

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
KAMLA NEHRU RIDGE, DELHI-1

No.F11(26)/PA/DCF/95/Vol.III/2724-1

Dated: 23/9/98

To

1. Vice-Chairman,
Delhi Development Authority,
Vikas Badan, New Delhi.
2. Finance Secretary,
Govt. of NCT of Delhi,
5, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi.
3. Prof. I.H.Khan,
Indian Society of Env. Management,
177, Zakir Bagh, Tower-II,
Opp. Surya Hotel, Okhal Road,
New Delhi-110025.
4. Mr. Akshay Kumar,
Prakarti, Centre for Environmental Protection
No.3, Shankracharya Marg, Delhi-54.
5. The L&DO,
Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment,
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Director(Hort.)CPWD
Y-Shape Building, New Delhi.
7. Director(Hort.)MCD,
Rouse Avenue, New Delhi.
8. Mr. Manjeet Singh,
Addl. Commissioner, Slum & J.J.,
Vikas Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. Commissioner, MCD
Town Hall, Delhi.
10. Mr. Manoj Kumar,
Forest Settlement Officer,
ADM(HQ) Tis Hazari, Delhi.
11. Director Survey(AR),
West Block-IV, Wing No.IV,
R.K.Puram, New Delhi.
12. Director(Panchayat),
Tis Hazari, Delhi.
13. Chief Engineer, CPWD,
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
14. Chief Engineer, MCD,
Town Hall, Delhi.
15. DCP(Traffic),
I.T.O., IX, Floor, New Delhi.
16. Director(Hort.)DDA (South),
Vikas Minar, New Delhi.
17. Director(Hort.)DDA(North),
Vikas Minar, New Delhi.

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18. O.S.D. to Chief Secretary,
5, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi.
19. Secretary (Env. & Forests),
Vikas Bhawan, New Delhi.
20. P.S. to Development Commissioner,
5/9, Under Hill Road, Delhi.
21. Secy, Ministry of Defence
G.O.I.

Sir,

Enclosed please find herewith the minutes of the meeting of Ridge Management Board held on 31.08.1998 at 3.00 P.M. under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Govt. of NCT Delhi for further necessary action.

Please acknowledge the receipt of the letter.

H.C. Dhanwan
23.9.88
(H.C. DHANWAN)
MEMBER SECRETARY, RIDGE MANAGEMENT
BOARD-CUM-CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RIDGE MANAGEMENT BOARD

A meeting of the Ridge Management Board was held under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary-cum-Chairman, Ridge Management Board on 31.08.1998 in the Conference Hall of Chief Secretary Office. List of the participants attached herewith as per Annexure-I.

Details of the Agenda items discussed and decisions taken are indicated below:-

1. Review of the minutes of the meeting held on 09.06.1998 shifting of existing three colonies in the Wildlife Sanctuary to Jaunapur:-

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Additional Commissioner(Slum & JJ) briefed the members in respect of 61 acres of land acquired at Jaunapur to shift three colonies i.e., Balbir Nagar, Sanjay Nagar & Indira Nagar for which plans were prepared by NEERI and the same have been finalised. All necessary information in respect of this project shall be submitted to Chairman, Ridge Management Board for facilitating of necessary affidavit in the Hon'ble Supreme Court for seeking extension of time for shifting of colonies to Jaunapur in compliance with Court's order. On further query from Chief Secretary, it was informed that a minimum of one year time will be required to shift the colonies to Jaunapur.

2. Fencing of the Ridge area & Repair of the broken fencing:

Director(Hort.)CPWD assured that all the broken up fencing and the unfenced area of the Central Ridge being managed by his Deptt. will be fenced by 30.09.98 positively. Similarly D.D.A., was also asked to complete all the fencing in the Ridge area managed by that agency. On the request of Member Secretary, Chief Secretary agreed that permanent fencing with 2' height wall with barbed wire fencing over it should be erected wherever new fencing is to be done in the four Ridges to avoid boundary altercation in the event of any theft of fencing materials in future.

3. Afforestation in Ridge areas:

Member Secretary briefed the Board about delay in taking up plantation works in areas in the Central Ridge vacated/retrieved from various Educational institutions, CRPF at Rabindra Rang Shalla, Polo Club, Bapu Asharam temple etc., on the orders of Supreme Court, Director (Hort.) CPWD, informed that he had already completed the plantations over the land vacated by CRPF at Rabindra Rang Shalla and rest of the plantations will be completed by 15th September, 1998. Chief Secretary desired that if land owning agencies do not complete plantations within time-limit set by Supreme Court, it should be done by Forest Deptt. and the expenditure bills be sent to concerning agency for payment to avoid any contempt of court proceedings in future.

4. Use of Rabindra Rang Shalla for Republic Day parade, 1999:

Defence Ministry in its request to Delhi Govt. sought permission to allow use of Rabindra Rang Shalla land for tableau artists for celebration of Republic Day Parade, 1999 as being matter of national importance, as the alternate site possession could not be taken. Chief Secretary desired that 'Ridge Management Board' should approach court with prayer to allow Rabindra Rang Shalla area for the tableau artists for celebration of Republic Day Parade, 1999. This being a very special case as Ministry of Defence assured that it will definitely develop the new site for Republic Day Parade 2000, (Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgement dated 29.01.1998). Conditional request was approved by Ridge Management Board.

5. Settlement of Claims by Forest Settlement Officer:

Member Secretary, Ridge Management Board said that for issuing final notification under section-20 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, it is essential to settle all the claims pending before Forest Settlement Officer. Further, Member Secretary requested the Forest Settlement Officer to settle the claims at the earliest. Forest

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Settlement Officer, Shri Manoj Kumar, told that he will settle the claims pending before him by 31.10.1998.

6. Establishment of temporary police post near Bhatti Mines:

Member secretary informed that due to non-settlement of the boundary issue between Haryana and Delhi along the Southern boundary of the Sanctuary, people have doubt that mining is taking place in Delhi where actually it is banned.

To remove this doubt, Member Secretary, suggested that Ridge Management Board may approach Hon'ble Supreme Court with a request to impose ban on mining in disputed land between Delhi and Haryana by declaring it a buffer zone as by this way the illegal transportation through sanctuary will also be stopped. The Ridge Management Board agreed to this proposal. In the meantime, stationing of a joint Police/Forest post at Bhatti mine area on the boundary of Delhi/Haryana was approved by R.M.B. to check illegal transportation which in the past has caused law and order problem.

7. Taking over of the Petrol pumps in Central Ridge:-

As per the Hon'ble Supreme Court's directions, the land to be vacated by shifting of Petrol Pumps was to be taken over by L & DO and subsequently has to be handed over to CPWD, the Land Managing Agency. The delay in taking over the land may complicate the issue as lot of review petitions are coming. L& DO assured that the land in question will be taken over by 30th September 1998 for handing over to CPWD.

8. Preparation of Management plan for the development & Maintenance of the Ridge:-

M.S. informed that we may request Haryana/Rajasthan Forest Deptt. to prepare a comprehensive Management plan for the development of the Ridge Forest area in Delhi as being extension of Aravali Hills passing through the State of Haryana and Rajasthan as those states have done good afforestation work for the rehabilitation of highly degraded Aravali Hills. R.M.B. approved the proposal.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks.