



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
उत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, चंडीगढ़ / Northern Regional Office, Chandigarh



F. No. 8-9/2020-FC (Part file)

Dated: 08-09-2020

To,

Sh. Sandeep Sharma
Assistant Inspector General of Forests
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi-110003

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forest use of 680.1 ha (instead of 1100 ha) of forest land for construction of Ujh Multipurpose Hydro Electric Project in District Kathua, U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir (Online proposal no. FP/JK/HYD/44025/2020)-reg.

Ref: U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir letter no. PCCF/FCA/2806/2214-15 dated 18.08.2020

Sir,

With regards to the above subject, I am directed to bring to your kind notice the above matter in which site inspection of the project site have been done by undersigned and with the approval of competent authority a copy of site inspection report is herewith enclosed for further necessary action please;

Encls: As above

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
08/09/20
(K Z Bhutia)

Dy Inspector General of Forests (C)

**SITE INSPECTION REPORT FOR DIVERSION OF 680.1 HA OF FOREST
LAND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF UJH MULTIPURPOSE HYDRO ELECTRIC
PROJECT IN KATHUA DISTRICT, JAMMU & KASHMIR**

1.	Name of project/proposal Date of Inspection	:	Diversion of 680.10 ha (instead of 1100 ha) forest land under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for non-forest use in favour of M/s JKSPDC for construction of Ujh Multipurpose Hydro Electric Project in District Kathua, UT of Jammu & Kashmir. Online proposal no: FP/JK/HYD/44025/2020 26th-27th August 2020																																																																													
2.	Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion	:	Reserved Forest																																																																													
3.	Item-wise break-up details of forest land proposed for diversion.	:	<table><tr><th colspan="5">Ujh MPP Area</th></tr><tr><th>Area of use</th><th>Division</th><th>Range</th><th>Compt. No.</th><th colspan="2">Area of Compt.(Ha.)</th></tr><tr><td rowspan="10">Submergence</td><td rowspan="5">Billawar</td><td rowspan="5">Billawar</td><td>37/Blr</td><td colspan="2">276.00</td></tr><tr><td>46/Blr</td><td colspan="2">108</td></tr><tr><td>47/Blr</td><td colspan="2">34.18</td></tr><tr><td>39/Blr</td><td colspan="2">1.50</td></tr><tr><td>38a/Blr</td><td colspan="2">8.79</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="5">Ramkot</td><td>3/Rkt</td><td colspan="2">1.50</td></tr><tr><td>4/Rkt</td><td colspan="2">20.20</td></tr><tr><td>5/Rkt</td><td colspan="2">131.00</td></tr><tr><td>6/Rkt</td><td colspan="2">22.11</td></tr><tr><td>7/Rkt</td><td colspan="2">6.13</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">Kathua</td><td>Kathua</td><td>38/K</td><td colspan="2">4.00</td></tr><tr><td>Jasrota</td><td>26/J</td><td colspan="2">8.43</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">Total area under submergence</td><td colspan="2">621.84</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="3">RMC & LMC</td><td rowspan="3">Kathua</td><td rowspan="2">Kathua</td><td>31/k</td><td colspan="2">9</td></tr><tr><td>32/k</td><td colspan="2">9</td></tr><tr><td>Jasrota</td><td>79/J</td><td colspan="2">0.50</td></tr></table>					Ujh MPP Area					Area of use	Division	Range	Compt. No.	Area of Compt.(Ha.)		Submergence	Billawar	Billawar	37/Blr	276.00		46/Blr	108		47/Blr	34.18		39/Blr	1.50		38a/Blr	8.79		Ramkot	3/Rkt	1.50		4/Rkt	20.20		5/Rkt	131.00		6/Rkt	22.11		7/Rkt	6.13		Kathua	Kathua	38/K	4.00		Jasrota	26/J	8.43		Total area under submergence				621.84		RMC & LMC	Kathua	Kathua	31/k	9		32/k	9		Jasrota	79/J	0.50	
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						80/J	1.90
						81/J	0.20
						82/J	3.62
						83/J	
						12/J	0.54
			Samba	Samba		67b/J	8.00
		HRT	Kathua	Jasrota		26 b,c,d/J	25.50
		Total RMC, LMC & HRT					58.26
		Grand total					680.10
4.	Total cost of the project at present rates	:	9167 crores				
5.	Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not? If yes, details thereof.	:	No. The User Agency has not proposed any such construction activities in the proposal.				
6.	<u>Wildlife:</u> Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not?	:	The proposed site does not have any specific importance with respect to wildlife. This project has been recommended by the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife, New Delhi in its 58 th meeting held on 03 rd July 2020. In its recommendation, the NBWL has suggested that the Chief Wildlife Warden should take measures for protection of wildlife like rhesus monkey and porcupine etc.				
7.	<u>Vegetation:</u> Total No. of trees to be felled.	:	<p>Out of a total of 3,38,317 trees enumerated, trees enumerated from FRL to FRL-2 meters and FRL-2 mtrs to FRL-4 mtrs will not be felled. The total no of trees to be actually felled is 2,14,502 trees.</p> <p>UA has completed the laying of Permanent Bench Mark (PBM) in the submergence area at FRL, FRL-2 and FRL-4. Conducted sample counting of trees at Aglidhar Forest Compt no 6, Ramkot Range and found the enumeration correct.</p> <p>Details attached herewith</p>				

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			Area of use	Division	Range	Enumeration (No.)
			Submergence	Billawar	Billawar	1,42,149
					Kathua	Ramkot
				Kathua		Jasrota
				RMC & LMC	Kathua	Kathua
				Samba	Jasrota	8,578
					Samba	26,983
			HRT	Kathua	Jasrota	
			GRAND TOTAL			3,38,317
	Effect of removal of trees on the general eco-system in the area. :		It is obvious that there is bound to be impact on general eco-system due to felling of trees. This loss will however be offset by commensurate plantation under CA.			
	<u>Important Species:</u> No. of trees to be felled of girth below 60 cms. :		178,712 trees.			
	Number of trees to be felled of girth above 60 cms. :		35,790 trees.			
8.	Background note on the proposal :		<p>The Ujh multipurpose project has been envisaged to utilise the water resource potential of River Ujh, a tributary of River Ravi, which is one of the three eastern Rivers of Indus Basin system. Ujh Project is a multipurpose (Hydropower, Irrigation and Drinking) River Valley scheme and first of its kind in UT of J&K. This project was declared as National Project in the year 2008.</p> <p>The project envisages construction of 116 m high concrete face rock fill dam (CFRD), a power house of installed capacity 186 MW (3x62MW) and dam toe power house of 26 MW (1x2MW + 1x24MW) and a barrage 11.5 km downstream of the dam.</p> <p>The proposed dam site is located in village Barbari about 1.6 km downstream of Panchtiriti. Powerhouse is located approx 9.5 km downstream of dam near village Deoli.</p>			

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		<p>Barrage is proposed about 1.5 downstream of power house. Two main canals, Right Main Canal (RMC) and Left Main Canal (LMC) emanate from the barrage.</p> <p>Power generation will be about 186 MW. The irrigation benefits will comprise of annual irrigation to area of 31380 ha, besides providing 18.92 MCM of drinking water supply to the region.</p>
9.	<p><u>Compensatory Afforestation:</u></p> <p>Whether land for comp. afforestation is suitable from plantation and management point of view or not?</p>	<p>: In the hilly terrain and rugged landscape of Jammu & Kashmir, most of the NFL proposed for CA have moderate to dense vegetation. Moreover, most of these sites come under the purview of "Forest" for the purpose of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.</p> <p>As per provision at Para 2.4 (i) of the FCA 1980 Guidelines it is stipulated that "<i>Such lands on which compensatory afforestation is proposed shall be provided double in extent to the area proposed for diversion and shall be transferred and mutated in the name of State Forest Department</i>". The UT of J&K has proposed CA over 1345.39 ha of NFL over 15 different sites. The type of NFL proposed is as below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NFL where FCA is not applicable : 46 ha. 2. Revenue land where FCA is applicable: $680.10 \text{ (Area to be diverted)} - 46 = 634.10 \text{ ha}$ $634.10 \times 2 = 1268.20 \text{ ha}$ <p>TOTAL CA land required: $46 + 1268.20 = 1314.20 \text{ ha}$</p> <p>TOTAL CA proposed = 1345.39 ha</p> <p>Majority of the CA sites are located in high elevations which are not accessible by road. Due to heavy rainfall and floods during the time of site inspection, the roads were blocked and most sites could not be visited. To make up for this deficit, these sites were analysed in DSS using Google Earth software in Kathua, in the presence of local officers and User Agency.</p> <p>The balance plants which cannot be planted in the proposed sites will be planted in degraded forest as per rules.</p> <p>The detailed report of the CA sites is attached.</p>

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	Whether land for compensatory afforestation is free from encroachment/other encumbrances?	:	As per analysis of site on Google Earth and as per detailed discussions with the local officers in the field, some sites are having encroachment which will require timely eviction by the competent authority. The detailed report has been attached herewith.
	Whether land for C.A is important from religious/archaeological point of view?	:	No
	Land identified for C.A is in how many patches? Whether patches are compact or not?	:	CA has been proposed over 15 patches by User Agency. These patches are compact with area varying from 3.69 ha to 454.8 ha.
	Map with details	:	Maps were not provided. Details attached herewith.
	Total amount to be remitted by the user agency	:	Rs 21.58 crores
10	Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials.	:	No
11	Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by State Govt. or not?	:	Yes proposal will involve displacement of people. As per User Agency the Rehabilitation Plan is under preparation.
12	Reclamation Plan: (Rehabilitation & Resettlement) Details and financial allocation:	:	<p>In this project a total of 02 revenue villages will fully be affected and 10 revenue villages will partially be affected. An estimated 8648 persons will be displaced. The gross area under submergence will be 34.50 sqkm.</p> <p>An amount of Rs 1897.50 crores has been earmarked for implementation of various measures outlined as under:</p>

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			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rehabilitation and Resettlement: Rs 179351.0 lakhs 2. Livelihood Plan: Rs 1119.0 lakhs 3. Corporate Environment Responsibility: Rs 2930.0 lakhs 4. Local Area Development Plan: Rs 5850.0 lakhs 5. Monitoring and implementation of R&R plan: Rs 300 lakhs 6. Disaster Management Plan: Rs 200 lakhs <p>TOTAL: Rs 189750.0 lakhs or say Rs 1897.50 crores</p> <p>The details of the Rehabilitation and Resettlement plan were not made available during site inspection and there was no Rehabilitation & Resettlement policy document as well.</p>
13	Details on catchment and command area under the project.	:	<p>Total catchment area of the project is 854 sq km. The entire catchment area is located in Jammu Kashmir. The reservoir area is located in District Kathua. Command area is located in Districts of Kathua & Samba. Power House & Headworks is in District Kathua</p> <p>Command Area:</p> <p>Kharif: 16743 ha Rabi: 14637 ha</p>
14	Cost Benefit Ratio	:	It has been stated by the User Agency that Cost Benefit analysis of the project is under preparation. Hence CB ration dossier could not be studied during site inspection.
15	<p>Utility of the Project:</p> <p>Number of scheduled caste/tribes to be benefited by the project.</p>	:	Data was not available.
16	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value.	:	Yes, one temple located at Panchtirti, near the dam seat will be submerged.
17	Whether any scared grove or very old growth trees/forests exists in the area proposal for diversion.	:	None
18	Whether the land under diversion forms parts of any unique	:	The lower part of the proposed land of diversion is a riparian eco-system.

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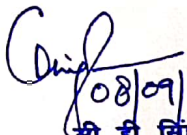
	eco-system.		
19	Situation w.r.t. any P.A.	:	The Right Main Canal is about 1 Km away from Jasrota Wildlife Sanctuary.
20	Details of Hydel Project :		
	Total catchment area	:	854 sq km
	Total command area	:	313.80 sq km
	Full Reservoir Level	:	608.0 M
	High Flood Level	:	609.5 M
	Minimum Drawl Level	:	564.0 M
	Break up of catchment area	:	As given at point no 13. Length of reservoir is 7.20 km along Ujh River, 9.20 km eastern along Bhini River and 10.10 km western along Talyan Khad
	Area submergence at HFL including water body/river bed	:	34.50 sq.km
	Area of submergence at FRL including water body/river bed	:	33.10 sq km
	Area of submergence at 2 m	:	31.10 sq km
	4 M below FRL including water body/river bed	:	29.0 sq km
	Area of submergence at Minimum Drawl Level including water body/river bed.	:	7.80 sq km
21	Catchment Area Treatment Plan	:	<p>CAT plan of Rs 9543.5 lakhs has been approved by Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF), Govt of Jammu and Kashmir. The details are as below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Afforestation: 2158.5 lakhs 2. SMC works: 994.0 lakhs 3. Silt observation works: 616.0 lakhs 4. Eco-tourism: 650.0 lakhs 5. Training and capacity building: 400.0 lakhs 6. Infrastructure Development: 775.0 Lakhs 7. Forest Protection: 1200.0 Lakhs 8. Wildlife Management: 900.00 Lakhs 9. M & E works: 800.0 lakhs 10. Env services: 500.0 lakhs 11. Contingencies: 50 lakhs <p>TOTAL: Rs 9543.5 Lakhs</p>

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22	Any other information relating to the project. :	<p>Observations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This project is of National importance providing geo-political strategic advantage in form of much more effective use of water of Ujh River. This project will ameliorate the agricultural and power sectors in the otherwise barren Kandi area. It will also be a boon in the dry Kandi belt which is reeling under the peril of impending water crisis during dry season and also reduce the miseries of floods in the monsoons. 2. The proposal submitted by the State Govt is still incomplete and incomprehensive. There are several inconsistencies in the proposal submitted online. 3. Gist of the CAT plan made available during site inspection indicates certain items of works which are not as per ingredients of CAT plans mentioned under para 9.2 of FCA, 1980 guidelines. 4. The user agency has to make changes in the area proposed for diversion from the original proposed forest land of 1100 ha to 680.1 ha. 5. There is marked difference in the no of trees enumerated as submitted 296914 in online proposal and 338317 as confirmed by the field officers during site visit. This need correction in the online proposal. 6. Muck disposal plan was not provided during site inspection. Sites for muck disposal were not shown during site visit. 7. It is not clear whether there will be subsequently phases of proposals after completion of this particular phase. In this proposal no provisions have been kept for construction of roads, buildings, quarters and other amenities which are quintessential for any project of this magnitude. It is essential on part of the UA to clarify its future vision in this respect to smoothen future diversion proposals, if any. 8. EIA/EMP studies and public hearing of project need to be completed before final approval is granted. <p>Based on the observations of site inspection and interaction with the local officers and User Agencies, this project is recommended subject to removal of deficiencies pointed above.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Signature</i> 08/01/20</p>
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के जेह भुटिया भा व से / K Z BHUTIA IFS
 उप-वन महानिरीक्षक (केन्द्रीय)
 Dy. Inspector General of Forests (Central)
 पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
 Min. of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
 उत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Northern Regional Office
 भारत सरकार चण्डीगढ़ / Govt. of India Chandigarh

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23	Regional APCCF shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternative routes/alignments for locating the project on the non-forest land.	:	It is a site specific project based on geological investigation and has no alternatives.
24.	Recommendations of Regional APCCF along with detailed reasons.	:	<p>The proposal, having geo-political & strategic importance, is recommended for consideration after meeting the deficiencies pointed out by the DIGF(c) during the site visit. In addition, we may request the UT of J&K to provide the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Copy of Rehabilitation & Resettlement policy of the UT of J&K (ii) Identification of CA areas which are below the line & suitable for undertaking plantation. tree Gf (iii) Muck disposal plan. (iv) Details of alignment of internal road networks if outside the proposed diversion areas. <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  08/09/2020 सी. डी. सिंह C. D. SINGH अपर प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक (केन्द्रीय) Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन विभाग Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change उत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, चण्डीगढ़ Northern Regional Office, Chandigarh </div>

Detail of CA Land (Revenue+NFL) – Ujh MPP

S.No.	Village/Khasra No.	Area (ha)	Remarks on the basis of observation on Google Earth platform.
1.	BANI, Kh no. 2234/2078/782, Bani DUGGAN, Kh no. 782	454.8	Area has soil. Vegetation is dense. Gap plantation possible
2.	DHARALTA, Kh no : 2137/1754	478	Visited this area. Area is suitable. More area is available on the southern part of the site which the UA can propose for deficit area.
3.	MACHHEDI, Kh no : 1502/1442/1336/13	59.4	Site suitable. Degraded Oak forest. There are two patches of private area in this site which need eviction.
4.	MALAD, Kh no : 607/542/466/1	66	Site suitable. There are presence of settlement in this site which need eviction.
5.	MALHAR, Kh no : 505	9.82	The site is steep and is a natural blank, soil appears shallow. Not suitable. Above tree line.
6.	MALHAR, Kh no: 3	3.69	Density forested site. Gap planting can be done.
7.	BADNOTA, Kh no : 750/687/7, 719/699/11, 715/699/11	34.4	Site is above tree line. Skeletal and shallow soil. Very steep. Area has natural blanks which cannot be forested. Site not suitable.
8.	THALL Kh no: 885/458/1	36.6	Above tree line. Area has natural blanks and very steep. Site not suitable.
9.	KINDLI (1), Kh no: 511/466/183	15.9	Site suitable. Degraded forest.
10.	KINDLI (2) Kh no : 509/406/369	60.88	Site suitable. Degraded forest.
11.	GODUFALAL (1) Kh no : 69	37.1	Dense vegetation. Gap planting can be done. Signs of encroachment which need eviction.
12.	GODUFALAL (2) Kh no : 327	28.1	Suitable site. Land slide area but can be accepted.
13.	GODUFALAL (3) Kh no : 82	33.2	Site suitable.
14.	SIALNA, Kh no : 1695/1674/1550	10.1	Area visited. Area has 05-06 density chir forest. Area is suitable for gap planting. There is difference between the KML and the field position. Need to re-do KML.
15.	RAMKOT, Kh no : 1315	17.3	Site is suitable. Area is heavily encroached which needs eviction.
	TOTAL	1345.29	

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