

Proposal for Diversion of Forest land For Rehabilitation and Upgrading to 2 lane with paved shoulders configuration of Bagrakot to Kafer (Length of Project Km 0+000 to Km 40+000) & Kafer to Reshi border (Length Km 40+000 to Km 61+250 & Km 76+600 to Km 98+595) of NH-717A in West Bengal State Under Package-IV & Package-V Programme

Justification For Diversion Of Forest Land

Project Details:-

National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), Government of India has decided to upgrade the newly declared National Highways to two lane/two lane with paved shoulder and /or strengthening of various sections of National Highways. The work would be taken up for up gradation on corridor concept. Therefore, corridors include strengthening (in adjoining stretches) in addition to widening to 2 lane with paved shoulder standards in order to have a better facility in a long continuous stretch. In pursuance of the above, SA Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd, Noida (UP) have been appointed as Consultants to carry out the Feasibility Study and Detailed Project Report for rehabilitation and upgrading to 2 lane with paved shoulders configuration of Bagrakot to Kafer (Existing km 0+000 to 40+000) & Kafer to Reshi border (Length 40+000 to 98+595) of NH-717A in West Bengal State Under Package-IV & Package-V Programme in West Bengal State.

The Existing Road has steep gradient and sharp curves/zigs at various stretches. It is of Single Lane road with formation width of 7.0 m without conforming any Standard/specification. As a result, the heavily loaded trucks and larged sized vechiles find it difficult to pass through these Stretches safely. The numbers of villages which are located in the area adjoining to this road are also heavily dependent on this road for their social and economic development. thus, the importance of this road and hence the role it plays for upliftments of the region needs no more emphasis. the existing Stretch already passing through Tista chel RF & Pemling RF in Package-IV and Chumang RF, Khampung RF & Payong RF in Package-V of Kalimpong Forest Division in State of West bengal.

The proposed alignment 98.595 Km long, from Bagrakot to kafer to Reshi border in state of West Bangal. The existing road is passing through forest land. Proposed alignment requires net width of 24 m as per IRC- guideline to provide 40Kmph driving speed for a national highway. In proposed alignment, widening of existing road along with some realignment are proposed to improve the geometry of existing road. In proposed alignment, **66.201 Ha** (in Package-IV) & **49.8 Ha** (in Package-V) of forest land, collectively **116.001 Ha** of total forest land is to be proposed for diversion in both packages From (0.000 to 98.595 Km).. The existing road of 7 m formation width, which belongs to forest department is also included for diversion constitutes 20.076 Km (**14.053**

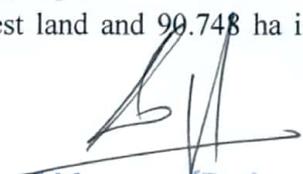
Ha) in package-IV and 16 Km (**11.2 Ha**) in package-V forest land. Detail area calculation for proposed forest land is given below:-

	Existing road Length in proposed alignment (in Km)	Existing road Width (in m)	Area of Existing road (in Ha)	Additional width require for proposed alignment (in m)	Additional Area proposed in forest land (in Ha)	Length of Realignment in proposed alignment (in Km)	Width (in m)	Area proposed in realignment
Package-IV	20.076	7	14.053	17	33.265	7.868	24	18.883
Package-V	16	7	11.2	17	27.2	4.75	24	11.40
Total	36.076	7	25.253	17	60.465	12.318		30.283

Total forest proposed for diversion is (25.253 + 60.465 +30.283) equals to **116.001 Ha**. Out 116.001 ha of forest land 25.2532 ha is existing road area in forest land and 90.748 ha is fresh forest land.

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Place: Gangtok.


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(Signature & Seal of Authorised Signatory)