

## RECOMMENDATION REPORT OF DCF BHARATPUR

File No.: FP/RJ/MIN/125714/2021

Date of Proposal: 05/03/2021

The site inspection in respect of the project was done on two days - 21st April 2021 and 07th May 2021 by the undersigned along with his team and representatives of the mining department.

The site inspection report in this unique case can not be made in a business as usual manner. The undersigned has followed the spirit of the FCA guidelines and tried to ensure that this area genuinely is used for productive works and causes minimal impact on the environment. The area has been extensively surveyed by me again and again in last one year in capacity of DCF WL Bharatpur. Two times, I visited the area after this proposal was received.

The following points are my recommendations -

1. The requirement of the forest land proposed by the user agency is barest minimum and unavoidable.
2. Whether there are any alternative sites/routes/alignment for locating the project on the non-forest land: No
3. Whether there is any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area : No
4. Whether any protected archaeological monument/heritage site/defence establishment located in the area : The area lies in Taj Trapezium Zone.
5. The user agency has not violated any provisions of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

On the basis of above, following observations or conditions are being recommended -

1. There is not much ecological utility of the area that will remain undiverted but there is clear expectation of substantial amount of illegal activities specially mining that can occur in this area. The reason for not applying diversion of this area is unknown. However, if this area is to remain with the forest department, strict protection measures need to be undertaken. These include:
2. Enclosure of the forest land with a wall - approximately 20km long wall will be needed @INR 28 LAKHS per kilometer (departmental norms). The detailed estimate can be given after in principle approval.
3. Development of a mining ecological buffer area in Sukhasila forest block lying to the south west of Bansi Pahadpur B block. For this, I recommend development of small water bodies in Sukhasila block and construction of a wall along with the Kachchha path that goes to village Dumariya. Detailed estimates can be given at the second stage approval stage.
4. Herbivore Management in the area - Some resources such as Rescue vehicle for forest department for rescuing animals that can stray from Bandh Baretha wildlife sanctuary to this mining are must be provided. I recommend allocating one rescue vehicle and developing a wildlife rescue centre in the Range Office of Bandh Baretha.

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5. Integrated wildlife action plan can also be developed jointly by the mining department and forest department in the area.
6. A list of undertakings to be submitted by the user agency should be compiled by decision makers at all levels.
7. Small Naalas in Bansi Pahadpur A and B blocks can be used as garland drains and dump drains if detailed mining plan permits. There doesn't seem to be any connectivity of drains in Bansi Paharpur block as far as sending water into bandh Baretha dam is concerned since the proposed area is downstream of the dam. However, village pond of Bansi Pahadpur village should be conserved by the mines owners of the region. This condition must be put in auction/allocation/EC processes.
8. There is a railway barrier that opens up a way in Bansi Pahadpur block. There is no utility of that railway barrier now. It must be closed down. Mining department must write to Ministry of Railways in this regard. The GPS reading of railway barrier is (26°55'57"N, 77°29'51"E). Closing/dismantling this barrier is critical and must be done.
9. If a large tree is to be cut in the area, effort to ensure tree translocation should be made. The cost must be borne by mining lease holders.
10. Signages to drive within speed limits must be installed on mineral exit routes till Bayana Industrial area. I suggest, speed limit signage every 300 metres.
11. Above recommendations are in addition to the basic FCA guidelines that need to be followed.

**CONCLUSION :** Viewing importance of this project, the project is **recommended for approval** subject to above conditions.

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