Name of proposal: Diversion of 0.0869 ha of forest land in favour of Agriculture Department of Himachal Pradesh, Krishi Bhawan, Directorate of Agriculture, Boilauganj, Shimla for the construction of Sub Divisional Soil Conservation Officer, office building at Bagsiad, Distt. Mandi, HP, within the jurisdiction of Nachan Forest Division Distt. Mandi.

## JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST AREA AND ALTERNATIVES EXPLORED

Sub Divisional Soil Conservation office building is proposed to be constructed in village Bagsaid, District Mandi. Village Bagsaid is located in a remote locality of District Mandi and majority of population in the area is dependent on agriculture and horticulture produce. Landholding of the villagers is very small, as such private land is not available for construction of the office building. Most of the government land falls under the category of Forest land. Hence, construction of the office building has been proposed on the forest land since no other land is available for this construction. Use of forest land is unavoidable and bare minimum forest land is proposed to be diverted.

Three sites were examined as per details below:

- Proposed Site This site involves 0.0869 ha of forest area. No tree felling is involved in this
  patch of forest land. Proposed land is suitable for office purpose since it is easily
  approachable, involves minimum area and no tree felling.
- 2. Alternate Site 1 This site involves forest area of 0.1488 ha and 28 number of trees which is much higher than the proposed site.
- 3. Alternate Site 2 This site involves forest area of 0.1581 ha and 34 number of trees which is significantly higher than the proposed site.

Site	Area (ha)	Number of Trees	Remarks
Proposed Site	0.0869	0	Involves minimum area and no tree felling, hence this site was selected.
Alternate Site 1	0.1488	28	Area is more than proposed site and involves 28 trees. Hence, this site was rejected.
Alternate Site 2	0.1581	34	Area is more than proposed site and involves 34 trees. Hence, this site was rejected.

Sub Divisional Soil Cons. Officer Bagsiad, Tehsil Thunag Distt. Mandi (H.P.)

DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, NACHAN FOREST DIVISION, GOHAR, DISTT. MANDI (H.P.)