

Final Report of Social Impact Assessment Construction of New Connecting Road to Himachal Pradesh from Km. 00 to 0/650 (for Inter-State Connectivity under State Head MNP) from Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) to connect the bridge over Yamuna River at Navghat Bhimawala, Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand), village Bhagani, District Simraur project by Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department

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**SUBMITTED BY**



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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HP PWD), a department of the state government of Himachal Pradesh, India, deals with the development of public works, such as roads, bridges, buildings and other infrastructure. Its main function is to promote and manage the development of these infrastructures in the state. Many schemes are being run to enhance their skills and promote unity in the country. In this context, the Himachal Pradesh government is establishing new Connecting roads to improve the roads in Sirmaur district.

In this direction, the Public Works Department has ensured the acquisition of land for the new "Connecting road" in Tehsil Paonta Sahib, Village Bhagani. The report has been prepared in accordance with the "Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013" (Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Volume-I, 27th September 2013) and the Himachal Pradesh Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2015. It has been mandated by the Government of India to carry out social impact assessment study of the affected land owners before acquisition. Accordingly, on the request of Dr. Manmohan Singh, Himachal Pradesh Institute of Public Administration, the social impact assessment study of Tehsil Paonta Sahib, village Bhagani was completed by CIBART & AGRIMAA Institute.

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## List of Abbreviation

CPRs-	Common Property Resources
HPRTFCTLARR Rules, 2015-	Himachal Pradesh Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2015
HPPWD-	Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department
PAF-	Project Affected Family
PAP-	Project Affected Person
MDR-	Major District Road
OSD-	Officer on Special duty
JE-	Junior Engineer
SDM-	Sub Division Magistrate
XEN-	Executive Engineer
NGO-	Non-Government Organisation
RTFCTLARR Act, 2013-	Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resettlement Act, 2013
R&R-	Rehabilitation & Resettlement
SIA-	Social Impact Assessment
SIMP-	Social Impact Management Plan
AMSL-	Above Means Sea Level
MNP-	Minimum Need Program

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# Executive Summary

## Chapter 1: Description of The Project and Legal Framework

The proposed project, the Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HPPWD) is developing a new *Connecting Road from Km. 00 to 0/650* to improve inter-state connectivity between Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The **proposed road begins from Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) and connects to the bridge over the Yamuna River at Navghat Bhimawala in Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand), passing through village Bhagani in District Sirmaur.** This infrastructure aims to boost regional accessibility, economic activity, and public service delivery across 20 surrounding panchayats (**approx. 41 Villages**).

The project involves the acquisition of private land. In compliance with the RFCTLARR Act, 2013, and the HP RFCTLARR Rules, 2015, a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) was mandated before land acquisition. The assignment was given by SIAU MSHIP to CIBART & AGRIMAA Institute, Delhi, which completed this report in consultation with stakeholders and through field-level data collection.

## Chapter 2: Team Composition, Approach, Methodology, and Schedule of the Social Impact Assessment

A multidisciplinary team comprising social scientists, field surveyors, and subject experts conducted the study. Primary data was collected through direct engagement with affected households and local stakeholders, offering contextual understanding of the potential impacts. The **household survey** was conducted systematically on **27<sup>th</sup> June, 2025**, covering the notified area identified by the requiring department. A **public hearing** was successfully conducted on **6<sup>th</sup> August, 2025**, in accordance with the official notification, ensuring transparency and community engagement in the decision-making process. The event was held at the Gram Panchayat office, Bhagani Village, Paonta Sahib Tehsil, Simraur District, Himachal Pradesh, and was chaired by **Mr. Gunjeet Singh Cheema, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Paonta Sahib.** To ensure broad public awareness, prior notice was disseminated through local newspapers and informational posters displayed at prominent locations throughout the town.

The SIA aimed to assess the scale and scope of social impacts, determine the impact on affected persons, and design a mitigation strategy via the Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP).

The study followed a structured methodology including:

- Secondary research from official reports and census data.
- Primary surveys using pre-tested structured questionnaires.
- Field visits, stakeholder consultations, and public hearings.
- Data validation and ground verification to ensure accuracy.

## Chapter 3: Land Assessment

The project falls under Gram Panchayat **Bhagani**, which spans an area of **9.73 square kilometers**, covering approximately **1,034 households** and reflected a **less dense population** engaged in both **residential and commercial activities**, indicating the village's increasing vitality.

Out of the land identified for acquisition, **11-07-00 bigha** is privately owned. **11 household (58 affected persons)** are directly affected who may face disruption to livelihood. The land includes **Common Property Resources (CPRs)** (e.g., **Five electric poles, a wire boundary wall**, and a few **standing trees**), and is currently used for agricultural purposes.

The land is not under any state-distributed scheme, and the broader community was already aware of the project due to visible construction.

The land is owned by **Mr. Joginder Singh**, who resides on an adjoining plot near the planned site of the **new connecting road project**. His primary sources of livelihood include **self-employment and agricultural activities**. As such, the acquisition may not lead to **physical displacement** and could not adversely impact his **residential security and economic stability**, however, the ongoing court case related to the land may delay the acquisition process.

#### **Chapter 4: Estimation and Enumeration of Affected Families and Assets**

The forum provided an opportunity for open dialogue between government authorities and community stakeholders, allowing the exchange of views, suggestions, and feedback on the proposed project.

Focus group discussions and field-level interactions revealed mixed responses—appreciation for infrastructure development but concerns over displacement, compensation, and livelihood impacts.

#### **Chapter 5: Socio Economic and Cultural Profile**

Demographic profile of the project affected persons in project area showed that the majority are farmers and pensioners, followed by private job holders, and govt job holders. In terms of education levels affected people vary from illiterate to graduate, However, many having attained at least a high school level education. the income distribution data reveals a varied economic landscape, with individuals spread across different income brackets. About 60 per cent (Total 5) of the affected landowners have income between Rs 10,001 to Rs 25,000 and 10 per cent (Total 1) have income above Rs 0.5 lakh per month. During the survey, it was observed that 100.00 per cent of the affected landowners had drinking water, electricity, APL ration cards and pucca house along with kitchen, toilet, and irrigation facility.

## Chapter 6: Social Impact Assessment

### The SIA identified the following:

- Direct Impact: 11 household (58 affected persons) faces potential livelihood disruption.
- Indirect Impact: On livelihoods due to the presence of CPRs and shared use of the land.
- Environmental concerns: Dust, noise, and stormwater runoff during construction.

Positive impacts include employment generation, promotion of physical health, and economic upliftment via increased business and tourism activity.

Stakeholder consultations were held to ensure community input. A **public hearing** took place on **6<sup>th</sup> August 2025** under the SDM of Paonta Sahib. While local community members, Panchayat officials, and government departments along with the directly and indirectly affected family participated. The overall sentiment was positive — residents appreciated the potential benefits but also expressed concerns over displacement and compensation.

During the survey also, 90.90% people said that they have no objection over the proposed acquisition, 9.1% on the other hand expressed their non-willingness to the proposed acquisition of the land. They all are aware about the SIA process. They are demanding to resolve court case (i.e. Mr. Joginder Singh filed one court case against H.P.P.W.D for not receiving and provide market value of their land.

Discussions with stakeholders, including senior citizens, and local workers, revealed concerns regarding land ownership, fear of loss of livelihood, and expectations for fair compensation and resettlement.

## Chapter 7: Analysis of Costs and Benefits Recommendations on Acquisition

The New **Connecting Road Project** at **Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur** has been assessed in terms of its costs and benefits, with particular reference to land acquisition and its wider social impacts. The project will provide direct connectivity between Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand by linking Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) with the Yamuna River bridge at Navghat Bhimawala, Vikasnagar. This new link will significantly reduce travel distances to Vikasnagar (from 20 km to 3 km) and Dehradun (from 85 km to 30 km), thereby promoting trade, tourism, and public access to essential services. The assessment confirms that the project serves a **clear public purpose**, with long-term socio-economic benefits expected to outweigh the limited adverse impacts.

The acquisition involves **11-07-00 bigha of private agricultural land**, representing the minimum required for the alignment and ensuring efficient land use with limited displacement. Permanent impacts include loss of agricultural land and associated livelihoods for some households, while temporary impacts during construction may involve dust, noise, and disruption of daily activities. Mitigation measures, including fair compensation, income restoration, and environmental safeguards such as drainage management and dust suppression, are recommended in accordance with the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015.

In conclusion, the analysis demonstrates that the **benefits of the project—enhanced connectivity, reduced travel time, livelihood opportunities, and regional integration—far outweigh the social costs** of land acquisition. With fair and transparent compensation, effective mitigation strategies, and active community

engagement, the project is both justified and essential for sustainable and inclusive development in the region.

## Chapter 8: Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP)

### The SIMP proposes:

- **Avoidance Measures:** Limit acquisition to only essential land area (**11-07-00 bigha**).
- **Mitigation:** Pollution control, traffic signage, stormwater management, and safe material handling.
- **Compensation:** Fair and timely compensation as per the RFCTLARR Act, with relocation support and restoration of livelihoods.
- **Monitoring:** Appointment of an independent agency for compliance tracking and regular social audits.

Most locals are aware of the project due to ongoing construction. While some expressed concerns, many acknowledged the long-term benefits of the complex. During the survey, 90.90% people said that they have no objection over the proposed acquisition, 9.1% on the other hand expressed their non-willingness to the proposed acquisition of the land. They are demanding to resolve court cases and provide market value of their land.

### Recommendations

Based on the comprehensive analysis of field data, stakeholder consultations, and discussions with affected landowners and community representatives, the following recommendations are proposed to support responsible implementation of the new **Connecting Road Project at Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur**:

#### 1. Public Purpose Justification

The project serves a significant public purpose by enhancing **connectivity, reduced travel time, livelihood opportunities, and regional integration—far outweigh the social costs** of land acquisition. Its long-term socio-economic benefits justify its implementation, provided that due safeguards are ensured for affected parties.

#### 2. Assessment and Compensation for Affected Assets

Physical assets located on the land proposed for acquisition—including trees, and boundary walls—should be assessed by a competent government authority. Fair and timely compensation must be provided in accordance with statutory norms and technical valuation guidelines.

3. **Protection of Community and Government Assets**

Any community-owned, social, or government infrastructure that is partially or fully impacted must be formally recorded, assessed, and compensated. Relocation or restoration should be completed before the commencement of construction activities such as shifting of electric poles.

4. **Livelihood Restoration**

The study reveals a potential adverse impact on the livelihood and socio-economic stability of some affected landowners, particularly those dependent on agriculture and self-employment. It is recommended that livelihood restoration and rehabilitation measures, including income support or skill development, be integrated into the project's implementation strategy.

5. **Compliance with Legal Framework**

All compensation, rehabilitation, and resettlement measures must be undertaken in full compliance with the provisions of the **Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013**, the **HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015**, and the **Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP)** developed as part of this assessment.

6. **Maximizing Community Benefits**

The project is expected to create both short-term employment during the construction phase and long-term benefits through improved infrastructure and road connectivity facilities. Opportunities for local engagement, such as employment and service provision, should be prioritized to enhance inclusivity and local ownership.

7. **Focus on Road Development**

Given the core objective of the project is to enhanced accessibility to **Vikasnagar** for over **20 surrounding panchayats (approx. 41 Villages)** and reduces the distance to Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand) from 20 km to 3 km and Dehradun from 85 km to 30 km.

This project is expected to stimulate the local economy by creating employment opportunities, supporting mobility for residents, farmers, and traders, leading to improved access to education, healthcare, and markets, and offering a platform for Integration of rural areas into the state's main economic corridors, leading to balanced regional development. Social upliftment through better connectivity, encouraging skill development, local vendors and service providers, and reduced isolation of rural communities.

8. **Transparent Land Acquisition Process**

The land acquisition process must be carried out in a transparent, consultative, and participatory manner. Continuous dialogue with landowners, dissemination of information, and grievance redress mechanisms will be essential to building trust and ensuring smooth execution.

The new **Connecting Road Project** at **Village Bhagani**, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur has been assessed in terms of its costs and benefits. The project will provide direct connectivity between Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand by linking Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) with the Yamuna River bridge at Navghat Bhimawala, Vikasnagar. **This new link will significantly reduce travel distances** to Vikasnagar (from 20 km to 3 km) and Dehradun (from 85 km to 30 km), thereby **promoting trade, tourism, and public access to essential services**. Thus, the assessment confirms that the project serves a clear public purpose, with long-term socio-economic benefits expected to outweigh the limited adverse impacts.

# Chapter-1

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

### 1.1 Project Background

The **Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HP PWD)** has proposed the acquisition of land at **Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur**, for the construction of an **Inter-State new Connecting Road from Km. 0.00 to 0/650** under the *State Head MNP* scheme. The road will connect **Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94)** to the bridge over the Yamuna River at **Navghat Bhimawala**, located in **Vikasnagar, Uttarakhand**.

The proposed land parcel, measuring approximately **11-07-00 bigha** of primarily agricultural land, covers multiple khasra numbers as identified in the project documentation. This initiative aligns with the state's strategic objective of improving **transport connectivity, regional economic integration, health, education, and access to markets**, thereby fostering social and economic development in border areas.

Currently, residents of over **20 surrounding panchayats (approx. 41 Villages)** face long travel distances to reach **Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand)**—about 20 km—which will be reduced to just 3 km upon project completion. Similarly, the distance to **Dehradun** will decrease from 85 km to approximately 30 km. The project will also improve access to the **Yamunotri pilgrimage route** and **National Highway No. 709**, benefitting tourism and trade.

The new connecting road is expected to generate significant socio-economic benefits, including reduced travel time, fuel savings, enhanced inter-state trade, improved market access for agricultural produce, and increased tourism potential. It will also strengthen linkages to healthcare, education, and public services for the rural population.

The **Social Impact Assessment (SIA)** is being undertaken in accordance with the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013* and the *HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015*, to ensure transparent, equitable, and participatory land acquisition while safeguarding the interests of affected landowners and communities.

#### 1.1.1 Paonta Sahib - an Overview

**Paonta Sahib** is a prominent town located in **Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh**, situated on the banks of the **Yamuna River** from approx. 389 m amsl, which forms the natural boundary between Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The town holds significant **historical, cultural, and religious importance** and serves as an important administrative, commercial, and educational hub in the region.

Historically, Paonta Sahib is closely associated with **Guru Gobind Singh Ji**, the tenth Sikh Guru, who founded the town and stayed here for about four and a half years. During his stay, he composed several religious texts and established the **Paonta Sahib Gurudwara**, which today is one of the most revered Sikh pilgrimage sites. The local museum preserves many personal artifacts and historical items linked to Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

### 1.1.2 Interstate/International Aspects

The proposed new **Connecting Road from Km. 0.00 to 0/650 at Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur**, holds significant **interstate importance** as it will directly link **Himachal Pradesh** with **Uttarakhand** via the bridge over the Yamuna River at **Navghat Bhimawala, Vikasnagar**. This strategic road will shorten the travel distance to Vikasnagar from 20 km to just 3 km and to Dehradun from 85 km to 30 km, creating faster, more reliable access for people and goods.

The project is expected to:

- **Strengthen Interstate Connectivity:** Facilitate smoother movement of agricultural produce, manufactured goods, and services between Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
- **Promote Cross-Border Trade:** Benefit farmers, traders, and small industries in over 20 surrounding panchayats (**approx. 41 Villages**) by improving access to markets in Uttarakhand.
- **Support Religious Tourism:** Enhance connectivity to the **Yamunotri pilgrimage route**, attracting pilgrims and tourists from other states, thereby boosting local hospitality and allied sectors.
- **Enable Regional Economic Integration:** Act as a feeder route to **National Highway No. 709**, improving interstate logistics and reducing dependency on longer, less efficient routes.

While the project has no **direct international link**, its improved interstate connectivity can indirectly contribute to **enhanced regional trade networks** and promote cross-border tourism circuits involving Uttarakhand and neighbouring states.

### 1.1.3 Developers Background

The proposed project located at Village Bhagani of Tehsil Paonta Sahib of District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh, is a key initiative of the *Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HP PWD)*, which is the principal government agency responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, buildings, and other infrastructure in the state of Himachal Pradesh. It plays a critical role in improving public infrastructure and enabling socio-economic development across the region.

Headquartered in Shimla and led by the Engineer-in-Chief, HP PWD formulates technical standards, ensures inter-state connectivity, and oversees the planning and implementation of various infrastructure projects throughout the state. The department operates under strict regulatory frameworks, including the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013* and corresponding HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015.

In this particular project, the Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department is developing a new *Connecting Road from Km. 00 to 0/650* to improve inter-state connectivity between Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. **The proposed road begins from Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) and connects to the bridge over the Yamuna River at Navghat Bhimawala in Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand), passing through village Bhagani in District Sirmaur.** This infrastructure aims to boost regional accessibility, economic activity, and public service delivery across 20 surrounding panchayats (**approx. 41 Villages**).

The department works collaboratively with stakeholders, including landowners, Gram Panchayats, and social impact assessment teams, to ensure compliance, transparency, and sustainability in infrastructure development.

The initiative is aligned with broader state objectives of inclusive development and aligns with the provisions of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

*In line with Section 2, Sub-section 1(b) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RTFCTLARR) Act, 2013, this project qualifies as serving a public purpose by fostering infrastructure development that directly benefits the community and the region at large.*

## 1.2 Project Location and Details

The proposed project involves the acquisition of 11-07-00 bigha land of private farmers in village Bhagani for the project of Tehsil Paonta Sahib of District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh for the **construction of a new Connecting Road** for inter-state connectivity under the *State Head MNP* scheme. The road is planned from **Km 0.00 to 0/650**, linking **Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94)** in Himachal Pradesh to the **bridge over the Yamuna River at Navghat Bhimawala**, located in **Vikasnagar, Uttarakhand**. The project traverses **Village Bhagani**, situated approx. 450 m amsl in **Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh**.

The total land proposed for acquisition comprises **11-07-00 bigha** of privately-owned agricultural land in Village Bhagani. The project is initiated by the **Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HP PWD)** and is intended to serve the larger public interest by improving connectivity between the two states—Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

### Key Features of the Project:

- **Total Length:** 650 meters
- **Road Width:** 85.5 feet (one side), 55 feet (other side)
- **Total Project Cost:** ₹3.72 Crores
- **Location:** Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh
- **Connecting Points:** Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) to Navghat Bhimawala bridge (Uttarakhand)
- **Proximity Benefits:** Reduces the distance to Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand) from 20 km to 3 km and Dehradun from 85 km to 30 km

### Project Significance:

The new connecting road will serve as a strategic route facilitating:

- Enhanced accessibility to **Vikasnagar** for over **20 surrounding panchayats (approx. 41 villages)**.
- Economic development through improved transport for agricultural and market activities
- Reduced travel time and fuel costs for local residents
- Support to inter-state traffic and connectivity to **National Highway No. 709**
- Improved linkage to **Yamunotri pilgrimage route**, thus promoting religious tourism

The proposed road development is a critical public infrastructure initiative that aligns with the goals of regional development, economic integration, and social upliftment of the affected and surrounding communities.

During undertaking a Social Impact Assessment Study various components taken into consideration such as livelihood of affected families, public and community properties, assets and infrastructure particularly roads, public transport, drainage, sanitation, sources of drinking water, sources of water for cattle, community ponds, grazing land, plantation, public utilities such as post-offices, fair price shops, food storage godowns,

electricity supply, health care facilities, school and educational or training facilities, Anganwadi's, children parks, places of worship, land for traditional tribal institutions and burial and cremations grounds.

### 1.3 Utility and Output of the Project

The proposed new **Connecting Road Project** will provide ample utility and output to state, economy, people and government.

#### Utility

The proposed new **Connecting Road Project** will have wide-ranging benefits for the region:

- **Improved Inter-State Connectivity:** Direct linkage between Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand via Village Bhagani, facilitating smooth transportation of goods and people.
- **Economic Growth:** Enhances access to markets in Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand), boosting agricultural trade and business activities for over 20 surrounding panchayats (**approx. 41 Villages**).
- **Time & Cost Efficiency:** Reduces travel distance to Vikasnagar from 20 km to 3 km and to Dehradun from 85 km to 30 km, saving both time and fuel.
- **Tourism Development:** Better access to the Yamunotri route will encourage religious tourism and related local enterprises.
- **Government Revenue:** Increased commercial activity will generate additional state revenue through taxes and trade.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Acts as a catalyst for further infrastructure improvements like drainage, culverts, and roadside facilities.

#### Output

Once completed, the project is expected to deliver:

- A 650-meter-long, new connecting road built to PWD standards with widths varying between 55 ft and 85.5 ft.
- Direct road access from Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) to Navghat Bhimawala bridge over the Yamuna River.
- Enhanced mobility for residents, farmers, and traders, leading to improved access to education, healthcare, and markets.
- Integration of rural areas into the state's main economic corridors, leading to balanced regional development.
- Social upliftment through better connectivity, encouraging skill development, youth employment opportunities, and reduced isolation of rural communities.

The total cost of road construction, is estimated to be **₹ 3.72 Crores**. The funding for this project will be provided by HPPWD.

#### Identified Risks

- **Loss of Agricultural Land:** Agricultural land will be lost after acquisition.
- **Impact:** Dust, waste, and construction debris may temporarily affect the surrounding ecology.
- **Noise and Disturbance:** Construction and road activities may affect nearby residents.
- **Compensation dispute:** Farmers may agitate if they don't get proper compensation.
- **Traffic Congestion:** Increased traffic flow during events or peak training hours may cause jams on local roads

Addressing these risks proactively through strategic planning, targeted promotions, and ensuring robust infrastructure and connectivity could help mitigate their potential impact and ensure the success of the

project.

#### 1.4 Examination of Alternatives

The proposed new **Connecting Road Project** will be connected to bridge constructed over Yamuna River, with a small portion involving private land. **The inclusion of the private land is essential as it is strategically located adjacent to the government land and is integral to the overall development plan of the project.** Due to its critical positioning and the necessity to ensure seamless integration of the facilities, considering alternative locations was not feasible, and therefore, has not been pursued. This alignment ensures the optimal utilization of space and adherence to the planned design, maximizing the project's potential.

#### 1.5 Applicable Legislations and Policies

The acquisition of land for public purposes in India is governed by specific legal frameworks that emphasize transparency and community involvement. Key among these are the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RTFCTLARR) Act, 2013, and the HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015, which outline the mandatory processes for Social Impact Assessments and Community Consultations, as detailed in the following sections:

##### 1.5.1 Preparation of Social Impact Assessment Study

RTFCTLARR Act, 2013, under Section 4, stipulates that whenever the appropriate government proposes to acquire land for public purposes, it is required to consult the relevant Panchayat or ward at the village or municipal level within the affected area. This consultation is a prerequisite for conducting a SIA study, which must be carried out in collaboration with the local bodies. The process of conducting the SIA, including the methods and commencement date, is to be specified by the government through an official notification. Furthermore, Rule 3(1) of the HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015, provides additional procedural details for the implementation of the Act within the state. According to this rule, the State Government is mandated to issue a notification to commence the SIA, adhering to the guidelines set forth in Part-B of FORM-I of the Rules. This notification must be disseminated in both Hindi and English and made accessible to the concerned Panchayat, Municipality, or Municipal Corporation. Additionally, copies of the notification should be available at the offices of the District Collector, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, and Tehsil. To ensure wide awareness, the notification was published in daily newspapers and tehsil with circulation in the affected area and prominently displayed at conspicuous locations within the impacted areas and also uploaded on the State Government's official website for broader access and transparency.

These provisions are integral to ensuring that the process of land acquisition is conducted transparently and with due regard to the concerns and input of the local communities affected by such initiatives.

##### 1.5.2 Process of Land Acquisition

The process of land acquisition for public purposes is governed by a series of steps designed to ensure transparency, community involvement, and adherence to legal protocols. The following outlines the key stages in this process:

- The government initiates the land acquisition process by conducting a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) study, in consultation with the Gram Panchayat in rural areas, or with equivalent urban local bodies in urban areas.

- Following the SIA, the report is evaluated by an expert group consisting of two non-official social scientists, two rehabilitation experts, and a technical expert related to the project.
- The evaluated SIA report is then reviewed by a committee to ensure that the proposed land acquisition meets the required conditions.
- A preliminary notification indicating the government's intent to acquire the land must be issued within 12 months of the SIA report's evaluation.
- The government then conducts a survey to determine the precise extent of land required for the project.

### **1.5.3 The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RTFCTLARR Act, 2013)**

**RTFCTLARR Act, 2013** was enacted to replace the Land Acquisition Act of 1894, a law originating from the colonial period. The RTFCTLARR Act represents a significant reform aimed at addressing the critical shortcomings of the previous legislation, with the intent to modernize and enhance the effectiveness of the land acquisition process. The Act seeks to balance the interests of landowners with the needs of industrialization, real estate, and infrastructure development, while ensuring transparency throughout the acquisition process.

Key feature of the RTFCTLARR Act include:

- Mandatory rehabilitation and resettlement of individuals whose lands are acquired, alongside the provision of fair compensation.
- Provision have been described by each state while notifying rules under the provision of the Act, particularly in cases where land is acquired by the government for public purposes or Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects.
- The Act has been widely recognized as a necessary and beneficial measure to protect the rights and interests of landholders and other affected parties.

### **1.5.4 The Himachal Pradesh Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2015 (HP RTFCTLARR Rules 2015):**

**HP RTFCTLARR Rules 2015** were notified on **April 9, 2015**, and published in the Rajpatra (e-Gazette) of Himachal Pradesh, in accordance with Section 112 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Act No. 30 of 2013). These rules are applicable throughout the State of Himachal Pradesh.

The HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015, based on the central Act of 2013, establish the procedural framework for conducting Social Impact Assessments (SIA) in the state.

Key highlights of these rules include:

- (A) The conduct of SIA and Social Impact Management Plans (SIMP) in accordance with Form II and III.
- (B) The requirement to hold public hearings.
- (C) The requirement of consent from affected landowners.

These provisions ensure that land acquisition is conducted transparently, with due regard to community concerns and stakeholder participation.

## Chapter-2

### Team Composition, Approach, Methodology, and Schedule of the Social Impact Assessment

This chapter outlines the methodological approach adopted to fulfil the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part II, Volume I, 27th September, 2013), for conducting the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) of the proposed **road begins from Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) and connects to the bridge over the Yamuna River at Navghat Bhimawala in Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand), passing through village Bhagani in District Sirmaur, HP**, which is intended to be acquired for a public purpose. It details composition of the assessment team, the specific expertise of each member, and the systematic processes employed to evaluate the social implications of the project. The rigorous methodology ensures that all relevant social factors were thoroughly examined, providing a solid foundation for informed decision-making.

#### 2.1 Team Details:

The team comprises seasoned professionals with proven expertise in their respective domains, each bringing valuable experience from prior assessments of similar scale and scope. The multidisciplinary nature of the team enables a well-rounded and thorough evaluation of potential social impacts, with each member contributing domain-specific insights essential to the integrity and success of the study. **Table 2.1** outlines the composition of the **Social Impact Assessment (SIA) team** responsible for conducting the study.

**Table 2-1: Social Impact Assessment Team Composition and Expertise**

Sl. No.	Name	Post	Qualification	Work Experience
1.	Smt. K. Rathna	Director (CIBART)	Master of Financial Management	More than 20 years of experience in research, basic surveying, micro finance.
2.	Smt. Namita	Director (AGRIMAA)	M.Sc. in Microbiology.	More than 8 years of experience in research and health project
3.	Shri Rajesh Kumar	Project Coordinator	M.Phil. in Public Administration	More than 18 years of experience in rural development, research work and SIA work
4	Smt. Swati Jha	Research Investigator	Master in Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy. Doing LLB	More than 7 years of experience in research, human rights activities
5.	Shri Manoj Kumar	Research Investigator	B.Sc. in Electronics.	More than 10 years of experience in research
6.	Ms. Akanksha	Research Assistant	B.A. ( Honours Political Science), M.S.W.	Above 5 years
7	Dr. Kshitij Mahltora	Research Investigator	PhD (Botany)	More than 16 years of experience in research and development

Surveyors played a crucial role in engaging with affected communities, ensuring that data was collected accurately, sensitively, and comprehensively. Their direct interaction with stakeholders contributed to the

depth and reliability of the primary dataset, which forms the foundation for the study's findings and recommendations. details the **field surveyors given in Table 2.2** who conducted the primary data collection for the SIA.

**Table 2-2: List of Field Surveyors for the Social Impact Assessment**

Sl. No.	Name	Post	Qualification	Work Experience
1.	Shri Rajesh Kumar	Project Coordinator	M.Phil. in Public Administration	More than 18 years of experience in rural development, research work and SIA work
2.	Ms. Akanksha	Research Assistant	B.A. ( Honours Political Science) M.S.W.	Above 5 years

## 2.2 Description and Rationale for the Methodology and Tools Used

The chosen approach is designed to systematically evaluate the social consequences of the proposed land acquisition, ensuring compliance with the relevant legal frameworks and providing a comprehensive understanding of the potential impacts on affected communities.

### ❖ Aim

The new **Connecting Road Project in District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh**, is a key initiative of the State Government. To facilitate its completion, both government-owned and private land within the district is required. As per Himachal Pradesh government policy, land may also be donated voluntarily for road connectivity to government department; however, in cases where private landowners have not consented to donate, acquisition is carried out in accordance with the procedures laid down by the District Administration, Sirmaur or concerned authorities.

In line with the provisions of the Himachal Pradesh Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Social Impact Assessment and Consent) Rules, 2015, it is mandatory to conduct a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) prior to acquiring land for any public purpose. Accordingly, upon the request of the **Social Impact Assessment Unit, MSHIPA-Fairlawns, Shimla-12**, the SIA study for the proposed land acquisition was undertaken and successfully completed by **CIBART & AGRIMAA Institute, Delhi**.

### ❖ Objectives of the study:

The objective of the present Social Impact Assessment Study is to identify the impact and damage caused by the land owners affected by the planned new "Connecting Road Project" and to suggest ways to minimize these impacts. The submitted Social Impact Assessment Study was conducted as per the provisions of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015 for the following purposes:

- ❖ To assess whether the proposed acquisition serves the public purpose and the land acquired for the project is the minimum required.
- ❖ To estimate the number of landowners affected and the number of families among them who are likely to be displaced residentially, occupationally or both.
- ❖ To assess the socio-economic status of the land owners affected by the land acquisition of the project.
- ❖ To study the social impacts of the project by involving both the families who have directly as well as indirectly affected landowners who have lost land due to loss of public property resources, socio-economic infrastructure, etc., and to assess the impact of these costs on the total cost and the benefit of the project.

- ❖ An alternative site has been considered for the purpose to ascertain where there is least displacement problem, but whether the site itself is suitable for the project.
- ❖ Preparation of socio-economic and cultural profile of the affected area and resettlement site (if any) as per FORM-II of the HPRTFCTLARR rules, 2015.
- ❖ Suggest remedial intervention measures by designing appropriate policies and programmes through Form III of Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP).

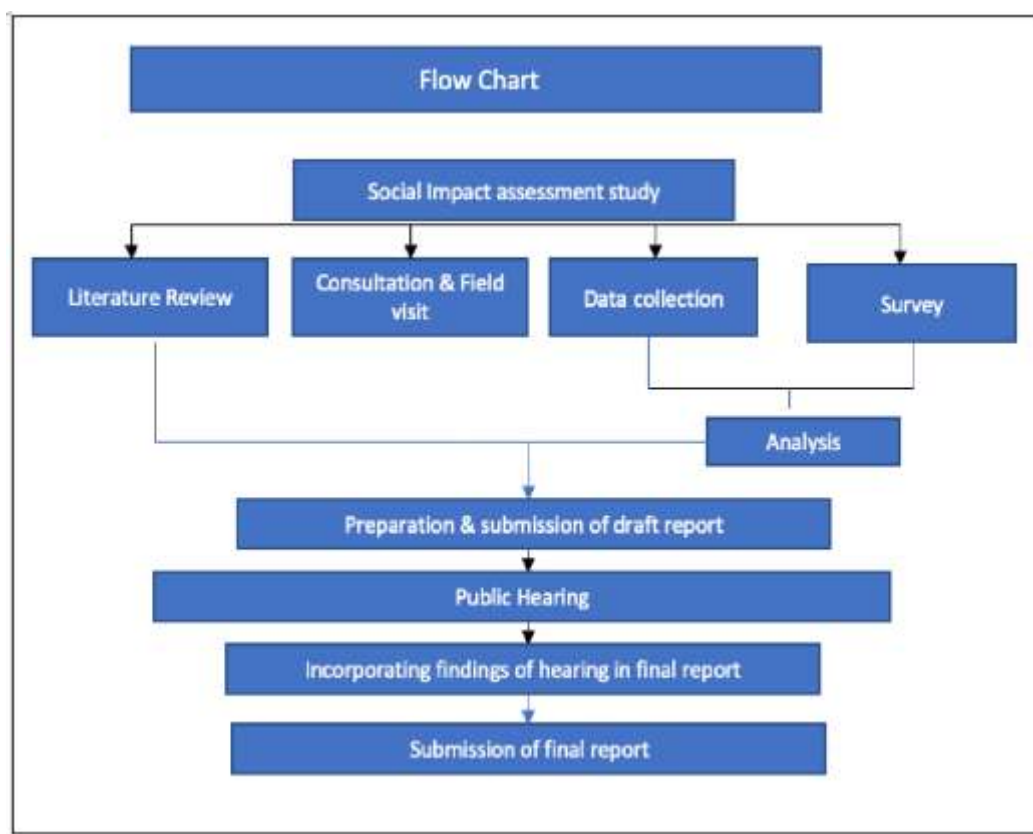
### **2.3 Approach and Methodology:**

The methodology adopted for conducting the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and preparing the Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) is outlined below. The assessment was carried out in strict accordance with the provisions of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013 and the HP RFCTLARR Rules, 2015. The following flow chart illustrates the step-by-step approach employed during the SIA study, ensuring a comprehensive, participatory, and evidence-based evaluation process.

#### **Process/methodology for conducting SIA study and preparation of SIMP:**

- **Literature review:** -
- **Field visit and Consultation:** - Interview of stakeholders Identified by department (for Primary & secondary data) and Consultation with Stakeholder
- **Data Collection:** -
  - **Secondary Data-** Revenue department and PWD survey drawings and other concerned departments.
  - **Primary Data** - Field visit was conducted and pre-designed questionnaires were utilized for getting information.
- **Data Analysis:** Both qualitative and quantitative analysis of social, economic, and environmental parameters.
- **Stakeholder Consultations:** Incorporating insights from discussions with landowners, local leaders, and officials.
- **Site Observations:** Ground verification to confirm survey findings.

This structured process ensured a comprehensive, participatory, and evidence-based evaluation.



## 2.4 Rationale for the Methodology

This methodology safeguards adequate provisions for such affected persons for their rehabilitation and resettlement and for ensuring that the cumulative outcome of the acquisition should be that affected persons become development partners, leading to an improvement in their post-acquisition social and economic status.

## 2.5 Tools to Collect Information for the Social Impact Assessment

To ensure a comprehensive assessment of the potential social impacts, data for the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) was collected from both primary and secondary sources. The tools and methodologies employed are outlined below.

### ❖ Secondary Data Sources:

Secondary data was sourced from government publications such as census reports, statistical handbooks, and relevant literature. These sources provided foundational insights into the demographic, economic, social, and cultural characteristics of the project area, and served as a baseline for the analysis.

### ❖ Primary Data Collection:

- **Household Surveys:** A structured questionnaire was administered to affected households to gather detailed data on demographic and socio-economic parameters.
- **Field Visits:** On-site visits, including direct observations and informal interviews, enriched the understanding of local conditions and stakeholder perspectives.

### ❖ Development of Survey Tools:

A comprehensive questionnaire was designed to capture both quantitative and qualitative information from primary stakeholders. The tool was pre-tested, revised based on feedback, and then deployed by trained field investigators.

#### ❖ **Primary Survey Focus:**

The survey focus on household composition, income levels, occupational patterns, resource dependency, and the likely social and economic impacts of the project. Open-ended questions were incorporated to capture respondent feedback and community perceptions.

#### **Supervision of Data Collection and Ground Verification:**

The core SIA team actively supervised the data collection process. To ensure the accuracy, consistency, and reliability of the data, ground verification was conducted for a sample of surveyed households.

### **2.6 Sampling Methodology**

The SIA team visited the affected family and information was collected from participate and data sharing in following manner:

#### ❖ **Quantitative Techniques:**

Pre-tested structured questionnaires were administered to primary stakeholders during the household survey.

#### ❖ **Qualitative Techniques:**

The qualitative techniques included Public Consultations and photographs were captured during field visits to document on-ground conditions and stakeholder interactions (**Annexure-B**).

### **2.7 Overview of Information and Data Sources Used**

The Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) were developed using data and insights gathered from multiple sources, including field surveys, stakeholder consultations, and relevant legal and policy documents such as the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and the HP RFCTLARR Rules, 2015. The data sources employed are summarized below:

- **Government Reports and Literature:** Official publications, policy documents, and statistical reports provided essential secondary data on demographic, economic, and social indicators relevant to the project area.
- **Field Surveys and Site Visits:** Primary data was collected through direct engagement with affected households and local stakeholders, offering contextual understanding of the potential impacts. The **household survey** was conducted in a systematic and conducted on **27<sup>th</sup> June 2025**, covering the notified area identified by the requiring department.
- **Stakeholder Consultations:** Public meetings, interviews, and focused group discussions with community members and key stakeholders played a vital role in shaping the findings of the SIA and formulating the SIMP. Their inputs ensured that local perspectives and concerns were adequately addressed in the assessment process.

### **2.8 Schedule of Consultations with Key Stakeholders and Brief Description of Public Hearings Conducted**

A **public hearing** was successfully conducted on **6<sup>th</sup> August, 2025**, in accordance with the official notification, ensuring transparency and community engagement in the decision-making process. The event was held at the Gram Panchayat office, Bhagani Village, Paonta Sahib district, Himachal Pradesh, and was chaired by the **Mr. Gunjeet Singh Cheema, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Paonta Sahib**. To ensure

broad public awareness, prior notice was disseminated through local newspapers and informational posters displayed at prominent locations throughout the village (**Annexure-C**).

The hearing was attended by **SDM and Dilip Singh Tomar (XEN), Ram Bhaj Tomar (OSD), Yash Pal Thakur (JE), Ravinder Chauhan (Patwari)** officials from the, **Revenue Department** and **HPPWD, Gram panchayat** members alongwith nominated officers, officers from the land acquisition office, and Mr. Rajesh Kumar and Ms. Akanksha Tomar from social impact study agency CIBART & Agrima and other villagers were present.

The forum provided an opportunity for open dialogue between government authorities and community stakeholders, allowing the exchange of views, suggestions, and feedback on the proposed project.

However, it is important to note that 39 **number of participants including affected family participated in the public hearing**, despite the extensive outreach efforts.

## 2.9 Details of Work & Timings

Sl. No.	Work Description	No. of days
1	Literature review	2
2	Questionnaire preparation and checklist of data collection	3
3	Data Collection and Field Surveys	5
4	Analysis of field information	6
5	Draft Report Writing	8
6	Preparation of adequate copy of draft report	
7	Submission of adequate copy of draft report	12
8	Announcement and Publication of Public Hearing	14
9	Poster/pamphlet preparation to find a summary of SIA	
10	Conduct of hearings as per provision	36
11	Inclusion of the conclusion of the hearing in the final report	37
12	SIA team's involvement in the consent process	
13	Submission of adequate copy of the final report	38
14	Presenting clear, concise and accessible SIA and SIMP reports	40

## Chapter 3

### Land Assessment

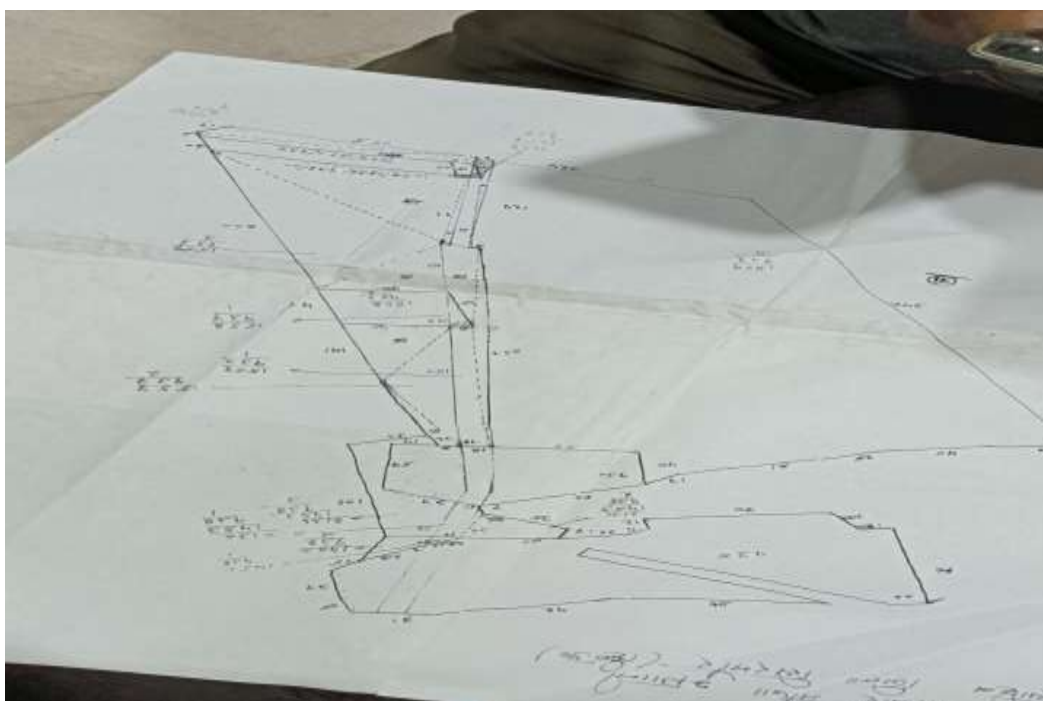
Land is the most important resource for any kind of construction work. Adequate amount of land should be available for new "**Connecting Road Project** " especially in well-planned at District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh. As stated earlier, land of 01 village of Bhagani Tehsil Paonta Sahib district Sirmaur, is proposed to be acquired for the construction of a new **Connecting Road Project** in the planned at district Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh.

#### 3.1 Information from the Land Inventories and Primary Sources

The details of land required under the project are shown in Table 3.1. A perusal of the table shows that a total of **11-07-00 Bigha** of land is being affected under the project which is proposed to be acquired.

**Table 3.1 Details of proposed land to be acquired**

Sl. No.	Name of Village	Tehsil	Private land of landowners
1	Bhagani	Paonta Sahib	<b>11-07-00 Bigha</b>



#### 3.2 Type of Land:

The village land to be acquired under this project is fall under in agricultural category type.

#### 3.3 Uses of Land:

After site inspection, interaction with the people of the area and members of the affected landowners, it was revealed that the land in this area is mainly used for agriculture purpose even in Graveyard (Kabristan) land.

### 3.4 Entire Area of Impact Under the Influence of the Project:

The project for constructing the new **Connecting Road Project** at village Bhagani, Paonta Sahib, in District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh, spans an area of **11-07-00 Bigha** of private land is currently in the process of acquisition to ensure seamless project execution. The primary objective of this project is to enhanced accessibility to **Vikasnagar** for over **20 surrounding panchayats (approx. 41 Villages)** and reduces the distance to Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand) from 20 km to 3 km and Dehradun from 85 km to 30 km.

This initiative is expected to stimulate the local economy by creating employment opportunities, supporting mobility for residents, farmers, and traders, leading to improved access to education, healthcare, and markets., and offering a platform for Integration of rural areas into the state's main economic corridors, leading to balanced regional development. Social upliftment through better connectivity, encouraging skill development, local vendors and service providers, and reduced isolation of rural communities.

Additionally, the project is being developed with a commitment to environmental sustainability, reducing fuel consumption to minimize its ecological footprint while promoting healthy and inclusive recreational spaces.

### 3.5 Scope of acquisition and Total land requirement for the project:

For the proposed *Construction of new Connecting Road to Himachal Pradesh from Km. 0/0 to 0/650 (for inter-state connectivity under State Head MNP) from Paonta–Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) to connect the bridge over the Yamuna River at Navghat Bhimawala, Vikasnagar (Uttarakhand), Village Bhagani, District Sirmaur*, the extent of land acquisition is confined to **11-07-00 Bigha** of privately owned land. This parcel is strategically located to provide direct and efficient linkage between the existing road network of Dakpathar and the designated project alignment.

The identified land is essential for establishing smooth inter-state connectivity, enabling optimal road alignment, ensuring uninterrupted traffic movement, and enhancing overall transport efficiency. The acquisition is limited in scope, reflecting a judicious approach to land utilization and minimizing potential impacts on surrounding areas.

No additional land acquisition is proposed or anticipated beyond this identified parcel. The Requiring Body has not issued any notifications or indicated any future requirement for extra land in connection with the present project.

### 3.6 Present use of any public, unutilized land in the vicinity of area

It emphasizes that there is a public land available in the area surrounding the proposed site for acquisition, which is already utilized for MDR and Bridge construction by HPPWD and Uttarakhand department on Yamuna River.

### 3.7 Land Already Purchased, Alienated, Leased/ Acquired, and Intended Use for Each Plot of Land Required for The Project

The ongoing project is primarily situated on government-owned land, with a minor portion of private land belonging to the eleven affected household (58 persons) and out of that one beneficiary filed case in the court (Annexure-C). During public hearing he also convince into favour of new connecting road project, if government solve out his problems. Consequently, the current acquisition process is focused on securing minor portion of private land measuring **11-07-00 Bigha** to facilitate the seamless continuation and

completion of the project. The department remains committed to resolving this matter amicably, ensuring compliance with legal protocols and fairness in the acquisition process.

### 3.8 Size of Holdings, Ownership Patterns, CPRs, and Current Status

Marginal holdings refer to land parcels that are small in size, typically 1 hectare or less and all project affected families having marginal size of land holdings. Details of the land will be acquired in are given in **Annexure-A**. The total private land which is under proposed acquisition is majorly ancestrally passed to the next generation except only one landlord purchased land.

The identified parcel includes along with other physical structures or CPRs such as **five electric poles, a wire boundary wall**, and a few **standing trees**. These existing features indicate that the land acquisition may lead to **not displacement** and the **removal of constructed assets**, necessitating careful planning and mitigation.

While the current status of the land presents **certain challenges and potential conflicts**, these must be addressed proactively to ensure the acquisition process aligns with the project's objective of **minimizing social disruption**. Proper rehabilitation measures and stakeholder engagement will be essential to facilitate a smooth and timely implementation of the new **connecting road project**.

Based on the members of the Social Impact Research, affected landowners and local members, It can be concluded that:

- ❖ This project is in its final stage.
- ❖ 11 households are being affected in this project; hence this report has been prepared on the basis of total 11 households.
- ❖ 11-07-00 bigha land proposed to complete this project.
- ❖ 90.90% landowners agree to give their land for this project.
- ❖ Some land of Agriculture Department, Forest Department and Revenue Department is getting affected in this project.
- ❖ No activity of any kind was seen on the land of the Forest Department whereas agricultural work was seen on the land of the project affected persons.
- ❖ Some land of Khasra No. 1558/937/1 of the Revenue Department has been shown for the Graveyard; currently agricultural work is being done on this land.
- ❖ Displacement situation is not likely to arise.

**Table: 3.2 Total land owned and extent of land:**

District	Tehsil	Area			
		Village/ Mauja	Khasra No	Total land of affected Khasra	Acquiring Land of affected Khasra
Simraur	Paonta Sahib	Bhagani	1452/938/1	00-16-00 Bigha	00-02-00 Bigha
			2136/1453/938/1	19-04-00 Bigha	00-18-00 Bigha
			1559/937/1	33-03-00 Bigha	10-07-00 Bigha
			Kita-3	<b>53-03-00 Bigha</b>	<b>11-07-00 Bigha</b>

## Chapter-4

### Estimation and Enumeration of Affected Families and Assets

This chapter presents a detailed estimation and enumeration of the families and individuals directly and indirectly affected by the proposed land acquisition for the construction of the new “**Connecting Road Project**”. It examines the impact on both private properties and public land use dependencies within the affected area. Drawing from data collected through a comprehensive primary survey, the chapter assesses how the acquisition may influence local communities in terms of livelihoods, assets, and socio-economic conditions. The analysis is intended to provide a clear understanding of the potential social changes and disruptions, thereby informing appropriate mitigation and rehabilitation strategies for the affected population.

#### 4.1 Directly Affected Persons and Their Livelihoods

The proposed acquisition of **11-07-00 bigha of private land** will involve directly **eleven affected household along with other various shareholder of three Khasara numbers namely (1452/938/1, 2136/1453/938/1, 1559/937/1)**. Choosing reason of these eleven affected households and their families are residing more than 12 years in continuous and uninterpreted possession, as per limitation act 1963. Out of that the main land belongs to **Mr. Joginder Singh**, who resides on an adjoining plot near the planned alignment of the new connecting road. **His primary sources of livelihood and other details are not available due to he is not willing to given his details for the project survey and also this matter is under consideration of court.**

Given that the acquisition is unlikely to cause physical displacement, there is minimal risk to his residential security and economic stability. This presents an opportunity to design and implement a proactive resettlement plan, complemented by livelihood enhancement measures and equitable compensation, ensuring that the project proceeds while also supporting and strengthening the well-being of the affected families.

In addition to the directly affected household, the surrounding area excludes other families who may experience indirect impacts. Among them:

- Out of ten, nine individuals are engaged in farming, directly dependent on land for their primary livelihood.
- Five individuals are **pensioners**, including one is retired officer receiving government pension and **one widows** receiving **widow pensions**, indicating limited economic activity and partial financial dependence on social security schemes.
- Out of ten, son of three individuals is employed in private sector jobs, relying on salaried income as secondary occupation for livelihoods.
- Out of ten, son of two individuals is employed in a government job, relying on salaried income as secondary occupation for their livelihoods.

While these families are directly displaced, their socio-economic conditions should be considered in the broader impact assessment to ensure inclusive and community-sensitive development.

This mixed livelihood pattern suggests that while a few households depend on land for their sustenance, a larger proportion are reliant on non-agricultural income sources. However, the land still plays a significant role in ensuring residential security, support infrastructure, and

supplementary income.

#### 4.2 Tenants/Occupiers

During the primary survey conducted as part of the assessment process, it was observed that there were no lease holders or occupiers present on the land proposed for acquisition.

#### 4.3 Dependence on Common Property Resources (CPRs)

The survey identified the presence of few **Common Property Resources (CPRs)** on the land proposed for acquisition, including **Five electric poles, a wire boundary wall**, and a few **standing trees**. These resources are of shared utility and may serve the surrounding community, highlighting the need for proper relocation or restoration measures to mitigate any potential disruption.

#### 4.4 Schedule Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers

There is no affected family falling in the ST category and no traditional forest dwellers who have lost any of their forest rights in the study area.

#### 4.5 Land Assigned by the State Government

It is important to note that no individual was identified as having been allotted land by the State Government under any of its schemes within the area proposed for acquisition.

#### 4.6 Location of the village:

Details of the distance of the affected village from major administrative institutions are given in Table 4.1, it is clear from the table that the distance of the affected village from the tehsil headquarters is 20 km. The distance from the bus stand is up to 20 km., the distance from the police station is 02 km.

**Table-4.1 General information of the affected village**

Sr. No.	Name of the Institute	Distance
1.	Distance from development block	20 K.M.
2.	Distance from tehsil headquarters	20 K.M.
3.	Distance from district headquarters	30 K.M.
4.	Distance from nearest bus stand	20 K.M.
5.	Distance from police station	02 K.M.

#### 4.7 Availability of economic entities:

Information regarding economic entities like- rural banks, co-operative banks, co-operative purchasing/selling committees, daily/weekly markets, vegetable/grain markets, ration shops, fertilizer/seed godowns, agricultural equipment stores and cold storage, etc is given in Table 4.2.

**Table-4.2 Availability and Distance of Economic Institutions**

Sr. No.	Name of the Institute	Availability and distance
1	Gramin Bank	06 K.M.
2	Land/Rural Development Bank	No
3	Cooperative Bank	No
4	Cooperative Purchase/Sales	01 K.M.
5	Milk Producer Committee	No
6	Daily Market	No
7	Weekly Market	No
8	Vegetable/Gral Mandi	20 K.M.
9	Grain Shop	No
10	Fertilizer/Seed Warehouse	20 K.M.
11	Agricultural Equipment Store	20 K.M.

12	Wheat Paddy Purchase Center	20 K.M.
13	Cold Storage	20 K.M.

#### 4.8 Social/religious places:

The details of availability of cultural, social and religious places/institutions in the affected village is given in Table 4.3.

It is clear that in the affected village, there are temples, mosques, gurudwara, playgrounds, public toilets for men and women, crematoriums and graveyards. Availability of other social, religious and cultural institutions/places is outside the village.

**Table-4.3 Availability of Social, Religious, Cultural Institutions**

Sr. No.	Institution site	Availability
1	Temple	Yes
2	Mosque	Yes
3	Church	No
4	Gurudwara	Yes
5	Playground	Yes
6	Fair site	No
7	Public toilet	Yes
8	Cremation ground	Yes
9	Graveyards	Yes

#### 4.9 Political/ Administrative and Public Institutions:

The details of availability of political/administrative and public institutions in the affected village are shown in Table 4.4. It is clear that Panchayat Bhawan and voluntary organizations are located in the affected village, while the distance of post office is up to 01 km.

**Table-4.4 Availability of political/administrative and public institutions**

Sr. No.	Institution site	Availability
1	Panchayat Bhawan	Yes
2	Voluntary Organizations	Yes
3	Offices of Political Parties	No
4	Post Office	01 Km

#### 4.10 Educational Institutions:

The availability of educational institutions of various levels in the affected villages is given in Table 4.5.

**Table-4.5 Availability Educational Institutions**

Sr. No.	School/College	Availability
1	Primary School	Yes
2	Upper Primary School	Yes
3	Madrassa	No
4	High School	No
5	Inter College	No
6	Degree College	No
7	ITI	No
8	English Medium School	Yes

#### 4.11 Health Services:

The availability and distance of medical and nutrition facilities/services in the affected villages are given in Table 4.6.

**Table-4.6 Availability and distance of health services**

Sr. No.	Service	Availability
1	Anganwadi Centre	Yes
2	A.N.M. Centre	Yes
3	Trained Midwife	Yes
4	Primary Health Centre	Yes
5	Private Doctor	Yes
6	Allopathy Doctor	Yes
7	Homeopathy Doctor	No
8	Ayurvedic Doctor	Yes
9	Vaidya/Hakim	No
10	Quack	Yes

#### 4.12 Veterinary Services:

The status regarding availability of veterinary services is shown in Table 4.7. It is clear that veterinary services are available at almost normal distance in the village.

**Table-4.7 Availability and distance of veterinary services**

Sr. No.	In service	Availability/Distance
1	Animal service center	100 m
2	Private	No
3	Veterinary hospital	100 m
4	Private veterinarian	100 m

#### 4.13 Drinking Water Sources:

The details of drinking water sources in the affected villages are given in Table 4.8.

**Table-4.8 Availability of drinking water sources**

Sr. No.	Description	Availability
1	Piped Water Supply	No
2	India Mark II Hand Pump	Yes
3	Well	No
4	Submersible	Yes

#### 4.14 Transportation:

The details of the main means of transportation in the affected village are given in Table 4.9. From the observation of the table, it is evident that car/jeep, bicycle, motorcycle/scooter and tractor are available in the affected village.

**Table-4.9 Main modes of transport in the village**

Sr. No.	Description	Availability
1	Car/Jeep	Yes
2	Bicycle	Yes
3	Motorcycle/Scooter	Yes
4	Tractor	Yes
5	Tempo/Auto	Yes

6	Ekka/Tanga	No
7	Horse/Mule	No

#### 4.15 Crimes and evils:

The intensity of evils prevalent in the affected village is given in Table 4.10. It is clear that evils like child marriage, ban on widow remarriage, tantric rituals, ban on higher education of girls and panchayat decisions are common in the affected village.

**Table-4.10 Evil practices prevalent in the village**

Sr. No.	Description	Status
1	Child marriage	No
2	Dowry system	Normal
3	Superstition	Normal
4	Widow marriage ban	No
5	Tantrik rituals	No
6	Ban on higher education of girls	No
7	Family planning ban	No
8	Panchayati decision	No

#### 4.16 Crime Situation in the affected village

The crime situation in the affected village is shown in Table 4.11. It is evident from the observation of the table that the existence of crimes like domestic violence, theft, robbery, molestation, gambling, drunken disorder and gang war is normal or non-existent in the affected village.

**Table-4.11 Status of crimes in the village**

Sr. No.	Description	Status
1	Domestic violence	Normal
2	Theft	Normal
3	Robbery	No
4	Eve teasing	No
5	Gambling	No
6	Drunken behaviour	No
7	Gang war	No

#### 4.17 Status of cottage industries:

The details of availability of cottage industries in the affected village are given in Table 4.12. It is clear that some cottage industries are available in the affected village.

**Table-4.12 Activities of cottage industries in the village**

Sr. No.	Description	Status
1	Handloom	No
2	Rice Mill/Polisher	No
3	Flour Mill	Yes
4	Oil Mill	Yes
5	Grocery Store	Yes
6	Engine/Auto Repair	Yes
7	Milkman	Yes
8	Goat Farming Units	Yes

9	Pig Farming Units	Yes
10	Poultry Farming Units	No
11	Fisheries	Yes
12	Tent House/Caterer	Yes
13	Mutton/Chicken/Fish Shop	Yes
14	English Wine Shop	Yes
15	Local Liquor Shop	Yes

## Chapter-5

### Socio Economic and Cultural Profile

This present chapter provides an in-depth analysis of the socio-economic and cultural characteristics of the affected communities in the project area. The information presented here is crucial for understanding the demographic structure, income sources, occupational patterns, education levels, and cultural practices of the population that may be impacted by the proposed land acquisition. Additionally, the chapter examines community infrastructure, social networks, and cultural heritage, which together offer a comprehensive overview of the social dynamics and livelihoods at stake. Data was collected through a combination of primary surveys, focus group discussions, and secondary sources, ensuring a holistic understanding of the population and its potential vulnerabilities.

#### 5.1 Demographic Profile of the Project Affected Persons and their families in Project Area

The proposed new Connecting Road Project from Km. 0.00 to 0/650 at Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur will require the acquisition of approximately 11-07-00 bigha of privately-owned agricultural land. The affected population belongs primarily to agrarian households that have historically depended on farming and related activities for their livelihood. This demographic profile presented by 5757 population of which 2983 are males while 2774 are females as per report released by Census of India 2011. The jurisdiction of the gram panchayat spans an area of **9.73 square kilometers**, covering approximately **1034 households** and reflected a **less dense population** engaged in both **residential and commercial activities**, indicating the town's increasing vitality and rural character. Given this context, the proposed project is likely to have **direct and indirect impacts** on the local population and businesses, thereby requiring **careful planning, inclusive stakeholder consultations**, and **targeted mitigation strategies** to ensure that development is both equitable and sustainable.

##### 5.1.1 Characteristics of Project Affected Persons and their families:

The social characteristics of the affected people are described in the following chapters.

##### 5.1.1.1 Gender:

The classification of project affected Persons and their families by Gender is given in Table 5.1. It was cleared that 50.00 per cent of the project affected **Persons** are men and 50.00 per cent women.

**Table: 5.1 Gender-wise classification of affected Persons**

Sl. No.	Name of Village	Male	Female	Total
1	Bhagani	29(50%)	29(50%)	58(100.00)

##### 5.1.1.2 Religion:

In the study, it was cleared that 86.20% of the total belong to the Hindu community rest are Muslims (13.8%)

##### 5.1.1.3 Caste Category:

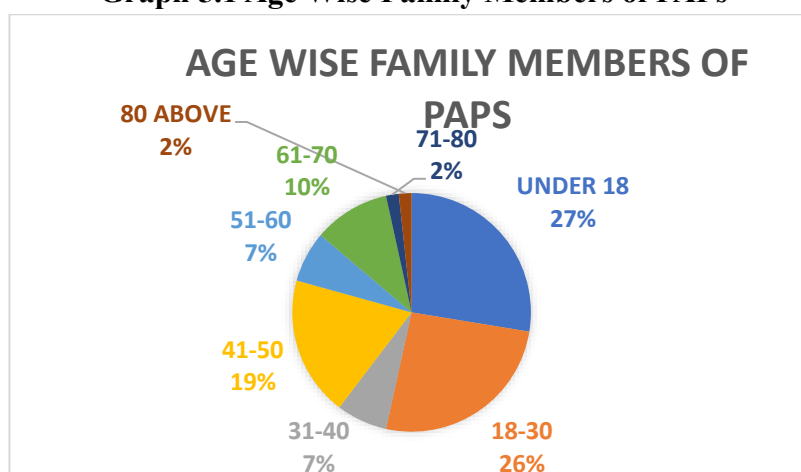
The caste-wise classification of affected people is given in Table 5.2. It was depicted from the table that 10.35 percent of the affected people belong to General, 89.65 percent to Other Backward Classes.

**Table 5.2 Caste-wise classification of affected Persons**

Sl. No.	Name of Village	General	Other Backward Classes	Total
1	Bhagani	06(10.35%)	52(89.65%)	58(100.00)

**5.1.1.4 Age:**

The age classification of project affected people is depicted in Graph 5.1. The table shown that 27.58 percent people are under age of 18 (Total 16), 25.86 percent are age of 18 to 30 (Total 15), 6.89 percent are age of 31 to 40 (Total 4), 18.96 percent are the age of 41 to 50 (Total 11), 6.89 percent are in the age of 51 to 60 (Total 4), 10.34 percent are in the age of 61 to 70 (Total 6) and 1.72 percent are in the age of 71 to 80 years (Total 1), and the rest 1.72 percent are in the age of above 80 years (Total 1). Smallest age is recorded as 4 years for one Girl child and oldest age is recorded as 92 years of one female individual.

**Graph 5.1 Age Wise Family Members of PAPs****5.2 Literacy of Project Affected People:**

The survey captured the **Literacy profile of the Project Affected Families (PAFs)**, with the distribution of qualifications detailed in **Table 5.3**. Among the affected individuals, **3.47% (2 person)** were found to be **illiterate**, while **34.48% (20 individuals)** and **32.75% (19 individuals)** had attained education at various levels, including **primary and secondary, respectively**. Additionally, **15.51%** of family members of respondents were **graduates**. This data provides insight into the **educational attainment levels** within the affected population, which is crucial for designing appropriate resettlement and livelihood restoration measures.

**Table 5.3 Classification of affected people according to educational qualifications**

Sl. No.	Name of Village	Illiterate	Primary	Secondary	Higher Secondary	Graduate	Total
1	Bhagani	02 (3.47)	20 (34.48)	19 (32.75)	09 (15.51)	08 (13.79)	58 (100.00)

## 5.3 Business and Income

### 5.3.1 Business:

The occupational classification of the affected landowners is presented in **Table 5.4**, which highlights the **primary sources of livelihood** among the impacted individuals. The data reveals that a **majority of landowners are farmers and one is pensioners**, indicating a reliance on post-retirement income. This classification is essential for understanding the socio-economic background of the affected families and for planning suitable **rehabilitation and livelihood support strategies**.

**Table 5.4 Classification of landowner by main occupation**

Sl. No.	Village Name	Farming	Pensioner	Total
1	Bhagani	9 (90.00)	1 (10.00)	10 (100)

### 5.3.2 Income

The details of Income, according to the monthly income of the affected landowners are given in Table 5.5. A perusal of the table shows that 60.00 per cent (Total 06) of the affected landowners have income between Rs 10,001 to Rs 25,000, indicating a significant portion facing low income, which may point to economic disparities or a prevalence of low-wage work and only 10.00 per cent (Total 01) have income above Rs 0.5 lakh, indicating that he enjoying relatively high earnings.

**Table: 5.5 Classification of landowners according to monthly income**

Sl. No.	Monthly Income(s)	No. of landowners
1	Less than 10000	01(10.00)
2	From 10001 to 25000	06(60.00)
2	From 25001 to 50000	02(20.00)
4	From 50001 to 100000	01(10.00)
Total		10(100.00)

## 5.4 Vulnerable Group:

The vulnerable segments include elderly persons, women-headed households, small and marginal farmers, and economically weaker families. These groups may require targeted rehabilitation and livelihood support under the Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) framework.

Overall, the demographic profile reflects a predominantly rural, agrarian community with strong social cohesion, moderate literacy levels, and a high dependence on agriculture, which will be significantly impacted by the acquisition of land for the proposed road.

Without adequate compensation or alternative support mechanisms, these families may struggle to establish new sources of income. The impact is likely to be long-term, as they may face considerable challenges in relocating their business operations or securing alternative employment, owing to limited skills or financial constraints. This situation could increase their economic vulnerability and potentially push them into poverty.

## 5.5 Kinship Patterns:

In Himachal Pradesh, land ownership is primarily hereditary, with rights typically transferred from one generation to the next. As per state regulations, non-residents (migrants) are not permitted to purchase land in the state. Consequently, most landholdings in the region are ancestral in nature and are generally divided

equally among legal heirs, unless otherwise directed by a valid Will.

In Paonta Sahib city, property ownership is further complicated by a significant number of pre-independence era properties. Many of these have been occupied over time by individuals who now claim ownership rights, leading to intricate and often disputed property claims. This historical context significantly contributes to the complexity of land and property rights in Paonta Sahib.

In project affected site, Women play a vital role in managing household affairs, with the majority of domestic responsibilities falling on them. However, the economic contribution of their labor is often undervalued and not formally recognized, but here, three PAFs, *namely* Mrs. Shamshad, Mrs. Kasira Begham and Mrs. Kareshni Devi having ownership rights from their husbands and Mrs. Kareshni Devi getting ownership right and pension too.

### **5.6 Administrative, Political, Cultural, and Civil Society Organizations**

Paonta Sahib, a key town in **District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh**, serves as an important **administrative, commercial, and cultural hub** in the state's southern region. The town's governance and development activities involve coordination among multiple administrative divisions, state-level departments, and community-based organizations. These stakeholders play a pivotal role in planning, executing, and monitoring infrastructure projects, including the land acquisition process and the **Social Impact Assessment (SIA)** for the proposed new connecting road.

#### **5.6.1 Administrative Framework**

The administration of Paonta Sahib and its surrounding rural areas is overseen by the **Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Paonta Sahib**, who coordinates with various departments to ensure effective urban and rural development. The **Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HP PWD)** is the primary executing agency for the new connecting road project, working in collaboration with the **Revenue Department**, and **Forest Department**, as required.

The SDM's office plays a central role in land acquisition coordination, ensuring compliance with the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013* and the *HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015*. This administrative structure ensures that project execution remains aligned with both state policies and local needs.

#### **5.6.2 Cultural Considerations**

Paonta Sahib is renowned for its **spiritual and cultural heritage**, most notably as the historic site associated with **Guru Gobind Singh Ji**, the tenth Sikh Guru. The **Gurudwara Paonta Sahib** draws thousands of pilgrims each year, making the town a vibrant religious tourism destination.

The surrounding areas are also rich in agricultural traditions and community festivals, with social life centred around religious institutions, markets, and seasonal fairs. Improved road connectivity through the proposed project is expected to **enhance access** for pilgrims, tourists, traders, and residents, thereby strengthening cultural exchange and economic opportunities.

While the project area itself does not directly affect any culturally significant sites, the enhanced infrastructure is anticipated to **complement the town's cultural landscape**, facilitating inclusive regional development. It will not only support economic growth but also foster greater community interaction while respecting and preserving local traditions.

#### **5.6.3 Civil Society Organizations**

Paonta Sahib hosts few active civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that work across various sectors, including social justice, environmental protection, and the advocacy of rights for affected communities. These organizations play a vital role in promoting transparency,

ensuring accountability, and facilitating meaningful public participation during the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) process.

Together with administrative, political, and cultural institutions, these civil society actors contribute to a more transparent, inclusive, and participatory approach to development. Their involvement helps ensure that infrastructure projects—such as road construction—are carried out in a manner that respects and integrates social, environmental, and cultural considerations.

### 5.7 Regional Dynamics and Historical Change Processes

Paonta Sahib, located in the southern part of Sirmaur district in Himachal Pradesh, is known for several distinctive regional characteristics. Here are the key dynamics that shape the region:

- **Geographical Setting:** Paonta Sahib is located in the southern part of Sirmaur district, Himachal Pradesh, on the banks of the Yamuna River, which marks the state boundary with Uttarakhand. The town is close to significant urban centers like Nahan, Dehradun, and Yamunanagar.
- **Economic Profile:** The area has experienced rapid industrial growth, particularly over the past 30 years, with many pharmaceutical, engineering, and other manufacturing units. Agriculture remains vital for the adjoining rural population.
- **Cultural Significance:** Paonta Sahib is a prominent Sikh religious site, especially because Guru Gobind Singh lived here for four and a half years and wrote key Sikh texts. The Gurudwara serves as a spiritual, historical, and community center.
- **Climate:** The region experiences a sub-tropical continental monsoon climate with variable rainfall patterns. Groundwater is moderately developed, with continued studies for sustainable management.

#### Historical Change Processes

- **Foundation and Early History:** Paonta Sahib was founded in 1685 when Guru Gobind Singh, at the invitation of Raja Medini Prakash of Nahan, arrived with his family and followers and laid the foundation stone. Guru Gobind Singh's presence was pivotal in stabilizing local politics and supporting the Nahan Raja against neighbouring threats, notably from Raja Fateh Shah of Garhwal.
- **Literary and Spiritual Activity:** The majority of the Dasam Granth was composed here, including works like Jaap Sahib and portions of Bachittar Natak. The town became a center of Sikh martial and literary tradition, with the Guru's fort and cantonment fostering both spirituality and defence.
- **Conflict and Military Engagement:** Guru Gobind Singh's forces repelled attacks from neighbouring Brahmin hill chiefs and Garhwal rulers, affirming the region's strategic and military importance. His stay helped solidify Sikh influence and protect the local kingdom against external aggression.
- **Transformation and Gurdwara Construction:** The original fort and settlement evolved into a significant religious site with the construction of the Gurudwara. Over time, the shrine and attached land underwent reconstruction (notably in 1823) and changes in management, reflecting broader regional administrative and political shifts.
- **Modern Developments:** In the 20th century, land administration changes—such as those enacted through the Big Landed Estates Abolition Act—reflected modern governance imperatives and resulted in redistribution of much land previously managed by Gurudwara authorities. The Gurudwara became managed by an official committee connected to the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee.

In summary, the regional dynamics of Paonta Sahib are tightly interwoven with its historical development as a religious, cultural, and strategic center. The town's evolution—from a fortified settlement supporting a

local ruler, to a focal point of Sikh literary and martial tradition, to a modern industrial and religious hub—is a compelling example of historical change shaped by geography, faith, and regional politics

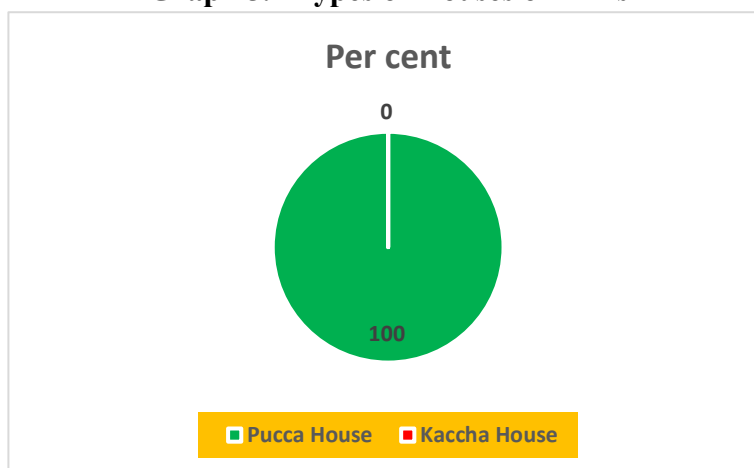
## 5.8 Quality of the Living Environment:

The details of the of the affected landowners are presented in the following scales:

### 5.8.1 Residential Status and Types of Houses:

The details of the house types of project affected Persons and their families are shown in Graph 5.2 below. It was cleared that 100 per cent (Total 10) of the landowners are permanent residential of village and had pucca houses.

**Graph 5.2 Types of Houses of PAPs**



### 5.8.2 Availability of electricity connection:

During the Survey, it was observed that the all landowners having Electricity Connection.

### 5.8.3 Sources of Drinking water:

The details of the drinking water source of the affected landowners are given and It was clear that 100 percent of the drinking water source is supplied through pipelines under Jal Jeeven mission and Department of Jal Shakti (IPH).

### 5.8.4 Availability of Toilets:

The details of availability of toilets in the houses of the affected landowners are given and It was observed clear that 100 per cent of the landowners had toilets built in their premises.

### 5.8.5 Availability of Kitchen:

The availability of separate kitchens in the houses of the affected landowners is given and It was observed that 100 per cent (Total 10) of the affected landowners have kitchens available in their households.

### 5.8.6 Fuel used for cooking:

It was cleared that 100 percent of the landowners are using LPG gas for cooking.

### 5.8.7 Ration Card

During survey, it was cleared that 100.00 per cent of the affected landowners had APL ration cards.

### 5.8.8 Information regarding construction of new Connecting Road Project at District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh:

Table 5.6 shown that information regarding the construction of new **Connecting Road Project** at Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh, near the village Bhagani. All the affected landowners were found to be 100% aware of this project.

**Table : 5.6 New Connecting Road Project at District Sirmaur Himachal Pradesh**  
**Information regarding the construction of the project**

Sl. No.	Name of Village	Yes	Total
1	Bhagani	10(100.00)	10(100.00)

## **5.9 Land and Asset Ownership**

### **5.9.1 Category of Land to be Acquired:**

The details of the type of land being acquired are given in Table 5.7. It was cleared that 100 per cent of the land fertile and fall in agricultural category.

**Table 5.7 Category of land to be acquired**

Sl. No.	Name of Village	Fertile	Total
1	Bhagani	10(100)	10(100.00)

### **5.9.2 Sources of Irrigation:**

The main sources of irrigation by the affected landowners are classified in Table 5.8. Irrigation activities was performed by the affected landowners through Private tube well/pump set and also depend on rain water.

**Table 5.8 Location of Irrigation Source**

Sl. No.	Name of Village	Source	Condition
1	Bhagani	Private tube well/pump set	Yes

### **5.9.3 Consent to Acquire Land:**

It is seen from the interview 90.90 per cent of the 10 affected landowners agree to give the land. However, secondary beneficiary including 5 PRIs members, 5 shop owners, 1 banker (SBI) and 14 neighbouring villagers agrees giving their positive consent for development of new connecting road project.

## **5.10 Total Land Owned and Extent of Land to be Acquired:**

### **Ownership Status:**

All Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and Project Affected Families (PAFs) have been in possession of their land for more than 12 years. The land has been inherited from their ancestors and is duly registered in their names, along with other co-owners, in the revenue records. The land parcels have been mutually divided among the family members, and the PAPs have expressed their willingness to transfer their respective portions to the Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HPPWD), provided that there are no objections from the other co-owners.

### **Other Assets Affected (e.g., house, shop, trees, wells):**

During the survey, it was recorded that two Project Affected Persons (PAPs) have trees on their land — Mr. Ramesh Kumar has one shisham tree, and Mr. Amarjeet has two shisham trees on their respective plots.

### **Primary Use of the Land:**

All Project Affected Persons (PAPs) or beneficiaries have been using the land primarily for farming purpose only.

#### 5.10.1 Annual Income from Affected Land/Assets:

The Annual Income from Affected Land/Assets interviewed from households is given in Table 5.9. Out of the 9 landowners interviewed, only 01 landowner have 10 lakh annual income, rest had 3 lakh or below.

**Table: 5.9 Annual Income from Affected Land/Assets (Rs. in Lakh)**

Sl. No.	Name of Village	Responded: 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Bhagani	1.5	2.5	1.5	1.5	10.0	1.2	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.5

#### 5.10.2 Purpose of the Loan:

In the study, it was cleared that 01 landowner has taken loan for his personal use.

#### 5.10.3 Medical Facility:

Basic treatment available in the Primary Health Centre which is exist in the village, according to the affected landowners they have to travel to 16 km at Sunder Nagar for major health facilities but after completion of new connecting road project it will reduce to 3-4 km for treatment.

#### 5.10.4 The terms and conditions stated by the landowners on which they agree to give the land are:

Information was also obtained from the affected land owners as to the terms and conditions on which the land would be acquisition by them to the **HP PWD**. A large part of this is presented in Table 5.10.

**Table 5.10 Why are you not willingly agreeing to sell the said land? Please tick (multiple answer)**

Sl. No.	Landowners' Conditions	√ Mark
1	There is no tradition in the family to sell ancestral land	
2	The land is registered in the name of many people	√
3	Other shareholders of the land live outside	
4	Land sale will increase family unemployment	
5	The source of income will end	
6	People will have to migrate from the village	
7	The market value of the land is much higher than the current circle rate	
8	The dispute regarding the land is pending in the court	√
9	Others (Agree)	√

#### 5.10.5 On what conditions is the land agreed to be sold? Please tick (multiple answer):

According to the affected landowners, Compensation should be given at a rate higher than the circle rate, a detailed description of which is given in Table 5.11.

**Table 5.11 On what conditions is the land agreed to be sold? Please tick (multiple answer):**

Sl. No.	Adverse Effect	√ Mark
1	Compensation should be given at a rate higher than the circle rate	√
2	Land of equal quality and size to that acquired should be provided at some other place	
3	Permanent employment should be provided under the project	

4	Physical/financial assistance should be provided for starting alternative employment	
5	Free technical training should be provided by a recognized institution	
6	Priority should be given to provide license for starting licensed business	

## **5.11 Livelihood and Economic Impact**

### **5.11.1 Loss of Land/Assets and Impact on Primary Income Sources:**

The project will result in a partial loss of income for eight affected individuals, while one household reported no impact on its primary source of livelihood.

### **5.11.2 Alternative Income Sources:**

As reported by the affected landowners, the project will not affect alternative income sources for eight of the individuals, ensuring continuity in supplementary means of livelihood.

### **5.11.3 Skill Development or Training Needs:**

None of the respondents indicated a requirement for skill development or training programs to support alternative livelihoods.

### **5.11.4 Impact on Local Employment Opportunities:**

All Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and Project Affected Families (PAFs) expressed that the project would have a positive impact on local employment opportunities for their households.

### **5.11.5 Dependency on Local Natural Resources:**

According to the affected landowners, the project will not affect access to or use of local natural resources, such as forests or water sources, for livelihood purposes.

Overall, the project is expected to have limited adverse effects on existing livelihoods while creating opportunities for enhanced local employment and maintaining resource-based economic activities.

# CHAPTER 6

## Social Impacts

This chapter analyzes the anticipated social impacts of the proposed land acquisition for the construction of the **new connecting road project** at **Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur**, Himachal Pradesh. It evaluates both the direct and indirect effects of the project on affected families, surrounding communities, and public infrastructure. The assessment encompasses a balanced review of positive and negative impacts, with particular focus on areas such as livelihoods, employment, income levels, access to common resources, social cohesion, and cultural practices. The insights presented are drawn from household surveys, stakeholder consultations, and focus group discussions, providing a comprehensive understanding of how the project is likely to influence the social dynamics and quality of life within the project-affected area.

### 6.1 Framework and Approach to Identifying Impacts

The Social Impact Assessment (SIA) of the construction of **New Connecting Road Project**, at **Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur** HP was undertaken to assess the potential social repercussions that may arise due to land acquisition. SIA aims to identify the likely effects of the project on the local population, communities, and cultural systems. As a decision-making tool, SIA helps project planners anticipate and mitigate negative impacts through a Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP).

The **framework and approach** adopted for identifying social impacts followed a **systematic and participatory process**, ensuring the involvement of all key stakeholders. The methodology comprised the following sequential steps:

- **Step 1:** Conducting a **background study** and reviewing relevant **case studies** to understand the broader social context and lessons learned from similar projects.
- **Step 2: Identifying Project Affected Persons (PAPs)** and communities likely to be impacted by the proposed land acquisition and development activities.
- **Step 3:** Designing a **structured primary survey questionnaire** aimed at capturing the **socio-economic conditions** of the affected families in a comprehensive manner.
- **Step 4:** Carrying out **field-level primary surveys** and engaging with stakeholders through **interviews and consultations** to gather detailed, first-hand information.
- **Step 5:** Performing a **systematic analysis of the collected data**, including trends, community feedback, and socio-economic indicators, to derive meaningful insights.
- **Step 6: Identifying potential social impacts**, evaluating their **intensity and significance**, and **geographically mapping** them to specific project components and locations.

This structured approach ensured a robust and evidence-based assessment of social impacts, forming the basis for designing appropriate mitigation and management strategies. Individual surveys were conducted in concerned area, and the summary of these consultations presented as follows:

## 6.2 Description of Impacts at various Stages of the Project

It can be categorized into three major stages: Pre-construction, Construction, and Post-construction or Operation. These stages will involve different levels of engagement with the local community and have varying social consequences. Due to the absence of a fully detailed project proposal or feasibility study, only a general assessment of the likely impacts at each stage can be provided. These are summarized in the table below.

### Stages of Social Impact:

#### A. Pre-Construction Stage:

- **Land Acquisition and Displacement:** During this stage, the primary social impact revolves around the acquisition of land. This may lead to the loss of ancestral land to the owner. One village is losing 5 electricity poles, which may affect electricity supply of tubewells of four beneficiaries and 20-25 indirect families.
- **Public Opposition:** There may be concerns or opposition from residents' owners who are affected by land acquisition or fear a reduction in property values and resettlement of their farming.
- **Compensation and Relocation:** The process of compensating affected property owners will have to be handled carefully, with full transparency and communication with affected parties. However, no physical displacement of houses will occur, and no pucca or kutchra residential structures are affected

#### B. Construction Stage:

- **Traffic Disruptions and Road Safety:** During construction, there may be disruptions to local traffic, which could increase congestion, reduce accessibility to certain areas, and temporarily impact the livelihoods of local dependent on passing trade.
- **Noise, Dust, and Air Pollution:** Construction activities are likely to generate noise, dust, and air pollution, which will impact the surrounding environment and the daily lives of residents. Mitigating these factors through controlled construction practices will be necessary.
- **Employment Opportunities:** The construction phase may provide short-term employment opportunities for local laborers and suppliers. However, this is a transient impact and must be balanced against the potential disruptions to daily life.

The Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) aims to mitigate adverse effects while enhancing the positive impacts associated with the project during all three stages. A description of the various impacts, along with management measures, is outlined in the Table 6.1.

The Social Impact Management Plan seeks to address the potential social impacts during each stage of the project. Proper planning and implementation will minimize the adverse impacts and enhance the long-term benefits of the project.

**Table 6.1: Description of Social Impacts at Various Stages of Project Cycle**

PROJECT STAGE	SOCIAL IMPACT	SOCIAL IMPACT MANAGEMENT MEASURES
<b>Pre-construction</b>	Land acquisition and displacement of existing properties	Fair compensation, transparent communication and continuous engagement with the affected families to build trust and minimize resistance.
<b>Construction</b>	Traffic increased congestion	Traffic Management plans, Alternative routes should be created
	Noise, dust, and air pollution from ongoing construction activities	Implementation of noise and dust control measures like <b>dust suppression systems, noise barriers, and regular monitoring</b> should be implemented
	Temporary employment for locals	<b>Prioritizing the hiring of local labour and sourcing materials locally</b>
<b>Post-construction or Operational</b>	<b>Stimulate the local economy</b> through increased business activities, events, and related commercial engagements	Regular <b>monitoring of economic impacts</b> and <b>inclusive development strategies</b> should be adopted
	Long-term infrastructure maintenance	need upkeep

### 6.3 Impacts as Perceived by the PAPs via Group Discussion

The **Project Affected Persons (PAPs)**, particularly those whose land is being acquired for the development of the proposed new connecting road project, have expressed several concerns regarding the potential **negative impacts** of the project. To understand these issues in depth, the SIA team conducted **field-level discussions** with PAPs, including **senior citizens and other community members**, to examine both **direct and indirect consequences** of the land acquisition. During these interactions, detailed information and insights were gathered from participants through **open discussions and participatory dialogues**. In the affected villages, **focus groups** were formed to facilitate more intensive engagement, where individuals voiced concerns related to the **loss of land**, and **demands for financial security and livelihood support**. These comprehensive deliberations enabled the SIA team to accurately assess the **perceived and actual impacts** on the affected population, forming a critical part of the overall social impact analysis.

### 6.4 Awareness about the Project

The **majority of people in the surrounding area** are aware of the upcoming new connecting road project, primarily through the **visible ongoing construction activities** at the site. Additionally, construction of MDR-94 on the Yamuna River was completed by the Uttarakhand government, indicating that the construction is being undertaken. This bridge has effectively informed **passersby and local residents** about the nature of the project, enhancing **public awareness and transparency** regarding the development taking place on the site.

### 6.5 Consent for the Project

At the outset of the public consultation meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at Gram Panchayat Bhawan, Bhagnani, the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Report and the Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP) were read out to the villagers. The community was invited to express their objections, concerns, and suggestions regarding the proposed New Connecting Road Project. The key issues raised and corresponding remedies suggested are summarized below:

**Table: 6.2 – Khasra details and Issues identified**

District	Tehsil	Area				Objection	Remedy for Objection
		Village/ Mauja	Khasra No and Objector	Total land of affected Khasra	Acquiring Land of affected Khasra		
Sirmaur	Paonta Sahib	Bhagani	1452/938/1	00-16-00 Bigha	00-02-00 Bigha		
			2136/1453/938/1	19-04-00 Bigha	00-18-00 Bigha		
			1559/937/1	33-03-00 Bigha	10-07-00 Bigha	Mr. Ramesh Kumar's brother of Mr Joginder Singh willing to give their mother's land for acquisition but if court's matter resolved	<b>SMD should support to resolved this matter legally</b>
			Kita-3	53-03-00 Bigha	11-07-00 Bigha		

#### **Community Feedback and Consent:**

- During the survey, **90.90% of respondents expressed no objection** to the proposed land acquisition, while **9.1% voiced their unwillingness** to part with their land, if his wishes not considered.
- Although all participants acknowledged awareness of the SIA process, they were demanding to resolve court cases and provide market value of their land and requested project should be completed as soon as possible.
- **Mr. Joginder Singh**, one of the co-owners of a plot under acquisition, expressed firm opposition to relinquishing his land despite repeated consultations. However, the **other co-owners (Mr. Ramesh Kuamr) have consented** to the acquisition. This divergence highlights the need for further dialogue and possible negotiated settlement to ensure equitable outcomes.
- Concerns were raised regarding the **fertility of the land**, its role as the **primary source of livelihood**, and its **high market value due to proximity to Paonta Sahib town**.
- Despite these concerns, the **majority of participants welcomed the project**, recognizing the potential benefits of improved connectivity, economic growth, and access to services in their area.
- All participants present in hearing requested that two underpasses and safety wall should be constructed.

While objections primarily focus on issues of **compensation, livelihood, and land loss**, the project enjoys **broad acceptance for its developmental value**. Addressing stakeholder concerns through **fair compensation, transparent negotiations, and livelihood safeguards** will be critical to achieving consensus and ensuring smooth implementation of the new Connecting Road Project.

## 6.6 Compensation Preferences

During the survey majority of the PAP demanded land at primary place for their agriculture purpose and cash compensation at the prevailing market rates. People believe that after this proposed project, the physical development of the youth will increase. This will lead to rapid development of the area, but one people expressed their disagreement to give their land for this project.

As the landowner, **Joginder Singh**, has not agreed to surrender his portion of the land for the project, due court case is pending in the judiciary system.

## 6.7 Summary of Social and Cultural Impact

The Social Impact Assessment findings indicate that the proposed new **Connecting Road Project** will have minimal adverse effects on the social and cultural aspects of the project area.

### 6.7.1 Cultural or Religious Significance:

The affected land has no identified cultural or religious significance, such as sacred sites, community gathering spaces, or heritage structures.

### 6.7.2 Access to Community Facilities:

The project will not disrupt access to schools, temples, health centers, or other community services. Instead, the improved connectivity may indirectly enhance access to such facilities for residents of surrounding areas.

### 6.7.3 Social Cohesion:

The project is expected to strengthen community cohesion by improving transportation, enhancing interaction between neighbouring settlements, and facilitating participation in communal and economic activities.

### 6.7.4 Traditional Practices:

No traditional practices such as local festivals, customary grazing routes, or seasonal community events—are expected to be affected by the project.

### 6.7.5 Consultation and Participation:

The affected households reported feeling adequately consulted regarding the project and its potential impacts. Stakeholder engagement has been effective in addressing concerns and ensuring transparent communication.

Overall, the project is anticipated to positively influence the social fabric by improving accessibility and connectivity, while preserving cultural integrity and traditional lifestyles.

## **Chapter-7**

### **Analysis of Costs and Benefits Recommendations on Acquisition**

After careful analysis of the positive and negative impacts of the well-planned New **Connecting Road Project** from Km. 0.00 to 0/650 at Village Bhagani, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, District Sirmaur, the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) team compared the costs with the expected benefits. A detailed assessment of public purpose, land requirements, and social impact is presented below.

#### **7.1 Assessment of Public Purpose from the Project**

The proposed road will provide direct inter-state connectivity between Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, linking Paonta Dak Patthar Road (MDR-94) with the bridge over the Yamuna River at Navghat Bhimawala, Vikasnagar. This infrastructure is expected to deliver multiple socio-economic benefits:

- **Economic Growth:**

By drastically reducing travel distance to Vikasnagar from 20 km to 3 km and to Dehradun from 85 km to 30 km, the road will enhance trade, tourism, and local commerce. Farmers will have quicker access to markets, transport costs will reduce, and local businesses will see increased customer inflow. Construction and maintenance activities will create direct and indirect employment opportunities, while improved connectivity will boost inter-state trade and service-sector growth.

- **Tourism and Pilgrimage Access:**

The road will provide an important feeder link to the Yamunotri pilgrimage route and National Highway No. 709, attracting tourists and pilgrims. This will benefit hospitality, transport, and small-scale local enterprises.

- **Public Service Accessibility:**

Residents will gain faster access to health, education, and administrative services in both Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, improving quality of life and reducing travel time for essential services.

This project is expected to provide long-term benefits to the local population and surrounding areas, contributing to regional integration, economic upliftment, and improved social welfare. The acquisition of private land and subsequent completion of the road connection will serve a clear public purpose, contributing to the region's social and infrastructural development.

Any delay in project implementation would likely lead to an increase in overall project costs and lost opportunities for growth and connectivity, thereby placing an additional financial burden on both the state government and local communities. Moreover, postponing the project would result in the inefficient use of manpower and resources already invested.

Accordingly, the social costs and benefits associated with the proposed land acquisition have been assessed under the assumption that neither the project location nor the extent of land to be acquired will change. This approach ensures a realistic evaluation of the project's long-term value and necessity.

## 7.2 Less Displacement Alternatives & Minimum Land Requirement:

The acquisition involves **11-07-00 bigha** of private agricultural land, representing the minimum area necessary for the road's alignment and engineering design. The alignment was selected to minimize displacement, avoid built-up areas, and reduce environmental impacts. Without this acquisition, the planned connectivity and associated benefits could not be achieved. The project prioritizes efficient land use, ensuring maximum benefits with minimal impact.

## 7.3 Nature and Intensity of Social Impacts

Permanent impacts will include the loss of land and associated agricultural income for affected households. Temporary impacts during construction may include dust, noise, and disruption of daily activities near the project site. The table given below shows that the nature and intensity of various identified impacts during different stages of project cycle:

**Table 7.1: Nature and Intensity of Impacts**

Impact Area	Impact Identified	Stage of Project	Nature of Impact	Intensity of Impact
Social	Disputes among stakeholders for receiving compensation	Pre-Construction	Temporary	Short term
	Interruption in daily life of PAF due to labour and vehicle movement	Construction phase	Temporary	Short term
Land/Structure	Loss of agricultural land	Construction phase	Permanent	Long term
Livelihood	Loss of livelihood for people dependent on acquired agricultural land	Construction phase	Permanent	Long term
Environment	Increased air and noise pollution due to construction activity	Construction phase	Temporary	Short term

## 7.4 Viability of the Suggested Mitigation Measures

The resettlement plans should be designed in accordance with the RTFCTLARR Act, 2013 and the HP RTFCTLARR Rules 2015 and the latest R&R policy.

Adequate budgetary support should be fully committed and made available by the project authorities to cover the costs of land acquisition (including compensation and income restoration measures) within the agreed implementation period.

The project should comply with the *Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013*, the *HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015*, and relevant environmental safeguards. Key mitigation measures include:

- Environmental and Social Safeguards
  - Effective measures must be adopted to **control emissions** from construction vehicles and machinery. **Regular monitoring** and strict adherence to environmental standards will help minimize **air pollution** in and around the project site.
  - Ensure safe material handling of road construction to reduce noise and congestion.
  - Provide drainage and stormwater management to avoid waterlogging in adjacent areas of agricultural land.
  - One Slab of culvert 6-meter Span and 1 Hume pipe culvert 0.9 m diameter should be provisioned.
- Resettlement and Compensation Measures
  - The **resettlement plan** must comply with the provisions of the **Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013**, the **HP RFCTLARR Rules, 2015**, and the most recent **Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) policies**. It is essential that **adequate budgetary provisions** are fully committed and made available by the project authorities to cover all **land acquisition-related costs**, including **compensation, resettlement, and income restoration measures**, within the defined implementation period.
  - If the **requiring body** and the **State Government** take timely and appropriate measures to address the losses faced by **Project Affected Persons (PAPs)** and the wider community, the **long-term developmental benefits** of the project are expected to **outweigh its short-term social costs**, contributing positively to the region's progress and well-being.

With these measures in place, the long-term socio-economic benefits of the new connecting road enhanced regional connectivity, market access, tourism growth, and improved public services those will far outweigh the short-term construction-phase impacts.

#### 7.4.1 Summary of costs and benefits of the project:

##### Costs (Negative Impacts):

- Acquisition of **11-07-00 bigha** of private agricultural land.
- **Loss of agricultural livelihoods** for 10 affected household.
- **Disruption of CPRs**, including five electric poles, one wire boundary wall, and trees.
- **Environmental risks**, including dust, noise, and temporary ecological disturbance.
- **Legal delays** due to ongoing court proceedings on part of the land.

**Benefits (Positive Impacts):**

- **Enhanced Connectivity:** Travel distance to Vikasnagar will be reduced from 20 km to 3 km, and to Dehradun from 85 km to 30 km.
- **Economic Growth:** Improved access to markets, increased trade, and growth in agricultural and small business activities.
- **Tourism Development:** Easier access to Yamunotri pilgrimage route and inter-state religious tourism.
- **Social Development:** Improved access to healthcare, education, and government services.
- **Employment Opportunities:** Short-term jobs during construction and long-term opportunities through increased business activity.
- **Regional Integration:** Strengthened inter-state trade and connectivity, supporting the broader development goals of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

**Overall Analysis:**

The long-term benefits of the project significantly outweigh the short-term costs. The acquisition is essential for regional connectivity and socio-economic development.

**7.4.2 Final Recommendation**

The proposed acquisition of 11-07-00 bigha of private land for the new Connecting Road Project is justified and essential. Considering the scale and benefits of the project, it is concluded that this land requirement is very small, critical and essential for the successful implementation of the initiative. The minimal land requirement, coupled with the substantial public benefits, supports proceeding with acquisition under full compliance with legal, environmental, and social safeguards. By ensuring fair compensation, mitigating environmental impacts, and maintaining transparent community engagement, the project can deliver transformative benefits while safeguarding the interests of affected persons and the surrounding community. In other words, the benefits of the project are multifaceted, including the generation of employment opportunities, stimulation of local businesses, increased state revenue, and the strategic positioning of Bhagani as a key node in the Himachal Pradesh connectivity with Uttarakhand. These outcomes align with the broader goals of sustainable and inclusive regional development.

## Chapter-8

# Social Impact Management Plan

Social Impact Management Plan presented here is designed to mitigate, manage and monitor the adverse social impacts arising from the construction of the new connecting road project. The objective of this plan is to ensure that the project minimizes the disruptions to the affected communities while promoting equitable outcomes for all stakeholders. The compensation for PAF of project affected villages is proposed to be determined on the basis of Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 and HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015.

### 8.1 Measures to Avoid, Mitigate, and Compensate Impacts

To ensure the proposed project is implemented with minimal adverse effects on the community and environment, a comprehensive strategy comprising **avoidance, mitigation, compensation, and monitoring measures** has been developed. These steps aim to uphold the principles of responsible development and safeguard the rights and well-being of affected stakeholders.

#### 1. Avoidance Measures

- **Optimized Land Utilization:** Acquisition will be strictly limited to the essential **11-07-00 bigha**, ensuring minimal disruption to private landholdings.
- **Sensitive Project Design:** The layout and construction activities will be carefully planned to **avoid interference with nearby residential and commercial structures**, reducing physical and social disturbances.

#### 2. Mitigation Measures

- **Environmental Safeguards:** Implementation of scientifically designed **stormwater and surface runoff management systems** to prevent water accumulation and related issues in adjacent areas.
- Adoption of **eco-friendly construction materials and practices** to limit environmental degradation.
- **Air and Noise Pollution Control:** Use of **dust suppression techniques**, such as water sprinkling and covering materials during transport and storage.
- Scheduling of noisy construction activities within **permitted hours** and use of **low-noise machinery** to reduce impact on local residents.
- **Safety Protocols:** Installation of **barricades, warning signs, and lighting** around the construction zone to ensure public and worker safety.
- Regular **on-site monitoring** to identify and mitigate safety risks during execution.

#### 3. Compensation Measures

- **Fair and Transparent Compensation:** Provision of **timely and adequate financial compensation** to landowners in accordance with applicable legal frameworks (RFCTLARR Act, 2013 and HP RTFCTLARR Rules, 2015).
- Where required, **alternative land or livelihood support** shall be offered to ensure complete rehabilitation of displaced or economically affected persons.
- **Community Engagement and Support:** Establishment of **clear communication channels** to inform and consult with the local population throughout project execution.
- Creation of **local employment opportunities** and support for **community-based enterprises** to ensure long-term socio-economic benefits.

#### 4. Monitoring and Compliance

- Engagement of an **independent monitoring agency** to oversee adherence to environmental, social, and compensation-related commitments.
- Conduct of **periodic impact assessments** during and post-construction to evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation strategies and make necessary adjustments.

By implementing these comprehensive measures, the project seeks to **minimize adverse impacts, promote inclusive development, and enhance community resilience**, ensuring a balanced approach between infrastructure growth and social responsibility.

#### 8.2 Measures included in R&R and compensation as per Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation, and Resettlement Act, 2013

This SIA report will be beneficial for the requiring body to undertake land acquisition process and also to prepare a Plan of Action according to the aspiration conveyed by the project affected families and other stakeholders during public consultations and surveys. In the light of the findings of the study, the following steps may be taken for mitigation of expected social impacts.

**Table 8.1: Impacts identified and corresponding mitigation measures**

S.NO	ASSESSED IMPACT	SUGGESTED MITIGATION MEASURES
1	Loss of Private Land.	Appropriate Compensation to title holders and stakeholders as per the provisions of RTFCTLARR Act, 2013
2	Inconvenience caused due to acquisition for PAP	Appropriate Compensation to Owners and stakeholders as per the provisions of RTFCTLARR Act, 2013.
3	Revision of Circle Rates	As per the decision of District Collector and requiring body
4	Inconvenience caused due to acquisition for displaced Families and individuals	Affected landowners and stakeholders shall be provided with <b>fair and adequate compensation</b> in accordance with the provisions of the <b>RTFCTLARR Act, 2013</b> , to support their <b>relocation to a new site</b> and the <b>construction of new residential structures</b> .
5	Loss of employment/income/livelihood dependent on land.	Appropriate Compensation to Individuals as per the provisions of RTFCTLARR Act, 2013.
6	Environmental pollution and vehicular traffic	Development and implementation of a management plan to mitigate environmental impact i.e. the increased level of noise traffic dust within the permissible limit may be taken up in consultation with local people  - <b>Dust Control:</b> Regular <b>water sprinkling</b> should be carried out during the <b>construction phase</b> to minimize dust emissions and maintain air quality within <b>permissible limits</b> .  - <b>Stormwater and Runoff Management:</b> <b>A scientifically designed drainage system</b>

		<p>should be installed to ensure the <b>safe and efficient passage of stormwater and surface runoff</b>, thereby preventing waterlogging and soil erosion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Waste Management:</b> All <b>excavated muck and construction debris</b> must be disposed of responsibly at <b>designated dumping sites</b>, avoiding unauthorized dumping in ecologically sensitive areas.</li> <li>- <b>Protection of Natural Resources:</b> Strict measures must be taken to ensure that <b>no drainage lines are blocked or disrupted</b>, and that <b>no damage occurs to surrounding forests, water bodies, trees, or vegetation</b> during any phase of construction or operation.</li> <li>- <b>Traffic and Road Safety:</b> Traffic emerging from the complex to the <b>main road</b> must be managed to <b>prevent congestion</b> and ensure the <b>smooth flow of vehicles</b>.</li> <li>- Installation of <b>clear and visible signage</b> is essential to guide traffic and prevent accidents. Additionally, a <b>dedicated and safe access route</b> to the main road should be developed to avoid disruption to public traffic and ensure safe entry and exit.</li> <li>- As discussion with PWD, 1 Slab of culvert 6-meter Span and 1 Hume pipe culvert 0.9 m diameter is also provision.</li> </ul>
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### 8.3 Outlay for SIMP Implementation

The **entitlement framework** and the **rehabilitation and resettlement process** have been outlined below, based on the **legal provisions applicable** to the project-affected families. An **Entitlement Matrix** has been formulated in accordance with the relevant **laws, rules, and policies** established by the **Government of India** and the **Government of Himachal Pradesh**. This matrix provides a comprehensive summary of the **types of losses** anticipated due to land acquisition and outlines the **corresponding entitlements**, detailing the **nature, scope, and extent of support** to be provided to affected persons.

**Table 8.2: Impact Category and Entitlement details**

S.NO	IMPACT CATEGORY	UNIT OF ENTITLEMENT	DETAIL OF ENTITLEMENT	REMARKS
<b>Loss of Assets- title holders</b>				
<b>1</b>	<b>Private Land</b>	Land Owner(s)/ title holders	<p>(a) Cash compensation for the land at market value, which will be determined as per provisions of RFCTLARR Act, 2013</p> <p>b) Amount equivalent to current stamp duty on compensation amount for replacement of lost assets.</p> <p>c) Loss of perennial and non-perennial crops and trees will be compensated in accordance with the provisions of Horticulture and Agriculture Department as applicable.</p> <p>(d) A Grant of Rs 25,000 for replacement of poultry farming.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Loss of Structure (wire boundary wall)</b>	Land Owner/ Title holder	<p>a) Cash compensation determined on the basis of current rates as per admissible norms</p> <p>Shifting allowance of Rs 50000 as per provisions of RFCTLARR Act, 2013 for the displaced families</p>	
<b>Loss of livelihood – Title and Non-Title holders</b>				
<b>3</b>	<b>Loss of livelihood- Title holders</b>	Individual / Family	One-time grant of Rs. 25,000 (value prescribed under RFCTLARR Act 2013)	
<b>4</b>	Fore-seeable and unforeseen impacts likely, during the construction stage	Owner, affected person	Payment of damages if any structures, temporary access would be provided, wherever necessary	Such as temporary impacts on structures, temporary disruption to access or passage
<b>5</b>	<b>Electric poles</b>	Power Interruption and impacted in Villager's daily routine.	Alternate arrangement or shifting of electricity poles should be made for directly and indirectly affected families and for villager during the project work.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Trees</b>	Source of Income, Lack of wood, Loss of shadow, Increased pollution level, Loss of fuel/ timber, Loss of nutritious fruits.	<p>Barbed wire fencing should be done for planting saplings at other places.</p> <p>Proper compensation should be given to the plants.</p> <p>Free saplings should be given.</p> <p>Plants are ready in about 5 to 10 years, meanwhile compensation should be given for the loss caused by plants and woods.</p>	

7	<b>Construction</b>	Increased traffic congestion	Traffic Management plans, Alternative routes should be created	
8	<b>Pollution due to construction</b>	Noise, dust, and air pollution from ongoing construction activities	Implementation of noise and dust control measures like <b>dust suppression systems, noise barriers, and regular monitoring</b> should be implemented	
9	<b>Post-construction or Operational</b>	<b>Stimulate the local economy</b> through increased business events and activities and related commercial engagement.	Regular <b>monitoring of economic impacts</b> and <b>inclusive development strategies</b> should be adopted Training services could be provided for.	

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**ANNEXURE A-  
List of landowners**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of Landowners</b>	<b>Mobile Number</b>	<b>Khasra Number</b>
1	JOGINDER SINGH	9873287394	1559/937/1
2	RAMESH KUMAR	8287789224	
3	AMARJEET SINGH	9873287394	
4	NATHIRAAM	9882006909	2136/1453/938/1
5	SHRIMATI KARESHNI DEVI	8894611150	
6	JAGDISH	9418203285	
7	SHRAVAN KUMAR	9418203285	
8	BHAGAT RAM	9882006909	
9	SHRIMATI SHAMSHAD BEGUM	8894789115	
10	SHRIMATI KASHMIRA BEGUM	9465858119	
11	DHARAM PAL		1452/938/1

## **ANNEXURE B- PHOTOGRAPHS OF FIELD VISIT**



**SITE VISIT**



**FIELD VISIT**



**FIELD VISIT**



**FIELD VISIT**



**FIELD VISIT**



**SECONDRY STAKEHOLDERS  
(PRI MEMBER)**



**SECONDRY STAKEHOLDERS  
(SBI BANK)**



**SECONDRY STAKEHOLDERS**



**SECONDRY STAKEHOLDERS**



**SECONDRY STAKEHOLDERS**



**SECONDRY STAKEHOLDERS**

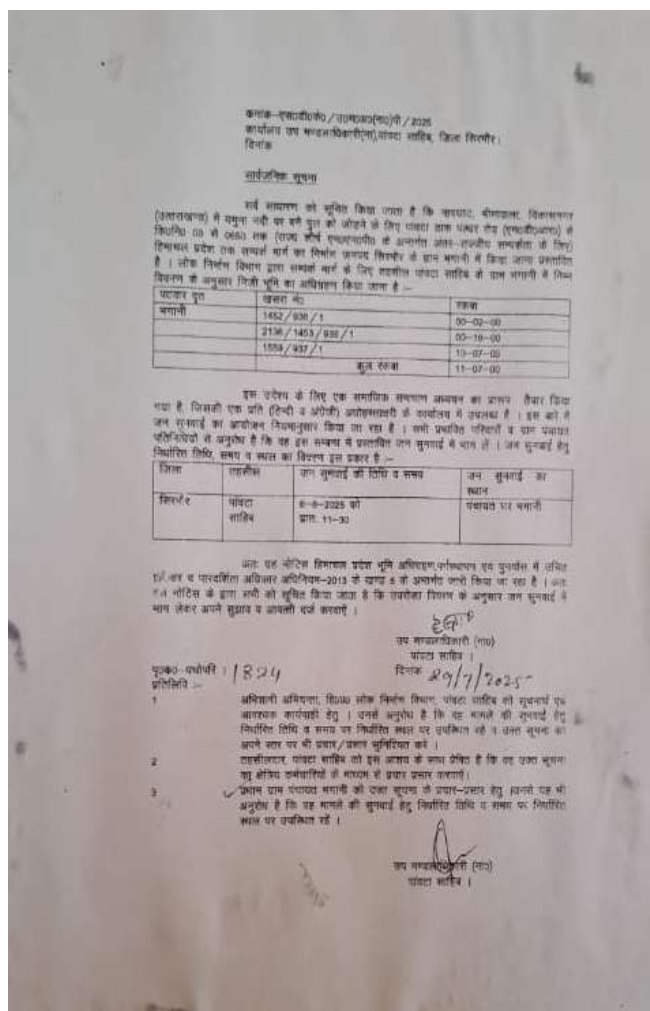


**SECONDRY STAKE HOLDERS**



**SECONDRY STAKE HOLDERS**

## ANNEXURE C- PHOTOGRAPHS OF PUBLIC HEARING



PUBLIC HEARING



PUBLIC HEARING



PUBLIC HEARING



PUBLIC HEARING



PUBLIC HEARING



PUBLIC HEARING



NEWS PAPER CUTTING OF THE PUBLIC HEARING

[illegible]

5	Shyam Singh	Shayari	934558770	✓
6	Shyam Singh	- 21	9882558651	✓
7	Shyam Singh	Shayari	9816783870	✓
8	Shyam Singh	Shayari	944001700	✓
9	Shyam Singh	Shayari	9896694574	✓
10	Shyam Singh	Shayari	9882190190	✓
11	Shyam Singh	Shayari	9882190190	✓
12	Shyam Singh	Shayari	9882190190	✓
13	Shyam Singh	Shayari	9882190190	✓
14	Shyam Singh	Shayari	9882190190	✓

## ATTENDANCE SHEET OF PUBLIC HEARING

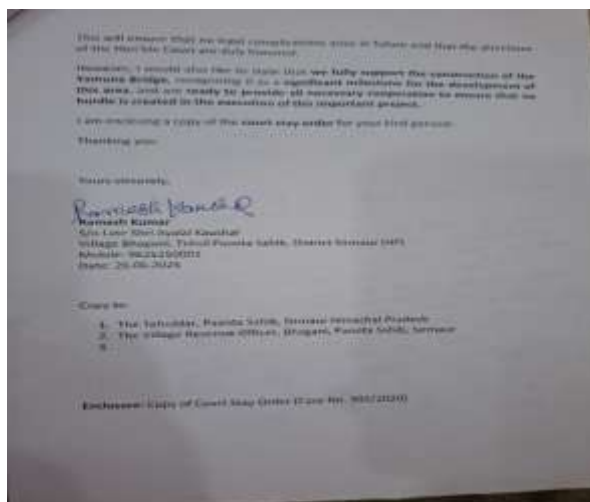
15	Makajjara	Bhagani	9805711584	Makajjara
16	Laxmi St.	Machanaka	7010174295	Laxmi St.
17	Adiga St.	Machanaka	9816230875	Adiga St.
18	Machanaka	Machanaka	9815585355	Machanaka
19	Machanaka	Machanaka	7018589454	Machanaka
20	Machanaka	Machanaka	9822697230	Machanaka
21	Machanaka	Machanaka	7418587153	Machanaka
22	Machanaka	Machanaka		Machanaka
23	Machanaka	Machanaka		Machanaka
24	Machanaka	Machanaka		Machanaka

26	Bul	Aburwala	978887720	Rat
27				<del>Shiradi</del>
28				Shiradi
29				<del>Shiradi</del>
30	Shigani	Aburwala	9888412100	Shiradi
31	Singh puri	Chandani Singh	9822912527	Shiradi
32	Shigani	Chandani Singh	9851829081	Shiradi
33	Shiradi	Chandani Singh	9822912527	Shiradi
34	Shiradi	Chandani Singh	9822912527	Shiradi
35	Shiradi	Chandani Singh	9822912527	Shiradi

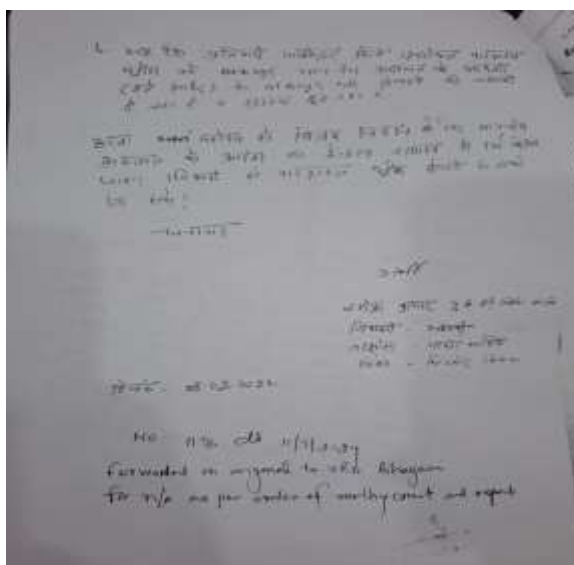
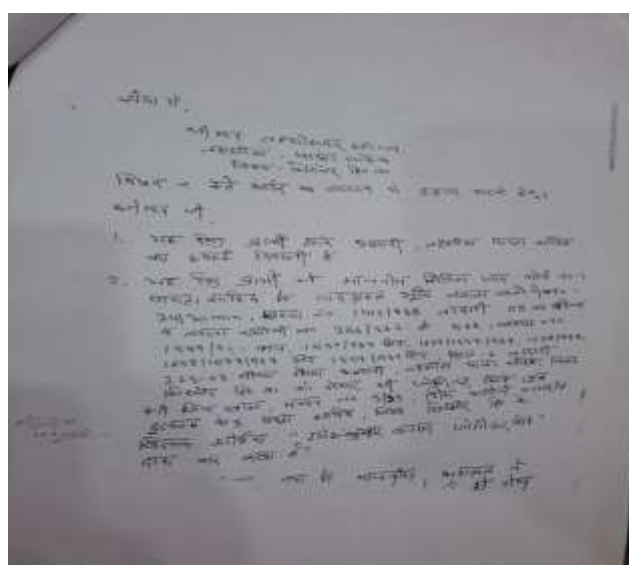
## ATTENDANCE SHEET OF PUBLIC HEARING

ATTENDANCE SHEET OF PUBLIC HEARING		
Sl. No.	Name of the Person	Mobile No.
36.	Roshan Lal Chauhan	7018174967
37.	Navin Singh Patani LAO NUBA	82197-07554
38.	E. Yashpal	92345-8297
39.	Atanisha - CPBART DEPRIMA	9611440598

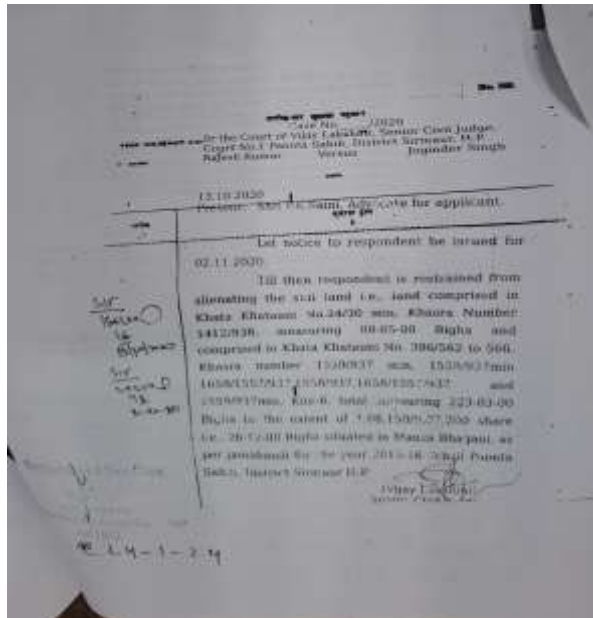
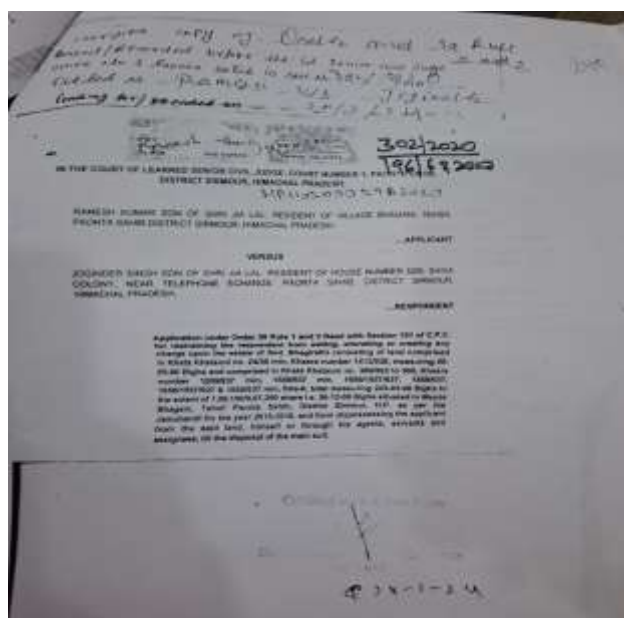
## ATTENDANCE SHEET OF PUBLIC HEARING



## COMPLAINT LETTER SUBMITTED IN PUBLIC HEARING



## COMPLAINT LETTER SUBMITTED IN PUBLIC HEARING



## COMPLAINT LETTER SUBMITTED IN PUBLIC HEARING

No. PBW(B)F(5)16/2022  
Government of Himachal Pradesh  
Department of Public Works (Section-B)

From

Principal Secretary (PW) to the  
Government of Himachal Pradesh

The Engineer-in-Chief,  
HPPWD, Nigam Vihar, Shimla-1 (H.P.)

Dated: Shimla-2 the

18.01.2024

Subject: Construction of approach road from Paonta Dak Pathar road (MDR-94) to connect bridge over Yamuna River at Bhaimwal Km. 0/000 to 0/650 (for inter State Connectivity under State Head MNP).

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. PWD/WS/NHN/Est.Road/2023-8327-28 dated 27.12.2023 on the subject cited above and to convey approval of the Government to acquire land measuring 12-13-00 Bigha (approximate cost of land Rs. 85,45,824/-) for construction of approach road from Paonta-Dak Pathar road (MDR-94) to connect bridge over Yamuna River (constructed by the NH Uttarakhand) at Navghat Bhaimwala ( Km. 0/000 to 0/650) under State Head MNP.

You are, therefore, requested to take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

(Surjeet Singh Riathore)  
Joint Secretary (PW) to the  
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. as above. Dated: Shimla-2 the

18.01.2024

Copy to the Superintending Engineer, 12<sup>th</sup> Circle HPPWD, Nahan, District Sirmour for information & necessary action.

(Surjeet Singh Riathore)  
Joint Secretary (PW) to the  
Government of Himachal Pradesh

No. PW-SE-XII-WS-PNT/Road/2024-77658 Dt 15-02-2024  
Copy forwarded to the Executive Engineer,  
Paonta Division, HPPWD Paonta Sahib for information and  
further necessary action please.

Executive Engineer (D)  
12<sup>th</sup> Circle HPPWD, Nahan

FR

S.E.  
E.E (D)  
E.O.  
Budget  
PMGSY

Supd  
30/1/24

WA-III  
EE(D)  
30/1/24

IN THE COURT OF LD. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE COURT NO. 1 PAONTA SAHIB  
DISTRICT SIRMOUR H.P.

CIS No. - 124/202

Joginder Singh aged about 35 years S/o Sh. Jiya Lal R/O Bhagani Tehsil  
Poanta Sahib, Distt. Sirmour H.P.

Plaintiff

Versus

1. The Govt. of H.P. Through Collector Sirmour District Sirmour at Nahan, H.P.
2. HPPWD, Nahan, District Sirmour at Nahan, H.P. through its Superintending Engineer.
3. Khara Construction company through its Prop. Sh. Manjeet Singh S/O Sh. Jaswant Singh R/O H.NO 1 Roi Avenue Firozpur, Punjab.

Defendants

Civil suit for mandatory injunction directing the defendants to restore the landed property, comprising of khata khatoni No 386/566, total measuring 33-15-00 Bighas situated in Mauja Bhagani Tehsil Paonta Sahib District Sirmour H.P. as it was prior to digging done by the defendants and as well as for Permanent injunction

pectfully Shewith,

1. That the plaintiff is owner in possession of the property comprising of Khata no. 386, Khatoni No. 562 to 566 khasra no. 1559/937 measuring 33-15-00 situated in Mohal Bhagani Tehsil Ponta Sahib, District Sirmour H.P. and this property is the sole source of livelihood of the plaintiff and his family. The department of HPPWD i.e. defendant no. 2 is going to start a new bridge in the property of the plaintiff near Yamuna River at Village Bhagani.

That the defendants are intending to raise construction of bridge by joining hands with PWD Uttarakhand and the plaintiff when judge the some interference on the part of the defendants, then the plaintiff requested the official of the defendants to not to commit illegal interference over the property of the plaintiff, then the officials of the

31-5-23, Sh. Manjeet Singh  
Present for plaintiff  
Assigned to the Court of  
Civil Judge-2 Paonta Sahib, for disposal  
In accordance with law. Put up on  
Permanent

COURT CASE DOCUMENT OF Mr. JOGINDER SINGH

## ANNEXURE- D

### Social impact assessment in villages affected by land acquisition for the project Schedule for affected families

District: .....

Tehsil.....

Village.....

#### Demographic and Household Information

1. Name of the Respondent: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Mobile. No: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Age: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Gender: ( ) Male ( ) Female ( ) Other
5. Household Size: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Number of Adults (18+): \_\_\_\_\_
7. Number of Children (<18): \_\_\_\_\_
8. Primary Occupation of Household Head: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Secondary Occupations (if any): \_\_\_\_\_
10. Monthly Household Income (in INR): ( ) <10,000 ( ) 10,000–25,000 ( ) 25,000–50,000 ( ) >50,000
11. Educational attainment of respondent:  
( ) Illiterate ( ) Primary (1–5) ( ) Secondary (6–10) ( ) Higher Secondary (11–12) ( ) Graduate or above
12. Social Category: ( ) General ( ) Scheduled Caste (SC) ( ) Scheduled Tribe (ST) ( ) Other Backward Classes (OBC) ( ) Other
13. Do you belong to any indigenous or tribal group specific to Himachal Pradesh? If yes, specify: \_\_\_\_\_
14. Residential Status: ( ) Permanent Resident ( ) Tenant ( ) Other use ( )
15. Type of House: Pucca house ( ) Kaccha house ( )
16. Electricity Connection YES ( ) NO ( )
17. Ration Card. APL ( ) BPL ( )
18. Source of Drinking Water  
(Water supply through pipe, Desi hand pump, India Mark, two hand pump, other)
19. Is there a separate kitchen in the house? Yes... No.....  
If not, then where do you cook food-(In the courtyard, in the room, in the open, other)
20. Which fuel is used for cooking?  
Lpg Gas, kerosene, wood, cow dung cakes, others

#### Land and Asset Ownership

21. Type of Land Affected by Acquisition: ( ) Agricultural  
( ) Residential ( ) Commercial ( ) Forest ( ) Other

22. Source of Irrigation : Canal, Government tube well, Private tube well/pump set, rented pump set, pond, well, other

23. Total Land Owned (in bighas/ hectares/ kanaal): \_

24. Extent of Land to be Acquired (in bighas/hectares): \_\_\_\_

25. Ownership Status: ( ) Owned ( ) Leased ( ) Encroached ( ) Other

26. Other Assets Affected (e.g., house, shop, trees, wells): \_

27. Do you have legal documentation for the land/assets? ( ) Yes ( ) No If no, explain:

28. Primary Use of the Land: ( ) Farming ( ) Horticulture (e.g., apple orchards) ( ) Grazing ( ) Residential ( ) Other

29. Annual Income from Affected Land/Assets (in INR): \_

30. Do you/family have any loan liability from any financial institution or money lender  
Yes..... No.....

31. If yes, Describe

32. How far do your family members go for medical treatment?  
..... km

33. Give details of the assets available with your family

Serial No.	Asset Name	Number Only

34. Why are you not willingly agreeing to sell the said land? Please tick (multiple answer)

1. There is no tradition in the family to sell ancestral land.....

2. The land is registered in the name of many people.....

3. Other shareholders of the land live outside.....

4. Land sale will increase family unemployment.....

5. The source of income will end.....

6. People will have to migrate from the village.....

7. The market value of the land is much higher than the current circle rate.....

8. The dispute regarding the land is pending in the court.....

9. Others.....

35. On what conditions is the land agreed to be sold? Please tick (multiple answer)

1. Compensation should be given at a rate higher than the circle rate.....

2. Land of equal quality and size to that acquired should be provided at some other place.....
3. Permanent employment should be provided under the project.....
4. Physical/financial assistance should be provided for starting alternative employment.....
5. Free technical training should be provided by a recognized institution.....
6. Priority should be given to provide license for starting licensed business.....

### **Livelihood and Economic Impact**

36. How does the loss of land/assets affect your household's primary source of income?  
☐ Complete Loss ☐ Partial Loss ☐ No Impact

Explain: \_\_\_\_

37. Are there alternative income sources available to your household?

☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, specify: \_\_\_\_

38. Do you have access to skill development or training programs to support alternative livelihoods? ☐ Yes ☐ No

39. How will the project impact local employment opportunities for your household? ☐ Positive ☐ Negative ☐ No Impact

Explain: \_\_\_\_

40. Are you dependent on local natural resources (e.g., forests, water sources) for livelihood? ☐ Yes ☐ No

41. If yes, how will the project affect this dependency? \_\_\_\_

### **Social and Cultural Impact**

42. Does the land have any cultural or religious significance (e.g., sacred sites, community spaces)? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_

43. Will the project disrupt access to community facilities (e.g., schools, temples, health centers)? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, specify: \_\_\_\_

44. How will the project affect social ties or community cohesion in your area? ☐ Strengthen ☐ Weaken ☐ No Impact Explain: \_\_\_\_

45. Are there any traditional practices (e.g., festivals, grazing patterns) that may be affected? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_

46. Do you feel adequately consulted about the project and its impacts?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, what improvements are needed? \_\_\_\_

### **Resettlement and Rehabilitation Preferences**

47. Are you willing to relocate if required? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, preferred location: \_\_\_\_

48. What type of compensation do you prefer? ☐ Cash Compensation

☐ Land-for-Land ☐ Employment ☐ Other Specify other: \_\_\_\_

49. Do you have access to information about the resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) package? ( ) Yes ( ) No

50. What are your concerns regarding resettlement (e.g., housing quality, access to services)? \_\_\_\_\_

51. Are there specific needs for vulnerable groups in your household (e.g., elderly, disabled, women)? ( ) Yes ( ) No If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Environmental and Resource Impact**

52. Will the project affect access to natural resources (e.g., water, forests, grazing land)? ( ) Yes ( ) No If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

53. Are there environmental concerns (e.g., pollution, deforestation) due to the project? ( ) Yes ( ) No If yes, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Additional Comments**

54. What are your primary concerns about the project? \_\_\_\_\_

55. What benefits do you expect from the project for your household/community? \_\_\_\_\_

56. Any additional suggestions for minimizing negative impacts or enhancing benefits? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Secondary Stakeholders**

57. This section is for secondary stakeholders such as local businesses, community leaders, or neighbouring communities.

58. Role in the Community: ( ) Business Owner ( ) Community Leader ( ) Neighbouring Resident ( ) Other

59. How will the project impact your business or community role? ( ) Positive ( ) Negative ( ) No Impact

60. Will the project affect local infrastructure or services you rely on (e.g., roads, markets)? ( ) Yes ( ) No

If yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

61. Are there opportunities for your business/community to benefit from the project (e.g., contracts, employment)? ( ) Yes ( ) No

If yes, specify: \_\_\_\_\_

62. What mitigation measures would you suggest to address adverse impacts on secondary stakeholders? \_\_\_\_\_

