REVISED WORKING PLAN FOR THE FORESTS OF RANCHI EAST FOREST DIVISION

PART -1

SUMMARY OF FACTS ON WHICH THE PROPOSALS ARE BASED

CHAPTER-I

THE TRACT DEALT WITH

I – 1.1 NAME AND SITUATION: - The Working plan deals with the reserved, protected and private protected forests of Ranchi East Forest Division. The tract dealt with comprises a large number of forest blocks varying in size from a few acres to thousands of acres and lying within the civil subdivision of Khunti and parts of Sadar of Ranchi District. Each such forest block is coritermineus with village boundaries. It embraces all the forests erstwhile managed under Sec. 38 of Bihar Private Forest Act 1948. The Unclassed forests, which belonged to zamindars and khutkattidars, were constituted as Private Protected Forests under the provisions of the Bihar Private Forest Act, 1948. Later on by the operation of land Reform Act (Bihar – xx of 1950) zamindari forests were vested in Government and were constituted as Protected Forests under Sec. 29(3) of the Indian Forest Act, 1927. The Mundari Khutkatti forests continue to be Private Protected Forests (P. P. F)

I – 1.2 The Old Ranchi Division which spread over 1210 villages was split into Ranchi East and West Division in 1965 vide Government Notification No. C /F1(A) 014 /64-398 dated 22 Feb., 1965 having their respective head quarter at Ranchi. The forests of Ranchi East Division comprises 71 of isolated Reserve Forest Blocks varying in sizes from 11.50 Acre or 4.66 Hac. to 2256.00 Acre or 913.68 Hac. and 652 isolated protected forest blocks varying in sizes from 2.36 Acre or 0.96 Hac. to 1540.97 Acre or 624.09 Hac. This division comprises approximately of 732.86 Sq.km. of Protected Forests and 201.57 Sq. km. of Private Protected Forests aggregating to 934.43 Sq.km. The forests of this division spread over two civil Sub Divisions namely Khunti and Ranchi Sadar. The total geographical area of this division is approximately 2659.56 Sq.km. Therefore, the percentage of forest areas to land areas works out to be appox. 30 only. The forests of this division are bounded by the forests of Hazaribagh West Forest Division on the North and by the forests of Porahat and Chaibasa North Forest Divisions on the South. In the East lie the forests of Purulia District of West Bengal while to the West lie the forests of Ranchi West and Gumla Forest Divisions.

I – 1.3 CONFIGURATION OF THE GROUND: configuration of the ground varies considerable from to place. Towards the West it is hilly and some of the hills are steep to precipitous. Northern and Southern Zones are also hilly. The hilliest tracts of this division lie within the thanas of Tamar and Silli. Plateau formation locally known as ‘pat’ is the most striking topographical feature of the

tract and is found on almost all the hills in smaller or larger extent. The country having the lowest altitude lies in thana Sonahatu along the valley of the river Subarnarekha and in portions of Tamar along the river Karkari. Sonahatu thana contains the low lands of the tract. The Thanas which have the easiest topography are Karra, Lapung, Ratu, Khijri and Bero. Some of the badly eroded and severely affected lands are found in these thanas.

I .1.4 RIVER SYSTEMS:-

The main river Subarnarekha which takes its origin in Ratu thana drains the eastern part of the division comprising thanas of Khijri, Angara, Silli, Sonahatu, Bundu and Tamar with the help of its tributaries such as Karkari which drains in Khunti thana and part of Tamar. Karo river which is eventually a feeder of South Koel journeys in Bero range and merges itself with South Koel near Sarengada in Porahat Forest Division (Singhbhum West District). Some of the rivers have sheer deep or rocky gorges in their course which are well known for their natural scenes and naked beauties. Hundru fall (243') on Subarnarekha and the Dasam fall(150') of Kanchi river near Taimara are the most frequented waterfalls during rains in this division.

I .1.5 GEOLOGY, ROCK AND SOIL:-

Rocks of Archean era both Dharwars and post Dharwars, dominate the geological formation of this region. The western tract adove 3000 ft. elevation have valuable deposits of bauxite, laterite and Kaolin. The soil resulting from it is clayey-loam or lateritic-clay.

In the regions covering the Sadar Sub-Division of Ranchi District below the "Pats" and in Khunti Sub-Division post Dharwar rocks, gneisses, granite and pregmatite are extensively exposed. Soil resulting from it is sandy Quartzite rocks are met with in patches in the gneisses zone. The Eastern and Southern zones have epidirite and home blend but patches of volcanic agglomerates are also found.

The Sonapet Valley occupying the Southern corner of the Division borderinc Kharsawan has trace deposit of gold. Earlier gold washing was practiced by the local people but was not perhaps economic. Mining for manganese and asbestos is developing in Deshwa Pahar of this area.

The Northern zone has lower Gondwana formation. They consist of shales sand-stones and agglomerate. Shaly Coal, White and Yellow clay, are beinc quarried in this region. The following description supplied by the Superintendinç Geologist, Technical

Administration, Geological Survey of India , Calcutt regarding the geology and rock of Ranchi Forest Division is reproduced below.

1-1.6 GEOLOGICAL NOTE ON RANCHI FOREST DIVISION, RANCH DISTRICT, JHARKHAN D

The rock formation of the Ranchi Forest Division in toposheet nos 73 *E/2*, 2,4 are as follows:

Recent	Aluminum
Tertiary- Recent	Laterite

Cretaceous to Eocene Deccan Trap Infra, Trappean Newer, Dolerite , Hybrid rocks, Pegmatite, Graphic granite, Applite, Quartz — Veins, Micapegmatite and Quartz — tourmaline rock.

I - 1.7 ARCHEANS:

The oddest geological formation is represented by the Dharwar sediments which include phyllites, schists and quartzite of varying dimensions. The inclusions of mica-schists are much more abundant than the phyllites and are seen to grade into phosphatic schists and gneisses, injection gnelsses and hybrids. Muscovite and biotite are essential minerals in these rocks, while garnet kyanite, and sillimanite make their appearance in certain parts. Quartzite occurring interbedded with schists at places develop scheistoslty and pass into quartz schist. Occasionally the quarzites are highly micaceous.

Basic rocks crop out at innumerable places throughout the region, and have been generally altered to epidiorite, hornblende schist, amphlbolite and in some places to even talc schist. Ultra basic rocks are also met with at places. The granitic rocks occurring in the region show wide variations from massive to highly gneissic type. Among the various modifications of the Chhotanagpur granite porphyrite hornblends gneiss predominates. Granulite biotite is oftem granitiferous. The streaky banded and dark brown geneisses of the area are hybrid In origin. All gradations from leucocratic tomelancratic types are discernible In the massive granites. There are two major systems of joints in the granites, Diorite crops out at many places in granite gneiss. These dioritic rocks

Occasionally contain inclusions of the older metamorphic rocks, and they have intruded by granite veins. Numerous pegmatites are found throughout the area as veins and sheets.

Tourmaline-quartz rock occur as thin lines in the gnelss. Quite a large number of fairly thick and persistent, there is a remarkable group of basic dykes, which have been called the Newer Dolorite. In places they have suffered metamorphism.

I – 1.8 ECONOMIC GEOLOGY:- Asbestos:- Poor quality asbestos is reported to have been found near Itakeel (23.21'; 85.08')"

I – 1.9 BARYTES:- Barytes occurs near Karamtoli(23° 18' ; 85° 31') in granite gneiss.

I – 1.10 ROAD METAL:- The hornblende granulated and calcsllicate rocks, found within the asscessible distances from the roads, are being use as road metal.

I – 1.11 LIMESTONE :- Limestone occurs at Hosite- Bachara, (Charghar Watoli) Bundy Ray (23° 40'; 85° 03') in the Western or Bundu Ray Section of the zone, beds of calcareous schists become much more numerous.

I 1.12 CLIMATE:- Three types of climate variations are found in this region. They are the cold weather, the hot weather and the rains. Ranchi was the summer headquarters of the state of Bihar for its pleasant climate and comparatively lower temperature and the cooler nights.

I- 1.13 :- Cold weather sets in about November and lasts till the end of February. On the Ranchi plateau it often extends upto March. Winter is rather severe on higher altitudes, specially the 'pats' and the low lands. Ground frosts occur in some of the narrow valleys of the high hills causing damage to the forests crops. The damaging effect is predominate in Indban and Rehargara R.Fs. The only observatory station for temperature is Ranchi and it records minimum temperature in December as 10.3° or 50.540 F and maximum temperature in December as 22.00 or 73.220 F. There is no recording stations any where in the interior of these forests, hence the above inferences may hold good with slight variation for the forest areas dealt with.

I – 1.14 Hot weather starts in the middle of March and lasts till the end of June. Hot weather, which is its peak during May is severely felt in the low lying eastern zone, where "100" , which blows during day time, causes sun-stroke occasionally. On the plateau portion, the summer is mildly felt. Mean maximum temperature at Ranchi is 37.2° C or 98.96° F and the mean minimum is 24° C or **75.20** F. Pats are however much

cooler. Occasional showers preceded by cyclonic winds, generally in the afternoon bring the temperature down during the summer and make the climate soothing.

I – 1.15 Rainy season starts from the middle of June and lasts till September. Average rain fall in Ranchi is 56” or 1413.6 mm .The rainfall and temperature data from 1987-98 is given in the Appendix. This data has been obtained form the Meteorological deptt. Of the Birsa Agriculture University, Ranchi.

I - 1.16 WATER SUPPLY:

The principal rivers of the tract are the Subarnarekha, the Kanchi, the Tajna etc. There a number of other rivulets which dry up during summei Perennial springs are met within the more forested hills such as the Range c hills from Ichadag to Kuchu. The Bauxite faces of the “pats” are particularly nc In perennial springs, for bauxite has the capacity to hold rain water and sprin was not fully utilized for irrigation purposes but now-a-days water is general utilized for irrigation purposes by the local people by pump sets and small dams.

I -.1.17 DISTRIBUTION AND AREA: -

The tract dealt with is spread over all the revenue thanas of Sadai Ranchi (Except Mandar Thana) and Khunti Sub-Division. The range —WISE demarcated forest areas are given in the following table. Further details of forest areas in each village is given in Appendix I. The whole division is divided into six ranges for administrative purpose vide Notification No. C/F-1(A) 014/64-398 dated 22-02-1965. The name with head quarters of the ranges are:

1 Ranchi East Range	Mahilong
2. Ranchi West Range	Kanke
3. Khunti Range	Khunti
4. Tamar Range	Tamar
5. Jaria Range	Jaria
6. Bero Range	Bero

*Jaria Range was divided into Jaria and Bero ranges.

DISTRIBUTION OF AREA:

Name of Ranges	Area in Hac.	Area in Acre
Ranchi East	24159.46	59673.89
Ranchi West	11074.86	27354.92
Bero	8229.86	20327.77
Jariya	8772.28	21679.89
Khunti	14426.64	35633.82
Tamar	26774.94	66134.11
TATAL	**93443.07**	**230840.40**

I – 118 LEGAL STATUS :- Except for the Government owned forests, managed under Indian Forest Act1927 ,the rest of the forests were originally declared Private Protected Forests under the provision of Sec. 30 of Bihar Private Forest Act, 1948 to enable the Government to take effective steps against destruction of forests. With the advent of the Land Reforms Act, 1950 , all these Private Protected Forests excepting those in the Mundari Khutkatti villages are vested in Government. These have now been constituted Protected Forests under Sec. 29(3) of Indian Forest Act, 1927 subject to the existing rights and privileges. Details of the forests, their areas with notification are given in the Appendix I provided in this plan.

I . 1.19 STATE OF BOUNDARIES:-

The artificial boundaries generally consisting of cleared lines 15’ -20’ with wooden pillars embedded in cairns of storages are

Present at some places. In large number, the existing condition of boundary pillars is not satisfactory. Boundary pillars have no numbers, rather many of them are found missing. Also there is no record of boundary pillars, numbers, and length of artificial and natural boundaries for majority of the forests. Hence every effort for the repair of the pillars has to be made in a serious manner.

I – 1.20 RIGHTS AND CONCESSIONS :- Excepting a few forests like R.F.’S all the forests are burdened with rights. These include the right to major and minor forest produces and grazing. The only restrictions are that the forest produce taken free of cost by the right-holders shall be for bonafide domestic or agricultural purposes only and not for sale, barter or transfer of any kind. The rights have to be restricted to the Working

Plan prescriptions. Rightscontinue to be exercised according to the entriesin Khatain part-II Rights in Chhotanagpur area is given in the Appendix- II.

Government of Jharkhand has issued comprehensive JFM resolutionin Sept. 2001. Now the forests would be managed as per these resolutions