

No. 2454

HP Forest Department

Dated Keylong, the 09/10/25

From:-

Deputy Conservator of Forest,  
Lahaul Forest Division at Keylong

To

The Project Officer,  
Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP),  
Lahaul, District Lahaul & Spiti (H.P.)

Subject:

Reassessment of forest land requirement for Eklavya Model  
Residential School at Kukumseri, Sub-Tehsil Udaipur — reg.

Madam

Reference Letter No. D.IV. 6141/6/7 dated 16.07.2025 from the  
Conservator of Forests, Kullu Forest Circle, Kullu.

Kindly refer to the letter cited under reference, wherein the  
Conservator of Forests, Kullu Forest Circle, Kullu has conveyed that the Nodal Officer (FCA), Shimla has  
raised certain observations on the FCA proposal for diversion of 6 hectares of forest land in favour of  
the Tribal Development Department for the construction of Eklavya Model Residential School,  
Kukumseri (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/SCH/149630/2021).

In this connection, it has been desired by the Conservator of  
Forests that the feasibility of reducing the forest land requirement for the proposed school be re-  
assessed in consultation with the concerned user agency.

You are, therefore, requested to kindly attend a joint meeting  
with officers of the Forest Department and representatives of the User Agency to discuss and explore  
possibilities for optimization or reduction of the forest area requirement for the project.

It is proposed to hold the meeting on 10/10/2025 at Office of  
the DFO at Keylong. You are requested to confirm your availability for the same.

The proceedings of the meeting will subsequently be shared  
with the Conservator of Forests, Kullu Forest Circle, as required.

Yours faithfully

(Indrajeet Sirra)IFS

Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
Lahaul Forest Division, Keylong

Copy to:

1. Conservator of Forests, Kullu Forest Circle, Kullu — for kind information please.
2. RO Udaipur

Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
Lahaul Forest Division, Keylong



**HIMACHAL PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT**  
**KULLU FOREST CIRCLE KULLU (HP)**  
Tel No. 01902 222490  
e-mail: head-forcirkul-hp@hp.gov.in



No.D.IV. 614/ 1617

From: CF Kullu.

Dated Kullu, the 16.7.25

To: DFO Lahaul

**Subject:**

**Diversion of 6 hac. of forest land in favour of Tribal Development Department Shimla for the Construction of Eklavya Model Residential School Lahaul at Kukumseri sub Tehsil Udaipur , Distt. Lahaul Spiti, (HP). Online Proposal No.FP/HP/SCH/149630/2021**

**Memo:**

Please refer to the online EDS raised by Nodal Office FCA Shimla on dated 05.07.2025 on the subject cited above.

Vide above referred communication, Nodal Officer FCA Shimla has raised observation to the above cited proposal in which undersigned has been asked to reassess the case and recommend more fesible proposal.

you are, therefore requested to call a meeting of officials from UA and check if they can ~~arrange and~~ reduce the forest area requirement for the school. The proceeding of the meeting shall be shared with the undersigned.

  
Conservator of Forests  
Kullu Forest Circle, Kullu

at

Minutes of Meeting to reassess the forest land in requirement for Eklavya Model Residential School Lahaul at Kukumseri, Sub-Tehsil Udaipur, Distt. Lahul-Spiti held on 10 October, 2025 under the Chairmanship of Deputy Conservator of Forests, Lahaul Forest Divison, Keylong with representative of Project Officer, ITDP Lahaul at Keylong.

**Reassess the case:-** Eklavya Modal Residential School are being built by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to promote education in hilly areas and this school is being constructed as per the guidelines of EMRS, hence the land required for the construction of Eklavya Model Residential School cannot be increased or decreased.

**Justification Provided for land requirement:-**

1. Eklavya Model Residential School campus will be constructed, as per EMRS guidelines of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India (MOTA), notified on dated 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 according to para no. 07 (Land Requirement) A minimum of 15 acres of land is required for establishing EMRSs (guidelines copy attached at page No.3-4).
2. **As per Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change letter No. FC-11/179/2021-FC dated 20 June, 2023:** The matter regarding construction of Heliports and the School involving an area of more than 1.62 hac. in thd state of Himachal Pradesh was examined in the Ministry and keeping in view the justification submitted by the state. There can be situation where the use of forest land for the construction of Heliports of School may be unavoidable, therefore it has been decided that the proposals for the construction of Heliports and schools involving an area of more than 1.62 hac. shall be examined on case to case basis and processed by IRO Shimla as per the extant rules and Guidelines (copy attached at page No. 5).
3. **Basic Norm Compliance:** As per the EMRS guidelines, a minimum of 210 Boys and Girls Admitted Locally (BGALS) is required for establishing a Club A category school. We confirm that this basic requirement is fully met in the present case.
4. **Land Use and Green Zone Assurance:** Out of the total land identified for the project, 2.5 hectares will be preserved as a green zone. This portion of land will remain completely untouched by any construction activity and will be maintained as a green area.

We request your kind consideration of the above clarifications and seek approval to proceed with the proposed establishment of the EMRS in compliance with all environmental safeguards.

Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
Lahaul Forst Division, Keylong.

Project Officer,  
ITDP Lahaul at Keylong.

ITDP, Lahaul at Keylong.





# Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Government of India

## Guidelines

# Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)

Eklavya Model Day Boarding School  
(EMDBS)

Centre of Excellence for Sports

13<sup>th</sup> November, 2020

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Project Officer,  
JTDP Lahaul at Keylong.

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## Abbreviations:

EMDBS	Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools	PVTG	Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group
EMRS	Eklavya Model Residential School	RTE	Right to Education
MoTA	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	ST	Scheduled Tribe
NESTs	National Education Society for Tribal Students	UT	Union Territory

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 Project Officer,  
 ITDP Lahaul at Keylong.

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Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti. However, facilities not limited to the following will be ensured:

- i. State-of-the-art infrastructure (School, Labs, Hostel, Sports Facility, Staff Residences etc.)
- ii. Study materials, uniforms (including customized climatic clothing for hilly areas)
- iii. Facilities for preparatory classes for competitive entrance examinations.
- iv. Remedial classes for weak students.
- v. Design of curriculum to impart suitable skills in collaboration with M/o Skill Development.
- vi. Medical facilities including telemedicine and tie up with prominent hospitals in the vicinity.
- vii. Facilities for diagnostic and remedial medical needs of tribal children (e.g. Sickle Cell Anemia, Tuberculosis, Malaria etc.) will be ensured wherever possible.
- viii. Special Nutritional requirement and provisions for menstrual hygiene (sanitary pads, incinerator, etc.) of girl students.
- ix. Provision of adequate purified drinking water and sanitation facilities.
- x. Scouts, Guides, NCC, School bands and related activities.
- xi. Extra-curricular activities like dance, music, painting, trekking, excursions/ exposure visits, study tours will be a part of the curriculum.
- xii. Participation in school level competitions in various spheres including academics, sports and co-curricular.
- xiii. Mobile app and robust MIS for reporting/ monitoring.
- xiv. Participation in exchange programmes (National and International).
- xv. Use of technology enabled learning tools.

The facilities in the schools will be at par with the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas as far as possible.

## 7. Land Requirement

Land has to be provided by the concerned State/UT as far as possible free of cost or on nominal cost free from all encumbrances with clear land use for development and expansion of schools. The land identified should be preferably in the vicinity of

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Project Officer,  
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District/Sub-District headquarters with proper road connectivity. The Minimum requirement of land for different schools is given below:

### **Eklavya Model Residential Schools**

A minimum of 15 acres of Land is required for establishing EMRSs

### **Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools**

A minimum of 5 acres of Land is required for establishing EMDBS

Relaxation on the minimum requirement of land can be granted on case to case basis on the specific needs e.g. in North East, hilly areas and LWE affected areas.

Format for submitting land details for establishment of any new school is at Annexure II.

## **8. Admission Procedure**

- a. Admission to these schools will be through an appropriate method as per transparent objective criteria to be decided by the NESTS based on the norms under RTE Act, 2009.
- b. The number of seats for boys and girls will be equal.
- c. The total maximum sanctioned strength of a school shall be 480 students.
- d. At the Upper Primary and Secondary level i.e. from class VI to X, every class will have maximum 60 students in 2 sections of 30 students each
- e. At the Senior Secondary level (class XI & XII), there will be three sections per class for the three streams in Science, Commerce & Humanities. The maximum sanctioned strength of each section should be 30 students. In case of short fall in a section, ST students from other schools may be admitted as per procedure mentioned at above para (a).
- f. 10% of the seats of EMRS/EMDBS can be filled up by non-ST candidates (shall not exceed the total strength of 480). Priority shall be given to children of EMRSs/EMDBS staff, children who have lost their parents to Left wing extremism and insurgencies, children of widows, children of divyang parents etc.
- g. Reservation of 20% seats under sports quota for deserving ST students who have excelled in the field of sports.
- h. Ministry/NESTS will issue separate detailed guidelines for admission of students under Sports quota.

  
Project Officer,  
ITDP Lahaul at Keylong.



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Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

Dated: 27 June 2023

To  
**The Regional Officer,  
Integrated Regional Office (IRO), MoEF&CC  
Shimla**

**Subject: Processing of proposals for construction of schools & ports on forest land by Government of Himachal Pradesh - regarding.**

Madam Sir

I am directed to refer to your letter No.FC/SW/HPB/08/2023 dated 3.04.2023 seeking clarification regarding diversion of forest land for the construction of Heliports. In this regard, the PCCF(HoFF) Himachal Pradesh vide his letter no. F-18-F-2023 dated 06.06.2023 has submitted a justification for diversion of forest land for the construction of Heliports. The PCCF(HoFF) HP vide another letter dated 06.06.2023 has requested to allow the diversion of Forest land for construction of Heliports & relaxation of the limit of 1.62 hectare prescribed for the construction of schools in dry areas in the Para 11.1. of the Handbook of guidelines dated 28.03.2010. It has been further mentioned that as per the availability, most of the land in Himachal Pradesh is forest land and the private land holdings are very less which are not sufficient for the livelihood of communities.

In this regard, the Ministry regarding construction of Heliports, the following guidelines are laid down in the FC/HP in the State of Himachal Pradesh. The Ministry is keeping in view the justification submitted by the Government of Himachal Pradesh in situations where the use of forest land for the construction of Heliports will be unavoidable. Therefore, it has been decided that the proposals for construction of Heliports and Schools involving an area of more than 1.62 hectare will be processed on case to case basis and processed by IRO, Shimla as per the guidelines. However, the same will be forwarded to the Ministry for further recommendations for appropriate decision.

(Sd/-) Bhardwaj  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to

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Project Officer,  
ITDP Lahaul at Keylong.

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