

Camp : Hospet.

DI : 07.12.2002

PATTANAİK, IFS (Retd.)

Formerly Addl. Principal

Chief Conservator of Forests - Orissa,
81, Fisheries Lane, Buddeshwar Colony,
Bhubaneswar - 751 006 (Orissa).

Dear Sri Sahai,

As requested, I visited the proposed site for shifting of the present Bellary Zoo to Blikalku West Reserve Forest in Hospet Range of Bellary Division which is situated about 2 Kms from Kamalapur town, about 4 Kms from Hampi, 14 Kms from Hospet and 56 Kms from Bellary.

I had earlier visited the site located at Allpur which is 6 Kms from Bellary on Bellary-Hospet road. The present site which is part of Blikalku West reserve forest (total area of 1200 ha.) appears to be more suitable compared to the previous site due to the following reasons :

1. The soil is more stable in the new site, as the site near Bellary has black cotton soil.
2. This is close to the Tungbhadra canal system and has good water availability. Besides this, ground water survey has indicated that the ground water availability is quite good.
3. The site is undulating and interspersed with hillocks and valleys, these features shall make the zoo interesting.
4. The floristic diversity of the area is far better than the previous site and the plantation taken up earlier has done well despite low rainfall.
5. Being in the close proximity of Vijayanagar ruins of Hampi, this will be an excellent addition to the tourist circuit as this can provide nature education to the visiting public.
6. With proper planning this can be a good Zoological park housing mainly the animals of the region provided the Zoo Authority of Karnataka decides to shift the Zoo to Hospet.
7. A nursery and a field unit of Karnataka Wild Life ^{work} is already operational close to the site, which will be an added advantage. An area of about 60 Ha. on the Eastern part of the forest block including a nice valley and gentle slope shall be quite suitable for the proposed Zoo.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

(S.K. PATTANAİK)

To,

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10/12/02
SR. R.M.N. SAHAJ
Member Secretary,
Zoo Authority of Karnataka,
Mysore Zoo Campus,
MYSORE - 570 010.

Copy forwarded to the Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, Annex-VI, Bikaner House, Sheraton Road, New Delhi for information.

No: ABVZP/FC/37/2017-18

Office of the
Executive Director &
Deputy Conservator of Forest,
Atal Bihari Vajpayee Zoological Park
Kamalapur Dated: 09.03.2018

To,
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA)
Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross
Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003.

Sir,

Sub: Relocation of Children's Park cum Mini Zoo at Bellary to Bilikal
Reserve Forest near Kamalapura-Reg.

With reference to the above, I justify the Relocation of Children's Park cum Mini Zoo at Bellary to Bilikal Reserve Forest near Kamalapura for the following reasons, Sri T.R. Baalu, the then Hon'ble Forest Minister, Govt. of India, New Delhi, vide letter D.O No.25-1/2000-CZA dated: 25-09-2001 addressed a letter to Sri S.M. Krishna, the then Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Karnataka, Bengaluru, stating that the Central Zoo Authority is quite concerned about the state of Zoos in Karnataka, as most of the zoos have inadequate land area and cramped cages for housing the animals. He cited the example of Bellary Mini Zoo which had an area of only 1.2 Ha. And where the animals like Tigers, Panthers etc., were housed in dingy cages with little space for movement of the wild animals. He requested the state of Karnataka to go for creation of a modern zoo in an alternative site, in lieu of Mini Zoo at Bellary as the city & the surroundings have potential to support a modern zoo.

In response to the said letter of the then Hon'ble Forest Minister, Govt. of India, New Delhi, the Govt. of Karnataka, issued orders extending the jurisdiction of the Zoo Authority to all the recognized Zoos in the State and posted a full time Member Secretary of the rank of Chief Conservator of Forests who is vested with executive powers, with a view to improve the management of the Zoos for the welfare of Wild animals in captivity and to have focused attention. The officers were instructed to prepare a plan to shift Bellary Mini Zoo to a suitable alternative location.

Sri S.K. Patnaik, IFS (Retd.), Former Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Orissa, a Zoo Expert, vide letter dated: 07-12-2002 addressed a letter to the then Member Secretary Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Mysuru, stating that he had visited the site proposed for shifting of Bellary Zoo to Bilikallu West Reserved Forests in Hospet Range, which is situated about 2 Kms from Kamalapur town, about 4 Kms from Hampi, 14 Kms from Hospet and 56 Kms from Bellary. He also informed that earlier he had visited the site located at Alipur which is 6 Kms from Bellary on Bellary-Hospet Road, and stated that the present site at Bilikallu West Reserved Forests appeared to be more suitable compared to the previous site based on the following observations.

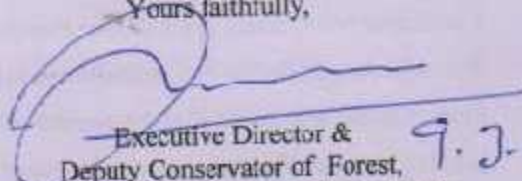
- i. The soil is more stable in the new site, as the site near Bellary has black cotton soil.
- ii. This is close to the Tungabhadra canal system and has good water availability. Besides this, ground water survey has indicated that the ground water availability is quite good.
- iii. The site is undulating and interspersed with hillocks and valleys, these features shall make the zoo interesting.
- iv. The floristic diversity of the area is far better than the previous site and the plantation taken up earlier has done well despite low rainfall.
- v. Being in the close proximity of Vijayanagara ruins of Hampi, this will be an excellent addition to the tourist circuit as this can provide nature education to the visiting public.
- vi. With proper planning this can be a good zoological park housing mainly the animals of the region provided the zoo Authority of Karnataka decides to shift zoo to Hospet.
- vii. A nursery and a field unit of Karnataka Wild Life wing is already operational close to the site, which will be an added advantage. An area of about 60 ha. on the eastern part of the forest block including a nice valley and gentle slope shall be quite suitable for the proposed Zoo.

The then Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), and Chairman ZAK, vide letter dated: 14/21-01-2003 addressed a letter to the then Principal Secretary, FEE Dept., Bengaluru, suggesting shifting of Bellary Mini Zoo to Kamalapur. The Central Zoo Authority vide letter F.No.19-80/93/CZA(104)(M) Date: 09-07-2010 approved the Master Plan for shifting Bellary Mini Zoo to a new location at Bilikal West Reserve Forests near Kamalapur of Hospet Taluk, subject to the condition that the existing Zoo at Bellary shall be closed to the visitors once all the animals have been shifted to the new site.

A team comprising of Sh. S.C. Sharma, Retd. Addl. DGF (WL) and Dr. Brij Kishor Gupta, Evaluation and Monitoring Officer, Central Zoo Authority visited the site again on 16/08/2012 along with Sri Kiran M.N., Deputy Conservator of Forests Daroji Bear Sanctuary, and Sri S. A Hubert, the then Executive Director / Deputy Conservator of Forest, Children's Park cum Mini Zoo Bellary. The team members recommended the site at Bilikal West Reserved Forests and informed that this site does not abut with the boundaries of Daroji Bear Sanctuary. The area of the Zoo was identified & demarcated and found more or less level ground with few large rocks here and there, and inferred that they will not cause any hindrance in the construction of the Zoo, as such no blasting in the area would be required. And also informed that construction of naturalistic zoo in this area will have minimal impact on Daroji Wildlife Sanctuary and advised to construct Zoo along with Safari for Tiger, Panther, Herbivores, Sloth Bear and enclosures for canines, small cats and crocodile species etc., this is for your kind information.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


 Executive Director &
 Deputy Conservator of Forest,
 Atal Bihari Vajpayee Zoological Park
 Kamalapur, Hospet Tq, Bellary Dist.

9.7.18