



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE
Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing,
New Secretariat Building Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001,
apccfcetral-ngp-mef@gov.in



F.No. FC-I/MH-350/2023-NGP/14413 Date: 30.06.2025

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue and Forest Department,
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk
Madame Cama Marg, Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400032.

Sub: Diversion of 3.27 ha of forest land in favour of Uppar Pravara Dam Division, Sangamner for construction of Uppar Pravara Right Bank Canal Nilwande Dam Project in Ahmednagar District in the State of Maharashtra-final approval -regarding

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Government of Maharashtra's letter no. FLD-1923/CR-252/F-10 dated 25.08.2023 and APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra Letter No. Desk-17/FCA-S1/PID-150569/Nashik/846 dated 20.06.2023 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980**. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, '**in-principle**' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter of even number dated 13.10.2023. The Addl. PCCF and Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, vide his letter no. Desk-17/2/Nodal/Nashik//ID-150569(17)/553/2024-25 dated 05.06.2024 submitted compliance report and requested to grant final approval to the proposal.

After careful consideration of the proposal and 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 3.27 ha of forest land in favour of Uppar Pravara Dam Division, Sangamner for construction of Uppar Pravara Right Bank Canal Nilwande Dam Project in Ahmednagar District in the State of Maharashtra subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- The boundary of the. diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground by the **State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency;**

- iii. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over **3.27 ha** non-forest land in Survey/Gut No. 108 at Village- Warvandi, Taluka- Rahuri, District- Ahmednagar from the amount which has already been realised from the User Agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along with 10% RET species of Ahmednagar District shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided. Atleast one water body shall be constructed in the form of tank/ stop dams etc if the same are not available in the area or in nearby vicinity. Further, if existing tanks/ stop dams are available and needs desilting/ repair; same shall be carried out to meet the water requirement of wild animals throughout the year;
- iv. **The non-forest land proposed for CA which has been transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/PF under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, before handing over of the forest area to the User Agency. The copy of the notification shall be submitted to this office for record purpose;**
- v. 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;
- vi. 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 at the cost of the User Agency;
- vii. **The State Government, Maharashtra/ Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra 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 VSS Rule, 2023;**
- viii. To improve the Forest/ Tree cover and to reduce pollution in the State, as mandated in National Forest Policy, 1988 and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 respectively, the User Agency with involvement of Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMC's) and in consultation with local DCF shall raise at least 5000 seedlings of forestry species along with bamboo, fruit bearing, medicinal, ornamental and indigenous/local for 10 years. At least 50% of seedlings shall be planted in the vicinity of project area and remaining 50% of seedlings shall be distributed among villagers as per choice of villagers. The concerned JFMC's shall maintain record of plantation/ seedling distribution to villagers;



- ix. The felling of trees shall be restricted to FRL-4 meter only and felling of trees shall be carried out by the State Forest Department. Number of trees to be removed shall be kept at barest minimum during the execution of the project;
- x. **User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;**
- xi. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xii. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xiii. 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;
- xiv. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xv. 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;
- xvi. The Forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal and **diverted forest area shall not exceed 3.27 ha;**
- xvii. 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;
- xviii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and action would be taken as per the provision of Adhiniyam and rules/guidelines issued there under;
- xix. 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;

Yours faithfully,



(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale)
AIGF (Central)

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 Maharashtra, Nagpur.

- iii. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- iv. User Agency.
- v. Guard file.



(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale)
AIGF (Central)