

No.:-

Dated:-12/05/2023

To

1551

The Divisional Forest Officer,
Shimla (Rural) Forest Division,
District Shimla.

Subject: -


Diversion of 2.1075 ha of forest land in favor of HPPWD for the construction of link road from Naldehra to Oddu Km. 0/00 to 2/745, within the jurisdiction of Shimla Forest Division (Rural) Distt. Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/ROAD/42949/2019).

Kindly refer to your office letter no. 9907-08 dated 14 March 2023 on the subject cited above.

In this connection, it is submitted that we have attended the shortcomings noticed in above proposal. The observations have been corrected as per IRO requirement. The Point wise reply to the observations is as under:-

Sr. No	Deficiencies	Compliance to the Deficiencies
1	<p>In response to observation no 12, the State Government submitted the existence "traditional path of 2-3 meters in width." It is pertinent to mention that the fact of the existence of the traditional path has not been revealed before by the State Govt. Therefore, providing contradictory information and changing facts unnecessarily delay the decision-making process and may lead to multiple EDS/queries every time. In this regard, State Government is requested to provide documentary evidence of the existence of a traditional path of 2-3 meters in width as mentioned. Otherwise following clarification/justification may be provided:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">A fresh Site Inspection report and Joint Inspection report for the instant proposal.The date/year of violation may be provided.The Action Taken Report against the violators as per Para 1.21 (i) and/ or (ii) of FCA Guidelines may be submitted/ uploaded in the portal.Action taken by the State Government against the officials concerned for not being able to prevent the use of forest land for non-forestry purpose without prior approval of Govt. of IndiaCurrent Status of the violation, whether continuing or stopped.	<p>There is no documentary evidence of the existence of a traditional path as this path was built before 1950.</p>

2	In response to observation no 13, the State Government submitted that- the road visible through Google Earth Image is not motorable and it's a traditional path that is not motorable. However, as per the KML submitted, the village Oddu is well connected by the motorable road on the other side. Since a large number of ecologically important trees (322) i.e., Deodar (Cedrus Deodar) are involved, State government needs to ensure that the development of this road may not disturb the fragile ecology of the area. Therefore the proposal needs to review.	The primary objective of construction of the proposed road is to connect Odu village to Naldehra as the main bus stop near odu is in 30 km radius. So this proposed road involves not only less forest land as well as it will provide ease to the population for travelling less distance. Since the village Odu situated on the other side of road area and surrounded by the forest land, hence there is no escape from using the forest land if the primary objectives of linking the village to the motor road is to be achieved.
3	An enumeration list of trees, including the compartment no and along with the date of tree enumeration, which is duly authenticated by the concerned DFO, needs to be provided.	This observation pertains to your good office please.
4	The layout plan must include a legend and the proper dimensions of each component, such as Carriageway, Paved Shoulder, Earth Filling, Drain, and Protection Work, as well as an area-wise calculation. Furthermore, the forest land and non-forest land involved in the proposal must be represented in the layout plan with distinct colors and need to be duly authenticated by the concerned DFO may be provided.	Layout plan with legend and the proper dimensions of each component has been uploaded online against Additional Information Detail and is enclosed herewith.
5	As per the DSS analysis, the proposed DA is 2.1075 ha however, the calculated area is 0.82 ha. Therefore, State Govt. may review the difference in the proposed DA area and calculated area, and accordingly, fresh KML may be uploaded under the appropriate column of the online portal.	Necessary Correction has been done in KML File and corrected KML File has been uploaded online.
6	Site Inspection Report by the concerned Conservator of Forest with respect to alternative alignments and to explore the possibilities of reducing the number of trees for felling in the proposed alignment may also be provided.	Site Inspection has been already done by the Conservator of Forest on dated 22.09.2022 copy of Site Inspection Report with tree enumeration list of alternate alignment is enclosed.


 Executive Engineer
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