



सी.एस.आई.आर.-हिमालय जैवसंपदा प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान  
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CSIR - INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN BIORESOURCE TECHNOLOGY, PALAMPUR  
Post Box No. 6 Palampur (H.P.) 176 061 INDIA



No. 2-9(59)/09-Legal

Dated: 24.03.2021

To

The Divisional Forest Officer  
Lahaul Forest Division at Keylong

Sub: **Diversion of 0.9994 hac of Forest land in favour of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology at Tandi, (DIET) Post Office Tandi, Tehsil Keylong District Lahaul & Spiti for establishment centre for High Altitude Biology, Tandi (DIET) within the jurisdiction of Lahaul Forest Division, District Lahaul & Spiti, HP.**

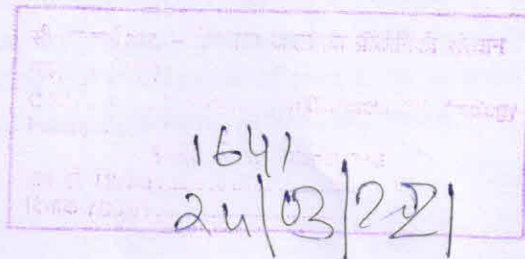
Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 6012-16 dated 03.02.2021 addressed to Deputy Commissioner, District Lahaul & Spiti (HP) and copy to this office, I am directed to inform you that we had made a request to the Deputy Commissioner, District Lahaul & Spiti for permission of construction of pre-fabricated temporary structure for managing our official activities to run our research centre at Tandi. As you know that it was very difficult to manage the R&D activities from Ribling due to harsh geographical conditions and remoteness of the area. We had made a request vide this office DO letter 1-4/24(1)/2012 dated 11.06.2012 to the Deputy Commissioner, District Lahaul & Spiti for the construction of pre-fabricated structure, with the assumption that all these permissions are granted by the Deputy Commissioner, Lahaul & Spiti, who is also the Head of the Revenue Department at District Lahaul & Spiti.

On receipt of permission for a period of five years w.e.f. 03.09.2012 from the Deputy Commissioner, District Lahaul & Spiti, we constructed pre-fabricated temporary structure on that particular piece of land at that time. However, before the expiry of five years period, we had taken up the matter for the transfer of land under the provisions of FCA guidelines.

Our R&D Institute constantly endeavours to conserve the biodiversity and upliftment of local people/farmers of Lahaul & Spiti. For more details please see the Annexure A attached herewith.

You are, therefore, requested kindly to accord approval for the diversion of 0.9994 hac of Forest land in favour of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology at Tandi, (DIET) Post Office Tandi, Tehsil Keylong District Lahaul & Spiti for establishment centre for High Altitude Biology, Tandi (DIET) within the jurisdiction of Lahaul Forest Division, District Lahaul & Spiti, HP.



Yours faithfully,

  
(Alok Sharma) 24/3/2021

Controller of Administration  
Contact: 01894-230428  
e-mail: coa@ihbt.res.in

Encl: AA.

Sub: **Diversion of 0.9994ha of forest land in favour of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology, Tandi (DIET), PO Tandi, Tehsil Keylong, Distt. Lahaul & Spiti for the establishment of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology, Tandi (DIET) within the jurisdiction of Lahaul Forest Division, Distt. Lahaul & Spiti, HP. (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/Others/19144/2016).**

In this regard it is submitted here that our research centre was set up with a primary objective of utilizing the bioresources of high altitudes for the benefit of people living in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. The present pre-fabricated structures near DIET, Tandi, were temporarily constructed to popularize and monitor establishment of our Research Centre, *i.e.*, Centre for High Altitude Biology at Ribling, Lahaul & Spiti during its developmental phase. This centre which is located in a remote area (9 km link road distance and ~ 2 km bridle path) where basic amenities like road, electricity, water etc. are still very difficult to manage.


These temporary pre-fabricated structures were constructed with the permission of then Hon'ble DC, Lahaul & Spiti (Letter no. 265/DRA/2055 dated 03/09/2012) to oversee the progress of our research centre, create awareness, popularize science and to provide trainings to farmers as well as to other local self-help groups and entrepreneurs. Since, the region is snow bound for most part of the year and there is a short working season of only 5-6 months, this permission was granted as a moral support for undertaking our activities in the harsh conditions, and expediting our targets towards improving the livelihoods of local people of the region.

Further, these pre-fabricated structures were temporarily constructed and were utilized for the establishment of facilities such as tissue culture unit, a pilot scale oil distillation unit, food processing unit and a research laboratory, all of which ultimately target value addition of /regional bioresources, their conservation and rural empowerment.

Within the period of our permission we proceeded with FCA guidelines and in consultation with the office of the DFO at Keylong, initiated getting the required, NOCs and other documents required for diversion of forest land. Since, it's a long and cumbersome process, it took us a considerable time for fulfilling the requirements, and therefore later on we submitted the proposal online. We've already provided details of these temporarily built structures in our application and also provided clarifications to the queries raised subsequently.

Since, the construction of these structures now comes under violation as per FCA provisions, we have already submitted our undertaking to pay the penal charges as required under Section 1.21.

It's our earnest request that the diversion of forest land and the violation be considered in a positive spirit as we've only proposed a skill development centre to be established in the tribal area for enhancing the livelihoods of locals, for conservation of threatened plants besides creating awareness and popularizing science among the youth.

  
24/03/2024  
(Dr. ARMIT CHAWLA)  
Sr. SCIENTIST in-charge  
CEHAF, Tandi (L & S)