

JUSTIFICATION FOR FOREST LAND DIVERSION

NHPC Ltd is a Public Sector Enterprise, under Ministry of Power, Govt. The Sawalkote Hydro Electric Project 1856 MW, has been proposed on River Chenab at Ramban District, J&K. In this regard an MOU was signed on 03.01.2021 between NHPC and JKSPDC for taking over of Sawalkote HE Project (1856 MW) from JKSPDC. Subsequently, an agreement was signed on 11.12.2021 towards Handing Over/Taking Over of the Project with JKSPDC.

The Dam site has been proposed at downstream of Village Siddhu (Tanger), which is around 40 km from Ramban. There is an underground Power House which is located about 500m downstream of confluence of Talseun Nallah and Mandian Nallah. The project falls in 3 districts viz., Ramban, Udampur & Reasi and forest land falls in four Forest divisions i.e., Ramban, Batote, Udampur & Reasi

Out of submergence area of the project and area involved for other components of the project, some percentage of forest area is also involved. The Dam site is an important selection and it has been done by team of experts after examining all the Geo-technical aspects. Further, the involvement of forest land could not be ruled out completely however, it has been proposed to have minimum utilization of forest land for implementation of 1856 MW Sawalkote HE project.

Hence, the diversion of Forest Land is the only choice for implementation of 1856 MW Sawalkote Hydro Electric Project.

GSSWangoo 24/12/21
Dr. G. S. S. H VARA PRASAD
Senior Manager (Environment)
NHPC Ltd

R.B.J 24/12/21