



SHRI. SATHISH K S, IFS
Divisional Forest Officer

Government of Meghalaya
Forests & Environment Department
East & North Garo Hills (T) Division
Williamnagar
✉- sathish@ifs.nic.in

Site Inspection Report

Proposal No: FP/ML/ROAD/44645/2020

Name of Project: Construction of Suspension Footbridge

Date of Inspection: 22/01/2020 & 05/03/2020

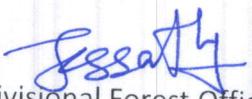
The Block Development Officer, Samanda Block, East Garo Hills, Meghalaya, have proposed for construction of the Suspension Footbridge vide FCA Proposal No. FP/ML/ROAD/44645/2020 across the Simsang River at Chisobibra Forest Village inside the Rongrenggre Reserve Forest under Simsanggre Range of East & North Garo Hills (T) Division. The Pillars of Suspension Footbridge at the Right Bank of R.Simsang will be located at 25°33'6.50"N 90°32'38.40"E and Left Bank will be located at 25°33'8.50"N 90°32'42.50"E and the Length of the suspension footbridge is approximately 140 meters. The Total area of 0.17 Ha will be needed for the purpose of construction of pillars and the suspension bridge across R.Simsang.

1 (One) no of *Ficus bengalensis* tree need to felled for the purpose of construction of the proposed footbridge and the number of tree to be felled for the project is minimal and necessary.

The proposed suspension footbridge at Chisobibra connects the Chisobibra Forest Village and other revenue villages on the other side of the river to the Williamnagar – Tura Highway and to the Chisobibra Market, Secondary School & Secondary Health Care Facilities. It will replace the existing seasonal makeshift bamboo bridge used by the villagers to cross the R.Simsang and provide them with the connectivity by foot all round the year. Also the nearest permanent structure to cross the river is 10 Kms downstream, located at Williamnagar, which is not a viable replacement due to poor road connectivity from the Williamnagar RCC Bridge to the Chisobibra Forest Village and other revenue villages on the right side of the proposed suspension footbridge, thus the user agency had chosen the site inside the reserve forest for the construction of suspension footbridge. Moreover, the proposed suspension bridge is to replace the old damaged suspension bridge, which was constructed in late 1970's, whereas, no record is available with regard to the old suspension bridge in the office of undersigned as well as with the user agency, only the remains of old suspension bridge can be found at the site.

Also, there is no requirement for diversion of Forest Land for the purpose of Approach Road for the Suspension Footbridge on both the banks as the approach roads are already available on both the banks, because the proposed suspension bridge will be utilising the existing approach roads of the old Bamboo Bridge.

The construction of the suspension footbridge will not be affecting the Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna of the region and no significant impact in terms soil erosion as it only involves diversion of 0.17 Ha of Forest Land and felling of 1(one) no of tree.


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