

Specific Recommendation

The proposal is for development and drilling Wells and testing of Hydrocarbons in Dipling Block-AA/ONDSF/DIPLING/2016 in Charaideo District under Sivasagar Division by the user agency Ramayana Ispat Pvt. Ltd. The drilling site is located inside Diroi Reserved forest. It was inspected by the undersigned along with the DFO, Sivasagar division and User Agency on 22-05-2022.

The proposed diversion area is 3.06 Ha. During my inspection to the site it was observed that the proposed area is having a tea garden with a temporary dwelling hut and surrounded with trees. The proposed site is neither a part of any protected area nor falls within the eco-sensitive zone of any wildlife sanctuary within Assam.

The proposal is a non-linear project. The project aims to develop and drill new oil and gas well(s) as per the proposal within the boundary of this area.

The following factual points are also observed in the Part -I and Part-II of the proposal and the same may kindly be taken into account by the authorities.

Sl	Part	Para/Section	Observation
1	I	K(a)	The DC Charaideo's letter dated 19-12-2018 mentions at (e) that 'diversion of forest land is completed' under section 3(2) but the said section 3(2)(i) allows diversion of maximum 1 Ha area. The area here is 3.06 Ha. Also the area is being used as a tea garden which is not in any of the 13 categories of diversion mentioned in 3(2). This will then amount to violation of the FRA 2006 as well as FC Act 1980.
2	I	L(iv)(f)	The ownership document is not signed by any revenue authority. Further, it says on page 4 at (2) that the sellers handed over the land to the forest department but the DFO has denied this when enquired by the undersigned.
3	I	M-5 and M-6	As per M-5.1 there are two borewells dug up of 26 inch dia in the forest area. M-6.1 however says that no permission under FC Act for this digging has been obtained.
4	II	7	The nearest distance of the plot from RF boundary is mentioned as 1 Km. In map it is to the south of the plot. However the 'approach road' proposed for diversion is towards north side and joins an existing unmetalled forest road which shall be used for non forestry purpose once the diversion takes place.
5	II	11 (i)	The DFO has mentioned that no violation of the FC Act 1980 has taken place. This need to be reconciled with the points mentioned at Sl 1 and 3 above.

The diversion is recommended subject to the condition that necessary biodiversity and management interventions as directed by the forest department will be strictly implemented so as to cause minimal disturbance to the migratory wildlife, if any, and to mitigate potential man animal conflict and to conserve biodiversity around the proposed area.

Circle Incharge
Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat

Date: 18-06-2022

Place: Jorhat