

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RIDGE I  
11.99 AT 4.00 P.M.

NT BOARD HELD ON

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10/11/99  
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A meeting of the Ridge Management Board was held under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary on 4.11.99 in the conference hall of the Chief Secretary office. The list of the participants is at annexure - I.

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

Review of the minutes of the Ridge Management Board meeting held on 9.6.99.

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

Secretary (Env. & Forests ) informed that a meeting was held in his office on 12.10.99 to review the progress of shifting of three J.J. Clusters of Balbir Nagar, Indira Nagar and Sanjay Nagar outside the Wildlife Sanctuary. This meeting was then followed by field visit by Conservator of Forests & S.E. of Slum & J.J Department. Three Tubewells are dug on the site to meet the requirement of drinking water. 52 units of model dwelling units are in different stages of demonstration. Additional Commissioner, (Slum) said that the minimum period of one year will still be required to shift those clusters. It was emphasized that the shifting of these clusters should be expedited by Slum department and regular monitoring be conducted so as to ensure the shifting within one year. Further, report as was asked in previous meeting of R.M.B. by Slum department be expedited. Beside this progress of work should be submitted on quarterly basis to R.M.B.

2 & 3 Protection, fencing and afforestation of Ridges:-

( Considering the problem of the removal of angle iron posts and barbed wire of boundary fencing by miscreants and anti -social elements, it was decided by the Board that all Ridge Managing agencies should erect the same type of fencing which is provided along the boundary of Northern Ridge. All Ridge managing agencies were requested to improve the vegetation of the Ridge. )

4. Use of Rabindra Ranghshalla for Republic Day Parade:-

Secretary ( Env. & Forests ) intimated that on the request of the Defence Ministry, Ridge Management Board has already filed an application for direction in the Hon'ble Supreme Court to allow the use of Rabindra Ranghshalla to accommodate tableau artists for Republic Day Parade. The matter is likely to be listed soon in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Considering the urgency of the function and shortage of time, Chief Secretary directed that R.M.B., should give provisional permission to Defence Ministry to use Rabindra Ranghshalla subject to the final direction of the Supreme Court on the application filed by R.M.B.

5. Settlement of claims by Forest Settlement Officer and Final Notification of the Ridge:-

For final notification of the Ridge it is essential to settle all the claims & objections filed before Forest Settlement Officer and other matters pending in various courts. Secretary (Env. & Forests ) indicated that Govt. is issuing the notification of the appointment of Sh. Wreender Kumar, as Forest Settlement Officer, very soon.

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Sh. Akshay Kumar, informed that a Tamilnadu Police establishment is there in Northern Ridge which should be removed. R.M.B. directed Director, (Hort.), D.D.A. to look into the matter and to remove such encroachment. The issue of shifting of Maurice Nagar Police Station may also be taken up simultaneously. Director, (Survey), Survey of India, was requested to show the position on ground at which boundary pillars are to be erected by D.D.A., M.C.D., and Forest Department which are the Land Managing agencies for Northern Ridge. Director (Survey), informed that boundary survey of Northern Ridge had already been carried out by them. It was decided that Director (Survey) will give position of pillars to D.D.A., M.C.D. & Forest Department within onemonth. These agencies will then raise pillars within next two months.)

In the Central Ridge, L & D O informed that out of nine Petrol Pumps, seven have already been taken up by L & D O and handed over to C P W D. Chief Secretary, directed L & D O to take over the site to be vacated by rest two petrol pumps at the earliest. It was also decided that Forest Settlement Officer will settle the pending cases if any. Meanwhile, Director (Survey), may conduct survey of the boundary of Central Ridge and give the position of pillars to be erected by Ridge Managing agencies. Similarly, in South-Central Ridge also, it was decided to settle all pending cases of claims if any and removal of encroachments. Meanwhile, Director (Survey), may be requested to start survey work.

( In Southern Ridge, the R.M.B., directed Divisional Commissioner/Director, (Panchayat) to demarcate all Gaonsabha lands notified as Reserve Forests, and to remove encroachments and then all such lands should be handed over to Forest Department at the earliest so that final notification may be issued. Forest Department was directed to fence the ridge after taking it over from Director (Panchayat). )

Chief Secretary has taken a serious view of non-completion of about 500 mt. boundary wall along Delhi-Haryana border in Bhatti area. Chief Secretary, directed Secretary (Env. & Forests) to take up this issue with the Chief Engr., ( I & F C ) and get this wall completed immediately. The issue of other encroachments like religious structures, un-authorised colonies, Graveyards, Dairies and private land allotted under 20 Point Programme in Southern Ridge was discussed in previous R.M.B., meeting and the C.S. desired that all these issues should be sorted out by Divisional Commissioner, Development Commissioner & Forest Settlement Officer. It was also decided that Director (Panchayat) may file claims from villagers side if they do not do so in case of un-authorised colonies and private land allotted under 20 Point Programme.

Meanwhile, Director ( Survey), Survey of India, may be requested to start Survey works of the boundaries of Southern Ridge so that Forest Department may start the work of erection of boundary pillars.

6. Taking over of Petrol Pumps in the Central Ridge:-

L & D O informed that out of nine petrol pumps, seven have already been taken over by L & D O and then handed over to C P W D. Hon'ble Supreme Court has recently passed judgement for M/s. Arora Service Station and M/s. Automobile Association of Upper India. L & D O was directed to take over the sites to be vacated by these two petrol pumps and hand over to Ridge Managing agency for fencing, protection and afforestation.

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7. **Taking over the land from Janaki Devi Mahavidyalaya:-**

Conservator of Forests stated that a contempt petition has already been filed against Janaki Devi Mahavidyalaya for not handing over 0.9 acres of land as per Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dtd. 11.9.96.

8. **Request of Manavsthal School to permit passage through ridge from Upper Ridge Road:-**

Secretary ( Env. & Forests ), explained the issue in detail and the decision taken in a meeting convened by him. Chief Secretary could not agree to the proposal of making four feet wide pacca pathway over already existing kacha road for the school children to walk on foot. Chief Secretary, emphasized to evolve a better solution but unfortunately no solution was worked out. Mr. Akshay Kumar, from Prakarti, said that a Committee be constituted to resolve this issue.

Chief Secretary, however, desired that Sh. K.B. Rajoria, Engineer-in-Chief, P W D, will give his recommendations after visiting the site.

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

A meeting was held in the Office of Secretary ( Env. & Forests ) on 20.8.99 in which a decision was taken to submit a proposal from P.W.D. for diversion of Forest land for Non-forestry purpose to Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India. Sh. Rajoria, Engineer-in-Chief, P W D, however stressed in the meeting that the part of Ridge which comes within the proposed flyover is not a part of Reserved Forests and thus the provisions of Forest Conservation Act are not applicable on this land. To ascertain whether it is a part of Reserved Forests or not, it was decided that Divisional Commissioner, shall arrange to demarcate the boundary of Central Ridge as per Notification. Chief Secretary, directed that if it is the part of Reserved Forest after demarcation, no flyover will be allowed in the Ridge Reserved Forests and if it is outside Ridge Reserved forest there is no need to approach Ridge Management Board for the issue.

10. **Action taken report on removal of 11 Squatters from Central Ridge:-**

L & D O informed that land from all the eleven squatters have been taken over by L & D O in pursuance of Supreme Court's order dated 23.9.99 and handed over to C P W D for management. He however, reported that only six squatters out of 11 squatters were in ridge and other five squatters were in green areas.

11. **Approval of D.D.A. proposal for private lands within Southern Ridge:-**

The proposal of D.D.A for keeping 10% built up area in the private lands within the boundary of Southern Ridge was not accepted by Ridge Management Board. Chief Secretary, directed the Director ( Landscape ), D D A, to confirm whether this land is covered under the recently passed orders of Lt. Governor under which most of such lands vests with the Government. Chief Secretary, further told that D D A land is Government land as per Supreme Court's order. Further, Chief Secretary, directed the Divisional Commissioner, to give details of the private lands of 13 villages, part of which are taken over and part are still left.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.