

## **Haryana PWD (B&R)**

Executive Engineer  
Provincial Division No.1  
PWD B&R, Govt. of Haryana  
Nirman Sadan, Civil Lines,  
Gurugram PIN-122001  
Phone No. 0124-2977767  
Email: [pwd-eepd1-gurgaon@hry.nic.in](mailto:pwd-eepd1-gurgaon@hry.nic.in)

To

The Deputy Conservator of Forest,  
Gurugram Division,  
Gurugram.

Memo No. 19491

Dated: 02/2/2023

**Subject:** Realignment of Rewari Sohna Palwal road NH-919 (Old NH-71B) from Km. 47.100 to 49.350 in Sohna Hilly portion on EPC mode in the State of Haryana.

**Ref:** Your office letter no. 4099-G dated 12.09.2022

Kindly refer to your letter no. 4099-G dated 12.09.2022 vide which it has been intimated that the Forest Diversion proposal (FP/HR/Road/155111/2022) has been examined and it has been found that the new road is dividing the Sohna Reserve Forest in two parts. Further, it has been proposed by you that the layout plan maybe revised in such a manner that minimum forest area is diverted and there is no division of the Sohna Reserve Forest.

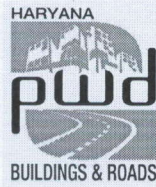
**The issue of Alternate Alignment is discussed as follows:**

The abovesaid issue of alternate alignment was taken up for discussion in the meeting of the Project Screening Committee and it was decided in the meeting that the site should be jointly inspected by all concerned officers. Accordingly, the site was inspected by Chief Conservator of Forests (South Circle) Gurugram, DFO Gurugram, Divisional Wildlife Officer Gurugram and representative of user agency. Duly signed Site Inspection Report is enclosed herewith and contents of the same are reproduced below:

“

1. User Agency has applied for diversion of 9.7884 ha. of forest land for Work of Sohna Realignment of Rewari-Sohna- Palwal road NH 919 Old NH 71B from km 47.100 to 49.350 in Sohna Hilly Portion on EPC mode in the State of Haryana (Proposal No. FP/HR/ROAD/155111/2020)
2. The proposal was taken up for discussion in the Project Screening Committee. A apprehension was raised by DFO, Gurugram that with proposed diversion of forest land, already small patch of Sohna Reserve Forest would be bifurcated. User Agency was requested to re-examine the proposal and explore alternative alignments so that bifurcation of Sohna RF could be avoided if possible.
3. User Agency, informed that alternate provision of re-alignment is not possible. During the project planning stage three possible alignment for the project were analysed and present proposal is found optimal with respect to criteria such as least ecological impact, cost of project etc.
4. Nodal Officer, FC requested that provision of overpass/underpass or animal corridor to be explored and concerned CCF/DFO to justify about the concerns related local flora and fauna conservation. A committee under the Chairmanship of CCF, Gurugram be constituted in which DFO Gurugram, DFO Mewat, DWLO Gurugram and User agency, being member of the committee, will coordinate and procure viable alternate realignment and take into





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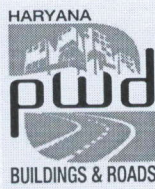
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*consideration wildlife management issues to avoid bifurcation of RF area and report to be submitted before next PSC meeting to the Nodal Office.*

- 5. A site visit was under taken on 15.01.2023. It was noted that all 3 possible alignment explored by user agency have the same impact on Sohna Reserve Forest. Thus, bifurcation of Sohna Reserve Forest with the implementation of project is unavoidable.*
- 6. The proposed project would create and isolated patches of reserve forest of ~14 acre and another patch of forest area about ~20 acre that include ~4.5 acre of RF. These patches could be developed as Herbal Park/Urban Forest in future.*
- 7. From the field observations, it was noted that provision of underpass/overpass for wildlife is not required. However, provision for underpass/overpass could be provided connecting both the patches of Reserve Forest so that a Herbal Park/City Forest could be developed in both the patches stably interconnected by the provided passage (underpass/overpass).*
- 8. Rule 11 of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 dated 28.06.2022 provides that "...An user agency shall provide land which is neither notified as forest under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 (16 of 1927) or any other law nor managed as forest by the Forest Department...". In accordance with the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022, User Agency is required to provide equivalent non-forest land for Compensatory Afforestation in lieu of forest land to be diverted (9.7884 ha including 7.5146 ha in Gurugram Forest Division), and was directed as such by the Project Screening Committee. However, User Agency has not proposed for providing equivalent non-forest land as of date."*

- It is also informed that the alignment of proposed green field road has been approved by competent authority of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and alignment has been approved after examining all the other possible alignments. Special private consultant was also hired to prepare Detailed Project Report and alternate alignment were studied by him in great detail. A copy of alignment report prepared by consultant has already been submitted alongwith Forest Diversion proposal.
- It is highlighted that the alignment report submitted by consultant is on the basis of detailed analysis of the various alternate alignments. Suitability of alignments has been decided on the basis of multifarious reasons.
- It is further informed that suitable provision shall be provided for conflict free movement of animals in the strip of reserve forest where the highway is proposed and in accordance with IRC guidelines.
- It is clarified that there is no other alignment option which can prevent splitting of Sohna Reserve Forest.
- It is informed that the instant Forest Diversion proposal was earlier submitted vide Proposal No. FP/HR/ROAD/47752/2020 and the same was recommended and put up before REC. Therefore, the issue of alignment has already been looked into and the instant alignment was recommended by Haryana Forest Department to REC.
- Pertinent to highlight is the fact that land for the entire alignment has been acquired by Government of India under the National Highways Act 1956 after the alignment was approved by competent authority of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.



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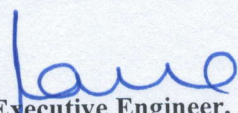
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**Reply to the issues highlighted in the meeting of Screening Committee**

It is also informed that two issues were raised in the Screening Committee Meeting and reply of the same are as follows;

S.No.	Issue	Reply
1	A part of KML passes over a couple of buildings which needs to be checked.	It is informed that the land for the project has been acquired by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. The structures falling in the acquired land shall be removed after payment of compensation.
2	DGPS map needs to provide GPS coordinate for all vertices/corners and to be revised as per KML file	Revised DGPS map has now been uploaded and more GPS coordinates have now been shown in the DGPS map.

DA/As above

  
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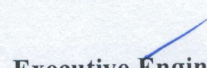
Dated

**Kind attn**  
CE NH

A copy of above is forwarded to the following for kind information

1. Engineer-in-Chief (Roads) Haryana, PWD B&R Chandigarh.
2. Regional Officer, MoRTH Chandigarh, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kendriya Sadan, Sector-9, Chandigarh.
3. Superintending Engineer, Gurugram Circle, PWD B&R Br., Gurugram

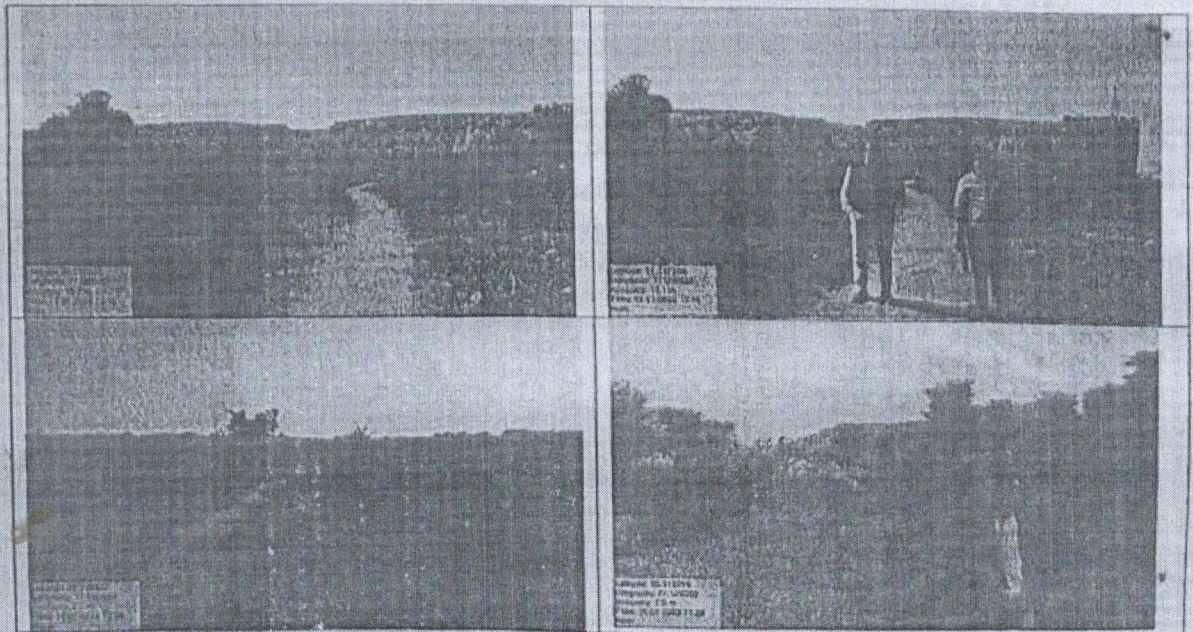
DA/Nil

  
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### Site Inspection Report

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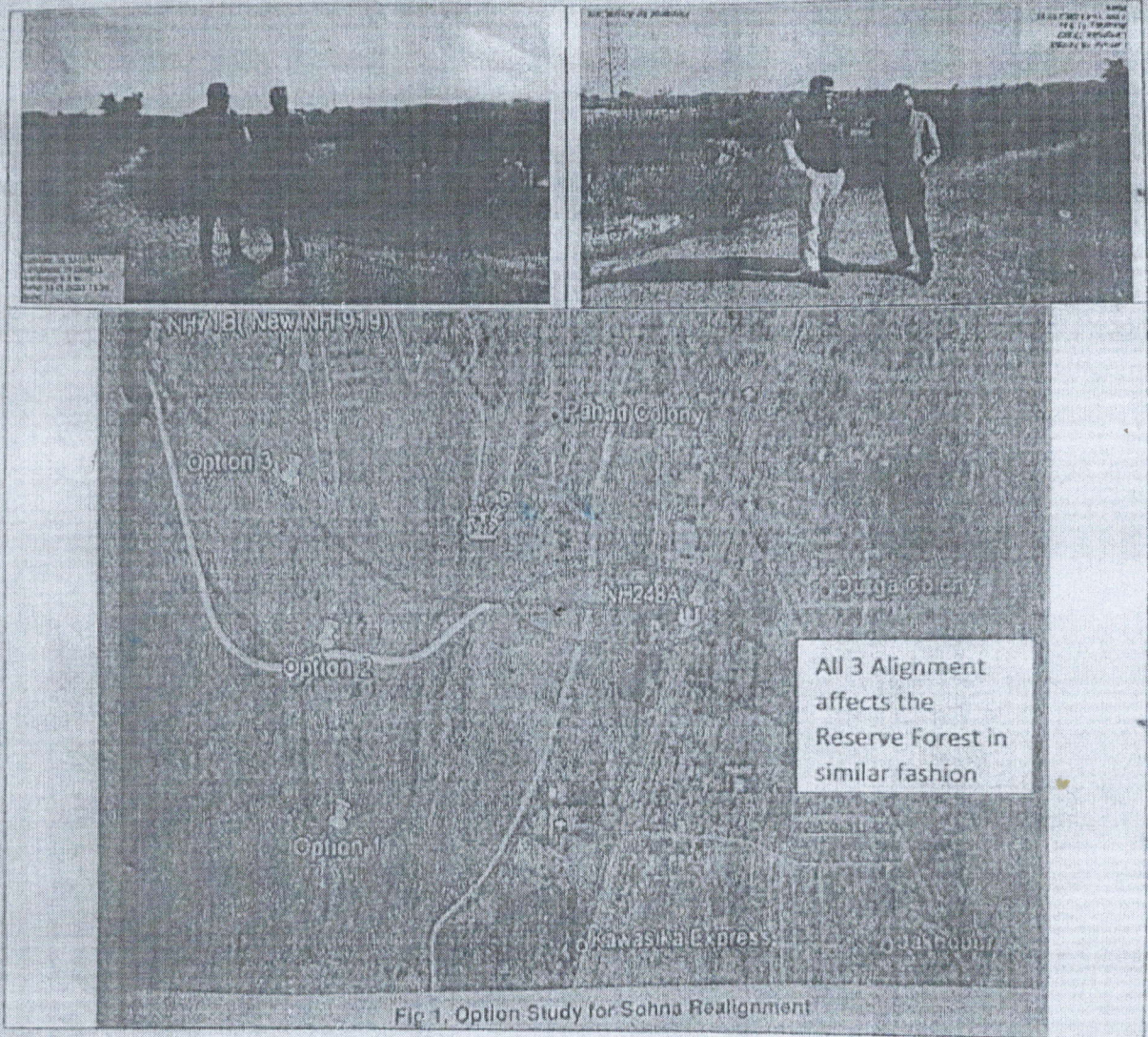
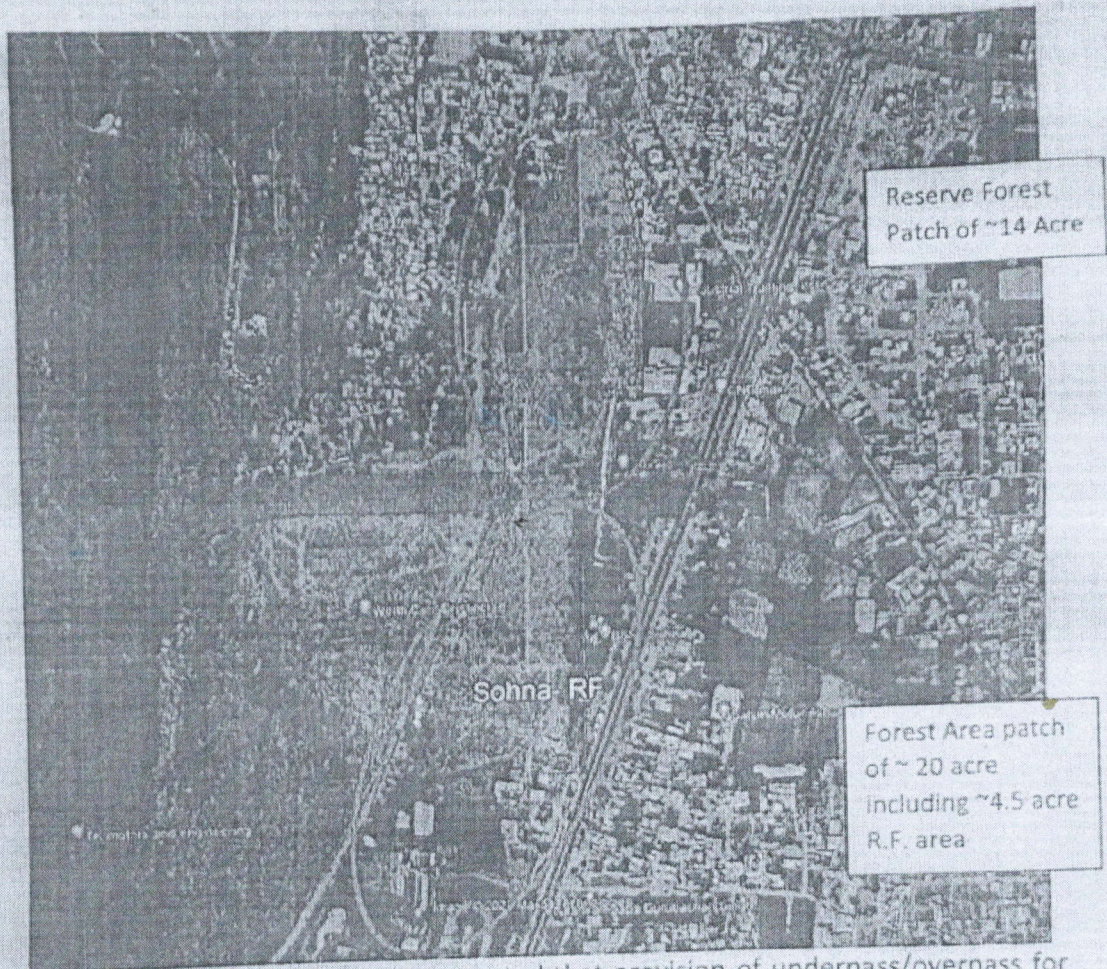


Fig 1. Option Study for Sohna Realignment



6. The proposed project would create and isolated patches of reserve forest of ~14 acre and another patch of forest area about ~20 acre that include ~4.5 acre of RF. These patches could be developed as Herbal Park/Urban Forest in future.



7. From the field observations, it was noted that provision of underpass/overpass for wildlife is not required. However, provision for underpass/overpass could be provided connecting both the patches of Reserve Forest so that a Herbal Park/City Forest could be developed in both the patches stably interconnected by the provided passage (underpass/overpass).
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DFO, GURUGRAM.

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*  
D.W.L.O.  
Gurugram

Divisional Wildlife Officer  
Gurugram

*[Signature]*  
Chief Conservator of Forests,  
South Circle, Gurugram