

F.No.10-24/2014-IA-III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(IA.III Section)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 3

Date: 11th October, 2017

To,

The Chairman,
M/s Maheshwar Gram Vikas Committee,
Gram Panchayat Mebar,
VPO-Ralli, Tehsil-Kalpa,
District Kinnaur-172107 (Himachal Pradesh)

Email: maheshwargvcmebar@gmail.com

Subject: Two way Passenger Ropeway from Shunarang at village Ralli to Badodhar at village Mebar, District - Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh by M/s Maheshwar Gram Vikas Committee - Environmental Clearance – reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your online proposal No.IA/MIS/HP/23612/2014 dated 20th May, 2017 submitted to this Ministry for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) in terms of the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

2. The proposal for grant of environmental clearance to the project 'Two way Passenger Ropeway from Shunarang at village Ralli to Badodhar' at village Mebar, District - Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh promoted by M/s Maheshwar Gram Vikas Committee Mebar, was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (Infra-2) in its meeting held on 26-28 July, 2017.

3. The details of the project, as per the documents submitted by the project proponent, and also as informed during the above meeting, are under:-

- (i) The proposed project will be developed between village Ralli to Mebar for the well-being of Villagers of Gram Panchayat Mebar which have been facing hardship from past many years due to non-existence of road from village Ralli to village Mebar. The Gram Panchayat Mebar had requested the H.P.P.W.D, Govt. HP for the construction of said road. After conducting the survey, the H.P.P.W.D. refused to construct the road to village Mebar due to large number of trees standing in the proposed road. The Gram Panchayat Mebar then decided to construct two-way Passenger Ropeway, so that the inhabitants of the both villages having house and land holding at both places; including the deity temple doesn't have to face hard ship. Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation will provide financial help under their CSR activity.
- (ii) The proposed ropeway will be constructed at Shunarang at Ralli village to Badodhar at Mebar village, Dist. Kinnaur (H.P.). The alignment will be 1339 metres in length with an elevation difference of 480 metres, covering an area of 7133 sqm (including Terminal Stations & ropeway corridor).



- (iii) The elevation of LTP is 2306 m & UTP is 2786 m above MSL. The alignment falls within a Forest land for development of terminal stations & line towers. About 0.7331 area of forest land will be required. The NOC has been obtained for the same. There will be no cutting/removal of the trees.
- (iv) The project being an Aerial Ropeway falls under the item 7 (g) of the EIA notification, 2006 and is a designated Project as per Schedule and falls under category A, as the altitude of site is above 1000 m.
- (v) The ropeway alignment passes through large valley where distance between cabin and ground below is more than the permissible limit allowed in mono cable ropeway. Therefore, Bicable ropeway is felt necessary. Based on this, it is recommended the use of Big Cable Zig back system.
- (vi) The important characteristic of the Bi-Cable Ropeway system is the use of two static track ropes (or carrying rope), on which two cabins are running To&Fro. The cabins are suspended from one carriage by means of a hanger, and are attached to the moving hauling rope. The hauling rope's drive and return sheaves are in horizontal plane between track ropes. Hauling rope is attached to the cabin hanger. One carriage has 4 rollers (4 Nos wheel's support on track rope) and one-track rope brake. These brakes are operating automatically if hauling rope falls or, if required, can be operated by cabin person in emergency.
- (vii) Proper arrangement of water supply and sewage disposal will be made at site. DG set of 1 x 25 KVA will be proposed at LTP and 1 x 5 KVA at UTP for backup power supply. These D.G. Sets will be provided with proper stack height as per the CPCB norms & will be bought acoustically enclosed.
- (viii) The total water requirement has been estimated as 6 KLD as per detailed below and the source will be I&PH department. Water shall be used mainly for flushing, drinking, hand washing & horticulture purposes. Total quantity of waste water generation has been estimated to be 4 KLD. The waste water generated will be discharged to septic tank followed by soak pit.
- (ix) Total 23 Kg/day of waste will be generated due to the proposed development. The Organic Waste will be treated through Vermi composting and converted into compost & the Recyclable Waste Collected and given to approved recycler
- (x) There will be no displacement or immigration of the human population due to the proposed project. Risk assessment shall be done and proper safety and security measures shall be undertaken. Proper prevention and timely maintenance of ropes, machines etc will be scheduled to prevent any accident. Maintenance team will be trained to handle any type of contingency in time of emergency. All safety guidelines shall be adhered to and followed during construction and operation phases. First aid facilities will be provided at site.
- (xi) **ESZ:-**There is no eco-sensitive zone is 10 km radius of the project.
- (xii) **Parking facility:** 20 Cars and 5 Bus
- (xiii) Total cost of the ropeway project is Rs. 317.74 lakhs.
- (xiv) **ToR Details:** Granted by the Ministry vide letter No. 10-24/2014-IA-III dated 28.01.2016.

- (xv) **Forest land:** Total of 0.7133 hectares of forest land needs to be diverted for construction of ropeway. Out of 0.7133 hectares, 0.0805 hectares (respect to local use plan) will be diverted for construction of two terminals and middle trestle (permanent) and 0.6328 hectares of forest land will be kept for ropeway corridor length (Temporary). Forest clearance has been obtained from DFO, Kinnaur Forest Division, Reckong Peo vide letter no. 2010-5514, Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh dated 26 October, 2016.
- (xvi) **Public Hearing:** Public Hearing was conducted on 29.03.2017 at project site.
- (xvii) **Benefits of the project:** Distance between Ralli-Mebar is about 7 km on foot and it takes almost 2 hours to cover this upward distance so it will facilitate the villagers of Ralli and Maber villages in their daily movement. It will provide the employment to the local people during construction as well as operation. To facilitate them from transportation as well as protect the forest and environment the passenger rope way is the best solution. Less tree cutting compare to Road construction. Villagers get rid of from unwanted trek on steep slope, slippery ways even than feel safe to these small landslides which were creates the problems from long time.
- (xviii) **Employment potential:** Maximum of 55-60 numbers of laborers will be deployed during peak construction phase. Ropeway will have carrying capacity of 40 persons per hour. Operation of 9 hrs of ropeway is envisaged. Population of 150 persons/day will use the ropeway. Staff for operation & maintenance to be deployed at project will be about 4 persons.

4. The EAC, in its meeting held on 26-28 July, 2017, after detailed deliberations on the proposal, has recommended for grant of Environmental Clearance to the project. As per recommendations of the EAC, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords Environmental Clearance to the project of Two way Passenger Ropeway from Shunarang at village Ralli to Badodhar at village Mebar, District - Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh promoted by M/s Maheshwar Gram Vikas Committee Mebar, under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 and amendments/circulars issued thereon, and subject to the specific conditions along with other environmental conditions and general conditions as under:-

PART A – SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:

- (i) The project should conform to the norms prescribed by the Director General Mine safety. Necessary clearances in this regard shall be obtained.
- (ii) All the conditions stipulated by DFO, Kinnaur Forest Division, Reckong Peo vide letter no. 2010-5514, Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh dated 26 October, 2016 shall be complied with.
- (iii) The project proponents would consider taking up the beautification and rejuvenation of nearby ponds as part of their CSR responsibilities, in consultation with the local administration.
- (iv) Energy conservation measures as suggested in the “Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment”, GRIHA, shall be followed while constructing associated buildings.
- (v) The gaseous emissions from DG set shall be dispersed through adequate stack height as per CPCB standards. Acoustic enclosure shall be provided to

the DG sets to mitigate the noise pollution. Diesel generating sets shall be installed, in the downwind directions.

- (vi) Solar energy shall be used in the project i.e. at upper terminal and lower terminal to reduce the carbon footprint.
- (vii) Adequate infrastructure, including power, shall be provided for emergency situations and disaster management.
- (viii) Total fresh water requirement from I&PH will be 6 KLD. No ground water shall be extracted.
- (ix) As proposed, wastewater shall be discharged into authorized municipal sewerage system. In any case, no wastewater shall be discharged in open.
- (x) Adequate parking shall be constructed at upper terminal and lower terminal. PP shall ensure smooth traffic management and minimum waiting time.
- (xi) Separate dedicated baggage trolleys shall be provided and passenger trolleys should not be allowed to carry heavy baggage (beyond hand baggage as defined for air travel).
- (xii) Storm water from the project area shall be passed through setting chamber.
- (xiii) Adequate first aid facility shall be provided during construction and operation phase of the project.
- (xiv) Regular safety inspection shall be carried out of the ropeway project and a copy of safety inspection report should be submitted to the Regional Office, Dehradun.
- (xv) An onsite disaster management plan shall be drawn up to account for risks and accidents. This onsite plan shall be dovetailed with the onsite management plan for the district.

PART B - GENERAL CONDITIONS

- (i) The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB), State Government and any other statutory authority.
- (ii) No further expansion or modification in the project shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. In case of deviations or alterations in the project proposal from those submitted to this Ministry for clearance, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry to assess the adequacy of conditions imposed and to add additional environmental protection measures required, if any.
- (iii) The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation. The ambient noise levels shall conform to the standards prescribed under EPA Rules, 1989 viz. 75 dBA (daytime) and 70 dBA (nighttime).
- (iv) A separate Environmental Management Cell equipped with full fledged laboratory facilities must be set up to carry out the environmental management and monitoring functions.

- (v) Adequate funds shall be earmarked towards capital cost and recurring cost/annum for environment pollution control measures and shall be used to implement the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests as well as the State Government along with the implementation schedule for all the conditions stipulated herein. The funds so provided shall not be diverted for any other purposes.
- (vi) The Regional Office of this Ministry/Central Pollution Control Board/State Pollution Control Board will monitor the stipulated conditions. A six monthly compliance report and the monitored data along with statistical interpretation shall be submitted to them regularly.
- (vii) A copy of clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, ZilaParishad / Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions / representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the web site of the company by the proponent.
- (viii) The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as bye-mail) to the Regional Office of MOEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB. The Regional Office of this Ministry / CPCB / SPCB shall monitor the stipulated conditions.
- (ix) The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-Vas is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Offices of the MOEF&CC by e-mail.
- (x) The Project Proponent shall inform the public that the project has been accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry and copies of the clearance letter are available with the SPCB and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry of MOEF&CC at <http://envfor.nic.in>. This shall be advertised within seven days from the date of issue of the clearance letter, at least in two local newspapers that are widely circulated in the region of which one shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the Regional office.
- (xi) Project authorities shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of commencing the land development work.

5. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.

6. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.

7. Any appeal against this Clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

8. The above conditions will be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules, 2008 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules.

9. These issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Kushal Vashist)
Director

Copy to:

- 1) The Commissioner and Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh Secretariat, Shimla-171002.
- 2) The APCCF (C), MoEF&CC, Regional Office (NCZ), 25, Subhash Road, Dehradun - 248001.
- 3) The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi - 110032.
- 4) The Chairman, Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhavan, Phase-III, New Shimla - 171009.
- 5) Monitoring Cell, MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 6) Guard File/ Record File/ Notice Board/MoEFCC website.



(Kushal Vashist)
Director