

Department of Wildlife Protection J&K Government OFFICE OF THE WILDLIFE WARDEN KATHUA Tel/Fax No. 01922-234622, Email: -wildlifekathua1@gmail.com

Full Title of the Proposal: Construction of Alternative Alignment of Lakhanpur-Thein Road Km 11th to 12th due to submergences of 2×39 Mtrs, R.C.C.T Girder Bridge on Nora Nallah (at 410.0 Mtrs Level) PWD (R&B) Division Kathua.

Proposal No.: FP/JK/ROAD/155190/2022.

Date of Proposal: - 07-05-2022.

Site Inspection report by an officer not below the rank of DCF/DFO (For the forest land to be diverted under FCA)

- A proposal has been received by this office from Er. Vinod Kumar, Executive Engineer P.W.D (R&B) Division Kathua for diversion (under FCA, 1980) of 2.84 Ha. of forest land for non-forestry purpose. The subject envisages the use of forest land for the Construction of Alternative Alignment of Lakhanpur-Thein Road Km 11th to 12th due to submergences of 2×39 Mtrs, R.C.C.T Girder Bridge on Nora Nallah (at 410.0 Mtrs Level) PWD (R&B) Division Kathua. The site inspection of the land involved in the proposal has been done by me on 10-05-2022. On inspection of the site, it is found that the land required by the User Agency is a forest land measuring 2.84 Ha. The requirement of forest land as proposed by the UA in Col.2 of Part-I is unavoidable and is barest minimum required for the project.
- 2. Weather any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area? If so, the details thereof: Common leopard (*Panthera pardus*).
- 3. Weather any protected archaeological/heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area? If so, the details thereof with NOC from competent authority, if required:-No.
- 4. (a) With respect to site inspection of undersigned, it is submitted the user agency started digging of earth work on 17/04/2022 which was immediately stopped by the concerned Range Officer and *prima-facia* damage case No. 1 of 2022-23 date 17-04-2022 was registered against the User agency. Further, a four members enquiry committee was constituted to ascertain the quantum of damage by User agency. The enquiry committee submitted his findings that an earth work of 70×30 feet has been excavated on the Private/Agricultural Land by User agency and there is no loss of pole/saplings or trees. Further, the enquiry committee also submitted that the damage site is located on Private/Agricultural Land which falls just outside the boundary of Reserved Forest of comptt. 16/KTH of Thein Conservation Reserve.

Therefore, the earth work was executed on the Private/Agricultural field and thus there is no damage to any Forest land and tree/pole/saplings as submitted by the enquiry team which was also verified and ascertained by the undersigned during 2nd site inspection on 25-05-2022.

5. Specific recommendations for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal:

The total length of proposed road is **3.10 Kilometers** falling inside the Comptt. 16/KTH of Thein Conservation Reserve involving an area of **2.84 Ha**. Thus, total forest land (Reserved Forest) needs to be diverted from Thein Wildlife Conservation Reserve is **2.84 Ha** and **134** total no. of trees/sapling of mainly broadly species are involved in the proposed alignment. The **Construction of Alternative Alignment of Lakhanpur-Thein Road Km 11th to 12th due to submergences of 2 \times 39 Mtrs, R.C.C.T Girder Bridge on Nora Nallah (at 410.0 Mtrs Level) PWD (R&B) Division Kathua shall provide quality connectivity to the public of 4 Numbers of Tehsils of Kathua District namely Billawar, Mahanpur, Basohli and Bani when completed. No significant negative impact of the current proposal on Thein Wildlife Conservation Reserve is likely to occur in terms of section 29 of the Wildlife Protection Act. 1972, thus there is no significant impact on the corridor of the Wildlife, as there is already existing single lane link Road before 1980.**

Date: 25-06-2022. Place: Kathua.

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Designation: Wildlife Warden Kathua. Wildlife Warden Kathua