Biodiversity Impact Assessment Report for Proposed 400kV D/C Jaunpur Obra Transmission Line passing through Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary



Submitted by Obra-C Badaun Transmission Limited (OCBTL) Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh



"For us, protection of environment is an article of faith. We have natural resources because our previous generations protected these resources. We must do the same for our future generations"

> Sh. Narendra Modi Prime Minister of India

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Contents

Ackno	owledgement	3
Table	s and Figures	6
Tab	les	6
Figu	Jres	6
Gloss	sary	8
1.	INTRODUCTION	9
1.1	Proposed 400kV D/C Jaunpur-Obra Transmission Line	9
1.2	Salient Features of 400kV D/C Jaunpur-Obra Transmission Line	10
1.3	Methodology used for routing Transmission Line	11
1.4	Alternative Routes Examined and Justification of the proposed route	13
1.5	Proposed Route Map w.r.t Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary	14
1.6	Objectives of the study	15
2.	BASELINE INFORMATION	17
2.1	Flora and Fauna Diversity in Uttar Pradesh	17
2.2	Flora and Fauna Diversity in Sonbhadra District	17
2.3	Flora and Fauna Diversity in Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary	18
2.4	Forest Ecosystem in the study area	19
2.5	Landuse pattern in the study area	21
2.6	Existing transmission lines in the study area	22
3.	SAMPLING LOCATIONS AND METHODOLOGY	23
3.1	Biodiversity Field Study	23
3.	.1.1 Sampling Design	23
3.	.1.2 Sampling Locations	23
3.	.1.3 Sampling locations plotted on google earth	24
3.	.1.4 Flora Survey	25
3.	.1.5 Fauna and Avi-fauna Survey	28
3.	.1.6 Aquatic Survey	30
3.	.1.7 Herpeto-fauna and Insects	32
3.	.1.8 Data collection and sensitization of local people	33
3.2	Team Profile	34
4.	RESULTS OF BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	37

4.1 Results of vegetative surveys	37
4.1.1 Plant Community	37
4.1.2 Phyto-sociological characters of plant community	40
4.1.3 Species diversity	49
4.2 Results of fauna surveys	51
4.2.1 Mammals	51
4.2.2 Results of avi-fauna surveys	54
4.2.3 Reptiles, Insects and Amphibians	61
4.3 Results of aquatic sampling	62
4.3.1 Sampling Rationale for Aquatic Biodiversity	62
4.3.2 Physio-chemical profile of aquatic ecosystem:	63
4.3.3 Biological profile of aquatic ecosystem:	64
5. IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION AND MITIGATION OF IMPACTS	66
5.1 Identification of impact	66
5.2 Impacts on terrestrial biodiversity	66
5.2.1 During Pre-Construction Phase	66
5.2.2 During construction phase	67
5.2.3 During Operation Phase	68
5.2.4 Suggested mitigation measures	68
5.3 Biodiversity Conservation Measures	69
5.4 Impact on Aquatic Ecology	72
5.4.1 During construction phase	72
5.4.2 During Operation phase	72
5.4.3 Suggested Mitigation Measures	72
5.5 Impact on High Conservation Value Species	73
5.5.1 Suggested mitigation measures	74
6. ANNEXURE	77
6.1 Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity recorded during field surveys	77
6.2 References	85
6.3 Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary Notification	86

Tables and Figures

Tables

Table 1: Alternative Routes Examined and Justification of the proposed route	.13
Table 2: Sampling Locations Index	.23
Table 3: Tree species recorded in primary study:	.37
Table 4: Shrub species recorded in primary study	.38
Table 5: Herb species recorded in primary study	.38
Table 6: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP8 and AP9 in DIZ	.40
Table 7:Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP8 to AP9 in BZ	.41
Table 8: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP9 to AP10 in DIZ	.44
Table 9: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP9 to AP10 in BZ	.45
Table 10: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP26A/0 to 28/5 in DIZ.	.47
Table 11: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP26A/0 to 28/5 in BZ	.48
Table 12: Key Wildlife areas present within WLS	.51
Table 13: List of wildlife in the project area and Kaimur WLS	.52
Table 14: List of avifauna recorded/reported from study area	.55
Table 15: Reptiles recorded/reported from study area	.61
Table 16: Butterfly recorded from study area	.62
Table 17: Physico-chemical characteristics of sampling site	.63
Table 18: Distribution of phytoplankton taxa in the Sone and Gagar river	.64
Table 19: High conservation value species recorded/reported from study area:	.73
Table 20: Anticipated impacts on high conservation value species	.74
Table 21: Remedial and mitigative measures to be used for high conservation value species .	.75

Figures

Figure 1: Route Map w.r.t Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary	14
Figure 2: Landscape of study area	16
Figure 3:Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary Map	19
Figure 4:Landuse Pattern in study area	21
Figure 5: Existing Transmission Line in study area	22
Figure 6: Sampling Design	
Figure 7: Biodiversity Impact Survey with the local forest officials	26
Figure 8: Sampling of herbs and shrubs at the locations marked for erection of TL	27
Figure 9:Flora Study (above) and Collecting Secondary References from Nursery (Below)	28
Figure 10: Recording DBH for flora study	28
Figure 11: Transect Walk for Fauna Study	29
Figure 12: Capturing avi-fauna sightings during the transact walks	
Figure 13: Preparation of materials for aquatic samplings	30
Figure 14: Identification of fish species in a catch in Son River	30
Figure 15: Recording of Physical parameters in Son River before aquatic sampling	31
Figure 16: Fisherman showing fish species found in a catch	31
Figure 17: Recording of Herpetofauna during sampling	
BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED 400KV D/C JAUNPUR OBRA TRANSMISSION LINE PASSING THROUGH KAIMUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	6

Figure 18: Interaction with local villagers for gathering information on flora and fauna	33
Figure 19: Interaction with people involved in forest-based activities	33
Figure 20: Interaction with local herders	34
Figure 21: Shannon Diversity for floral species in DIZ and BZ between AP8 to AP9	49
Figure 22: Shannon Diversity for floral species in DIZ and BZ between AP9 to AP10	50
Figure 23: Shannon Diversity for floral species in DIZ and BZ between AP26A/0 to AP28/5	550
Figure 24: Aerial Marker Spheres	71
Figure 25: Bird Diverters	72

Glossary

Abbreviation BZ CPUE CWLW	Expansion or Full Form Buffer Zone Catch Per Unit Effort Chief Wildlife Warden
DIZ	Direct Impact Zone
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
FSI	Forest Survey of India
GIS	Geographic Information System
ISFR	India State of Forest Report
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LC	Least Concern
LR	Lower Risk
MoEF&CC	Ministry of Environment Forest, and Climate change
NT	Near Threatened
PS	Primary Source
RET	Rare, Endangered, and Threatened
ROW	Right of Way
SMP	Sanctuary Management Plan
SS	Secondary Source
TL	Transmission Line
UPPTCL	Uttar Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation Ltd.
VU	Vulnerable
WLS	Wildlife Sanctuary
WPA	Wildlife Protection Act
WWF	World Wide Fund for nature

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Proposed 400kV D/C Jaunpur-Obra Transmission Line

The government of India has identified the power sector as a key sector of focus to promote sustained industrial growth. It has embarked on an ambitious mission - "Power for all" backed by extensive reforms to make the power sector more attractive for private sector investment and participation. In this regard Uttar Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (UPPTCL) identified development of transmission system for "Evacuation of power from Obra-C (2x660 MW) Thermal Power Project & Construction of 400 kV GIS Substation Badaun with associated Transmission Lines" consisting of establishment of transmission lines as below:

- 1. LILO of 765 kV Anpara 'D' Unnao SC line at Obra-C TPS
- 2. 400 kV Double Circuit Jaunpur Obra line (upto LILO point of Obra 'B' Obra 'C' Line)
- 3. 400/220/132 kV Badaun (GIS) substation (Capacity 2x315 + 2x160 MVA)
- 4. 400 kV DC Roza Badaun line
- 5. LILO of 220 kV C.B.Ganj (220kV) Badaun (220kV) SC line at 400 kV Badaun substation
- 6. LILO of 220 kV Chandausi (220kV) Badaun (220kV) SC line at 400 kV Badaun substation.
- 7. 132kV BadaunUjhani Badaun (400 kV) SC line and 132 kV Bilsi Badaun (400 kV) SC line.

The Uttar Pradesh Government (Power Ministry) vide UPPTCH has entrusted PFC consulting with the task of selecting an Independent Private Transmission Company (IPTC) on 100% Private investment for the above scheme vide its letter no. 278/PS/DIR(W&P)/PTCL/Obra'C' dated June 01 2018. As per bidding procedure, PFC has invited bids for selection of bidders as prospective IPTC for establishment of transmission line on 28th June 2018 as per guidelines under section 68 of Electricity Act, 2003.

Subsequentlythe process of competitive bidding took place in accordance to the guidelines wherein M/s Adani Transmission Limited was evaluated as successful bidder for implementation of the above project through its subsidiary company Obra C Badaun Transmission Limited as the IPTC on Build, Own and Operate (BOO) basis. Consequently the Letter of Intent (LoI) was issued as letter No. 04-05/ITP-29/18-19/OCBTL/LOI on 29 November 2018. The Principal Secretary, Power Department, Uttar Pradesh, also accorded approval under section 68(1) of Electricity Act 2003, to commission these transmission lines through letter no. 2794/24-1-2018-2422/2008 dated 2 November 2018.

Transmission line projects are environmentally friendly and do not involve any disposal of solid effluents or hazardous substances in land, air or water. The spans between the transmission line towers have been designed 400 meters in length so as to avoid fragmentation of forested areas through which it will pass. The height of the towers have been designed to be 47 meters in height so as to allow free movement of birds. The layout of the towers on the transmission line have been so designed as to cause minimum tree felling. The ground clearance for the

lowermost conductors have been designed to be 8.84 meters. The spacing between the phase conductors has been designed to be 8 meters in length by following industry best guidelines to allow for free movement of birds. The foundations of the towers have been designed to have a space of only 15 meters by 15 meters. And the foundations of the towers have been designed only to go 3.5 meters under the ground.

400kV D/C JaunpurObra Transmission Line will start at from LILO point of Obra-B Obra-C line in Chopan area of DistrictSonbhadra and will terminate at 400/220/132kV substation of UPPTCL in Machlisahar of DistrictJaunpur. The length of the transmission line will be166 kilometersand will pass through 5 districts Uttar Pradesh, namely, Jaunpur, Bhadhoi, Varanasi, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra. Construction, erection and commissioning of the transmission line will create employment opportunities for the predominantly rural population of the area for a period of around24 months. Later on, after commissioning too, the maintenance of the transmission line will create employment opportunities for the locals. Needless to say, the transmission line bringing power to the region will bring in its wake industry and commerce along with improved productivity for the existing industry.

Particular	Remarks, if any
Total Line Length of 400kV D/C JaunpurObra	Total Line Length:165Km
Transmission Line	
District details and forest division details	District: Jaunpur, Bhadhoi, Varanasi, Mirzapur
through which line is passing	and Sonbhadra.
	Forest Division: Jaunpur, Bhadhoi, Varanasi,
	Mirzapur, Kaimur Wildlife Division Mirzapur and
	Obra
Area Passing through Kaimur Wildlife	55.447Ha, 12.054Km
Sanctuary	
Total No. of Tower to be erected in wildlife	Proposednumber of towers in WLS -29 Nos.
area	
Height of Tower	Minimum 47 Mtrs
Maximum width of Right of Way for 400KV	46 Meters
D/C Transmission Line	
Minimum Ground Clearance	8.84mtr.
Minimum Clearance allowed between	For 400KV, 5.5 Meters
conductors of transmission lines and Trees	
Average distance between two consecutive	400m
towers	

1.2 Salient Features of 400kV D/C Jaunpur-Obra Transmission Line

1.3 Methodology used for determining the routing of the transmission line

Transmission lines are sets of wires, called conductors that carry high voltage electric power from station to station. They run over long distances across a province. Conductors are connected to large metal towers that are placed on public and private properties along a transmission line route.

OCBTL uses a transmission line routing process that's based on an internationally recognized methodology. The processincorporates routing preferences from human, environmental and engineering perspectives uses these perspectives to help minimize overall impact of the project.

5 steps in selecting a transmission line route:

- 1. **Determine a route planning area**:Determination of start and end points and development of a broad route-planning area based on opportunities and constraints on the landscape.
- Plan alternative routes: Drawingof segments connecting the start and end points within the route-planning area. These segments form alternative route options whichare presented to the stakeholder groups, to a team of specialist's engineers for feedback. Collection and incorporation of public and Indigenous feedback throughout the

transmission line route selection process:

During the decision-making process, documentation of site-specific issues and feedback from persons potentially affected by a possible route. Compiled information is passed to specialists to help them enhance their assessments of a preferred route.

Local feedback and knowledge of the environment help to design the route and plan tower placement.

Consideration of feedback received for development of mitigative segments, if any by the project team.

Information collected helps to determine ways to mitigate potential impact on people, wildlife and the environment, if any.

3. **Develop mitigative segments:** A mitigative segment is a part of the route which has been added to the transmission line routing process based on feedback from the public or from project specialists. These segments are added to mitigate concerns or a potential effect on the landscape.

Evaluation of these segments for technical feasibility and cost is carried out. It is also considered whether the segment results in a "net-minimization of effect", which means evaluating whether or not the segment will shift effect from one landowner to another. If evaluations deem the new segments are reasonable, they are then incorporated in the comparative evaluation of routes to determine a preferred route.

- 4. **Determine a preferred route:** A comparative evaluation of alternative routes determines the preferred routes that are presented to the public and Indigenous communities and organizations. Specialists focus their evaluations on this area to better understand potential effects of the preferred route on people and the environment. After determination of subset of routes, following parameter are compared to select a preferred route:
 - Costs;
 - Community considerations;
 - Reliability;
 - Risk to schedule;
 - Built environment and the natural environment.
- 5. Finalize the preferred route and submit an environmental assessment report: Following our presentation of the preferred route, potential changes based on feedback from the public, Indigenous communities and organizations, and project specialists are considered. After incorporating feedback, final preferred route are determined and present to regulators for review.

During the regulatory review process, details are provided regarding transmission line routing and the impact statement is available for review and comment.

Throughout each step of the transmission line route selection process, regularly planning, gathering feedback, analysing information, and evaluating are done. Feedback from stakeholders assists in the development of criteria used to evaluate strengths and weaknesses of route options. Criteria are developed to represent the natural, the human and engineering perspectives, i.e.:

- Natural environment: acres of natural forest, acres of wetland area, stream and river crossings;
- Engineering: project cost, existing transmission line crossings, length;
- Human environment: proximity to residences, land use and capability, historic
- Resources, public use areas.
- Timelines for route selection depend on the project. They are closely associated with public and Indigenous engagement and environmental assessment processes. Some projects, based on complexity, may require more or fewer steps to determine a final preferred route.

Who decides the final preferred route?

Project Proponent work with a range of technical specialists and invite public comments through publishing the same in local newspapers and gazette notification. They strive to balance concerns and feedback from the public, project specialists, stakeholder groups, and indigenous communities and organizations. Goal is to achieve consensus amongst a project team (with a range of specialties) on the final preferred route of a transmission project. The route is considered final once approved by the regulator.

1.4 Alternative Routes Examined and Justification of the proposed route

The Project i.e. 400kV D/C Jaunpur Obra transmission line will start at LILO point of Obra-B Obra-C line located at Chopan and will terminate at substation constructed by UPPTCL at Machlisahar in Jaunpur District. The route of the line passes through Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary located in district Sonbhadra, having forest area involvement as well as non-forest land involvement within Kaimur WLS totaling to 55.447 Ha. The chosen route is the most optimal route in terms of minimum interference with wildlife area as well as the best alignment for efficient construction, erection as well as post commissioning maintenance operations.

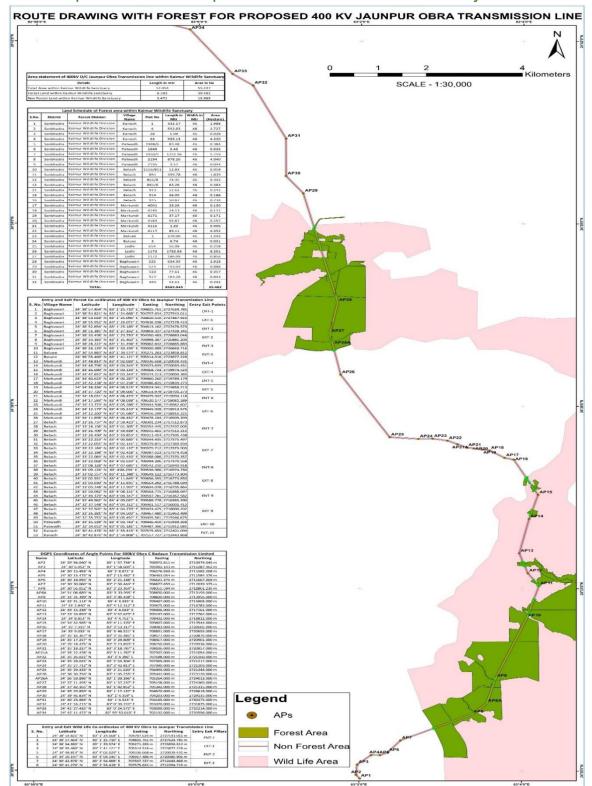
A detail comparison of all the three alternative routes examined is as provided in the below table.

S.N	Description	Alt-I (Proposed Route)		Alt-II		Alt-III	
		Length	Area	Length	Area	Length	Area
1.	Total Forest in within Kaimur WLS	8.583Km	39.482Ha	8.329 Km	38.313Ha	9.084 Km	41.786 Ha
2.	Non-Forest area within Kaimur WLS	3.471Km	15.965Ha	5.169 Km	23.777 Ha	3.777 Km	17.374 Ha
3.	Total Area within Kaimur WLS	12.054Km	55.447Ha	13.498 Km	62.091 Ha	12.861Km	59.160 Ha

Table 1: Alternative Routes Examined and Justification of the proposed route

The above table shows that all three alternatives for routes are positioned on either side of BEE line. After initial inspection through Survey of India maps and satellite images, all three routes were analyzed to find the most optimum route. Special attention was given to avoiding as much wildlife sanctuary area and habitation area as possible. Accessibility to the routes through existing roads and paths was also a factor in choosing a route. Route 1 was determined to have the least interference with wildlife area hence it was chosen for the alignment of the transmission line. Also, the tree density in all three routes were the same, therefore Route 1 was all the more attractive as the most optimum alignment as it moved through the minimal area in wildlife sanctuary among the 3 alternatives.

BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED 400KV D/C JAUNPUR OBRA TRANSMISSION LINE PASSING THROUGH KAIMUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



1.5 Proposed Route Map w.r.t Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary

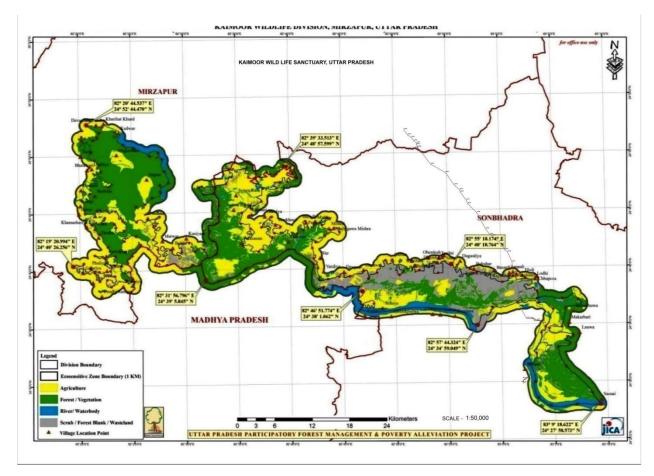


Figure 1: Route Map w.r.t Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary

1.6 Objectives of the study

The study aims to achieve the following objectives -

- i. Collection and review of relevant documents available with OCBTL related to the Obra Transmission Line and Guidelines issued by the MoEF&CC on Eco-friendly measures to mitigate of linear infrastructure on wildlife and/or guidelines CWLW, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department
- ii. Mapping of the Land Use and Forest/Vegetation types along the proposed Right of Way (RoW) using suitable GIS techniques.
- iii. Assess distribution and diversity of Floral (lower and higher plants) and Fauna (Mammals, Amphibians, Reptiles, Avifauna, Insects) in present season.
- iv. Assess existence, status and distribution of Threatened and Near Threatened Floral and Faunal species (Schedule-I Species, IUCN REET Category)
- v. Ecological evaluation of the potential impacts on biodiversity due to the construction, operation and post-construction phases of the proposed transmission line

- vi. Preparation of Biodiversity Impact Assessment Report
- vii. Identify/Recommend suitable measures and strategies for mitigation/management of the anticipated impacts



Figure 2: Landscape in the study area

2. BASELINE INFORMATION

2.1 Flora and Fauna Diversity in Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh covers an area of 2,40,928 sq. km which is 7.33% of the geographical area of the country. Physio graphically, the state has predominance of vast Gangatic plain having highly fertile alluvial soil and the smaller Vindhya hills and plateau. The state has a humid a humid sub-tropical with dry winter climate. The average annual rainfall varies from about 1000 mm to about 1200 mm and the average annual temperature ranges between 5°C to 45°C. The state is drained by a number of rivers, which include Betwa, Chambal, Gandak, Ganga, Gomti, Ghaghra and Yamuna (FSI, 2017). All above characteristics make the state a unique land feature to flourish biodiversity.

Floral Diversity: As per the literature survey and studies conducted, the recorded floral diversity of Uttar Pradesh include 1017 genera and 2932 species of plants (lower and higher) with 67 genera and 301 species of algae; 46 genera and 135 species of lichens; 135 genera and 935 species of fungi; 31 genera and 72 species of bryophytes; 20 genera and 41 species of Pteridophytes; 4 genera and 6 species of gymnosperms; 714 genera and 1442 species of angiosperms **(UP State Biodiversity Board)**.

The faunal inventory of Uttar Pradesh deals with 41 species of 11 genera under 6 families comprising 2 orders of free living protozoa, 140 species of 43 genera under 15 families comprising 1 order of phytophagous nematodes, 1445 species of 735 genera under 93 families comprising 11 orders of insect, 15 species of 5 genera under 1 family comprising 1 order of ixodid ticks (Acari: Ixodidae), 47 species of 27 genera under 15 families comprising 5 orders of fresh water Mollusca and 699 species of 420 genera under 151 families comprising 45 orders of vertebrates (UP State Biodiversity Board).

2.2 Flora and Fauna Diversity in Sonbhadra District

The portion of the district north of the Son River lies in the Lower Gangetic plains moist deciduous forests ecoregion. The portion south of the Son lies in the Chhota Nagpur dry deciduous forests ecoregion. The northern part of the district lies on a plateau of the Vindhya Range, and is drained by tributaries of the Ganges including the Belan and Karmanasha rivers. South of the steep escarpment of the Kaimur Range is the valley of the Son River, which flows through the district from west to east. The southern portion of the district is hilly, interspersed with fertile stream valleys. Kaimoor Wildlife Sanctuary lies mostly within the district, reaching generally east and west along the spine of the Kaimur Range, and extending to the Son River at its eastern end.

The whole of the area is covered with natural scrubby jungle and somewhere thick forests. Almost the entire plateau exhibits a uniform horizontal stratification of rocks. The top of the plateau is unsuitable for the growth of broad-leaved plants and, is represented by uniform scrubby dry vegetation. The broad-leaved plants are generally seen on the slopes of the plateau. Overall, the entire forest is mixed dry deciduous, but evergreen trees are frequently seen in ravines. According to a revised classification of forest type in India by **Champion & Seth (1968)**, the forest type of Sonbhadra District is tropical dry deciduous. The whole area of the district has an interesting diversity of flora and vegetation due to variable plains, slopes, hills, and climate, represented by dry deciduous vegetation, natural scrub jungle, patches of grasses, and thick forest. The whole area of the district is covered with rich plant diversity with trees at the top layer, shrubs at the middle layer, and herbs, climbers, and twiners at the ground level. **Kushwaha et al., (2018)** repoerted 705 species of Angiosperms under 459 genera and 110 families including 78 cultivated ones that have been planted in the area for different purposes.

2.3 Flora and Fauna Diversity in Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary

Kaimur wildlife sanctuary (KWS) is situated in Kaimur hills of Mirzapur and Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh (Fig. 1). It covers an area of 500.73 km² in the semi-arid zone of northern India (Rodgers et al. 2000) with geographical extent of 82°20' 15" E to 24°52' 00" N and 83°08 '23" E to 24°27' 51" N. For administrative purpose, sanctuary is divided into four ranges namely Halia, Ghorawal, Robertsganj and Gurma. Geologically, mostly part of the sanctuary is hilly and undulating terrains. Soil found in this area is red clay which is stiff and ferruginous in nature. This Sanctuary faces three seasons namely summer (March–June), Monsoon (June–September) and winter (November–February). The maximum/minimum temperature is 46.8 and 4°C respectively. According to Champions & Seth (1968) sanctuary comes under dry deciduous type forest. There are four major types of forest forms in this sanctuary namely Sal forest, Bamboo, Scrub and Dry Deciduous forest. Sal forest comes under dry peninsular and enriched by *Shorearobusta*. The Bamboo forest consists of dry Bamboo brakes. The Scrub forest is accompanied by open dry scrubby vegetation. While, dry deciduous forest consists of dry deciduous mixed woody species.

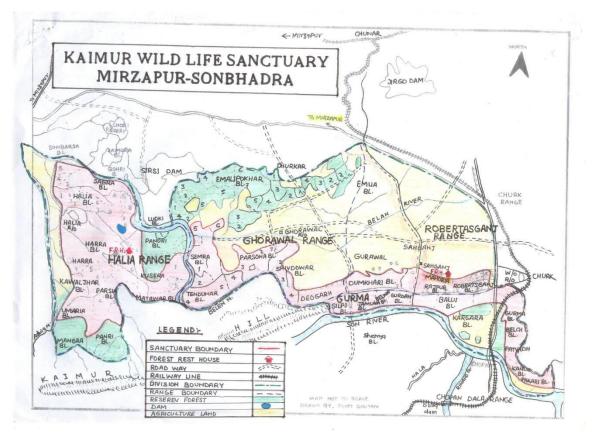


Figure 3: Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary Map

2.4 Forest Ecosystem in the study area

Forests are the prominent areas that support a huge variety of living beings. Uttar Pradesh is not a rich state in terms of forest cover. Based on interpretation of satellite data pertaining to Oct-Dec 2015, the forest cover in the state is 14,679 sq km which is 6.09% of the State's geographical area. In terms of forest canopy density classes, the state has 2, 617 sq km area under very dense forest, 4069 sq km under moderately dense forest and 7993 sq km under open forest (ISFR, 2017). Present project falls in the Sonbhadra District of Uttar pradesh having highest percentage of forest cover. The District have a total of 36.77 % forest cover including 130 sq km very dense forests, 967 sq km moderately dense forests and 1,442 sq km open forests. 28 sq km scrub forests is also present in the district with a forest cover change of -17 Sq km (ISFR, 2017).

The forests present within the sanctuary area are dominated with Northern Dry Deciduous and Deciduous Scrub types. The main forest types found in the study area are Deciduous Scrub, Northern Dry Deciduous Forest, Boswellia forest, Dry Bamboo Breaks, Dry Peninsular Sal Forest, Tropical riverine forest and Dry mixed Deciduous forest in consociation of *Chloroxylon Sp.* (Management Plan Kaimur WLS).

Present Transmission Line Route (46m wide transect beneath proposed transmission line) is situated within three types of forests; Northern Dry Deciduous forest, Deciduous Scrub forest and Tropical Riverine forest.

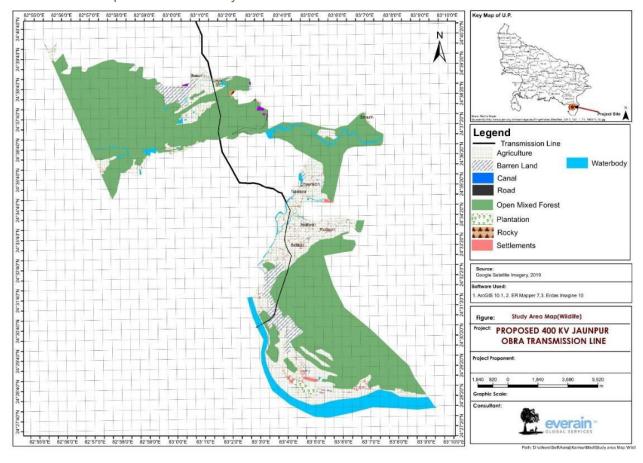
Northern Dry Deciduous Forests: They represent a transitional type; on the wetter side, they give way to moist deciduous and on the drier side they degenerate into thorn forests. Such forests are characterized by closed and rather uneven canopy, composed of a mixture of a few species of deciduous trees, rising up to a height of 20 metres or so. Enough light reaches the ground to permit the growth of grass and climbers. Bamboos also grow but they are not luxuriant. The tropical dry deciduous forests are widely distributed over a large area. They occur in an irregular wide strip running north-south from the foot of the Himalayas to Kanniyakumari except in Rajasthan, Western Ghats and West Bengal. The important species are Teak, Axlewood, Tendu, Bijasal, Amaltas, Palas, Haldu, Bel, common Bamboo, Harra, Achar, Sal, Khair etc. Large tracts of this forest have been cleared for agricultural purposes and these forests have suffered from severe biotic factors such as over cutting, over grazing and fire, etc. More than any other factor, the lack of precipitation during a prolonged portion of the year is what produces true dry forest, an ecosystem type characterized by plants and animals with specific adaptations to survive the long dry season. Deciduousness is the single most important adaptation among plants to the extended droughts. Most of the trees drop their leaves after the rains end, and essentially halt photosynthesis, as they would otherwise be unable to survive the water loss during the dry season. Tropical Dry Deciduous forests are subject to intensive anthropogenic disturbances. This forest type found between AP 7/2 and AP 10 and south facing slopes near AP26A.

Deciduous Scrub Forests: These types of forests are found on plateau surface, valleys, and ravines, and on rugged surfaces. Surface of these forests are dry, stony and rugged. In these forests mainly shrubs are found with scattered small-sized trees. Vegetation like *Acacia*, *Ziziphus*, *Adhotoda*, *Calotropis*, *Lantana* and *Cassia* species are very common in these forests. This forest type was widely distributed all along the present project Route; between AP26A and AP29, AP7/2 and AP10. It was also present in the fringes of habitation and agricultural areas between AP10 and AP15, and AP27 and AP30.

Tropical Riverine Forests: Narrow along the hilly section of the longer streams in the dry deciduous forest widening as valleys get boarder and extend to the moist deciduous type. The foliage of the dominants is more or less evergreen in general. Moisture contents in soil of this type of forest remains high. This type of forest present with a very thin line on both banks of river Ghaghar.

Cropland Ecosystems: Agricultural practices are present within the project Route. All seasonal crops are being cultivated on agriculture land. Paddy, Wheat, Sesame, Arhar, Maize, Jwar etc. are the main crops along with seasonal vegetables. Horticulral practices are also present with the cultivation of fruits like Mango, Guava, Citrus etc. Cropland ecosystems are pominantly

present near AP8, between AP10 and AP15, near AP26, and near AP29. There are intensive agricultural practices available where project Route falling in eco sensitive zone of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctury (AP3 to AP7, Near AP26, around AP29 and AP30).



2.5 Landuse pattern in the study area

Figure 4: Landuse pattern in the study area

2.6 Existing transmission lines in the study area



Figure 5: Existing Transmission Lines in the study area



3 SAMPLING LOCATIONS AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 Biodiversity Field Study

3.1.1 Sampling Design

The entire study area was divided into 5 Km x 5 Km grids coveringtwozones from the centre point of ROW viz. Direct Impact Zone (46m) and Buffer Zone (Kaimur WLS excluding Direct Impact Zone).

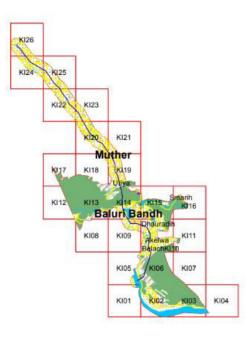


Figure 6: Sampling Design (Each square labelled with prefix K denotes a grid of 5 km x5 km in which a sample should be taken)

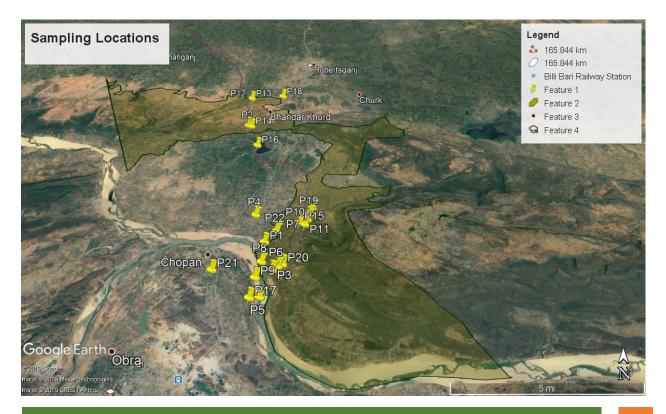
3.1.2 Sampling Locations

Table 2: Sampling Locations

Point	Location Remarks	GPS	Point	Location Remarks	GPS Coordinates
		Coordinates			
P1	Ghagar Right Bank	24°31'42.6"N	P12	Right Bank	24°30'26.6"N
	– Narayandi	83°02'47.4"E			83°02'49.0"E
P2	B/w AP 26/0 & AP	24°36'58.2"N	P13	View point of AP 28/0	24°38'32.4"N
	26A/0	83°01'40.3"E		to 29/0	83°01'38.2"E

P3	Left Bank	24°30'43.9"N	P14	Utarvashi Primary	24°36'57.5"N
		83°03'05.6"E		School	83°01'47.3"E
P4	Bamboo Makers	24°32'44.6"N	P15	Cottages Near AP 10	24°32'26.8"N
		83°02'24.7"E			83°03'49.0"E
P5	Fisherman's Boat	24°29'53.0"N	P16	Adjacent AP 25/2 on	24°35'55.9"N
	on Shore	83°02'49.1"E		Baluee Dam	83°02'07.2"E
P6	Near AP 7/2	24°30'51.2"N	P17	Fishermen's Village	24°29'51.5"N
		83°03'15.0"E		Pani Intake Basti	83°02'32.4"E
P7	Near AP 10	24°32'33.0"N	P18	Khushboo Bagh	24°38'40.2"N
		83°04'03.1"E		Nursery	83°02'51.7"E
P8	Seasonal Stream	24°30'54.0"N	P19	Near AP 10-1	24°32'47.4"N
	Near AP 8	83°03'21.6"E			83°04'07.9"E
P9	Near AP 7/1	24°30'29.8"N	P20	Near AP 8:	24°30'55.6"N
		83°02'38.0"E			83°03'22.9"E
P10	Near AP 11	24°33'02.5"N	P21	Fish Market	24°30'44.6"N
		83°04'12.1"E		(Secondary	83°01'21.3"E
				Information)	
P11	Near AP 9/4	24°32'21.3"N	P22	Bridge on Ghagar	24°32'06.4"N
		83°03'58.8"E			83°03'06.9"E

3.1.3 Sampling locations plotted on google earth



3.1.4 Flora Survey

Plant community structure has been estimated through systematic vegetation survey carried out in project zone. A fixed transect of 500m wide underneath proposed transmission line was used for vegetation survey. The size of sampling unit (quadrat) was determined using the species-area-curve method. Quadrats of 10m x 10m were laid out to examine the tree layer in the direct impact zone (46m) as well as buffer zone (from 23m to 250m both side). Within these sample plots, two 3m x 2m plots were laid out randomly for sampling the shrub layer. To collect information on ground layer and other herbaceous species, five quadrats of 1m x 1m size were laid out within the quadrats used for trees. Species-wise counting of all individuals has been carried out in each quadrat along with their CBH (Circumference at Breast Height) or DRC (Diameter at Root Collar) whatever applicable.

Data analysis: The structural aspect of vegetation such as frequency, density, abundance and dominance (basal area) were determined following **Mishra (1968)**. Importance Value Index (IVI) was computed for all the species by adding the relative values of frequency, density and dominance following **Curtis & McIntosh (1950)**. Species distribution was calculated by Abundance to Frequency ratio following **Curtis and Cottom (1956)**. Species diversity was computed using Shannon-Weaver Index (**Shannon and Wiener 1949**). H' = Σ (ni/N) × In (ni/N) Where, H' = Shannon's index of species diversity ni = Total number of individuals of one species N = Total number of individuals of all the species in one stand.



Figure 7: Biodiversity Impact Survey with the local forest officials



Figure 8: Sampling of herbs and shrubs at the locations marked for erection of TL



Figure 9:Flora Study (above) and Collecting Secondary References from Nursery (Below)

Figure 10: Recording DBH for flora study

3.1.5 Fauna and Avi-fauna Survey

A wide variety of fauna inhabits the forested areas in Kaimur WLS due to its high forest cover and diversity. During the Biodiversity survey, a transact walk has been organized to explore the presence of mammals. Fecal dropping, footprints, claw marks, voice and trophies along with direct sighting were recorded during transect walks. Faunal distribution and their occurrence were also confirmed by looking at specific plots of 20x20m, every 400m along the transect running parallel to the Transmission line. Within each plot, observations on visual observation of wildlife signs (rooting, feeding, resting, fecal droppings, footprints, or wildlife sounds) were recorded. Also, during public consultation meetings, additional information on wildlife presence was also discussed.



Figure 11: Transect Walk for Fauna Study



Figure 12: Capturing avi-fauna sightings during the transact walks.

3.1.6 Aquatic Survey



Figure 13: Preparation of materials for aquatic samplings



Figure 14: Identification of fish species in a catch in Son River



Figure 15: Recording of Physical parameters in Son River before aquatic sampling



Figure 16: Fisherman showing fish species found in a catch

3.1.7 Herpeto-fauna and Insects





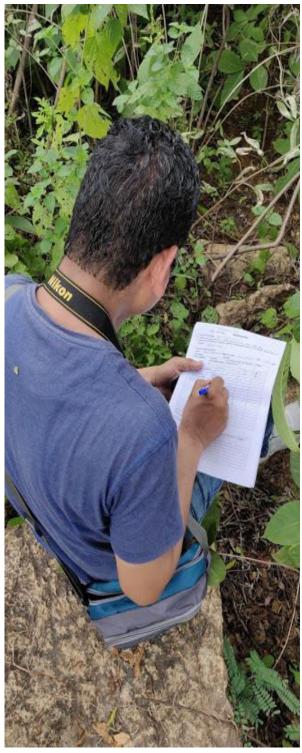


Figure 17: Recording of Herpetofauna during sampling



3.1.8 Data collection and sensitization of local people

Figure 18: Interaction with local villagers for gathering information on flora and fauna



Figure 19: Interaction with people involved in forest-based activities



Figure 20: Interaction with local herders

3.2 Team Profile

Sh. Ambarish Chandra Chaubey, IFS, Retd. PCCF(HoFF) Rajasthan

Mr. Chaubey has been an IFS batch (1977) and retired from office as Principle Chief Conservative of Forest (PCCF). He has completed Forestry Planning and Management from Oxford University. He is experienced in drafting plans for forest diversion extraction, numerous land diversion projects, conformities relevant to forest clearing, expert in providing consultancy and training in total pollution prevention and control solutions. He has skilled in designing and implementing Environmental Management, devising significant solutions for maintaining sound Environmental and, showed competency in safety condition. He has proudly enjoyed the distinction of undertaking the most prestigious initiatives, such as Rajasthan Forestry funded by JICA and Biodiversity Projects Phase I/II, Luni Watershed Development Project, Preparation of management plans for Tripura Forest Development. He has Undertaken Technical examination project proposals for funding by ITTO, and Joint Forest Management.

He had headed the BIA projects such asBiodiversity Impact Assessment of proposed Tiuni-Plasu HEP in Chakrata, Uttarakhand and Biodiversity Impact Assessment of proposed Song Dam Drinking Water Project, Dehradun District, Uttarakhand. He had been a part of the NCCF Sustainable Development Team for the qualification of sustainable management forest standards and metrics.

Dr. Sunil Bhatt

Dr. Bhatt, an Ecology and Biodiversity expert, and a qualified Functional Area Expert(Ecology & Biodiversity)Cat 'A' by QCI-NABET. He has been working in the field ofBaseline studies with respect to ecology and biodiversity since 8 years. He has an expert in quantitative and quantitative analysis of baseline data usingEnvironmental Impact Assessment with respect to biodiversity, NaturalResource Management; Biodiversity Management; Conservation Plans, Assessment of project specific impacts on biodiversity, EIA and EMP(Biodiversity) reports

writing with appropriate standard.He has also worked in response of Himalayan Forests under different levels of Anthropogenic Pressure.

He has been awarded Ph. D. in Forestry, from HNB Garhwal University,Uttarakhand. He has been awarded S K Seth Prize for best publication-2014(The Indian Forester Society).

Dr. AsheeshShivam

Dr. Asheesh, a zoologist, currently working as an HOD (Deptt. of zoology) inNehru Gram Bharti University since 2014.He has an expert in Environment Impact Assessment and performed ElAworks for various Hydroelectric Projects in the river of North-East Himalaya. Hehas also worked as an expert for Benthic invertebrate community AquaticBiodiversity Group for the Environment Flow assessment for the riverRamganga operated by WWF(India), and for Benthic invertebrate and fishfauna in the Aquatic Biodiversity Group for the Living Ganga Program-WWF,India.

He has skilled in handling of microscope, biological laboratory methods, microphotography, fresh water and marine field work.

He has been awarded Ph. D. in Aquatic Ecology, from University of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh

Mr. Abhishek Rajdeep

Mr. Rajdeep, a forestry & conservation specialist, has been employed in the forestry and its related industries from the past six years. He has also undertaken a number of projects relating to habitat evaluation, sustainability, and climate change. He has gained practical experience in handling multiple projects at different geographical locations simultaneously (particularly in northeastern countries), following strict deadlines, and collaborated on various national and international programs with the State Forest Departments and international agencies such as Ecological assessment of KasuBrahmanada Reddy National Park, Green India Mission, CAMPA, Project Elephant, He has post Graduate in Environment Management from Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, and has been pursuing a PGD- Environment Law and Policy from National Law University, Delhi. He is also the accredited Certified Lead Auditors under URS Certification Limited, ISO 9001:2008 QMS Practice. In cooperation with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), he receives also a certificate for & Remote Sensing, Geographical Information and Global Positioning System &; from the Indian Institute for Remote Sensing (IIRS). He has skilled at Arc GIS, GPS, MAXQDA.

Mr. Ranir Pal Saini

Mr. Saini is a project management consultant with Everain Global Services. He has interests in social science research methodologies, project management and program management. His academic training has been in civil engineering and international affairs and he has had professional experience in sustainability standards, monitoring & evaluation, biodiversity & ecosystem services and forest resources inventory design. He is also the founding director of RProSys Private Limited that specializes in project management consulting and research

&analysis services. At Everain Global Services he is involved in project design, planning and execution, as well as providing operations and management advisory.

Ms. Ankita Krishna

Ms. Krishna is a zoology graduate from Magadh Mahila College, PatnaUniversity, and is currently persuing M.Sc. in Environmental Science fromNalanda Open University.She is skilled in handling of microscope, preparing permanent and temporaryslide, zoological laboratory methods, microphotography, preparation ofherbarium, and biological classification. She has attended seminar inBiodiversity of India, ecological importance of flora and fauna.She has workedon "Affect of Dental Fluorosis" in the year of 2017, and also has an experiencein copy writing, and editing.

4 RESULTS OF BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 Results of vegetative surveys

4.1.1 Plant Community

As per the primary study, the plant community in the study area is generally comprised with a total of 88 species. Out of 88 plant species, 23 were trees, 22 were shrubs and 43 were herbs/climbers/grasses. The list of recorded species is given in below **tables**.

Name	Scientific Name	Family
Acacia	Acacia auriculiformis	Mimosaceae
Babul	Acacia Arabica	Mimosaceae
-	Careyaarborea	Lecythidaceae
Bel	Aegle marmelos	Rutaceae
Siris	Albizialebbeck	Mimosaceae
-	oroxylumindicum	Bignoniaceae
Dhau	Anogeissuslatifolia	Combretaceae
Neem	Azadirachtaindica	Meliaceae
Dhak	Butea monosperma	Fabaceae
Amaltas	Cassia fistula	Caesalpiniaceae
Shisham	Dalbergia sissoo	Fabaceae
Tendu	Diospyros melanoxylon	Ebenaceae
Amla	Emblica officinalis	Euphorbiaceae
Chilbil	Holopteleaintegrifolia	Ulmaceae
Simal	Lagerstromiaparviflora	Lythraceae
Jhingan	Lanneacoromandelica	Anacardiaceae
Mahua	Madhucalongifolia	Sapotaceae
Sahjan	Moringa oleifera	Moringaceae
Kanji	Pongamiapinnata	Fabaceae
Bahera	Terminalia bellirica	Combretaceae
-	Terminalia sp	Combretaceae
Ber	Zizyphusmauritiana	Rhamnaceae
Imli	Tamarindusindica	Fabaceae

Table 3: Tree species recorded in prima	ry study:
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Name	Scientific Name	Family
-	Abutilon indicum	Malyaceae
Rambans	Agave Americana	Rambans
Madar	Calotropis procera	Asclepiadaceae
-	Sidaacuta	Malvaceae
Basanta	Indigoferasp	Fabaceae
-	Xanthium indicum	Asteraceae
Nagphani	Opuntia dilleniid	Cactaceae
Bhant	Clerodendruminfortunatum	Lamiaceae
-	Grewiahirsute	Tiliaceae
Behaya	Ipomeacarnea	Convolvulaceae
Lantana	Lantana camara	Verbenaceae
Kantkarica	Solanum indicum	Solanaceae
Semari	Vitex negundo	Lamiaceae
PhoolDhawai	Woodfordiafruticosa	Lythraceae
Jharber	Ziziphusnummularia	Rhamnaceae
-	Prosopis juliflora	Fabaceae
-	Senna alata	Fabaceae
-	Sesbaniasesban	Fabaceae
-	Triumfettapentandra	Tiliaceae
Bans	Bambusa bamboos	Poaceae
Bans	Dendrocalamusstrictus	Poaceae
Bagnakhi	Martyniaannua	Martyniaceae

Table 4: Shrub species recorded in primary study

Table 5: Herb species recorded in primary study

Name	Scientific Name	Family
Ghumchi	Abrusprecatorius	Fabaceae
-	Acanthospermumhispidum	Asteraceae
-	Acmella calva	Asteraceae
-	Aervalanata	Amaranthaceae
-	Ageratum conyzoides	Asteraceae
-	Alternanthera sessilis	Amaranthaceae
-	Amaranthus viridis	Amaranthaceae
-	Andrographis paniculata	Acanthaceae
-	Anisomelesindica	Lamiaceae

-	Argemone maxicana	Papaveraceae
-	Artemisia vulgaris	Asteraceae
-	Bidenspilosa	Asteraceae
-	Chenopodium murale	Chenopodiaceae
-	Chrysopogonfulvus	Poaceae
Kaduri	Cocciniagrandis	Cucurbitaceae
-	Commelinabenghalensis	Commelinaceae
-	Commelinadiffusa	Commelinaceae
-	Convolvulus pluricaulis	Convolvulaceae
-	Conyzaleucantha	Asteraceae
-	Crotalaria prostrata	Fabaceae
Akasbel	Cuscutareflexa	Cuscutaceae
Doob	Cynodondactylon	Poaceae
-	Cyperus compactus	Cyperaceae
-	Cyperusrotundus	Cyperaceae
-	Dimeriaornithopoda	Poaceae
-	Echinopsechinatus	Asteraceae
Anantmool	Hemidesmus indicus	Apocynaceae
-	Leucas aspera	Lamiaceae
Ban Tulsi	Ocimum sanctum	Lamiaceae
-	Phyllanthus niruri	Euphorbiaceae
GajarGhas	Parthenium hysterophorus	Asteraceae
-	Saccharum spontaneum	Poaceae
-	Sidarhombifolia	Malvaceae
Chakonda	Cassia tora	Caesalpiniaceae
-	Solanum surattense	Solanaceae
-	Sonchus asper	Asteraceae
Sarphoka	Tephrosiapurpurea	Fabaceae
-	Tridaxprocumbens	Asteraceae
-	Vernonia cinerea	Asteraceae
-	Arundo donax	Poaceae
Dudhi	Euphorbia hirta	Euphorbiaceae
Fern	Adiantum caudatum	Pteridaceae
Sanjiwani	Selaginellabryopteris	Selaginaceae

4.1.2 Phyto-sociological characters of plant community

(a) Forest Route between AP8 and AP9: 13 trees, 12 shrubs and 22 herbs species has been recorded from the direct impact zone (46m strip) of forest. The stand density values for tree, shrub and herb species were recorded as 71 individuals/ha, 1935 individuals/ha and 32866.67 individuals/ha for tree, shrub and herb species respectively. *Diospyros melanoxylon* in tree layer, *Lantana camara* in shrub layer and *Cassia tora* in herb layer were found the dominant floral species. (Table 6)

Name of Species	Density/ha.	Frequency%	Abundance	A/F	IVI
Tree					
Azadirachtaindica	3.00	3.00	1.00	0.33	13.41
Lanneacoromandelica	10.00	7.00	1.43	0.20	42.95
Butea monosperma	12.00	8.00	1.50	0.19	47.00
Pongamiapinnata	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	3.63
Acacia Arabica	5.00	3.00	1.67	0.56	15.62
Careyaarborea	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	7.26
Dlabergia sissoo	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	3.44
Albizialebbek	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	7.32
Terminalia sp	7.00	4.00	1.75	0.44	22.72
Diospyros melanoxylon	21.00	20.00	1.05	0.05	111.39
Holopteliaintergrifolia	4.00	4.00	1.00	0.25	15.17
Ziziphusmauritiana	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	3.26
Lagerstroemia parviflora	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	6.82
Total	71.00	58.00			300.00
Shrub					
Abutilon indicum	130.00	22.50	1.44	0.06	18.31
Calotropis procera	110.00	27.50	1.00	0.04	16.57
Sidaacuta	160.00	37.50	1.07	0.03	24.72
Xanthium indicum	375.00	25.00	3.75	0.15	32.08
Clerodendruminfortunatum	155.00	37.50	1.03	0.03	24.76
Grewiahirsuta	80.00	23.75	0.84	0.04	16.08
Lantana camara	245.00	27.50	2.23	0.08	51.22
Vitex negundo	165.00	18.75	2.20	0.12	31.22
Woodfordiafruticosa	175.00	10.00	4.38	0.44	25.96
Ziziphusnummularia	75.00	10.00	1.88	0.19	10.39
Prosopis juliflora	115.00	50.00	0.58	0.01	31.94
Martyniaannua	150.00	13.75	2.73	0.20	16.74
Total	1935.00	303.75			300.00

Table 6: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP8 and AP9 in DIZ

Herb					
Euphorbia hirta	1500.00	10.67	1.41	0.13	12.00
Adiantum caudatum	1833.33	5.00	3.67	0.34	9.45
Tephrosiapurpurea	4433.33	14.00	3.17	0.30	52.54
Tridaxprocumbens	833.33	3.33	2.50	0.23	4.93
Vernonia cinerea	1300.00	6.67	1.95	0.18	11.87
Parthenium hysterophorus	733.33	5.00	1.47	0.14	7.26
Saccharum spontaneum	700.00	4.00	1.75	0.16	13.13
Sidarhombifolia	1500.00	8.00	1.88	0.18	15.11
Cassia tora	6300.00	15.33	4.11	0.39	57.20
Hemidesmus indicus	233.33	2.00	1.17	0.11	1.97
Leucas aspera	2566.67	10.33	2.48	0.23	20.11
Ocimum sanctum	1166.67	10.00	1.17	0.11	12.24
Phyllanthus niruri	1500.00	12.00	1.25	0.12	12.33
Crotalaria prostrate	733.33	5.33	1.38	0.13	5.85
Cuscutareflexa	433.33	3.33	1.30	0.12	3.42
Cynodondactylon	1166.67	7.33	1.59	0.15	8.42
Cocciniagrandis	300.00	2.67	1.13	0.11	2.78
Commelinabenghalensis	866.67	7.33	1.18	0.11	8.36
Bidenspilosa	1800.00	10.33	1.74	0.16	16.98
Abrusprecatorius	633.33	4.67	1.36	0.13	5.57
Alternanthera sessilis	1100.00	6.33	1.74	0.16	8.72
Anisomelesindica	1233.33	6.67	1.85	0.17	9.77
Total	32866.67	160.33			300.00

Buffer zone of this transmission line Route was comprised with 19 trees, 18 shrubs and 32 herbs species. *Diospyros melanoxylon* was the dominant species co-dominated with *Butea monosperma* in tree layer, *Lantana camara* was dominated in shrub layer with the co-domination of *Xanthium indicum* whereas *Tephrosiapurpurea* and *cassia tora* were dominant and co-dominant herb species respectively. Stand density values were recorded as 99 individuals/ha, 2320 individuals/ha and 42766.67 individuals/ha for tree, shrub and herb layers respectively. **(Table 7)**

Table 7: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP8 to AP9 in BZ

Name of Species	Density/ha.	Frequency%	Abundance	A/F	IVI
Tree					
Azadirachtaindica	7.00	5.00	1.40	0.28	19.96
Lanneacoromandelica	11.00	8.00	1.38	0.17	35.65
Butea monosperma	15.00	10.00	1.50	0.15	49.45

Pongamiapinnata	3.00	3.00	1.00	0.33	9.84
Acacia Arabica	6.00	4.00	1.50	0.38	15.94
Careyaarborea	3.00	2.00	1.50	0.75	6.90
Oroxylumindicum	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.74
Albizialebbek	3.00	2.00	1.50	0.75	8.15
Terminalia sp	12.00	7.00	1.71	0.24	30.74
Diospyros melanoxylon	22.00	12.00	1.83	0.15	77.49
Holopteliaintergrifolia	3.00	3.00	1.00	0.33	9.03
Ziziphusmauritiana	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	5.31
Lagerstroemia parviflora	4.00	3.00	1.33	0.44	10.10
Acacia auriculiformis	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.73
Aegle marmelos	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.72
Anogeissuslatifolia	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	5.55
Cassia fistula	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.59
Emblica officinalis	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.57
Terminalia bellirica	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.52
Total	99.00	69.00			300.00
Shrub					
Abutilon indicum	160.00	25.00	1.60	0.06	16.33
Calotropis procera	80.00	15.00	1.33	0.09	8.74
Sidaacuta	165.00	30.00	1.38	0.05	17.27
Xanthium indicum	510.00	43.75	2.91	0.07	42.86
Clerodendruminfortunatum	210.00	37.50	1.40	0.04	24.03
Grewiahirsuta	50.00	10.00	1.25	0.13	5.93
Lantana camara	325.00	56.25	1.44	0.03	77.78
Vitex negundo	110.00	22.50	1.22	0.05	16.60
Woodfordiafruticosa	95.00	15.00	1.58	0.11	14.02
Ziziphusnummularia	95.00	13.75	1.73	0.13	13.74
Prosopis juliflora	135.00	23.75	1.42	0.06	24.32
Martyniaannua	205.00	37.50	1.37	0.04	21.71
Agave Americana	30.00	3.75	2.00	0.53	2.74
Indigoferasp	25.00	5.00	1.25	0.25	2.56
Opuntia dillenii	30.00	5.00	1.50	0.30	2.76
Ipomeacarnea	50.00	5.00	2.50	0.50	3.80
Solanum indicum	35.00	7.50	1.17	0.16	3.66
Senna alata	10.00	2.50	1.00	0.40	1.14
Total	2320.00	358.75			300.00
Herb					

Euphorbia hirta	1866.67	11.00	1.70	0.15	10.59
Adiantum caudatum	2566.67	7.67	3.35	0.30	10.67
Tephrosiapurpurea	5200.00	18.67	2.79	0.25	58.13
Tridaxprocumbens	1066.67	4.00	2.67	0.24	4.70
Vernonia cinerea	1366.67	8.33	1.64	0.15	9.30
Parthenium hysterophorus	1200.00	5.00	2.40	0.22	6.98
Saccharum spontaneum	733.33	4.00	1.83	0.17	5.71
Sidarhombifolia	1533.33	8.00	1.92	0.17	15.64
Cassia tora	6666.67	16.67	4.00	0.36	47.44
Hemidesmus indicus	266.67	2.33	1.14	0.10	1.76
Leucas aspera	2833.33	13.67	2.07	0.19	16.70
Ocimum sanctum	1266.67	10.67	1.19	0.11	11.49
Phyllanthus niruri	1533.33	11.67	1.31	0.12	11.51
Crotalaria prostrate	700.00	5.33	1.31	0.12	4.47
Cuscutareflexa	400.00	3.33	1.20	0.11	2.64
Cynodondactylon	1466.67	7.67	1.91	0.17	7.81
Cocciniagrandis	366.67	2.67	1.38	0.13	2.24
Commelinabenghalensis	966.67	6.33	1.53	0.14	5.58
Bidenspilosa	2166.67	11.00	1.97	0.18	12.72
Abrusprecatorius	800.00	5.00	1.60	0.15	4.56
Alternanthera sessilis	1300.00	6.00	2.17	0.20	7.07
Anisomelesindica	1466.67	7.33	2.00	0.18	9.28
Acanthospermumhispidum	733.33	3.67	2.00	0.18	3.76
Acmella calva	633.33	3.67	1.73	0.16	3.53
Aervalanata	466.67	3.33	1.40	0.13	2.77
Ageratum conyzoides	733.33	4.00	1.83	0.17	3.98
Chrysopogonfulvus	500.00	3.67	1.36	0.12	3.92
Commelinadiffusa	533.33	4.00	1.33	0.12	4.25
Convolvulus pluricaulis	466.67	3.67	1.27	0.12	3.31
Cyperus compactus	600.00	3.67	1.64	0.15	4.42
Echinopsechinatus	66.67	0.67	1.00	0.09	0.50
Solanum surattense	300.00	2.67	1.13	0.10	2.57
Total	42766.67	209.33			300.00

(b) Forest Route between AP9/0 and AP10/0:

Direct Impact zone from AP 9/0 to AP 10/0 comprised with 7 trees, 13 shrubs and 19 herbs species with the stand density of 21 individuals/ha, 1115 individuals/ha and 17800 individuals/ha for tree, shrub and herb species respectively. *Azadirachtaindica* and *Butea monosperma* in tree layer, *Xanthium indicum* and *Prosopis juliflora* in shrub layer and, *Cassia tora* and *Tephrosiapurpurea* were found dominated and co-dominated species respectively. **(Table 8)**

Name of Species	Density/ha.	Frequency%	Abundance	A/F	IVI
Tree					
Azadirachtaindica	5.00	3.00	1.67	0.56	71.06
Lanneacoromandelica	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	28.28
Butea monosperma	5.00	4.00	1.25	0.31	68.23
Acacia Arabica	4.00	4.00	1.00	0.25	58.38
Dlabergia sissoo	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	28.40
Albizialebbeck	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	27.80
Madhucalongifolia	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	17.84
Total	21.00	18.00			300.00
Shrub					
Abutilon indicum	90.00	15.00	1.50	0.10	18.55
Calotropis procera	60.00	8.75	1.71	0.20	11.81
Sidaacuta	110.00	17.50	1.57	0.09	24.47
Xanthium indicum	270.00	22.50	3.00	0.13	52.00
Bamboosa bamboos	5.00	1.25	1.00	0.80	2.07
Grewiahirsuta	25.00	5.00	1.25	0.25	5.82
Lantana camara	90.00	13.75	1.64	0.12	32.90
Sesbaniasesban	40.00	8.75	1.14	0.13	9.54
Woodfordiafruticosa	85.00	15.00	1.42	0.09	33.21
Ziziphusnummularia	60.00	11.25	1.33	0.12	21.38
Prosopis juliflora	100.00	21.25	1.18	0.06	48.01
Martyniaannua	110.00	11.25	2.44	0.22	24.00
Triumfettapentandra	70.00	12.50	1.40	0.11	16.24
Total	1115.00	163.75			300.00
Herb					
Euphorbia hirta	733.33	5.67	1.29	0.23	10.37
Adiantum caudatum	500.00	1.00	5.00	0.88	4.16
Tephrosiapurpurea	1466.67	10.33	1.42	0.25	41.99
Tridaxprocumbens	1300.00	3.67	3.55	0.63	14.20

Table 8: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP 9/0 to AP10/0 inDIZ

Total	17800.00	97.67			300.00
Anisomelesindica	700.00	3.00	2.33	0.41	12.97
Alternanthera sessilis	1166.67	6.67	1.75	0.31	16.61
Bidenspilosa	1333.33	7.00	1.90	0.34	19.10
Commelinabenghalensis	1100.00	6.33	1.74	0.31	15.81
Cocciniagrandis	166.67	1.67	1.00	0.18	2.85
Cynodondactylon	733.33	3.33	2.20	0.39	8.08
Crotalaria prostrata	600.00	3.33	1.80	0.32	7.14
Ocimum sanctum	633.33	5.00	1.27	0.22	13.12
Leucas aspera	1366.67	10.00	1.37	0.24	23.54
Cyperusrotundus	266.67	2.00	1.33	0.24	4.51
Cassia tora	2933.33	7.67	3.83	0.68	44.60
Sidarhombifolia	1166.67	8.00	1.46	0.26	26.15
Saccharum spontaneum	500.00	4.00	1.25	0.22	9.04
Chenopodium murale	633.33	5.00	1.27	0.22	13.12
Amaranthus viridis	500.00	4.00	1.25	0.22	12.64

Tree density with 35 individuals/ha, shrub density with 1590 individuals/ha and herb density with 18600 individuals/ha were recorded in the buffer zone of this project Route. *Butea monosperma, Xanthium indicum*and *Cassia tora* were found dominant species in tree shrub and herb layer respectively. As per the A/F ratio, most of the floral species were found contagiously distributed. **(Table 9)**

Name of Species	Density/ha.	Frequency%	Abundance	A/F	IVI
Tree					
Azadirachtaindica	7.00	4.00	1.75	0.44	61.63
Lanneacoromandelica	5.00	3.00	1.67	0.56	51.99
Butea monosperma	8.00	5.00	1.60	0.32	63.05
Acacia Arabica	6.00	4.00	1.50	0.38	41.73
Dlabergia sissoo	3.00	2.00	1.50	0.75	24.39
Albizialebbeck	3.00	2.00	1.50	0.75	30.61
Moringa oleifera	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	7.91
Tamarindusindica	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	9.28
Madhucalongifolia	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	9.41
Total	35.00	23.00			300.00
Shrub					
Abutilon indicum	95.00	15.00	1.58	0.11	13.48
Calotropis procera	205.00	22.50	2.28	0.10	26.29

Table 9: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP 9/0 to AP10/0 in BZ

Sidaacuta	115.00	17.50	1.64	0.09	16.32
Xanthium indicum	290.00	31.25	2.32	0.07	45.50
Bamboosa bamboos	5.00	1.25	1.00	0.80	4.26
Grewia hirsute	40.00	7.50	1.33	0.18	6.17
Lantana camara	125.00	12.50	2.50	0.20	31.04
Sesbaniasesban	55.00	10.00	1.38	0.14	8.41
Woodfordiafruticosa	75.00	15.00	1.25	0.08	21.97
Ziziphusnummularia	90.00	15.00	1.50	0.10	25.50
Prosopis juliflora	115.00	22.50	1.28	0.06	34.25
Martyniaannua	180.00	21.25	2.12	0.10	24.09
Clerodendruminfortunatum	25.00	5.00	1.25	0.25	4.04
Opuntia dillenii	5.00	1.25	1.00	0.80	0.90
Dendrocalamusstrictus	5.00	1.25	1.00	0.80	3.16
Vitex negundo	75.00	13.75	1.36	0.10	21.36
Triumfettapentandra	90.00	12.50	1.80	0.14	13.23
Total	1590.00	225.00			300.00
Herb					
Euphorbia hirta	800.00	5.67	1.41	0.25	11.86
Adiantum caudatum	733.33	4.00	1.83	0.32	8.26
Tephrosiapurpurea	1533.33	8.33	1.84	0.32	39.56
Tridaxprocumbens	1500.00	8.33	1.80	0.32	19.87
Amaranthus viridis	700.00	4.00	1.75	0.31	13.18
Chenopodium murale	866.67	6.67	1.30	0.23	16.06
Hemidesmus indicus	166.67	1.33	1.25	0.22	2.25
Andrographis paniculata	100.00	0.67	1.50	0.26	1.18
Artemisia vulgaris	266.67	1.67	1.60	0.28	3.46
Saccharum spontaneum	633.33	4.67	1.36	0.24	11.76
Sidarhombifolia	1100.00	8.00	1.38	0.24	18.77
Cassia tora	1833.33	12.00	1.53	0.27	42.47
Cyperusrotundus	333.33	1.00	3.33	0.59	3.77
Leucas aspera	1833.33	10.33	1.77	0.31	26.35
Conyzaleucantha	400.00	2.67	1.50	0.26	5.12
Dimeriaornithopoda	600.00	2.00	3.00	0.53	6.60
Ocimum sanctum	733.33	6.33	1.16	0.20	15.23
Crotalaria prostrate	333.33	2.33	1.43	0.25	5.54
Cynodondactylon	466.67	1.33	3.50	0.62	4.43
Argemone maxicana	66.67	0.67	1.00	0.18	1.00
Commelinabenghalensis	500.00	2.00	2.50	0.44	6.48
Bidenspilosa	1133.33	4.00	2.83	0.50	11.35

Alternanthera sessilis	1033.33	3.67	2.82	0.50	10.91
Anisomelesindica	933.33	4.67	2.00	0.35	14.53
Total	18600.00	106.33			300.00

(c) Forest Route between AP26A/0 and AP28/5:

A very low tree density (7 individuals/ha) was recorded in this study Route (along proposed transmission line). Shrub density was recorded as 895 individuals/ha and herbaceous density was found as 6333.33 individuals/ha. *Diospyros melanoxylon, Lantana camara* and *Cassia tora* were the dominant tree, shrub and herb species respectively with highest values of IVI. Contagious distribution of species has been seen in most of the species in all the layers.**(Table 10)**

Name of Species	Density/ha.	Frequency%	Abundance	A/F	IVI
Tree					
Azadirachtaindica	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	43.19
Acacia Arabica	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	90.57
Diospyros melanoxylon	4.00	3.00	1.33	0.44	166.23
Total	7.00	6.00			300.00
Shrub					
Indigoferasp	60.00	12.50	1.20	0.10	22.87
Calotropis procera	70.00	7.50	2.33	0.31	15.20
Senna alata	20.00	3.75	1.33	0.36	6.27
Xanthium indicum	275.00	17.50	3.93	0.22	54.13
Clerodendruminfortunatum	90.00	13.75	1.64	0.12	25.57
Solanum indicum	35.00	6.25	1.40	0.22	10.14
Lantana camara	175.00	28.75	1.52	0.05	109.28
Woodfordiafruticosa	75.00	11.25	1.67	0.15	31.24
Prosopis juliflora	20.00	2.50	2.00	0.80	9.41
Martyniaannua	75.00	7.50	2.50	0.33	15.88
Total	895.00	111.25			300.00
Herb					
Euphorbia hirta	400.00	3.33	1.20	0.36	17.35
Tephrosiapurpurea	533.33	3.67	1.45	0.44	39.35
Tridaxprocumbens	400.00	3.33	1.20	0.36	18.08
Parthenium hysterophorus	433.33	3.33	1.30	0.39	19.55
Selaginellabryopteris	633.33	4.00	1.58	0.48	35.18
Cassia tora	1966.67	5.33	3.69	1.11	67.04
Leucas aspera	733.33	4.67	1.57	0.47	55.80

Table 10: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP26A/0 to AP28/5 in DIZ

Ocimum sanctum	133.33	0.67	2.00	0.60	6.52
Cynodondactylon	166.67	0.67	2.50	0.75	6.15
Sonchus asper	200.00	1.00	2.00	0.60	8.20
Bidenspilosa	200.00	0.67	3.00	0.90	6.24
Abrusprecatorius	66.67	0.33	2.00	0.60	2.33
Alternanthera sessilis	100.00	0.67	1.50	0.45	4.10
Anisomelesindica	366.67	1.33	2.75	0.83	14.09
Total	6333.33	33.00			300.00

Buffer zone of the Route was dominated with scrub forests having least density values for trees (8 tree/ha), 1220 individuals/ha for shrubs and 8366.67 individuals/ha for herbs. **(Table 11)**

Table 11: Phyto-sociological characters of plant community between AP26A/0 to AP28/5 in BZ

Name of Species	Density/ha.	Frequency%	Abundance	A/F	IVI
Tree					
Azadirachtaindica	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	41.41
Acacia Arabica	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50	87.00
Diospyros melanoxylon	5.00	3.00	1.67	0.56	171.59
Cassia fistula	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	40.32
Total	8.00	6.00			300.00
Shrub					
Indigoferasp	75.00	13.75	1.36	0.10	17.24
Calotropis procera	95.00	8.75	2.71	0.31	14.09
Senna alata	50.00	7.50	1.67	0.22	9.46
Xanthium indicum	345.00	25.00	3.45	0.14	52.67
Clerodendruminfortunatum	105.00	18.75	1.40	0.07	24.00
Ipomeacarnea	45.00	8.75	1.29	0.15	10.26
Solanum indicum	30.00	5.00	1.50	0.30	6.30
Lantana camara	225.00	25.00	2.25	0.09	102.66
Woodfordiafruticosa	100.00	13.75	1.82	0.13	30.42
Ziziphusnummularia	30.00	5.00	1.50	0.30	6.44
Prosopis juliflora	25.00	3.75	1.67	0.44	11.01
Martyniaannua	95.00	10.00	2.38	0.24	15.46
Total	1220.00	145.00			300.00
Herb					
Euphorbia hirta	466.67	3.00	1.56	0.52	13.57
Echinopsechinatus	133.33	1.00	1.33	0.44	4.17
Tephrosiapurpurea	666.67	3.33	2.00	0.67	34.05
Tridaxprocumbens	833.33	4.67	1.79	0.60	34.45
Parthenium hysterophorus	633.33	3.00	2.11	0.70	19.16

Total	8366.67	43.67			300.00
Anisomelesindica	200.00	1.33	1.50	0.50	7.98
Alternanthera sessilis	200.00	1.33	1.50	0.50	5.73
Abrusprecatorius	200.00	1.00	2.00	0.67	5.02
Bidenspilosa	166.67	1.00	1.67	0.56	4.47
Sonchus asper	300.00	1.33	2.25	0.75	8.09
Acanthospermumhispidum	33.33	0.33	1.00	0.33	1.18
Cynodondactylon	266.67	1.67	1.60	0.53	8.13
Ocimum sanctum	166.67	1.67	1.00	0.33	8.66
Leucas aspera	1100.00	6.00	1.83	0.61	43.71
Cassia tora	2200.00	6.67	3.30	1.10	67.23
Selaginellabryopteris	666.67	5.33	1.25	0.42	30.33
Arundo donax	133.33	1.00	1.33	0.44	4.07

4.1.3 Species diversity

(a) Forest Route between AP8 and AP9: Shannon Diversity values were found higher in buffer zone for all the vegetation layers. These values were ranged from 2.13 (tree layer in direct impact zone to 3.09 (herb layer in buffer zone).

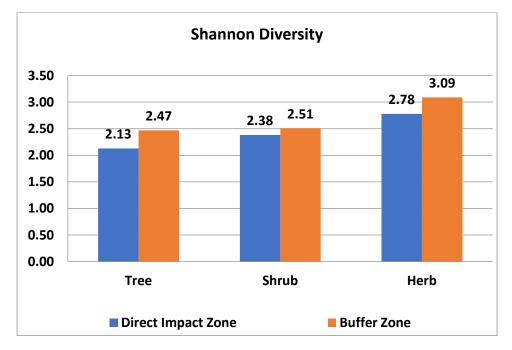


Figure 21: Shannon Diversity for floral species in DIZ and BZ between AP8 to AP9

(b) Forest Route between AP9 and AP10: Higher diversity values were recorded in buffer zone of forest Route as compare to direct impact zone. Highest diversity was recorded in herb layer followed by shrub and tree layer.

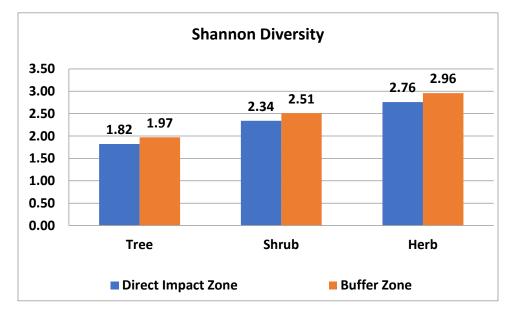


Figure 22: Shannon Diversity for floral species in DIZ and BZ between AP9 to AP10

(c) Forest Route between AP26A/0 and AP28/5: Very low diversity values were observed in tree layer (0.96 in DIZ and 1.15 in BZ) in this Route. Diversity values were found higher in buffer zone for all three vegetation layers.

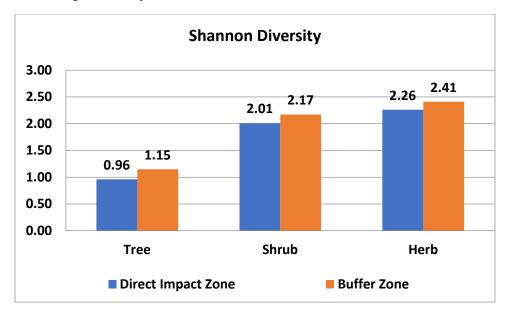


Figure 23: Shannon Diversity for floral species in DIZ and BZ between AP26A/0 to AP28/5

4.2 Results of fauna surveys

Kaimur WLS falls in Deccan Peninsula: Central Highlands bio-geographic reason (6B) of India **(Menon, 2014).** There are very limited studies on faunal elements of Kaimur WLS available. Wildlife Management Plan of WLS reports 35 species of mammals, 221 species of birds, 25 species of reptiles, 06 species of Amphibians, 21 species of fish and 32 species of invertebrates. There are 17 key wildlife areas were reported within the WLS described below:

Range	Block	Remarks
Robertsganj	Robertsganj	Black buck valley
Robertsganj	Rajpur	Amdah fall, Eco valley
Halia	Halia	Chinkara
Halia	Harra	Cheetal and Sloth Bear
Halia	Matwar	Black Buck
Halia	Kushera	Black Buck
Halia	Padari	Sloth Bear, Black Buck
Ghorawal	Persauna	Sambar Deer
Ghorawal	Tenduhar	Sambar Deer
Ghorawal	Semara	Sambar Deer
Ghorawal	ImliPokhar	Sambar Deer
Ghorawal	Murtia	Sambar Deer
Ghorawal	Kanhari	Sambar Deer
Gurma	Kargara	Salkhan Tree Fossils
Gurma	Kanhaura	Dense Forest
Gurma	Kanach	Dense Forest
Gurma	Patwadh	Sambar Deer

Table 12: Key wildlife areas present within WLS

4.2.1 Mammals

A wide variety of fauna inhabits the forested areas in Kaimur WLS due to its forest cover and diversity. During the Biodiversity survey, a transact walk has been organized to explore the presence of mammals. Fecal dropping, foot prints, claw marks, voice and trophies along with direct sighting were recorded during transect walks. Faunal distribution and their occurrence were also confirmed by looking at specific plots of 20x20m, every 400m along the transect running parallel to the Transmission line. Within each plot, observations on visual observation of wildlife signs (rooting, feeding, resting, fecal droppings, foot prints, or wildlife sounds) were recorded. Also, during public consultation meetings, additional information on wildlife presence was also discussed.

Source: Wildlife Management Plan, Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary

From a total of 20 plots, wildlife signs were found in 6 plots. Species signs that were observed during mammal surveys include those of Sambar Deer (footprints), Indian hare (scat/dung), Wild Pigs (digging signs), Northern Plain Langoor (direct sighting) and Rhesus Macaque (direct sighting). The presence of Barking deer, Blue bull, Indian fox, Porcupine, Spotted deer, Civet, Mongoose and House mouse has been confirmed in people consultation and discussion.

Based on the forest type and higher level of disturbance along project Route, the rarer and more elusive species like Sloth Bears, Indian Gazelle, Black buck, Grey wolf, Honey Badger, and Indian Pangolin are not expected along the project zone. Moreover, there is no prominent wildlife habitat, breeding and lekking site, and forage area present within project Route. List of present/expected wildlife in the project area is represented in **Table 13**.

			WPA	CS	
Scientific Name	Order	Family	(S)	(IUCN)	Source
					PS,
Vulpes bengalensis	Carnivora	Canidae	II	LC	SS,
					SMP
Boselaphustragoca	Artiodactvla	Bovidae	IV	LC	PS,
melus					SS,
- ·					PS,
Suncusmurinus	Soricomorpha	Soricidae	NL	LC	SS,
					SMP
					PS,
Lepus nigricollis	Lagomorpha	Leporidae	IV	LC	SS,
					SMP
Funambuluspennant	Dedentie	Caiumidaa	N7		PS,
ii	Rodentia	Sciuridae	IV	LC	SS, SMP
Hystrixindica	Podontia	Hystricidae	N/		PS, SS,
Tysutxinuica	Rouenila	Tystricidae	IV		SS, SMP
					PS,
Macaca mulatta	Primates	Cercopithec	п		SS,
macaca malalla	Thinates	idae		LO	SMP
					PS,
Muntiacusmuntiak	Artiodactvla	Cervidae	- 111	IC	SS,
mannaouomungun		00111000			SMP
	Vulpes bengalensis Boselaphustragoca melus Suncusmurinus Lepus nigricollis Funambuluspennant	Vulpes bengalensisCarnivoraBoselaphustragoca melusArtiodactylaSuncusmurinusSoricomorphaLepus nigricollisLagomorphaFunambuluspennant iiRodentiaHystrixindicaRodentiaMacaca mulattaPrimates	Vulpes bengalensisCarnivoraCanidaeBoselaphustragoca melusArtiodactylaBovidaeSuncusmurinusSoricomorphaSoricidaeLepus nigricollisLagomorphaLeporidaeFunambuluspennant iiRodentiaSciuridaeHystrixindicaRodentiaHystricidaeMacaca mulattaPrimatesCercopithec idae	Scientific NameOrderFamily(S)Vulpes bengalensisCarnivoraCanidaeIIBoselaphustragoca melusArtiodactylaBovidaeIVSuncusmurinusSoricomorphaSoricidaeNLLepus nigricollisLagomorphaLeporidaeIVFunambuluspennant iiRodentiaSciuridaeIVMacaca mulattaPrimatesCercopithec idaeII	Scientific NameOrderFamily(S)(IUCN)Vulpes bengalensisCarnivoraCanidaeIILCBoselaphustragoca melusArtiodactylaBovidaeIVLCSuncusmurinusSoricomorphaSoricidaeNLLCLepus nigricollisLagomorphaLeporidaeIVLCFunambuluspennant iiRodentiaSciuridaeIVLCMacaca mulattaPrimatesCercopithec idaeIILC

Table 13: List of wildlife in the project area and Kaimur WLS

						<u> </u>
Spotted Deer	Axis	Artiodactyla	Cervidae	111	LC	PS, SS, SMP
Wild Boar	Sus scrofa	Artiodactyla	Suidae	111	LC	PS, SS, SMP
Northern Plain Langoor	Semnopithecus entellus	Primates	Cercopithec idae	II	LC	PS, SS, SMP
Sambar	Rusa unicolor	Artiodactyla	Cervidae		VU	SS, SMP
Indian Gazelle	Gazellabennettii*	Artiodactyla	Bovidae	I	LC	SMP
Blackbuck	Antilope cervicapra*	Artiodactyla	Bovidae	I	NT	SMP
Jungle Cat	Felischaus	Carnivora	Felidae	II	LR	PS, SS, SMP
Common Palm Civet	Paradoxurus hermaphroditus	Carnivora	Viverridae	II	LR	PS, SS, SMP
Small Indian Civet	Viverriculaindica	Carnivora	Viverridae	II	LC	PS, SS, SMP
Grey Mongoose	Herpestesedwardsii	Carnivora	Herpestidae	II	LC	PS, SS, SMP
Stripped Hyaena	Hyaena	Carnivora	Hyaenidae	III	NT	SS, SMP
Grey Wolf	Canis lupus*	Carnivora	Canidae	I	LC	SS, SMP
Golden Jackal	Canis aureus	Carnivora	Canidae	Π	LC	SS, SMP
Sloth Bear	Melursus ursinus*	Carnivora	Ursidae	Ι	VU	SS, SMP
Honey Budger	Mellivoracapensis*	Carnivora	Mustelidae	Ι	LR	SS, SMP
Indian Pangolin	Manis crassicaudata*	Pholidota	Manidae	I	NT	SS, SMP

House mouse	Mus musculus	Rodentia	Muridae	V	LC	PS, SS, SMP
Field Mouse	Mus booduga	Rodentia	Muridae	V	LC	SS
	Bandicotabengalensi s	Rodentia	Muridae	V	LC	SS, SMP
Black Rat	Rattus	Rodentia	Muridae	V	LC	PS, SS, SMP
Tomb Bat	Taphozousnudiventri s	Chiroptera	Emballonuri dae	UN	LC	PS, SS, SMP

WPA (S)- Schedule as per Wildlife Protection Act-1972, CS (IUCN)- Conservation Status as per IUCN, PS- Primary Survey, SS-Secondary Source, SMP-Sanctuary Management Plan, 2001-2010, LC- Least Concern, NT- Near Threatened, LR- Lower Risk, VU-Vulnerable, *High conservation value mammals

4.2.2 Results of avi-fauna surveys

A total of 117 species of birds have been recorded/reported in and around the Project site as per all available secondary sources. These are presented in the **Table 14.** From these the Indian Peafowl (*Pavocristatus*), and Indian Vulture (*Gyps indicus*) are listed in Schedule-I category of Indian Wildlife Protection Act-1972. Out of these two species, a female of Peafowl (*Pavocristatus*) were spotted by us once during the field survey.

Avifauna was sampled on the same trails (100m wide transect) used in mammalian survey. In addition, important bird areas (ponds, riversides and agricultural areas) were also visited to capture bird species. A prismatic field binocular (Nikon ACULON A211 10x50) was used for the bird watching during survey walk. 06 to 09 AM hrs has been used for bird survey during this study. Most of the birds have been identified in the field by using the field guide. A total of fifty-eight Bird species were spotted by us during this study.

Most of the species that are found in the project site fall in the "Least Concern" category of IUCN. Commonly spotted bird species during field survey were Common Pigeon, Egret, House Crow, Rufous Treepie, Green Bee-eater, House Sparrow, Baya Weaver, Black Drongo, Brahmini Starling, Indian Pond Heron, Indian Roller, Laughing Dove, Spotted Dove, Red-wattled Lapwing, Rose-ringed Parakeet, Red-vented Bulbul, Sparrow Lark and Common Hoopoe.

Name	Scientific name	Status	CS (IUCN)	Source
Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Common lora	Aegithina tiphia	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Oriental Skylark	Alauda gulgula	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Brown Crake	Amaurornis akool	Resident	LC	Primary Study
White-breasted Waterhen	Amaurornis phoenicurus	Resident	LC	Primary Study MP-Kaimur WLS
Common Teal	Anas crecca	Widespread winter visitor	LC	Primary Study
Asian Open bill	Anastomus oscitans	Widespread resident in plains	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Darter	Anhinga melanogaster	Widespread resident	NT	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Oriental pied Hornbill	Anthracoceros albirostris	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Paddyfiled Pipit	Anthus rufulus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Little Swift	Apus affinis	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Bonelli's Eagle	Aquila fasciata	widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax	Widespread resident	VU	Grimmett et al, 2011
Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea	Resident and winter visitor	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Indian Pond Heron	Ardeola grayii	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Spotted Owlet	Athene brama	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Indian Eagle Owl	Bubo (bubo) bengalensis	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011

Table 14: List of avifauna recorded/reported from study area as per secondary sources

Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
White-eyed Buzzard	Butastur teesa	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Striated Heron	Butorides striata	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Little Stint	Calidris minuta	Widespread winter visitor	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Temminck's Stint	Calidris temminckii	Widespread winter visitor	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Savanna Nightjar	Caprimuglus affinis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Indian Nightjar	Caprimuglus asiaticus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Great Egret	Casmerodius albus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps indica	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Little Ringed Plover	Charadrius dubius	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Yellow-eyed Babbler	Chrysomma sinense	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Woolly-necked Storck	Ciconia episcopus	Widespread resident	VU	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Purple Sunbird	Cinnyris asiaticus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Short-toed Snake Eagle	Circaetus gallicus	Widespread winter visitor	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Pallied Harrier	Circus macrourus	Widespread winter visitor	NT	Grimmett et al, 2011
Jacobin Cuckoo	Clamator jacobinus	Widespread resident and partial migrant	LC	Primary Study
Common Pigeon	Columba livia	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Oriental Magpie Robin	Copsychus saularis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Large Cuckooshrike	Coracina macei	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
House Crow	Corvus splendens	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
King Quail	Conturnix chinensis	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Asian Palm	Cypsiurus	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al,

Swift	balasiensis			2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Rufous Treepie	Dendrocitta vagabunda	Widespread resident		Primary Study
Yellow- crowned Woodpecker	Dendrocopos mahrattensis	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	Dendrocopos nanus	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
White-bellied Drongo	Dicrurus caerulescens	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Black Drongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Lesser Goldenback	Dinopium benghalense	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Black-winged kite	Elanus caeruleus	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark	Eremopterix griseus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Asian Koel	Eudynamys scolopaceus	Mainly resident Widespread	LC	Primary Study
Indian Silverbill	Euodice malabarica	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Grey Francolin	Francolinus pondicerianus	Widespread resident in lowlands and low hills	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Asian Pied Starling	Gracupica contra	Resident	LC	Primary study
Common Crane	Grus grus	Winter visitor	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Indian Roller	Coracias benghalensis	Resident	LC	Primary Study
Indian Vulture*	Gyps indicus	Resident	CR	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Brahminy kite	Haliastur indus	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS

Common Hawk Cuckoo	Hierococcyx varius	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Brown Fish Owl	Ketupa zeylonensis	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Long-tailed Shrike	Lanius schach	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Bay-backed Shrike	Lanius vittatus	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Lesser Adjutant	Leptoptilos javanicus	Widespread resident in lowlands	VU	Grimmett et al, 2011
Scaly-breasted Munia	Lonchura punctulata	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Coppersmith Barbet	Megalaima haemacephala	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Brown-headed Barbet	Megalaima zeylanica	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Green Bee- eater	Merops orientalis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Intermediate Egret	Mesophoyx intermadia	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
White- browed Wagtail	Motacilla maderaspatensis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava	Widespread in winter	LC	Primary Study
Black kite	Milvus migrans	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Indian Bushlark	Mirafra erythroptera	Resident	LC	Primary Study
Painted Stork	Mycteria leucocephala	Widespread resident in Plains	NT	Grimmett et al, 2011
Egyptian Vulture	Neophron percnopterus	Resident	EN	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Brown Hawak Owl	Ninox scutulata	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	Visitor	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011

				MP-Kaimur WLS
Indian Grey Hornbill*	Ocyceros birostris	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Black-hooded Oriole	Oriolus xanthornus	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Common Tailorbird	Orthotomus sutorius	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Indian Peafowl*	Pavo cristatus	Resident	LC	Primary Study
Stock-billed Kinggisher	Pelargopsis capensis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Oriental Honey-buzzard	Pernis ptilorhynchus	Visitor to coastal waters	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Little Cormorant	Phalacrocorax niger	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011, MP-Kaimur WLS
Red Phalarope	Phalaropus fulicarius	India and Pakistan	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Baya Weaver	Ploceus philippinus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Grey-breasted prinia	Prinia hodgsonii	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Plain Prinia	Prinia inornata	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Jungle prinia	Prinia sylvatica	Widespread in lowlands	LC	Primary Study
Red- naped lbis	Pseudibis papillosa	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Rose-ringed Parakeet	Psittacula krameri	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Plum-headed Parakeet	Psittacula cyanocephala	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Red-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus cafer	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
White-browed Fantail	Rhipidura aureola	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Plain Martin	Riparia paludicola	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al,

				2011
Pied Bushchat	Saxicola caprata	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Indian Robin	Saxicoloides fulicatus	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Indian Nuthatch	Sitta castanea	Resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Crested Serpent Eagle	Spilornis cheela	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
River Tern	Sterna aurantia	Widespread resident	NT	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Spotted Dove	Stigmatopelia chinensis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Laughing Dove	Stigmatopelia Senegalensis	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Oriental Turtle Dove	Streptopelia orientalis	Resident and winter visitor	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Brahminy Starling	Sturnia Pagodarum	Widespread resident	LC	Primary Study
Sirkeer Malkoha	Taccocua Ieschenaultii	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Common Woodshrike	Tephrodornis pondicerianus	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	Treron phoenicopterus	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011
Jungle Babbler	Turdoides striata	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Common Hoopoe	Upupa epops	Summer visitor and resident	LC	Primary Study
Red-wattled Lapwing	Vanellus indicus	winters in NW subcontinent	LC	Primary Study
Oriental White- eye	Zosterops Palpebrosus	Widespread resident	LC	Grimmett et al, 2011

LC- Least Concern, MP-Kaimur WLS – Management Plan, Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, NT- Near Threatened, CR-Critically Endangered, EN-Endangered, VU-Vulnerable

4.2.3 Reptiles, Insects and Amphibians

Reptiles have been surveyed with *Walkabout Search* survey method. This involves walking through likely habitat areas focusing attention upon local hotspots that reptiles might use to warm up. Stony areas with crevices e.g. dry-stone walls, cliffs, rocky outcrops, densier vegetation or woodland Edge of woodland/scrub patches and grassy areas, compost heaps, log piles, cut grass etc. were used to spot the reptiles. During the field surveys, snakes such as Rat snake (*Ptyasmucosus*) and Buff stripped Keelback (*Amphiesmastolatum*) were recorded from the Kaimur WLS. Garden Lizard (*Calotes versicolor*) and the Yellow Belly Gekko (*Hemidactylus flaviviridis*) were also spotted during field survey. The presence of Indian Monitor (*Varanus bengalensis*) was also confirmed during people consultation. 10 species of reptiles were recorded from the study area during these studies that are listed below in **Table 15**.

			CS	Source
SI. No.	Name	Scientific Name	(IUCN)	
1	House Gekko	Hemidactylus brookii	LC	Primary Study
2	Blood Sucker	Calotes versicolor	LRnt/N	Primary Study
3	Common or Brahminy Skink	Mabuya carinata	LC	SC
4	Indian Monitor*	Varanus bengalensis	LC	SC
5	Buff stripped Keelback	Amphiesma stolatum	NE	Primary Study
6	Cheekered keel back	Xenochrophis piscator	NE	MP-Kaimur WLS, SC
7	Rat Snake	Ptyas mucosus	NE	Primary Study
8	Russell's Viper	Vipera russelli	NE	MP-Kaimur WLS, SC

Table 15: Reptiles	recorded/reported	from study area
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SC- Stakeholder Consultation, LC-Least Concern, LRnt/N- lower Risk Near Threatened, NE-Not Evaluated

Butterfly survey has been done through fixed-route walk (Pollard Walk). The routes have been fixed prior to walk and butterflies have been recorded in a fixed width band (typically 5m wide) along the Route during second half of October. Transect walks were undertaken between 10.45am and 3.45pm and only when weather conditions are suitable for butterfly activity. During present survey, a total of 12 species of butterfly has been recorded. Some common recorded species were Grass Yellow, Plain Tiger, Lemon Pansy, Blue Moon and Danaid Eggfly. **(Table 16.)**

Name	Scientific Name
Common Albatross	Appias albino
Small cupid	Chiladesparrhasius
Plain Tiger	Danaus chrysippus
Common tiger	Danaus genutia
Common Jay	Graphiumdoson
Yellow pansy	Junoniahierta
Lemon Pansy	Junonialemonius
Common Mormon	Papiliopolytus
Common Leopard	Phalanta
Small Grass yellow	Euremabrigitta
Blue Moon	Hypolimnasbolina
Danaid Eggfly	Hypolimnasmisippus

Table 16: Butterfly recorded from study area

Amphibians have been recorded near ponds. Although management plan of Kaimur WLS confirmed the presence of 6 amphibian species within WLS but only Skipper frog or Indian Skittering Frog (*Euphlyctiscyanophlyctis*) has been spotted during present primary survey.

4.3 Results of aquatic sampling

Both lentic and lotic water bodies are present within the project zone. Son and Ghagar rivers are the perenial lotic water bodies whereas there are some seasonal lentic water bodies in the form of ponds also present. In order to assess the aquatic biodiversity and to understand the impact of present project, the samples were taken from the various points both right and left bank of river Son and the river Ghagar (a left side tributary of the river Son).

4.3.1 Sampling Rationale for Aquatic Biodiversity

In order to understand the aquatic ecosystems, the abiotic components of physical (temperature, substrate type, width, depth, and transparency), and chemical nature (pH, conductivity etc.) were recorded. Under biological components, bottom dwelling benthos, plankton (both zoo and phyto), and nectones (Fish) were sampled. The phytoplanktons were abundant in the lowland area of the river and they are opted to represent the autotrophs. In case of the heterotrophs, the benthic macroinvertebrates with high indicator value were considered suitable. Fish is important to ecosystem for the same functions. Fish is a cheap source of high-quality animal protein and hence as nutritional food. A qualitative study of these indicator groups provide the knowledge of aquatic flora and fauna while quantitative studies help to understand

the community features such as taxonomic composition, abundances and assemblages which vary with the physical and chemical attributes of the ecosystem.

Sampling for Plankton Communities (Phytoplankton and Zooplankton): Planktons were sampled by sieving 100 litres of water through plankton net mesh size (45 µ). The sieved samples were preserved in 4% formalin for microscopic study. Identifications has completed with the help of standard keys (Edmondson 1959; Prasad & Mishra 1992,Krammer and Lange-Bertalot 1999; 2004; Lange Bertalot 2001, Jaiswal & Tiwari 2003).

Benthos (Phytobenthos): The phytobenthos were collected by scraping 3 x 3 cm surface area of submerged algal substrate. Temporary mounts were prepared from the preserved samples and then examined under x400 magnification to record the algal (green, blue green etc) flora. However, to record the diatom flora, permanent Naphrax mounts prepared after treating the samples in acid-peroxide, and then examined at x1500. Literature cited above was used to identify the diatoms.

Zoobenthos (Benthic Invertebrates): The macroinvertebrate fauna was sampled carefully. Soft substratum in the form of clay and silt was sampled with test sieve (mesh size 0.05 mm). Samples were preserved in 5% formalin for laboratory analysis. Macroinvertebrate samples were identified up to species level with help of standard keys (Edmondson 1959; Edington &Hildrew 1995).

Nekton (Fish): Fish samples have been collected by experimental fishing through cast net and gill net and through local fishermen. The samples were preserved in 10% formalin for species identification with the help of standard keys (Day 1958; Talwar & Jhingran1991; Jayaram 2002).

4.3.2 Physio-chemical profile of aquatic ecosystem:

The physio-chemical parameters are studied in the river Son & Ghagar (Table 17).

Parameters	Son river	Ghagar River (right side tributary of the Son river
Date/Time	21.10.2019/12:15 pm	22.10.2019/9:50 am
AT (°C)	29.5	24.8
WT (°C)	32.3	28.5
Current velocity (ms ⁻¹)	0.3	0.2
рН	7.00	7.13
DO (mgl ⁻¹)	8.0	7.2
Conductivity (mho/cm)	0.911	0.883
Transparency (m)	0.4	0.5
Alkalinity (mgl ⁻¹)	350	300
Width of river (m)	200 m	50 (approx.)

Table 17: Physico-chemical characteristics of sampling site

Habitat Type	Riffles & Runs	Riffles & Pools
Land-use	Forest type at left bank and agriculture & village at right bank	Forest canopy
Substrate composition	Coarse sand & silt	Cobble/pebbles/silt/clay

4.3.3 Biological profile of aquatic ecosystem:

Phytoplankton: In primary study, a total of 13 phytoplankton genera were recorded from the river Son and Ghagar belonging to 3 classes; Bacillariophyceae, Chlorophyceae and Cyanophyceae. Among 13 genera, 5 were common in both Son and Ghagar while 3 were restricted to Son and 5 to Ghagar river. **(Table 18)**

Phytoplankton	Таха	Son	Ghagar
Bacillariophyceae	Synedra sp.	+	+
	Cymbella sp.	+	+
	Cyclotella sp.		+
	Navicula sp.	+	+
	Fragilaria sp.		+
Chlorophyceae	Ulothrix sp.	+	+
	Closterium	+	+
	Hydrodictyon	+	
	Spirogyra sp.		+
	Pediastrum	+	
	Stigeoclonium		+
Cyanophyceae	Lyngbyasp.	+	
	Spirulina sp.		+

Table 18: Distribution of phytoplankton taxa in the Sone and Gagar river

Zooplankton: The zooplankton community was mainly compraised of Protozoans and rotifers in both water bodies.

Benthos

Phytobenthos: A total of 6 phytobenthos genera were recorded from study area belonging to class Bacillariophyceae. These genera were *Achnanthessp.,Gomphonemasp.,Naviculasp., Cymbellasp. Synedra* sp. and *Caloneissp.*

Zoobenthos: The zoobenthos community was mainly dominated by phylum mollusc followed by arthropoda (dipterans). Among the mollusca, pelecypoda were most dominant class followed by gastropoda. Total 6 species viz *Parreysiaandersoniana*, *Parreysiacaerulea*, *Corbicula striatella*, *Lamellidenscorrianus*, *Lamellidansmarginali*, *Radiatulagaudichaudi*were recorded in

the species for pelecypoda, however, *Lymnaeaaccuminata*, *Thiarascabra*, *Pila globosa*were common genera found in the study area of river Son and Gagar.

Nectons (Fish): Total 10 species viz. *Labeorohita, Puntius sophore, Puntius chola, Bagarius, Clupisomagaura, Rita, Wallago attu, Mystustengara, Catla and Cyprinus carpio* were recorded form Son river in 2 km up and downstream near P7/1. However, from the secondary information **Joshi et al (2014)** reported 89 species belonging to 10 orders and 25 families in the Son river at 4 sampling points between Uttar Pradesh and Bihar stretch.

5 IDENTIFICATION, EVALUATION AND MITIGATION OF IMPACTS

5.1 Identification of impact

The degree of impact of the proposed transmission line (400 KV D/C JaunpurObra) on biodiversity of Kaimur WLS is determined by the following factors:

- (i) The degree of disturbance that already exists in the project site;
- (ii) The uniqueness of the resources or protected nature of the habitat/forest/landscape;
- (iii) The threat of future disturbance or considering how this project will affect land use in the future;
- (iv) Duration of the impact or activity. Long term impacts exist as long as the Transmission line is in place, while temporary impacts occur only during preconstruction and construction phases or at infrequent intervals during operation phase (in case of accidents or repair or RoW maintenance)

Existing Impacts in the study area

- Habitat degradation on account of grazing by cattle; regeneration adversely affected
- Inter and Intra-species competition for forage
- Increased weed population and lack of regeneration
- Trampling by cattle increases soil erosion and poor aeration of soil; poor growth of vegetation
- Extraction of fuel wood by cutting pole crops and new regeneration: Hampers regeneration
- Long hot summer; scarcity of water
- Fragmentation of Habitat; Large number of habitations inside the forest, agriculture land and other anthropogenic pressure; not providing time to recovery of forest
- 4 Transmission projects of different voltage rating is existing which has led to disturbance in sanctuary.

5.2 Impacts on terrestrial biodiversity

5.2.1 During Pre-Construction Phase

Mobilization of Construction Equipment and Materials: The construction of the Transmission Line (TL) within Sanctuary area require movement of construction materials and tower parts at pre-marked locations. The material will be delivered through existing roads and

forest approach roads.For transportation at the site where there are no existing paths/roads for movement of vehicles, head loading shall be done eliminating the need of any vehicle. Thus, the impacts of mobilization of construction equipment are marginal since large numbers of heavy vehicles and machines shall not be deployed compared to any other mega project.

Influx of Project Staff and Contract workers: It is estimated that each gang comprising of small size groups (<20) of workers will be hired/deputed during the pre-construction and construction stage. This include contractors and their regular staff plus migrant workers. It must be ensured that that no activity is carried out after sunset within the sanctuary area.

5.2.2 During construction phase

Loss of forest cover and habitat for wildlife: There will be little impact due to TL as there is not much of forest coverand food/prey for wildlife. For 400 kV transmission line maximum width of RoW is 46 m. A 8.84 meter of ground clearance is required for 400kV Transmission Line. The total area of transmission line passing through the wildlife sanctuary is 55.44 ha (12.054 Km X 46 m) and this amount is about 0.11% of the total area of the Kaimur WLS. A total of 592 trees (including bamboo clumps) are present in the proposed corridor, out of which only 312 are proposed to be felled in present project. Tree cutting and vegetative ground clearance may affect local biodiversity in following ways:

- a) Loss of Economically and ecologically significant floral species
- b) Loss of bird and wildlife habitats (nests, danes, lekking and bathing areas)
- c) Loss of food and forage availability for faunal species
- d) Loss of drinking zones falling in transmission Route

The removal of trees and other vegetation along the RoW of the transmission line will not have much ecological impacts as it will impact very little forest habitat and species that are living in these areas.

There is a high diversity of birds in the area as discussed in the baseline chapter. Like many other hornbills (e.g., Oriental pied Hornbill) is a large canopy-dwelling bird depend greatly on mature, large trees for feeding and nesting, as well as large expanses of forest. Pea fowls need specific sites for lekking and dust bath, and largely depend on Ziziphus berries for food in scrub forests. Indian vulture breeds mainly on cliffs and also breeds on high human-made structure.

Birds are good indicators of the health of forests. The cutting of trees can have some effect on the species' abundance (wildlife, birds and insects). The forest cover along the alignment is

quite scanty and tree density is not very high (the highest tree density was 10 per 100m²). Thus, as stated in para above, total number of adult trees that will be felled along the 12.054 km TL is 312 trees¹.

The net impacts of the Project on forest cover is not significant. However, mitigation measures will compensate not only for loss of trees (and forest cover) but also include measure for collection of information so that specific conservation measures, if any may be implemented.

5.2.3 During Operation Phase

Operations and maintenance of the RoW will not incur major ecological impacts as there will no new towers to be erected. Maintenance works will be very small in scale and infrequent and involves few changes to the existing situation. The practice of allowing some re-growth of vegetation along the RoW will also have ecological benefits as it will allow plants and animals to Re-colonize. Because the forest canopy is now open in these areas the species will be different from those that were originally present, which may be seen as a further gain as this will increase the diversity of habitats.

Electrocution of raptors and other large birds: The impact of electrocution of birds depends on the electro technical design of a pylon and the natural features surrounding it. The net impact of electrocution of large birds is not considered significant because (a) there has been no documented evidence of large bird kills from the existing TL lines around project area; (b) the existing design incorporates construction of cage boxes for conductors to prevent birds from sitting or making nests; and (c) other mitigative measures are proposed to lessen any unforeseen impacts.

Buzzing sound of Transmission Line: A coetaneous buzzing sound has been released from high power transmission line during its cooperation. This sound may affect noise-sensitive fauna as they could avoid the transmission line Route.

5.2.4 Suggested mitigation measures

Ensure Minimal Land clearing and Removal of Vegetation for housing: The project will ensure that wherever possible no land conversion will be required for additional housing. No permanent houses for labors shall be installed in the WLS and all the movement shall be ensured during day hours or as per the guidelines/directions of Sanctuary authority.

¹ Forest Diversion Proposal for Proposed 400 kV D/C JaunpurObra Transmission Line

BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED 400KV D/C JAUNPUR OBRA TRANSMISSION LINE PASSING THROUGH KAIMUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Forest Conservation: In order to minimize the adverse impacts of clearing the forest cover, contractors shall be made aware of the exact delineation of the RoW and only those trees marked per directives/delineation of Forest staff within the RoW shall be cleared. Moreover, minimum clearance allowed between conductors of transmission lines and trees that are 5.5 m shall be ensured. In this way, all those trees which do not exceed the clearance shall be left undisturbed.

Compensatory Afforestation: The loss of trees will be addressed according to the current guidelines issued by MoEF&CC, Govt. of India, with compensatory afforestation scheme over degraded forest land on twice area of forest land proposed for diversion in WLS area.

The project proponent shall provide funds for the compensatory afforestation as per the guidelines of MoEF&CC and the plantation under compensatory afforestation shall be implemented by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.

Plantation of Medicinal and Dwarf Species below Transmission Line:Also, plantation of medicinal and/or dwarf species of plants will be carried out below the transmission line as per MoEF&CC guidelines the scheme for which will be prepared by the Divisional Forest Officer.

5.3Biodiversity Conservation Measures

It is expected that no significant irreversible change in local biodiversity will occur as a result of the project. The transmission line will not create any large barriers to wildlife and bird movements. While the transmission line alignment does not pass through any key wildlife habitat discussed in Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan (much of it is barren or scrub forest present in the project route) and is not expected to cause any net loss of species. All the plant species coming within the ground clearance route are very common to the area and more vigorously distributed throughout the wildlife sanctuary.

As far as the RET species and endemism of the plant species is concerned, no rare, endangered, threatened (all the recorded plant species were assessed for their conservation status by cross-checking with Red Data book of Indian plants - Nayar and Sastry, 1987-90) and endemic category species were found.

There are some economically important species that (Tendu, Selaginella, Bamboo, Mahua, Imliand Amla) are present in the area but the commercial use of these species within the area is totally absent. *Oroxylumindicum* was the only reported species as per CAMP, 2010. There is no wildlife lekking or breeding sites, dust bathing sites and nesting sites has been detected in primary survey within project route. No specific animal drinking sites are falling within the project route except transmission line crossing Son river, Ghaghar river, and pond near Chatniya tola, Baluyee Dam and Amawali pond near Bagwari village. Some water holes have been recorded

in the buffer zone of study area; two seasonal water holes between pole 9/3 and 9/4 need to be strengthened.

Any disruption on wildlife will be temporary (just during pre-construction and construction), and animals (including birds) will be able to move around or over construction sites. Still there is always the risk that vulnerable avifaunalspecies may be affected due to reduction in habitat size, disturbance in their daily movements.

An appropriate vertical and horizontal distance between two conductors should be maintained and it is very unlikely that the birds or even monkeys could be electrocuted by contacting these lines. Also, since the distance to the nearest tree is very far from the centre on either side; this does not allow animals to jump to the line from nearby trees.

However, the following measures aim to minimize project impacts on forest and wildlife of the project area and for overall habitat management:

- a) Ensure minimal land clearing and removal of vegetation by working closely with the Department of Forest to ensure that that there is no rampant clearing or felling of forest in and around work sites. Also, only those trees identified and marked by the Department of Forest will be felled and removed from the site.
- b) Provide funds to the Department of Forest to conduct repeated surveys in the forest areas to determine the distribution and population of rarer and endangered species (to be prioritized by Kaimur Wild Life Division), and to conduct ecological studies to determine the precise habitat requirements, feeding, breeding and impacts on species distribution from habitat fragmentation.
- c) There is a provision of conducting biodiversity surveys in and around the project site and create permanent monitoring plots to look at the trend in fauna and avifauna and the change in use of habitat. These studies shall be carried out through biodiversity experts engaged in the primary survey of present project in consultation of Kaimur Wildlife Division.
- d) As much as possible, large trees on the edge of the RoW should not be disturbed or damaged, as these are favored habitats of the various large birds. The potential loss of bird and wildlife habitats can be countered by planting suitable trees at other locations which are currently degraded (habitat enhancement in those areas). For example, for Peafowl, which are largely frugivorous (feeding mainly on Ziziphus berries), this would involve replanting of Ziziphus species and well as species like *Ficusroxburghii* to compensate for the loss of felled species

- e) Allow the vegetation along the alignment to grow back to at least 2 meters height, which will provide cover for most wildlife that need to move through the RoW
- f) Collaborate with Kaimur WLS Wildlife and biodiversity Conservation Programs
- g) Implement the recommendations of standing committee of NBWL suggested by Task force constituted by MoEF&CC for EcoFriendly measures to mitigate impacts of transmission line passing through protected area as per 54th meet of Standing committee of NBWL held on 18th July 2019.

Awareness Raising: Awareness-raising will be an important means to mitigate this risk. The contractor and his workers must be informed on the Forest and Nature Conservation Act, Rules and Regulations and copies of these must be made available to them. Workers must be made aware of the fines and penalties for poaching, as well as the risk of job loss, if caught in these illegal activities.

Strengthen Patrolling: To minimize the risks of poaching, awareness programs will be combined with an increase in patrolling by local forest staff. To support enhanced patrolling, the project discusses possibilities for strengthening patrolling or monitoring of illegal activities in the project sites with Sanctuary forest staff. The use of village forest guards (village guards) to alert forest officials of any illegal activities in the worker camps or at project sites can also be used.

5.3.1 Line marking to reduce bird collision:

Bird collision shall be minimized or managed through attaching bird diverters to power lines. Two types of line markers shall be used to minimize bird collision:

(a) Aerial marker spheres (or aviation balls): Aerial marker spheres are one of the earliest devices used in an attempt to reduce bird collisions. Aerial marker spheres (23 cm diameter), also known as aviation balls shall be installed to make power lines more visible above wetland habitat to within TL line corridor. Yellow colour shall be used as it reflects light better at dawn and dusk, and it does not blend in with the background colours as readily as international orange. Most of the studies reported significant reduce in collision due to behavioural avoidance as birds fly higher and react sooner.



Figure 24: Aerial Marker Spheres

(b) Bird Diverter: The swinging or fixed device (Bird Diverter) shall be used over land corridor of Transmission line with a spacing of 10 m. The bird diverter is an acrylic plastic tag, and is covered with yellow and orange reflective tape and photo reactive coatings. They are UV light stabilized and constructed to be highly reflective during the day. According to the manufacturer they glow for up to 10 to 12 hours after sunset. They are attached to the clamp by swivels so they swing and spin in the wind.



Figure 25: Bird Diverters

5.4Impact on Aquatic Ecology

5.4.1 During construction phase

The proposed transmission line would cross over the river Son, Ghaghar and two seasonal ponds. No impacts on aquatic ecology of the rivers are anticipated as the towers meant for river crossing of the transmission line have been planned to be placed at least 100 meters away from the riverbanks. No high conservation value aquatic species (RET/Endemic) has been recorded during primary survey. The impact on lotic water bodies (Son and its tributary Ghagar river) and lentic water bodies (seasonal ponds/wetlands/ditches) and aquatic biodiversity is minimum.

5.4.2 During Operation phase

In this phase there is no substantial impact on the aquatic biodiversity that is anticipated.

Impacts on Fishery: No negative impact on fishery is anticipated.

5.4.3 Suggested Mitigation Measures

Digging machinery and equipment shall not be park at immediate bank of the rivers and ponds. Construction materials like cement, stones, iron, paint etc. shall not be left over on river/pond side after use. No disturbance in seasonal dry pond shall be ensured and construction activities will be restricted within the allowed area for pillaring.

5.5 Impact on High Conservation Value Species

Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary is generally known for Black Buck (Mrig) but various high conservation value species have been reported/present within the sanctuary. Primary surveys, people consultation and management plan of the sanctuary confirmed the presence of various species listed below in the sanctuary. These include 02 plants, 06 mammals, 02 birds and 01 reptile. **(Table 19)**

Name	Name Scientific Name Conservation Status		Source
Plants			
Indian Caper	Oroxylum indicum	Threatened species as per CAMP, 2010	Primary Study
Sanjiwani	Selaginella bryopteris	High value medicinal plant, Endemic	Primary Study
Mammals			
Chincara	Gazella bennettii	Sc-I, LC	MP-Kaimur WLS, SC
Mrig, Black Buck	Antilope cervicapra	Sc-I, NT	MP-Kaimur WLS, SC
Bhediya	Canis lupus	Sc-I, LC	MP-Kaimur WLS, SC
Bhalu	Melursus ursinus	Sc-I, VU	MP-Kaimur WLS, SC
Bejoo/Bajra	Mellivora capensis	Sc-I, LR	MP-Kaimur WLS, SC
Bajra Keet/Sallu SanpManis crassicaudataSc-I, NT		Sc-I, NT	MP-Kaimur WLS, SC
Birds			
Indian Vulture	Gyps indicus	Sc-I, CR	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Indian Peafowl	Pavo cristatus	Sc-I, LC	Primary Study
Egyptian Vulture	Neophron percnopterus	EN	Grimmett et al, 2011 MP-Kaimur WLS
Reptile			

Table 19High conservation value species recorded/reported from study area:

Indian Monitor	Varanus bengalensis	Sc-I, LC	SC
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SC-Stakeholder Consultation, MP-Kaimur WLS- Management Plan Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, Least Concern, En-Endangered, Sc- Schedule as per Wildlife Protection Act, 9172, LC- Least Concern, NT-Near Threatened, VU-Vulnerable, LR-Lower Risk, CR-Critically Endangered

5.5.1 Suggested mitigation measures

Among above mentioned high conservation value species Indian Caper, Sanjiwani, Indian peafowl and Indian Monitor has been observed directly through primary survey within project Route. Rest of the species has been reported in buffer zone through scattered secondary information collected from local people as well as from forest department records. There was no sign of presence of rest of species has been observed during primary survey. Anticipated impacts and on these valuable species due to project activities summarized below:

Name	Scientific Name	Anticipated impacts		
Plants	1			
Indian Caper	Oroxylumindicum	 Loss of individuals in land clearing, 		
Sanjiwani	Selaginellabryopteris	installation of towers and wires.		
Mammals				
Chinkara	Gazellabennettii	Disturbance due to congregation of labours		
Mrig, Black	Antilope cervicapra	in construction phase		
Buck		Accidental intake of any oil and lubricants		
Bhediya	Canis lupus	leaking from construction machinery		
Bhalu	Melursus ursinus	Risk of accidental falling in foundation holes		
Bejoo/Bajra	Mellivoracapensis	during installation of towers		
Bajra Keet/SalluSanp	Manis crassicaudata	 Noise disturbance from machinery used in construction phase Power line buzzing sound in operation phase Risk of entangling in transmission wires during construction phase 		
Birds				
Indian Vulture	Gyps indicus	Risk of collision, loss of nesting ground		
Indian Peafowl	Pavocristatus	 Shrinkage of habitat, food, dust-bathing and breeding ground Risk of entangling in transmission wires during construction phase 		
Reptile				

Table 20: Anticipated impacts on high conservation value species

Indian Monitor	Varanus bengalensis	٠	Illegal poaching by construction workers		
		•	Risk of predation by mongoose, eagles and		
			domestic dogs under exposed habitat		
			conditions		

Although the presence of high conservation value species in TL Route is negligible, but there is chance of their movement as some of them have large home range. Home range always fluctuated and largely depends on the vegetation type and availability of food. Progressive plantation, development of new water holes, and development of food plots in the buffer zone are proposed in this study. Such activities can restrict wildlife to move towards TL Route. Also, following measures shall also be implemented for wildlife conservation.

Table 21: Remedial and mitigati	e measures to be used for	r high conservation value species
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Name	Anticipated impacts	Remedial and mitigative measures	
Plants			
Indian Caper (<i>Oroxylumindicum</i>)	Loss of individuals in land clearing, installation of towers and wires.	No significant numbers of the species to be cut during ground clearance. Included in the species recommended for planting that compensate appropriately	
Sanjiwani (Selaginellabryopteris)	loss of individuals in land clearing, installation of towers and wires.	It is a small lithophyte having no use in the area- no chance of getting disturbed	
Mammals			
Chinkara (<i>Antilope</i> <i>cervicapra</i>), Black Buck (<i>Antilope</i> <i>cervicapra</i>), Bhediya (<i>Canis lupus</i>), Bhalu (<i>Melursus ursinus</i>), Bejoo (<i>Mellivoracapensis</i>), SalluSanp (<i>Manis</i> <i>crassicaudata</i>)	Disturbance due to congregation of labours in construction phase Accidental intake of oil, grease and chemical substance used during construction phase Risk of accidental falling in foundation holes during foundation of towers	No sign of presence of any high conservation value species in TL Route, avoid construction activities during morning and evening hours Timely repairing of machinery shall be ensured, no material shall be left over on construction site, weekly monitoring during construction phase shall be ensured Hard barrication using Bamboo and net to be ensured during the course of construction activity, weekly monitoring of site during construction phase shall be ensured	

	Noise disturbance from machinery used in construction phase as well as blasting during pillaring Power line buzzing sound in operation phase	Timely repairing of machinery shall be ensured, no heavy machinery will be used in construction phase, no blasting shall be carried out during construction New polymer insulators shall be used to minimize insulator noise and
		dampeners shall be attached to the lines to minimize Aeolian noise
	Risk of entangling in transmission wires during construction phase	No wire shall be left over on forest ground for whole day
Birds		
Indian Vulture (<i>Gyps</i> <i>indicus</i>)	Risk of collision, loss of nesting ground	No nesting and breeding site have been identified within TL Route; no case of bird collision has been reported from existed TL running parallel to proposed TL of this project
	Shrinkage of habitat, food, dust-bathing and breeding ground	No dust-bathing as well as breeding ground has been spotted during primary survey within TL Route, planting of various fruit tree like <i>Ziziphusmauritiana</i> as well as food plots shall provide enough food and shelter
	Risk of entangling in transmission wires during construction phase	No wire shall be left over on forest ground for whole day

ANNEXURE

6.1Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity recorded during field surveys



Common Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*)



Rhesus Monkey (Macaca mulatta)



Red-naped Ibis (Pseudibispapillosa)



Rufous Treepie (Dendrocittavagabunda)



Mexican poppy (Argemone mexicana)

Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark (*Eremopterix griseus*)



Vegetation Survey



Neem (Azadirachtaindica)



Red-vented Bulbul (Pycnonotuscafer) In

luxuriant growth of Xanthium indicum



Garden Lizard (Calotes versicolor)



Green Bea-eater (Meropsorientalis)



Buff stripped Keelback (Amphiesmastolatum)



Bamboo handicrafts



Northern Plain Langoor (Semnopithecus entellus) Spotted Dove (Stigmatopeliachinensis)





Red-wattled Lapwing (Vanellus indicus)



Laughing Dove (Stigmatopelia senegalensis)

Common Sida (Sidaacuta)



Ban Tulsi (Ocimum sanctum)

Arhar(Cajanuscajan)



Bag nakhi (*Martyniaannua*)

Indian Pond Heron (Ardeolagrayii)



Brahminy Starling (Sturniapagodarum)

Sarphoka (Tephrosiapurpurea)



Baya weaver's Nest



PhulGhawai (Woodfordiafruticosa)



Semari (Vitex negundo)



Small Grass Yellow (Euremabrigitta)



Plain Tiger (Danaus chrysippus)



Tendu (Diospyros melanoxylon)

Wild boar digging



Indian Skittering Frog (*Euphlyctiscyanophlyctis*)



Lemon Pansy (Junonialemonias)



Indian Hare Dropping



Black Drongo (Dicrurusmacrocercus)



Blue Moon (*Hypolimnasbolina*)

Danaid eggfly (Hypolimnasmisippus)



Rohu (Labeorohita)



Goonch (Bagarius bagarius)



Rita rita

Clupisomagaura



Wallago attu

6.2 References

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6.3 Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary Notification

उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार

वत विभाग अनुभाग-3 अधिसूचना

10 अगस्त, 1982 ई0

अतएव, अव, वय्वशीव (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1972 (अपि-नियम संख्या 53, 1972) की घारा 18 को उपपारा (1) के अधीन शचित का प्रयोग करके राज्यपाल उपत क्षेत्र को वय्य जीव विद्यार के रूप में घोषित करते हैं जिसका नाम. "कंमूर यन्य जीव विद्वार" होगा :

अनसची

"कंमूर यन्य जीय विहार" में सम्मिलित किये जाने वाले क्षेत्र का ब्योरा---

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1---- उतर --- चेतन नदो, गोहरा स्ताफ, पन्जरा ग्लाफ, लुदको स्ताफ, परसोना स्ताफ, घोरावल स्ताफ तथा रावर्ट सगंज तहसोल के निम्नतिखित ग्राम :----सेमरा एर्ट, परसाना, वर, वदिरिया, देवगड़, हिनोतो, पड्यनिया, लिलपाहो, चिमारो, बन्या, जमसरो, रिकहरा, गड्रमा, खजुरोल, मुखपारा, डोमहर, केवटा, तेनुई, पूखत, दुगोलिया, पल्डाड़ो, बड़ा--गाटों, ओनोल, जुडीलो, परपानो, जुडोलो, आंलापी, रंपुरा, संग्रुड्री, रघुनाम्बुर, बहुआर, बसालो, अगोलो, बगुअ रा, तिलोलो, सेमरा, सोधी इत्यादि ।

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2---पूर्व---राबर्ट्सगंज्र---पिरो सड्क मार्ग, कॅमूर की वहाड़ी - और तरिया रेंज का सनई ब्लाक।

..

आजा से,

जगदीश चग्द पन्स,

त्तचिव ।

In pursuance of the provisions of clause (3) f Articlo 348 of the Constitution the Covernor is pleased to order the publication of the following English translation of notitication no. 908/ 14-3-44-78, dated August 10, 1982 :

No. 908/14-3-44-78

August 10, 1982

Whereas, the State Government is of the opinion that the area, the details of which are given in the Schedule below is of adequate ccological, faunal floral, geomorphological, natural and zoological significance for the purpose of protocting propogating and developing wild life therein and its environment ;

Now, therefore in excreise of the powers under sub-section (1) of section 18 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (Act no. 53, of 1972), the Governors is pleased to declare the said area as a sonobuary to be named as 'Kaimur Sancschedule

Details of the area to be included in "Kaimue Sanotuary".

Boundary description :

1. North .- River Bolan, Gohra Block, Panjra Block, Ludki Block, Parsona Block, Ghorajia Block, Lucki Block, Parsona Block, Ghora-wal Block, and following villages of Roberts-ganj, Ielisil Somra Khurd, Parsona, Var Badri-cha, Deagarh, Hinauti, Parlipania, Lilpahi, Chigori, Bandha, Jamkhari, Jelithara, Garma, Khajuraul, Mokhdhara, Domihár, Kowta, Tenui, Gukhal, Chagarlin, Phaljitari, Baragato, Onobi Jurholi, Pardhani, Olupi, Rajpura, Senduri, Raghunathpur Bahwar, Basauli, Amauli, Ba-dhwari, Tilauli, Simra, Lodhi, etc.

 Bast. -- Robertsganj -- Pipri Road, Kaimur
 Hills and Sannai Block of Taria Range.
 South. -- Son River, Kargata Block of Gurma Rango. Son river Kaimur Hills, Belan river and Kaimur Hills. : 4. Mest .- Banjari Forest Block and follow-

Ying villages of Mirzapur Sudar Tehsil Choura, Bidaria, Thogana, Varaya, Patwara, Tita, Deori, Phulpari, Gajuria, Silhata, Thotha, Kawalkur, Khamaria Kalun, Adwa reserveir,

टिप्पणी---राजपत्र दिनांक 16-10-82, भागा में प्रकाशित है।

| प्रसिलिपि गुचनार्थ प्रेपित-~)

योग एसग पूर्ण वीर्ण → 15 सार्थ (सन) – ३ – 1 । – 82 – 25 (मोनो) ।

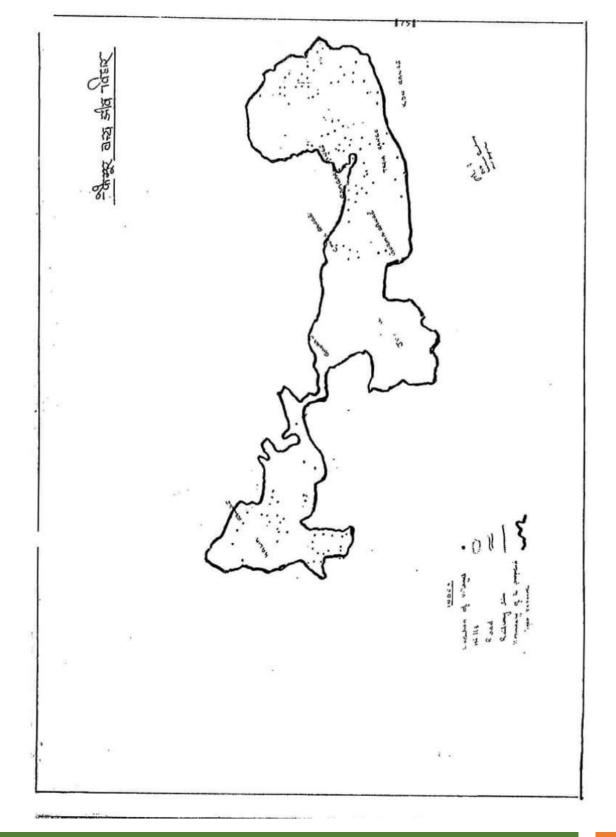
Barhula, Gurga, Ahugi reservoir, Ahugi Kinura Barhohi, Maghur, Dighia, Halia, Vasulura Madai Khurd, Deoghala Pandey and Khurhay Khurd, elv. Arca :

This Sanctuary will comprise areas given here under :

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BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR PROPOSED 400KV D/C JAUNPUR OBRA TRANSMISSION LINE PASSING