

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 100 ha. of forest land in favour of DCF, Mukundra National Park Kota for village relocation of Munkundra Hills National Park in Kota district in State of Rajasthan.- regarding.

1. The State Government of Rajasthan, Forest Department vide their letter No. P.1(49) VAN/2017, Jaipur dated 03.11. 2017 (**Pg. 1-179/c**) submitted the above mentioned proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
2. The facts related to the proposal as contained in the State Government's letter dated 03.11.2017 are given below in the form of fact sheet:

FACT SHEET

1.	Name of the Proposal	Proposal for diversion of 100 ha. of forest land in favour of DCF, Mukundra National Park Kota for village relocation of Munkundra Hills National Park in Kota district in State of Rajasthan.
2.	Location (i) State (ii) District	Rajasthan Kota
3.	Category	Rehabilitation
4.	Particulars of Forests: (i) Name of Forest Division and Forest area involved. (ii) Legal status/Sy. No. (iii) Map	Kota Territorial Forest Division =100 hectares Protected Forest Land i. SOI Toposheet – Pg. 10/c. ii. Digital DGPS map- Pg. 10/c. submitted. However, google imagery has been submitted at Pg. 12-14/c. iii. Land Use Plan – Not Submitted.
5.	Total period for which the forest land is proposed to be diversion (In years).	99 years.
6.	Topography of the area	-
7.	(i) Geology (ii) Vulnerability to erosion	- Less.
8.	(i) Vegetation (ii) Density	Eco Class – 3 0
9.	The sensitivity of the forest region for soil protection.	-
10.	Whether area is significant from wildlife point of view	-
11.	Species-wise (Scientific names) and diameter class wise enumeration of trees in unbroken area.	NIL.
12.	Whether forms part of National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, etc. (if so, details of the area and comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed).	No.
13.	Whether the forest land proposed for diversion is located within eco-sensitive	No.

	zone (ESZ) of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (Note: in case, ESZ of a protected area is not notified, then 10kms distance from boundary of the protected area should be treated as ESZ):	
14.	Whether any RET species of flora and fauna are found in the area. If so details thereof	No rare/endangered species of flora & fauna were found in the area.
15.	Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.	0.001
16.	Whether any protected archaeological/heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monuments is located in the area.	There is no protected archaeological/heritage site/defense establishment in the proposed area.
17.	Whether any work of in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been carried out (Yes/No). If yes details of the same including period of work done, action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still in progress.	No
18.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in col. 2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project, if no recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.	Yes.
19.	Whether clearance under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986 is required?	Not required.
20.	Status of Wildlife Clearance	Not required.
21.	Compensatory Afforestation	-
	(i) Details of non-forest area/degraded forest area identified for CA, its distance from adjoining forest, number of patches, size of each patches.	Not applicable.
	(ii) Map showing non-forest/degraded forest area identified for CA and adjoining forest boundaries.	
	(iii) Detailed CA scheme including species to be planted, implementing agency, time schedule, cost structure, etc.	
	(iv) Total financial outlay for CA	
	(v) Certificate from the competent authority regarding suitability of the area identified for CA and from management point of view.	
22.	Catchment Area Treatment	NA

23.	Rehabilitation of Oustees a) No of families involved b) Category of families c) Details of rehabilitation plan.	NA
24.	Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006	<p>The District Collector, Kota, Government of Rajasthan has issued a FRA Certificate No. Rev.III/2017/2541 dated 09.08.2017 (Pg. 20/c) for diversion of 100 ha. of forest land in favour of DCF, Mukundra National Park Kota for village relocation of Munkundra Hills National Park in Kota district in State of Rajasthan.</p> <p>The District Kota has reported that the complete process for identification and settlement of rights under the FRA has been carried out for the entire 100.00 ha of forest area proposed for diversion. The copy of minutes of meeting of the forest right Committee (s), Mohalla Sabha, Sub-Divisional Level Committee and the District Level Committee are enclosed with the proposal (Pg. 21-31/c). The diversion of forest land for facilities managed by the Government as required under section 3(2) of the FRA have been completed and consent has been given by Mohalla Samiti. The proposal does not involve recognised rights of Promotive Tribal Groups and Pre-agricultural communities.</p> <p>However, the State Government has not given the FRA certificate as per Ministry's guidelines 05.07.2013.</p>
25.	Cost Benefit Ratio	<p>Yes, DCF, (WL) Mukundara National Park, Kota, Rajasthan, has reported that after relocation of two villages Girdharpura and Damodarpura habitat (CTH) area about 601 hector, land would be surrender for Tiger/Wildlife Conservation purpose. The villagers after relocation would be rehabilitate to this site would get employment in the city area and adjoining Ranpur industrial area.</p> <p>For conservation point of view after this relocation the area would be develop as inviolate area which is essential requirement of tiger reintroduction. For this project cost benefit ratio analysis may be analyze only in terms of conservation as mentioned above. (Pg. 17/c).</p>
26.	Total Cost of the Project	Rs. 7320 lakhs
27.	Employment Potential	40000 Temporary Employments.
28.	Recommendation i. DFO ii. CCF iii. Nodal Officer iv SG	Recommended (pg. 171/c) Recommended (pg. 176/c) Recommended (pg. 178/c) Recommended (pg. 179/c)
29.	District Profile: (i) Total Geographical area of the district (ii) Total Forest area/Divisional Forest area	521700 hectares. 131125 hectares. 27 cases

(iii) Total area diverted since 1980 with number of cases.	2086.416 hectares.
(iv) Total CA stipulated since 1980 a. Forest land including penal CA b. Non Forest Land	467.156 hectares CA 457.135 hectares PCA
(v) Progress of Compensatory Afforestation 22.08.2016 a. Forest land b. Non Forest land	457.135 hectares. 497.80

3. The State Government has submitted the Village Relocation plan for Girdharpura and Damodarpura copy of the same is available in the file at **(Pg. 59-68/c)**.
4. As per MoEF & CC, GoI Guideline dated 05.02.2009 **(Pg. 69-72/c)**, exempted the NPV for rehabilitation proposal.
5. The Site Inspection Report has been received from the Regional Office, Lucknow vide their letter No. 8A/RAJ/09/1112/2017/FC/145 dated 15.12.2017 **(Pg. 181-187/c)**. The site inspection of the above project was carried out by Shri **K.K. Tiwary**. CF (Central) Lucknow on 16.11.2017.

6. Name and Designation of Inspecting officer:

The site inspection of the proposal was carried out by the undersigned in presence of following officers-

Name	Designation	Place
Sri G.P.Sharma	CCF& Field Director, MHTR	Kota
Sri A.K.Kapoor ¹	RCCF	Kota
Sri S.R.Yadav	DCF(Wild Life), Mukundra NP	Kota

Others officers/Field staff of the Forest Department were also present. The report of the site inspection in prescribed Performa is as follows:

- (i) **Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion. Protected Forest--Lakhava B** Forest area under Kota Forest Division_ The area is in **urban limits of kota city and lies in the** close vicinity of Industrial area at Kota_
- (ii) **Item wise break up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:**

Agriculture	64 ha.
Social Facility	8 ha.
Residential	22 ha.
Approved Road	6 ha.
Total	----- 100 ha. -----
- (iii) **Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential or not. If yes, details thereof.**
Construction of residential building is proposed for rehabilitation of displaced villagers.
- (iv) **Total cost of project at present rates. 7320 Lacs**
- (v) **Wild- Life (Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not.)** Presence of only few reptiles is reported.
- (vi) **Vegetation:** Eco- Class- III with almost 0 density.

Area is devoid of trees with sparse growth of shrubs of Cassia tora, Prosopis juliflora, Dichrostachys cineraria. Zizyphus species etc. There is very little soil cover over the rocky bottom and at many places rocks are exposed.

Total number of trees to be felled.- NIL

Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem In the area. Not applicable

Important species: NIL

Number of trees to be felled of girth below 60 cm. NIL

Number of trees to be felled of girth above 60 cm. NIL

(vii) Background note on proposal.

Under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, as amended in 2006, provisions have been laid down for voluntary relocation of villagers residing inside core or critical tiger habitat areas, for the purpose of creating inviolate areas for tiger conservation. In Mukurdra hills area 16 villages are situated inside core area of Tiger Reserve (MliTR). Phase-wise relocation of villagers is proposed for better management of natural ecosystem and wildlife of the protected area. Girdhapura and Damodarpura are the two major villages which are targeted to be shifted in the first phase through voluntary relocation on mutually agreed terms and conditions as per relevant sections of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 read with requirements laid down in Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest rights) Act, 2006.

The proposal of Relocation is based on Independent assessment of the requirements of the villagers and suitability of the Proposed Rehabilitation site during a Field study carried out by a team comprising of Forest and revenue officials. The survey Report and proposal for rehabilitation of villagers have been prepared on the basis of Rehabilitation Package sanctioned by the state government vide its order dated 08.08.2001 and in the light of guidelines issued under the revised centrally sponsored scheme of Project Tiger.

(viii) Compensatory afforestation: Not applicable.

(ix) Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. if yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials. No.

(x) Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not. Yes proposal for rehabilitation of villagers has been prepared on the basis of Rehabilitation Package sanctioned by the state government vide its order no. F.11(2)Forest/99 dated 08.08.2001.

(xi) Reclamation Plan:

The land proposed for rehabilitation of villagers being displaced from Core area of Tiger reserve is reported to be identified after many joint visits of the site with villagers and detailed discussion with district officials. The villagers have given their consent for relocation and have accepted two package options for rehabilitation being provided by the State government. A Standing Committee under chairmanship of Divisional Commissioner and Rehabilitation Committee constituted under chairmanship of District Collector shall ensure the implementation of the relocation plan as per the approved guidelines of State government and VVPA, 1972. An ECO-development Committee is also Proposed to assist and participate in the relocation activities.

(xii) Details on catchment and command area under the project. NA

(xiii) Cost benefit ratio:

Not calculated. Described as a Tiger / wild life conservation measure, Cost-Benefit has not been qualified.

(xiv) Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest/ State Government. Recommended by the Nodal Officer, FC Act & by the State Govt.

(xv) Utility of the project.

After relocation of all 16 villages from the critical / Tiger habitat (CTH) area about 1268 of land (601 ha in case of relocation of two villages namely Girdhapura and Damodarupra) would be rendered for Tiger/wild life conservation purpose. The area so vacated shall develop into forest in continuity to the CTH which shall facilitate Tiger reintroduction. The Villagers relocated under the project shall also be benefited by Rehabilitation Packages proposed under the Scheme.

(xvi) Numbers of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes to be benefited by the project. About 800.

(xvii) Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural /religious value. NO

Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees / forests exist in the areas proposed for diversion.

No

Whether the land under diversion forms part of any unique eco-system. No

(xviii) Situation W.R.T. any P.A.

The proposed area is not located within 10 kms of any protected area.

(xix) Any other information relating to the project:

The proposed site for relocation of villagers is in close proximity to industrial area of Ranpur where villagers may get regular employment for livelihood. The site is also well connected to nearby township of Kota. Due to refractory nature of the relocation site, scope or raising agriculture crops is limited, however allied activities such as animal rearing, dairy farming may be taken up by the villagers.

(xx) Recommendations-

- a) The rehabilitation of the villagers in new surrounding is a major challenge for the Forest department and district administration a very strong institutional arrangement is needed to accomplish the task within a given timeframe. An effective grievance redressal mechanism must also be in place.
- b) The vacant area of Relocation site and the adjoining forest areas may be planted by indigenous species with the involvement of local ECO Development Committees to meet the demands of fuel and fodder of the relocated villagers.

It is proposed that the proposal along with site inspection report received from the Regional Office (Central Zone) Lucknow, may be placed before the Forest Advisory Committee in its forthcoming meeting scheduled to be held on 25.01.2018 for its examination and appropriate recommendations.
