

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD FROM SOPAKHA VILLAGE TO CHEWABHANJYANG, DENTAM WEST SIKKIM

1. Legal status of forestland proposed for diversion: **Reserve Forest/ Sanctuary**

2. Item wise break up of details of forestland proposed for diversion:

Sl. No.	Component	Name and Status of Forest land	Area (in Ha)
1.	Road	Maniping RF	14.24
2	Dumping site	Maniping RF	02.00
3	Road	Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary	9.58
Total			25.82

3. Details of construction of buildings (if any)

Not applicable

4. Total cost of project at present rates

The estimated cost of the project is **Rs 30.00 crores**, or Rupees (Thirty crores) only.

5. Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view:

The proposed forest area for diversion forms a part of Protected Area i.e Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary and Khanchendzonga Biosphere Reserve

6. Vegetation: The area proposed for the project constitutes of Himalayan Moist Temperate forest comprising of dense oak forest. The removal of trees will have impact on the ecosystem and the same shall be mitigated through effective implementation of Biodiversity Conservation & Environment Management Plan & Compensatory Afforestation Scheme. The trees shall be felled only if absolutely necessary.

7. Details of fauna

Mammals: Red Panda (*Ailurus fulgens*), Himalayan Black bear, Barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjac*), Leopard, Wild pig (*Sus scrofa*), Fox, Civet cat (*Viverra* sp), Porcupine, Monkey, Flying Squirrel, etc.

Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds, Butterflies are also found in the forest area proposed for diversion.

8. Background note on the proposal: The proposal for construction of Km 1st to 18th road from Sopakha Village to Chewabhanjyang (Indo- Nepal Border) in West Sikkim passes through Jorebotey village (the last settlement village), Maniping RF, Khanchendzonga Biosphere Reserve and Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary. The project is to be undertaken under Border Area Development Programme (BADP) and shall be executed by Roads & Bridges Department, Government of Sikkim.

The proposal requires diversion of 25.82 ha. of forest land which is unavoidable and barest to its minimum.

9. Compensatory Afforestation

Land for CA is appropriate for plantation & management point of view			: Yes			
Land for CA is free from encroachment/other incumbencies			: Yes			
Land for CA is important from religious/archaeological point of view			: No			
Number of patches involved in land identified for CA			: Three			
Sl. No.	Location	Range	Plantation area (ha.)	Fencing (in km)	SMC Work (in ha.)	Division
i.	Maniping RF	Dentam (T)	21.48	12.888	10.74	West Territorial Division
ii	Maniping RF	Dentam (T)	11	6.6	5.5	West Territorial Division
iii	Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary (Kalijhar)	Dentam (WL)	19.16	11.496	9.58	West Wildlife Division
	TOTAL		51.64	30.984	25.82	
Map with details				: Enclosed		
Total financial outlay				:The total cost of Biodiversity Conservation/ Compensatory Afforestation scheme along with maintenance and protection is Rs. 73091060 (CA--47,651,060 + BC --25440000) Rupees (Seven crore Thirty lakhs ninety one thousand and sixty) only/-		

10. Whether proposal involves violation of FCA, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken.

No violation has been observed till date.

11. The requirement of forestland as proposed by the user agency is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If no, recommend area item-wise with details of alternative examined.

The area requirement of forestland as proposed by the user agency for diversion is unavoidable and is the barest minimum.

12. Details on catchments and command area under the project and catchment area treatment plan to prevent siltation of reservoir.

N.A.

13. Cost-Benefit ratio (only in case if diverted area is >20 ha)

NA

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