

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, FOREST DIVISION BATOTE Tel/ Fax- 01998-244981/244224 email- <u>dfo-batote@jk.gov.in</u>, dfobatotefd, dfobatote711@gmail.com

- Subject: -Proposal for diversion of forest land for construction of road from Khellani –
Dranga- Hud to Saras in Batote Forest Division by PMGSY .Ref:-(i) Proposal- FP JK/.Road/444451/2020.
 - (ii).Conservator of Forests Chenab Circle Doda No: 528/CFC dated: 18/11/2020.

On the subject and in reference to above said proposal, it is submitted that during 115th meeting of FAC the proposal was deferred because of large number of trees coming under the proposed alignment of road. It is pertinent to mention that before 115th meeting of FAC the proposal was also placed before the said committee during 53rd FAC meeting wherein this proposal was also deferred because of large number of trees and User Agency/Forest Department were directed to reduce the number of trees after re-visiting the area and explore the re-alignment. Accordingly, 2nd re-alignment involving and area of 6.58 ha. and 1230 no. of trees muted which after examination by Conservator of Forests Chenab Circle Doda made observation that the case may be taken up with Deputy Commissioner Doda for holding discussions with User Agency so as to find out some alternative to reduce the number of trees. Accordingly, the width of the road was reduced from 08 mtrs. to 07mtrs. and number of trees from 1230 to 1029. The case was delayed because of delay in submitting requisite papers by the User Agency. The 3rd re-joint inspection involved 3.71 ha, area with a reduced width from 08 mtrs. to 06 mtrs. and 1029 trees. The aforesaid proposal was submitted to the Chief Conservator of Forests Jammu wherein he made observations on the proposal which are:

" In reference to your office letter on the subject cited above, it is to intimate that the predecessor of the DFO Batote had earlier reported that there is already a PWD road and the destination as proposed can be linked by PMGSY from that link, which is hardly one km away. There is no need to construct the proposed road.

You are as such requested to re-look into the case and submit the report accordingly."

During the month of 06/2014 Executive Engineer PMGSY submitted a detailed report on the observations raised by the then DFO Batote in 2nd proposal. The Executive Engineer made it clear that the alignment proposed by the then DFO Batote is not possible as the take- off point of Khellani – Dranga- Hud to Saras road is on much lower contour then take-off point of PWD road. Moreover, the road constructed by PWD targets habitations of Sarsi whereas PMGSY proposed road is aimed to target habitations of Saras which are 07 kms. apart. The then DFO Batote also recommended the 3rd re-joint inspection and proposal covering length of 4675 mtrs. and width 6 mtrs. involving total no. of 1029 trees.

Now after re-organization, the User Agency has again uploaded the case on Parivesh Portal for construction of said stretch of road with reduced width from 06 mtrs. to 05 mtrs. Accordingly, the prop osal after examination/ Joint-verification / survey and also exploring all alternatives has been uploaded with following details:

1. Total length of the road (as per project Report) = 11.820 km. 2. Length of the road to be constructed in Forest area. = 4.675 km. 3. ROW. = 5.00 Mtrs. 4. Area required in Ha. = 2.337 ha. 5. Area of dumping sites (2 Nos.) = 0.785 ha. 6. Total area required = 3.122 ha. 7. No. of trees involved. = 960 trees.

> Sd/= Divisional Forest Officer **Batote Forest Division** Batote

No: 3179/BFD

Dated:-08-12-20

Copy submitted to the Conservator of Forests Chenab Circle Doda for information and favour of necessary action please.

Divisional Forest Officer ote Forest Division atote