



सी.एस.आई.आर.—हिमालय जैवसंपदा प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान  
पो. बॉ. न. 6 पालमपुर (हि.प्र.) 176061 भारत  
CSIR-INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN BIORESOURCE TECHNOLOGY  
Post Box No. 6 Palampur (H.P.) 176 061 INDIA



F. No. 2-9(87)/18-Legal

Dated: 24 September, 2025

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Himachal Pradesh Forest Department,  
Talland, Shimla, HP- 171001.

Subject:

Request for consideration of application submitted under Online Proposal No. FP/HP/Others/19144/2016 for diversion of 0.9994 ha of forest land in favour of CSIR-IHBT, Palampur, for establishment of Centre for High Altitude Biology (CeHAB) at Tandi (DIET), Tehsil Keylong, District Lahaul & Spiti, H.P. under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - reg.

Sir,

With reference to subject cited above, I am directed to submit the following for your kind consideration:

That, in the year 2012, on account of difficulty in operating from the allotted 20 ha. FCA-cleared land at Ribling (situated at 3450 m amsl and 11.5 km away from the main highway), this Institute requested the Deputy Commissioner, Lahaul & Spiti, for a small parcel of land near DIET, Tandi to establish a base facility with office and laboratory. Pursuant to this, the Gram Panchayat Tandi, vide Resolution No. 39 dated 02.07.2012, issued a "No Objection Certificate," and the then DC, Lahaul & Spiti, vide Letter No. 265/DRA dated 03.09.2012, granted permission to raise temporary prefabricated structures for five years.

On this basis, the Institute constructed temporary structures during 2013 and, before expiry of the permission, initiated the land transfer process. On 11.01.2016, approval was sought to initiate the case, followed by a formal request to DFO Lahaul & Spiti vide Letter No. 2-9(59)/09-Legal/II/4617 dated 25.01.2016. An online proposal was submitted on 29.04.2016 (acknowledgement issued), which was examined by the Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF vide Letter No. Ft.48-3329/2016(FCA) dated 03.05.2016.

Contd. at next page.....

Over the years, justifications, clarifications, and undertakings were provided by this Institute, including an undertaking dated 20.01.2020 to bear compensatory afforestation (CA) and penal CA charges. The matter was repeatedly discussed in review meetings in 2023, 2024, and 2025.

It is respectfully submitted that since basic amenities like road, water, and electricity are still not available at Ribling, the laboratory complex at DIET, Tandl assumes critical significance for our research and extension activities, which are aimed at the benefit of the local community.

In light of the above mentioned, it is requested that the application for diversion of 0.9994 ha forest land in favour of CSIR-IHBT at DIET, Tandl may kindly be considered favourably, keeping in view the public interest and research objectives of the Centre for High Altitude Biology (CeHAB). The Institute remains committed to full compliance with the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully,



(S.D. Rishi)

Deputy Secretary/ Controller of Administration

Email ID: [coa.ihbt@csir.res.in](mailto:coa.ihbt@csir.res.in)

Tel: 01894230428

Encl. EDS as required



सी.एस.आई.आर -हिमालय जैवसंपदा प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान

पो.बॉ. नं. 6 पालमपुर 176 061 ( हि.प्र.) भारत

CSIR-INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN BIORESOURCE TECHNOLOGY

Post Box No. 6 Palampur (H.P.) 176 061 INDIA



No.2-9(59)/09-Legal

7<sup>th</sup> December, 2023

The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Lahaul Forest Division  
Keylong, Lahaul and Spiti.

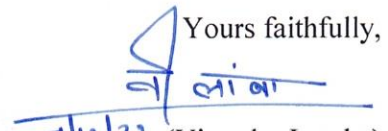
**Sub: Diversion of 0.9994 ha forest land near DIET in favour of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology, under the FCA provisions – request regarding (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/others/19144/2015).**

Sir,

With reference to your letter no. 6012-16 dated 03/02/2021, it is submitted to your good self that this Institute is a National Research & Development Laboratory of CSIR, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, focuses on a mandate of globally high-end scientific research in the Himalaya and constantly endeavours to develop technologies/products for the benefit of industry and society.

As you are aware that this Institute has established a Centre for High Altitude Biology at Tandi, Lahaul and Spiti in the year 2011 to conduct research on high altitudes of Himalaya and for societal upliftment of the tribal people of the area. For this purpose, with due permission from the Deputy Commissioner (copy enclosed), we had setup pre-fabricated structures on a 1 bigha land to initiate our activities. Besides it the copies of the response of the Deputy Commissioner (Letter No. 456/DRA dt. 04/10/2023) and our previously submitted reply (letter No. 2-9(59)/09-Legal along with an Annexure-A) are enclosed herewith for your kind reference.

In view of the above, this Institute seeks your kind cooperation and favour in this matter to expedite our online proposal for necessary approval to enable us to proceed further CSIR public importance R&D projects.

Yours faithfully,  
  
7/12/23 (Virender Lamba)  
Administrative Officer

Encls : As above

Administrative Officer  
CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology  
Palampur (H.P.)-176061

From

The Deputy Commissioner,  
Distt. Lahaul and Spiti.

To

The Principal Scientist,  
CSIR,IHBT,Tandi,  
Distt. Lahaul and Spiti.

No 456 /DRA

Dated Keylong 4 Oct.2023

Subject:-

Transfer of 0.9994 hac. forest land near DIET, under FCA (Online proposal no. FP/HP/others/19144/2015 )and permission accorded in 2012 for setting up of pre-fabricated temporary structure (Letter No. 265/DRA dated 03-09-2012)

Sir,

This is with reference to your office letter No. dated 30-08-2023 on the subject cited above.

In this connection, it is intimated that under the following circumstances ,through which permission accorded in 2012 for setting up of pre-fabricated temporary structure vide this office letter No. 265/DRA dated 03-09-2012.:-

1. The permission was granted on the basis of NOC provided by DFO, Lahaul Forest Division and Pradhan Gram Panchayat Tandhi. The Divisional Forest Officer has complete knowledge of the matters related to forest land and on the basis of his report permission was given for establishment of pre-fabricated temporary structure on forest land .
2. The permission was given to the CSIR, which is a Govt. of India Research Institute to intimate and undertake R&D projects of National importance for the betterment of society and initiate and environment for promoting skill enhancement of local youth and sustainable utilization of plant recourses.
3. The permission was only granted to facilitate the institute to set up their base and start activities on value addition of local bio-resources with emphasis on the economic upliftment of tribal people.

Yours faithfully,

(Rahul Kumar,)IAS  
Deputy Commissioner,  
Distt. Lahaul and Spiti.



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पो.बॉ.नं. 6 पालमपुर — 176 061 (हि.प्र.) भारत

CSIR - INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN BIORESOURCE TECHNOLOGY, PALAMPUR

Post Box No. 6 Palampur (H.P.) 176 061 INDIA



No. 2-9(59)/09-Legal

Dated: 24.03.2021

To

The Divisional Forest Officer  
Lahaul Forest Division at Keylong

Sub: **Diversion of 0.9994 hac of Forest land in favour of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology at Tandi, (DIET) Post Office Tandi, Tehsil Keylong District Lahaul & Spiti for establishment centre for High Altitude Biology, Tandi (DIET) within the jurisdiction of Lahaul Forest Division, District Lahaul & Spiti, HP.**

Sir,

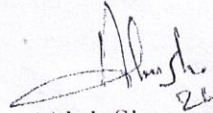
With reference to your letter No. 6012-16 dated 03.02.2021 addressed to Deputy Commissioner, District Lahaul & Spiti (HP) and copy to this office, I am directed to inform you that we had made a request to the Deputy Commissioner, District Lahaul & Spiti for permission of construction of pre-fabricated temporary structure for managing our official activities to run our research centre at Tandi. As you know that it was very difficult to manage the R&D activities from Ribling due to harsh geographical conditions and remoteness of the area. We had made a request vide this office DO letter 1-4/24(1)/2012 dated 11.06.2012 to the Deputy Commissioner, District Lahaul & Spiti for the construction of pre-fabricated structure, with the assumption that all these permissions are granted by the Deputy Commissioner, Lahaul & Spiti, who is also the Head of the Revenue Department at District Lahaul & Spiti.

On receipt of permission for a period of five years w.e.f. 03.09.2012 from the Deputy Commissioner, District Lahaul & Spiti, we constructed pre-fabricated temporary structure on that particular piece of land at that time. However, before the expiry of five years period, we had taken up the matter for the transfer of land under the provisions of FCA guidelines.

Our R&D Institute constantly endeavours to conserve the biodiversity and upliftment of local people/farmers of Lahaul & Spiti. For more details please see the Annexure A attached herewith.

You are, therefore, requested kindly to accord approval for the diversion of 0.9994 hac of Forest land in favour of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology at Tandi, (DIET) Post Office Tandi, Tehsil Keylong District Lahaul & Spiti for establishment centre for High Altitude Biology, Tandi (DIET) within the jurisdiction of Lahaul Forest Division, District Lahaul & Spiti, HP.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Alok Sharma) 24/3/21

Controller of Administration

Contact: 01894-230428

e-mail: coa@ihbt.res.in

164)  
24/03/21

Encl: AA.

Annexure – A

Sub: **Diversion of 0.9994ha of forest land in favour of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology, Tandi (DIET), PO Tandi, Tehsil Keylong, Distt. Lahaul & Spiti for the establishment of CSIR-IHBT Centre for High Altitude Biology, Tandi (DIET) within the jurisdiction of Lahaul Forest Division, Distt. Lahaul & Spiti, HP. (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/Others/19144/2016).**

In this regard it is submitted here that our research centre was set up with a primary objective of utilizing the bioresources of high altitudes for the benefit of people living in the tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh. The present pre-fabricated structures near DIET, Tandi, were temporarily constructed to popularize and monitor establishment of our Research Centre, *i.e.*, Centre for High Altitude Biology at Ribling, Lahaul & Spiti during its developmental phase. This centre which is located in a remote area (9 km link road distance and ~ 2 km bridle path) where basic amenities like road, electricity, water etc. are still very difficult to manage.

These temporary pre-fabricated structures were constructed with the permission of then Hon'ble DC, Lahaul & Spiti (Letter no. 265/DRA/2055 dated 03/09/2012) to oversee the progress of our research centre, create awareness, popularize science and to provide trainings to farmers as well as to other local self-help groups and entrepreneurs. Since, the region is snow bound for most part of the year and there is a short working season of only 5-6 months, this permission was granted as a moral support for undertaking our activities in the harsh conditions, and expediting our targets towards improving the livelihoods of local people of the region.

Further, these pre-fabricated structures were temporarily constructed and were utilized for the establishment of facilities such as tissue culture unit, a pilot scale oil distillation unit, food processing unit and a research laboratory, all of which ultimately target value addition of /regional bioresources, their conservation and rural empowerment.

Within the period of our permission we proceeded with FCA guidelines and in consultation with the office of the DFO at Keylong, initiated getting the required, NOCs and other documents required for diversion of forest land. Since, it's a long and cumbersome process, it took us a considerable time for fulfilling the requirements, and therefore later on we submitted the proposal online. We've already provided details of these temporarily built structures in our application and also provided clarifications to the queries raised subsequently.

Since, the construction of these structures now comes under violation as per FCA provisions, we have already submitted our undertaking to pay the penal charges as required under Section 1.21.

It's our earnest request that the diversion of forest land and the violation be considered in a positive spirit as we've only proposed a skill development centre to be established in the tribal area for enhancing the livelihoods of locals, for conservation of threatened plants besides creating awareness and popularizing science among the youth.

*Amrit Chawla*  
(Dr. AMIT CHAWLA)  
Sr. Scientist in-charge  
Centre, Tandi (L & S)