

Project Title : Tiger Safari at Pakhro in the buffer of Corbett Tiger Reserve

File No. : FP/UK/Others/48385/2020

To be filled by the concerned Conservator of Forests

1. Whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by the Conservator of Forests : Yes

The site has been inspected by Conservator of Forests on 13.08.2020 and the inspection note is being attached.

2. Whether the Conservator of Forests agree with the information given in Part II and the recommendations of Deputy Conservator of Forests : Yes
3. Specific recommendation of Conservator of Forests for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with detailed reason : Recommended

The detailed reasons for recommendation has been given in the inspection note.



(Rahul)

(Conservator of Forests)

Date: 13.08.2020

Place: Ramnagar

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Inspection Note by Conservator of Forests

The area has been inspected by me on 13.08.2020. The legal status of the proposed area for the Tiger Safari is reserved forests under Indian Forest Act, 1927. The area fall within the buffer of the Corbett Tiger Reserve. Establishment of a Tiger Safari in the buffer areas of tiger reserves has been provisioned in the Normative Guidelines issued by National Tiger Conservation Authority(NTCA) in 2012 under section 38(O) of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and also in NTCA guidelines issued for the establishment of tiger Safari in buffer and fringe areas of Tiger Reserves issued in 2016.

Corbett Tiger Reserve today attracts wildlife enthusiasts from across the world. The Tiger Reserve has seven tourism zones spread across its area. Access to the various tourism zones is strictly regulated by numbers of people and vehicles that can enter the Tiger Reserve. About 3,00,000 visitors visit the Tiger Reserve annually, to enjoy its natural charms. The Comprehensive Guidelines of the National Tiger Conservation Authority also state in Para 16.21 that, “ The Tiger Safaris may be established in the buffer areas of tiger reserves which experience immense tourist influx in the core/critical tiger habitat for viewing tiger. The interpretation and awareness centres would be supported in such buffer areas to foster awareness for eliciting public support.”

The proposed area lies in Compartment no 3 & 8 of Pakhro block of Kalagarh Tiger Reserve Division which is part of already designated Eco-tourism zone of Corbett Tiger Reserve. The area is situated at the south-western periphery of the Corbett Tiger Reserve. Establishment of Tiger Safari in buffer area of the reserve is approved activity under the Tiger Conservation Plan/Management Plan of Corbett Tiger Reserve. The site specific proposal has been concurred by NTCA and has been approved by Central Zoo Authority(CZA).

The establishment of this safari will have manifold benefits. Firstly, it will serve as a centre for spreading awareness about tiger conservation and related issues to a wider audience who can visit this facility for an experience of seeing the

tiger in near-natural conditions. Secondly, it will wean away a part of the tourism pressure that is currently focused only around Ramnagar and core areas of the National Park and will disperse it to the other side of the Tiger Reserve providing significant direct economic incentives to local communities over a larger spread of the periphery of the Tiger Reserve. It will also serve as a Rescue and Rehabilitation centre for treatment of injured, incapacitated and conflicting tigers and other wild animals, providing valuable support in exigencies. The area is at the south-western periphery of the Tiger Reserve which is close to human habitations. Man Animal conflicts are quite common in the area; establishment of Tiger Safari will help in wildlife conservation, scientific research and creating awareness apart from generating employment to local people. So, the proposed site is appropriate for the purpose.



Rahul

(Conservator of Forests/Director)

Corbett Tiger Reserve