

PART – II

(To be filled by the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forest)

State serial no. of receipt: **FP/SK/ROAD/154919/2022** Dated: **04/05/2022**

NAME OF THE PROJECT: **Diversion of 1.1384 Ha of Forest Land for Construction of road from Nayabazar Soreng to Gelling Dara to Gelling School in Soreng District of Sikkim by Roads & Bridge department, Govt. of Sikkim.**

7. Location of the project / scheme:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| i) State/ Union Territory: | Sikkim |
| ii) District : | West |
| iii) Forest Division: | Soreng Territorial Division |
| iv) Area of forest land proposed for diversion (in Ha): | 1.1384 Ha |
| v) Legal Status of forest : | Khasmal & Reserve Forest |
| vi) Density of vegetation : | 60 % |

vii) Species – wise (scientific names) and diameter class – wise enumeration of trees (to be enclosed). In case of irrigation/ hydel projects enumeration at FRL, FRL-2 meter & FRL-4 meter also to be enclosed.:- **Enumeration enclosed**

viii) **Brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion.**

The proposed land for diversion does not form a part of any seriously eroded areas except which is due to natural factors. However, all measures shall be taken to minimise and control the erosion and protect the area during and after the construction of the project.

ix) Approximate distance of proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.
Within Forest Land.

x) Whether forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc. (if so details of the area and comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed)

No section of the proposed forest land falls within the above cited areas.

xi) Whether any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area – if so details thereof.

Not reported yet but if found every measures would be taken to conserve and protect such Species and its habitat.

xii) Whether 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 such structure of any archaeological/heritage /defence or any important monument is located within the project area site.

8. Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in col. 2 of Part – 1 is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If so, recommended area item – wise details of alternative examined.

The land involved and proposed for diversion is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. It involves minimum felling of trees and poles. The ecological impact of the project is bare minimum.

9. Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out (Yes/No). If yes, details of the same including period of work did, action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still in progress.

No violation of the provisions of Forest Conservation Act (1980) is there in the project.

10. Details of compensatory afforestation scheme.

- a) Details of non-forest area/degraded forest area identified for compensatory afforestation, its distance from adjoining forest, number of patches, sizes of each patch.

Enclosed

- b) Map showing non – forest/degraded forest area identified for Compensatory Afforestation and adjoining forest boundaries

Map showing the location and area is enclosed

- c) Detailed compensatory afforestation scheme including species to be planted, implementing Agency, time schedule, cost structure etc.

Detailed Compensatory Afforestation Scheme enclosed.

- d) Total Financial Outlay for compensatory Afforestation scheme: **Rs .18,63,687.00**

- e) Certificates from the competent authority regarding suitability of area identified for compensatory afforestation and from management point of view

- Enclosed

11. Site inspection report of the DCF (to be enclosed) especially highlighting the facts asked in Col. 7 (XI, XII), 8 and 9 above – **Enclosed**

12. Division/District profile as on 31st March 2020 Forest Conservation Act, 1980:-

- a) Geographical area of the district: **116600 Ha**
b) Forest area of the district:- **86473 Ha**
c) Forest cover of the district: **77390 Ha**
(as per FSI report – 2019)
d) Total forest area diverted since 1980 with number of cases: **62 cases**
Area:- (169.065 Ha)
e) Total Compensatory afforestation stipulated in the District/Division since 1980 on (date) 31st March 2020:
i) Forest land including Penal Compensatory Afforestation: **247.759 Ha**
ii) Non Forest Land : **7.782 Ha**
255.541
f) Progress of Compensatory Afforestation till date on (date) 31st March 2020:
i) Forest Land : **195.605 Ha**
ii) Non-Forest Land: **7.782 Ha**
Total : 203.387 Ha

13. Specific recommendations of the DCF for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with reasons:

The proposal is recommended on the grounds, that it would connect the State Highway of NDP road at Km 1st to Soreng via Zoom. It shall benefit the villages of Middle Gelling, Lepcha Gaon, Bhimsing Gaon, providing easy access to the Sub-Divisional Offices and District Headquarter at Soreng. It would also promote marketing for organic agriculture produces in the form of potatoes, ginger, maize and also boost dairy supply. The project involves the barest minimum of forest land. The diversion of Forest Land is recommended for approval subject to conditions laid by the State and Central Government and removal of minimum number of tree and poles wherever found to be absolutely unavoidable.

The forest land diverted will not be used for any other purpose other than the reason for which it is diverted.

- a. The status of the land will always remain as forest land
b. Labour camp, storing of materials shall not be allowed in the forest land other than the diverted land.
c. The trees falling within the diverted shall not fell without prior approval of the forest department.
d. No firewood shall be used by the labourers. The user agency shall provide kerosene/LPG or other eco-friendly alternatives.
e. During the execution of the project, every care should be taken to ensure proper disposal of excavated soil /stone/boulders. No rolling down of soil/stone/boulders in the forest land is permitted. Cut and fill method to be strictly adopted.
f. No quarry shall be allowed inside the forest land. The User agency shall make payments for all building materials like sand, loose stone, stone chips etc.
g. Any damage of forest crops/ wildlife in the non-diverted land shall be compensated by the user agency.
h. Strict measures should be taken to protect the saplings planted under State Green Mission Programme of the government.
i. No debris will be thrown in the forest area and river.
j. If within the five years of the proposal the user agency is unable to obtain approval, the project will be deemed De-novo.

(Tel Bahadur Gurung)
Divisional Forest Officer
West Terai Division
WEST