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RECOMMENDATION

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

Name of Project: Construction of Suspension Footbridge

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.

The proposed suspension footbridge will improve the connectivity to the Chisobibra Forest village and other revenue villages on the other side of the R.Simsang throughout the year, as the makeshift bamboo bridge presently used by the villagers to cross the river cannot be used during the monsoon. Thus, construction of suspension footbridge will provide the Chisobibra forest village with the minimal of foot path connectivity throughout the year, thus providing them access to the Williamnagar – Tura Road, Market to sell their produce, Secondary Schools and Secondary Healthcare Facilities.

The footbridge will also be used by the Beat staff of Chisobibra Forest Beat and the Patrolling party of Simsanggre Range to cross the river during the monsoon season, as the Reserve Forest on the other side of the river Simsang is cut off during the monsoon season due to high water level in the river, thus the suspension footbridge will help the staff of Forest & Environment department in regular patrolling across the river as well.

Even, the basic infrastructures such as Primary Health Centre and Primary School, which are located in the Chisobibra forest village, is cut off during the Monsoon Season, thus the teaching staff and healthcare workers cannot reach the centres, depriving the village of the basic amenities. Also, in order to sell the farm produce the villagers have to cross the river to reach the market.

Thus, in view of Social, Economical, Security, Education, Health, Connectivity and Conservation situation of the Chisobibra Forest Village and Other Villages, the suspension footbridge will act as the lifesaver and drastically improve the Social & Economical status of the villagers across the river. In this view, the construction of proposed suspension footbridge at Chisobibra across the Simsang river by diverting the Forest land of 0.17 Ha and felling of 1(One) no's of tree is recommended.

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