Joint Site inspection report of Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra Natural Gas Pipe Line Project (JHBDPL) by Sri Naresh Chandra Singh Munda, Divisional Forest Officer, Chatra North Forest Division on 20.12.2018

The Gas Authority of India Limited, Govt. of India undertaking company has submitted a proposal of gas pipe line project from Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra. The proposed gas pipe line project passes through 18 protected forest as well as Govt. G.M. J.J. land area for which permission is seeking u/s 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980. The gas pipe line is passing in this division through Rajpur Forest Range from Harhad to Joldiha in 13.08K.M. stretch and proposed diversion of 13.0825 hac forest land (including G.M. J.J. land) for its establishment. In course of establishment of Gas pipe line about 3704 trees have to be felled.

Undersigned has inspected the Proposed site with Sri Amrish Singh, Project Manager, Gas Authority of India Limited, Sri Ashok Kumar, Range Forest Officer, Rajpur Forest Range along with concerned Forest Guards on 20.12.2018. Joint inspection team have inspected Harhad, Kanhakhurd, Bhagwanpur, Roshna, Debra and Joldiha PFs and found that proposed forest land is not demarcated by erecting pillars somehow trees have been marked for felling but serial number are not entered properly in the tree. the Project Manager, GAIL Sri Singh stated that trees were marked before more than one year back, hence serial number in the trees are not prominent and visible.

Average density of Proposed site is likely to be 0.4, Prominent natural species in the forest area are Sal (Shorea robusta), Kend (Diospyros melanoxylon), Plash (Butea monosperma), Koreya (Helarhenna antidysentrica), Sagwan (Tactona grandis), Khair (Acacia catechu), Mahua (Madhuca indica), Asan (Terminalia tomentosa), Sidha (Lagerastromia parviflora), Rori, Ratangoura (Flaeodendron glaucaum) and in the plantation area Acacia, Chakundi are available and marked for felling. Rabbit, Jackal, Fox, wild boar, Birds, reptiles and snakes are the prominent wild animals often are seen in the proposed site.

The said ambitious Pipeline project shall not only enable the utilization of natural gas/re-gasified LNG by various industrial consumers viz. Fertilizer, Power, Steel & Coal Sectors but also pave the way for Development of multiple City Gas Distribution networks on the way for distribution of gas by Various City Gas Companies for distribution to smaller industrial, commercial and domestic consumers as well as for construction of CNG stations for Vehicular traffic in various towns.

Therefore, 13.0825 hec. of bare minimum forest land (including G.M. Jungle-Jhari) for gas pipe line Project in 13.08Km stretch in 10 mt. wide is recommended for benefits of people of entire district as well as for state and country.

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