

No. Ft. 48-5058/2020(FCA)
Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh

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

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 1.8086 ha. of forest land in favour of HPPWD, for the construction of link road from Gahar Da Ghattu to Lanoh, (Ksms. 0/0 to 3/510) within the jurisdiction of Dalhousie Forest Division District Chamba, HP. (Online proposal No. FP/HP/Road/46910/2020).

Sir,

Kindly refer to your office letter No FC/HPB/06/59/2021 dated 31.12.2024 on the subject cited proposal.

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

1. In reply to the observation DFO Dalhousie has submitted that no violation has been committed in respect of the construction of the jeepable road to Lanoh i.e. from Km 0/000 to 3/090, as the said road was constructed by the Forest Department, Dalhousie Forest Division, for forestry purposes under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojna a Govt. of India scheme. The justification for the construction was duly recorded in the approved estimate of the road, a copy of which is uploaded under additional information Part-II against Sr. No. 2. The road was constructed during the years 2004-05 and 2006-07. The divisional records pertaining to the construction of the road have already been weeded out vide office letter No. 159/2016-17 dated 04.08.2016, a copy of which uploaded under additional information Part II against Sr. No. 13. As per the records available in the Range Office Chowari, including the estimate and cash book, it has been found that during the year 2004-5, a jeepable road form Km 0/000 to Km 2/210 was constructed for forestry purpose, involving an expenditure of Rs. 5,00,000/- the copy of the estimate of which is enclosed. Further, during the year 2006-07 the road was extended up to Km 3/090 with an expenditure of Rs. 1,50,000/- and Rs. 50,000/- totaling Rs. 2,00,000/-. After joint field verification conducted by DFO Dalhousie alongwith the user agency i.e HPPWD, it was confirmed that no new construction or widening has been carried out, and the existing road was found to be correct as per records. The road is visible in the KML file of 2007-08 the apparent discrepancy may be due to the fact that the satellite imagery was uploaded after the construction of the road. The road does not find mention in the existing Working Plan of the Division (Valid up to 2027), which will be revised & record will be updated accordingly. Photograph of the road showing width of road is uploaded in additional information part-II Sr. No.11. The widening of the road is required to provide connectivity to the inhabitants of Ghar, Trimah and Lanoh. The

copy of the joint inspection report duly signed by the DFO and User agency along with justification has been uploaded in additional information details against Sr. No. 34 of Part I and copies of the estimates and cash book have been uploaded against additional information details against Sr. No. 12 of part-II.

2. DFO Dalhousie has replied that in the previous Joint Inspection report submitted by the then DFO the road length constructed by the Forest Department was inadvertently mentioned as 3/510 Km due to a typographical error. As per the verified records now retrieved from the Range level, the Forest Department actually constructed the road upto 3/090 Km during the years 2004-2005 and 2006-2007 for forestry purpose under RSVYK scheme. Necessary correction have been made in the fresh Joint Inspection Report conducted by the DFO Dalhousie alongwith User agency on dated 03.03.2026 and uploaded as additional information details Sr. No.37 in Part-I. The current proposal seeks further widening and additional construction beyond the existing 3/090 Km to connect the inhabitants of Gahar, Trimah and Lanoh which is new construction and no violation has been committed in respect of the construction of the jeepable road to Lanoh by the use agency & the road was constructed by Forest Department for forestry purpose. Revised Site Inspection Report conducted by the DFO Dalhousie has been uploaded at Sr. No. 11 Part-II. The previous comments from the then CF Chamba regarding the road already being constructed do not constitute a violation by the User agency, as the construction was a departmental activity for forestry management. It may be that the then CF was not aware of the specific construction details at the time because the Divisional records had been weeded out, however the facts have now been cross checked with Range -level records and uploaded in additional information part-II. Further as the comments sought by the undersigned regarding documentary evidence of the existing road it is submitted that the record available at Division level have been weeded out by DFO Dalhousie vide his office order/letter No. 159/2016-17 dated 04-08-2016 as DFO Dalhousie already submitted above. Further the record (like copy of estimate and cash book) regarding construction of link road from Km 0/000 to 3/090 Km for forestry purpose available at Range Office Chowari has been rendered uploaded as additional information in online Part-II at Sr. No. 12 from which it is very well clear that road constructed is for forestry purpose and there is no violation made by the User agency.
3. Corrected DGPS maps with latitude and longitude, as per the KML file, have been uploaded as additional information in Part-I. The revised KML file showing forest and non-forest land has also been uploaded at C (b)(1) of Part-I.

Yours faithfully,

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