

## SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, TERRITORIAL CIRCLE, JAMSHEDPUR

I inspected the Reserved Forest, Protected Forest and Deemed Forest Land proposed for development of Dhalbhumgarh Airport in East Singhbhum District on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2022 and 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2022. The proposed area passes on through 53.788 ha. Reserved Forest of Burudih, Charchaka, Deosol, Kokpara-Narsingharh villages, 0.065 ha. Protected Forest of Ruasol village and 45.403 ha. Deemed Forest of Burudih, Charchaka, Deosol, Kokpara-Narsingharh villages.

The Forest land proposed for diversion come under Dry Deciduous Tropical Forest. The forest is mostly degraded and vulnerable to erosion. The average density of the proposed forest area is 0.71 Mainly trees of *Shorea robusta*, *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Acacia arabica*, *Cassia fistula*, *Terminalia arjuna*, *Terminalia bellirica*, *Melia azedarach*, *Ficus bengalensis*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Semecarpus anacardium*, *Hymenodictyon excelsum*, *Cassia siamea*, *Alstonia scholaris*, *Holoptelea integrifolia*, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Lannea grandis*, *Ficus hispida*, *Eucalyptus globules*, *Erythrina indica*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Ailanthus excels*, *Delonix regia*, *Mitragyna parvifolia*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Anthocephalus cadamba*, *Bridelia retusa*, *Anacardium occidentale*, etc, of girth class between 60 cm to 150 cm are present. So, a **Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan** is an essential mitigation measure to preserve topsoil to reduce deterioration in soil fertility and the water holding capacity thus sustaining productivity.

Singhbhum Elephant Reserve, covering an area of 4529.90 sq. km. has been notified by the Government of Jharkhand, vide notification no.- 33/2000-3640 dated 26.09.2001. The proposed area falls within the notified area of Elephant Reserve. Impact of Dhalbhumgarh Airport on flora and fauna will be clearly visible in terms of fragmentation of habitat, removal of vegetation and fauna from proposed area. Thus, an **Integrated Wildlife Management Plan** is essential as mitigation measure for properly managing wildlife habitats, populations and associated recreational activities. Management objectives should be targeted towards restoring native habitat, removing invasive and exotic species, protecting habitats for rare

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species, conserving and providing habitat for birds, herpetofauna and mammals increasing the quality of populations and increasing the abundance of flora and fauna species.

The user agency has explored all the alternatives for the project and the proposed alignment is the most suitable one. Hence, this proposal for diversion of 99.256 ha. of Protected Forest, Reserved Forest and Deemed Forest Land may be accepted.

Since Dhalbhumgarh Airport is an infrastructure along the National Highway, which can boost the economies of Ghatshila, Musabani and Chakulia. Hence, the proposal may be implemented in the wider interest of the population.

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