Project:** Diversion of the Forest Land Pahadpur Block A & B for mining purpose  
**Project No. :** FP/RJ/MIN/149012/2021

## **Introduction**

S.No.	Name of the Project	Diversion of 248.5515 Ha Forest Land of Block A and B Paharpur Tehsil - Roopwas, Dist. Bharatpur.			
1.	<b>Name of the District/Division:</b> Bharatpur				
2.	<b>Date of Inspection:</b> 24/01/2022				
3.	<b>Name &amp; designation of the Inspection Officer:</b> Abhimanyu Saharan, DCF Bharatpur.				
4.	<b>Name &amp; designation of the other Officer who attended the inspection including representatives of the user agency:</b> Pinkrao Singh ( AME Roopwas), Rupendra sharma (Range Officer, Bayana territorial), Jitendra kumar jat (Range Officer, Bandh Baretha), Lakhani Singh (Surveyor)				
5.	<b>Legal status of forest land and Forest Type of applied area::</b> Protected Forest. Tropical dry deciduous forests (Eco-class III), open forests. Mostly rocky (Daang), degraded forest, old mines spread all over and extensively eroded.				
6.	<b>Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:</b>				
	<b>Component wise area calculation sheet</b>				
	S.No.	Component		Forest Land	
		Two forest blocks		Mining Area	Safety Zone
				Approach Road	
	1.	Block A	108.055 ha	247.4834 ha	1.0681 ha
		Block B	140.4965 ha		-
7.	<b>Background note on the proposal:</b> This Proposal is in continuity with the earlier proposal FP/RJ/MIN/125714/2021 which required diversion of 398.0085 ha of land out of total 646.56 ha and in-principle sanction has already been accrued to that while final sanction is still awaited. This whole area 646.56 ha should have been proposed for diversion under single proposal at once. Nevertheless, Again the proposal FP/RJ/MIN/149012/2021 for diversion of remaining forest land for mining operations have been submitted. The mining department proposes to auction mines of pink/red sandstone by diverting 248.5515 Ha area of Bansi Pahadpur A and B forest blocks.				
8.	<b>Whether proposal involves any construction of building (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:</b> Not Reported.				
9.	<b>Total cost of the project at present rates:</b> Not Reported.				
10.	<b>Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any</b> Reported NIL.				

11..	<b>Mining plan:</b> Briefly worded not exhaustive. Complete mining plan with reclamation procedure should be prepared and approved by the competent forest authority.
12.	<b>Position with respect to any eco-sensitive area/national park/sanctuary:</b> The area earlier was part of Bandh Baretha Wildlife Sanctuary but the sanctuary boundaries have been rationalized. Now, Eco-sensitive zone of Bandh Baretha wildlife sanctuary is crossing the proposed land. Out of total area, the area lying inside of eco-sensitive zone is 15.30 ha. (schematic map is attached in miscellaneous documents)
13.	<b>Wildlife:</b> Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view: As the area is fragmented and lies embedded in a mining zone (both legal and illegal), its relevance as far as wildlife is concerned is quite low. Very rare visit of wild animals has been observed in past 5-7 years as per census findings. No movement of leopard/tiger or other big cats has been observed here in past decade as per records of the forest department.  <b>Vegetation:</b> Whole area is degraded and has scarce vegetation as mining was operational before 1980. Total 12023 trees of different species, have been reported by the Range Officer.  <b>Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area:</b> Impact, if any, can be compensated through compensatory afforestation.
14.	<b>Non Forest land used in the project :</b> Non Forest Land for use in project is reported NIL.
15.	<b>Compensatory afforestation:</b> 1. CA land details are submitted by the mining department. In this context, the proposed NFL land is already in the charge of DCF Bharatpur and forms the part of Range Kaman. This land was handed to the forest department on the condition that it will be used in lieu of future diversion proposals.
	<b>(a) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is suitable from plantation and management point of view or not:</b> 1. The NFL proposed in kankanchal area is quite suitable from management point of view. There are old mines in the area, these can be reclaimed and the whole hillock can be a great ecologically important area but high density plantation is not suitable for the area because of its refractory and rocky nature. The working plan of Bharatpur division also included this land in the plantation circle.
	<b>(b) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is free from encroachment/other encumbrances:</b> Yes.
	<b>(c) Whether land for compensatory afforestation is important:</b> Yes, The NFL area in kankanchal parvat forms part of Braj chaurasi kos parikrama.
	<b>(d) Land identified for raising compensatory afforestation is in how many patches, whether patches are compact or not:</b> 1. NFL area is single patch, and compact.



	(e) Map with details: Attached with the report.
	(f) Total financial outlay: Attached with the report.
16.	Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials: No violation has been done by the user agency.
17.	Details on catchment and command area under the project: Not Reported.
18.	Whether there are any alternative sites/routes/alignment for locating the project on the non-forest land: No.
19.	Utility of the project: 1. Will ensure production of aesthetically beautiful sandstone. 2. Employment generation in the region. 3. Reduction in illegal mining.
20.	Numbers of Scheduled Caste / Scheduled Tribes to be benefited by the Project: FRA certificate has been given by District Collector Bharatpur.
21.	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/ religious value: Not reported
	(a) Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/forests exist in the areas proposed for diversion: No.
	(b) Whether the land under diversion forms part of any unique eco-system: No.

(Signature)

Abhimanyu Saharan  
DCF Bharatpur

## Site Specific Observations & Recommendations of DCF

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The undersigned has followed the spirit of the FCA guidelines and tried to ensure that this area genuinely is used for productive works and causes minimal impact on the environment. On the basis of above, following points should be taken up for consideration before approval of the above project:

1. In south-west direction of the Block Bansi Pahadpur B, 15.30 ha area (schematic map is attached in miscellaneous documents) lies inside **Eco-Sensitive Zone** of Band-Baretha Wildlife sanctuary. As mining activity is not allowed inside Eco-sensitive Zone of sanctuary, it is highly recommended that no mining lease is given in this area, and plantation is done in this area lying inside Eco-sensitive zone and is further used only as green zone.
2. Bandh-Baretha wildlife sanctuary lies to the west of these forest blocks. Since, mining department wants to start mining operations in the area, the approach must ensure no disturbance reaches to the sanctuary. For this, it seems prudent to develop Sukhasila block as a suitable ecological buffer zone from mining area and a 10 km wall should be constructed in sukhasila block towards bansi pahadpur block to prevent illegal mining as well as to protect forest from adverse impact of mining activities in Bansi Pahadpur.
3. The proposal that has been forwarded to DFO office is presented along with a briefly worded mining plan. It is being assumed that a detailed mining plan approved by competent forest authorities will be made later and no new conditions that are detrimental to forest laws will be added by the user agency.
4. Integrated wildlife action plan has already been submitted for earlier proposal no. FP/RJ/MIN/125714/2021 which is sufficient to cater to the needs of wildlife in this area.
5. The water streams in the diverted forest land shall be protected as per standard condition in forest (conservation) guideline: the state government shall ensure that soil and moisture conservation activities are undertaken on the banks of these water streams by user agency, along with mining operation, to sustain water flow in the streams.
6. Total 12023 trees of different species have been reported by the Range Officer (detailed list is attached in miscellaneous documents). No tree should be cut without permission from forest department. If a large tree is to be cut in the area, compensatory amount should be submitted and efforts must be done to ensure tree translocation. The cost must be borne by mining lease holders.

**Conclusion** – This proposal includes 248.5515 ha. Of Bansi pahadpur block in addition to the already in process 398.0085 ha diversion proposal and this leads to diversion of whole Bansi Pahadpur block i.e. 646.56 ha. This project looks quite useful and necessary for government and public welfare in the region and also legal mining will be started in these areas which were highly sensitive for illegal mining. This project can become a flagship project as far as balancing development and environment considerations are concerned. Hence, considering the larger good and overall benefits to the state and society, the project is recommended, subject to conditions in above recommendations.

(Signature)

Abhimanyu Saharan  
DCF Bharatpur