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# Nahargarh eco zone master plan by forest dept & MNIT

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Jaipur: The forest department along with the Malaviya National Institute of Technology (MNIT), Jaipur will start an exercise to prepare a zonal master plan of the economic sensitive zone (ESZ) of Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary.

For the same, the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA) has also transferred the funds to the forest.

An official at the Jaipur Development Authority said, “The civic body can only issue the lease deeds to plots falling under the (ESZ) of Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary after the zonal master plan is prepared. Funds have been transferred to forest department for carrying out the work. A study will be conducted and based on the survey, it will be decided in which areas non-forestry activity can be carried out in regulated way.”

The forest department had earlier declared 79.356 square kilometre area as ESZ of Nahargarh where several activities were prohibited. The Central government had notified an area to an extent varying from 0 to 13 km round the boundary of Nahargarh as ESZ.

A forest official said, “The final notification to declare ESZ of Nahargarh was released on March 11, 2019. Now, within two years, the state government had to prepare ESZ zonal master plan in consultation with all departments including environment and forest, urban development, tourism, municipal, revenue, agriculture and others.”

With this, many new activities including hotel, farmhouses, resorts will only allowed within one-km area after the implementation of zonal master plan in a regulated manner.

The notification reads, no new commercial hotels and resorts shall be permitted within one-km of the boundary of the protected area except for accommodation for temporary occupation of tourists related to eco-friendly tourism activities. “Beyond 1km and up to the extent of the ESZ, all new tourism activities or expansion of existing activities shall in conformity with the tourism master plan and guidelines of National Tiger Conservation Authority,” reads the notification.

It was also informed, no new commercial construction of any kind shall be permitted within 1-km from the boundary of the protected area, provided that, local people shall be permitted to undertake construction in their land for their residential use.