



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE
Sub-Office, Raipur
ARANYA BHAWAN, NORTH BLOCK, SECTOR-19,
NAYA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR, CHHATTISGARH -
492002 Email - iro.raipur-mefcc@gov.in



F.No. FC-I/IROCH-09/2021/18

Date: 30.04.2025

To,

Additional Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Forest Department, Mantralaya,
Mahanadi Bhavan, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar (CG).

Sub : Diversion of 4.493 ha. (Korba Forest Division 2.820 ha and Janjgir Champa 1.673 ha) of Revenue Forest land in favour of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), proposal for Up-gradation of Champa-Korba-Chhuri-Katghora Section of NH-149 B, District- Janjgir – Champa and Korba, in the state of Chhattisgarh to two/ four lane with paved shoulder configuration, Package-1 (0+00 to 38+150) – regarding.

Sir,

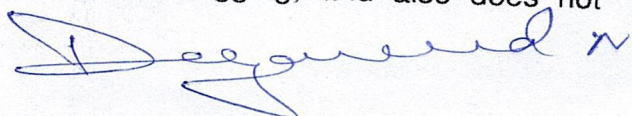
The undersigned is directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh's letter No. F-5-22/2021/10-2 dated 01.09.2021 on the above subject, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After careful examination of the proposal, the Central Government accorded 'in-principle' approval vide its letter of even number dated 04.01.2022.

Subsequently, the State Government of Chhattisgarh, vide letter No. F-5-22/2021/10-2 dated 15.04.2025, submitted the compliance report and requested final approval for the proposal.

After due consideration of the proposal and the compliance report, I am directed to convey the Central Government's 'final approval' under Section 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, for diversion of 4.493 ha of Revenue Forest land (2.820 ha in Korba Forest Division and 1.673 ha in Janjgir-Champa) in favour of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), for the upgradation of the Champa-Korba-Chhuri-Katghora section of NH-149B in the districts of Janjgir-Champa and Korba, Chhattisgarh, to a two-/four-lane configuration with paved shoulders, under Package-1 (0+000 to 38+150), subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. **Compensatory afforestation** shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 10 ha degraded forest land (Compartment No. PF-2355, Block-Kodagaar, Range- Pendra, Forest Division- Marwahi) from the amount which has already been realized from the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture

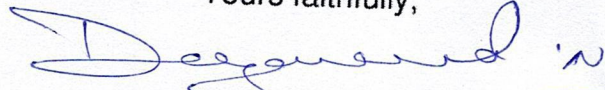
- of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided
- iii. Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency;
 - iv. User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;
 - v. **The State Government Chhattisgarh shall ensure settlement of rights under the scheduled tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (No. 2 of 2007) before issuing an order for handing over of forest land to the User Agency as per rules/guidelines framed under VSSA, 1980;**
 - vi. Strip plantations on both sides and central verge of the road as per the IRC norms shall be raised by the State Forest department by planting tall seedlings of 8-10 feet in height at the cost of User Agency, further; same shall be protected by chain linked fencing at least for initial three years of its growth. In forest patches, plantations of ornamental species should be avoided and preference shall be given to native forest tree species including fruit bearing tree species, like mango, banyan, tamarind, etc;
 - vii. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Forest Areas;
 - viii. Overburden shall not be dumped outside the width of the road. The muck generated in the earth cuttings will be disposed of at the designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be allowed to roll down the hill slopes;
 - ix. The user agency will provide retaining walls, breast walls and drainage as per requirement to make the slope stable;
 - x. The User agency will undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department, if required. A scheme of the same shall be submitted to the Regional Office;
 - xi. The site specific wild life mitigation plan shall be implemented at the project cost;
 - xii. NHAI shall develop a separate nursery at one or more places to raise at least 25,000 seedlings of forestry species along with bamboo, fruit bearing, medicinal, ornamental and indigenous/local every year. At least 50% of seedlings shall be planted by User Agency in the vicinity of project area including forest area and for better relation with local people residing in vicinity of proposed road, NHAI shall voluntarily distribute remaining 50% of seedlings to them free of cost. A compliance report including species wise details of seedlings raised, location of plantation area and details of villagers whom seedlings have been distributed need to be prepared every six month and submitted to Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC;
 - xiii. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
 - xiv. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
 - xv. The designing of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals should be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to waterlogging, and also does not



- hamper movement of wild animals;
- xvi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
 - xvii. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
 - xviii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
 - xix. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
 - xx. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less;
 - xxi. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;
 - xxii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
 - xxiii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of VSSA, 1980 and action would be taken as per the Rules/guidelines framed under VSSA, 1980;
 - xxiv. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

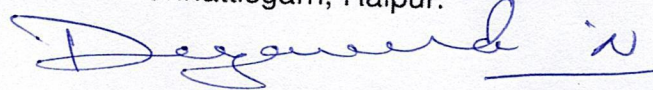
This order is issued with the approval of Competent Authority, Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur.

Yours faithfully,


(Dayananda.N)
Technical Officer (Forestry) 30/09/25

Copy to:

- i. The IGF (RoHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi- 110003
- ii. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur
- iii. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
- iv. User Agency.
- v. Guard file.


(Dayananda.N)
Technical Officer (Forestry) 30/09/25