

F. No. 8-25/2016-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi – 110003

Dated: 27 June, 2017

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Maharashtra,
Mantralaya, Mumbai.


Sub: Diversion of 564.00 ha of forests land under Section 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of Forest Conservation Act for development of proposed International Standard Zoo under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sir,

In supersession of this Ministry's letter dated 20.06.2017, I am directed to refer to the State Government of Maharashtra's letter No. FLD-3415/CR-255 Part-I/F-10 dated 29.07.2016 on the subject cited above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under Section-3 of the said Act, *In-principle approval/Stage-I Clearance* was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 08.06.2017 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Government of Maharashtra vide their letter No. Desk-17/NC/RS-1/ID-12457 (47)/681/17-18 dated 14.06.2017, the *Final /Stage-II approval* of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **564.00 ha** of forests land for development of proposed International Standard Zoo under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

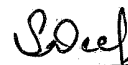
- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged; ✓
- (ii) ✓ The State Government shall ensure that only 15% of the diverted area (i.e. 79.07 hectares) may only be utilized for non- forestry activities;
- (iii) ✓ Compensatory afforestation shall be raised on Zudpi forest area within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter as per approved plan by the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency. The Zudpi forest land shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department and notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act, 1927 latest within a period of six months from the date of issue of Stage-II approval. The Nodal Officer shall report compliance in this regard along with a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, as the case may be, within the stipulated period to the Central Government for information and record;
- (iv) ✓ The State Government shall ensure the condition (s) imposed by Central Zoo Authority vide approval dated 27.05.2015. The layout plan approved by the CZA shall be strictly adhered to, by the State Govt.



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- (v) ✓ If the State Govt. want to use additional forest land, as specified in the approval of Central Zoo Authority on 27.05.2015 then the prior approval of the Central Govt. under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall be obtained.
- (vi) ✓ The User Agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- (vii) The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- (viii) ✓ Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- (ix) ✓ The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (x) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (xi) The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
- (xii) The user agency will abide by the applicable recommendations of the State Government including State Forest/Wildlife Departments;
- (xiii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xiv) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xv) No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- (xvi) The User Agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year;
- (xvii) Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and
- (xviii) The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Yours faithfully,



(Sandeep Sharma)

27/6/17

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator Forests, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
2. Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Nagpur.
3. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
4. User Agency .
5. Monitoring Cell.
6. Guard file.



(Sandeep Sharma)

27/6/17

Assistant Inspector General of Forests