CA Landbank in Degraded Revenue Forests of Odisha

PCCF & HoFF , Odisha has taken up geo-referencing of all types of Forestlands in Odisha as per Supreme Court directives (Lafarge Case Matter, 2011) and Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) notified by Forest and Environment Department vide gazette notification no No.22572400112016-10F (Cons) 77/2016/ 14097 /F&E dated 04.07.2017.

The Forest Divisions which are covered under the above exercise, all revenue and DLC forests have been geo-referenced based on High Resolution Satellite Image, Cadastral maps and Tahsildar & DFO have certified revenue and DLC forest land schedules as per RoR and DLC records.

Further Government in Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department letter no 19462 dated 06-11-2021 has prescribed guidelines for identification of degraded revenue forest lands for the Compensatory Afforestation Land Bank (CALB). Accordingly, this report for Kalahandi (North) Forest Division has been prepared by FITGC with technical support of ORSAC and SPARC Pvt. Ltd., the State Level Technical Partner for Geo-referencing of Forestlands in Odisha adopting the following logic.

i.   Plot Cluster area of more than 5ha has been selected for CA suitability analysis.

ii. Plots having more than 2ha area, but within 100m from another Revenue/ DLC plot has been considered in a Cluster, where the total area of Plot Cluster becomes more than 5 ha.

iii. Plots clusters coming under diverted forest land, existing CA land and Mining lease have been excluded from analysis.

iv. Average canopy density of the plot cluster and Slope (in degree) has been computed by overlaying the geo-referenced boundary of the plot cluster on Forest Cover Map published by FSI (ISFR 2019) and Slope map prepared by ORSAC.

v.   Plot clusters having average canopy density of less than 0.25 and Slope less than 45 degree have been selected for inclusion in this Land bank.

vi. All the Data of this report can be easily visualized in our OFMS Web-GIS and field users can navigate and select the identified plots using their OFMS Mobile App.

It may be noted that the degraded revenue forestland plots identified need to be jointly field verified by the officials of Forest and Revenue department and the selected land parcels are to be demarcated with pillar postings. The pillars of the selected land parcels are to be DGPS surveyed and mapped and the selected land parcels are to be transferred and mutated in the name of FE&CC Department as per procedure prescribed in the FE&CC Department guidelines dated 06-11-2021.