

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/Part 6/4972-74

Date: 15.07.2022

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RIDGE MANAGEMENT BOARD HELD ON 28.06.2022 AT 3:00 PM UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF CHIEF SECRETARY, DELHI & CHAIRMAN, RMB

The meeting of Ridge Management Board was held on 28.06.2022 at 3:00 PM under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary cum Chairman RMB. The list of attendees is attached.

At the outset, PCCF & Member Secretary, RMB welcomed all the Board Members.

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

1. Agenda Item 1: Issue related to Legal sanctity and protection accorded to Morphological Ridge area

The Board was informed about the issue being raised by DDA about the legal sanctity and protection accorded to the Morphological Ridge in Delhi. The Chief Conservator of Forests briefed about the various orders passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court and Hon'ble Delhi High Court regarding the restrictions on carrying out developmental projects in Morphological Ridge in Delhi without prior permission of the Ridge Management Board and Hon'ble Supreme Court through the Central Empowered Committee.

The Director, GSI clarified that their organization is not the appropriate authority to give comments on legal sanctity and protection accorded to Morphological Ridge. With regard to the letter dated 28.05.2013 issued by GSI, she informed that the Geomorphological map provided by GSI depicts the denuded hills/ rocky surface exist in NCT of Delhi.

After due deliberations, it was decided that the Department shall prepare a GIS layer of the denuded hills/ rocky surface in NCT of Delhi as made available by GSI and Notified Ridge areas of Delhi. These layers shall then be superimposed and the overlapping areas contiguous to notified Ridge in the Morphological area as indicated by GSI may be considered as the Ridge area.



Such findings may be brought before the Ridge management Board for further directions. This exercise may be completed within a month's time by the Department with support of GSDL and GSI.

2. Agenda Item 2: Proposal for development of construction and demolition waste facility at Tehkhand by MCD.

The Board was informed that a proposal has been received from MCD regarding grant of permission for development of Construction and Demolition waste processing facility at Tehkhand (1000 TPD capacity). The facility is being developed for collection, transportation, processing and disposal of construction and demolition waste generated within the jurisdiction of South Delhi Municipal Corporation at Tehkhand, Okhla for Central and South Zone. The area for proposed construction is 3.64 Ha. The said parcel of land has been allotted by DDA to MCD.

The proposed set up of the plant includes C&D waste stock area, wet processing unit, dry processing unit, tiles/ pavers manufacturing unit, curing chamber, concrete production unit, office lab, parking etc. The proposal involves felling of 672 nos. of trees. The User Agency has earmarked land parcels at Ghumanhera and Najafgarh zone for carrying out the compensatory plantation.

Upon scrutiny, it has been found that the entire land parcel is falling within the Morphological Ridge area out of which 1.98 ha is falling within Southern Ridge, for which prior permission from MoEF&CC is a prerequisite.

After discussion, the Chairman directed the User Agency to explore the possibility of realigning the project so as to exclude the area falling in Southern Ridge. The same was agreed to by VC, DDA being the land allotment agency. The MCD in consultation with DDA would then submit a revised proposal to the RMB.

3. Agenda Item 3: Construction of office building for Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (HQ)

The Board was apprised of a proposal for construction of office building for Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Gol over an area of 6200 sqm situated at Plot No. 11 (B), Vasant Kunj, New Delhi. The said parcel of land has been allotted by DDA to DRI. The said area is lying within the boundaries of Morphological Ridge. There are 17 nos. of trees in the said area. However, no

tree felling is proposed as these trees are falling under the setback area of the building.

After thorough deliberations in the RMB meeting, the Board decided to recommend the proposal to Central Empowered Committee subject to the following conditions:

- a. The User Agency shall deposit 5% of the project cost proportionate to the area falling within Morphological Ridge area 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 the ridge.
- b. There should be no tree felling involved in the proposed construction as informed by the User Agency.

4. Agenda Item 4: Financial approval for carrying out study by WII with regard to SDMC's proposal for dumping of inert waste material in Bhatti mines (Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary).

The Board was informed that a proposal for dumping of inert material, generated after bio remediation of 03 landfill sites in Delhi in the abandoned mining pits of Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary was received from South Delhi Municipal Corporation for consideration of the Ridge Management Board. The proposal was placed before the Ridge Management Board in its meeting held on 05.03.2021 wherein the Board directed that a committee may be constituted under the chairmanship of CCF - cum - Chief Wildlife Warden 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.

As directed by the RMB, a committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Chief Wildlife Warden, GNCTD vide order dated 07.04.2021. First meeting of the Committee was held on 29.07.2021 where following decisions were taken:

- a. EIA of Shriram Institute for Industrial Research will be provided to all the Committee members for kind perusal.



b. A study of flora and fauna likely to be affected, should be done by WII at the expense of RMB.

c. Views of the members of the committee to be placed before the RMB before moving ahead.

As decided by the Committee, WII was requested to submit a proposal for conducting 'a study on Flora and Fauna of mined out pits and the probable effects due to dumping of inert material at Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary'. Accordingly, WII has submitted a proposal for the same with a total cost estimate of Rs. 27,82, 540/-.

After discussing the proposal, the Board was of the view that instead of carrying out a specific study limited to this particular project, a comprehensive study regarding the Biodiversity of Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary and preparation of Management plan should be got conducted through WII, Dehradun. This study can also include suggestions regarding the sustainable use of these mining pits. The Forest Department may write to WII for submitting a revised proposal on these lines.


The Chairman emphasized that WII should strictly adhere to the timelines as proposed in the study and the final payment should be released only after completion of the study and submission of the Report.

5. Agenda Item 5: Modification in proposal for purchase of 05 nos. Field vehicles as approved by RMB in its meeting held on 31.12.2021.

It was informed that the Board in its meeting held on 31.12.2021 had approved the proposal for hiring of 05 field vehicles (Diesel vehicles SUV of 2000 cc and above) for regular patrolling of Ridge Forest areas.

The Finance Department, GNCTD vide OM dated 25.02.2021 has issued instructions to all Department, autonomous bodies and grantee institutions of Govt. of NCT of Delhi to shift their existing hired petrol/ diesel// CNG vehicles to electric vehicles.


It was submitted by the Chief Conservator of Forests that the purchase of Diesel vehicles SUV 2000 cc and above is required for the purpose of monitoring of ridge forest areas where the terrain is uneven having steep slopes. Sometimes while patrolling & field visits, the vehicle has to negotiate high water levels in nallas and roads. Electric vehicles do not have the capacity or ground clearance



for successfully negotiating through the above situations. Also, keeping in view the threat to field staff during encroachment removal drives, purchase of diesel vehicles is required which are suitable for such areas.

Keeping in view the submissions made by the Forest Department, the Board agreed that vehicles as per the earlier approved specifications may be purchased. It was also decided that 03 nos. Mahindra XUV 500 and 02 nos. Thar vehicles may be purchased being economical and reliable for proposed work.


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


14/07/2022
(C.D. 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.


14/07/2022
(C.D. 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

Venue: Conference Room of the Chief Secretary, GNCTD

Date: 28.06.2022

Time: 3:00 PM

| S.No. | Name/Dept. & Designation | Contact No. | E mail id | Signature |
|-------|--|-------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Sh. Abhai Kumar Srivastava Pr ADG, DRI (HQ) | | abrihara@nic.gov.in | |
| 2. | Sh. Deepak Kumar Additional Director, DRI | | dk.bangar@gov.in | |
| 3. | Leenu Sahgal Commrcplng) DDA | | | <u>Leenu</u> |
| 4. | H.K. Bhatia DDA Addl. Commr. CRP) | 9828368429 | | <u>HKB</u> |
| 5. | Pushp Lata, Director G-SI | | | <u>Pushp</u> |
| 6. | <u>शुभा शर्मा</u> | | | <u>शुभा</u> |
| 7. | Ashok Kr. Giri | 8826168058 | | <u>Ashok</u> |
| 8. | Manish Gupta VC, DDA | | | <u>Manish</u> |
| 9. | Sh. Satya Gopal ACS (Env and Forest) | | | |
| 10. | Sh. Ankur Garg Secy (IT) | 9999533300 | | |

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| S.No. | Name/Dept. & Designation | Contact No. | E mail id | Signature |
|-------|---|-------------|-----------|---|
| 1. | Dr. Pooja Joshi Sp. Secy (IT) (GSDL) | 9910952020 | |  |
| 2. | Sh. Anurag Samana E.E (QC/Note) MCD | 9717787873 | |  |
| 3. | Kushant Kumar AE (etc) MCD | 9717360844 | |  |
| 4. | Sh. C. D. Singh PCCF, Forest Dept. | 9868809513 | |  |
| 5. | Sh. Nisheet Saxena CCF, Forest Dept. | 9968312090 | |  |
| 6. | Dr. Surabhi Rai CF, Forest Dept. | 9912997865 | |  |
| 7. | | | | |
| 8. | | | | |
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