



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN (STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD)/
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY)
FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
DEORALI, FOREST SECRETARIAT**

Ref. No: 873/FEWMD

Date: 4/11/2008

To,

The Secretary,
Tourism Department,
Government of Sikkim.

Sub: Passenger Ropeway system at Namchi, South Sikkim-EC reg-

Sir,

This has reference to your letter no. 155(145) B/EC/TD/2003/Part V/1064 dated 18/08/2008 and subsequent meeting with Officers of your organization.

The above referred proposal was examined by the SEAC (State Level Expert Appraisal Committee) with reference to the project proposal and other documents presented by the Tourism Department, Government of Sikkim

The passenger Ropeway system between PWD Bungalow and Rock Garden to Samduptse having a capacity of 250 persons per hour (PPH) with a extended length of 2095 meters is prepared and designed by M/S RITES Ltd.(a Government of India Enterprise) Ropeway and Industrial Engineering Division, RITES Bhawan Plot No. 1 sector-29,Gurgaon-122001 Haryana, India. The members of the SEAC (State Level Expert Appraisal Committee) have examined the possible environmental hazard in terms of soil erosion, landslide, pollution and overall safety measures taken by the project proponent.

The DPR (updated) for a Passenger Ropeway System submitted by the Tourism Department has been examined in depth. The Committee for EC of Sikkim State hereby accords Environmental Clearance as per the information and DPR and provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification No. S.O. 1533 (E) dated 14/September/2006 based on collective decisions of State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) with the following conditions:

- To develop proper and long term mechanism to dispose off the solid waste generated.
- To ensure that the structure involved in the project is safe and technically sound.
- To ensure that tourists do not have thorough-fare in the forest areas.
- To ensure that the construction materials like stones, sand etc be extracted only from approved quarries.
- To ensure that no quarry comes up in the proposed project area.
- To ensure that concerned Tourism Department should generate some mechanism to dispose off the garbage out of the funds generated.
- Monitoring committee to be set up by the Tourism department in consultation with PCCF-cum-Secretary to see that all conditions necessary for Environmental safeguard are met.
- Controlled blasting with very low charge and mild explosives should be used under strict supervision. The quantity of explosives per day to be used should be informed in one month from the date of EC.
- All the labourers to be engaged for construction works should be thoroughly examined by health personnel and adequately treated before issuing them work permit.
- Financial provision should be made in the total budget of the project for implementation of suggestion and safeguards measures.
- Six monthly monitoring reports should be submitted to the Department of Forests, Env. & W/L Management for further review.

- The responsibility of implementation of Environmental safeguards rest fully in the Tourism Department, Government of Sikkim.
- In case of change in the scope of the project, it would require a fresh appraisal.
- The Department of Forests, Env. & W/L Management reserves right to add additional safeguards measures subsequently, if found necessary and to take action including revoking of the clearance under the provision of the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, to ensure effective implementation of the suggested safeguards measures in a time bound and satisfactory manner.
- This clearance letter is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of the letter for commencement of constructions work.
- A copy of the clearance letter will be marked to concern panchayat, local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/ representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- A copy of the clearance letter should be displayed at District Collectorate / nearby Panchayat Houses for a period of 30 days.
- The project proponent should advertise at least in 2 local newspapers widely circulated in the region around the project, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned informing that the project has been accorded Environmental Clearance letter are available with the Forests, Env. & Wildlife Management Department and ENVIS website www.sikenvis.nic.in.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(C.Lachungpa)IFS,
Member Secretary/Secretary,
SEIAA/SEAC

Memo. No.....

Date.....

Copy to:

1. P.S. to Honorable Minister Forest, Government of Sikkim.
2. Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim
3. Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Land Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Sikkim
4. Addl. Director, EL-Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi-110003.
5. Chief Conservator of Forests, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office Shillong, Meghalaya.
6. Addl. Chief Secretary-cum-Secretary, Finance, Revenue & Expenditure Department, Government of Sikkim.
7. Principal Secretary, PIME, DONER NECA ESS Development Planning, Economic Reforms and North East Council Affairs, Department, Government of Sikkim.
8. District Collector, South District
9. Divisional Forest Officer(T) South
10. Divisional Forest Officer(LU&E) South
11. J.S. Forests, Environment & Wildlife Management Department, Government of Sikkim
12. Guard file.

(C.Lachungpa)IFS,
Member Secretary/Secretary,
SEIAA/SEAC
Government of Sikkim.