

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & WILDLIFE
2ND FLOOR, A-BLOCK, VIKAS BHAWAN, I.P. ESTATE, NEW DELHI-02

F. No.11(26)/PA/DCF/95/Vol. X/Part6/ 12548-50

Date: 12th March 2021

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RIDGE MANAGEMENT BOARD HELD ON 05.03.2021 AT 3:00PM UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF CHIEF SECRETARY, DELHI & CHAIRMAN, RMB

The meeting of Ridge Management Board was held on 5th March 2021, Friday at 3:00 PM under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary cum Chairman RMB via Video Conferencing. The list of attendees is attached.

At the outset, the PCCF & Member Secretary, RMB welcomed all the Board members and informed everyone about the newly constituted Ridge Management Board.

Thereafter each agenda was discussed by the Board and decisions were taken as listed below:

1. Agenda Item 1: Construction of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade's proposed campus at Maidangarhi village

(UA: Indian Institute of Foreign Trade)

The Member Secretary, RMB briefed the members that the said proposal is for construction of campus of India Institute of Foreign Trade at Maidangarhi village over an area of 22558.59 sqm, out of which 4677.58 sqm area is falling inside Morphological Ridge. The proposed construction majorly involves development of Hostel Block, Swimming Pool, Warden Block, Auditorium Block, Admin and Academic Block. There are a total of 11 trees in the entire plot area out which 7 nos of trees are proposed to be felled. The proposed land use of Morphological Ridge area is detailed below:

S.No.	Proposed construction	Area (in sqm)
1.	Road development	573.97
2.	HT Panel and Meter Room	30.41
3.	Guard Room	17.13
	Total MR area to be used	621.51

The User Agency agreed that remaining Morphological Ridge area will not be put to any construction use and will remain as green area and No trees will be felled in this area.

Keeping in view that the User Agency has minimized the use of Morphological Ridge area, the Board decided to recommend the proposal to CEC subject to the following conditions:

- i. The User Agency shall deposit 5% of the project cost to RMB fund on the lines of conditions imposed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in WP (C) 202/1995 titled T. N. Godavarman Thirumulpad Vs Union of India & Ors. for management of ridge.

- ii. The User Agency shall obtain necessary permission for tree felling as per provisions under Delhi (Preservation) of Trees Act, 1994.

2. Agenda Item 2: Construction of World Class Skill Centre and Delhi Skill University at village Jaunapur, South Delhi

(UA: Department of Training and Technical Education)

The Board was informed that the proposal is for construction of World Class Skill Centre and Delhi Skill University at Jaunapur by Department of Training and Technical Education over an area of 15.02 Ha. The proposed construction involves development of Academic Block, Admin Block, Hostel facilities, Workshop and recreational facilities. The entire area for proposed construction is falling within Southern Ridge as detailed below:

	Area (Part-A)	Area (Part-B)
No. of trees	17	24
Project Site	8.905 Ha.	5.348 Ha.

In the meeting of RMB held on 08.03.2019, the Board had recommended that the said proposal may be considered for recommendation to CEC subject to following conditions:

- i. The User Agency shall obtain necessary permission for diversion of forest area for non-forestry purposes as per provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- ii. The User Agency shall make arrangement for mutation of an equivalent Non-Forest land in favor of Forest Department in lieu of diversion of Forest area under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

It was stated that in compliance of the direction of the Board, the User Agency has identified non-forest land in Issapur and Ghalibpur villages in lieu of diversion of Forest area under FCA, 1980; a joint survey of the land has been conducted and it has been found suitable for carrying out Compensatory Afforestation. Hence, the Board decided to recommend the proposal to CEC subject to the following conditions:

- i. The User Agency shall obtain necessary permission for diversion of forest area for non-forestry purposes as per provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- ii. The User Agency shall mutate the Non-Forest land parcels identified at Issapur and Ghalibpur villages in favor of Forest Department in lieu of diversion of Forest area under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. Agenda Item 3: Proposal of SDMC seeking permission for use of Bhatti mines for dumping of inert material

(UA: South Delhi Municipal Corporation)

The Member Secretary briefed the Board that South Delhi Municipal Corporation has sought permission of the RMB for usage of Bhatti mines for dumping of inert material generated after bio-remediation of 03 landfill sites in Delhi. Each of the Municipal bodies has one landfill site each under their respective jurisdictions which are not fully compliant with the provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. The Hon'ble NGT in OA No. 519/2019 has directed the municipal bodies to stop dumping of fresh garbage in the existing landfill sites and the orders have to be complied within one year.

It was informed that the possibility for use for abandoned mining pits (No. 2, 6, 10 & 12) for developing solid waste management facilities was placed before the Ridge Management Board earlier and was declined by the Board in its meeting held on 10.07.2007. All the pits are having dense vegetation cover.

Keeping in view the issue of increased solid waste generation in urban cities, the Board decided to constitute a committee under the chairmanship of CCF –cum- Chief Wildlife Warden and having members from Wildlife Institute of India, South MCD and Director (Env), Govt. of NCT of Delhi to ascertain the factual details regarding the inertness of the legacy waste, the effect on wildlife and ecology of the Sanctuary, long term consequences of the activity, etc. The Committee shall then present its findings before the Board within one month of its constitution and shall advise the RMB in this regard.

4. Agenda Item 4: Construction of new lab complex at IUAC

(UA: Inter University Accelerator Centre)

The members were informed that IUAC (previously Nuclear Science Centre) was allotted an area of 25 acres (1,00,800 sqm) of land within the campus of Jawaharlal University, New Campus for establishment of NSC in the year 2002. It is proposed to construct Facility 1: Geochronology project of Ministry of Earth Science and Facility 2: ISRO project-Deptt. of Space. The area for proposed construction is 1295 sqm and 1610 sqm for both the projects respectively, involving construction of Ground floor + 05 storeys for both the facilities. An area of 29378 sqm is already under construction in the campus. The proposed construction area falls within Morphological Ridge and construction involves felling of 19 nos. of trees.

The Board was apprised that Central Empowered Committee while considering the previous matters pertaining to JNU campus had reiterated that the Environment Task Force of JNU should demarcate the 369 acres of green area within their campus and submit the same to Forest Department for notification as

Protected Forest. However, no such demarcation has been conducted by JNU and repeated proposals are being received for construction within the JNU campus.

In view of the directions of CEC, the Board decided that Ministry of Education (earlier MHRD) and JNU should take up the matter for demarcation of the Green Area and ensure that the demarcation should be completed within a period of one month and the Board should be informed of the same. Accordingly, the agenda was deferred.

5. Agenda Item 5: Construction of School of Planning and Architecture

(UA: School of Planning and Architecture)

The proposal for construction of new campus of School of Planning and Architecture at Vasant Kunj over an area of 8 hectares was placed before the Board. The proposal involves the construction of academic block, admin block, auditorium block, hostel blocks, mess block, staff residence etc. There are 2495 nos. of trees standing at the site, out of which 875 nos. of trees are proposed to be cut.

The proposed project site is falling within the boundary of Morphological Ridge(entirely), a part i.e. 0.46 Ha. of the site is falling within Notified forest (1994) also. As the project involves 2495 trees over an area of 8 Ha., the area falls under the category of Deemed Forest. The User Agency has been allotted 8 ha. non forest land in Dhulsiras village, Dwarka, Pocket-5 for the purpose of carrying out Compensatory Afforestation.

As the project is for development of a new educational institution which will benefit the people at large, the Board recommended the proposal to CEC subject to following conditions:

- i. The User Agency shall obtain necessary permission for diversion of forest area for non-forestry purposes as per provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- ii. The User Agency shall mutate the Non-Forest land parcel identified at Dhulsiras village, Dwarka, Pocket-5 in favor of Forest Department in lieu of diversion of Forest area under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- iii. The User Agency shall modify its construction plan and leave out the area falling in Notified Forest (i.e. 0.46 Ha.). This area will not be put to any use and shall be excluded from the boundary of the plot.

6. Agenda Item 6: Construction of Storage cum Residential Complex at Army Group Insurance Fund, AGI Bhawan, RTR Marg, Vasant Vihar, Delhi

(UA: Army Group Insurance Fund)

The Member Secretary briefed that the instant proposal is for construction of storage cum residential complex at Army Group Insurance Fund, AGI Bhawan, RTR marg, Vasant Vihar, Delhi at Survey No. 219 over an area of 0.17 ha. (0.42 acres) and involves felling of 26 nos. of trees.

The construction involves 02 nos. Basement of 270 sqmtrs each for storage facilities, 02 nos. Dwelling units and Guard room for enhancing security. The land proposed for construction falls within Morphological Ridge area and the User Agency has proposed to carry out Compensatory Plantation at the site after construction.

In view of the fact that the proposal is of strategic national importance, the Board recommended the proposal to CEC subject to the following conditions:

- i. The User Agency shall deposit 5% of the project cost to RMB fund on the lines of conditions imposed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in WP (C) 202/1995 titled T. N. Godavarman Thirumulpad Vs Union of India & Ors. for management of ridge.
- ii. The User Agency shall obtain necessary permission for tree felling as per provisions under Delhi (Preservation) of Trees Act, 1994.

7. Agenda Item 7: Implementation of Delhi - Gurugram - Rewari - Alwar Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) Corridor in NCR - Approval for taking RRTS through Aravalli Bio-diversity Park in Underground Section

(UA: National Capital Region Transport Corporation)

It was stated that a proposal has been received from NCRTC for construction of Delhi-Gurugram-Rewari-Alwar corridor of the RRTS. The total length of the corridor is 106 km out of which 70 km is elevated and 36 km is underground. A stretch of 29 km of this corridor (underground) is passing through the NCT of Delhi. The said alignment is passing through Morphological Ridge (3.65 Km) partly through Aravalli Biodiversity Park.

In addition to this, two (02) nos. of ventilation cum Evacuation shafts (100 sqm each) are proposed to be constructed just adjacent to the boundary of the Aravalli Biodiversity Park. This area is also falling within the Morphological Ridge. The representative of the User Agency informed that the location of shafts has been revised as earlier it involved felling of 145 nos. of trees. After revision in the location, no tree is proposed to be felled for the whole alignment.

In view of the fact that the proposal is for development of a public utility and does not involve any tree felling, the Board decided to recommend the proposal to CEC subject to the following condition:

- i. The User Agency shall deposit 5% of the project cost to RMB fund on the lines of conditions imposed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in WP (C) 202/1995 titled T. N. Godavarman Thirumulpad Vs Union of India & Ors. for management of ridge.

8. Agenda Item 8: Construction of metro line (Aerocity-Tughlakabad corridor) of Delhi MRTS Phase-IV

(UA: Delhi Metro Rail Corporation)

The Board was apprised that DMRC has submitted a proposal for use of forest land for the construction of Metro line, stations and other operational

requirement of Delhi MRTS Ph-IV. The proposed corridor is passing through Mahipalpur (along Mahipalpur-Mehrauli Road), Kishangarh, Chhattarpur, IGNOU, Saket (Mehrauli-Badarpur road) and Anandmayee Marg T Junction. The length of alignment falling under Southern Ridge, South Central Ridge and Morphological Ridge is 2.844 km, 1.491 km and 3.774 km respectively; is detailed below:

Location	Permanent Land requirement (sqm)	Temporary Land Requirement (sqm)	Total land (sqm)	Forest area Type
Mahipalpur	3870	16213	20083	Southern Ridge
Kishangarh	6319	25232	31551	South-Central Ridge
IGNOU	2835	14157	16992	Morphological ridge
Anandmayee Marg	1100	10500	11600	Morphological Ridge
Shaft between Tigri and Anandmayee Marg Junction	200	2000	2200	Southern Ridge
Total	14324	68102	82426	

The details of trees proposed to be felled is tabulated below:

S.No.	Station Name	Temporary Land	Permanent Land	Total
1.	Mahipalpur	108	32	140
2.	Kishangarh	372	100	472
3.	IGNOU	242	104	346
4.	Anandmayee Marg	140	11	151
	Total No. of trees proposed to be felled:			1109

The Board was informed that a petition filed by Dr. P.C. Prasad in the High Court of Delhi was referred to CEC by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and CEC is visiting the entire alignment. As the agenda is under consideration of CEC, it was decided to defer the matter.

9. Agenda Item 9: Construction of Interpretation centre for Visual History of Delhi's Heritage at Mehrauli:

(UA: Raghu Rai Foundation)

The Board was informed that a proposal has been received from has been received from Sh. Raghu Rai, Padma Shri awardee 1972 for construction of an Interpretation centre for visual history of Delhi in Mehrauli. This centre will be consisting of archive's visible storage, exhibition gallery, lecture hall/ mini auditorium/ black box facility, space for study and research, a library. Total plot area is 762.357 sqm. The area for proposed construction is 424.451 sqm. As reported by the UA, there are 03 nos. of trees standing in the plot area and none of them is proposed to be felled for the proposed construction.

The Board decided that as the entire area is part of South Central Ridge, the User Agency may be asked to provide details of the land proposed for carrying out Compensatory Afforestation in lieu of diversion of the forest land for non-forestry purposes.

10. Agenda 10: Construction of 40 three BHK and 60 two BHK houses at Masoodpur Sector-B, Vasant Kunj by DDA

(UA: DDA)

The proposal for construction of 40 three BHK and 60 two BHK houses on design and build basis adjoining to community hall at Masoodpur Sector-B, Vasant Kunj by DDA was placed before the Board. The land use of the project site is earmarked for Residential Development as per Delhi Master Plan 2021. The total plot area proposed for construction is 0.6 Ha. There are 120 no. of trees standing in the area out which 16 no. of trees are proposed to be felled and 09 nos. of trees are proposed to be transplanted. The proposed construction area is falling within South-Central Ridge.

It was stated that the User Agency has earmarked land measuring 12 Ha. (DDA land) opposite Vasant Square mall within which land for CA will be handed over. UA has also applied for permission under FCA, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes.

In view of the fact that MoEF&CC has imposed a generic ban on development of housing projects in Forest areas and as such projects are not site specific, the User Agency may be asked to explore the possibility of the same with outside Ridge Reserve Forest.

11. Request for N.O.C. for the layout plan of Comprehensive Management Plan of Mehrauli Archaeological Park

(UA:DDA)

The Board was informed about the proposal received from DDA for N.O.C. for the layout plan of Comprehensive Management Plan of Mehrauli Archaeological Park. The total area of the site is 75.49 Ha. The management Plan has been formulated as per Hon'ble High Court of Delhi's order dated 17.05.2017. DDA

planned to develop various public amenities in the Park such as Nature Interpretation Centre, Restaurant, Toilets, Shelters, kiosks etc. A general N.O.C. is being sought, DDA will take separate N.O.C. for construction purposes. The total no. of trees in the entire plot area is 719.

As the entire area is falling within South-Central Ridge, the Board desired that a meeting should be conducted by Forest Department with the Sr. Architect of DDA in order to develop a plan showing holistic view of the entire Park, and the development of amenities should be done in an eco-friendly manner and use of concrete should be discouraged.

The Agenda may be placed before the Board in its next meeting along with the requisite details.

12. Agenda Item 12: Prohibition of barbed wire and concertina coil fences and availability of water sources for wild animals in the ridge areas

The Board was informed that protection of ridge areas is a mandate for all the Land Owning Agencies. It has been observed that as part of the protection activities they erect fences which restrict access for humans and animals alike. The existence of sharp edges in the fencing material is dangerous for wild animals, which cannot negotiate through the fence properly and often suffer injuries.

It is, therefore, proposed to advise the land owning/ management agencies in the ridge to avoid use of fencing material with sharp edges, viz., barbed wire and concertina coil, to avoid unintended injuries to wild animals living in the area or passing through it. They may also be required to ensure adequate access to sources of water in the forest area for the wild animals so that these animals are not caused to venture outside the forest in search of water.

The Board agreed to issuing a general advisory in this regard.

13. Agenda Item 13: Construction of Wild Bird Rescue Center, Rajokari

The Board was apprised of the fact that RMB has recommended the proposal for setting up of a (Wild) Bird Rescue facility in the ridge area in Rajokari for consideration of the Central Empowered Committee (CEC) and for the approval of Hon'ble Supreme Court. The proposal was referred to CEC and is presently pending. It is now proposed to change the scope of the rescue facility to include all wild animals and not to restrict it to (wild) birds alone. Accordingly, the facility will cater to wild animals including reptiles, amphibians, birds, and small mammals that are rescued in Delhi and are in need of medical care and temporary shelter till they are fit to be released in the wild or shifted to a facility for long term care.

Ridge Management Board approved the modification/ Change in nomenclature in its previous approval/ recommendation. The same may be communicated to CEC.

14. Agenda Item 14: Creation of separate land management division for forest land survey

(Departmental agenda)

The proposal for creation of a separate land management division for forest land survey forest land survey, demarcation, protection and monitoring stationed at the HQ of the Department of Forests and wildlife headed by DCF (P&M), was placed before the Board.

Given the importance of surveying and mapping of forest land in Delhi Ridge, the proposal of the Department with following financial implications was approved by the Board.

Sl. No.	Name of manpower resource	No	Monthly consolidated remuneration (Rs.)	Total Annual estimate (Rs. in lakhs)	Remarks
1.	Surveyor	4	60,000	28.80	For surveying and mapping of Ridge area. Should be well conversant with CAD and GIS.
2.	Draughtsman	4	60,000	28.80	
3.	Project Associate (Monitoring)	1	40,000	4.80	Should have expertise in monitoring and handling the matters related to different facets of restoration of ridge area, demarcation of ridge forest area, and other relevant works, checking proposals, geo specific information, general analysis of data in view of minimizing use of ridge land for non-forestry purpose, coordination with the various greening agencies, User Agencies, monitoring of change detection analysis etc. with an Annual Extendable Contract up to 5 years. The candidate should

					have a post graduate degree in Arts/ Science/Commerce/ Business administration from a recognized University with 7-10 years of relevant working experience in government Departments.
				62.4	

15. Agenda Item 15: Construction of Boundary wall along Southern Ridge Boundary

It was stated that as Protection of Ridge Forest area is the primary mandate of the Ridge Management Board, it is proposed to construct boundary wall for a length of 29.26 KM along the periphery of the Southern Ridge. The estimates for the same have been prepared by I&FC Department. A provision of Rs. 20 Cr is being made for construction of the Boundary wall for a length of 29.26 KM. This is also in compliance of to the orders of Hon'ble NGT in the matter of Sonya Ghosh V/s GNCT of Delhi.

As the primary responsibility of the Ridge Management Board is to maintain the pristine glory of the Ridge, the proposal of construction of boundary wall for a length of 29.26 Km at the total cost of Rs. 20 Cr was approved by the Board. The Board also suggested that a standard/ uniform design of the boundary wall should be finalized for the entire state of NCT Delhi.

16. Agenda Item 16: Modification in Color Coded Zonal Maps (CCZM) of Forest Department as per directions of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Govt. of India and DPIIT

The Board was apprised that this issue is regarding construction permits under Ease of Doing Business. As per the directions of MoHUA, the Color Coded Zonal Maps of all the concerned NOC departments were prepared by the respective Departments and were superimposed into one single color coded zonal map by GSDL. As shown in the map, built up/ developed areas such as Nehru Place, Hemkunt Colony, Chirag Enclave, Greater Kailash etc. are falling within the Morphological Ridge area.

Now, MoHUA has desired that Forest Department may exclude all the built up/ developed areas from the Morphological Ridge and submit an amended map accordingly.

Upon deliberations, it was decided that as the mapping of Morphological Ridge has been done by GSI under the directions of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, the matter is not within the purview of the Board. The MoHUA may be informed accordingly and they may take up the matter with High Court of Delhi.

17. Agenda Item 17: Constitution of response teams in sensitive areas for attending man-animals conflict events

The Member Secretary stated that the ridge area is home to the major wildlife population of Delhi. The Northern, Central and Western Ridges are characterized by the presence of small mammals like Common Mongoose, Small Indian Mongoose, Palm Squirrel, Rufous Tailed Hare, Rhesus Monkey, etc. The area also harbors a variety of reptiles like Common Skink, Monitor Lizard, Garden Lizard, Fan-throated Lizard, Yellow bellied House Gecko, Spectacled Cobra, Common Krait, Wolf Snake, Rat Snake, Common Sandboa, Saw-scaled Viper, etc. Spill over populations of wildlife primarily get involved in man- animal interface situations, most commonly with snakes, nilgai, etc. Wildlife also gets injured when they are in touch with man-made structure in settlements through incidents like electrocution, etc, especially species like monkeys and raptor birds. The forest department does not have a professional animal handling unit in the form of rapid response teams. Presently, the department takes help of NGOs in managing conflict situations, which leads to delays.

Under the above circumstances, and given the importance of responding to man-animal conflict situations, the Department of Forest and Wildlife has proposed establishment of response teams for attending to man animal conflict situations.

It is proposed to establish three teams in the three forest divisions; each team consisting of five professional multi-tasking staff specialized in animal handling especially injured/stranded animals like monkeys, nilgai, snakes etc. The financial implications are given below:

Sl. No.	Name of manpower resource	No.	Monthly consolidated remuneration (Rs.)	Total Annual estimate (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Multi-tasking staff specialized in animal handling	15	25,000	45.00

In view of the fact that Conflict between people and animals is one of the main threats to the continued survival of many species in different parts of the world, and is also a significant threat to local human populations. If solutions to conflicts are not adequate, local support for conservation also declines, the above proposal was approved by the Board.

18. Agenda Item 18: Review of process for Final notification of Forest land under Section 20 of Indian Forest Act, 1927

The Member Secretary placed the progress of final notification of Forest land under Section 20 of Indian Forest Act, 1927 before the Board. He informed that in compliance to the directions of Hon'ble NGT in OA No. 58/2013 titled 'Sonya Ghosh & Ors. Vs. GNCTD', an Oversight Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of DGF, MoEF&CC, Govt. of India, to oversee the proceedings in this matter. Regular weekly meetings are being taken by PCCF also to review the progress. The following progress has been made:

- **Convened weekly meetings** on 19.02.2021 and 26.02.2021 under chairmanship of PCCF, GNCTD where representative of District Magistrate (South Delhi), District Magistrate (South- East Delhi), representative of District Magistrate (New-Delhi), DCF(S), DCF (W) and DCF (N), SDM (Saket), SDM (Meherauli) and SDM (Kalkaji) were participated. The next weekly meeting is convened on 08.03.2021.
- **Status of tatima proceedings:** As informed by SDM (Saket), SDM (Meherauli) and SDM (Kalkaji) tatima proceedings are currently under process and expected to be completed within 2 weeks.
- **Status of Settlement of Rights:** Under DCF (S) till date there are 50 cases among which 17 are disposed and in 33 cases hearings are under process. There are cases in West Division also which are under process but not yet being disposed off.
- **Encroachment Removal:** As per the details of Forest Department, the total encroachment of Forest Area as on 05.04.2019 was 394.986 Ha. Till date from Southern Ridge total 40.87 Ha area is made encroachment free and 314.03 Ha area is left for removal. Total encroachment left for removal from entire Forest land of the state is 354.116 Ha. Major challenge in encroachment removal is in slum areas of South Delhi which may take considerable time as it is linked with rehabilitation of slum dwellers. The issue has been discussed with DUSIB by SDM (Mehrauli) however response is still awaited.
- **Construction of Boundary Wall:** For securing forest lands the Department of Forest and Wildlife, GNCTD is constructing boundary wall and fencing, the progress of which is as follows:

Boundary wall (in m)	Boundary wall Under construction (in m)	Fencing (in m)	Fencing Under construction (in m)	Wall cum Fencing (in m)	Wall cum Fencing Under construction (in m)
10,175	5,992	3,137	3,529	6,222	530

- **Declaration of Reserved Forest under Section 20:** Notifications for Asola, Rajpur khurd, Chattarpur, Sahoorpur, Satbari and Saidulajaib villages have been drafted, and sent to the Deputy Commissioner concerned. Draft notifications for Nebsarai, Bhati, Aya Nagar and Jaunapur, Ghitorni, Rangpuri and Rajokari are expected to be completed by next week. In Northern Ridge there is no right settlement issue and the notification for the same is expected to be drafted and shared with revenue department by next week.
- A detailed report in this regard is attached as Annexure-I to the minutes.

After reviewing the progress, the Chairman directed that the work of removal of encroachment, settlement of rights and completion of Tatima should be completed on top priority.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

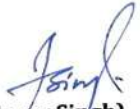


(Ishwar Singh)

**PCCF & Member Secretary
Ridge Management Board**

Distribution:

1. All RMB members.
2. All representatives of User agencies as per list of participants.
3. Member Secretary, Central Empowered Committee for kind information.



(Ishwar Singh)

**PCCF & Member Secretary
Ridge Management Board**

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & WILDLIFE
A-BLOCK, 2ND FLOOR, VIKAS BHAWAN, IP ESTATE, NEW DELHI 110002

ATTENDANCE SHEET

Meeting of the Ridge Management Board under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, GNCTD

Venue: NIC VC Conference Room

Date: 05.03.2021

Time: 3:00 PM

S.No.	Name, Department & Designation
1.	Sh. Sanjeev Khirwar, Pr. Secretary (E&F)
2.	Sh. Ishwar Singh, PCCF
3.	Sh. Sandeep Kumar, Secretary (Finance)
4.	Sh. Nisheeth Saxena, Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden
5.	Pr. Commissioner, DDA
6.	Sh. Vipul Pandey, Dy. Conservator of Forests (P&M)
7.	Sh. Gaurav Gulati, Deputy Registrar, IIFT
8.	Sh. R.K. Gupta, Engineer, IIFT
9.	Ms. Nalini Meshram, Assistant Registrar, IIFT
10.	Sh. Srikant Anguru, DGM NBCC For IIFT
11.	Sh. Sunil, Architect For IIFT
12.	Sh. Azimul Haque, Director, Department of Training & Technical Education
13.	Commissioner, SDMC
14.	Prof. A.C. Pandey, Director, IUAC
15.	Dr. S. Chopra, Scientist H
16.	Dr. Subendu Ghosh, Scientist H, IUAC
17.	Er. A.J. Malyadri, IUAC
18.	Er. Harshwardhan, IUAC
19.	Prof. P.S.N. Rao, Director, SPA
20.	Sh. Umakant Agarwal, Registrar, SPA
21.	Dr. Marisha Sharma, Consultant, SPA
22.	Sh. Surinder Kumar Dogra, Asst. Engineer (Civil)
23.	Col. Sanjit Singh, AGIF
24.	Dr. H.R. Yadav, Executive Director, NCRTC
25.	Sh. Rajiv Dhanker, Chief Project Manager, NCRTC
26.	Sh. A.S. Bisht, CPM 5, DMRC
27.	Sh. S.K. Roy, Sr. DGM, DMRC
28.	Sh. Ankush Seth, Advisor, Raghu Rai Foundation
29.	Sh. Amit Chauhan, Coordinator, Raghu Rai Foundation
30.	Sh. R.K. Singh, CE, South Zone, DDA
31.	Ms. Smita Saxena, Sr. Architect, UP & DUHF, DDA
32.	Sh. Tanzil Ahmed, Asst. Director (Arch.), UP & DUHF, DDA

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & WILDLIFE
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Status Report regarding the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 15.01.2021 in O.A. No. 58/2013 in the matter of Sonya Ghosh Vs GNCTD:

First meeting of the Oversight Committee was convened on 12.02.2021. After this meeting the Department of Forest and Wildlife, GNCTD in coordination with Revenue Department have taken the following steps to comply the directions of Hon'ble NGT:

- **Convened weekly meetings** on 19.02.2021 and 26.02.2021 under chairmanship of PCCF, GNCTD where representative of District Magistrate (South Delhi), District Magistrate (South- East Delhi), representative of District Magistrate (New-Delhi), DCF(S), DCF (W) and DCF (N), SDM (Saket), SDM (Meherauli) and SDM (Kalkaji) were participated. The minutes are annexed as **Annexure-I**. The next weekly meeting is convened on 08.03.2021.
- **Status of tatima proceedings:** As informed by SDM (Saket), SDM (Meherauli) and SDM (Kalkaji) tatima proceedings are currently under process and expected to be completed within 2 weeks (*pl. refer Annexure-I*).
- **Status of Settlement of Rights:** Under DCF (S) till date there are 50 cases among which 17 are disposed and in 33 hearings are under process. There are cases in West Division also which are under process but not yet being disposed off (*pl. refer Annexure-I*).
- **Encroachment Removal:** As per the details of Forest Department, the total encroachment of Forest Area as on 05.04.2019 was 394.986 Ha. Till date from Southern Ridge total 40.87 Ha area is made encroachment free and 314.03 Ha area is left for removal (*kindly refer Annexure-II*). Total encroachment left for removal from entire Forest land of the state is 354.116 Ha. Major challenge in encroachment removal is in slum areas of South Delhi which may take considerable time as it is linked with rehabilitation of slum dwellers. The issue has been discussed with DUSIB by SDM (Meherauli) however response is still awaited.
- **Construction of Boundary Wall:** For securing forest lands the Department of Forest and Wildlife, GNCTD is constructing boundary wall and fencing, the progress of which is as follows:

Boundary wall (in m)	Boundary wall Under construction (in m)	Fencing (in m)	Fencing Under construction (in m)	Wall cum Fencing (in m)	Wall cum Fencing Under construction (in m)
10,175	5,992	3,137	3,529	6,222	530

(For details pl. refer **Annexure-III**)

- **Declaration of Reserved Forest under Section 20:** Notifications for Asola, Rajpur khurd, Chattarpur, Sahoopur, Satbari and Saidulajaib villages have been drafted, and sent to the Deputy Commissioner concerned. Draft notifications for Nebsarai, Bhati, Aya Nagar and Jaunapur, Ghitorni, Rangpuri and Rajokari are expected to be completed by next week. In Northern Ridge there is no right settlement issue and the notification for the same is expected to be drafted and shared with revenue department by next week. (For detailed status of Notifications of Southern Ridge areas kindly refer ***Annexure-IV***).

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**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & WILDLIFE
GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
A-BLOCK, 2ND FLOOR, VIKAS BHAWAN
I.P.ESTATE, NEW DELHI-110002
TELEPHONE NO-01123370679, EMAIL-pccf-gnctd@delhi.gov.in**

F.1(2497)/Legal/HQ/20-21/11841-54

Date: 01/03/2021

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND WEEKLY MEETING OF PCCF, GNCTD HELD ON
26.02.2021 AT 11:30 AM REGARDING THE HON'BLE NGT ORDER DATED
15.01.2021 IN O.A. NO. 58/2013 IN THE MATTER OF SONYA GHOSH VS GNCTD**

A meeting under chairmanship of PCCF & HOD, Department of Forest and Wildlife, GNCTD was held on 26.02.2021 regarding the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 15.01.2021 in O.A. No. 58/2013 in the matter of Sonya Ghosh Vs. GNCTD. PCCF, GNCTD welcomed everyone and initiated the meeting:

Issues Discussed and Decisions taken in the meeting are as follows:

- 1. Status of Draft Notification:** PCCF, GNCTD shared the status of draft notification as given by DCF (S) according to which notifications for Asola, Rajpur khurd, Chattarpur, Sahoarpur, Satbari and Saidulajab villages have been drafted, and send to the Deputy Commissioner concerned. Hence given the above, PCCF further requested all the Revenue Authorities concerned to share the status on the same so that process for issuance of notification under Section 20 of Indian Forest Act, 1927 can be initiated within next one week.
 - SDM (Saket) conveyed that they have verified the village wise Khasra No.s which were earlier provided by DCF (S) and actions on the same is under process. However, among the newly drafted notification only for Saidulajab they have to re-verify it.
 - DCF (S) conveyed that the drafting of notification for Jaunapur village is completed and only the map is remaining, that shall also be completed shortly and draft notification for Nebsarai, Bhati, Aya Nagar and Jaunapur will be completed within next week as comments of Revenue Department on these villages have already been received by the division.
 - SDM (Meherauli) conveyed that the details of Dera Mandi and Jaunapur villages were sent to the concerned DCF, however their major issue is the existing slums of Dera Mandi mainly. She also informed that till now there is no response from DUSIB even after several correspondences. PCCF suggested to keep him in the loop and to give him an official copy of correspondences with DUSIB so that he can pursue the issues from his end as well.
 - DCF (W) conveyed that there are three villages, i.e., Ghitorni, Rangpuri and Rajokari among which, draft notification for Ghitorni is finalized along with all the details and verified by revenue department as well. The preparation of draft notification for Rangpuri

and Rajokari is under process which will also be completed by 02.03.2021. He also mentioned that there are issues regarding encroachment and settlement of rights in 6 khasras of Ghitorni and 4 cases regarding this are pending in High Court.

- PCCF mentioned that an affidavit was filed by Divisional Commissioner in April 2019 before NGT regarding the handing-over taking-over of the lands so he asked DCF (W) to enquire the current status of the same. He also informed that a separate meeting with DDA will also be convened shortly.

2. Tatima Proceedings:

- SDM (Meherauli) conveyed that, as their maximum revenue staff are deputed for Vande Bharat Mission till 28th February, 2021, they will start the proceedings from 01.03.2021 onwards. PCCF requested to complete these proceedings within next two weeks, before the next meeting of Oversight Committee.
- SDM (Kalkaji) also conveyed that the Tatima proceedings will start soon as the team deputed for Vande Bharat Mission will be made free.
- Representative from New Delhi district conveyed that Tatima proceeding is under process and they are trying to complete it soon.

3. Status of Settlement of Rights:

- DCF (South) conveyed that, till date there are 50 cases among which 17 are disposed and in 33 hearing is under process.
- PCCF said that the details of settled case may be sent to him and remaining shall be managed at the level of DCF (S) in coordination with Forest Settlement Officers.
- DCF (W) conveyed that hearings of cases are under process however no one is disposed off yet.
- PCCF told DCF (W) to prepare a list of all FSO cases and pursue those with FSO at individual level.

4. Encroachment Removal: PCCF conveyed that as per earlier discussion it was decided to take the status of encroachment removal on weekly basis, hence he asked all the attendees to share the same.

- SDM (Saket) conveyed that letters to DUSIB from their end also been sent regarding encroachment removal for the slum areas. Else, the other areas which are devoid of such complications will be made encroachment free by preparing weekly schedule soon after completion of the Vande-Bharat Mission. This process will be in coordination with DCF (S).

- SDM (Kalkaji) conveyed that Tughlaqabad and Pul Pehladpur villages are under their subdivision. In Tughlaqabad there are many khasras which are encroachment free and details of the same shall be provided to DCF (S).

5. Construction of Boundary Wall: PCCF directed DCF (S) and DCF (W) to share the progress report of boundary wall before next meeting.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


Vipul Pandey, IFS)
DCF (P&M)

Copy to:

1. PS to Pr. Secretary (E&F), Govt. of NCT of Delhi, C-Wing, Delhi Secretariat.
2. PS to PCCF, Department of Forests and Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
3. CCF, Department of Forests and Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
4. DCF(S), Department of Forests and Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi
5. District Magistrate, New-Delhi, District Magistrate Office New Delhi, 12/1, Jam Nagar House, Sahajahan Road, New Delhi 110011.
6. District Magistrate, South Delhi, M.B. Road, Saket, New Delhi-110068.
7. District Magistrate, South- East Delhi, Old Gargi College Building, Lajpat Nagar -IV New Delhi -110024.
8. District Magistrate, South-West Delhi, Old Terminal Tax Building Kapashera, New Delhi- 37.
9. DCF (W), Department of Forests and Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
10. DCF (N), Department of Forests and Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
11. Additional District Magistrate (South), M.B. Road, Saket, New Delhi-110068.
12. Additional District Magistrate (New Delhi), New-Delhi, 12/1, Jam Nagar House, Sahajahan Road, New Delhi 110011.
13. Sub Divisional Magistrate (Saket), M. B Road, Saket, New Delhi-110068.
14. Sub Divisional Magistrate (Mehrauli), Old Tehsil Building, Mehrauli, New Delhi- 110030.

SD/-
(Vipul Pandey, IFS)
DCF (P&M)

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS & WILDLIFE
GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
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F.1(2497)/Legal/HQ/20-21/11163-76

Date: 19/02/2021

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST WEEKLY MEETING OF PCCF, GNCTD HELD ON
19.02.2021 AT 11:30 AM REGARDING THE HON'BLE NGT ORDER DATED
15.01.2021 IN O.A. NO. 58/2013 IN THE MATTER OF SONYA GHOSH VS GNCTD**

A meeting under chairmanship of PCCF & HOD, Department of Forest and Wildlife, GNCTD was held on 19.02.2021 regarding the Hon'ble NGT Order dated 15.01.2021 in O.A. No. 58/2013 in the matter of Sonya Ghosh Vs. GNCTD. PCCF, GNCTD welcomed everyone and initiated the meeting:

Issues Discussed and Decisions taken in the meeting are as follows:

1. **Tatima Proceedings:** In reference to the meeting of Divisional Commissioner, wherein the timeline for Tatima proceedings was fixed to be completed within one month, PCCF asked about the current status of the same.
 - SDM, Saket conveyed that, as their maximum revenue staff are deputed for Airport Duty till 28th February, 2021, they are not able to conduct the Tatima proceedings as per the decided schedule. However, she ensured that the Tatima proceedings of relatively simpler cases will be completed within next 15 days and for complicate cases it will take time.
 - DC (South-East) conveyed that, for Tatima proceedings, SDM (Kalkaji) has been directed to take up the issues on priority and as soon as the proceedings are completed, the process for preparation of draft Notification will be commenced.
 - PCCF asked all the DCs and SDMs to convey details to all DCFs concerned to start the process of notification of those khasras for which the proceedings will be completed so that in the next meeting of Oversight Committee, progress can be shown.
2. **Status of Settlement of Rights:** PCCF conveyed that, the next meeting of Oversight Committee will be before 15th March, 2021, and therefore the issues related to Forest Settlement rights shall be completed.
 - DCF (South) conveyed that, hearing are being conducted for 3-4 days in a week and cases are expeditiously taken and it appears that disposal will be adhered within given timeline.

3. Encroachment Removal: PCCF asked all the Deputy Commissioner concerned to coordinate with concerned DCFs and effectively remove the encroachments of smaller or simpler areas at the earliest so that notification for those parts may be processed. He also emphasized that as the major issues are in Southern Ridge and the Sonya Ghosh vs GNCTD is also mainly regarding the Southern Ridge, effective actions on ground need to be shown. Given above, PCCF asked about the current status regarding this.

- DCF (South) conveyed that, draft notification for 5 villages, which covers 15-20% of total encroachments, has been prepared and will be shared with revenue Department for their comments and by next week, it will be sent for final approval.
- DCF (South) also conveyed that as there are many patches which are not contiguous therefore, they are planning for conducting village wise notification to eliminate the chances of overlapping. PCCF also emphasized that special attention should be taken to eliminate any possibilities of duplication in any area.
- DCF (North) conveyed that for Northern Ridge, the division is waiting for the encroachment removal plan from DDA and MCD. Given the urgency of notification under Section 20, PCCF asked to initiate the process of notification beside the encroachment removal process.
- For Central Ridge, as there are few other agencies involved, it has been decided to convene a meeting of all and then start the procedure of issuing notification.
- PCCF conveyed that, South Central Ridge is entirely with DDA, hence a separate meeting with them will be convened.
- Regarding construction of boundary wall it was found that funding is the major issue, therefore, PCCF agreed to discuss this issue with Finance Department and resolve the matter at Head Quarter level.

4. Other Issues:

- PCCF also emphasized that all the DCFs need to ensure that minimal number of notifications be issued to avoid any future complications. As Southern Ridge has a vast area it may require more than one notification but for Northern, Central Ridge and South Central one notification may do.
- DC (South-East) conveyed that he has issued directions to SDM (Kalkaji) with definite schedule and timeline to make all the necessary actions in all three above mentioned aspects in coordination with DCF concerned if required and to complete the procedure at the earliest. He also assured that, at district level all cooperation will be extended to Forest Department.
- SDM (Meherauli) has conveyed that, they asked DUSIB to assess the population existing in different camps present in these disputed area so that in next meeting they also can be involved to discuss this matter. PCCF also agreed to this and ensure that

DUSIB will be invited in the next meeting which will be convened at the level of Divisional Commissioner or DGF, MoEF&CC.

With the above note, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair and it was decided that the next meeting will be convened in the next week.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


Vipul Pandey, IFS)
DCF (P&M)

Copy to:

1. PS to Pr. Secretary (E&F), Govt. of NCT of Delhi, C-Wing, Delhi Secretariat.
2. PS to PCCF, Department of Forests and Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
3. CCF, Department of Forests and Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
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SD/-
(Vipul Pandey, IFS)
DCF (P&M)

DETAILED REPORT OF ENCROACHMENT REMOVED FROM SOUTHERN RIDGE AFTER 05.04.2019

SL. No.	Name of Village	Total area under encroachment (in Bigha-Biswa) as on 05.04.2019	Total encroachment Removed in Financial year 2019-2020 (in Bigha-Biswa)	Total encroachment Removed in Financial year 2020-2021 (in Bigha-Biswa)
1.	Aaya Nagar	172 Bigha-00 Biswa	4 Bigha-00 Biswa	4 Bigha- 00 Biswa removed
2.	Chhattarpur	253 Bigha-08 Biswa	Nil	Nil
3.	Nebsarai	264 Bigha-09 Biswa	Nil	1 Bigha 10 biswa
4.	Sahoorpur	238 Bigha-03 Biswa	53 Bigha-19 Biswa	
5.	Devli	452 Bigha-14 Biswa	Nil	1 Biswa
6.	Asola	675 Bigha-00 Biswa	13 Bigha-13 Biswa	48 Bigha- 12 Bigha
7.	Bhatti	477 Bigha-14 Biswa	Nil	Nil
8.	Maidangarhi	79 Bigha-05 Biswa	28 Bigha-08 Biswa	2 Bigha-00 Biswa removed in year 2020-21
9.	Saidulajab	109 Bigha - 04 Biswa	03 Bigha-00 Biswa	2 Bigha-00 Biswa removed in year 2020-21
10.	Satbari	183 Bigha- 17 Biswa	60 Bigha- 00 Biswa	Nil
11.	Jaunapur	287 Bigha - 05 Biswa	113 Bigha-13 Biswa	2 Bigha- 15 Biswa removed in year 2020-21
12.	Deramandi	399 Bigha - 8.5 Biswa	127 Bigha -09 Biswa	Nil
13.	Tughlakabad	403 Bigha – 07 Biswa	Nil	20 Bigha – 17 Biswa
14.	Pulpehladpur	246 Bigha – 03 Biswa	1 Bigha- 7 Biswa	1 Bigha- 7 Biswa removed in year 2020-21
Total		4241 Bigha- 17.5 Biswa (883.72 Acre or 354.90 Ha)	405 Bigha – 09 Biswa (84.46 Acre or 33.92 Ha)	83 Bigha – 02 Biswa (17.31 Acre or 6.95 Ha)

IN SOUTHERN RIDGE

- Total encroachment as on 05.04.2019 – 4241 Bigha – 17.5 Biswa (883.72 Acre or 354.90 Ha)
- Total encroachment removed after 05.04.2019 – 488 Bigha – 11 Biswa (101.78 Acres or 40.87 Ha)
- Total encroachment left for removal - 3,753 Bigha – 6.5 Biswa (781.94 Acres or 314.03 Ha)

Annexure-III

**Details of Boundary wall and Fencing constructed for securing forest land in the
Financial year 2020-21 under South Forest Division.**

SL. No.	Village	Boundary wall (in m)	Boundary wall Under Construction (in m)	Fencing (in m)	Fencing Under construction (in m)	Wall cum Fencing (in m)	Wall cum Fencing Under construction (in m)
1.	Asola	1248	Nil	Nil	2729	2930	Nil
2.	Sahoorpur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Pulpehladpur	940	1130	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Deramandi	2068	2750	Nil	Nil	800	Nil
5.	Jonapur	1,913	Nil	988	800	Nil	Nil
6.	Tughlakabad	250	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	Ayanagar	548	1350	Nil	Nil	2096	530
8.	Maidangarhi	1705	533	Nil	Nil	396	Nil
9.	Chhattarpur	450	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
10.	Nebsarai	743	229	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Saidulajaib	310	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	Satbari	Nil	Nil	2149	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		10,175	5,992	3,137	3,529	6,222	530

Status of Notification Process for 1st phase under Section 20, Indian Forest Act, 1927.

SL. No.	Village	Status of Notification
1.	Asola	Final and Sent to Revenue Department
2.	Rajpur khurd	Final and Sent to Revenue Department
3.	Chattarpur	Final and Sent to Revenue Department
4.	Sahoorpur	Final and Sent to Revenue Department
5.	Satbari	Final and Sent to Revenue Department
6.	Saidulajaib	Final and Sent to Revenue Department
7.	Bhati	Schedule I completed
8.	Nebsarai	Schedule I completed
9.	Jaunapur	Schedule I completed
10.	Maidangarhi	In Process
11.	Dera Mandi	In Process
12.	Ayanagar	Not Started
13.	Devli	Not Started
14.	Tughlakabad	Not Started
15.	Pul Pehladpur	Not Started