APPENDIX-3.1

Multi Stage Random Sampling Technique for Ecological Survey

Stage-I: Solan Forest Division was selected as the entire district comprises of the Shivalik hills and is highly fire prone area.

Stage-II: There are 5 Forest Ranges in the Solan Forest Division namely Parwanoo, Dharampur, Solan, Sabathu & Kandaghat. Among them Dharampur Forest Range is most fire prone.

Stage-III: The Dharampur Forest Range comprises of 10 Beats namely Kadon, Kumarhatti, Barog, Sultanpur, Chabal, Gulari, Johadaji, Bouli, Neri and Jalyana. Among them Kadon was selected for the study based on the high vegetation of chir pine.

Stage-IV: The sample beat i.e., Kadon was further classified based on the type of forest areas namely;
   i) Bamboo Forest;
   ii) Mixed Pine Forest;
   iii) Pine Oak Forest; and
   iv) Pure Chir pine Forest

Stage-V: The Forest types were further grouped into Northern and Southern slopes. There were 3 sites under study in each forest type and slope as well.

Stage-VI: The villages were selected on the basis of near the fire prone forest area /away from fire prone forest area. A distance of 500 metres was kept as a yardstick for the same.

***************