

Ref: RJIL/ SCO/ WEST BENGAL/NO-FC-WB/2023/01

Date: 01/12/2023

To,
The Nodal Officer
FCA West Bengal
Dept. of Forest

Kindly refer to your EDS dated 05-10-2023 , we do not know how the user agency can provide Govt. documents in support of information of the year of completion of construction of road from Kumani more to Jhaldhaka/Jhalong.

However as per available information as obtained from different Govt. organizations and their website, it appear that the road was constructed prior to commission of Jaldhaka Hydel Project in the year 1967. This road was used for transportation of all materials required for construction of the project. Further West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited was launched in the year 1974, and the entire forest operations including transportation of timber from the remote areas of Parent and Bindu of Kalimpong General and Special division was carried out using this road.

Moreover North Bengal State Transport Corporation Limited used to provide regular bus service from Jhalong to Siliguri/Jalpaiguri through this road only.

So it is circumstantially evident that the road was in use other than forest work prior to 1980 by the West Bengal State Electricity Board, North Bengal State Transport Corporation, Cinchona and Other Medicinal Plants Directorate Govt. of West Bengal and WBFDC.

The road was constructed and maintained by the PW(Roads) Dept. Govt. of West Bengal, but afterwards it was handed over to PW(Roads) of GTA during 2019.

FRA Clearance certificate as issued by District Magistrate Kalimpong in prescribed format for the stretch 3 KM in Kalimpong District vide no. 015/NOC/FRA/KPG/2023-24 dated 24-11-2023 is uploaded in Parivesh Portal which was wanted.

Thanks & Regards.

For Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

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AUTHORISED SIGNATORY

(Ashish Dasgupta)