

Government of West Bengal **Directorate of Forests**

Office of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Hill Circle, West Bengal

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Dated: 17.12.2022

No. 1692 /C2-268

SITE INSPECTION REPORT IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSAL NO: FP/WB/ROAD/154398/2022 FOR DIVERSION OF 2.939 Ha. FOREST LAND UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF KALIMPONG FOREST DIVISION FOR MUCK DUMPING FOR CONSTRUCTION REHABILITAION AND UPGRADING OF TWO LANE PAVED SHOULDERS OF NH717A.

The undersigned visited the proposed land diversion site on 17.12.2022. NHIDCL KALIMPONG has proposed the land diversion proposal over 2.939 Ha. in two sites of Churanti 2, one site of Churanti 1 and Nine sites of Lish 10 compartment of Chunabhatti Beat of Chel Range under the jurisdiction of Kalimpong Forest Division.(Total Twelve Sites)

Uphill side of most of the proposed sites is hill slope, prone to landslide. In total, 53 nos of standing trees has been marked for felling.

The User Agency must undertake appropriate Soil Conservation and slope stabilization measures to prevent landslide and erosion issues, immediately with Topmost Priority.

Keeping in view the vulnerable and fragile formation of hill slopes, Site Specific Appropriate Retaining Structures must be constructed by the User Agency in each and every identified/proposed site in sufficient quantum and execute stabilization procedure to ensure muck dumping in most scientific manner so as to withstand the load of muck by the structures constructed without any issue, for prevention of large scale landslide and multiple Soil erosion hazard during monsoon.

No alternative site for the purpose is available nearby as reported and observed.

The proposed site does not come under the wildlife habitat zone and there has been no encroachment issue on it.

The site is free from any defence installations and structures of archaeological importance.

The user agency is required to adopt all possible measures to avert any adversity to the area, outside the purview of the proposed site.

(S.Gajamer IFS)

Chief Conservator of Forests Hill Circle, West Bengal

14. whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned conservator of Forests. (Yes/No). If Yes, the date of inspection & the observations made in the form of inspection note to be enclosed.

Yes, on 17.12.2022. The area of 2.939 Ha falls under the jurisdiction In Chunabhatti Beat of under the jurisdiction of Chel Range of Kalimpong Forest Division.

There is no issue of encroachment in the proposed site and it does not fall under any designated wildlife habitat. It is a barest minimum for the purpose. There is involvement of felling of 59 nos. of standing trees which is unavoidable. The sites are situated in a slope area prone to landslide. The User Agency must undertake Appropriate Soil Conservation and Slope Stabilization Measures to prevent Landslide and Erosion Issues, immediately with Topmost Priority. The proposed area if diverted for the purpose mentioned, would cause minimum interference to the wildlife habitat and movement of wildlife.

15. Whether the concerned Conservator of Forests agree with the information given in Part –B and the recommendation of Deputy Conservator of Forests.

Yes.

16. Specific recommendation of the concerned Conservator of Forests for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.

Diversion of 2.939 Ha, of forest land in Chunabhatti Beat of Chel Range under the jurisdiction of Kalimpong Forest Division, for the purpose of Muck dumping for construction rehabilitation and upgrading of two lane paved shoulders of NH717A is hereby recommended, provided the User Agency undertake appropriate Soil Conservation and Slope Stabilization Measures to prevent Landslide and Erosion Issues, immediately with Topmost Priority.

(S.Gajamer IFS)

Chief Conservator of Forests Hill Circle, West Bengal