

**JOINT SURVEY OF DTR FOR SITING OF BOPS INSIDE DAMPA TIGER RESERVE FOREST**

Proceeding of : A Joint survey.

Held at : In DTRF area falling under the AOR of 181 Bn BSF from BOP Rajiv Nagar to BOP Silsuri (BP No. 2305/20-S to 2312/24S)

Held on : 08/03/16 and subsequent days.

By the order of : SHQ BSF Aizawl L/No. Ops/DTRF /571/2016/1509-15 dated 30 Jan 2016

For the purpose of : To select the sites of new proposed 05 Composite BOPs which falls inside DTRF in AOR of 181 Bn BSF from BOP Rajiv Nagar to BOP Silsuri.

Composition of the Joint Survey Team :**BSF**

1. Sh Sanjeev Dahiya, 2IC/Offg Comdt, 181 Bn BSF
2. Sh Desh Raj Singh, 2IC (Ops), SHQ BSF Aizawl

E & F Deptt. Mizoram

3. Sh C Vanlalreima, ACF, Environment and Forest Department, Mizoram.

NBCC

4. Sh T Chawang, Deputy Project Manager, NBCC

General Information

The Government of Mizoram under notification dated 7th Dec 1994, has established 500 SqKms composite area of Dampa Wildlife Sanctuary in Mamit District of Mizoram as a "Tiger Reserve" under the centrally sponsored scheme "Project Tiger".

ii) A Sketch showing the area of DTRF (Dampa Tiger Reserve Forest) is enclosed with the proceedings as Annexure "A".

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ai) The boundary of DTRF in West follows the IB between India and Bangladesh and runs along river Sazak Lui starting from junction point of river Saihu and Sazak Lui up to the point where Aivapui meets Sazakui (Reference sketch attached)

ai) The entire area is mountainous with heights ranging from 200 meters to 1000 meters and is full of criss cross Nullahs, thick vegetation and dense jungle mainly of bamboos.

3) At present there is no habitation existing in this area and as such no foot tracks or approach routes are available in this area.

(2) a) The survey was done in furtherance of the minutes of Standing Committee NBWL 31st meeting held on 12th - 13th August 2014 has recommended the construction of 05 BOPs instead of 07 BOPs in the Dampa Tiger Reserve Forest area and in compliance of the Letter from the SHQ BSF vide their Letter No. Ops/DTRF/371/2016/1509-15 dated 30 Jan 2016.

ai) The joint survey team along with sufficient BSF pers carried out physical survey of DTRF all along the Indo-Bangladesh International Border. The survey team started the survey on foot through Dampa Tiger Reserve from BOP Silsuri on 08/03/2016 at 1130 hrs and completed survey by last light of 12/03/2016 (A/N).

aii) Due to thick dense forest and absence of proper tracks, GPS and local forest officials proved to be very strong support for navigation. Survey team maintained its movement all along parallel to Sajakui river that is flowing all along the International border to maintain proper direction. During recce, survey team had to spend nights within DTRF at times team have to wait in sitting position whole night till first light.

aii) Survey party carried out survey of 3 proposed composite BOPs from Silsuri side after that party retreated back to BOP Silsuri and again went on other axis of DTRF from Rajivnagar BOP for carrying out survey of other remaining two proposed BOPs by entering DTRF from Rajivnagar BOP side.

(3) The joint survey team while carrying physical survey of DTRF, had tried to keep the proposed alignment of fence to the minimum prescribed limit of distance from IB to keep Dampa Tiger Reserve sacrosanct and free from disturbance.

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The survey team proceeded to conduct a survey as per the newly projected requirements (though not in line with the BSF requirements), considering the following points:

- i) BOP is sited keeping role and tasks, prevailing situations, state of trans-border crimes, deployment of the forces of the country opposite, infiltration and exfiltration routes used by trans-border criminals, terrain and other factors which have a bearing on the security of the borders.
- ii) Sited quite close to IB so that boundary line is kept under constant watch. Ground rules, administrative convenience also considered while selecting site.
- iii) BOP's display enough show of Force to deter trans-border criminals and are strong enough to deter the hostile acts of intrusion, encroachment, border violations and attack by anti-national elements.
- iv) BOP is capable of taking more strength for augmenting its defensibility during critical period.
- v) Approaches leading to the proposed BOPs.
- vi) Mutual support between the BOPs.
- vii) Area of responsibility of the BOPs.
- viii) Operational Contingency Routes.
- ix) Route of reinforcement leading to the BOPs.

Recommendation of Joint Survey Team :

It is recommended that a case may be taken up with appropriate authorities for following suggestion:

1. Priority should be given to construct IBB Road / IBB fence:- Due to dense forest, hilly terrain, no habitation and non-availability of proper tracks priority should be given to construct IBBR/IBBF and once the road and tracks are made then it will facilitate in carrying construction material required for construction of Composite BOPs after that BFL may be constructed for better and effective Border Management in DTRF.
2. All proposed five BOP's should be upgraded as Coy level BOP's:- As per GOI guidelines the maximum distance from one BOP to another flanking BOP cannot be more than 3.5 Kms for effective and better guarding/ Security of the Border. Keeping in mind the un-interrupted movement of the wild animals.

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The Dampa Tiger Reserve Department is insisting that only 05 BOPs can be established in the area. So considering this, 05 BOPs are selected as per the survey done by the team, the total area of responsibility of each BOP comes to around 12.4 Kms, thus defeating the very purpose of deploying the troops in the area. Hence, all the 05 BOPs should be upgraded as Coy Level.

3. Each BOP must be constructed with co-located helipads:- The proposed five BOPs, which are to be constructed in the Dampa Tiger Reserve must have co-located helipads inside the BOPs due to following reasons:

- DTR is covered with thick forest and criss - crossed with nullah, which restricts movement.
- There is no road network inside the reserve forest nor is any likely to be constructed in future. This will be a restrictive factor for move of men and material. In future even if some tracks or road are constructed in some areas there will be very frequent land slide in the area.
- Area is highly malaria prone and would require ease evacuation by air.

4. Following 5 BOP places as surveyed and decided by the joint survey team are suggested on the basis of the ground survey, which can be summarized as under :-

DETAIL OF NEW PROPOSED BOPS

S. N	Name of Proposed BOP	GR & Map Sheet No.	Co-ordinates		BP Ref	Distance from IB
			Lat	Long		
1	Chenglui	84503025 M/S No. 84 A/7	23°20'55" N	92°20'25" E	2310/IRI	1.5 Kms
2	New Keislam	81203675 M/S No. 84 A/7	23°25'40" N	92°15'58" E	2310/IRI	1.5 Kms
3	Nokata	80004200 M/S No. 84 A/6	23°30'20" N	92°15'50" E	2307/IRI	1.5 Kms
4	ZurumLui	79454745 M/S No. 84 A/6	23°30'40" N	92°15'50" E	2306/IRI	1.5 Kms
5	New Andermanik	77955290 M/S No. 84 A/6	23°35'40" N	92°15'40" E	2304/IRI	02 Kms

Note: The Photographs of selected proposed site of 05 BOPs also attached with the proceeding as Appendix "B".



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- 5) It is also recommended that exact siting of BOPs may be re-adjusted after construction of IBBR/IBBF or tracks and while beginning the construction work of Composite BOPs:- The total range of area covered by the border road/fence is approx. 200 mtrs to 400 mtrs in width because of the presence of hillocks and the Nullahs joining the main river along with the Border. Thus before starting final construction work of BOP's the exact siting of each BOP should be readjusted as per requirement and clearance of observation in that area once the Border road/fence is completed.
- 6) SajakLui River may be explored to develop alternate contingency route during normal situations by providing engine fitted boats on both ends of the DTR. SajakLui river is flowing all along the International border at times it crosses the IB few hundred meters on either side. It has water levels varying from 10 feet to 45 feet at different stretches. This may be developed and used as alternate contingency route in normal situations.

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19/3/2016

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7 RECOMMENDATION OF DIG SHQ BSF AZL:-

20/3/16

