

**MINUTES OF THE 46TH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL EMPOWERED
COMMITTEE OF REGIONAL OFFICE, NORTH CENTRAL ZONE, DEHRADUN
HELD ON 25TH FEBRUARY, 2020**

The 46th meeting of the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) of the Regional Office (North Central Zone) Dehradun was held on 25th February, 2020 in the Meeting Room of the Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Dehradun under the Chairmanship of Shri. Pankaj Agrawal, IFS, Addl. PCCF, Regional Office, Dehradun.

Following official/non-official members & the special invitees were present in the meeting.

S.No.	Name	Designation
01	Shri. Pankaj Agrawal, IFS, Addl. PCCF, Regional Office, Dehradun.	Chairman
02	Dr. R B S Rawat, IFS	Non-official Member
03	Dr. R. S. Bisht, IFS	Non-official Member
04	Prof. S. D. Bhardwaj	Non-official Member
05	Shri D. J. K. Sharma	APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer (UK)
06	Shri Rajesh J. Ekka	APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer (HP)
07	Ms. Upasana	CCF, Mandi Forest Circle (HP)
08	Sh. Yunus	Director, Tourism & Civil Aviation (HP)
09	Mr. S. S. Kashyap	DFO Mandi (HP)
10	Representatives of the User Agencies	

Following proposals seeking diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose pertaining to the state of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand were discussed in detail and the case wise decision taken by REC is as under:

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Agenda Item No. 01: Diversion of 5.18 ha of forest land for construction of Shanad Shrikot motor road Kms 0/0 to 9/700 in favour of HPPWD, within the jurisdiction of GHNP wildlife, Division Shamshi, District Kullu, Himachal Pradesh (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/ROAD/28594/2017)

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 5.18 ha of forest land for construction of Shanad Shrikot motor road Kms 0/0 to 9/700. The committee was apprised that 105 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for

diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. In respect of the point whether the forest land proposed for diversion is located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 comments of CWLW have been provided. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The committee was apprised that a report of DFO has been asked on clarification provided by the User Agency for exceeding the alignment of proposed road beyond point no. 12 in the map which has been submitted now and found satisfactory.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land.

Agenda Item No. 02: Diversion of 17.0961 ha of forest land for disposal of Muck/ Debris generated in four laning of Solan to Kaithlight from 106.139 km to 129.020 km in favour of NHAI, within the jurisdiction of Solan Forest Division, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/ROAD/39314/2019)

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 17.0961 ha of forest land for disposal of Muck/ Debris generated in four laning of Solan to Kaithlight from 106.139 km to 129.020 km. The committee noted that 994 trees and 1225 saplings are proposed to be felled in the project; the forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported. In respect of the point whether the forest land proposed for diversion is located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, it is mentioned that the proposed area is within 10 KM of nearest Protected Areas and comments of CWLW is still under process. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The representative from the user agency gave a detailed presentation about the facts of the project before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/ information / clarifications:

1. The 4.00 ha area proposed for CA against 4.00 ha MDF area in previously allotted CA land further analysed in DSS and found that 1.00 ha area is still falls in MDF. Therefore, State Government should provide other suitable CA site against this 1.00 ha MDF area. The separate CA scheme should be submitted for each piece of land proposed for CA.

2. The data has been revised in para-14 of Part-II but still CA stipulated (837.6848 ha) is not commensurate to the area of forest land diverted (223.72 ha). The State Government may clarify the disparity.
3. State Government may submit the FRA certificate along with all annexure.
4. State Government should provide the information of non-forest land measuring 8.8593 ha at para A-1 (ix), B-2.1, B-2.2, B-2.3 and B-2.4 of Part I online.
5. The State Government should provide the comments of CWLW.

Agenda Item No. 03: Diversion of 9.5 ha (instead of 12.01 ha) of forest land for Construction of Shiv Dham at Kangni, Mandi in favour of Department of Tourism and Civil Aviation, H.P., within the jurisdiction of Mandi Forest Division, District Mandi, Himachal Pradesh (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/Others/42007/2019)

The Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 9.5 ha (instead of 12.01 ha) of forest land for Construction of Shiv Dham at Kangni, Mandi. The committee noted that 51 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The representative from the user agency gave a detailed presentation about the facts and importance of the project before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/ information / clarifications:

1. The State Government may submit the plantation scheme for planting trees and their maintenance for 10 years of fast growing local species in 10 m wide periphery all around the area proposed for diversion. This plantation will be done by the forest department and the cost will be borne by the User Agency. The 10 m wide belt should have at least three layers of trees and the plantation work should be completed within one year of Stage-II approval. This area should not be diverted for any other purpose and a certificate to this effect should be provided by the PCCF (HoFF) of H.P.
2. State Government may submit the design area and dimension details for each component bifurcating the area used in actual construction (civil works) and area that will remain vacant around the each component. All such vacant area will be maintained as green by using local grass/ shrub species by the User Agency at its own cost and will not be diverted for any other use.
3. State Government may submit a detailed report justifying taking up the project in the proposed area only and nowhere else. The State Government may provide excerpt in

this regard from old scriptures. Also, a report on total number of tourist flow and International fair(s) that are conducted here may also be provided.

4. Parameter at S.No. 1, 2 & 7 of the Table-B under Cost Benefit Analysis have not been quantified and expressed in monetary terms. Further, no change has been made in parameter at S.No-5 of Table-B. State Government may submit the C/B analysis taking all parameters in monetary terms. Further, the correct data/information in respect of population benefited may be submitted.
5. State Government may provide DC certificate under FRA, 2006 in the correct format prescribed in the guidelines.

UTTARAKHAND

Agenda Item No. 04: Diversion of 5.35 ha of forest land for construction of Tapovan Ringi Subhai Bhavishyabadri Motor road in favour of PMGSY, within the jurisdiction of Nandadevi National Park, Joshimath Forest Division, District Chamoli, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/38195/2019)

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 5.35 ha of forest land for construction of Tapovan Ringi Subhai Bhavishyabadri motor road. The committee noted that 319 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The User Agency briefed about the project before the committee.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land.

Agenda Item No. 05: Diversion of 7.492 ha of forest land for construction of Kapkot Pindari Glacier motor road Km 15 to Mikillakhalpatta link Motor road in favour of PMGSY, within the jurisdiction of Bageshwar Forest Division, District Bageshwar, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/32661/2018)

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 7.492 ha of forest land for construction of Kapkot Pindari Glacier motor road Km 15 to Mikillakhalpatta link Motor road. The committee noted that total 455 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The User Agency briefed about the project before the committee.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/ information / clarifications:

1. State Government may ensure that in compensatory afforestation, 50% of Oak trees will be planted.
2. It is seen that KML file of 14.50 ha of CA area is uploaded instead of 14.98 ha. Further, as per DSS analysis of CA area, 01 ha area falls in VDF and 01 ha area falls in MDF. State Government may submit KML file of 14.98 ha degraded forest area of density less than 0.4 for CA.
3. State Government may submit the original hard copy of muck disposal plan, Part V, SIR of DFO, digital map of road, CA scheme, CA site suitability certificate and digital map & SoI toposheet map of CA area.
4. It is seen from CA scheme placed with the hard copy that the cost per ha is charged Rs. 9,70,793/- whereas, the cost charged in other cases is around Rs. 3,00,000/- per ha only. State Government may prepare and submit revised CA estimate including 50% Oak species based on current cost norms in the State approved by the competent authority.
5. As per land schedule and component wise breakup area taken for muck disposal in forest land is 0.472 ha but in muck disposal plan it comes out to be 0.36 ha. It is seen that calculation of quantity of muck generated does not appear to be correct. State Government may intimate the length and width which is taken into consideration for calculation of muck likely to generate.

Agenda Item No. 06: Diversion of 9.541 ha of forest land for construction of Naudkhal Malakota Road to Sirasu Motor road in favour of PMGSY, within the jurisdiction of Rajaji National Park Division Forest Division, District Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/11142/2015)

The Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 9.541 ha of forest land for construction of Naudkhal Malakota Road to Sirasu Motor road. The committee noted that 550 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. In respect of the point whether the forest land proposed for diversion is located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 it is mentioned that the forest land proposed for diversion is located within eco-sensitive zone of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife protection act 1972) and the case is discussed in NBWL on 31.01.2019. No violation of FCA


has been reported by the State Government. The representative from the user agency briefed about the project.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/ information / clarifications:

1. The REC is of view that the revised proposal should be submitted up to point no. 37 of geo referenced digital map, (Longitude-78°26'01.83"E, Latitude- 30°06'25.29"N) as the proposed road beyond that point is not justified.
2. State Government may provide the correct information of Working Plan prescription at column 5 Part II online.
3. State Government may provide the correct data in 'District Profile' at para-14 of online Part-II regarding.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the members and other participants.

This is issued with confirmation of competent authority.



3/3/20
(Dr. Yogesh Gairola)
Technical Officer

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Dated: 3 March, 2020

Distribution:

1. Dr. R. B. S. Rawat, IFS (Member, REC), 188/1 Vasant Vihar, Dehradun-248 001 (Uttarakhand).
2. Dr. S. D. Bhardwaj, (Member, REC), 33-Sai Niwas, Scientist Colony, Post Office Shanti, Tehsil & Distt. Solan- 173 212 (Himachal Pradesh). Email: shrwander@yahoo.co.in
3. Dr. R. S. Bisht, IFS (Member, REC), Green Street, Uttaranchal colony, Gas Godam Road, Kusum Kheda, Haldwani-263 139 (Uttarakhand)
4. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forest), Govt. of Uttarakhand, 4 Subhash Road, Dehradun.
5. Principal Secretary (Forest), Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Armsdale Building, Shimla.
6. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Forest Conservation, Uttarakhand, Indira Nagar, Forest Colony, Dehradun for information. He is requested to take action on the decisions taken in the REC meeting (Project wise) & ensure submission of compliance to this office for further necessary action.
7. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Talland, Shimla, H.P. for information. He is requested to take action on the decisions taken in the REC meeting (Project wise) & ensure submission of compliance to this office for further necessary action.


3/3/20
(Dr. Yogesh Gairola)
Technical Officer