

No.Ft. 48-3921/2019 (FCA),

Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh

From: Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1.

To: The Deputy Inspector General of Forest,
Sub Office, Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change, CGO Complex,
Shivalik Khand, Longwood, Shimla, HP.

Dated Shimla-1, the

Subject: Diversion of 33.8599 ha. of forest land in favour of the National Highway Authority of India for Rehabilitation and upgrading of existing Road to four lane with Paved Shoulder from Kolka to Nauni Chowk (Kolka to Dareota Village-Pkg IIA, Dareota Village to Daseharan Village-Pkg IIB & Daseharan Village to Nouni Chowk Pkg-IIC) of NH 205 (Design Chainage- KM 28+800 to KM 58+450, Design length 29.65 KM) in the State of HP (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/road/156128/2022) reg.

Sir,

Kindly refer to your office letter No. FC/HPC/06/16/2024 dated 04.11.2024 on the subject cited proposal.

2. The pointwise reply to the observation as raised vide your above referred communication is submitted as below:-

1. The Conservator Bilaspur has submitted that administrative approval and financial sanction for Package-IIA and Package-IIB has been taken up with Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India for placing before the Standing Finance Committee and is in advance stage. Further, Land Acquisition Committee has already approved alignment and Land Acquisition Plan for Package-II (i.e. PkgIIA+IIB+IIC) and subsequently, about 90% Land has already been acquired (3D & 3G Notification) on the approved alignment and compensation paid to the affected persons. It is also clarified that there is no possibility of change in the alignment in future and be treated as finalized and frozen. An undertaking to this effect has been uploaded by the user agency in additional information column of Part-1 as Annexure-1.
2.
 - i) Necessary corrections against this observation have been done and stands uploaded on the designated column of the PARIVESH portal.
 - ii) In response to this EDS, the UA has submitted that the EDS clubs 3.3131 ha of forest land to be diverted for Muck Dumping Sites and 14.9522 ha of Non-forest land for Muck Dumping Sites of Kunihar Division. The cumulative total for both Divisions comprises an area of 18.2653 ha for Muck Dumping Sites, and does not match with the 17.3469 ha as mentioned in the EDS. However, the area mentioned in the EDS i.e., 17.3469 is the Total Forest area requiring diversion w.r.t. Bilaspur Forest Division. The User agency has clarified the forest, nonforest land wise statement involved in the diversion proposal which is as under: Kunihar Division Forest land for Road & Tunnel: 16.5130 ha Forest land for MDS: 0 Non-Forest land for MDS: 14.9522 ha Total Forest land: 16.5130 ha Non forest land: 65.0704 ha - Total Land Requirement: 81.5834 ha Bilaspur Division Forest land for Road & Tunnel: 14.0338 ha

Forest land for MDS: 3.3131 ha Non-Forest land for MDS: 0 Total Forest land: 17.3469 ha Non forest land: 26.7734 ha (Pvt. Land) Total Land Requirement: 44.1203 ha In this regard component wise detailed area statement is enclosed as Annexure 3.

- iii)** In response to this EDS the UA has submitted that R&R plan is uploaded online as Annexure 4.
3. The details of length and width for RoW is uploaded online in Part-I as Annexure-5.
 4. The required Geologist Report have been prepared by Center for Advanced Study in Geology, Punjab University, Chandigarh and the same is uploaded on Parivesh Portal as Annexure 6.
 5. The meticulous consideration of all nearby plots alongside the proposed road, respective MDS sites have been taken into account for muck disposal. An undertaking regarding the green standing trees in MDS site is uploaded online as Annexure-7, duly authenticated by DFO Bilaspur. The list of standing trees in the muck dumping site is uploaded in online Part-II.
 6. The user agency has intimated that the width of Proposed Right of Way for the project is finalized according to the IRC Guidelines, which is kept minimum and as per the construction width. Thus, only those trees which are required to be felled have been enumerated. Further, it is also submitted that as per EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) and HAM (Hybrid Amenities Mode) contract norms, the contractor is granted certain flexibility to modify road design to suit site condition on prior approval of NHAI and hence has the fair scope to retain some trees through minor modification in road geometry. In response to which UA/NHAI hereby undertakes to issue such directive to the contractor to save trees wherever feasible and the same will be duly informed to the concerned DFO. Detailed list of trees required to be felled in the PRow & Dumping sites stands uploaded in Portal; for which the undertaking for translocation of Saplings was issued by the DFO.
 7. **i)** The revised CA areas identified in UPF Samtehan, UPF Bandla & DPF Rachhoh, Digital map, toposheet, KML file and land Suitability certificate etc- uploaded in online Part-II.
ii) However, necessary correction for kml file of DPF baila and UPF Tipra has been done & stand uploaded on designated column in part-I Parivesh Portal. Further, the DGPS maps & KML files has been rectified accordingly.
iii) DGPS map of the CA site named UPF Kanlah duly authenticated by the undersigned is uploaded against the designated column in part-II.
iv) In response this reply, UA has submitted that the requisite certificate of nonavailability of NFL has already been uploaded on the portal as Annexure 9.
 8. Darlaghat Wildlife Sanctuary comprising of an area of 6 sq km was de-notified and converted into Darlaghat Conservation Reserve vide Govt. of HP notification No. FFE-B-F(6)11/2005-II dated 7th June, 2013; excluding an area of 5.33 sq km area comprising of 11 villages namely Buila, Banan, Susai, Pather, Kiyari, Changer, Sekhar, Simoo, Dareota, Damlana and Surajpur At present the total area of the Darlaghat Conservation Reserve is 0.67 sq km and the aerial distance from the nearest point of proposal under consideration is 1.37 km as verified from the Survey of India Toposheet on a scale of 1:15000; and also, as per the kml file of conservation reserve boundaries delineated vide the notification *ibid*. The Notification of Govt. of HP regarding Darlaghat conservation Reserve; No. FFE-B-F(6)11/2005-II dated 7 th June, 2013 & Aerial distance verification as dovetailed as above are uploaded for the ready reference. It is further, submitted that the ESZ of Darlaghat Conservation

Reserve is yet not notified & even if, assuming the ESZ of this PA as 1 Km being not notified; the Wildlife Management Plan must not be a pre requisite requirement as per the para1.22 (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. However, the User agency has agreed upon to deposit the detailed cost of Wildlife Management Plan post stage-1 approval if applicable.

Yours faithfully,

Nodal Officer-cum-PCCF (FCA)
O/o Pr. CCF (HoFF), H.P.