

Site Inspection Report

Project Name:- Proposal for diversion of 19.1736 ha. additional Forest Land requirement for four laning of NH-05 from Shakral Village to Dhalli section (Shimla Bypass Package II from Km 146+300 to Km 156+560 and Shimla Connectivity from Km 0+000 to Km 0+725 for Design length - 10.985 Km) in already approved FCA case of the entire section from Kaithlighat to Dhalli.

In compliance of the observation raised by Regional Officer, MoEF& cc vide office letter no IRO/39315/2023 date 06.03.2023 the Site Inspection has been carried out on 10.03.2023 for Project “ *four laning of NH-05 from Shakral Village to Dhalli section (Shimla Bypass Package II from Km 146+300 to Km 156+560 and Shimla Connectivity from Km 0+000 to Km 0+725 for Design length - 10.985 Km) in the state of Himachal Pradesh*”

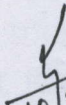
2. During visit as per discussion held with representative of User Agency they intimated that for this project 40 ha. Land was already diverted from Government of India in the year of 2017 for road purpose. But there was not any muck disposal site proposed in the entire porposal. Further, it is found that the subject Project is passes through the hills of District Shimla and connecting main Shimla City and small towns of Shimla city. The total length of the proposed road is 10.985 km in which 10 Nos of Dumping sites are proposed near to the alignment which contain overall partial of 8.5413 ha. The representative of User Agency said that they have already been carried out rigorous exercise for identify the muck disposal sites and no such suitable area in non forest land is available nearby the alignment for muck disposal.

3. The Project contains 3 Nos. of Twin Tube tunnels which are proposed in the project to reduce cutting of hills, and to divert traffic from city congestion to four lane directly through tunnel. The total length of tunnels is around about 3.5km from which huge muck will be generated for which dumping sites are required. Further, it is noticed that maximum nos of muck disposal sites are proposed in the valley side of hills in which protection work like gabion wall may be required to sustain/protect the disposed muck and necessary cross drainage work e.g Box culver, Hume pipe culvert must be provided for channelizing rain water etc.

4. Total 3910 trees are being affected in the proposal and 10.496 hectare area is proposed for road component, 8.5413 ha area is for 10 dumping sites and 0.1415 ha area is proposed for tunnel in forest land. The road alignment proposed from village lambidhar to Dhalli touches some portion of Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ) boundary towards the end of project. The User Agency said that they have proposed flyover in this stretch for the length of 800 meter which will help to animals to cross the highway.

5. The proposed area was personally inspected in the presence of Divisional forest officer, Shimla and the representative of National Highway Authority of India, PIU-Shimla. Project will help to reduce traffic congestion of Shimla city and boost tourism, industrial development, and also create employment. Therefore, proposed diversion is recommended for the project as per Govt. of India Rules/norms.

Date:-10.03.2023


10/03/23

Chief Conservator of Forests
Shimla Forest Circle, Shimla