

SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF DFO TERRITORIAL, EAST DIVISION GANGTOK

Site Inspection for the diversion of 10.794 ha of Forest land for construction/widening of alternate highway to Gangtok section Rhenock-Rorathang-Pakyong (Package-I) on NH 717 in East District of Sikkim by National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL).

1. Legal Status of Forest Land proposed for diversion:-
Gaucharan – 0.152 ha
Khasmal – 6.397 ha
Reserve Forest – 4.245 ha = 10.794 ha under Pakyong & Rongli Sub-Division.
2. Item wise break-up details of forest land proposed for diversion:-

Details:-

1. Road Construction – 6.528ha.
2. Muck dumping – 4.266ha.
- TOTAL - 10.794ha.

Coordinates of the proposed locations for diversion:-

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|
| 1. N-27° 11' 30.4" E-88° 37' 28.6" (Starting Point) | } | Rongli Sub-Division |
| 2. N-27° 11' 36.8" E-88° 37' 33.2" (Mid Point) | | |
| 3. N-27° 11' 35.0" E-88° 36' 45.2" (End Point) | | |
| 4. N-27° 11' 43.8" E-88° 36' 44.0" (Starting Point) | } | Pakyong Sub-Division |
| 5. N-27° 12' 01.4" E-88° 36' 35.7" (Mid Point) | | |
| 6. N-27° 12' 41.3" E-88° 36' 41.3" (End Point) | | |

3. Total Cost of Project at present rates.
Rs.35,000 crores.
4. Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view:-
Does not forms the parts of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc.
5. Approximate distance of proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.
0.2km
6. Whether any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area if so details thereof.
Not reported from the area.
7. Whether any protected archaeological/heritage site/Defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area. If so, the details thereof with NOC from competent authority, if required.
There is no any protected archaeological/heritage sites in the periphery of the project areas.

Cont/-

8. Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in col.2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.

Requirement of forest land for the purpose is unavoidable and barest minimum.

9. Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out.

No.

10. Vegetation:-

The area proposed for diversion is covered by mixed types of forest vegetation right from Shorea robusta, Tectono grandis, Schima Wallichii, Acer spps, Engalhardiaia, Duabanga spps, Termilia tormantosa, Albizzia spps, Ailanthus grandis, fiscus spps, Erythrina indica, Bombax ceiba, Engelhardtia spicata, Terminalia myriocarpa, Gravelia robusta, Litsae polyantha, Castanopsis spps. Rhus semialata, Ficus bengalensis, Caruga camblei, Ficus spps. Macaranga denticulata, Barchamia spps, Ficus cunia, Prunus cerasoides, Betula alnoids, Bischofoa javania, Pareng & Bamboo etc. on the valley and hill side of the proposed alignment of widening work by NHIDCL. The necessary care shall be taken up to protect and conserve the Bio-diversity of the area.

11. Details of compensatory afforestation scheme:-

Enclosed.

12. Crown Density:-

0.5

13. Total no. of trees, poles, saplings and bamboo to be felled/re-located:-

Tree	- 467nos.	(for removal)
Poles	- 522nos.	(for relocate)
Bamboo	- 2335clumps.	(for relocate)
Pareng	- 470 clumps.	(for relocate)

14. Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem:-

The area shall not have any impact on the general ecosystem as the same shall be mitigated by planting valuable species in lieu of diverted forest. Every care will be taken up for restoration of loss of vegetation and other related ecosystem of the area. The minimum felling shall be done as far as possible. The fast growing species shall be planted in order to mitigate the loss.


Divisional Forest Officer
East Territorial Division