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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RIDGE MANAGEMENT BOARD HELD ON  
11.08.2000 AT 3:00 P.M.**

A meeting of the R.M.B. was held under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary on 11.08.2000 in the conference hall of the Office of the Chief Secretary. The list of the participants is given in Annexure-I.

The following items were discussed and decisions taken therein are indicated below :-

**1. Shifting of three colonies from Wildlife Sanctuary to Jaunapur project site :-**

The Additional Commissioner (Slum & J.J.) informed that there are certain difficulties in relocation of three colonies viz. Balbir Nagar, Sanjay Nagar & Indira Nagar to Jaunapur site. He informed that a meeting of all concerned Officers is being convened by them under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to discuss the matter in detail.

**2. Protection, fencing & afforestation of the Ridges :-**

To ensure proper protection of the Ridges, Ridge Management Board directed all Ridge Managing Agencies to construct fencing wall as is provided along the boundary of the Northern Ridge. All Ridge Managing Agencies were requested to improve the vegetation of the Ridge.

Director (Hort.) North, D.D.A. informed that the case of meat shop in Northern Ridge is with the Lt. Governor and is likely to be decided shortly. Director (Hort.) was asked to keep strict vigil over the breeches in boundary wall and the vendors in Northern Ridge.

**3. Settlement of claims by Forest Settlement Officer & Final Notification of Ridge :-**

Forest Settlement Officer was asked to settle the pending claims. The issue of shifting of Maurice Nagar Police Station & Wireless Station is still pending. Commissioner of Police should be asked to locate alternate site for these stations. Survey of India has been asked to give the position of boundary pillars of Northern Ridge on the ground so that Boundary pillars may be erected by D.D.A. & Forest Department at the earliest. Survey of India has also been requested to give the estimates for conducting the boundary survey of Central, South-Central & Southern Ridge to the respective land managing agencies.

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In Southern Ridge, the Ridge Management Board directed the Divisional Commissioner, & Director(Panchayat) to expedite the demarcation of all gaon sabha lands notified as Reserve Forests and to remove encroachments and then to hand over all such lands to Forest Department at the earliest so that final notification of the Ridge as Reserve Forests may be issued at the earliest as the delay in final notification of Ridge is viewed seriously by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

It was further discussed that interstate boundary of Bhatti Sanctuary has been completed except at two places through which the road to Haryana passes. This boundary can be closed only when the road is diverted outside the boundary wall. The matter is being looked into by the DC (South) and DC (Faridabad). Further a gap of 500 mt. still remains to be closed in interstate boundary in Asola Sanctuary, the matter regarding its demarcation has been taken up by D.C.F.(South) with Survey of India. The Chief Secretary directed the Secretary (Env.) to look into it urgently & report back the progress within 15 days.

4. **Taking over of petrol pumps in the Central Ridge:-**

L & DO informed the R.M.B. that out of 9 Petrol pumps, 7 have already been taken over by the CPWD. For the remaining two petrol pumps, the Oil companies are reportedly delaying the handing-over processes. R.M.B. directed the L & DO and CPWD to take over the possession of these two petrol pumps immediately.

CPWD has recently written letter about it

5. **Taking over the land from Janki Devi Mahavidhyalaya :-**

Conservator of Forests informed that a contempt petition has already been filed by the R.M.B. in the Supreme Court against the Mahavidhyalaya and it is likely to come up for hearing shortly. L & DO asked for particulars of the 0.9 acres of land so that the same can be resumed by the Govt. of India.

What is the position of contempt petition?

6. **Request from Manaysthli School to permit passage through Ridge from upper Ridge Road :-**

Director (Hort.) CPWD informed that tall saplings have already been planted over the Kachcha path leading to the school. R.M.B. rejected the request of Manaysthli School for the passage.

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7. **Construction of Flyover at Dhaulakuan :-**

Earlier, RMB had directed the Divisional Commissioner to settle the issue of demarcation of the boundary of Central Ridge. The matter could not be sorted out. The Chief Secretary directed the Conservator of Forests to collect all documents, maps etc. from L & DO and other organisations which were relied

upon and which were produced before the Supreme Court while notifying the Ridge as reserve forest and then decide whether the site for Dhaulakuan flyover falls within Central Ridge or not. This process should be completed not later than 30.09.2000.

8. **Private lands within Southern Ridge :-**

Regarding the details of private land of 13 villages, ADM (HQ.) informed R.M.B. that details are being collected and is expected to take about a month.

9. **Metro Rail Project from ISBT to Delhi University along Mall Road passing through Northern Ridge :-**

Ridge Management Board decided that the DMRC should first consider alternatives like change of alignment or tunneling for laying railway track and then revert to RMB.

10. **Damage to Central Ridge by Bapu Asa Ram Ashram :-**

The Ashram had applied for the allotment of land allowed only to be used by Hon'ble Supreme Court to the Ashram in the Central Ridge. Hon'ble Supreme Court has permitted the area of 198 feet x 196 feet with 6 feet wide & 350 feet long path to be left with the Ashram. L & DO suggested that R.M.B. may file a clarificatory petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court to ascertain what is actually meant by leaving land with the Ashram. Director (Hort.) CPWD pointed out that this Ashram is well within the Ridge & its continuance inside the Ridge is a permanent source of disturbance to the ridge and its vegetation. Chief Secretary directed to file a clarificatory petition on behalf of R.M.B. as suggested by L & DO.

11. **Widening of Shanker Road :-**

R.M.B. directed Director (Hort.) MCD to plant tall saplings on the Kachcha portion (Berm) of the Shanker Road passing through ridge within 15 days.

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L & DO to file affidavit.

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- R.M.B. directed the NDMC to afforest the land with indigenous species of the ridge.

- R.M.B. approved the proposal of F.R.I. for the study of vegetation structure and plant diversity and other related issues.

Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.

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Following officers were present :-

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