

SITE INSPECTION REPORT NOT BELOW THE RANK OF DCF
(For forest land to be diverted under Forest Conservation Act, 1980)

A proposal has been received by this office from **Executive Engineer (P.M.G.S.Y.), Construction Division, PWD Pokhari** for diversion of **2.45 Ha.** of Reserved Forest land under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for non-forestry purpose. The project envisages transfer of Reserved Forest land of Kedarnath Wildlife Division, Gopeshwar for construction of **Mohankhal-Tali Kansari motor road.**

I have carried out the site inspection of the land required on date 25-01 -2015 and 26-3-2015.

Upon inspection of the site, the following has come to light:

1. It is found that the land required by the user agency is a ~~RF/PF//Unclassed/Protected Forest~~. The break-up of the land is as under:

The Reserve forest	2.45 Ha
Civil forest	Nil Ha
Van Panchayat forest	Nil Ha
Total required Forest Land	2.45 Ha

The proposed road passes through Mohankhal Reserve of Kedarnath Wildlife Division, which is a very pristine forest of very high density of Oak. This thick forest harbours a vivid biodiversity of flora nad fauna. The proposed road shall originate on the existing Rudraprayag-Pokhari motor road, and will traverse through the Reserved Forest and parts of Civil & Private lands, before re-entring the Reserved Forest to connect the habitation of Tali Kansari. The requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency, as detaied above, is unavoidable and is minimum required for the project.

Whether any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna in the area. If, so the details there of.

Yes. The area in question is a habitat of high altitude ungulates. Himalayan Tahr (*Hemitragus jemlahicus*), Himalayan black bear (*Selanarctos thibetanus*), Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), Large red flying squirrel (*Petaurista petaurista albiventer*), Ghural (*Nemorhaedus goral*) are the general faunal species, flora species are generally the ones that are particular to such semi tropical broad leaved forests. Lichens and Orchids (both terrestrial and vegetative) are found in high abundance.

Whether any protected archeological/ heritage site/defense establishment or any other important monuments is located in the area, if so the details there of with NOC from competent authority, if required.

No such establishment/building exists.

- a) **The user agency has not violated the provisions of forest (Conservation), Act 1980 and no work has been started without proper sanction.**
- b) ~~It has been found that the user agency has violated the forest (Conservation), Act 1980 provisions. A detail report as per Para 1.9 of chapter 1, Para C of Handbook of forest (Conservation), Act 1980 is attached.~~

Specific recommendation for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal.

From forestry perspective, the road will fragment a fringe of the Reserved Forest that supports a high biodiversity. This fragmentation shall impact the microecology of the site, and might bring a change in behaviour of the local fauna, in addition to increasing incidents of forest fire and man-animal conflict. The Proposed road will provide motorable connectivity to slightly remote located village. This shall provide better communication and facilities to the locals. Considering these factors- and the lack of any alternative alignment, the proposal is recommended.

(Signature)

Place: Gopeshwar
Date: 27-03-2015

Name: **Akash Kumar Verma, IFS**
Designation: Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Kedarnath Wild Life Division,
Gopeshwar.

Office Seal:

N.B. x state the purpose for which the forest land is proposed to be diverted
 xx out of (a) and (b) tick the option which is applicable and cross the option which is not applicable.

As per letter number-2-2/2000 FC dated 16-10-2000 from Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India for proposed involving less than 40 hectares of forest land, the site inspection report from DCF is required, and for proposal involving more than 40 hectares of forest land site inspection report from the Conservator of Forests is required.)