

Justification for locating project in Forest area

The proposed Rampur Hydro Project is essentially a run-of-the-river Project developed as tailrace development of Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station. The Project envisages construction of feeder tunnel, head race tunnel, open to sky Surge shaft, three numbers of partly underground Penstocks, a surface power house on the right bank of the river near Village Bayal.

Various proposals were considered, for harnessing available potential in Satluj River and keeping in view the layout and geology of all hydraulic structure, the proposed alignment is most viable and economical scheme based on the cost benefit studies. The different alternatives had been considered for project during the investigation stage.

The project also envisages construction of Steel Bridge on River Satluj for Bayal from Duttnagar in order to facilitate the construction activities and speedy completion of power house and other components of Rampur Hydro Electric Project for commissioning. This bridge over river Satluj has been planned to connect Bayal and Duttnagar village to facilitate connectivity with NH-22, which can save considerable time for transportation of material and machinery to the construction sites.

At the time of inception of bridge, the alignment of approach road to bridge was planned in such a way that the road was passing through the middle of SJVN Limited land, the alignment which was existing earlier also. However, considering the social responsibility and requests from local stakeholders to provide access to road and bridge, re-alignment of this approach road had to be done at the outer periphery of SJVN Limited land. Therefore, in this revision this inadvertent encroachment on Govt./ Forest land might have occurred due to presumption and consideration that all the adjoining land including land in question has been acquired by SJVN Limited.

It is also submitted that land to be diverted is also being used for public utility to benefit project affected villages across river Satluj in Distt. Kullu.

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