

Reg. Office: 36/30, Shivpuri Colony
Station Road, Mirzapur- 231001
UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA

www.vindhyabachao.org

VINDHYAN ECOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY FOUNDATION

15 March 2022

To,
The District Magistrate,
District Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh

Sub- Reg. protection of the only habitat of Indian Flying Fox in Mirzapur from
proposed road widening of Lalganj-Kalvari road

Dear Sir,

I wish to draw your kind attention towards an old colony of Indian Flying Fox or Greater India Fruit Bat (*Pteropus medius*) which is one of the largest fruit-eating bats endemic to the Indian subcontinent). The species are under severe threat of survival due to the proposed road widening project on Lalganj- Kalvari road near village Newarhiya, Tehsil Marihan, District Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh.

Vindhyan Ecology and Natural History Foundation's research team led by naturalist Mr Kartik Singh, a resident of village Patehara has reviewed the situation on the ground and the following are our key observations:

1. There are a total of **13 Eucalyptus trees** alongside the existing road which are inhabited by the Indian Flying Foxes. The bat colony is reported by the villagers to be over **50 years old**.
2. There are **287 numbers of Indian Flying Foxes** in the colony as per our daytime counting on 5th March 2022 at around 13.00 hours.
3. As per information available with our organization, this place is the **only habitat of the Indian Flying Fox in District Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh**.
4. If these trees are cut, we will lose the last habitat of Indian Flying Fox in Mirzapur.
5. The road widening project can still continue without cutting the identified trees by **realigning the same from the agricultural fields on both sides of the road**.

Thus, it is our humble request to kindly consider exempting cutting of the 13 Eucalyptus trees which are the only habitat of Indian Flying Fox in Mirzapur. An extra lane can be easily carved out from either side of the road. Requesting you to kindly intervene and do the needful.

Attached: Photos of the location and the colony of the Indian Flying Fox.

Thanking you,

Debadityo Sinha

Managing Trustee,
Vindhyan Ecology & Natural History Foundation

Recipient- Sanctuary Wildlife Service Award 2019
Member of IUCN, Species Survival Commission- BSG

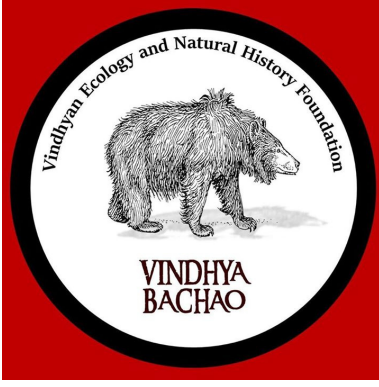
Mobile: 9540857338, Email- debadityo@vindhyabachao.org



Photo of the Indian Flying Fox colony from Lalganj- Kalvari road near Newarhiya village, Tehsil Marihan, Mirzapur. (25th February 2022, Photo: Debadityo Sinha/ Vindhyan Ecology and Natural History Foundation)



Photo of the location and proposed widening of Lalganj-Kalvari road near village Newarhiya, Marihan, Dist. Mirzapur (U.P.) [25th February 2022, Photo: Kartik Singh and Debadityo Sinha/ Vindhyan Ecology and Natural History Foundation]



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Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh

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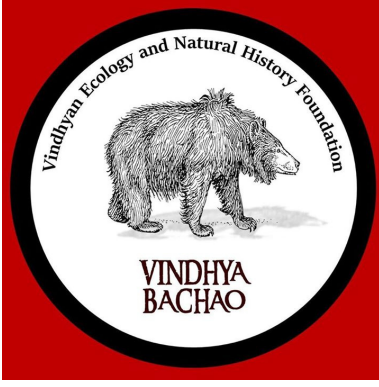
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VINDHYAN ECOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY FOUNDATION

15 March 2022

To,
The Chief Engineer,
Mirzapur Zone, Public Works Department
Uttar Pradesh

Sub- Reg. protection of the only habitat of Indian Flying Fox in Mirzapur from proposed road widening of Lalganj-Kalvari road

Dear Sir,

I wish to draw your kind attention towards an old colony of Indian Flying Fox or Greater India Fruit Bat (*Pteropus medius*) which is one of the largest fruit-eating bats endemic to the Indian subcontinent). The species are under severe threat of survival due to the proposed road widening project on Lalganj- Kalvari road near village Newarhiya, Tehsil Marihan, District Mirzapur in Uttar Pradesh.

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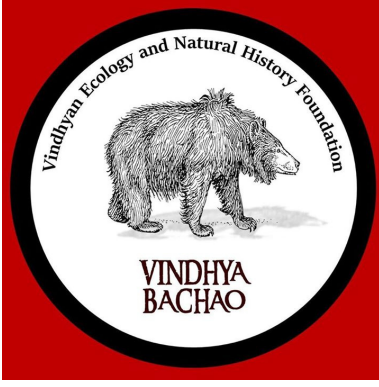
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To,
The Divisional Forest Officer,
Mirzapur Forest Division

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