

PART-II

Serial No. of proposal: **FP/JH/IRRIG/23840/2017**

7. Location of the project/Scheme:

- i. State** : Jharkhand
ii. District. : Part of Latehar and Garhwa
iii. Forest Division : Core Area, Palamau Tiger Reserve
iv. Area of forest land proposed for diversion (in ha.) : 1007.29
v. Legal status of forest :

S.No	Name of Village	Forest Area (in Ha)	Legal Status of Forest
1	Kutku	676.79	Protected Forest
2	Bhajna	136.31	Protected Forest notified as Palamau Wildlife Sanctuary
3	Khura	16.17	Protected Forest notified as Palamau Wildlife Sanctuary
4	Khaira	3.43	Protected Forest notified as Palamau Wildlife Sanctuary
5	Mandal	3.43	Reserve Forest notified as Buffer area of Palamau Tiger Reserve
6	Meral	126.13	Reserve Forest notified as Buffer area of Palamau Tiger Reserve
7	Saneya (Jungle Jhar)	45.03	Deemed Forest
Total		1007.29	

vi. Density of vegetation : 0.4

vii. Species-wise (scientific names) and diameter class-wise enumeration of trees:

- Report of Enumeration of trees has been enclosed as **Annexure 1.**

viii. Brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion.

- The terrain of forest area is undulating with murrum soil or soft soil. The presence of gullies on forest land shows that the area is prone to erosion. The vulnerability of soil to erosion has been taken care in Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) plan.

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ix. Approximate distance of site for diversion from boundary of forest.

- The project site is located within notified forest area of Kutku.

x. Whether forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, etc. (If so, the details of the area and comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed).

- The constructed area and proposed submergence area of project is a part of Sanctuary area or Protected Forest. Although proposed area falls within Administrative Jurisdiction of Core Area Division, yet no land legally designated as Critical Tiger Habitat or Core area falls within this project area.

xi. Whether any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area if so details thereof.

- Most of the affected villages lie in the administrative jurisdiction of Kutku range. As per the track census presence of Spotted Deer, Wild Boar, Barking Deer, Golden Jackal, Elephant, Bear etc has been reported. Besides this, Tiger as occasional visitor has also been reported from Kutku Range.
- As far as flora is concerned, no any rare / endangered / unique species has been reported so far.

xii. Whether any protected archaeological /heritage site / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.

- No any protected archaeological / heritage site / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.

8. Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in col. 2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project.

- In this new proposal the height of gates for closure or to impound the water has been reduced from 367.28 m FRL to 341 m FRL to minimize the proposed submergence of forest area to the barest minimum.

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9. Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out.

- The project for construction of Dam site has started in 1973 well before the enactment of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Unconfirmed sources indicated that the construction work of dam continued till 1988-89 and later on closed due to law and order problem. As per official record of this division, no any case of violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been lodged.

10. Details of compensatory afforestation scheme:

- The Principal Secretary has proposed for exemption of this provision. Hence, no proposal for Compensatory Afforestation has been submitted. However, Executive Engineer, Planning and monitoring Division, Medininagar has submitted an undertaking to meet the financial liability if exemption is not granted by Govt. of India.

11. Site inspection report of the DCF especially highlighting facts asked in col. 7 (xi, xii), 8 and 9 above.

- Site Inspection Report has been enclosed as **Annexure 2**.

12. Division/District profile:

I	Geographical area of the district	30660.50 sq. km.
II	Forest area of the division	575.89 sq. km
III	Total forest area diverted since 1980 with number of cases	No forest area has been diverted within the jurisdiction of this division in Palamau Tiger Reserve.
IV	Total compensatory afforestation stipulated in the district/division since 1980 on	
a)	Forest land including penal compensatory afforestation	Not Applicable
b)	Non-forest land	Not Applicable

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13. Specific recommendations of the DCF for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with reasons.

The main objection by the Forest Department was based on the height of gates which was proposed as 367.28 m FRL. At this height, it was expected that nearly 6000 hectare of prime forest area was going to be submerged. Besides, 15 villages were expected to be either fully or partially submerged.

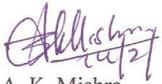
In this present proposal, the user agency i.e. Planning and Monitoring Division of Water Resources Department, Govt. of Jharkhand has agreed to reduce the height of gate and accordingly leading to reduction in submergence of Forest area. Now it is proposed to keep the height of gate to 341 m FRL and so only 1007.29 hectare of forest land will be submerged. Also, the no. of affected village has been reduced to minimum.

Apart from direct advantages of the Dam like creation of permanent water body in drier part of Tiger Reserve, creation of site for Bird Conservation etc., many other indirect benefits like fisheries, agriculture and other livelihood options will develop. A detail Biodiversity Conservation Plan will be made effective after clearance from State wildlife Board / National Wildlife Board.

By analyzing all pros and cons of the project and detailed cost benefit analysis submitted by the project authorities, it has been decided to recommend the proposed project with following conditions:

1. During construction or installation of gates, the project authorities should construct Jetty at important locations. Also, motor boat as well as paddle boat should be made available to monitor and control illicit fishing and birds poaching.
2. The total number of trees to be felled is approx. 3,44,644 as per joint enumeration of trees. Such loss of trees should be compensated by planting same numbers of trees through Jan Van Yojana, Kisan nursery etc. within Project Tiger jurisdiction.
3. The height of gates was initially proposed as 367.28 m FRL and accordingly compensation has been paid to 13 villagers against their land holdings. The new khatiyon has been created and all land has been shown as Nadi Ghati Pariyojana land. The Govt. may consider transferring all such land to Palamau Tiger Reserve.

Date: - 14-2-17
Place: - Mudini Nagar


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