Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION KUPWARA

No: 956-57
Date: 26/6/2021

<u>Subject:</u> Justification for Locating the Water Supply Structures in Forest Land of Forest Division Kamraj for WSS Dourussa Tekipora

The Villages namely Wani Dourussa and Tekipora are situated about 25 kms away from the District Headquarter Kupwara in the famous Lolab Valley. The people of the area are facing extreme hardships due to non availability of the drinking water of adequate quantity and quality. The discharge of the tubewell source which has been used as a source to feed the Water Supply Scheme in the area for decades together has got depleted drastically as a result of which the department is forced to supply water to the area once in a week. The water from few more tubewells which were explored in the vicinity in the recent years has shown considerable presence of iron and flourides in limits beyond the safe parameters.

In order to address the scarcity of area on a long-term basis, a new scheme namely WSS Dourussa Tekipora has been proposed and stands approved by the Government under the languishing programme. The scheme consists of Construction of 4 No. Service Reservoirs, a Pre Settling Tank, a Slow Sand Filtration Plant, 1 No. Pump House, fencing around the structures and Laying of Pipelines for transmission of water.

Despite many deliberations and surveys to avoid the diversion of forest land, the department is constrained to construct all these structures and pipelines in the forest area due to the following reasons.

- 1. The water source (Joginagh Nallah) chosen for the scheme originates deep inside the forest which necessitates the Laying of Pipelines in the forest area.
- These villages are located on a relatively moderately sloping terrains just on the foothills of the
 forest ranges. Construction of Water Supply Structures such as reservoirs and filtration plants
 inside the villages on state or proprietary land would not provide sufficient heads for supply of water
 on gravity basis and would leave tail ends of the area without water supply.
- 3. The forest land is located on a higher contours which is sufficient for ensuring water supply from various structures through gravity means to the whole area uniformly.

It is worthwhile to mention no felling of trees will be involved during the construction of water supply structures and laying of necessary pipelines.

All the factors mentioned above mentioned factors have forced the undersigned to propose diversion of 0.5068 Ha of forest land at various spots for construction of the Water Supply Scheme Dourussa Tekipora for the benefit of public at large.

Executive Engineer

PHE Jal Shakti

Division Kupwara

Copy to the:

- 1. Chief Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Department Kashmir for favour of kind information and necessary action.
- 2. District Superintending Engineer, Hydraulic Circle Kupwara, H/Q Handwara for information.