<u>Alternative sites considered for resettlement of Kujrum and Latu</u> Forest Villages

Two teams of 10 persons each including Gram Pradhan of both villages were constituted to visit and select sites for voluntary resettlement. The team visited sites and assessed its suitability for resettlement based on certain characteristics listed below :

- 1. Vicinity to Forest
- 2. Fertility of land
- 3. Availability of Water
- 4. Mahua trees in resettlement area
- 5. Socio-religious structure of neighboring villages
- 6. Connectivity of Roads
- 7. Prospects of employment
- 8. Large sizes land to resettle whole village at one place

Alternative sites visited were considered only if it had maximum number of characteristics as listed above. Following sites were visited by the team of both villages :

A. Domakhar PF, Garu East Range, South Division, Palamau Tiger Reserve

The team found the site suitable for resettlement as it was close to forest, had availability of water, Mahua trees. However the site had not enough land suitable of resettlement, it did not had prospects of employment too. Also the villagers of Domakhar were not willing to give away their forest rights to accommodate other village, so the site was rejected for resettlement.

B. Barahi, Baraudhi and Lurgumi Khurd

Non Forest Land at Barahi, Baraudhi and Lurgumi Khurd villages of Mahuadanr range were visited by the team. The site was having availability of water, fertile land. However, the size of vacant plot available was only 48 acres, very less compared to what was required to resettle either of the villages, so the site was rejected.

C. Deobar, Latehar

Non Forest Land at Deobar of Latehar was visited by the team. The site was having availability of water, fertile land. However, the size of vacant plot available was around 100 acres, however, the owner of the land refused to sell it off for resettlement, so the site was rejected.

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The current site at Lai-Pailapatthal, Latehar and Polpol, Medininagar was found to be having maximum number of characteristics as required by the villagers of Kujrum and Latu. Both the proposed sites have availability of water near by, the land was found to be suitable for agriculture by the team, sites have ample number of mahua trees in the forest, the social structure of the neighboring villages Chorha, Lai, Gotag, Chanchu, Polpol was similar to that of Kujrum and Latu, both sites have better connectivity of roads, Lai-Pailapatthal is located near Sarju, upcoming block of Latehar district, Polpol is located near Daltonganj, hence having better prospects of employment and adequate size of land is available for resettlement of villages. Hence the site was selected by the teams for voluntary resettlement.

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