

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST AREA

The Diversion of forest land proposal in favor of Indian Railway for the entire project is planned in four parts i.e., Phase-I, Phase-II, Phase-III and Phase-IV in the state of Himachal Pradesh.

In Phase-I, the proposal from Km 0.000 to Km 20.000 involving diversion of 54.2487ha forest land in Bilaspur Forest Division was proposed through online proposal No. FP/HP/RAIL/25170/2017 and the final approval of Government of India has been accorded vide letter no. 8B/HP/07/23/2018/FC/1674 dated 14-11-2018.

In Phase-II, from Km 23.900 to Km 38.300 of New Rail Line in Himachal Pradesh, falling within the jurisdiction of Bilaspur Forest Division, for diversion of 56.36 ha Forest area (48.39 ha open surface area and 7.97 ha tunnel area) was proposed through online proposal No. FP/HP/RAIL/41781/2019 on 05.09.2019. The final approval of Government of India has been accorded vide letter no. 8B/HP/07/50/2020/FC/12 dated 09.04.2021.

In Phase-III, i.e. from Km 38.300 to Km 52.015 of New Rail Line in Himachal Pradesh, falling within the jurisdiction of Bilaspur Forest Division, for diversion of 29.6343 ha Forest area (25.63 ha open surface area and 4.0043 ha tunnel area) was proposed through online proposal No. FP/HP/RAIL/45451/2020 on 20.05.2020. The final approval of Government of India has been accorded vide letter no. 8B/HP/07/100/2020/FC/85 dated 11.08.2021.

In Phase-IV i.e., from Km 52.015 to Km 62.900 of New Rail Line in Himachal Pradesh, falling within the jurisdiction of Bilaspur Forest Division, for diversion of 12.04 ha Forest area (6.91 ha open surface area and 5.13 ha tunnel area) involving villages Nog, Balhi-Vilan, Bahli-Chaleda, Bharathu, Bagharin, Beri-Rajadyan, Khatehr, Bhatehr-Uparli, Barmana of Tehsil Sadar is being submitted.

The Railway station has been proposed at the available flat lay of land, near the major village/town with best feasible and stable locations to cater the commuting and commercial needs of the people residing in the project area. The alignment has been proposed between the stations accordingly keeping in view the geological, technical feasibility of permissible curvature and gradient. There are constraints of existing geology and alignment in the project area. However, all efforts have been made to minimize the acquisition of forest land.

It is to certify that there is no alternative suitable non forest land available in village Nog, Balhi-Vilan, Bahli-Chaleda, Bharathu, Bagharin, Beri-Rajadyan, Khatehr, Bhatehr-uparli, Barmana of Tehsil Sadar for the construction of Bhanupali-Bilaspur-Beri New Railway Line and the use of proposed Forest land for the project is unavoidable.

Place: Chandigarh.
Date: 06.09.2021

Countersigned –
Divisional Forests Officer
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