PROPOSAL FOR SEEKING APPROVAL FOR DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND FOR C/O 2-LANE TRANS-HIGHWAY (NH-229) FROM KHUPI REALIGNMENT CH:17.180-21.000 (3.80KM) IN WEST KAMENG DISTRICT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH.

- The proposed road Segment IB Khupi Realignment- Ch: 17.180-21.00 (3.80Km) is a part project "Widening of existing road to 2-lane NH standard along with improvement and realignment from Nechipu to Hoj (311Km) via Seppa, Khodaso, Sagalee (part of Trans- Arunachal Highway) in Arunachal Pradesh under Arunachal Pradesh package of Roads and Highways on National Highways (now NH-13)old NH-229 on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DFBOT) Annuity basis".(SH: Segment IB Khupi Realignment- Ch: 17.180-21.00 (3.80Km)
- 2. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways approved the alignment for project vide No. RW/NH-12011/24/2008/Ar.P/SARDP-NE dated 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012. (**Copy enclosed**) and work has been awarded to **M/s Sushee IVRCL Arunachal Highways Ltd**. The project is in advance stage of completion except for above realignment segment for non-clearance of Forest. The final approval for Forest clearance from **Nechipu to Bana from 0.00 Km to 62.58Km** has been conveyed vide No.F.No.8-5/2010-FC dated 22/03/2012 (**copy enclosed**). The 3.80km length of Khupi realignment Chainage 17.180 to 21.00Km falls within Nechipu to Bana sector. The reason for realignment of this segment arises as under:-
- (a) Due to geometric design aspect within permissible IRC standards.
- (b) To avoid cutting of road formation of 9.4 Km in Forest Reserve Area and shorten the road length to 3.80Km.
- (c) To avoid steep unstable slopes on Valley side
- (d) To maintain design speed of 50 to 60 Kmph
- (e) To curtail the excessive LA and utility shifting cost of Khupi village.
- The land use pattern along the realigned road length shows that the land available falls on Khupi Reserve Forest Area measuring 12.90 hectares only as compared to 28.2 hectares of existing alignment.
- The proposal has been prepared as per revised Forest (Conservation) Rule 2003 under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for obtaining Forest Clearance from Government of India.
- In view of the above, it is requested to accord Forest Clearance at the earliest, the delay in which may lead to cost escalation of the BOT project and penalised under State Default as per State Support Agreement. Under State Support Agreement, all stakeholder agencies in the Department of Environment & Forests are required to provide the State Support and expeditious mandatory clearances.

Chief Engineer (Highway) Western Zone PWD AP

Itanagar

(Toli Basar)