

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION KATRA**  
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**JUSTIFICATION LETTER FOR FOREST LAND DIVERSION**

Public Works Department (PWD) is a State organisation who is responsible for construction of approach road in remote/urban areas of different parts of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. At present PWD, (R&B) Division, Katra is going to construct a 160 meter double lane motorable bridge over nallah Jhajjar on Pantal Jhajjar road Km 1<sup>st</sup> from Jhajjar side. Panthal Jhajjar road provides connectivity to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Kakryal and SMVD Narayana Superspeciality Hospital and further to Katra being the base camp for Yatra to Holy Shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji, but during rainy season when students, faculty, critical care patients and local people and during pilgrimage rush, it is very difficult to operate with the single lane old bridge with long and blind curves. At present, a new 160 meter Span Bridge is under construction to avoid this problem forever. In the proposed alignment of the bridge forest area is coming along the approach lane which is going to connect the bridge with rest part of the road. There is a small patch of forest land which needs to be diverted for non-forest use.

Hence, the diversion of the forest land is only choice to improve this road providing connectivity for Religious Place, Health Care and Educational Institutions of National Importance.

No. 717-19  
Dt. 6-7-2020

  
(Er. Rajesh Kumar Gupta)  
Executive Engineer  
PWD (R&B) Division  
Katra

**Copy to the:-**

1. Chief Engineer, PW (R&B) Department, Jammu for favour of information please.
2. Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle, Udhampur for favour of information please.
3. Master file.