

**MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE REGIONAL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE
(REC) OF REGIONAL OFFICE, NORTH CENTRAL ZONE, DEHRADUN
HELD ON 22nd July, 2015**

The fourth meeting of the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) of the Regional Office, North Central Zone, Dehradun was held on 22nd July, 2015 at Regional Office, Dehradun under the Chairmanship of Shri Ajay Kumar, Addl. PCCF, Regional Office, Dehradun.

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

S.No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Ajay Kumar Addl. PCCF, R.O., Dehradun	Chairman
2.	Dr. G.S. Rawat, IFS (Retd.)	Member
3.	Shri Praveen Thaplyal, IFS (Retd.)	Member
4.	Dr. S.P. Singh	Member
5.	Shri M.S. Negi DCF, R.O., Dehradun	Member Secretary
Special Invitee		
6.	Shri S.T.S. Lepcha Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer, Uttarakhand.	Special Invitee
7.	Shri J.P. Joshi Addl. Secretary (Revenue) Uttarakhand	Special Invitee
8.	Dr. VRR Singh Nodal Officer- cum-APPCF (FCA), H.P.	Special Invitee
9.	Representatives of the User Agencies	

The following proposals seeking diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes pertaining to Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh were discussed in detail and the decision taken by REC is as under:-

S. N.	NAME OF PROPOSAL	DECISION TAKEN BY THE REC
UTTARAKHAND		
1.	<p>Diversion of 8.050 ha of forest land for construction of Jaurasi-Jaikhal Motor Road in favour of PMGSY under the jurisdiction Almora Forest Division, District Almora, Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 8.050 ha of forest land for construction of Jaurasi-Jaikhal Motor Road before the committee members. Committee noticed that 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. After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC observed that some essential details information are lacking in the proposal. Therefore, the REC decided that the State Govt. be asked to submit the following essential documents and thereafter, the proposal be placed in the next REC meeting:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Though the transplantation scheme for chir saplings falling in 10-20 cm diameter class has been submitted without approval of CF, REC observed that transplantation of saplings may not be a feasible exercise for chir also does not appear necessary. Hence, transplantation of chir saplings may be excluded. 2. The State Govt. has submitted two enumeration lists which are creating confusion about the actual no. of trees required to be felled. Therefore, State Govt. may submit one enumeration list for the trees proposed to be felled after thorough recheck. 3. Cost-Benefit (C/B) analysis is not submitted as per format given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook which may be re-submitted accordingly. 4. Calculation of muck is not correct as quantity of muck used is shown as 20.161 cum at page-89 and 39,312 cum at page-88. Further, the quantity of muck to be

		<p>disposed in dumping zone is 58.968 cum whereas the capacity of dumping yard is shown 40.800 cum. This discrepancy may be rectified/clarified.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. FRA certificate with all Annexures as per format given by the MoEF&CC. GoI vide letter dated 05.07.2013 may be submitted. 6. Geo-referenced digital map of the area proposed for CA showing geo-coordinates of the polygon at minimum four points. 7. Eco Class-I has been taken for NPV calculations. Which is quite unlikely keeping in view the kind of species forest. The Eco-class of the area should be Eco-class-V which may be reviewed and accordingly. NPV may also be revised by the State Govt.
2.	<p>Diversion of 12.035 ha of forest land for the construction of Gasku to Gimafi (Jaykot) Kureela Motor Road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division. Distt. Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 12.035 ha of forest land for construction of Gasku to Gimafi (Jaykot) Kureela Motor Road before the committee members. Committee noticed that 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. The committee also noticed that the no. of project affected trees is reported as 393 including 158 Oak trees.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of 12.035 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. C/B analysis is not submitted as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook which may be re-submitted accordingly. 2. 32 trees per ha may not account for 0.4 density as given in the proposal. The State Govt. may review the density and submit reviewed NPV. If required. 3. Name of CA site may be mentioned in CA scheme. 4. As explained by the representative of State Govt., the difference in no. of trees mentioned in Part-II submitted online (593 nos.) and the no. given in reply of EDS (393 nos.) is because of the fact that the trees of nap land are also included in the Part-II submitted online. This may be confirmed in

		<p>writing.</p> <p>5. The State Govt. will ensure planting of 40% Oak seedlings in the CA. An undertaking to this effect may be submitted by the State Govt.</p>
3.	<p>Diversion of 10.0688 ha of forest land for construction of Takoli Band to Balma-Badura-Thana-Mathena Motor Road in favour of PWD under the jurisdiction of Almora Forest Division, District, Almora, Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 10.0688 ha of forest land for construction of Takoli Band to Balma-Badura-Thana-Mathena Motor Road before the committee members. Committee noticed that 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. The committee also noticed that the number of project affected trees is reported as 713 in the 9 m RoW proposed for this road requiring diversion of 10.0688 ha. area. However, 476 trees in 7 m width are proposed to be felled including 54 Oak trees.</p> <p>Geo-referenced digital map for the area proposed for CA showing geo-coordinates was submitted by the User Agency during the meeting.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of 10.0688 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information and with following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Although the C/B analysis is submitted as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook but some of the parameters have not been quantified and expressed in monetary terms. May be re-submitted by the State Govt. after doing the needful. 2. 70 trees per ha may not account for 0.4 density given in the proposal. Moreover, NPV rate is charged for very dense forest category. State Govt. may review and resubmit the density and the NPV calculation. 3. Minimum number of trees will be felled which may not exceed 713. However, initially permission to fell only 476 trees will be granted by the State Forest Deptt., as proposed by the User Agency. <i>The permission for</i>

		<p><i>felling of trees in excess of 476 will be given by DFO under exceptional circumstances under intimation to the Regional Office.</i></p>
4.	<p>Diversion of 6.1395 ha of forest land for construction of Birtola to Belkot Motor Road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division, District Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 6.1395 ha of forest land for construction of Birtola to Belkot Motor Road before the committee members. Committee noticed that 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. The committee also noticed that the no. of project affected trees is reported as 268 in the 9 m RoW proposed for this road requiring diversion of 6.1395 ha. forest land. However, 210 trees in 7 m width are proposed to be felled, which may not be true for entire length of the road.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of 6.1395 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Although, the C/B analysis is submitted as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook but some of the parameters have not been quantified and expressed in monetary terms. C/B analysis may be reviewed by the State Govt. and re-submitted accordingly. 2. 34 trees per ha may not account for 0.4 density as mentioned in the proposal. Moreover, NPV rate is charged for dense forest category. State Govt. may review and resubmit the density and the NPV calculation. 3. Minimum no. of trees will be felled which may not exceed 268 in any case. However, initially permission to fell only 210 trees will be granted by the State Forest Deptt. as proposed by the User Agency. <i>The permission for felling of trees in excess of 210 will be given by DFO under exceptional circumstances under intimation to the Regional Office</i>

5.	<p>Diversion of 6.79 ha forest land for construction of Salla-Sail to Rautarala Motor Road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division, District Pithoragarh, U.K.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 6.79 ha of forest land for construction of Salla-Sail to Rautarala Motor Road before the committee members. Committee noticed that 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. The committee also noticed that the no. of project affected trees is reported as 178 in the 9 m RoW proposed for this road requiring diversion of 6.79 ha land. However, 146 trees in 7 m width are proposed to be felled, which may not be true for the entire length on the road. After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of 6.79 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Although, the C/B analysis is submitted as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook but some of the parameters have not been quantified and expressed in monetary terms. C/B analysis may be reviewed by the State Govt. and re-submitted accordingly. 2. 26 trees per ha may not account for 0.4 density as mentioned in the proposal. Moreover, NPV rate is charged for dense forest category. Accordingly, density and NPV may be reviewed and re-submitted. 3. Minimum no. of trees will be felled which may not exceed 178 in any case. However, initially permission to fell only 146 trees will be granted by the State Forest Deptt. as proposed by the User Agency. <i>The permission for felling of trees in excess of 146 will be given by DFO under exceptional circumstances under intimation to the Regional Office.</i>
6.	<p>Diversion of 10.80 ha forest land for construction of Ranthi motor road from Tanakpur-Tawaghat NH in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 10.80 ha of forest land for construction of Ranthi motor road from Tanakpur-Tawaghat NH before the committee members. Committee noticed that the</p>

<p>Division, District Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>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. The committee also noticed that the no. of project affected trees is reported as 945 which include 890 Oak trees in the 9 m RoW. However, 735 trees including 692 Oak trees in 7 m width are proposed to be felled, which may not be tree for the entire length of the road. REC expressed deep concern over felling of 692 no. of Oak trees over an area of 10.80 ha of forest land proposed for diversion.</p> <p>However, the representatives of the State Govt. informed that 7 no. of villages with the population of 3311 will be benefited by the road. The villages have remained unconnected till date. It was further informed that all other alternatives have been explored and the proposed alignment is the only feasible option left. Nodal Officer-cum-Addl. PCCF (FCA) informed that the proposed land is not part of any reserve forest area and falls under category of Van-Panchyat land and the Oak trees already stand heavily lopped by local people for fodder. Additional Secretary (PWD) & CEO (PMGSY) informed that the villages to be benefited are situated near to the international border and the proposed road is likely to be useful for providing alternate route to the international border, being critical from National Security point of view also. Hence, requested REC to consider the proposal for approval.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal & the submissions made by the representatives of the State Govt., REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of 10.80 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Justification for the construction of road as stated in the meeting by representatives of the State Govt. should be submitted in writing. 2. C/B analysis is not submitted as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) &
---	---

		<p>VI (c) of Handbook which may be re-submitted accordingly.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The State Govt. will ensure planting of 75% Oak seedlings in the CA. An undertaking to this effect may be submitted by the State Govt. 4. Minimum no. of trees will be felled which may not exceed 945 in any case. However, initially permission to fell only 735 trees will be granted by the State Forest Deptt. as proposed by the User Agency. <i>The permission for felling of trees in excess of 735 will be given by DFO under exceptional circumstances under intimation to the Regional Office</i>
7.	<p>Diversion of 8.1123 ha of forest land for construction of Didihat (Devichona) to Jamatari Motor Road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division, District Pithoragarh Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 8.1123 ha of forest land for construction of Didihat (Devichona) to Jamatari Motor Road before the committee members. Committee noticed that 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. The committee also noticed that the no. of project affected trees is mentioned by the State Govt. as 313 in 9m RoW & 267 in the 7m width. Out of 267 trees, 108 trees in the diameter class of 0-10cm and 57 trees in diameter class 10-20cm are proposed to be transplanted and remaining 102 no. of trees are proposed to be felled. The REC members were of the opinion that the transplantation of the species present in the area may not be feasible and successful in the given situation. Hence, REC was of the opinion that instead of transplanting, these trees will also be included in the list of trees proposed for felling.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of 8.1123 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The C/B analysis is not submitted as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook. Therefore, State

		<p>Govt. may submit C/B analysis as per prescribed formats. It should be ensured that the required parameters are quantified and expressed in monetary terms.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Revised enumeration list of trees proposed to be felled. 3. 38 trees per ha may not account for 0.4 density as mentioned in the proposal. Moreover, NPV rate is charged for dense forest category. Accordingly, density and NPV may be reviewed and re-submitted. 4. The State Govt. will ensure planting of 50% Cheura seedlings in the CA. An undertaking to this effect may be submitted by the State Govt.
8.	<p>Diversion of 5.857 ha of forest land for construction of Didihat to Pamsyari Motor Road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division, District Pithoragarh Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 5.857 ha of forest land for construction of Didihat to Pamsyari Motor Road before the committee members. Committee noticed that 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. The committee also noticed that the no. of project affected trees is reported as 433 in the 9 m RoW. However, 301 trees in 7 m width are proposed to be felled <i>which may not be true for the entire alignment of the road. Therefore, the REC decided to permit felling of 301 trees only at present which will not exceed 433 in any case.</i> After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of 5.857 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Although, the C/B analysis is submitted as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook but some of the parameters have not been quantified and expressed in monetary terms. C/B analysis may be reviewed and re-submitted by the State Govt. accordingly. 2. 73 trees per ha may not account for 0.4 density as given in the proposal.

		<p>Moreover, NPV rate is charged for dense forest category. Accordingly, density and NPV calculation may be reviewed and re-submitted.</p> <p>3. Minimum no. of trees will be felled which may not exceed 433 in any case. However, initially permission to fell only 301 trees will be granted by the State Forest Deptt. as proposed by the User Agency. <i>The permission for felling of trees in excess of 301 will be given by DFO under exceptional circumstances under intimation to the Regional Office.</i></p>
9.	<p>Diversion of 6.011 ha of forest land for construction of Munsyari to Harkot Motor Road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division, District Pithoragarh Uttarakhand.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 6.011 ha of forest land for construction of Munsyari to Harkot Motor Road before the committee members. Committee noticed that 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. The committee also noticed that the no. of trees proposed to be felled are 153 including 23 Oak trees.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC observed that some essential details/information are lacking in the proposal and hence it was decided that the State Govt. be asked to submit the following essential documents and thereafter, the proposal be placed in the next REC meeting:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gram Sabha meeting proceedings are required to be submitted as part of enclosures with FRA Certificate and the same may also be uploaded in the online portal. 2. Revised FRA Certificate & proceedings of Sub-Divisional Level Committee meeting after correcting the area as 6.011 ha instead of 5.95 ha mentioned presently. 3. 24 trees per ha may not account for 0.4 density as given in the proposal. Moreover, NPV rate is charged for 5.95 ha area instead of 6.011 ha. Therefore, density and NPV may be revised and re-submitted accordingly. 4. Suitability certificate of CA is given for

		<p>area of 11.90 ha instead of 12.022 ha. Revised Suitability Certificate may be issued.</p> <p>5. Revised CA scheme for 12.022 ha may be submitted instead of 11.90 ha..</p> <p>REC desired that the DFO, Pithoragarh may also be asked to attend the next REC meeting to clarify the process to determine the Eco-class/density & calculation of NPV.</p>
--	--	---

HIMACHAL PRADESH

10.	<p>Diversion of 0.9137 ha of forest land for the construction of Baras Hydro Electric Project (2.4 MW) in favour of M/s Bhageshwari Hydro Power Projects Pvt. Ltd., Super Lodge, Sanjauli, Shimla-6 within the jurisdiction of Chopal Forest Division, Distt. Shimla, H.P.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 0.9137 ha of forest land for construction of Baras Hydro Electric Project (2.4 MW) before the members of REC. The committee noticed that the no. of trees proposed for felling is 24 only. It was also noticed that 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.</p> <p>The committee also observed that the proposal also involves construction of 36.5 mtr. long 22 KV T/L in the forest land with the proposed RoW of 8.00 mtr which has been approved by HP Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (A State Govt. Undertaking). No pole is proposed to be erected & the T/L from Power House of the Baras HEP is proposed to be connected to the nearby existing 22KV T/L of HPSEB's Sainj Sub-station. The Committee also observed that the MoEF & CC, Govt. of India has not prescribed any specific guidelines regarding RoW for laying of 22 KV T/L. However, in view of the fact that the proposed RoW is more than the RoW prescribed for 11KV T/L, the REC decided to agree to 8 mtr. RoW proposed by the State Govt. in this case.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on other aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to recommend the proposal to be submitted to the MoEF & CC for approval subject to submission of soft copy of digital map in respect of area proposed for diversion and area proposed for CA.</p>
-----	--	--

<p>11.</p>	<p>Diversion of 1.2470 ha of forest land for construction of 1.00 MW Shetu Small Hydro Electric Project in favour of M/s Dhauladhar Hydro Projects, Palampur within the jurisdiction of Palampur Forest Division ,District Kangra, H.P.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 1.2470 ha of forest land for construction of 1.00 MW Shetu Small Hydro Electric Project before the members of REC. The committee noticed that the no. of trees proposed for felling is 55 only. It was also noticed that 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.</p> <p>It was further observed that the proposal also involves construction of 1170 mtr. long 33 KV T/L in the forest land with the proposed RoW of 3.00 mtr. but the MoEF & CC. Govt. of India has prescribed RoW of 15 mtr for laying 33 KV T/L.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal and in view of the fact that the RoW for laying of T/L is not proposed as per guidelines. it was decided to defer the proposal to the next REC meeting after the State Govt. submits the following information/clarification/documents:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RoW of 33 KV T/L is proposed for 3 mtr. Clarifications for not revising the RoW to 15 mtr as per guidelines in the reply dated 19.06.2015 of the State Govt. is also not clear. 2. As per enclosures received with FRA Certificate, Gram Sabha meetings were held on 30.03.2014- Sethunalla, 31.03.2014-Malenta and 01.12.2013-Thala but Sub-Division Level Committee (SLC) meeting was held on 06.01.2014. Thus, the meetings held at these two levels are not in logical order. 3. The reply of point No. 07 and 08 of the letter dated 31.12.2014 of the Regional Office submitted vide State Govt. letter dated 19.06.2015 is not convincing/complete.
<p>12.</p>	<p>Diversion of 0.8296 ha of forest land for the construction of 1.00 MW Garthi Small Hydro Electric Project in favour of M/s Mahamai Hydro Power Private Ltd., Bhunter, Kullu within the jurisdiction of Parbati</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 0.8296 ha of forest land for construction of 1.00 MW Garthi Small Hydro Electric Project before the members of REC. The committee noticed that the no. of trees proposed for felling is 55 (32 trees & 23 saplings) only. It was also noticed</p>

	<p>Forest Division, Distt. Kullu, H.P.</p>	<p>that 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.</p> <p>The committee also observed that the proposal also involves construction of 434.52 mtr. long 33 KV T/L through underground cable in the forest land with the proposed RoW of 7.10 mtr which has been approved by HP Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (HPPTCL) (A State Govt. Undertaking). The Committee also observed that the MoEF & CC has not prescribed any specific guidelines regarding RoW for laying of T/L through underground cable.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal and in view of the fact that no guidelines exist for RoW of T/L through underground cable and the proposed arrangement stands technically authenticated by HPPTCL. (A HP Govt. Undertaking) having necessary technical expertise, the REC decided to recommend the proposal to be submitted to the MoEF & CC for approval subject to MoEF & CC, Govt. of India, New Delhi taking a considered decision on proposed T.L and RoW and submission of following information documents:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chief Secretary's Certificate with regard to non-availability of suitable non-forest land for raising Compensatory Afforestation in the prescribed format given by MOEF & CC. 2. FRA certificate with all Annexures as per format given by the MoEF&CC. GoI vide letter dated 05.07.2013. 3. Density & NPV calculation to may be reviewed by State Govt. in view of the fact that felling of 32 trees is proposed over 0.8296 ha forest land.
<p>13.</p>	<p>Diversion of 4.19 ha of forest land for construction of 5.00 MW Kala Nao Top SHEP in favour of M/s GR Auditya Renewable Energies Pvt. Ltd within the jurisdiction Kullu Forest Division, Distt. Kullu, H.P.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 4.19 ha of forest land for construction of 5.00 MW Kala Nao Top SHEP before the members of REC. The committee noticed that the no. of trees proposed for felling is 99 (29 trees & 70 saplings) only. It was also noticed that 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.</p>

		<p>The committee also observed that the proposal involves construction of 3623 mtr. long 33 KV T/L with underground cable in the forest land with the proposed RoW of 6.00 mtr which has been approved by HP Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. (HPPTCL), a State Govt. Undertaking. The Committee also observed that the MoEF & CC. Govt. of India has not prescribed any specific guidelines regarding RoW for laying of T/L with underground cable. It was also noticed that the State Govt. has sought diversion for 4.19 ha. of forest land whereas the requirement of forest land works out at 4.1721 ha as per purpose wise breakup.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal and in view of the fact that no guidelines exist for RoW for laying of T/L through underground cable and the proposed arrangement stands technically authenticated by HPPTCL, a HP Govt. Undertaking having necessary technical expertise, it was decided to recommend the proposal for diversion of 4.1721 ha. of forest land instead of 4.19 ha. to be submitted to the MoEF & CC. Govt. of India, New Delhi for approval.</p>
14.	<p>Diversion of 12.1250 ha of forest land in favour of Director Language & Culture Department, Himachal Pradesh, Kasumpti for the Establishment of Indian Institute of Baudh Darshan, Tabo, Distt. Lahaul & Spiti within the jurisdiction of Wild Life Division Spiti at Kaza, Distt. Lahaul & Spiti, H.P.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 12.1250 ha of forest land for construction of Establishment of Indian Institute of Baudh Darshan, Tabo. before the members of REC. The committee noticed that no tree felling is involved in the proposal. It was also noticed that 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.</p> <p>It was also informed by the Member Secretary that after scrutiny of the proposal in the Regional Office, the Govt. of H.P. was advised as under vide letter Regional Office dated 23.04.2015 :-</p> <p>“An area of 101485 Sq. mtr. Is earmarked for open space, roads, playground etc. which appears to be huge. State Govt. may try to reduce the same. Moreover, 9255 Sq. mtr. area is proposed for housing purpose and 1976 Sq. Mtr. Area is proposed for other buildings which is not in accordance with guidelines (Para 4.5(i) & (ii)). Therefore, the State Govt.</p>

may delete the area proposed for residential buildings and also restrict the area for other building within 1.00 ha and submit revised proposal.”

However, State Govt., vide their letter dated 03.06.2015, informed that in view of the significance of the Tabo Monastery and need for preserving ancient study of Buddhist and Tibetan Society, the proposed centre of higher studies requires adequate land for infrastructure. It has also been mentioned by the State Govt. that the proposed site falls in cold desert area experiencing minus 20 to minus 30 degree temperature during winters and the whole land of this area is devoid of vegetation. Further the proposed site is at a distance of about 3 kilometres from a small settlement of POH village having population less than 50 where the transportation system in winters is paralysed and no accommodation is available on rent basis. The representative of the State Govt. reiterated these facts during REC meeting and requested to consider the whole requirement of 12.1250 ha forest land.

The REC found the arguments put forth by the State Govt. convincing in view of the following facts :-

- i) It is a Govt. of India sponsored project of high cultural importance.
- ii) The land proposed for diversion is falling in cold desert area, devoid of trees, where it is very difficult to grow any vegetation.
- iii) In view of harsh climatic conditions, especially during winter and lack of transportation facilities/ alternate accommodation there is not much scope to isolate requirement of forest land for residential purpose.

However, since the layout plan submitted by the State Govt. of H.P. for establishment of the proposed Indian Institute of Baudh Darshan was not in consonance with Para 4.5(i) & (ii) of the guidelines of Govt. of India, It was decided to recommend the proposal for considering grant of approval under forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by the competent authority in MoEF&CC.

		<p>GoI, New Delhi in relaxation of guidelines subject to submission of the following :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Layout plan with component wise break up in respect of 101485 Sq. mtr. of forest land proposed for open space, roads, playground etc. providing dimensions of each and full justification for the extent of area required for each of these components. 2. Detailed justification as to why the requirement of area proposed for residences and other buildings cannot be reduced by incorporating appropriate changes in the design proposed for these building. 3. Detailed justification for the proposal for being site specific.
<p>15.</p>	<p>Diversion of 4.7748 ha of forest land in favour of Shri Partap Singh Village Rapey, PO Jobrang, Tehsil Keylong, Distt Lahaul & Spiti for the mining lease/stone crusher and link road from NH to work site within the jurisdiction of Lahaul Forest Division, Distt. Lahaul & Spiti, Himachal Pradesh.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 4.7748 ha of forest land for the mining lease stone crusher and link road from NH to work site before the members of REC. The committee noticed that the no tree felling is involved in the project. It was also noticed that 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.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC observed that some essential details/information are lacking in the proposal. Therefore, the REC decided that the State Govt. be asked to submit the following essential documents and thereafter, the proposal be placed in the next REC meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revised purpose wise breakup of total land of required showing the land required for Stone Crusher and Mining separately. 2. Revised project map in Survey of India Toposheet showing the Safety Zone & all other project components in a proper scale. 3. CA area mentioned in map is half the area actually proposed for scheme which may be reviewed and revised/correct map submitted accordingly. 4. Geo-referenced digital map for the forest land proposed for diversion

		<p>showing geo-coordinates of the area proposed for different components like road, mining lease, stone crusher etc. on the map at minimum four points for each component and other important features like forests, other existing roads, rivers etc.</p> <p>5. Mining Plan duly approved by the competent authority in the State Govt.</p>
16.	<p>Diversion of 22.6664 ha of forest land for construction of 22 KV D/C Transmission Line from Tangnu-Romai-II HEP Power House Bay at Chirgaon in favour of Tangnu Romai Generation (P) Ltd., NSL ICON, 4th Floor, Road No. 12, Banjara Hill, Hyderabad-500034 within the jurisdiction of Rohru Forest Division, Distt. Shimla, H.P.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 22.6664 ha of forest land for construction of 22 KV D/C Transmission Line from Tangnu-Romai-II HEP Power House Bay at Chirgaon before the members of REC. The committee noticed that the no. of trees proposed for felling is 193 only. It was also noticed that 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. On query, it was clarified by the State Govt. that this proposal is only for construction of T/L and does not include any component of HEP.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, REC decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of 22.6664 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents by the State Govt.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Although, the C/B analysis is submitted as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook, some of the parameters have not been quantified and expressed in monetary terms. C/B analysis may be reviewed by the State Govt. and re-submitted accordingly. 2. Copy of the proceedings of Gram Sabha meeting is not submitted alongwith FRA Certificate, which may be submitted now. 3. Revised and properly worded Site Suitability Certificate for the area proposed for CA, duly signed by DFO, may be submitted. 4. NPV calculation is done for the open forests of Eco-class-I. Considering the type of forests available in the area, it is unlikely to be of Eco-class-I. Hence, NPV calculations and Eco-class may be reviewed and resubmitted.

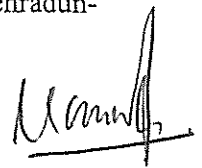
<p>17</p>	<p>Diversion of 21.0557 ha of forest land for construction of Chanju-II HEP (19.8 MW) in favour of M/s Cosmos Hydro Power Pvt. Ltd within jurisdiction of Chamba Forest Division, District Chamba, H.P.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 21.0557 ha of forest land for construction of Chanju-II HEP (19.8 MW) before the members of REC. The committee noticed that the no. of trees proposed for felling is 291 only. It was also noticed that 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.</p> <p>The committee observed that the proposal also involves construction of 5.05 km. long 132 KV T/L in the forest land with the proposed RoW of 27 mtr. Further, it was also seen from the letter No. Ft. 48-2810/2014 (FCA) dated 25.04.2015 of the Nodal Officer-cum-Addl.PCCF (FCA) that the User Agency has been exempted from submission of CAT Plan by the State Govt. on the ground that the comprehensive CAT Plan for Ravi Basin approved by the State Govt. encompasses the catchment area of Chanju-II HEP also. In addition, it is also mentioned that the catchment area of Chanju-II falls within the catchment area of another downstream project Chanju-I for which the CAT Plan has already been approved by the State Govt. Hence, the State Govt. is of the opinion that in view of comprehensive CAT Plan of Ravi Basin & CAT Plan for downstream project (Chanju-I), separate CAT Plan for this project may not be required. It was, however, observed by REC that as per guidelines on the subject, HEP Projects of more than 10 MW are required to be accompanied by a CAT Plan. Accordingly, REC was of the view that the State Govt. may have to submit the copies of approved CAT Plans mentioned above alongwith the documents supporting the fact that the catchment area of Chanju-II HEP is included in the aforesaid CAT Plans and details of treatment measures prescribed in the said CAT Plans for the catchment area of Chanju-II.</p> <p>After detail discussion on various aspects of the proposal, REC decided to recommend approval for diversion of 21.0557 ha of forest land subject to submission of following documents by the State Govt.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Copies of comprehensive CAT Plan of Ravi Basin and CAT Plan of Chanju-I HEP alongwith details of the treatments
-----------	--	--

		<p>measures which will cover the catchment area of Chanju-II HEP. details of Implementing Agencies and the time limits within which these activities will be undertaken/completed. A geo-referenced map of the catchment area of Chanju-II may also be submitted delineating the area to be treated under Comprehensive CAT Plan of Ravi Basin and CAT Plan of Chanju-I HEP separately alongwith a certificate from the State Govt. that entire catchment area of the Chanju-II is covered in these two CAT Plans.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Geo-referenced digital map for the forest land proposed for diversion showing the geo-coordinates of all the project components & the area proposed for CA. Geo-coordinates at minimum four points may be shown for each component or CA area exceeding one ha. 3. Although, the C/B analysis is submitted but it is not strictly as per formats given in Annexure VI (b) & VI (c) of Handbook. Moreover, some of the parameters have not been quantified and expressed in monetary terms. C/B analysis may be reviewed & resubmitted by the State Govt. accordingly.
18.	<p>Diversion of 0.9034 ha of additional forest land (now 3.6816 ha instead of 3.1590 ha) for construction of 12 MW Upper Nanti HEP in favour of M/s Nanti Hydro Electric Pvt. Ltd., within the jurisdiction of Rampur Forest division, Distt Shimla, H.P.</p>	<p>The Member Secretary presented all the facts about the proposal seeking diversion of 0.9034 ha of forest land for construction of 12 MW Upper Nanti HEP before the members of REC. The committee noticed that the no. of trees proposed for felling is 18 only. It was also noticed that 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.</p> <p>The committee also observed that 3.1590 ha of forest land was diverted for the project in the past. The State Govt/ UA has informed that due to geological constraints at the site, it has been found that the area previously selected for the construction of some of the project components was not found suitable for execution of the construction activities. Therefore, it is proposed to surrender 0.3808</p>

		<p>ha diverted forest land and acquire additional forest land of 0.9034 ha for the project components like tunnel, forebay, dumping yard, penstock, power house, switch yard, tail race, approach road and bridge.</p> <p>After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided to recommend the proposal to be submitted to the MoEF & CC for approval subject to submission of following documents:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geo-referenced digital map for the forest land proposed for diversion showing the geo-coordinates of all the project components & the area proposed for CA. 2. FRA certificate with all the annexures.
19	<p>Diversion of 4.8075 ha of forest land for construction of Parai Small Hydro Electric Project (5MW) in favour of M/s Ranital Hydro Ventures Pvt. Ltd., V&P.O. Ranital, Tehsil Palampur Distt. Kangra, within the jurisdiction of Palampur Forest Division, Distt. Kangra, H.P.</p>	<p>Member Secretary informed the REC members that initially the proposal was proposed to be discussed in this REC meeting but the same was removed from the list subsequently due to non-receipt of reply to the observation made vide Regional Office letter dated 16.07.2015 from the State Govt. Through revised list of proposals was communicated to the State Govt. The representative of the User Agency informed that they have been informed by the State Govt. as per previous list of proposals and have not received the revised list of proposals, hence, requested REC members to discuss their proposal also.</p> <p>During discussion on the proposal, REC reviewed and agreed to 14 point query made by the Regional Office on the proposal from the State Govt. vide Regional Office letter dated 16.07.2015 and decided that the proposal be placed in the next REC meeting after the reply of the Region Office letter dated 16.07.2015 is received from the State Govt.</p>
20.	<p>Diversion of 1.4170 ha of forest land for construction of 3.5MW Manuni HEP in favour of M/s Winsome Textile Industries Ltd., within the jurisdiction of Dharamshala Forest Division, Distt. Kangra, H.P.</p>	<p>Member Secretary informed the REC members that initially the proposal was proposed to be discussed in this REC meeting but the same was removed from the list subsequently due to non-receipt of reply of the Regional Office letter dated 16.07.2015 from the State Govt. Though the matter was communicated to the State Govt. by sending the revised list of proposals proposed to be discussed in the REC meeting, the representative of the User Agency informed that they have been informed by the State Govt. as per previous list of proposals and have not received the revised list of</p>

		<p>proposal hence. requested REC members to discuss their proposal also.</p> <p>After discussion on the proposal, REC decided that the State Govt. be asked to submit the following essential documents and thereafter, the proposal be placed in the next REC meeting:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Component-wise and khasra wise details of land approved earlier, detail of land to be retained/surrendered and additional requirement of land proposed in the instant proposal, because the relevant details given in the proposal are not clear. 2. It is seen from the documents submitted by the State Govt. that the User Agency has violated the provision of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 in the year 2010 & the case has been settled by imposing the penalty of Rs. 20,18,550/- for illicit felling/encroachment/illegal mining etc. and the work is stopped on the spot. However, it is also mentioned in certain other documents that there is violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the instant case. State Govt. may clarify as to which Act has actually been violated in the proposal in question. 3. Geo-referenced digital map of the forest land proposed for diversion & the forest land proposed for CA showing geo-coordinates of the project components duly authenticated by the competent authority in the State Govt. in both hard & soft copy. Geo-coordinates may be shown at minimum four points in case area of any component/CA is more than 1 ha.
--	--	--

This issues with the approval of Addl.PCCF, Regional Office (North Central) Dehradun-
Cum-Chairman REC.

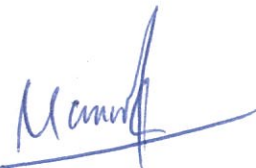


(M.S. Negi)

Member Secretary

Copy for information & confirmation to:

1. Dr. G.S. Rawat, IFS (Retd.), 102/2, Vasant Vihar, Dehradun-248006.
2. Shri Praveen Thaplyal, IFS (Retd.), Shivkripa, Sangam Vihar Chouras, P.O. Kikileshwar, Distt. Tehri -249161, Uttarakhand
3. Dr. S.P. Singh, 09, Waldorf Compound, Mallital, Nainital-263001, Uttarakhand.
4. The Addl.PCCF & Nodal Officer, Forest Conservation, Uttarakhand, Indira Nagar, Forest Colony, Dehradun for information. He is requested to communicate the decisions taken in REC meeting to respective User Agencies/Field Officers of the Forest Department at his own level and forward necessary documents, where required, so that further action is taken by this office accordingly. No separate letters conveying individual case wise decision will be issued by this office.
5. The Nodal Officer-cum-Addl.PCCF (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Talland, Shimla, H.P. for information. He is requested to communicate the decisions taken in REC meeting to respective User Agencies/Field Officers of the Forest Department at his own level and forward necessary documents, where required, so that further action is taken by this office accordingly. No separate letters conveying individual case wise decision will be issued by this office.



(M.S. Negi)

Member Secretary