



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE
CHANGE
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गांधीनगर/ 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.gandhinagr-mefcc@gov.in

दिनांक: 01st July, 2024

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/145850/2021)

Sub: Final (Stage-II) approval of Central Government under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for proposed diversion of 10.08 ha Protected Forest land for construction of six lane with paved shoulder of the existing Chotila Bypass left out section of NH-47(Old NH-8A) from existing Km.165.925 to 172.275 on EPC mode in Surendranagar District in favour of Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Rajkot in Gujarat- reg.

Sir,

This refers to letter No. FED/FLP/e-file/6/2023/1818/F dated 11.09.2023 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 Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal of the State Government, the 'In-Principle/Stage-I' approval of the Central Government for the diversion of the said forest land was accorded vide this office letter No. FC-6/GJC-75/2023-GNR dated 31.10.2023 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The Government of Gujarat vide their letter No. FED/FLP/e-file/6/2023/1818/F dated 14.06.2024 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 16.02.2024, the Final/Stage-II approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 is hereby accorded for diversion of 10.08 ha Protected Forest land for construction of six lane with paved shoulder of the existing Chotila Bypass left out section of NH-47(Old NH-8A) from existing Km.165.925 to 172.275 on EPC mode in Surendranagar District in favour of Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Rajkot in 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 21.00 ha de-graded forest land at Survey No. 174pt at Village- Samdhiyala,

[Signature]
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Taluka- Chuda, District- Surendranagar of Gujarat at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local native species shall be planted and mono-culture of any species, especially non-native species should be avoided.

3. User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to 73 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 sides and central verge of the road as per IRC norms.
5. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas.
6. The State Government should ensure submission of FRA certificate in proper format along with all the enclosures i.e. proceedings of DLC, SDLC & Gram Sabha Resolution by the User Agency before issuing the orders for diversion by the State Government.
7. The KML files of diverted area is to be uploaded on the e.Green Watch Portal before issuing the orders for diversion by the State Government.
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. All the conditions of Stage-I approval shall be strictly complied.
19. 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 MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018.

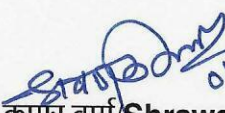
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20. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

Specific Conditions:

1. The User Agency shall construct underpass of 2-3 meter height at every 500 meter along the length of the road in forest land for safe passage of the animals.
2. The User Agency shall construct 6 feet high wall at its cost along the boundary of the CA land.
3. The User Agency shall provide at its cost the required number of Solar Pumps as given by the Forest Department for irrigating the CA plantation.

As has been mentioned at Para-2 of this final approval, this approval for diversion of forest land is subject to the fulfillment 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 **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980**.


(श्रवण कुमार वर्मा/ **Shrawan Kumar Verma**)
क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी/ **Regional Officer**
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गांधीनगर/
Regional Office, 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 Surendranagar, Surendranagar, Gujarat.
4. Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, Rajkot, Gujarat.
5. Guard File.