1/47404/2023



भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE

एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गांधीनगर/ Integrated Regional Office,

Gandhinagar ए वींग- 407 एवं 409, "अरण्य भवन ", सी.एच.-3 सर्किल के समीप, सेक्टर-10ए, गांधीनगर-382010 / A wing-407 & 409, "ARANYA BHAWAN", Near CH-3 Circle, Sector-10A, Gandhi Nagar-382010 Email: iro.gandhingr-mefcc@gov.in

दिनांक: 28th जून, 2023

To अपर मुख्य सचिव (वन)/The Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) गुजरात सरकार/Govt. of Gujarat ब्लॉक नं. 14, आठवां तल, न्यू सचिवालय Block No. 14, 8th Floor, New Sachivalaya गांधीनगर, गुजरात/Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

(Online Proposal No: FP/GJ/ROAD/35808/2018)

Sub: Diversion of 6.75 ha Protected Forest land for the work of widening and strengthening of Nadiad-Petlad road Km. 0/00 to 9/00 (chainage 3/00 to 9/00) SH-89 in favour of Executive Engineer, Kheda (R&B) Division in Kheda District of Gujarat- reg.

Sir.

This refers to letter No. FCA-1019/7-33/19/S.F-185/F dated 24.01.2019 of the State Govt. of Gujarat on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal of the State Government, the 'In-Principle' approval of the Central Government for the diversion of the said forest land was accorded vide this office letter No. 6-GJC004/2020-BHO/BH-7 dated 17.04.2020 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government of Gujarat vide their letter No. FCA-1019/7-33/19/SF-185/F dated 08.07.2022 have furnished compliance report in respect of the relevant conditions

stipulated in the In-principle approval for grant of final approval.

In this connection, on the basis of the compliance report under reference and confirmation of receipt of compensatory levies from National Authority of CAMPA vide online e. portal transaction dated 31.03.2022, the **Final/Stage-II approval** of the Central Government under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is hereby accorded for diversion of 6.75 ha Protected Forest land for the work of widening and strengthening of Nadiad-Petlad road Km. 0/00 to 9/00 (chainage 3/00 to 9/00) SH-89 in favour of Executive Engineer, Kheda (R&B) Division in Kheda District of Gujarat subject to the following general and standard conditions:

1. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.

2. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 14.00 ha de-graded forest land (Survey No. 27, Village- Ladpur, Taluka-Godhra, District- Panchmahal, Gujarat at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local native species shall be planted and monoculture of any species, especially non-native species should be avoided.

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- 3. User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to 912 trees/minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- 4. The User Agency shall raise strip plantation on both side and central verge of the road as per the IRC norms.
- 5. User Agency shall provide suitable under/ over pass for free movement of wildlife in and around forest area in accordance to *Eco friendly measures to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructure on wildlife (2016).*
- 6. Speed regulating signages will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas, if applicable.
- 7. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- 8. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 9. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.
- 12. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 13. 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.
- 14. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- 15. 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.
- 16. 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, Gandhinagar by the end of March every year.
- 17. 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.
- 18. The KML file of the area to be diverted shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details.
- 19. All the conditions of Stage-I approval shall be strictly complied.
- 20. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018.
- 21. 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.

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As has been mentioned at Para-2 of this final approval, this approval for diversion of forest land is subject to the fulfilment of stipulated conditions mentioned in this approval letter. Therefore, in the event of non-compliance of any of the conditions laid out in this approval letter, the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may withdraw the said approval for the diversion of the forest land and stop the non-forest activity being carried out in the forest land besides initiating the legal action as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sincerely, 93

(श्रवण कुमार वर्मा /Shrawan Kumar Verma)

उप वनमहानिरीक्षक एवं क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी

Deputy Inspector General (DIG)& Regional Officer (RO)

एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गांधीनगर।/ Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Gandhinagar.

Copy to:

- 1. The Inspector General of Forests (Central), ROHQ Division, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Indira paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi- 110003.
- 2. The APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Aranya Bhawan, Sector- 10A, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- 3. The Dy. Conservator of Forests, Social Forestry Division Nadiad, Nadiad, Guiarat.
- 4. The Dy. Conservator of Forests, Godhra Forest Division Panchmahal, Gujarat.
- 5. The Executive Engineer, Kheda (R&B) Division, Nadiad, Kheda, Gujarat.
- 6. Guard File.