

Site Inspection Report

A. Details of Project

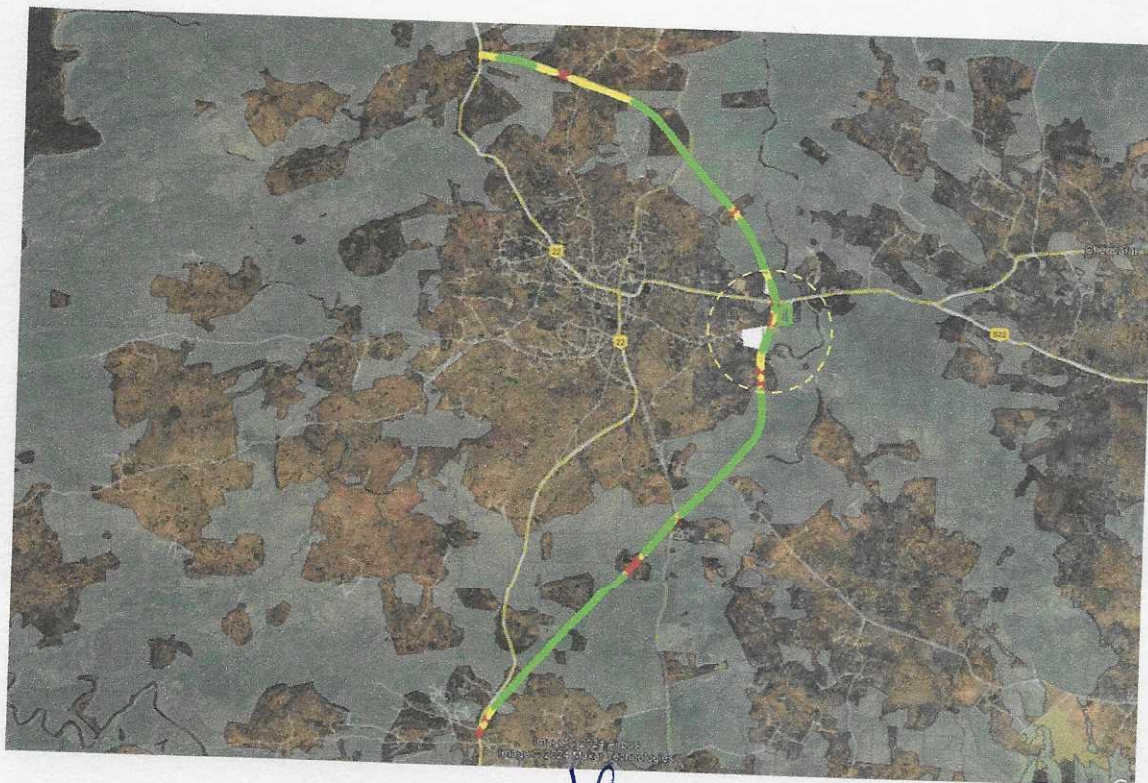
1. Name Construction of bypass around Chatra town on NH-22 (Old NH-99) in the state of Jharkhand under EPC Mode
2. Proposal No. FP/JH/ROAD/146786/2021
3. Forest Land applied for diversion 64.0849 Ha
4. User Agency Executive Engineer Nh Division Hazaribagh

B. Details of Site Inspection:

1. Date of site inspection: 21.02.2024
2. Other members present during the visit:
 - a. Sri Suryabhushan Kumar RFO, Chatra Range
 - b. Sri Mahendra Prasad AE, NH Sub-Division Chatra
 - c. Sri Nageshwar Mahto J E, NH Section, Chatra

A site inspection was carried out on 21.02.2024 in the presence of the above-mentioned persons. The findings of the inspection are mentioned below:

The proposal has been submitted for diversion of 64.0849 Ha of forest land for construction of bypass of NH-99 around Chatra town in Chatra South Forest Division. The proposed area is lying in 14 villages viz: Arudana, Banasam, Basaria, Chatra, Darha, Mohnadih, Nagwan, Giran, Pakaria, Khap, Changer, Dewaria, Mahapur urf Balia and Kamat. Out of 64.0849 Ha of forest land proposed to be diverted, 51.114 Ha land is notified forest land and 12.97 Ha of land is GMJJ land.



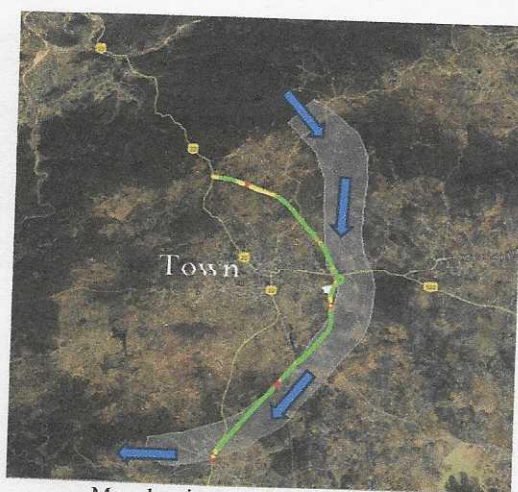
MK
Mukesh Kumar I.F.S.
Divisional Forest Officer
Chatra South Forest Division



Satellite Image showing fragmentation of forest land into patches

It was found that the linear project is fragmenting notified forest areas into small patches (image shown above). Such fragmentation of forest land into small pockets would render these habitats inaccessible for wildlife majorly nocturnal animals and would also make them prone to encroachment. Hence, it is suggested to ensure mitigative measures for connecting these patches to the rest of the forest land via culverts of suitable sizes.

The proposed road passes mainly through open forest except at sites where plantation has been carried out in the past and are of dense category. Overall, density of the forest land proposed for diversion is 0.4.



Map showing potential crossing path of wild animals around town

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Though presence of mega herbivores such as Asian Elephants has not been reported in the nearby areas, there is presence of rock pythons, hyenas, Jackal, Jungle cats, porcupines in the area. It is, therefore, recommended to mandate a Site-specific Wildlife Management Plan.

The area was found to be highly prone to erosion. Hence a Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan is necessary to recoup the area.


No violation was observed during the site inspection.

No rare/ endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna could be found as the area has already been broken.

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

The proposal, has been submitted for diversion of total of 64.0849 Ha of forest land out of which 7.69 Ha of forest land has been proposed for 'Utility' purposes, wherein, 4.0 ha has to be utilised for developing roadside amenities such as Cafeteria, Hospital, Restrooms etc. These are **non-site-specific activities** and can be developed on non-forest land as well. Hence **not recommended**. Remaining 3.69 Ha of forest land proposed to be diverted is to be utilised for constructing ducts for cables, side drains etc. which is **site-specific** and accordingly **recommended**.

Hence, a total of 4.0 Ha Ha was found to be non-site-specific and not recommended. Balance **60.0849** Ha of forest land proposed for diversion is **recommended**.

 28/05/24

Divisional Forest Officer
Chatra South Forest Division, Chatra

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Chatra South Forest Division