

AGENDA ITEM NO.1

F. No. 8-52/2014-FC

Sub: Diversion of 119.0580 ha of forest land for construction of canal network system of right bank canal of Gosikhurd Project, in favour of Executive Engineer, Gosikhurd Right Bank Canal Division Bramhapuri, District Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

1. The State Government of Maharashtra vide their letter No. FLD-3614/CR-71/F-10 dated 20.05.2014 submitted the above mentioned proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
2. The proposal envisage construction of distributaries and canal network system of Gosikhurd Right Bank Canal in Dist. Chandrapur like branch canal, distributaries, minors and sub minors from km 51 to 99 km. of right bank canal of Gosikhurd project on Wainganga river near village gosikhurd in Tahsil: Pauni, District: Bhandara. The proposed project i.e. the network distribution system is part of Gosikhurd project. The dam site is located about 45 Km from Bhandara, Nagpur and Chandrapur Districts, through Left Bank Canal, Right bank Canal and four Lift Irrigation Schemes & renovation to Asolamendha Irrigation Project. The project was accorded first revised administrative approval for Rs. 2091.113 Crores by Govt. of Maharashtra vide letter no. Gosi./1069/1055/274/96/MP-2 dated 3/7/1999. The project has investment clearance for Rs. 7777.85 Crores at 2007-08 price level by Government of India planning commission Water Resources Division, New Delhi letter No. F. No. 20(13)/2008-WR dated 14/05/2008.
3. On the completion of the project the population of 763490 in 608 villages will be benefited in the Nagpur, Bhandara and Chandrapur Districts. An employment of 1335.60 Lacs mandays will be generated during its construction period. The employment opportunities will be created not only during construction phase but also during the post construction e.e. irrigation phase providing round the year employment to the agricultural labour and the entire area will become a green belt.
4. The density of the area proposed for diversion varies from 0.1 to 0.4 involving 28,564 trees of miscellaneous species out of which 25,980 trees are below 60 cm girth and 2,584 trees are above 60 cm girth.
5. Govt. of India has accorded final approval for diversion of 2961.102 ha forest area for submergence, dam and right bank canal of Gosikhurd Project vide No. 8-296/87-Fd dt. 19.08.1988. The purpose wise diversion for this original proposal was-
 - a) For submergence and dam - 1487.610 ha
 - b) For Right bank canal - 1473.492 ha
 - Total - 2961.102 ha
6. Subsequently 5 realignments were approved by Govt. of India. For smooth flow of water and to minimize the maintenance, lined canals were proposed in the project, thus reducing the width of forest area required for construction of canals. This improved technology has resulted in savings in forest area required for the project. In first 4 realignments the revised forest areas for Right Bank Canal Km-1 to 10, km – 11 to 25, km -28 to 50 and km 25 to 27.93 were proposed and approved by Govt. of India. In the fifth realignment the forest area required in Right Bank Canal in km-50 to 99 was proposed and also additional area required for the dam due to identification of some revenue areas as “Zudpi Jungle” and some realignments in the dam. In this fifth realignment proposal distribution network system for Right Bank Canal in km-01 to 50 was also included. The details of originally approved areas and subsequent realignments is as follows-

Realign	Particular	Letter No.	Approva	Area requirement after	Differen
---------	------------	------------	---------	------------------------	----------

ment No	s	& date	l Area (ha)	realignment			ce Ha.
				From Original approve d area (Ha)	Additi onal (New) area (Ha)	Total (Ha)	
I.	R.B.C km 1 to 10	8-54/98FC dt. 13.01.199 9	65.963	24.151	16.346	10.497	25.466
II.	R.B.C km 11 to 25	8-91/99FC dt. 13.07.200 0	308.775	106.290	12.450	118.740	190.035
III.	R.B.C km 28 to 50	8- 74/2001- FC/3561F dt. 01.10.200 1	179.283	58.930	46.675	105.605	73.678
IV.	R.B.C km 25 to 27.93	8-91/99FC dt. 09.09.200 5	60.040	30.660	0.000	30.660	29.380
A	R.B.C km 50 to 99 (realignm ent)	8-96/87- FC dt. 27.05.200 8	859.431	595.079	0.000	595.079	264.352
B	Dam (realignm ent)		1487.61 0	1050.68 0	657.28 0	1707.96 0	- 220.350
C	Distributi on Network System (km 1 to 50)		0.000	0.000	55.847	55.847	-55.847
		Total	2961.10 2	1865.79 0	788.59 8	2654.38 8	306.714

7. The user agency has provided double Zudpi Jungle area of 5922.204 ha for compensatory afforestation. This Zudpi Jungle area has been handed over to forest department vide Collector, bhandara's letter No. AK/Zudpi Jungle/WS/1127/1996 dt. 29.10.1996 and has been notified as protected forest vide Government of Maharashtra Gazette No. L.N.D.3/C.R.55//1988 dt. 04.02.1999.
8. The construction of Dam has been completed and 313 MM³ water has been stored up till now & Right bank Canal Km 1 to 50 is completed, and Km 51 to 99 is almost completed. Distribution system between Km 1 to 50 is nearly completed & disnet work on 20000 ha in this reach is in progress & Irrigation Potential of 7800 ha has been created in this reach also. Now construction of network distribution system (like Branches, Distributaries &

- minors) for creating irrigation Potential in reach km 51 to 99 is proposed. Construction of this network distribution system requires forest area of 119.058 ha.
9. While preparing the original forest proposal based on preliminary survey, submergence of dam component & Right bank main canal and one branch canal was only considered for calculation of required forest area. As the canal & disnet passes through forest & non forest area in Bhandara & Chandrapur district, additional forest land is required for distribution system so as to give full benefit to the farmers in command area. The forest area required for disnet in reach Km 1 to 50 is already considered in earlier sanctioned realignment proposal. Remaining forest land required in Km 51 to 99 is now incorporated in present proposal.
 10. There are 28564 trees are falling in the proposed area in Bramhapuri Division out of which 25980 trees are below 60 cm girth and 2584 trees are above 60 cm girth. Girth class wise abstract is given as under-
 11. The area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc as certified by Deputy Conservator of forests, Bramhapuri Division, Bramhapuri. Deputy conservator of forests, Bramhapuri Division, Bramhapuri has certified that the proposed project is beyond 10 km from the Protected Area.
 12. Deputy Conservator of Forests Bramhapuri Division has certified that non-forest area covered under the project is not acquired under the Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975 by application of Section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927, is not recognized as deemed reserved Forest. However, proposed Gosikhurd Right Bank Canal KM.51 to KM 99 Tal. Saoli, Bramhapuri District Chandrapur respectively it has been identified as "Forest" as envisaged in the interim order given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, dated 12/12/1996.
 13. For free natural movement of wildlife in forest area, 42 passes are proposed on existing canals and 18 passes on the proposed canal. These passes will be constructed by the User Agency under supervision of forest department. A Committee headed by Chief Conservator of Forests (WL), Pench will be set up to monitor compliance of this condition.
 14. Three alternative routes for distribution network system for Gosikhurd right bank canal km – 51 to 99 were studied in detail and the alternative with barest minimum requirement of forest area was accepted for final alignment of the distributaries etc. for the distribution network system.
 15. The facts related to the proposal as contained in the State Government's letter dated 20.05.2014 are given below in the fact sheet:

FACT SHEET

1.	Name of the Proposal	Diversion of 119.0580 ha of forest land for construction of canal network system of right bank canal of Gosikhurd Project, in favour of Executive Engineer, Gosikhurd Right Bank Canal Division Bramhapuri, District Chandrapur, Maharashtra.
2.	Location (i) State (ii) District	Maharashtra Chandrapur
3.	Particulars of Forests: (i) Name of Forest Division and Forest	Brahmpuri Forest Division Status of land Area

	<p>area involved.</p> <p>(ii) Legal status/Sy.No.</p> <p>(iii) Map</p>	<p>Reserved Forest 45.8150 ha Protected Forest 63.0480 ha Zudpi Jungle 10.1950 ha Total 119.0580 ha</p> <p>Reserved, Protected Forest and Judpi Jungle</p> <p>i. SOI Toposheet - 284/c. ii. DGPS Map -291-305/c. iii. Forest Map – Pg-306/c. iv. Forest cover map – not enclosed. v. 10 km radius map showing Pas – not enclosed</p>
4.	Topography of the area	-
5.	(i) Geology (ii) Vulnerability to erosion	- The proposed area does not form part of any seriously eroded area.
6.	(i) Vegetation (ii) Density (iii) No. of trees enumerated/felled	<p><i>Teak, Ain, Bija, Anjan, Khair, Garadi, Rohan, Bahawa, Behada, Bhera, Moha, Mowai, Sehana, Hirda, Halda, Aonla, Dhawala, Hiwar, Chichwa, Chaar, neem, Palas, Arjun, Bel, Dhaman, Dikamali, Ghoghar, Ghoti, Kalam, Karanji, Kasai, Kinhi, Tendu, Biba, Jambhul, Pta, Dhoban, Fendara, Hardula, Hingan, Kakai, Kuda, Kumbhi, Lendia, Lokhandi, Semal, Surya, etc.</i></p> <p>Mentioned as 0.1 to 0.4 in Part-I of Form A, while PCCF has reported density below 0.6.</p> <p>Below 60 cm girth 25980 Above 60 cm girth 2584 Total 28564</p>
7.	Whether area is significant from wildlife point of view	No
8.	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)	The proposed area does not form part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, etc.
9.	Whether any RET species of flora and fauna are found in the area. If so	No rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna have been found/ recorded in the area.

	details thereof	
10.	Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.	The proposed area for diversion is in forest.
11.	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/defence establishment in the proposed area.
12.	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
13.	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, the requirement of land is unavoidable and barest minimum. Pg-171/c
14.	Whether clearance under the Environment (protection) Act, 1986 is required?	Yes, Clearance is obtained vide letter No. J11016 (7)/84-EN-5(1-5) dated 03.02.1988.
15.	Compensatory Afforestation	It is reported by the DCFG in Parat-II that Compensatory afforestation is not applicable in the instant case as there is overall saving in forest land requirement. The Regional Office in its site inspection report has indicate that the State Government has already proposed CA on double the zudpi Jungle i.e. on 5922.204 ha for diversion of 2961.102 ha of forest land for Gosikhurd project and the same has been notified as Protected Forest by the state Government. Up to 5th realignment of project, 2654.388 ha. forest area has been utilized for the project. Thus now no non forest area is required for CA for this proposal.
	(i) Details of non-forest	-

	area/degraded forest area identified for CA, its distance from adjoining forest, number of patches, size of each patches.	
	(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.	-
16.	Catchment Area Treatment	-
17.	Rehabilitation of Oustees a) No of families involved b) Category of families c) Details of rehabilitation plan	NA NA NA
18.	Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006	Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been submitted by the State Government (Pg 173-183/c). It is reported that User Agency has submitted a copies of resolution of Gramn Sabha of concerned Grampanchayats under Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006. However, copies of Gram Sabha resolution have not been submitted along with the proposal. Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is not in accordance with the MoEF's guidelines dated 5.02.2013 read with Guidelines dated 5.07.2013. District Collector in his certificate has simply

		given NOC for the diversion of forest land. Copies of the proceeding of the concerned Committee(s) required as per the MoEF's guidelines dated 5.07.2013 has not been submitted by the State Government. The User Agency has given an undertaking to submit the certificate of Collector under FRA-2006 as per the format-II provided by Govt. of India vide dated 05/07/2013 before formal approval.
19.	Cost Benefit Ratio	Pg-33/c
20.	Total Cost of the Project	Rs 7777.85 Crores
21.	Recommendation i. DFO ii. CCF iii. Nodal Officer iv SG	Yes (pg-210/c) Yes (pg-272/c) Yes (pg-275/c) Yes (pg-283/c)
22.	District Profile (i) Total Geographical area of the district (ii) Total Forest area/Divisional Forest area (iii) Total area diverted since 1980 (iv) Total CA stipulated since 1980 (Forest land) a. Forest land including penal CA b. Non Forest Land	3865.34 sq km 1192.87 sq km 1870.54 ha (15 cases) 700.42 ha 607.35 ha

16. Deputy Conservator of forests, Bramhapuri has certified that no alternate alignment is possible and the Forestland required is the barest minimum.
17. The user Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of net Present Value of the Forest land proposed for diversion.
18. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has recommended the proposal subject to the conditions, given in his specific recommendations, under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. His specific recommendations on the proposal are as under:
 - i. Project Authority will construct 60 passes on existing canal & proposed canal at their own cost for free movement of wildlife within a period of three years under the supervision of Forest Department.

- ii. Project Authority will submit certificate of Collector under FRA-2006 as per the format-II provided by Govt. of India vide dated 05/07/2013.
- iii. The Project Authority shall provide water to forestry and allied purposes at the rate fixed by Government of Maharashtra.
- iv. The Project Authority will defray the cost of removal of 28564 trees in the proposed area. However, minimum no. of trees will be felled.

SITE INSPECTION REPORT, REGIONAL OFFICE, BHOPAL

The site was inspected by Shri S.K.Bhandari, CCF on 11/06/2014 along with the DFO , Brahamपुरi , SDO, executive staff of the Range and officers and staff from the User Agency.

1. Wild Life:

Fox, Langur, monkeys, snake and lot of avian fauna were seen during inspection. Compartment history do also mention presence of hyena, wild boar ,Tiger, Panther , Cheetal, Sambhar, hare, etc.

2. Vegetation :

The forests mainly are Tropical Mixed Dry Deciduous. The density of forest is from almost nil to 0.6 but the trees are mostly of younger ages. Species of *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Lagerstroemia parviflora*, *Butea monosperma*, *Diospyros melanoxylon* , *Madhuca latifolia*, *Terminalia belerica*, *Anogeissus latifolia* , *Tectona grandis*, *Hardwickia binata*, *Accacia cathechu*, *Buchnanian lazan*, *Soymida febrifuga*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Chloroxylon swietenia*, *Cleistanthus collinus* etc.

There will not be much impact on general ecosystem as felling is spread over in vast areas stretching to a length of about 50 Km. In fact there is every likelihood that due to continuous availability of moisture along the course of the canal natural vegetation will improve and neutralize the adverse impact caused by felling of trees.

3. Background note of the proposal:

Gosikhur project is constructed across the river Wainganga near the village Gosikhur in Tehsil Pauni, district Bhandara. From this dam Right Bank canal was made for a length of 99 km. FCA approval for this canal was given vide no.11-296/207-FC dt. 19/02/1988 and the same has been completed for a greater stretch and the remaining portion at the distant end is near completion. From this canal , canal network system is to be constructed to take water to the fields of farmers.

4. Compensatory Afforestation:

The State Government has already proposed CA on double the Zudpi Jungle i.e., on 5922.204 ha. for diversion of 2961.102 ha. of forest land for Gosikhur project and the same has been notified as Protected Forest by the State Government . Up to 5th realignment of project, 2654.388 ha. forest area has been utilised for the project. Thus now no non forest area is required for CA for this proposal.

5. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act ?

No such violations were seen in field visit. The state Government has also stated this.

6. Whether the proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced people?

No.

7. Reclamation Plan : details and Financial Allocation:

No.

8. Details of catchment and command area under the project. Catchment area treatment plan to prevent siltation of reservoir.

CAT plan not Applicable. The command area for this project will be 10396.00 ha. (Annexure-B)

9. Cost benefit ratio ;

4:17

10. Recommendation of Nodal officer and the State government:

The State government has recommended the proposal.

11. Utility of Project:

On the completion of the project, the population of 763490 in 608 villages will be benefitted in Nagpur, Bhandara and Chandrapur Districts. An employment of 1335.60 lac man days will be generated during the construction period. Employment will also be provided during the post –construction irrigation phase by providing round the year employment to the agriculture labour and the entire area will be the green belt.

12. Whether the land being diverted has any socio-cultural value:

No.

Whether any sacred grove or very old growth of trees or forests exist in the area proposed for Diversion?

No such things were seen during the inspection.

Whether the land under diversion forms part of any unique eco-system?

No.

17. Situation with respect to any P.A.

Beyond 10 km.

18. Details of comments of the APCCF on alternate routes/alignments for locating the projects.

Alternatives have been given and shown in map and mentioned in comparative statement. The State Government has stated that three alternatives were studied in detail and the alternative with barest minimum requirement of the forest area was accepted for final alignment of the distributaries, etc. for distribution network system.

19. Recommendation of Regional APCCF along with the detailed reasons:

This is a proposal for diversion of 119.058 ha. of forest land for construction of canal network system of right bank canal of Gosikhurd project. There is no displacement of people involved in the project. No violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been observed. No construction of buildings of any kind is involved. A large part of the trees proposed for felling includes small trees below 60 cm GBH. This is an irrigation project proposed to cater

to a large population involving 608 villages in three districts of Maharashtra. The project also has a huge potential of generating employment in these districts.

The site was inspected by Shri S.K Bhandari, CCF (C) of this office. He has given a set of recommendations in his site inspection report which may be accepted.

In view of the above, it is recommended that the proposal may kindly be considered for approval.

20. Any other information related to the project :

The Inspecting Officer has submitted the inspection report along with photographs and compartment histories and the same is enclosed.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF DCF (CENTRAL):

- i. Since the FCA clearance for main canal has already been obtained and the same is passing through forest areas, the question is to assess whether in some cases huge numbers of trees are allowed to be cut. To assess this user agency was asked to provide command area of those canals which involve felling of huge numbers of trees. The same has been provided by the User agency and the same has been placed at Annexure- A. From it is clear that command area of canals justify diversion of forests having most of trees of less than 60 cm. Girth. It may kindly be seen that out of total 28564 numbers of trees, 18417 are in the class 15- 30 cm. Being a project to irrigate fields in villages to uplift the livelihood prospects of the villagers the same is recommended.
- ii. Where ever canal passes through forests for more than a kilometre, over bridge passes may be constructed.
- iii. Water may be provided for forestry activities at the rate fixed by the government.
- iv. Vacant places created in forest due to the construction activities, may be recouped by creating plantation of species found in the vicinity at the cost of the User agency.

RECOMMENDATION OF FAC IN ITS MEETING DATED 17TH TO 18TH JULY, 2014

The Proposal was considered by the FAC in its meeting proposal was discussed in the meeting of Forest Advisory Committee held on 17th to 18th July, 2014 and the Committee, after detailed discussion, recommended the following:

1. State Government should be requested to submit the following information /documents:
 - i. Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 in accordance with the MoEF's advisory dated 5.02.2013 read with Guidelines dated 5.07.2013.
 - ii. Clarification whether the present proposal which envisages construction of network distribution system (like Branches, Distributaries & minors) for creating irrigation Potential in reach km 51 to 99 was the part of original proposal. And, if not, reason for not inclusion of the same in original proposal.
 - iii. Status note on the 306.714 ha of forest land claimed to have been saved due to realignment of the canals/ distribution network along with a certificate from the competent authority in the user agency to the effect that the said land has not been used for any non- forestry purpose and confirmation from concerned regional CCF of the State Forest Department that the said forest land is in its possession.

- iv. The Forest cover map and the 10 km radius map to assess the protected areas within this radius.
2. Complaints have been received by the ministry regarding the irregularities in the Gosikhurd project. Therefore, once the above information/documents are submitted by the State Government to discuss the issues related to CA and the action taken by the state Govt on the irregularity issues, the Nodal officer and the officer in-charge of the project may be requested to attend the FAC.

The above recommendations were communicated to the State Government vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 20.08.2014. The State Government of Maharashtra vide their letter no. FLD-3614/CR-71/F-10 dated 10.09.2014, placed along with its annexure at page 383-405, submitted the clarifications as sought by the Ministry in its letter dated 20.08.2014. Summary of the same is given as under:

S.No.	Points	Clarifications
1.	Compliance of Scheduled Tribe and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 in accordance with the MoEF's advisory dated 5.02.2013 read with Guidelines dated 5.07.2013.	The State Government has informed that the user agency had earlier submitted the compliance under FRA -2006 with the proposal and that the gramsbhas of all the 32 villages passed resolution giving consent to their project Collector, Chandrapur has also given his no objection under Forest Rights Act-2006 for diversion of forest land for project. However the compliance was not as per the guidelines issued by government of India vide letter dt. 5-7-7-2013 and the user agency has requested the collector, Chandrapur to issue the certificates in the format prescribed by Government of India. The gramsabhas of the concerned villages have passed the revised resolution & it is in process of submission to Sub Divisional Committee. As narrated above user agency has already initiated the process for submission of compliance under Forest Rights Act as per guidelines dt. 5-7-2013. The user agency has submitted undertaking regarding submission of certificates & resolution under Forest Rights Act-2006 before final approval to the proposal. The user agency has requested that Government of India may be requested to consider the above facts and undertaking and accord in-principle approval to the proposal (Pg-387/c)
2.	Clarification whether the present proposal which envisages construction of network distribution system (like Branches, Distributaries	The State Government has informed that the Gosikhurd Dam has been constructed bearing a capacity of 1146 MM3 water storage. It was designed by considering the total command area on Right Bank Canal in KM. 1 to 99 that is 64362 Ha

	<p>& minors) for creating irrigation Potential in reach km 51 to 99 was the part of original proposal. And, if not, reason for not inclusion of the same in original proposal.</p>	<p>and out of that between Km.51 to 99 Network Distribution System command area is 12737 Ha forest area is requested to irrigate 10396 Ha command area, Main canal & branch canals are in completion stage. At the time of sanctioning of original project report, survey of submergence of dam, main canal and branch canals were carried out in details. In major project, canal network distribution system cannot be finalized without finalization of main canal alignment, and any changes if crops up in main canal, respective changes will also be in distribution system. And hence, the cost, length and area required for canal network distribution system considered in original proposal was on pro-rata basis, that is 10% of total command area. That time, no details of private of forest land was available for propagation of forest proposal. Now the details alignment survey for canal net work distribution system has been carried out.</p> <p>Hence, for creation of Irrigation potential between Km. 51 to 99 Network Distribution System, Proposal for diversion of 119.058 Ha. Forest land is submitted.</p>
3.	<p>Status note on the 306.714 ha of forest land claimed to have been saved due to realignment of the canals/ distribution network along with a certificate from the competent authority in the user agency to the effect that the said land has not been used for any non- forestry purpose and confirmation from concerned regional CCF of the State Forest Department that the said forest land is in its possession.</p>	<p>The State Government has informed that the original approved forest area for diversion for Gosikhurd project as per GOI letter no. 8-296/87-FC dt. 19-2-1988 was 2961.102 Ha. Realignment proposals for this project were submitted 5 times to GOI and were approved by GOI. The detailed statement of forest area approved, saved/excess requirement is submitted in the proposal. A Copy of the same is enclosed. (Pg-388/c).</p> <p>The State Government has also reported that remaining forest area of 306.714 Ha is in possession of Forest Department. The certificate of competent authority of the user agency and CCF (T) Chandrapur is enclosed. (Pg-389-390/c).</p>
4.	<p>The Forest cover map and the 10 km radius map to assess</p>	<p>The State Government has informed the map showing 10.00 km radius map from the protected area and the forest cover map is enclosed (Pg-391-</p>

	the protected areas within this radius.	392/c). 10 Km radius map has been authenticated by the DCF. However, no Pas have been indicated in the 10 KM radius.
5.	Complaints have been received by the ministry regarding the irregularities in the Gosikhurd project. Therefore, once the above information/documents are submitted by the State Government to discuss the issues related to CA and the action taken by the state Govt on the irregularity issues, the Nodal officer and the officer in-charge of the project may be requested to attend the FAC.	<p>The State Government has informed that the user agency has informed that Gosikhurd Project is Major Project and some antisocial elements are creating nuisance to delay the project by making fixious complaints. These issues were discussed in the 3rd meeting (on 2/6/2010) of High Power Steering Committee for implementation of National Projects. It was decided to have a Special Audit from Accountant General of Maharashtra, Quality Control Inspection by Central Quality Assurance Team and High Level C.W.C. Officers and Technical Reports from Visveswarya National Institute of Technology (VNIT), Nagpur.</p> <p>All the three above mentioned teams submitted the report before the 4th Steering Committee (held on 09 February, 2011). All issues were discussed in 4th meeting of High Power Steering Committee and found that complaints are baseless, only procedural irregularities are found and for that, the Steering Committee asked state representative to strengthen the Accountant and Engineers at various levels, so that procedural errors can be avoided. Minutes of Meeting are enclosed (Pg-393-405/c).</p>

In view of the above clarifications submitted by the State Government, it is proposed that proposal may be submitted to the FAC for its consideration in its forthcoming meeting scheduled to be held on 20th to 21st October, 2014.
