

PART – I

Summary of Facts on which proposals are based

CHAPTER – I

The tract Dealt with

Name and situation

- 1.1.1 The old Deoghar Forest Division was spread over :
- (a) 225.96 sq. km. of forests in the Civil sub-division of Deoghar in the district of Santhal Parganas.
 - (b) 66.45 sq.km of forests in the civil sub-division of Jamtara in the district of Santhal Parganas.
 - (c) 428.95 sq. km. of forests in the Civil sub-division of Banka in the district of Bhagalpur. Thus the total area of the Division is 731.36 sq. km. or 282.38 sq. miles of this the area of Banka Division has been reconstituted as a division has been reconstituted as a division in Banka. The Present area of the Deoghar Division is 210.39 sq. km.

- 1.1.2 The tract lies between 23°45' to 25°00' North latitudes and 83°330' to 87°15' East longitudes.

Division boundaries

- East : Dumka Forest Division
- West : Monghyr and Giridih Forest Divisions
- North : Banka- Bhagalpur Sub- divisional boundary
- South : Dhanbad Forest Division

- 1.1.3 Configuration of the ground

The forest in Deoghar and Jamtara sub-divisions occur on gentle sloping and undulating land with low hillocks and small ranges widely scattered as abrupt formations. In several cases the hills ranges run from East and North East to west and south-west. Highest points are on the Trikut pahar (2470') and the phul jori pahar (2312'). Other prominent hill peaks are Bitaru pahar (1324'). Dharma pahar (1186') and Malui pahar (1078').The average ground

level is 250' to 300'. The area is badly cut up with gullies and ravines. The general drainage is from the North West to the South- East and the main river is the Ajay, which drains into the Bhagirathi River.

1.1.4 Geology, Rock and Soil

The Gangetic alluvium thins out near Banka almost on the northern boundary of the Division and stable shields of granitic and metamorphic rocks of Arch an age rise upward. Projecting above the surface of the shield are ridges of resistant rocks, chiefly quartzite and fine grained rocks of the granite family but the general character of the country is that of an old plain surface.

The general geology of the land is described in the following as furnished by the Director, Bihar (East) Circle, Geological Survey of India, Patna vide his letter no. 320/BC(E)/S/M-Tech./74 dated the 18th September, 1974.

“The area represents a metamorphosed and deformed archean terrain consisting of a group of par metaphoric gneisses and granulites, intruded by synthetic basic rocks which have been metamorphosed to the same grade as the country rocks. Late and post tectonic pegmatctis, vein quartz and unmetamorphosed post Archean dolerites occur intruding the gneisses as the dominant member besides the charnocratic gneisses, khendalitic schist, quartzites, talc schist's, amorphosites, metamorite, pyrezanite etc.

The syntectonic basic rocks are represented by the metadelerites and all vine metagabre .The former type showing largely confirmable relationship with the surrounding country rock.

The post archean dolerites occur in the form of long and comparatively thin dykes, discordantly cutting across the gneiss of the country rock. The Gondwana rocks (Telecoms sandstone and shale and Baraka's) are imposed.

The Ajay River is surrounded from all sides by granite and granite gneisses of this area have also been intruded by intrusive traps. Some low grade coal is also found in the

South- Eastern portion of the area within the Baraka. The recent sediments in the area under consideration are represented by alluvium.”

Soil cover is usually thin as the late uplift has made the country susceptible to desiccation and erosion by re juvenile waterways. Erosion has been further aided by intensive grazing and deforestation. Severe erosion is rampant all over.

The geological basis in Deoghar and Jamtara is “Archean or Bengal gneiss "which rarely stands out as prominent hill ranges. Areas show either exposure of the rock itself or the immediate products of the decomposition and dips under the alluvium of the northern tract.

Bengal gneiss usually gives to a reddish stiff loamy soils, which, when covered is excellently suited for the growth of the forests, but when denuded bakes to a brick like hardness in the hot season. Sheet erosion has taken places almost all over. Most of the hill slopes present extensive exposure of the parent rock.

1.1.5 Climate and Rainfall

The area experience extremes of climate, mean temperature varying from 14°C to 40°C in April and May.

Humidity is at its lowest (50% in the morning) in March-April, but starts increasing with the onset of monsoon and attains its maximum 97% in July- August. The humidity falls down to 75% during September, but again shows slight increase thereafter owing to unstable weather. It, however, starts falling down soon and stays round about 70% during the winter months.

Monsoon rains commences from July and lasts till October, but the pre-monsoon showers starts from the middle of June each year. July and August are the rainiest Months. Winter rainfall is meager, about 10.20 mn. Only per month. The average annual rainfall in the Jamtara and Kundahit areas of the division is slightly greater than that of other areas.

Temperature data and Rainfall data are given in the appendices.

1.1.6 Water Supply

In spite of large numbers of streams in the areas water supply breaks down severely during the dry months. Water is, however, available on small scale by digging in the sand beds of the streams by a foot or so. Depth of water table and water level of wells in different villages vary from area. Average depth of wells vary from 20' to 30'.

1.1.7 Distribution of Areas

According to office order no. 141 dated 4-9-1995, the areas under Deoghar division are listed below. Deoghar forest Division consists of 4 Ranges.

1. Madhupur soil Conservation Range

The area of this Range is 22859.84 acres. In this Range, there are 3 beats and 15 sub-beats. In addition to the working sphere of this Range also includes the submersible forest areas by the Ajay River.

2. Jamtara Soil Conservation Range

The area of this Range is 24,297.18 acres. Under this Range, there are 2 beats and 18 sub-beats. There was proposal of creation of one more beat with headquarter at Jamtara .

3. Deoghar territorial Range

Area of this Range is 20,344.55 acres. It is consisted by 3 beats and 17 sub-beats.

4. Deoghar Soil Conservation Range

Area of this Range is 27,329.41 acres. 2 beats and sub-beats constitute this Range. Its area of operation also includes submersible forest area by Ajay River in Monghyr district.

All the Range officers are required to protect the forests, do plantation and soil conservation work and all other developmental works in their concerned Ranges.

This distribution of area becomes effective from 1st of October, 1995. Creation of Deoghar division took place vide notification no. IFS 189/83-4619 dated 31.3.1983 dated 6.12.83. The total area of the division is stated to be 302.41 sq. km.

Details of area distributions are mentioned below:

Details of beats and sub-beats

Sl. No.	Name of the Range	Name of beat	Area in acres	Name of sub-beat	Area in acres
1.	Deoghar Territorial Range	Koiyaridih	6976.69	1.Koiyaridih	2579.40
				2. Futaband	1391.40
				3.BishnupurWest	1349.85
				4.BishnupurEast	1040.35
				5. Khijuria	615.60
		Manigadhi	7644.83	1. Jharkhandi	1265.37
				2. Baijukura	424.17
				3. Mekana	1353.52
				4. Phuljori	1673.73
				5.Manigandhi	793.34
				6. Patharada	1869.06
				7. Sibharamad	265.44
		Mohanpur	7637.95	1.Mohanpur	899.53
				2.Ghodmara	931.53
				3.Basdiha	724.37
4. Bonga	3920.83				
5. Balthar	1162.25				
2.	Deoghar Soil Conservation Range	Deoghar	7329.41	1. Jamua	1552.32
				2. Dhakdhaka	943.59
				3. Baratand	1046.71

				4. Basgohara	1012.06
				5. Ranga	1094.20
				6. Banbaria	1680.53
		Chakai	89600.00	1. Madhopur	-
		Hqrs.at		2. Kulumpur	-
		Madhopur		3. Kiajori	-
3.	Madhopur Soil Conservation Range	Jagdishpur	5985.31	1. Bamandiha	1228.67
				2. chechali	1527.63
				3. jagdishpur	1795.12
				4. Pedidah	757.44
				5. Samlapur	676.45
		Budhai	12847.42	1. Dhakona	1472.17
				2. Mohandih	2769.43
				3. Punasi	2757.74
				4. Gobardaha	2192.96
				5. Bahadurpur	2079.72
				6. Budhai	1575.80
		Madhopur	4027.11	1. Madhopur	480.79
				2. Devipur	787.97
				3. Mathurapur	1035.42
				4. Barmasia	1722.93
4.	Jamtara Soil Conservation Range	Karmatand	10843.75	1. Sagarbhanga	792.28
				2. Karmatand	1269.56
				3. Jasabandh	1364.35
				4. Narainpur	1449.84
				5. Dhakhinyahal	2434.15
				6. Vadikajra	564.20
				7. Chitra	1471.35
				8. Dumdumi	1518.83
		Kundhit	13435.43	1. Kundahit	1200.47
				2. Babupur	1689.80
				3. Ghasnia West	11290.87
				4. Ghasnia East	2043.28
				5. Bagdahri	1007.58

6. Tilabad	2553.40
7. Asna	685.29
8. Afjalpur	1159.94
9. Kasta	1301.15
10. Mohanpur	523.65

1.1.8 State of boundary

The exterior and interior boundary lines of all the forests Reserved and protected had been demarcated on the ground after taking over the forests and before the forest settlement operations. Rectifications in the demarcation line were done very intensively during the period 1964-67. Areas which were vulnerable to encroachment were provided with R.C.C. pillars. In other areas stone pillars were provided wherever stones were available. Earthen pillars were constructed in other areas.

However during the period of stock mapping, the boundary pillars were found to be in very bad shape. Only remnant of stone pillars and concrete pillars are seen at places. Many a pillars do not exist now which require urgent attention of the Divisional Forest Officers and reconstruction at the earliest.

1.1.9 Legal Position

1) Banaili Estate Forests

Rai Bahadur Khetra Mohan Kumar, Receiver, Banaili Estate entered into an agreement with the Governor of Bihar for management of 88 sq. miles of the forests of Banaili Estate by government under section 38 of the Indian Forest Act (XVI of 1929) vide Revenue Department Notification No. 711 VIF-2046-R dated the 28th January, 1946. Out of these forests, 28.67 sq. km. or 11.07 sq. miles constituting 13 villages of the Banka sub-division was lying in this Division and the rest coming under Monghyr Forest Division.

2) Ex-Zamindari Forests

All private forests were taken under the control and management of the forest Department under the Bihar Private Forest Act (Bihar Act IX of 1948). Notifications under sections 14 & 21 were issued for 1808 villages out of which only 1337 were notified under subsequent notifications under section 15(3) but demarcation was done in 1133 villages only, there being no forests worth demarcating in the remaining villages.

3) Government Protected Forests

Consequent upon the enactment of the Bihar Land Reforms Act (Bihar Act XXX of 1950), all Zamindaries vested in the State rendering the Bihar Private Forest Act in-operative. Hence, these private protected forests were notified as protected forests under the Indian forest Act.

4) Kaswasila Forests

2980 hectares of private forests belonging to the then Barakar Estate were purchased in 1955. These forests are notified as Protected Forests.

1.1.10 Notifications

The various notifications are listed in Appendix III.

1.1.11 Settlement

Forest settlement operations have been completed and final orders have been passed. Records have been deposited in the record rooms of the District concerned.

1.1.12 Right and Concessions

As per the forest settlement orders the following rights and concessions have been provided to the local people.

a) Jamtara and Deoghar Sub-Division

Rights are allowed to only those villages, which contain the forests in question. The main free rights allowed are for:

- i) Timber and fuel per household for their domestic requirement.
- ii) Grazing own cattle except in newly felled coupes upto 5 years and plantations upto 5 years age. Sheeps and Goats are not allowed during the rains.
- iii) Picking of edible flowers and fruits.
- iv) Removal of leaves, bushes and small trees of unreserved species with the permission of the Divisional Forest Officer.

