Minutes of the meeting on illegal mining near Delhi Haryana Border held at the Conference Hall of Secretary (E&F) on 12.04.04 at 03.00 P.M.

At the outset the Secretary (E&F) welcomed the participants. The following officers were present.

Shri Dalbir Singh, General (Eco Task Force) from Territorial army.

Maj. Semwal of Eco Task Force.

Shri Satish Chandra, Joint Commissioner of Police, Delhi

Shri Vivek Gogia, Dy. Commissioner of Police, South.

Shri S.K. Jain, Addl. District Magistrate, South.

Shri R.K. Meena, Sub Divisional Magistrate, South.

Shri A.K. Sinha, Conservator of Forests, Delhi

Shri A.K. Biswal, Dy. Conservator of Forests, South

Different salient points of the illegal mining along Delhi Haryana border was discussed among the participants and following decisions were taken:

Several cases of illegal mining were reported by the Police Department. The Police Department will inform the Forest Department about such cases.

The cases under illegal mining are used to be booked under Delhi Mines & Minerals Act The provisions of the Act are not stringent. Hence those cases may simultaneously be booked under Forest/Wildlife Act also. The SDM/ADM should launch prosecution instead of compounding most of the cases.

The Eco Task Force should assist the forest staff in impounding the vehicles involved in illegal mining.

There should be joint patrolling between Police & Forest personnel. The patrolling should be of regular nature as well as surprising checks.

The approach roads to the illegal mining area should immediately be cut by digging. The D.C.F. (South) will provide the JCB to the Eco Task Force.

The chain link fencing which are lying with D.C.F.(South) will be provided to the Eco Task Force immediately. The Eco Task Force will fence at suitable locations in the illegal mining area.

The additional area needs to be handed over to the E.T.F. However, the boundary of Forest areas are not very clear and some of the areas are disputed. The areas which are not disputed need to be handed over to

E.T.F. immediately for the suitable action so that illegal mining from that area can be stopped henceforth.

Nessessary steps under Environment Protection Act should be explored for countering illegal mining.

Signboards & other display boards should be placed at suitable locations showing the area belonging to Sanctuary & ridge & also showing activities banned in those areas. Pamphlets in the same line can be distributed. Necessary action should be taken by the revenue & other concerned departments.

The toll tax collected by the concerned departments inside the forest area should be discontinued immediately.

The Meeting ended with thanks by the Chair to the participants.