## ाष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग अवसंरचना विकास निगम लिमिटेड

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्रालय ,भारत सरकार

Zmorh शिविर स्थल गगनगीर सोनमर्ग, जिला: गांदरबल (जम्मू और कश्मीर)-191202

## ATIONAL HIGHWAYS & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India

Zmorh Camp Site Gagangir Sonamarg, District: Ganderbal (J&K)-191202

BHARATMAL

Email: nhidcl.sonamarg@gmail.com, Website: www.nhidcl.com





CIN: U45400DL2014GOI269062

A PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKING

Date: 17.03.2021

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र का उपक्रम

No. NHIDCL/PMU-SMG/Zojila/2020-21/Forest Clearance

To, The Divisional Forest Officer, Sindh Forest Division, Ganderbal, J&K

**Sub:** Diversion of 49.5904 ha of forest land for approach road (17.814 km in length) starts from km. 82.00 of NH-1 at Sitkari Village (Sonmarg) and ends at Western Portal of Zojila Tunnel near Baltal Camp. This project will provide all-weather connectivity from Srinagar to Kargil-Leh which is strategically very important for national security, under forest division Sindh and District Ganderbal, U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir. (Online proposal no. FP/JK/Road/48999/2020): **Compliance of In-principal approval regd.** 

**Ref.:** Govt. of India, MoEF&CC, Integrated Regional Office, Jammu/ Chandigarh letter No. File No: 9-JKC002/2021-CHA, dated 22.02.2021.

Sir,

Kindly refer the subject and letter under reference. Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office Chandigarh/ Jammu vide their File No: 9-JKC002/2021-CHA, dated 22.02.2021 has accorded the In-principal approval for diversion of 49.5904 ha forest land with the conditions mentioned below. In this regard, Compliance of the conditions made by MoEF&CC, RO Chandigarh/ Jammu has been completed on the part of User Agency i.e., NHIDCL and Para-wise compliance of each condition are as below:

Sr. No.	Conditions for compliance as per MoEF&CC, RO Jammu/ Chandigarh vide letter dated 22.02.2021	Compliance by User Agency/ NHIDCL
(i)	Cost of compensatory afforestation as per CA scheme may be realized from the user agency.	DFO, Sindh Forest Division vide letter No. 793-96/E dated 04.03.2021 has raised a Demand of Rs. 700.188 lakhs which includes 346.365 lakhs for cost of Compensatory Afforestation from the User Agency i.e. NHIDCL. Demand Note was uploaded on Parivesh portal for verification of Nodal Officer (FCA).  After acceptance of Demand Note, requisite amount of Rs. 700.188 lakhs have been deposited in state CAMPA fund through online generated challan on the web portal on dated 04.03.2021 (copy enclosed). The payment confirmation has been realized and reflected on the Parivesh Portal.
(ii)	scheme may be realized from the user agency.	DFO, Sindh Forest Division vide letter No. 793-96/E dated 04.03.2021has raised a Demand of Rs. 700.188 lakhs which includes 7.183 lakhs for cost of Addl. Compensatory Afforestation from the User Agency i.e. NHIDCL. Demand Note was uploaded on Parivesh portal for verification of Nodal Officer (FCA).

(iii)	Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted for non-forestry purpose may be realized from the user agency, as per Ministry's directions issued vide letters No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 5tl February 2009 and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's Order dated 30th October 2002, 28th March 2008, 24th April, 2008 and 9th May 2008.	dated 04.03.2021 has raised a Demand of Rs. 700.188 lakhs which includes 346.64 lakhs for cost of Net Present value (NPV) from the User Agency i.e. NHIDCL. Demand Note was uploaded on Parivesh portal for verification of Nodal Officer (FCA).  After acceptance of Demand Note, requisite amount of Rs. 700.188 lakhs have been deposited in state CAMPA fund through online generated challan on the
		web portal on dated 04.03.2021 (copy enclosed). The payment confirmation has been realized and reflected on the Parivesh Portal.
(iv)	Present Value (NPV) of the forest land and all other CA levies shall be deposited through web portal of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (parivesh.nic.in).	The requisite amount of Rs. 700.188 lakhs for NPV of forest land and other CA/ACA levies has been deposited in State CAMPA account on 17.03.2021 (Copy enclosed) through online Challan generated after acceptance of Demand Note from Nodal Officer on Parivesh Portal of MoEF&CC.
(v)	User agency should ensure that the compensatory levies (CA cost, NPV, etc.) are deposited through challan generated online on web portal and deposited in appropriate bank only. Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.	The requisite amount of Rs. 700.188 lakhs for cost of CA/ACA and NPV has been deposited in State CAMPA account on 17.03.2021 (Copy enclosed) through online
(vi)		Pertains to Divisional Forest Officer, Sindth Forest Division.
(vii)	The CEO, State CAMPA Authority shall furnish undertaking that the funds under State CAMPA will be released to Divisional Forest Officer as per approved CA scheme.	Pertains to the CEO, State CAMPA Authority.
viii)	EDA US :	EDA Cortificato in original attachad
	tions which need to be strictly complication.	FRA Certificate in original attached.
the State	III Forget Department but the according	after handing over of forest land to the user agency by
approval:	or rolest Department but the compliance in for	m of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II
	I against the female with	
(i)	Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged;	Agreed
(ii)	Efforts should be made to fell minimum number of trees 474 trees and 273 plants.	Agreed
(iii)	The trees should be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;	Agreed
	The CA will be carried out over 99.18 ha on degraded forest land respectively as per the CA scheme and the funds will be provided by the user agency. The plantation will be done within one year from the date of issue of the approval.	The funds for CA scheme have been deposited in account of state CAMPA as per Demand Note after acceptance of Nodal Officer (FCA).
(v)	The ACA will be carried out over 0.546 ha on degraded forest land respectively as per the CA	The funds for CA scheme have been deposited in account of state CAMPA as per Demand Note after acceptance of Nodal Officer.
		*



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	agency. The plantation will be done within one year from the date of issue of the approval.			
(vi)				
(vii)	The CEO, State CAMPA Authority shall furnish undertaking that the funds under State CAMPA will be released to Divisional Forest Officer as per approved CA scheme.			
(viii)	The forest land will not be used for any other purpose than that mentioned in the proposal;	Agreed		
(ix)	The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department, or person without approval of the Central Government;	Agreed		
(x)	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.	Agreed		
(xi)	No damage will be done to the adjoining forest land;	Agreed		
(xii)	The user agency shall pay additional amount of NPV	Agreed		
	as and when increased on the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court;			
(xiii)		Agreed		
	to ten years;			
xiv)	Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/Forest Areas;	Agreed		
xv)	pass in Protected Area/Forest Area as per recommendation of CWLW/NBWL/FAC/REC;	Not applicable		
xvi)	the provision of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, if	Wildlife Clearance is not required to the project. NoC obtained from Chief Wildlife Warden, UT of J&K is enclosed.		
xvii)	The user agency shall carry out muck disposal at pre- designated sites as per the scheme approved by the Forest Department. The required soil conservation measures should be taken up by the user agency for which fund should be provided as per the current rate of works;	Agreed		
xviii)	The User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;	Agreed		
xix)	Any other condition that this Regional Office may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;			
xx)	It will be the responsibility of the State Government/User Agency to obtain all other prior approvals/clearances under all other relevant Acts/Rules/ Court's Rulings/ instructions, etc., including environmental clearance, as applicable to this proposal;	Agreed		



2. In view of above, it is requested to please process for Stage-II Forest Clearance and accord working permission along with tree cutting permission to User Agency i.e. NHIDCL at the earliest so that work on project site could be commenced. This would ensure timely completion of the project.



Yours Sincerely,

General Manager(P) PMU-Sonamarg

Copy to:

V.K PANDEY

General Manager (P)

mplex. Sheikh Bagh

The Nodal Officer (FCA), U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, J&K.
 The Commissioner Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, U.T.

of Jammu & Kashmir, Civil Secretariat, Jammu & Kashmir.

3. Executive Director (III), HQ NHIDCL, New Delhi.

4. Executive Director (P), RO-Srinagar.

4/4

#### File No.9-JKC002/2021-Jammu



#### भारत सरकार **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवाय परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

## MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND **CLIMATE CHANGE**

एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, जम्मू / Integrated Regional Office, Jammu

Camp Office: Integrated Regional Office,

Chandigarh

File No: 9-JKC002/2021-CHA

Dated: 22/02/2021

To

Commissioner Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir, Civil Secretariat Jammu & Kashmir (csforestik@gmail.com)

Sub: Diversion of 49.5904 ha of forest land for approach road (17.814 km in length) starts from km. 82.00 of NH-1 at Sitkari Village (Sonmarg) and ends at Western Portal of Zojila Tunnel near Baltal Camp. This project will provide all-weather connectivity from Srinagar to Kargil-Leh which is strategically very important for national security, under forest division Sindh and District Ganderbal, U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir. (Online proposal no. FP/JK/Road/48999/2020)-regarding.

Ref: (i) Original proposal received from UT Administration of J&K on dated 12.02.2021

Sir,

Please refer to the above cited subject and letter seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose in accordance with section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

After careful examination of the proposal of the UT Administration and approval of the Regional Empowered Committee, In-principle approval is hereby conveyed for diversion of 49.5904 hectares of forest land for the above mentioned project, subject to the following conditions:

- (A) Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by **State/UT Forest Department:** 
  - i) Cost of compensatory afforestation as per CA scheme may be realized from the user agency.
  - ii) Cost of Addl. compensatory afforestation as per ACA scheme may be realized from the user agency.
  - iii) Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted for non-forestry purpose may be realized from the user agency, as per Ministry's directions issued vide letters No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 5th February 2009 and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's Order dated 30th October 2002, 28th March, 2008, 24th April, 2008 and 9th May 2008;
  - iv) As per the orders of the Government of India vide letter No. 5-2/2010-CAMPA 24.06.2011, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land and all other CA levies shall be deposited through web portal of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (parivesh.nic.in)

#### File No.9-JKC002/2021-Jammu

- v) User agency should ensure that the compensatory levies (CA cost, NPV, etc.) are deposited through challan generated online on web portal and deposited in appropriate bank only. Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
- vi) The Divisional Forest Officer shall furnish undertaking that the approved CA site(s) will not be changed without the approval of competent authority.
- vii) The CEO, State CAMPA Authority shall furnish undertaking that the funds under State CAMPA will be released to Divisional Forest Officer as per approved CA scheme.
- viii) FRA certificate in original to be submitted.
- (B) Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State/UT Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:
- i) Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged;
- ii) Efforts should be made to fell minimum number of trees 474 trees and 273 plants.
- iii) The trees should be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- iv) The CA will be carried out over 99.18 ha on degraded forest land respectively as per the CA scheme and the funds will be provided by the user agency. The plantation will be done within one year from the date of issue of the approval.
- v) The ACA will be carried out over 0.546 ha on degraded forest land respectively as per the CA scheme and the funds will be provided by the user agency. The plantation will be done within one year from the date of issue of the approval.
- vi) The Divisional Forest Officer shall furnish undertaking that the approved CA site(s) will not be changed without the approval of competent authority.
- vii) The CEO, State CAMPA Authority shall furnish undertaking that the funds under State CAMPA will be released to Divisional Forest Officer as per approved CA scheme.
- viii) The forest land will not be used for any other purpose than that mentioned in the proposal;
- ix) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department, or person without approval of the Central Government;
- x) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- xi) No damage will be done to the adjoining forest land;
- xii) The user agency shall pay additional amount of NPV as and when increased on the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court;
- xiii) The User Agency shall raise strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road at the project cost as per IRC specifications with maintenance of seven to ten years;
- xiv) Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/Forest Areas;
- xv) The user agency shall provide suitable under/over pass in Protected Area/Forest Area as per recommendation of CWLW/NBWL/FAC/REC;
- xvi) User Agency shall obtain wildlife clearance as per the provision of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, if applicable;
- xvii) The user agency shall carry out muck disposal at pre-designated sites as per the scheme approved by the Forest Department. The required soil conservation measures should be taken up by the user agency for which fund should be provided as per the current rate of works;

#### File No.9-JKC002/2021-Jammu

- xviii) The User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
- xix) Any other condition that this Regional Office may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- It will be the responsibility of the State Government/User Agency to obtain all other prior\* approvals/clearances under all other relevant Acts/Rules/ Court's Rulings/instructions, etc., including environmental clearance, as applicable to this proposal;
- 4. After receipt of the compliance report on fulfillment of the conditions under para-2, above, final approval order shall be accorded under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The use of forest land will not be allowed till final approval is granted.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-(K Z Bhutia) Regional Officer, MOEF&CC, IRO Jammu

Copy to:-

- 1. The ADGF (FC), Ministry of Environment, Forests, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, Aliganj, New Delhi (adgfc-mef@gov.in).
- 2. The Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, J&K (pccfjkforest@gmail.com).
- 3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, J&K (<a href="mailto:sarveshraiifs@gmail.com">sarveshraiifs@gmail.com</a>).
- 4. CEO, CAMPA O/o PCCF (HoFF), U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, J&K (ikcampacell@gmail.com).
- 5. The Divisional Forest Officer, Forest Division and District Ganderbal, J&K.
- 6. NHIDCL PMU- SONAMARG, Zmorh Camp Site, Gagangir, Sonamarg, District Ganderbal, Jammu and Kashmir (<a href="mailto:nhidcl.sonamarg@gmail.com">nhidcl.sonamarg@gmail.com</a>)

Signature Not Verified

Digitally signed by KARMA ZIMPA BHUTIA

Date: 2021.02.22 4:**4ेंग्र.2**92**६**25, सेक्टर-31 ए, **चंडीगढ़**-160030 / **Bays No.** 24-25, Sector-31 A, **Chandigarh**-160030 **दूरभाष/Tel No**: 0172-2638061 **Fax No**: 0172-2638135 **Email:** ronz.chd-mef@nic.in

## Office of the Divisional Forest Officer Sindh Forest Division Ganderbal

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The General Manager,
National Highway,
Infrastructure Development Corporation (NHIDCL),
PMU-Sonamarg.

No:- 793-96/2

Dated:-04-03-2021

Sub: - Diversion of 49.5904 ha of forest land for approach road (17.814 km in length) starts from km. 82.00 of NH-1 at Sitkari Village (Sonmarg) and ends at Western Portal of Zojila Tunnel near Baltal Camp. This project will provide all-weather connectivity from Srinagar to Kargil-Leh which is strategically very important for national security, under forest division Sindh and District Ganderbal, U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir. (Online proposal No. FP/JK/Road/48999/2020)-regarding—Revised Demand Note.

Sir,

In reference to the subject cited above, the Stage-I approval has been accorded by the Regional Office MOEF&CC, IRO Jammu vide File No. 9-JKC002/2021-CHA dated 22-02-2021 received by this office under Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) J&K Jammu's endstt. No. PCCF/FCA/3170/4643-47 dated 23-02-2021 for diversion of 49.5904 ha of forest land for the above mentioned project.

In this connection you are requested to deposit the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land and all other CA levies as per the details given below through challan generated online on web portal of ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (parivesh.nic.in) in appropriate bank only. The amount deposited through other mode will

not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.

S.No.	lo. Particulars		
1	C.A Proposal Amount	346.365	
2	Additional C.A for 273x2 = 546 Saplings (less than 30 cm girth)	7.183	
	Total C.A Amount	353.548	
3	Net Present Value (NPV) of 49.5904 Hacs of forest land to be diverted @ Rs.6,99,000/per Hac in Comptt. 63(a)/Sindh	346.64	
	Grand Total	700.188	

The conditions as laid down in Stage-I Approval conveyed vide File No. 9-JKC002/2021-CHA shall be strictly complied by user agency and the compliance in form of undertaking has to be submitted prior to Stage-II approval.

Yours Faithfully,

Divisional Forest Officer Sindh Forest Division Ganderbal

Copy submitted to the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Officer (FCA) for favour of information.

Copy submitted to the APCCF/CCF Kashmir-Srinagar for favour of information and necessary action

Copy submitted to the Conservator of Forests Srinagar Circle Srinagar for favour of information.

Divisional Forest Officer Sindh Forest Division Ganderbal

AGENCY COPY NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for Ad-HOC CAMPA Date: 04-03-2021 Agency Name. NHIDCL PMU- SONAMARG Application No. MoEF/SG File No. 6148999965 9-JKC002-2021-CHA Location. JANDK Address. Zmorh Camp Site, Gagangir, Sonamarg, District Ganderbal, Jammu and Kashm rGanderbal Amount(in Rs) 70018890/-Amount in Words :Seven Crore Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred Rupees Only

NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following

Beneficiary Name:	J AND K CAMPA
IFSC Code:	CORP0000371
Pay to Account No.	150716148000965 Valid only for this challen amount.
Bank Name & Address:	Corporation Bank Lodhi Complex Branch, Block 11,CGO Complex, Phase I, Lodhi Road, New Delhi -110803

This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only

After making successful payment User Agencies Email: helpdeskcampa@corpbank.co.in



NATIONAL HIGHWAYS & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

MINISTRY OF ROAD, TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (GOVT. OF INDIA)

E-mail ID: rosrinagarnhidcl@gmail.com; edp.leh@nhidcl.com

Website: www.nhidcl.com



Dated: 17.03.2021



No. NHIDCL/Bank/2020-21/

The Branch Manager, Canara/Syndicate Bank, Srinagar

Sub: Payment on account of Vendor-reg.

Sir,

Enclosed please find the herewith cheque on the account of NEFT/RTG\$ of payment as per the details given

S.No.	Name	Account No	Bank Name	IFSC Co	de	Cheque No.	Amount INR (Rs.)
1.	J AND K CAMPA	150716148999965	Corporation Bank Lodhi Complex Branch, New Delhi- 110003	CORPOOD	0371	146264	7,00,18,800

This is for your information and necessary action please

210210212789223661 CNRR 10320210212789223661

Manager Finance

MANAGER FINANCE RO Srinagar/Leh NHIDCL Govt. of India

(for linear projects other than Plantations)

[Rule 6(3) (e) of Forest (Conservation) Rules 2003 as amended up to date]

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of District Collector, Ganderbal

No. DCG ACR 4568 Dated 13-02-2021

### TO WHOMSOEVER IT, MAY CONCERN

In compliance of the Rule 6(3)(e) of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 [as amended vide the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Rules 2014; Forest (Conservation) second Amendment Rules 2014; and Forest (Conservation) Amendment Rules 2016] it is certified that 49.5904 hectares of forest land proposed to be diverted in favour of National Highway Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL), Govt. of India for 'the Construction of Approach Road with Avalanches Protection Works from Z-more Tunnel to Zojila Western Portal' in the district falls within the jurisdiction of Nilgrar, Sarbal & Baltal village(s) in Gund tehsil.

#### It is further certified that:

a.	the complete process of recognition and vesting of forest rights under the FRA has been carried out for the entire 49.5904 hectares of forest land proposed for diversion. A copy of records of all consultations and meetings of the Forest Rights Committee(s), Gram Sabha(s), Sub-Division Level Committee(s) and the District Level Committee are enclosed as attachment .x to attachment .x	Not applicable
b.	the diversion of forest land for facilities managed by the Government as required under section 3 (2) of the FRA, 2006 have been completed and the Gram Sabhas have given their consent to it.	Not applicable
C.	the proposed area does not involve recognized rights of Primitive Tribal Groups and Pre-Agricultural Communities.	Yes

Shafqat Iqbal (KAS)

District Collector, Gandienart Collector

Ganderbal

## Undertaking for no change in approved CA sites

It is to undertake that approved compensatory afforestation sites (details given below) would not be changed without approval of competent authority

S.No.	location	Range	Plantation Area (ha)	Division	Remarks
1.	63(a)/ Sindh	Sindh	33.0	Sindh	
2.	65(b)/ Sindh	Sindh	67.0	Sindh	10 years plan for CA
3.	63(a)/ Sindh	Sindh	0.5	Sindh	

Divisional Forest Officer Sindh Forest division

Ganderbal



## Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Chief Wildlife Warden

The Executive Director (P) Regional Office, National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. Srinagar.

> WLP/Tech/2020/ 125-27 Dated 05.11.2020

NOC for construction of Approach Road with Avalanche Protection Works from Z-more Tunnel to Zojila Tunnel Western

Portal (near Baltal camp) in the Ganderbal District, J&K

Ref:-

Your No. NHIDCL/SGR/GEN/2020-21/46 dated 14.10.2020

Sir.

In reference to the above cited subject, I am directed to convey that the issue mentioned in the subject has been examined in this Department. On the basis of ground report and standing Government guidelines and procedure, the Wildlife Warden, Central under whose jurisdiction the area under the subject falls, has submitted a comprehensive report vide his No.WLWC/Estt/2020-21/1833-34 dated 02.11.2020 duly endorsed by Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir vide his No. RWLW/K/Tech/20-21/F-140/1780 dated 03.11.2020, copy of the same is enclosed for your record and reference.

On the basis of the abovesaid report from Regional Wildlife Warden/Wildlife Warden, Central, I am directed to convey that your proposal mentioned in the subject, does not require wildlife clearance and hence there will be no hindrance to the Project in this behalf.

Encls: AA

Yours faithfully

(Dr. Arun Gupta) Wildlife Warden Headquarter

Copy to the:

- 1. Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir. This is in reference to his No. RWLW/K/Tech/20-21/F-140/1780 dated 03.11.2020.
- 2. Wildlife Warden, Central. This is in reference to his No.WLWC/Estt/2020-21/1833-34 dated 02.11.2020.

### **Department of Wildlife Protection**

# Office of the Wildlife Warden Central Division Srinagar

New Theed Harwan, Dachigam Pin-191123

Email: wlwc786@gmail.com Ph/fax No. 0194-2462327

The Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir Region, Srinagar.

No. WLWC/Estt/2020-21/18 33-34

Dated 2 - 11 - 2020

Subject:

NOC for construction of approach Road with avalanche protection works from z-more tunnel to zojila tunnel western portal near Baltal camp in the Ganderbal

District J&K.

Reference:

Your office endorsement No. RWLW/K/Tech/2020-21/1065 dated 17/10/2020.

Sir,

Regarding the subject matter, the National Highways Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) here on in termed as user agency is going to take up the expansion/bypass of National Highway-1 from Z-Morh tunnel to Zojila Tunnel (near Baltal Camp) in Ganderbal District J&K. In this project there are two things that are of interest as far as our department and wildlife clearance is concerned, that are as under:

- 1. A stretch of existing road, 220 meters in length and 11 meters in width falls within the demarcated boundary of Thajwas Wildlife Sanctuary.
- 2. Proposed expansion/bypass of national highway-1 is 17.8 Km's in length with the maximum width of 59 meters (right of way) as per the proposal of NHIDCL. This whole stretch of 17.8 kms falls within the 10 Km's of demarcated boundary of Thajaws Wildlife Sanctuary and, therefore, in absence of final eco sensitive zone notification said highway falls within the eco sensitive zone of Thajawas Wildlife Sanctuary.

A joint survey of the road was conducted on 25/7/2020 by the officials/officers of the various departments that included officials/officers of Wildlife Protection Department, Forest Department, Revenue, NHIDCL and representatives of DPR consultant (SMEC). As per this survey report it was found that 216 meters stretch of existing road with width 11 meters passes through Thajwas Wildlife Sanctuary and survey report is enclosed herewith (Annexure 1).

One more survey was carried out on 21/10/2020 by a team comprised of undersigned, Mr. Shabir Ahmad I/C ICT Lab, Range Officer Wildlife Range Ganderbal, Mr. Anand Kumar, Executive Director NHIDCL, Mr. Manesh Sharma, Manager NHIDCL, Mr. Ravi, DPR Consultant (SMEC), Mr. Radhey, DPR Environmental Consultant (SMEC) and Mr. Mohammad Ashraf Land Acquisition Expert NHIDCL to finalize the ground trothing of the information submitted by user agency to this office from time to time. Based upon the information submitted by the user agency and data collected from the ground a fresh digitized map was generated for the proposed National Highway expansion/bypass in question.

Said proposal was analysed in the light of EIA notification 2006, MoEF notification issued vide SO No. 2559(E) and minutes of 55<sup>th</sup> meeting of standing committee of National Board for Wildlife (SCNBWL) issued vide FNO 6-122/2019 WL dated 17/9/2019 and consequently following outcome is put forward:

A. In the minutes of 55<sup>th</sup> meeting of SCNBWL, issued vide FNO 6-122/2019 WL dated 17/9/2019, agenda item No. 3 (55.3.1) (iii), reads that resurfacing and strengthening of existing highways, not involving widening within protected areas will be possible without reference to

standing committee of National Board for Wildlife. As already mentioned a stretch of 216 meters of existing road with width 11 meters passes through the Thajwas Wildlife Sanctuary and whereas user agency in not intending to go for any kind of widening or additional right of way except for resurfacing and strengthening, which in turn means that this activity will not fall under the purview of SCNBWL ,therefore, wildlife clearance shall not be required.

B. In the Annexure of EIA notification 2006 that deals with list of projects or activities requiring prior environmental clearance, sub term (f) of item 7 in column (3) for entry (ii) deals with expansion of National Highways. Said part of this annexure has been substituted by a new regulation in term of threshold parameters for prior environmental clearance issued vide notification SO 2559 (E) dated 22/8/2013 wherein threshold for prior environmental clearance for expansion of National Highway has been set as 100 KM involving additional right of way or land acquisition greater than 60 meters on realignment or by passes.

As per the proposal of the NHIDCL, maximum length and maximum width of the road are 17.8kms and 59 meters respectively and, therefore, is below the threshold limit as set by EIA notification 2006 and MoEFCC notification SO 2559 (E) dated 22/8/2013 for environmental clearance. Now with regard to the clearance from SCNBWL for the projects falling within 10km of National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary, clarification has been provided MoEFCC (Wildlife Division) vide F.NO 6-60/2020WL part(10) dated :16<sup>th</sup> July 2020 wherein part 3 (ii) reads that "proposal involving activity project located within 10 km of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary wherein ESZ has not been finally notified and listed in the schedule of EIA Notification of 2006 and requiring environmental clearance, prior clearance from standing committee of National Board for Wildlife will be required" copy enclosed herewith.

In view of above, the case does not fall within the ambit of environmental clearance and hence wildlife clearance may not be required. However, EIA report and EMP would be required and that has been already submitted by user agency.

Hence submitted for the favour of information and further necessary action at your end please.

Yours faithfully

Wildlife Warden
Central Division Srinagar

Copy submitted to the worthy Chief Wildlife Warden J&K Government Jammu

for favour of information please.

Wildlife Warden Central Division Srinage

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Department of Wildlife Protection

Office of the Regional Wildlife Warden Kashmir Region Srinagar

No: RWLW/K/Tech/20-21/F-410/17-80

Dated: 0.3/10/2020

 Copy of the detailed report alongwith enclosures (maps) received from Wildlife Warden Central Division submitted to the Chief Wildlife Warden J&K Govt. Jammu for information and further necessary action at your end please.

End: 12 Lens

Regional Wildlife Warden Kashmir Sringar