

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RIDGE MANAGEMENT BOARD HELD ON**  
**07<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2014**

The following attended the meeting:

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Sh. S.K. Srivastava, Chief Secretary, GNCTD | : In chair.         |
| 2. Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Secretary (E & F)         | : Member            |
| 3. Ms. Sunita Narain, DG, CSE                  | :Member             |
| 4. Dr. Suneesh Buxy, CF                        | :Special invitee    |
| 5. Ms. Savita Bhandari, AC (LS), DDA           | :Representative DDA |
| 6. Sh. Chandu Bhutia, Director (Planning), DDA | :Representative DDA |
| 7. Sh. M. Hussain, GSDL                        | :Special invitee    |
| 8. Sh. Sarvesh Wagh, GSDL                      | :Special invitee    |
| 9. Sh. N.V. Satyanarayan, DEO, Delhi Circle    | :Special invitee    |
| 10. Sh. Dharmendra Sharma, DRDO                | :Special invitee    |
| 11. Sh. Radaish Muku, Architect                | :Special invitee    |
| 12. Sh. G.N. Sinha, APCCF, GNCTD               | : Member Secretary  |

The Chief Secretary, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Chairman RMB welcomed the members and special invitees to the Ridge Management Board meeting and asked the Secretary (E & F) & Member Secretary, RMB to put forth the agenda for discussion and for consideration of the Board members.

The Member Secretary informed the house that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 had been circulated to members and the minutes have been confirmed after approval of the Chairman, RMB. The minutes were taken on record without any amendment.

**Agenda 1: Construction of staff quarters of DGDE at Naraina, Delhi Cantonment.**

The Defence Estate Officer, Delhi Circle, Delhi Cantonment, had submitted a proposal for obtaining clearance from the Ridge Management Board for completion of construction of staff quarters of DGDE at Naraina, Delhi Cantonment, in pursuance with the directions of the Hon'ble High Court in its order dated 30.11.2011 in WP(C) 3339/2011 in the matter of Sh. Ashok Kumar Tanwar versus Union of India & Others where the user agency was asked to obtain clearance of the said project from the Ridge Management Board.

Sh. N.V. Satyanarayan, DEO, apprised the house that the proposed construction site lies in the morphological ridge area and the construction had started in 2009, but was put to a halt due to legal interventions. The RMB has been approached pursuant to the order of the Hon'ble High Court, Delhi.

The Defence Estate Officer was requested to send geo-coordinates for the land where they want to construct staff quarters and other structures as per the project submitted by them to the RMB. These geo-coordinates were sent to GSDL with the request to inform the status of land in question. GSDL, in turn, has overlaid the geo-coordinates on their existing geo-portal data and has concluded that 3.5 acre land near Naraina village (project site) falls under geomorphological ridge, which is not part of the notified Ridge forest in Delhi. A copy of the map prepared by GSDL indicating the project site to be part of Morphological Ridge was produced in the meeting. A copy of the map duly certified by APCCF is attached.

The total area in possession of the Defence Estates at Naraina village measures 3.5 acres. The proposed construction is to occupy an area of 1 acre and the remaining part is to be maintained as green area. The proposed construction is of permanent nature and will include staff quarters, one substation, one pump house and a security guard room as per plan enclosed. He further submitted that the project cost was estimated in 2009 which is under revision.

After carefully scrutinizing the proposal and confirming the land in question was not located in the notified Ridge area as also confirmed by Addl. PCCF and GSDL in the meeting, but the geo-morphological ridge, it was decided by the Board that the construction activity be restricted to 1 acre and the remaining 2.5 acres be maintained as a green area. No further construction will be carried out in this 3.5 acres in the future. Further, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court, in WP(C) 3339/2011, the user agency has to deposit 5% of the total project cost to the Ridge Management Board. The felling of trees required for this project will be dealt under the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994. As per the prevailing practice, felling of 1 tree entails depositing of Rs. 32000/- for planting 10 saplings. This is inclusive of maintenance, administrative charges etc.

In view of the above conditions the said project was given clearance for construction of staff quarters at Naraina under the following geo-coordinates:

<b>PROJECT DETAIL/COORDINATE SYSTEM</b>	
<b>Datum</b>	<b>WGS 84</b>
<b>Projection</b>	<b>EGM-96</b>
<b>Coordinate System</b>	<b>UTM Coordinate</b>
<b>Zone</b>	<b>43 North Meridian 75DE</b>

LIST OF COORDINATES						
PT ID	LONGITUDE			LATITUDE		
	D	M	S	D	M	S
1	77	8	18	28	37	8
2	77	8	19	28	37	4
3	77	8	20	28	37	0
4	77	8	22	28	37	3
5	77	8	22	28	37	6

**Agenda 2: Demarcation and consolidation of Ridge land.**

It was decided by the Board that the consolidation of ridge land has to be done in stipulated time. For that matter all the agencies have to conduct TSM and GPS survey and place the report before the Board prior to the next RMB meeting.

- A. **Northern Ridge:** The APCCF submitted before the Board that in the Northern Ridge the area under the Forest Department is 3 ha. which is already geo-referenced. However the 73 ha of DDA and 11 ha of MCD needs to be geo-referenced and it was agreed that this would be done at the earliest and would be presented to the RMB in its next meeting. The DDA officials have been asked to provide necessary geo-coordinates and map of the ridge area under their possession with suitable mechanism to close the traverse as per the 1994 notification.
- B. **Central Ridge:** In the Central Ridge out of 864 ha. 423 ha. has been demarcated and geo-referenced. The remaining area with DDA and Army needs to be demarcated and geo-referenced. It was agreed that the DDA and Army would be requested to provide information so that this could be done at the earliest.
- C. **South Central Ridge:** This is totally under DDA as Sanjay van. However, reconciliation on the data is required as according to DDA officials present in the meeting the boundary of the area has been changed and modified. Status on this would be provided at the next meeting of RMB.
- D. **Southern Ridge:** The APCCF further apprised the Board that in the Southern ridge the Forest Department has completed delineation of boundary of 21 villages through its Special Task Force. The mosaicing of 21 villages will be done within a month's time which will provide exact area of the Southern Ridge and simultaneously with the help of Quick Bird Satellite Imagery, the department is doing an exercise with GSDL

to detect encroachment areas village wise. After completion of the details of encroachment, it will be placed before the Board for taking further view in the matter.

The progress of Forest Settlement Officer was also discussed and the Secretary (E & F) apprised the Chief Secretary that out of 45 cases the FSO has already settled 43 cases. The progress was found to be satisfactory. The APCCF also stated that 11 maps of the Southern Ridge have been uploaded in the departmental website in public domain and the remaining maps of 10 villages will be uploaded in another month.

The status of Southern Ridge is as follows: 4022 ha with Forest Department to be finally demarcated after detection of encroachments; 1957 ha with Forest Department under Asola-Bhatti already demarcated; 42 ha with Sports Authority to be demarcated; 120 ha with DDA to be demarcated.

**3. Other decisions:** Member Secretary circulated a copy of the additional agenda item on procurement of Server Based System, Personal Digitized Application and engagement of two Project Associates. The Board took on record the scheme on Ridge Protection Management System formulated by the Forests & Wildlife Department. The Board also noted that Personal Digitized Application and Server Based System will improve the efficiency of monitoring of the status of the Ridge. Following decisions were taken:

- i. The RMB approved procurement of Server Based System, 40 PDA having mobile with camera and high accuracy GPS @ Rs. 20,000 per set. The total cost is about Rs. 10 lakhs. This will be procured by GSDL on DGSD rates for Forest Department.
- ii. The RMB approved engagement of 02 (Two) Project Associates on a monthly emolument of Rs. 25,000/- for two years. Appointment will be reviewed after one (1) year and continuation will be subject to satisfactory performance reviewed by Member Secretary.

The Board requested the Member Secretary to complete digitization of Forest boundary, detection of encroachment and early starting of its GIS Laboratory.

However, it was decided that a meeting of all the agencies in possession of the Ridge land may be called where they are expected to submit the geo-coordinates of the area of Ridge land under their possession. GSDL may be approached with this data which would facilitate demarcation of Ridge and help draw a conservation strategy of the same.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

GOVT. OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI  
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS AND WILDLIFE  
A-Block, II Floor, Vikas Bhawan, New Delhi-02

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**Distribution :**

1. The Pr. Secretary (Finance) & Member, RMB, Department of Finance, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, 4th Level, A-Wing, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary (E & F) & Member, RMB, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, 6<sup>th</sup> Level, C-Wing, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, New Delhi.
3. The Vice Chairman, DDA & Member, RMB, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi.
4. The Chief Conservator of Forests & Member, RMB, Vikas Bhawan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, A-Block, I.P. Estate, New Delhi - 110002.
5. Sh. Ravi Singh, WWF-India, 172-B, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi-03.
6. Ms. Sunita Narain, Centre for Science & Environment, 41 Tughlaqabad Institutional Area, Delhi-62.
7. Sh. N.V. Satyanarayan, DEO, Defence Estate Office, Delhi Circle, Delhi Cantonment 110010.

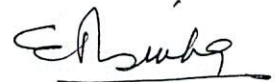


(G.N. Sinha)

Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests &  
Member Secretary, RMB

**Copy to:**

1. The Chief Secretary, Chairman, Ridge Management Board (RMB), Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, New Delhi- 110002.



(G.N. Sinha)

Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests &  
Member Secretary, RMB