

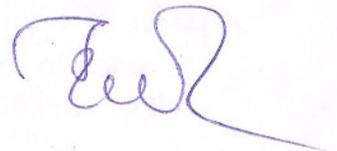
**INSPECTION REPORT OF THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
TERRITORIAL CIRCLE, DEOGHAR**
**IN RESPECT OF NOTIFIED FOREST AND DEEMED FOREST
LAND TO BE DIVERTED**

I inspected the proposed forest land and Jungle Jhari land area to be diverted for the purpose of constructing Punasi Reservoir, dam and canal on 10th December 2015.

The proposed Reservoir, Dam and Canal will contain an area of 2068.92 hectares out of which 254.68 hectares of land is notified protected forests and 36.49 hectares of land is the Jungle Jhari Land, as per records of the Revenue Department and are treated at par with any notified forest when diverted for non forestry purposes as ordered by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The entire area of 291.17 hectares lies in 24 villages and in 48 plots which accrues the total area as stated. These areas as mentioned are situated in Deoghar Distt under jurisdiction of Deoghar Forest Division. The plot wise total area of notified and deemed forest to be diverted for construction of Punasi Reservoir, dam and canal is mentioned in the list enclosed as annexure 01.

I agree with the calculation of No. of plants/trees and crop density by the DFO Deoghar to be 0.2 as only a few trees were found having girth class between 60 cm to 150 cm in 9 out of 24 villages during inspection. The proposed area is almost eroded owing to the less crop density. No rare, endangered or unique species of flora or fauna was found, nor the area consists any protected archaeological/Heritage site or any Defence establishment.

During my inspection I found the area is profusely filled with local birds like Mynas, Sparrows, Parakeets, Teetars, Baters, Babblers, Drongos etc, reptiles like monitor lizard, sand lizard, snakes, skinks, chameleon, common lizard and various species of insects etc. Among mammals, only the lower order mammals like Jackal foxes, Hyenas, Mongooses, Rats, Rabbits, Wild boars etc. are found. Moreover the construction of reservoir will not affect them rather it will be helpful for them to have comparatively moist climate and proper food materials which will enable them to form a sound aquatic ecosystem.



I also inspected the proposed area for compensatory afforestation in the villages given in the list of proposal and found it suitable for the purpose. These lands are covered with non encumbrance and non encroachment certificate given by the DC Deoghar.

I also agree with the DFO Deoghar that 30.25 hectares of forest land has already been utilized for construction, which is a non forestry purpose and it has been done without prior permission of the Govt of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. This is a clear cut violation of provision mentioned in sec. 2 of Forest Conservation Act 1980 and attract penal provisions against the User Agencies i.e Executive Engineer water ways Division, Jasidih, their subordinates and contractors.

As of now the work over 30.25 hectares of forest land has been completed by the User Agency upon the proposed notified forest land without prior permission of the Govt of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Violating the provisions enshrined under sec. 2 of Forest Conservation Act which is a sort of contempt of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dtd 12.12.1996.

In and around the above proposed areas the surface is rocky, undulating, devoid of vegetation and prone to soil erosion. As the area around the reservoir is very much prone to soil erosion, if they are not treated with proper vegetative means, siltation from all around is very much susceptible which may defeat the very purpose within a few years therefore it has to be checked and treated properly. For that suitable species of tree, grass herb and shrub may be planted along the bank of reservoir and canal in at least 10 mtr. strip.

Moreover this proposal is good for facilitating water for irrigation to the rural and suburb masses in general which will pave the ways of development in future through better agrarian practices, yet it will facilitate our forests in these areas. As our national dream of galloping economy especially the GDP hinges on transmission of generated power and this project will act as vehicle of transmission. Therefore this project is strongly recommended for GOI consents.


Conservator of Forests,
Territorial Circle, Deoghar