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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RIDGE MANAGEMENT BOARD HELD ON 6th JUNE, 2016 at 14:30 HRS UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SHRI K.K. SHARMA, CHIEF SECRETARY AND CHAIRMAN, RMB

The following attended the meeting:

1.	Sh. K.K. Sharma, Chief Secretary	Chairman
2.	Ms. Sunita Narain, DG, CSE	Member
3.	Sh. S.M. Ali, Secretary (E&F)	Member
4.	Sh. Sarvagya Srivastava, Principal Secretary, PWD	Representative PWD
5.	Sh. Akhilesh Kumar, Chief Engineer	Representative CPWD
6.	Sh. Commodore G.M. Gonsalves, Addl. DG	Representative WESEE
7.	Sh. M.K. Jain, Deputy Director	Representative WESEE
8.	Dr. M.K. Tyagi, Director (Horticulture)	Representative DDA
9.	Sh. Chandu Bhutia, Dir. (Horticulture)	Representative DDA
9.	Sh. Abhishek Singh, DM New Delhi	Representative Revenue
10.	Ms. Niharika Rai, DM, South Delhi	Representative Revenue
11.	Sh. B.S. Jaglan, DM South East	Representative Revenue
12.	Sh. Bansh Raj, Principal Director (Rehabilitation)	Representative DUSIB
13.	Sh. Surendra Kumar, Senior Engineer-II	Representative DUSIB
14.	Sh. B.S. Charha, Senior Engineer-II	Representative DUSIB
15.	Sh. K.P. Singh, Asstt. Director Horticulture Div-IV	Representative DDA
16.	Sh. M.K. Gupta, Asstt. Executive Engineer	Representative PWD
17.	Sh. M.K. Mallick, Chief Project Manager, F-4	Representative PWD
18.	Sh. P.K. Tyagi, Executive Engineer(Projects) W-VII	Representative DJB
19.	Sh. Virender Kumar, SE	Representative DJB
20.	Sh. Rajesh Mittal, Chief Engineer (W), Projects	Representative DJB
21.	Sh. Deepak Gupta, Principal CE (Projects)	Representative PWD
22.	Sh. Marisha Sharma, Director	Representative MMCPL
23.	Sh. Akhelesh Kumar, CAPFIMS	Representative CPWD
24.	Dr. D.S. Rajesh, CAPFIMS	Representative CPWD
25.	Sh. Ashok Kumar Yadav, CAPFIMS	Representative CPWD
26.	Sh. Mayank Aggarwal, Addl. DG, IIMC	Representative IIMC
27.	Sh. P.V.K. Raja, Deputy Registrar	Representative IIMC
28.	Sh. Bhagwat Prasad	Representative IIMC
29.	Sh. Subhash Kumar Sharma, Tehsildar (LM) SW-2	Representative DDA
30.	Sh. S.K. Maggu, Asstt. Engineer (C)	Representative L&DO
31.	Sh. R.D. Bhardwaj, Deputy Director (Horticulture)	Representative DDA
32.	Sh. Tarun Johri, Conservator of Forests	Representative Forest Dept.
33.	Sh. R. Gopinath, Deputy Conservator of Forests	Representative Forest Dept.
34.	Sh. S.K. Muan Guite, Deputy Conservator of Forests	Representative Forest Dept.
35.	Sh. Tilak Chand, Asstt. Conservator of Forests	Representative Forest Dept.
36.	Sh. A.K. Shukla, CCF & CWW	Member

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The Secretary (E&F) welcomed all the dignitaries and representatives of User Agencies present in the meeting. The meeting began with discussions on the proposals for developmental projects requiring clearance of authorities and seeking recommendations of the board.

REVIEW AGENDA OF LAST MEETING

Agenda 1: Construction of Hostel at JNU

- Central Empowered Committee (CEC) has submitted the report to Hon'ble Supreme Court. The matter will be taken up with Registrar, JNU for further course of action as soon as Hon'ble Supreme Court confirms the decision of CEC.

Agenda 2: Grant of Clearance for construction of office building for WESEE, MoD, Govt. of India at Survey no. 183, Brar Square

- It was informed to the Board by WESEE authorities that the allotted piece of land falls under Morphological Ridge as per General Land Register of Defence land.
- CCF informed that 202 ha of Central Ridge Area is in possession of (Army Signal Regiment etc.). L&DO, Ministry of Urban Development is in the process of demarcation of Central Ridge in compliance to the direction of Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench in OA 58/2013 dated 24th July 2015 titled "Sonya Ghosh Vs. Govt. of NCT of Delhi & Ors."
- It has been decided that representative of L&DO, Forest Department and User Agency will jointly survey the area for demarcation of 202 ha of Central Ridge and complete the demarcation within 7-10 days. Thereafter, the proposal of WESEE office building may be put up in next RMB meeting alongwith demarcation of 202 ha of Central Ridge in possession of Army.

Agenda 3: Construction of boundary wall of DCPW, MHA at Central Ridge

- As no representative of User Agency participated in the meeting, the matter has been deferred.

AGENDA OF CURRENT MEETING

Agenda 1: Demarcation of Morphological Ridge based on GSI map and Morphological features of Ridge to maintain the area as Natural Conservation Zone

- The agenda will be taken up in the next meeting of RMB proposed to be held in the last week of June, 2016.

Agenda 2 & 3: Construction of Link Road and slip road joining Andheria Mod, Mahilpalpur Road and Mehrauli-Gurgaon Road involving forest land in South Central Ridge (Regional Park)

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Construction of Mahilpalpur By-pass connecting Ryan International School on Mehrauli-Mahilpalpur Road to Shiv Murti on NH-48

- It was informed that PWD has deposited the cost of the land to DDA for proposed construction of road. The Chairman, RMB asked PWD to confirm the Khasra No. for which the amount has been deposited. However, it was not readily available with the officer present in the meeting.
- CCF informed that South Central Ridge Area for 626 ha is in the possession of DDA. It is therefore appropriate that the Khasra No allotted to PWD should be verified from land records by the authorities of DDA to confirm whether any of the Khasra is part of the South Central Ridge Area.
- Ms. Sunita Narain, Member RMB informed that the concerned area was a mango orchard and it may not be Ridge area. However, the representative of DDA should confirm that Khasra Nos. of the area proposed for diversion as part of Ridge or not.
- The Chairman directed PWD and the representative of DDA to have a joint meeting for finalizing the status of Khasra No and submit the report to Forest Department for taking up the matter for clearance from Ridge Management Board in the next meeting.
- The Chairman also asked the Secretary (E&F) to take up the matter with Pr. Commissioner (Land), DDA on this issue with copy of the same to the O/o Hon'ble LG.

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Agenda 4: Proposal for grant of permission to lay 600mm diameter waterline by Sanjay Van Area, DDA Land.

- Briefing the proposal Sh. Keshav Chandra, CEO DJB requested to clear the project on furnishing the Latitude/Longitude of the proposed pipeline which is passing through Sanjay Van for 1300 mtr. Sanjay Van is Part of South Central Ridge Area which is in possession of DDA.
- CCF requested to provide the Khasra No through which the proposed water pipeline is to be laid. He further informed the board that water pipeline is an essential service and total area of Forest land to be used is 1.6 acres which may be permitted as internal water lines and other peripheral waterlines has already been laid in the Mehrauli project area. The laying of said 600 mm dia MS water line is the main inlet water carrying pipeline from IIT to Qutub UGR, is held up for making improvement in the water supply position in the said water deficient project area.
- The Board agreed in-principle to approve the project with the request to lay the pipeline 3 mtrs below the surface area subject to the condition of deposition of 5% of project cost to the RMB fund by the User Agency. User Agency is requested to apply online for Forest clearance which is available on the website <http://forestsclearance.nic.in/> for necessary approval from Hon'ble LG as per provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Agenda 5: Construction of Central Armed Police Force Institute of Medical Sciences

- A proposal was received from Dr. R.S. Rathore, Member Secretary and Consultant, CAPFIMS, MHA for construction of Central Armed Police Force Institute for Medical Sciences at Maidangarhi on an area of 51.4 acres. The proposed site for construction is situated near Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary periphery.
- Keeping in view the proximity of the construction area to Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary, the verification of the exact location of proposed construction site and Sanctuary boundary area was analyzed.

- Out of the total project area of 51.40 acres, an area of 17.75 acres falls under the Southern Ridge/Geo-morphological ridge wherein no construction can be permitted.
- The Ridge Management Board has approved the proposal while observing that left over area of the proposed institute as part of the Morphological Ridge/ Ridge should have dense vegetative cover so that it works as a shield for the wildlife in the nearby sanctuary area and there shall be no further expansion of the institute in future.

Agenda 6: Final Notification of Ridge Forest land under Section 20 of Indian Forest Act, 1927

- Notification under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act, 1927 was issued on 24th May 1994 declaring Ridge as Reserved Forest expressing intention to declare the forest land & wastelands which is property of the Government or over which Government has proprietary rights in Northern Ridge, Central Ridge, South Central Ridge and Southern Ridge with defined boundaries.
- In exercise of powers conferred u/s 154 of the Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 (8 of 1954) uncultivable surplus land of Gaon Sabha was made available as addition to Southern Ridge forest vide notification of Revenue Department dated 2nd April 1996 consisting of 14 villages for an area of 10517.10 acres.
- CCF informed that DCF (North) had attended a meeting in the chamber of Pr. Commissioner (Land) DDA on 14.03.2016 alongwith other staff of DDA in which it was informed that the engineering wing of DDA will be actively taking up the survey and demarcation work. The engineering wing of DDA have prepared the plan map of Northern Ridge. Sh. Chandu Bhutia, representing DDA informed that the discussion on the issue requires a representative from Land Management wing of DDA and in his absence the details could not be discussed in the meeting.
- Discussing the issue of demarcation of Southern Ridge Area it was informed that timelines as PERT chart have been fixed for demarcation of Southern Ridge and submitted to the High Court of Delhi in WP(C) 1346/2015 titled "Court on its Own Motion Air Pollution in Delhi". DM (South) informed that the demarcation

is under the progress in Asola Village as the forest area of Maidangarhi, Sahoorpur, Bhatti and Asola is to be finalised by July, 2016. She expressed concern on slow progress due to poor strength of Patwaris and Kanungos in the district. She requested for a dedicated team of 3-4 Patwaris and 2-3 Kanungos for early demarcation of Forest Area falling within the district. She requested for diversion of revenue staff from other districts where demarcation work is not pending.

- Chairman, RMB directed to take up the matter with the Pr. Secretary (revenue) in this regard.

Agenda 7: Strengthening of Forest Department

- The Department is in the process of survey and demarcation of Ridge Area for final notification under Section 20 of Indian Forest Act, 1927 jointly with Revenue Authorities. The Department is expecting resistance from the encroachers in demolition and removal of new encroachments. This may result into lot many court cases as well as interpretation of stay orders already granted by different courts. It was therefore proposed to engage one legal consultant and strengthening the department by constituting 4 mobile squads for smooth movement.
- After detailed discussion, the project proposal for an amount of 231.16 lakh for a period of 04 years from RMB fund has been approved for appointment of 1 (one) legal consultant and constitution of 4 (four) mobile squads to protect the Ridge Forest Area in possession of the Department.
- CCF informed the Board that Hon'ble NGT has directed in OA 215/2014 dated 10.12.2015 titled "Aditya N Prasad & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Ors." to strengthen the Forest Department which is essential for improvement of performance of the Department.
- It was informed that in absence of field functionaries the Department is extremely dependent on Armed Police Forces to protect the forest area from encroachment etc.
- The Chairman, RMB appreciated the functioning of the Department. It was observed, while the creation of posts is not within the purview of the Board as

Hon'ble Supreme Court has assigned the job to the Ridge Management Board to protect the ridge area to its pristine glory and Forest Department has to play a key role in protection and improvement of Ridge Forest Area.

- After detailed discussion the Board strongly recommended the creation of 404 posts proposed by the Forest Department as given below:

S.No.	Nomenclature of the Post	Additional requirement	Pay Scale of the Post
1.	Assistant Conservator of Forests/ Assistant director Wildlife	11	PB-2 with GP-4800
2.	Veterinary Officer	01	PB-3 with GP-6600
3.	Legal Advisor cum consultant	01	PB-3 with GP-5400
4.	Forest Ranger/ Wildlife Inspector	37	PB-2 with GP-4600
5.	Deputy Ranger	40	PB-2 with GP-4200
6.	Forester/ Compounder	72	PB-1 with GP-2800
7.	Forest Guard/ Wildlife Guard	242	PB-1 with GP-2000
	Total	404	

- The Department has been advised to take up the matter with the appropriate authorities of Government for creation of these posts to strengthen the Department for protection and management of Ridge Forest Land. The Chairman, RMB also suggested the Department to bring up the matter before Cabinet, if required, for creation of these posts at an early date.

Agenda 8: Construction of Foot Over Bridge at Qutab Metro Station, New Delhi

- Government of Delhi has decided to provide a foot over bridge near Qutub metro station along the Anuvrat Marg arterial road to avoid disruption of traffic and to give safe passage to the pedestrians.

- This road being a major arterial road which connects Delhi to Gurgaon, the vehicular traffic demands uninterrupted flow. The Indian Road Congress guidelines suggest that a pedestrian facility is must in such conditions.
- The project also involves felling of 17 nos of trees. Keeping in view the importance of the said proposal RMB decided to approve the project, in principle on the condition that the User Agency will deposit 5% of project cost to the RMB fund.

Agenda 9: Construction of New Building for up-gradation of IIMC to International Standards

- A proposal was received from OSD, Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New JNU Campus seeking NOC for construction of new buildings for up-gradation of IIMC to International Standards.
- IIMC has been established on the land provided by Jawaharlal University within their campus as per the agreement between the two agencies on 9th January 1980.
- The proposed site of construction of IIMC is a part of JNU campus which falls within Morphological Ridge i.e. area having features of the Ridge.
- It was further stated that until and unless area within the JNU campus notified as Protected Forest is demarcated it will be difficult for the Ridge Management Board to consider any proposal of further construction/expansion will be considered. Hence, the agenda has been deferred till next meeting of RMB.

Agenda 10: Development of Aravalli Biodiversity Park at Vasant Kunj

- DDA in joint collaboration with Centre for Environmental Management of Degraded Ecosystems (CEMDE) at University of Delhi has been developing the Aravalli Biodiversity Park over 692 acres of the land located near Vasant Kunj. Hon'ble Supreme Court has also directed that this particular stretch should be maintained as 'Green Area'.
- It has also been planned to develop a Nature Interpretation Centre (NIC) over 2400 square meter near the Institutional gate as per the layout.
- As the development of a Nature Interpretation Centre would be beneficial for dissemination of information related to biodiversity and also help in creating

awareness; hence, the development of nature interpretation centre has been approved by the Ridge Management Board on the condition that the User Agency will deposit 5% of the project cost with the RMB fund.

Agenda 11: Basic amenities in Sanjay Nagar Colony and other areas of Southern Ridge

- The Board considered the proposal from Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board for construction of Jan Suvidha Complex in JJ Bastis to ensure that all the JJ clusters are free from open defecation.
- The proposed location for the cluster with requisite details is as follows:
 - i. 195 nos. of seats at Rangpur Pahadi Malikpur Koch
 - ii. 40 nos. of seats at Rangpur Pahadi Nallah
 - iii. 85 nos. of seats at Harijan Balmiki Camp Rangpur Pahadi
 - iv. 120 nos. of seats at Sanjay Colony Mehrauli Bhatti Mines
- Sanjay Colony has been identified as an encroachment on the land notified as Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary vide notification dated 15.04.1991. The Government has directed the Department to approach Hon'ble Supreme court for de-notification of the area under Sanjay Nagar Colony from Wildlife Sanctuary as due opportunity has not been given to residents for declaring the area as part of the sanctuary as per provisions under Section 18 of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- The prime objective of RMB is to maintain the pristine glory of Ridge Forest Land. However considering the humane angle DUSIB may consider installation of mobile toilets wherever required subject to the condition that installation of toilets takes place within the perimeter of existing colony with the provision of safe disposal of bio human waste.

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

(A.K.Shukla)
Chief Conservator of Forests &
Member, RMB

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

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Dated: 24/6/16

Copy to:

1. Chief Secretary, A-Wing, 5th Floor, Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi-110002.
2. Member Secretary, Central Empowered Committee, II Floor, Chanakya Bhawan, Chanakyapuri New Delhi-110021.
3. Secretary (E & F), C Wing, 6th Level, Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi-110002.
4. VC, DDA and Member RMB, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi-110023.
5. Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board, Varunalaya Phase-II, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005
6. The Pr. Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Delhi, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, 4th Level, A-Wing, Delhi Secretariat, IP Estate, New Delhi.
7. Pr. Secretary (Services), 7th Level, B Wing, Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi-110002
8. Secretary (Administrative Reforms), 7th Level, C Wing, Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi-110002
9. Addl. PCCF, Member Secretary RMB, Department of Forests and Wildlife, A-Block, 2nd floor, I.P.Estate.
10. Ms. Sunita Narain, Director, Centre for Science and Environment & Member RMB, 41 Tughlakabad Institutional area, New Delhi-110062
11. Mr. Ravi Singh, CEO, WWF-India and Member RMB, 172-B, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi-110003
12. Land and Development officer, Ministry of Urban Development, Gate 4, 'A' Wing, 6th floor, Moulana Azad Road, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 011
13. Pr. Secretary (PWD), Govt. of Delhi, 5th Level, I.P.Estate, Delhi Secretariat, New Delhi
14. Secretary (Planning), B-Wing, 6th Floor, Delhi Secretariat, IP Estate, New Delhi.
15. Pr. Commissioner (Land), DDA Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023
16. Div. Commissioner and Secretary Revenue, 5 Sham Nath Marg, New Delhi-110054
17. District Magistrate, South District Mehrauli Badarpur Road, Saket, New Delhi-110039
18. District Magistrate, New Delhi District, Jam Nagar House, New Delhi-110001
19. District Magistrate, South East District, Old Gargi College Building, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi-110024
20. The Chief Engineer, CPWD, (HQ) II, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011
21. The Executive Engineer, F-Division, CPWD, Room No.558, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
22. The Conservator of Forests, Department of Forests & Wildlife, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, A-Block, 2nd Floor, Vikas Bhawan, New Delhi- 110002.
23. Deputy Conservator of Forests (West), West Forest Division, Birla Mandir Lane, New Delhi-110060.
24. Deputy Conservator of Forests (North), North Forest Division, Kamla Nehru Ridge, New Delhi-110007.
25. Deputy Conservator of Forests (South), South Forest Division, Near Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range, Tughlakabad, Delhi-110044.
26. Pr. Chief Engineer (Projects), PWD, 9th Floor, MSO Building, New Delhi- 110002.

27. Secretary, Delhi Jal Board, Room No-401, Varunalaya Building Ph-II, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005.
28. Defence Estate Officer, Delhi Cantonment Board, New Delhi- 110010
29. Commodore J.M. Gonsalves, Addl. Director General, WESEE, Ministry of Defence, West Block-V, R.K.Puram, New Delhi.
30. Sh. Hitesh Kumar Makwana, Project Director cum Joint Secretary (UT), Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi-110022.
31. Sh. Akhelesh Kumar, Chief Project Manager, CPWD, O/o Chief Project Manager, Vidyt Bhawan, Opp. Shankar Market, New Delhi-110001.
32. Prof. C.R.Babu, School of Environmental studies, Centre for Environmental Management of Degraded Ecosystems (CEMDE), University of Delhi.
33. Sh. Chandu Bhutia, Director (Planning), DDA, INA, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi-110023
34. Deputy Registrar, IIMC, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, New JNU Campus, New Delhi-110067
35. Sh. M.K.Tyagi, Member (Engineering), Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, Punervas Bhawan, I.P.Estate, New Delhi-110002.



(A.K.Shukla)

**Chief Conservator of Forests &
Member, RMB**