



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation
Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation



Date: December 18, 2014

To
Kishore Rao
Director
The World Heritage Centre
7, Palace de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP,
France

**Subject: State of Conservation of Chitwan National Park, Nepal (N 284) and
Sagarmatha National Park**

Dear Mr. Rao,

It is my pleasure to forward the State of Conservation (SoC) of Chitwan National Park, Nepal and Sagarmatha National Park to you. I would like to request you to include this State of Conservation of Chitwan National Park and Sagarmatha National Park, Nepal in World Heritage Center SoC on-line. Please find attached statements.

Thank you very much for your concerns.

at best

Tikaram Adhikari
Director General
Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
Nepal

Director General

CC : UNESCO Office Kathmandu

Name of the World Heritage Property: Chitwan National Park, Nepal (N 284)

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation has the following comments regarding the conservation issues of the Chitwan National Park Nepal.

Related to Annex I and II

1. NO. 4 Annex I

East–West Electric Railroad and the Terai Hulaki Highway crossing the property Chitwan National Park Nepal.

Response (i):

The bridge construction works was proposed at Golaghat which falls in buffer zone of Chitwan National Park and the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation strongly opposed it. As a result, the contract was cancelled by the Department of Roads. However, the Department of Roads has been planning to construct bridge over the Narayani river at Bhosara ghat, which is a bit far towards the north from the previously located site (Golaghat). This proposed bridge site is said to provide services as part of the East-West Postal road (Hulaki Marg). The department has still opposed to this site, because we need to maintain the core value of world heritage site.

The government of India has done agreement with the government of Nepal in providing financial and technical support in constructing the Hulaki road and bridges along the low land from east to west in Nepal. Such alignment can pass the several National Parks and Wildlife Reserves across the country. The preparation of Detail Project Report (DPR) and EIA of Rail road is in under way. The government has still denied providing EIA study in the protected areas of Nepal including Chitwan National Park. In this regards intern-national support is needed in proving the value of world heritage site.

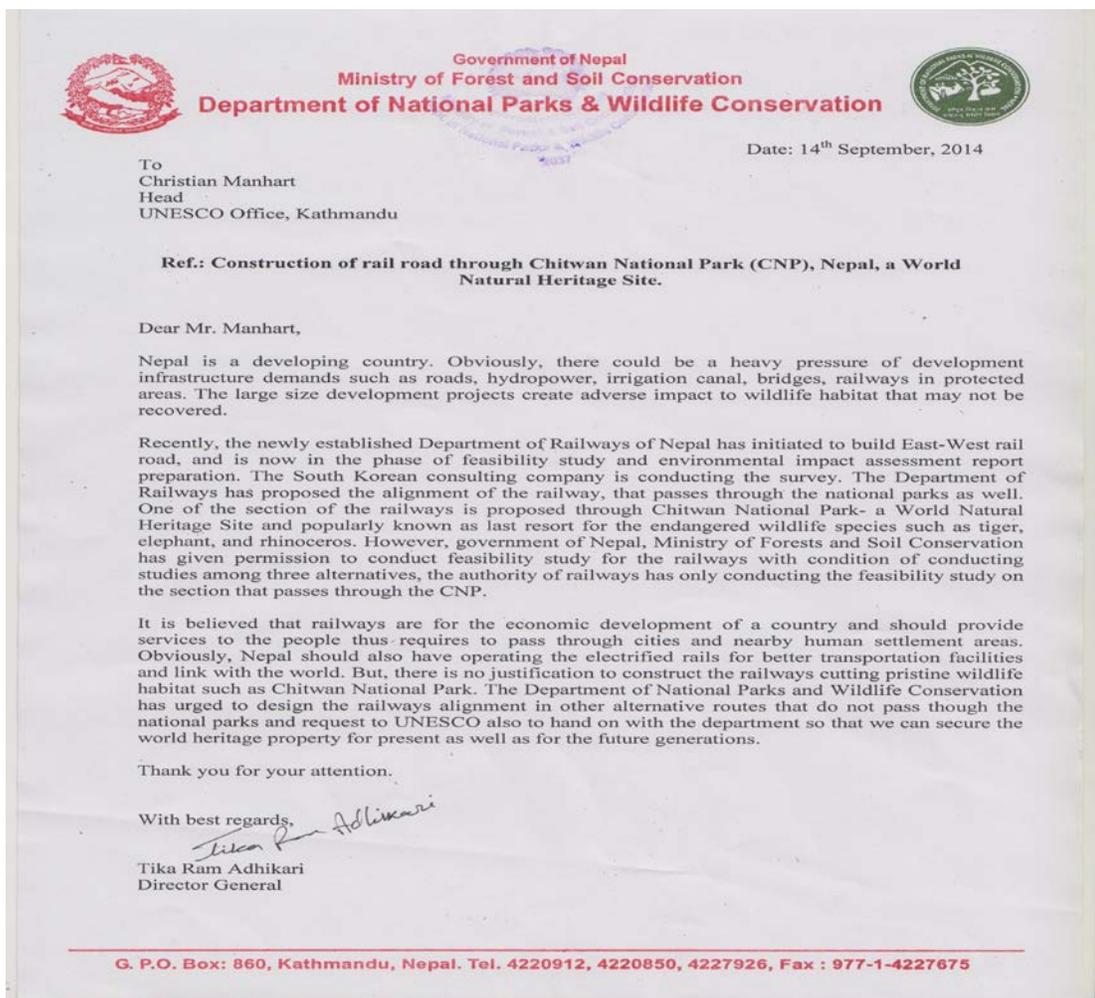
Our concern is to build the Rail road along the human settlements rather than constructing through the forest area and the prime habitats of wildlife.

If proposed Rail road and Terai Hulaki Highway is constructed, CNP will be fragmented in four places viz. Bagai-Amuwa, Bankatta-Dhurba, Bhoseraghat-Laukhani and Dumkibash-Tribeni. These sectors provide important habitats to mega wildlife like elephant, rhino tiger, bison, etc., and with the construction of rail road through these sectors do not benefit considerable human population except loss of wildlife habitats. As mentioned above, Chitwan National Park suggested alternatives which will provide maximum benefits to human population and pose negligible adverse impacts in the nature of this World Heritage

Property. Instead of Terai Hulaki Highway crossing the CNP, alternative of this highway can be Birganj to Thori in Parsa district and Bagai to Bharatpur in Chitwan. This needs road improvement and will provide services to human populations as well as safeguarding of biological diversity of the property.

NO. 5

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation requested by writing invitation letter to UNESCO Office Kathmandu 14th September, 2014 for IUCN advisory mission to study the issue of Kondge View Resort in SNP and also will request to study CNP issues. In line with this DNPWC already has requested to UNESCO Office Kathmandu as follows:



2. Other current conservation issues identified by the State Party :

Effective management system of CNP has resulted increasing number of wildlife. At the same course Human Wildlife Conflict has also raised unexpectedly. One of the causes of conflict, human casualty creates severe situation. Human Wildlife Conflict needed to be resolved site specific immediately of event happened. Government of Nepal provides three thousand rupees against a person killed by a wild animal. The demand of relief fund is growing every year.

3. Major restorations, alterations, and/or new constructions envisaged within the protected area and its buffer zone and/or corridors.

- There are no such cases in CNP during the reporting period. But an optical fiber laying project along the electric line (Jagatpur to Madi) inside the CNP is proposed for this scoping document and Terms of Reference is presented to carryout EIA.