

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, NALANDA FOREST DIVISION,**BIHARSHARIF, BIHAR****Site Inspection report of DCF****Inspection Date :-24.02.2020, 25.02.2020, 26.2.2020 & 27.02.2020**

The Proposed project area is passing through protected Forest area of notified protected forest in Ghora katora mauza. The Proposed project construction of reservoir in between Ghora Katora lake and Panchane river in Nalanda district is proposed at Ghora Katora Village requires notified protected Forest land of Ghora Katora PF and other Govt. land. The proposed forest land falls part of the storage area of the reservoir. Ghora Katora notified Protected Forest will be utilized as major portion of the Natural Forest land has been declared as protected forest Environment and Forest Department, Government of Bihar through vide Notification No. F/LA-12-833266 dated 02-09-1983 in which the present proposal for total about 26.81478 ha (as per field verification) is submitted for diversion. The remaining lands has been part of the Jungle-Jhari/Jungle (Status Gair majarua malik) as well as Jungle-Jhari/Jungle -Rayati land. The legal status of the proposed forest land is as follows:-

S. no.	DETAILS OF LAND AND STATUS	Area proposed for diversion	
		In Acre	In ha.
1.	Ghora Katora notified Protected Forest - through vide Notification No. F/LA-12-833266 dated 02-09-1983 (Notified Forest land)	66.233	26.81478
2.	Gairmazarua Malik Land Having nature of Jungle- Jhar in survey Khatiyani	16.493	6.67713
3.	Rayati Land Having nature of Jungle- Jhar in survey Khatiyani	6.3	2.55061
Total		89.025	36.04252

- The area of diversion of 36.04252 ha (Notified Forest land :- 26.81478 Ha, Gairmazarua Malik Land Having nature of Jangal- Jhar in survey Khatiyani: 6.67713 ha and Rayati Land Having nature of Jangal- Jhar in survey Khatiyani: 2.55061 ha) user agency requires forest land/ Jungle-Jhari/Jungle for completion of the project and storage of water.
- **0.1** (The proposed area is devoid of major trees with canopy formation. The scattered trees of few species has been found which is less than 0.1 canopy density. But for the calculation of NPV density of vegetation is calculated as 0.1) The entire area is part of open forest category.
- In few places the weeds and grass of grazing height only present.
- No endangered and rare tree/ species found in the proposed area.
- *Major forest type is Dry Deciduous Scrub Forest (S/DS1)*
- This vegetation type includes shrubby growth of few stunted tree species not more than a few metres high like *Boswellia serrata* (Salai) in ridges, interspersed with open patches of thorny bushes.
- The soil is fairly deep and often calcareous. Characteristic species of this vegetation type are, *Zizyphus* species. The *Zizyphus* (ber) species are stunted due to lopping and frequent fires
- Density of Vegetation is approximately 0.1 for the purpose of NPV calculation. Few Bamboos (*Dendrocalamus strictus*), Taar, Chakundi, Gulmohar, Bargad, Gular, and karanda, Neem etc are common species found in the proposed area.
- The vegetation of the project location predominantly consists of thorn-scrub forest.
- Shrubby growth of species like *A. torta*, *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis*, *Pavetta indica*, *Indigofera elliptica*, *Holarrhena antidyenterica*, *Helicterisora*, *Hamiltonia suaveolens*, *Securinega virosa*, *Gardenia latifolia*, *Ficuslacor*, *F. glabella*, *F. tomentosa*, *Carissa spinarum* (*C. paucinervia*) are found.
- Climbers include *Bridelia stipularis*, *Acacia canescens*, *A. torta*, *Zizyphus oenoplia*, *Olax scandens* and *Ichnocarpus fruticens* are found.
- The total enumeration of tree species has been carried out. The detailed report of meeting with respect to tree protection plan, list of trees proposed for felling and translocation in the notified forestland and Jungle-Jhari/Jungle (Gair majarua malik), abstract and tree protection plan has been prepared.
- As per the contour survey the Full reservoir Level will be 86.m. Maximum 12 m will be the water storage height in the notified forest land has been observed.

No trees are present in the FRL level only shrubs, thorny bushes predominantly present the proposed alignment.

- The tree species Taar (*Borassus flabellifer*- commonly known as palmyra palm/ tala palm/ toddy palm) of low economic value, does not has the possibility to translocate has been recommended for felling after forest clearance . This species will not tolerate the inundated/ flooded water for long time may be allowed to fell.
- The other species like barghat, gullar, neem, kadam, kajur will be translocated to nearest areas and will protected by the user agency. The summary of prosed **tree protection plan** is as

Sl.No	Name of the project	Details of land/ status	Area in Ha	No. of trees		
				Translocate	Cut	Total
1.	Construction of Reservoir at Ghorakatora part of Ganga water lifting project	Ghora Katora notified Protected Forest - through vide Notification No. F/LA-12-833266 dated 02-09-1983 (Notified Forest land)	26.81478	27	27	54
		Gairmazarua Malik Land Having nature of Jungle- Jhar in survey Khatiyar	6.67713	51	175	226
Total				78	202	280

- Generally the project area vulnerable to medium soil erosion due to intrinsic geological features of the substrate during rainy season.
- The proposed area is part of natural notified forest land of Ghorakatora PF and the remaining lands has been part of the Jhari/Jungle (Status Gair majarua malik) as well as Jungle-Jhari/Jungle -Rayati land. The proposed diversion of land in Ghorakatora PF situated in the Rajgir range. The area situated approximately 4 km from the boundary of Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The proposed project area is only notified protected forest and **not forms part of any** National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor and Eco-Sensitive Zone etc.
- As per the final notification of the Eco sensitive Zone (S.O. 71(E) [10.01.2017] Final Notification declaring Eco Sensitive Zone around Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary, Bihar) an area up to 1 km in all villages and up to 100 m in Nagar Panchayat, Rajgir, from the boundary of the protected area of the Rajgir WLS, Rajgir has been notified as an Eco-sensitive Zone. **So, the prosed project area is not a part of Sanctuary or Eco sensitive zone of the Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary.**
- Nilgai is found naturally and free distributed across the Nalanda district in the forest as well as farm lands. Animals like jackal, Common macaque, Wild boar, Porcupine, common hare etc found in forest land of project area as well the nearest forest areas. The undersigned is of opinion that the instant proposed project will no way affect the distribution or movement of any wild animal found in the areas where it is found. The crop raiding Nilgai is also present adjoining areas of the proposed project. Since the project area is prosed in the outer area of the protected forest and does not have much influence on the animal movement.
- As per my knowledge, the enquiry report of the Forest official and information provided user agency there is no record of any protected archeological/heritage site/defense establishment or any other important monument located in the area of the proposed project site.
- The requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in Col. No. 2 of Part – I is unavoidable and barest minimum of the project. The user agency has proposed 36.04252 ha. Forest Land (Notified Forest land :- 26.81478 Ha, Gairmazarua Malik Land Having nature of Jangal- Jhar in survey Khatiyar: 6.67713 ha and Rayati Land Having nature of Jangal- Jhar in survey Khatiyar: 2.55061 ha) for diversion. During the field verification it was assessed as per the plot wise area (prosed for diversion) and accordingly it was found that actual area requited in the project will be 36.04252 ha. This land is required to maintain the FRL 86 M.
- The user agency does not have the other alternative to shift the location since, it requires more forest area. The agency in total identified 143.60 ha out of which 36.04252 ha requires forest clearance. Remaining area is not of forest land or jungle jhar land.
- The User Agency has not violated the prescribed provisions of the Act.

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As per field inspection and information provided user agency there is no record of any protected archaeological/heritage site/defense establishment or any other important monument located in the area of the proposed project.

- The requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in Col. No. 2 of Part – I is unavoidable and barest minimum of the project and only viable option.
- The area of diversion is involving more than one ha of forest land and the user agency has to provide equal non forest land for the purpose of Compensatory afforestation. The requisition has been made to District collector, Nalanda/ user agency to provide equal land along with map and also requested to transfer and get it mutated the said non forest land to in the name of Forest department. The district collector, Nalanda by his letter no, 713/ rev. dated 27.02.2020 informed to the Divisional officer, Nalanda stating that the equal land (89.025 acre or 36.04252 ha) for compensatory afforestation has been identified and the process has been initiated to transfer to forest department.
- Nalanda Forest Division in general, Rajgir forest in particular facing acute water scarcity during the peak period of summer. The user agency has to provide water supply to the forest department establishments like Nature safari, Eco park, Zoo safari, Venuvan, Nurseries, Jayaprakas Udyan and water holes, buildings etc. And may also has to provide one all-weather 4 wheel patrolling vehicle and 2-3 motor / battery operated boats for regular patrolling in the forest area.
- The user agency must provide the Network connection to the Forest Department establishment.
- This instant proposal for diversion of 36.04252 ha forest land may be approved with necessary conditions and directions.

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