

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE Regional Office (WCZ)
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Dated: 15th June, 2020

F. No. FC-II/CH-111/2019-NGP/6723

Jo

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Chhattisgarh, Forest Department, Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhavan, New Raipur (CG).

Sub: Diversion of 25.147 ha Forest land in favour of Public Works Department for widening of Keregaon-Gattasilli-Birgudi Road under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 in Raipur District in the State of Chhattisgarh– regarding.

Sir.

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh letter no. F-5-05/2019/10-2 dated 29.06.2019 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government, in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the said proposal has been examined in the Regional Office in light of the relevant provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Guidelines issued thereunder. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and approval of REC, 'in-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter of even number dated 30.09.2019 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions prescribed therein. Government of Chhattisgarh vide letter no F-5-05/2019/10-2 dated 06.05.2020 submitted a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval and requested the State Government to grant final approval to the proposal.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of compliance report submitted by the Government of Chhattisgarh vide letter no F-5-05/2019/10-2 dated 06.05.2020, the Central Government hereby accords <u>final approval</u> under Section – 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for for diversion of 25.147 ha Forest land in favour of Public Works Department for widening of Keregaon-Gattasilli-Birgudi Road under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 in Raipur District in the State of Chhattisgarh subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii. Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over to the user agency.
- iii. Compensatory afforestation
 - a) Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over over 50.3 ha Orange Area (Compartment No. 438 and 444, Range- Mahasamund, Division-Mahasamund) at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
 - b) The Orange Area which has been transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation shall be declared as



Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the State Forest Act. The Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 may report compliance within a period of six (6) months from the date of grant of final approval and send a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land 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, to this Office for information and record;

- iv. User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to 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.
- v. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- vi. User Agency shall develop a separate nursery at one or more places to raise at least 50,000 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, User Agency shall voluntary 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 Regional Office of MoEF&CC.
- vii. User agency shall raise strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road as per the IRC norms.
- viii. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas.
- ix. The user agency shall provide suitable under passes in Forest Area as per recommendations of REC and Wildlife Management Plan.
- x. The 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. 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.
- xv. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- xvi. 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.
- xvii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.



- xviii. 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.
- xix. 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.
- xx. 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 issues with the approval of DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC, Regional Office (WCZ), Nagpur

Yours faithfully,

(Suresh Kumar Adapa)

Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur

2. The Nodal Officer FCA), O/o of the PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.

User Agency.

4. Guard File.

(Suresh Kumar Adapa)

Scientist 'D'