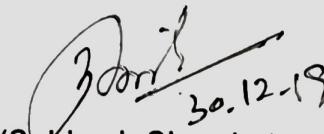




**JUSTIFICATION LETTER FOR FOREST LAND DIVERSION**

Northern Railway Construction Unit (USBRL-Project) is a department under Ministry of Railway, Government of India and holding responsibility for construction of Railway line from Udhampur-Katra-Srinagar-Baramulla. The UDHAMPUR- SRINAGAR - BARAMULLA RAIL LINK (USBRL) PROJECT is of national importance, as it will provide connectivity to **Kashmir valley**, with the rest of the nation. The Project will be a booster for tourism industry and hassle free movement of Army to border areas. Moreover, the USBRL Project is kept on "PRAGATI Portal" and the progress of the same is being monitored by Hon'ble Prime Minister himself. The Railway line from Udhampur to Katra and Banihal to Baramulla has already been completed and Section from KATRA to BANIHAL is under construction. The construction of Approach road from T-14 P-1 to T-14 Adit is a part of USBRL-Project. The approach road is needed for speedy construction of Tunnel T14 so as to ensure the completion of the project and the road is also an important part of disaster management plan. Without diversion of the above Forest land the USBRL Project cannot be completed. The road from T-14P1 to onward 5525 mtr has already been acquired/diverted vide Final award no. SDM/M/CLA/A/311-13, dated 17.11.2008 and vide Forest Order no. 200-FST of 2008 dated 27.05.2008. The balance road for length 3925 mtr alongwith one dumping yard falls in the Forest area which is in two Districts i.e. 1425 mtr in District Reasi and 2500 mtr in District Ramban total 3925 mtr.

Hence, diversion of the Forest land is the only option for completion of the Project.

  
30.12.19  
**(Subhash Chandra)**  
Dy.CE/C/Reasi/NR