



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय
INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE
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BY SPEED POST

F.No.4-KRB1369/2022-BAN/ **673**
Dated the 5th September, 2022

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka,
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department,
M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bangalore - 560 001.

Subject: Re-diversion of 0.101 ha (revised from 0.0517 hectare) of forest land in Sy.No. 9, 25, 27, 28, 36, Jamakhandi village and Sy.No. 49, Siddapura village, Jamakhandi Taluk, Bagalkot District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable from Yadwadi to Jamakandi Reserve Forest in Bagalkot District in favour of M/s Jio Digital Fiber Private Limited, Bengaluru.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. FEE 88 FLL 2022 (e) dated 19/08/2022 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section '2' of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above project.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance of the Central Government is hereby granted for re-diversion of **0.101 ha.** of forest land in Sy.No. 9, 25, 27, 28, 36, Jamakhandi village and Sy.No. 49, Siddapura village, Jamakhandi Taluk, Bagalkot District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable from Yadwadi to Jamakandi Reserve Forest in Bagalkot District in favour of M/s Jio Digital Fiber Private Limited, Bengaluru, subject to the following conditions:-

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department.

1. The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being re-diverted under this proposal, as per the guideline issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06/01/2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State Concerned.
2. Cost of raising plantation (including ten years maintenance) of ten times number of trees to be felled shall be realized from user agency towards compensatory afforestation.
3. Location of the area (map with DGPS coordinates) identified for raising the plantations shall be furnished along with compliance report.

[Signature]

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4. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
5. The KML file of the area re-diverted and CA plantation (ten times no. of trees to be felled) shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with compliance report.
6. The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence as prescribed by this Ministry in it's letter No. 11-9/1998-FC dated 3rd August 2009 read with 05.07.2013 with necessary enclosures, in support thereof.
7. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
8. The boundary of the re-diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
9. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.

B: Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:

1. Legal status of the re-diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
3. User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the re-diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
4. 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.
5. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
6. No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
7. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
8. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.101 ha.



9. The forest land proposed to be re-diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
10. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
11. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
12. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forest in the surrounding area.
13. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year.
14. The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
15. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Working permission, if any issued, shall be intimated to IRO, Bengaluru. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 2 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions within 2 years, the in-principle approval shall be deemed to be null and void.

Yours faithfully,



(M.K. Shambhu)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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Copy to:-

1. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) /Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
4. M/s. Jio Digital Fiber Private Limited, No. 51, RMZ Icon, Palace Cross Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru -560 052.
5. Guard file.

S.K. Shambhu

(M.K.Shambhu)
Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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