

Subject: Diversion of 100.00 ha of Forest land (PF -188) for Relocation of Village "Khamda and Malani Part 5" from Bori Sanctuary in Satpura Tiger Reserve Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh (Online No. FP/MP/FVC/36403/2018) –reg.

1. The above stated agenda item was considered in FAC meeting on 27th February, 2020 as Agenda Item No. 7.

Short narrative of the proposal and project/scheme for which the forest land is required.	Rehabilitation of Forest village Malani and Khamda situated in Bori Sanctuary of Satpura Tiger Reserve, Pachmarhi.
Name of the District & State	District Hoshangabad, State Madhya Pradesh.
User Agency & its Status	State Forest Department & State Government
Area & Present Legal status of forest.	100 ha ; Protected Forest
Legal status of forest land after diversion.	Revenue land
Any signs of encroachment	No encroachment.
Crown Density (As per Part-II online)	0.3
Eco- Class	3
Total number of Trees marked for felling	10979 (Highest 4547 numbers of trees in DBH – 60-90 cm)
Crown Density (As per SIR of Regional Office, Bhopal)	Out of 100 ha area 85 ha area is having crown density > 0.5
Observations of DSS	Out of 100 ha area, 28 ha. of land is having the canopy density of Very Dense Forest, 57 ha of land as Moderately Dense Forest and 15 ha. of land as Non-Forest in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2015) based on the interpretation of satellite data period 2013-2014.

2. Observations and Decision of FAC meeting held on 27.02.2020:

I. While deliberating on the proposal, Forest Advisory Committee observed that:

- a. The Regional office, Bhopal in their Site Inspection Report, submitted vide letter dated 21.11.2019, has observed that efforts need to be made to select the forest area with crown density <0.4 for the instant relocation project.
- b. As per the DSS analysis, out of total proposed area of 100 ha, 28 ha. of land is 'Very Dense Forest', 57 ha is 'Moderately Dense Forest' and 15 ha is Non-Forest land, in terms of forest classes (as per the ISFR 2015).
- c. As 85% of the proposed area is falling under VDF and MDF. Ministry vide its letter dated 23.12.2019 had already requested the State Government to reassess the site selected for relocation proposal.
- d. In reference to this, the Government of Madhya Pradesh vide its letter dated 11.02.2020 has informed that the Field Director, Satpura Tiger Reserve vide his letter dated 27.01.2020 reported that the proposed forest area is falling under compartment No. P-188 having a total area of 347.149 ha. Out of this, 182.00 Ha has already been utilized for relocation with the approval of Govt. of India. Out of the remaining area of 165.149 ha, the present proposal (area = 100 Ha) is submitted for relocation. Also, it is reported that the relocation is carried out with the consent of the villagers and the villagers have shown their wish to settle at the proposed location.
- e. DIG(FC) informed the Committee that as per guidelines dated 22.05.2019, issued by the MoEF&CC in pursuance of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 28.01.2019, the area proposed for rehabilitation should not be more than the area being vacated in concerned Protected area. This aspect could not be examined by MoEF&CC, since the details of the site to be vacated has not been provided in the proposal. In the instant proposal KML files along with geo spatial

details of village Malni Part-5 which is to be relocated from Satpura Tiger Reserve District Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh has not submitted.

II. Decision of FAC:

After detailed examination and deliberations on the proposal, the Committee **deferred** the proposal with recommended as follows:

- i. The KML files along with geo spatial details of village Malni Part-5 which is to be relocated from Satpura Tiger Reserve District Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh, shall be submitted by the State Government. Extent of forest area which is proposed for vacation shall also be submitted.
 - ii. Details of rehabilitation plan and associated funding arrangements shall also be provided for record purposes prior to Stage II approval.
 - iii. The complete compliance of FRA, 2006 as per norms shall be submitted.
 - iv. Comments of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) on the proposed proposal may also be obtained by the MoEF&CC for further consideration by the Committee.
3. The said decision of FAC has been communicated to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and to the ADG cum Member Secretary (NTCA) vide Ministry letter dated 03.04.2020.
4. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh vide their letter no. F-5/893/ 2019/10-11/2116 dated 08.07.2020 and letter no. F-5/893/ 2019/10-11/ 2201 dated 10.07.2020 has sent reply of Ministry's letter no. 8-29/2019-FC dated 03.04.2020.
5. The Comments of NTCA has been received on file no. 8-29/2019-FC as per Note #37 wherein it has been mentioned as under: -
 - a) The original Malani village (part 4) is a forest village and is located in the core area/ CTH of Satpura Tiger Reserve, MP.
 - b) The details of area of the village are: - Malini part 4- 111.00 ha. & this village is proposed to be relocated in Itarsi P.F 177, part of Hosangabad Territorial division. The relocation site is outside the boundary of Satpura tiger reserve nor it is part of any tiger corridor.
 - c) The Map showing the special locations of Malini villages & the relocated site vis-à-vis the boundary of the Satpura tiger reserve is annexed.
 - d) For village Malani (part 4 & 5), the budget (Central Share) has been provided by NTCA in the financial year 2018-19 Rs. 1,974 lakhs. (Total Sanctioned budget including State share i.e. Rs. 3,290.00 lakhs).
 - e) This voluntary village relocation is important for creation of inviolate area in the core/ CTH of Satpura tiger reserve for strengthening tiger conservation.
6. The reply of State Government of Madhya Pradesh (Point No. 4 above) regarding KML file has been checked by DSS analysis team and the observations of DSS analysis team were following:
 - i. It has been informed that the Forest village namely Malini part-5 comprising an area of 20.170 ha and Forest village Khamda comprising an area of 143.330 ha have been proposed to be relocated from Satpura Tiger reserve.
 - ii. It is learnt from the given KML file, the parameter/ method for selection of the Malini-5 & Khamda village boundary through KML file is not clear because as per the DSS, nearby areas of Malni-5 & Khamda village are having non-forestry activity in form of Agriculture on the forest land. However, these Non-forestry activity/ encroached areas are not covered in the KML boundary of village's.
 - iii. It is learnt through time series data available on the Google earth imagery that during the period year 2000 to year 2018 heavy deforestation and encroachment in form Agriculture and settlements occurred in the nearby forest area of the site proposed for re-location.

7. The said observations of the DSS analysis has been communicated to the State Government by the Ministry vide letter dt. 30.07.2020.
8. The State Govt. of Madhya Pradesh vide their letter No. F-5/893/2019/10-11/2642 dated 20.08.2020 submitted a point wise reply on the issues raised by this Ministry's vide letter of even number dated 30.07.2020.
9. The Observation of DSS Cell of FC Division on reply submitted by State Government of Madhya Pradesh vide letter No. F-5/893/2019/10-11/2642 dated 20.08.2020 is as mentioned under:

Sr. No.	Issues raised by this Ministry vide its letter dated 30.07.2020	Observation of the DSS Cell of FC Division on the State Govt. Reply dated 20.08.2020
1	It is learnt from the given KML file, the parameter/ method for selection of the Malini-5 & Khamda village boundary through KML file is not clear because as per the DSS, nearby areas of Malni-5 & Khamda village are having non-forestry activity in form of Agriculture on the forest land. However, these Non-forestry activity/ encroached areas are not covered in the KML boundary of village's.	<p>In Khamda village: It is reported by the State Govt. that total approved area is 496.330 ha including 124 families and which are approved for relocation from this village. In the instant proposal, out of 124 families, 37 families are proposed to be relocated whereas; remaining families shall be relocated later in phase wise manner. Thus, at present no issues are found from DSS point of view.</p> <p>In Malini Village: It is reported by the State Govt that 11 families are proposed to be relocated vide instant proposal and remaining 318 families had already been relocated. Moreover, the 3 settlements which are visible through Google earth imagery are part of Govt. establishment in which the forest officials are presently residing. Thus, at present no issues are found from DSS point of view.</p>
2	It is learnt through time series data available on the Google earth imagery that during the period year 2000 to year 2018 heavy deforestation and encroachment in form Agriculture and settlements occurred in the nearby forest area of the site proposed for re-location.	<p>The State Govt. of M.P. informed that the Non-forestry activities like deforestation and encroachment which are visible on Google earth imagery during the year 2012 to year 2018 at the nearby site of 100 ha forest patch propsed for re-location of Malni-5 & Khamda forest village are part of other relocation projects which are already approved by the Government of India.</p> <p>In this regard, the State Govt. has also provided a Map which shows various relocation projects of forest villages. Now, it is clear that the nearby sites of 100 ha proposed for relocation in the instant project were part of other re-location project. Hence, at present no issues are found from DSS point of view.</p>

The proposal is placed for the consideration of Forest Advisory Committee with the information received from the State Government, Madhya Pradesh, comments of NTCA and observations of DSS Cell of Ministry.
