## Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Gaya Forest Division, Gaya, Bihar

## Site Inspection report of DCF

## Inspection Date: 26/08/2020

Flanks on both side of SH-69 has been notified as Protected Forest for management purpose by Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department, Government of Bihar through vide S.O. 400 dated 31.12.1996. The proposed area of 0.0175 Hectare is submitted for diversion of inlet and exit of retail outlet of HPCL. Actual area involved in the project is 0.0175 Hectare and has been visited by the undersigned along with survey team and verified the facts in proposed site. The requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency is unavoidable and bare minimum of the project.

- The diversion of 0.0175 Hectare of protected forest land is proposed for the retail outlet of HPCL.
- During the inspection on 26.08.2020 as per the instructions of APPCF (CAMPA)-cum-Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) Letter No. FC/27/2020-140 dated 11.02.2020, the actual area was found to 0.0175 Hectare which is notified as Protected Forest.
- The area for diversion is 0.0175 Hectare and the user agency requires protected forest land containing NIL trees. No endangered and rare tree/species was found in the proposed area. Density of Vegetation is approximately zero for the purpose of NPV calculation.
- This is bare minimum forest area required for completion of retail outlet of HPCL.
- No other alternative exists to the user agency to avoid this bare minimum forest land.
- Generally the project area is vulnerable to medium soil erosion due to intrinsic geological features of the substrate during rainy season.
- The proposed project area is a **Notified Protected Forest** and does not form part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc.
- Nilgai is found naturally and freely distributed across the Gaya district in the farm lands. Animals like jackal, hair, Common Langur etc are also found in the nearest forest areas. Apart from these, local birds are abundant in these areas. The undersigned is of the opinion that the proposed project will not affect the distribution or movement of any wild animals found in the areas. So far, no cases of wildlife deaths have been reported in the proposed road. Nevertheless, the crop raiding by Nilgai is present in the adjoining areas of the forest boundary.

- As per my knowledge, the enquiry report of the Forest officians and encoded provided by user agency, there is no record of any protected archaeological/heritage site/defence 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 bare minimum of the project and is the only viable option.
- The User Agency has violated the prescribed provisions of the Forest Conservation Act and Indian Forest Act at the time of inspection. The earth works have been completed and the Petrol Pump was found to be running without getting work order from the Forest Department.
- The area identified for compensatory afforestation falls on the Notified Protected Forest along SH-69 in Gaya Range where 100 plants in the form of linear plantation will be done with Iron-Gabion Protection.

(Abhishek Kumar) Deputy Conservator of Forest Gaya Forest Division, Gaya