

Form 'A'

**Form for seeking Prior-Approval of the Proposals by The State
Government and other Authorities under Section 2 of the
Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**

PART - I

(To be filled up by the User Agency)

1. **Project Details.** Proposed scheme for diversion of 0.1114 Acres (0.0451 Hectares) of Forest Land for Drinking Water Supply Scheme at Milestone 8 to Milestone 5 at JN Road (Gangtok-Nathu La Road) in East District Sikkim by 17 Mountain Division (Army).

(a) **Short Narrative of the Proposal and Project/Scheme for which the Forest Land is required:-**

(i) **Introduction.** The land (0.1114 Acres / 0.0451 Hectares) is required by the Army for construction of sedimentation tanks and laying of pipeline for provision of Drinking Water Supply.

(ii) **Status.** The said 0.1114 Acres (0.0451 Hectares) land is **Forest Land**. The case of diversion of 0.1114 Acres (0.0451 hectares) Forest Land between Milestone 8 to Milestone 5 on JN Marg, East Sikkim is being filed as a fresh case for obtaining Forest Clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 as the water pipeline is required to be laid along with construction of Collection Chamber and Sedimentation Tanks.

(iii) **Recommendations.** In view of the above situation, this scheme is recommended so as to provide adequate and potable drinking-water to troops of Army units located between Milestone 8 to Milestone 5. Hence the work be considered as an essential requirement for welfare of troops of 17 Mountain Division deployed for defence of National Territory in Sikkim.

(b) **Map showing the required Forest Land, boundary of adjoining forest on a 1 : 50,000 Scale Map.** The following map sheet is enclosed as **Appendix 'E'**:-

(i) Part of Map Sheet No 78 A/11 Scale 1 : 50000.

(ii) Sketch of the Project.

(c) **Cost of the Project.** The cost of the planned project amounting to **Rs. 3, 11, 23,145.03** will be entirely borne by the Government of India, Ministry of Defence. The cost would include:-

(i) Cost of site-preparation, including all mitigating measures.

(ii) Cost of construction of internal roads.

(iii) Cost of construction of various buildings and structures.

(iv) Cost of tree-plantation and arboriculture.

(v) Cost of administrative infrastructure, drinking water-supply and electricity.

(vi) **Total Cost of Land.** The total cost of the land including Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be calculated by the Forest Department, Government of Sikkim based on existing policies and orders/guidelines laid-down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and MoEF&CC from time to time. However being a miniscule area of land involved, no trees being felled and minimum foliage being disturbed, it is requested that Compensatory Afforestation may please be exempted.

(vii) **Exemption of Net Present Value (NPV).** Under authority of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 28 Mar 2008 in the case of WP No. 202/1995 (TN Godavarman Thirumalpad versus Union of India & Others), it is requested that Net Present Value may please be exempted as this is a "Drinking Water Pipeline".

(d) **Details of Project.**

(i) **Mitigating Measures Planned.** Army plans to incorporate all mitigating measures in due consultation with the Forest Department, Government of Sikkim. The following actions shall also be taken to ensure environmental preservation as per the guidelines laid-down by the MoEF&CC and Forest Department, Government of Sikkim from time to time (Refer Forest Department, Government of Sikkim letter No. 1747(a)/FEWMD dated 18 Sep 2007):-

(aa) Protection works for securing the water pipe along its route.

(ab) Muck-disposal would be minimum considering the restricted digging involved and the same will be carried out at the site itself or at designated sites only which shall be identified jointly by the Army, Forest Department, Government of Sikkim.

(e) **Status of Trees.** The subject land pockets which require diversion for the construction drinking water supply pipe line is situated at altitudes ranging from 8,000 ft to 7000 ft. Construction of the proposed Drinking Water Supply Pipeline from Mile Stone 8 to Mile Stone 5 does not involve any tree-felling.

(f) **Impact on Forest.** The project would take approximately two years to be completed. However, the project will not have any adverse impact on forest as does not involve felling of green trees and is disturbing only minimum ground foliage.

(g) **Justification for locating the Project in Forest Areas.**

(i) A water source at Milestone 8 at Gangtok is existing with an existing pipeline connected to that source up to Milestone 5. The pipeline was laid around 20-30 years ago for carrying water to the Army units located at Milestone 5. The pipeline was laid for Fire-Fighting purpose and part of the water was being used by troops for drinking purposes. Now the old pipeline has suffered damage at several places and is badly leaking due to fair wear-and-tear and old vintage. Sources of potable drinking water are extremely restricted in the area.

(ii) Due to poor condition of the old pipeline, there is an acute crisis of drinking-water and quality of drinking-water being given to troops is not of desired standard. A need was felt to examine nearby sites and explore the feasibility of a new Drinking Water Supply System for troops living in the Milestone 5 area. On extensive survey, no new perennial source of water was found in the areas around Milestone 5. Hence, it was decided that the source near Milestone 8 may be consolidated with a better pipeline.

(iii) The total strength of troops near Milestone 5 is around 800 pers and the approximate requirement of drinking-water per day is about 3,65,000 litres. The source at Milestone 8 is expected to provide enough water to the army units.

(h) **Cost-benefit Analysis.** The proposed project of "Provision of Drinking Water Supply Scheme from Milestone 5 to Milestone 8 at Gangtok" is an important administrative and operational requirement and will ensure improvement of the habitat of the troops belonging to the army units in the area.

(j) **Employment likely to be Generated.** Construction of Drinking Water Supply Scheme from Milestone 5 to Milestone 8 at Gangtok would generate employment for a large number of locals to include the following:-

(i) It will take approximately two years for the construction of the project and the requirement of workforce is approximately 50 persons per day.

(ii) Employment for locals as maintenance staff.

(iii) Employment of locals in Greening India Project in the area.

- (iv) **Pay-offs Envisaged for Local Population.** The area is located approximately 15 km away from Gangtok town. The availability of Drinking Water will enable the Army to consolidate its units in their present location, thereby providing a better and more secure environment to the local population of the remote areas of Milestone 08 to Milestone 05, as also provide clean drinking water to them, should any such emergency occur.
- (v) **Employment Generated.** Provision of Drinking Water Supply Scheme from Milestone 5 to Milestone 8 at Gangtok will help local population contribute in the construction activity as labour/ supervisory staff.

2. **Purpose-wise Break-up of the Total Land Required.** The Forest Land to be diverted for the above project is 0.1114 Acres (0.0451 Hectares) and has been identified and jointly surveyed on ground for laying of pipeline. The purposewise break-up is as under:-

Ser No	Purpose of Land Usage	Land Dimensions (In Mtrs)	Area Involved	
			Acres	Hectares
(a)	RCC Channel (A-B)	29 x 1.20	0.0084	0.0034
(b)	Water Tank	6.20 x 4.20	0.0064	0.0026
(c)	Pipeline (B-C)	338 x 0.6096	0.0509	0.0206
(d)	Pipeline (D-E)	183 x 0.6096	0.0274	0.0111
(e)	Pipeline From Point No. 10-11	122 x 0.6096	0.0183	0.0074
Total Forest Land Area			0.1114	0.0451

3. Details of displacement of people due to the project, if any:-
- (a) **Number of Families.** No human population will be displaced.
- (b) **Number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes families.** NIL.
- (c) **Rehabilitation plan (To be enclosed).** Since the land under consideration is Forest Land and does not have any civilian population to be displaced, no rehabilitation is involved.
4. **Whether Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 Required?**
- No. The environment clearance is not required. The project proponent does not require to obtain NOC/Consent under the provisions of The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1981 or from the State Pollution Control Board/Pollution Control Committee.
5. **Undertaking to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of Net Present Value and Compensatory Afforestation and/or Penal Compensatory Afforestation as well as for Protection and Regeneration of Safety Zone, etc.**
- (a) **Total Cost of Land.** The total cost of the land including Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be calculated by the Forest Department, Government of Sikkim based on existing policies and orders/guidelines laid-down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and MoEF&CC from time to time. However being a miniscule area of land involved, no trees being felled and minimum foliage being disturbed, it is requested that Compensatory Afforestation a may please be exempted.
- (b) **Exemption of Net Present Value (NPV).** Under authority of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 28 Mar 2008 in the case of WP No. 202/1995 (TN Godavarman Thirumalpad versus Union of India & Others), it is requested that NPV may please be exempted as this is a "Drinking Water Pipeline".

6. Details of certificates/documents enclosed as required under the instructions are as under:-

S No	Title	Letter No and Date	Appendix / Sketches
(a)	Project report	154 Fd Regt Letter No 523203/WSS/03/Q dt 24 Jan 2019.	Appendix A
(b)	No objection certificate from BRO (Border Road Organization)	129 RCC (GREF) letter No 2033/NOC/Vol-VI/73/E2 dt 13 Mar 2018.	Appendix B
(c)	Revised Estimate Approval-1 Revised Estimate Approval-2	HQ Chief Engineer Silifuri Zone, MES letter No 98615/GTK/104/E8 dt 05 Jan 2018.	Appendix C
(d)	Jt Svy Report along with Details.	Govt of Sikkim, office of the DFO memo No 947/ED/T/FEWMD dt 26 Sep 2018.	Appendix D
(e)	Map showing layout of pipeline from Milestone 08 to 05.	RS/GIS Cell Working Plan, FEWMD vide Ser No 525/GIS/WP18/FEWMD	Appendix E
(f)	Line sketch	154 Fd Regt letter No 523203/WSS/96/Q dt 26 Oct 2018.	Appendix F
(g)	Engineer Drawings	HQ 33 Corps letter No 230703/AMWP/12-13/Q3W (ii) dt 26 Apr 2012.	Appendix G
(h)	Undertaking from GE	GE, Gangtok letter No 2084/214/E2 dt 02 Nov 2018.	Appendix H
(j)	Supreme court order	W.P (c) No 202/1995 dt 28 Mar 2008.	Appendix J
(k)	Undertaking cert from HQ 17 Mtn Div	HQ 17 Mtn Div undertaking cert dt 12 Feb 2019.	Appendix K


 (Bineesh PK)
 Major
 Nodal Officer
 For Commanding Officer