

No/ 1542

H.P. Forest Department,

Dated Lahaul, the / 11-08-2025

From:-DCF Lahaul.

To:-C.F.Kullu.

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/SCM/149630/2021

Sir,

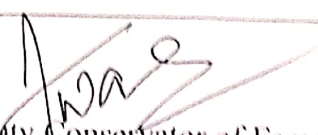
Kindly refer to the online EDS Office letter No .D.IV.614/1617 on dated 17.07.2025 on the subject cited above.

2

User Agency has attended the shortcomings in the above Diversion Proposal as under:-

Sr.No	Observation	Reply
1	As desired by Nodal Officer Such exorbitant land requirements for schools are discouraged by GoI. The justification for the same is not satisfactory and practical. The CF may re assess the case and recommend a more feasible proposal.	As per the norms of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the area proposed is 6 ha for the Eklavya Model Residential School. Further, as per clarification from the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change letter No. FC-11/179/2021-FC dated 20 June 2023, this proposal may be considered on a case to case basis. It is also submitted that the green area & 2.5 hectares shall be managed in coordination with the Forest Department. Justification of the reply by the User Agency is enclosed.

Encl:-As above


Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Lahaul Forest Division
at Keylong

Justification of 6 hac./15 Acres 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, Himachal Pradesh.

Ref: Online Proposal No. FP/HP/SCH/149630/2021.


JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN 6HAC./15 ACRES IN FOREST AREA.

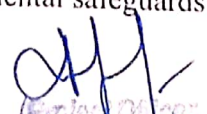
State Govt. has sanctioned one Eklavya Model Residential School for District Lahaul-Spiti to be established in Lahaul at Kukumseri, Distt. Lahaul-Spiti (H.P.) under Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India, within the jurisdiction of Forest Division Keylong, Distt. Lahaul- Spiti, Himachal Pradesh. Eklavya Model Residential School campus will be constructed, as per EMRS guidelines of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India (MOTA), notified on dated 13th November, 2020 according to para no. 07 (Land Requirement) A minimum of 15 acres of land is required for establishing EMRSs (guidelines copy attached).

We wish to respectfully submit the following clarifications and assurances:-

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **Coordination with Forest Department:** The entire process of development, including site planning and execution, will be carried out in close coordination with the Forest Department. All guidelines, directives, and environmental norms issued by the department will be strictly followed.
4. **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 the 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).

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.


D.F.O.
Lahaul Forest Division
At Keylong


Forest Officer
TDR Lahaul/Keylong



EMRS-Guidelines

Ministry of Tribal Affairs

Government of India

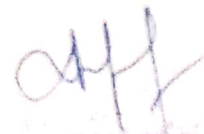
Guidelines

Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)

Eklavya Model Day Boarding School
(EMDBS)

Centre of Excellence for Sports

13th November, 2020


13/11/2020

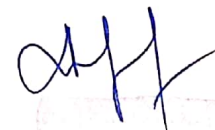



Contents

1. Introduction.....	1
2. Objective.....	2
3. Scope.....	2
4. Management of Schools	2
5. Establishment of New Schools	4
6. Facilities in Schools	5
7. Land Requirement	6
8. Admission Procedure.....	7
9. Running of Schools.....	8
10. Funding.....	11
11. Building Construction.....	11
12. Costs & Budget.....	12
13. Fund Release Mechanism	13
14. Review and Monitoring	15
15. Relaxation of any clause of the scheme	16
Annexure I	17
Annexure II	18
Annexure III	19
Annexure IV	21
Annexure V	22
Annexure VI	23
Annexure VII	24

Abbreviations:

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

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

[Handwritten signature]
 (Print Name)
 TDC, Lalitpur, 12/12/2023

(9)

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.

(5)

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

To, The Regional Officer,
Integrated Regional Office (IRO), MoEF&CC,
Shimla
Via Delhi, 110010
Dated 27 June 2023

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

Subject: Processing of proposals for construction of schools/heliports on forest land by Government of Himachal Pradesh - regarding.

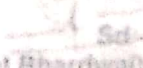
Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No.FC/SW/HPB/08/2023 dated 03/04/2023 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/FC/2023/Guidelines (FCA) dated 1st June 2023 has submitted a justification for diversion of Forest Land.

Forest Land is. The PCCF (HoFF) HP vide another letter dated 06th June 2023 has also requested to allow the diversion of Forest Land for construction of Schools in relaxation of the limit of 1.62 hectare prescribed for the construction of schools in villy areas in the Para 11.11 of the Handbook of guidelines dated 28.03.2019. 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 even sufficient for livelihood of communities.

In this regard, the matter regarding construction of Heliports and the S.F. has involving an area of more than 1.62 ha in the State of Himachal Pradesh was examined in the Ministry and keeping in view the justification submitted by the State, there can be situations where the use of forest land for the construction of Heliports/Schools 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 hectares shall be examined on case to case basis and processed by IRO Shimla as per the extant rules and guidelines, however, the same will be forwarded to the Ministry with specific comments/recommendations for appropriate decision.

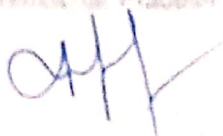
Yours faithfully,

(Suneet Bhardwaj) 
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Secretary (Forests), Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.

2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Himachal Pradesh


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests