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OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (HEAD OF FOREST FORCE), MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR

ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND NODAL OFFICER, MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR,

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No. Desk-17/NC/RS-1/ID-12563/1577 /19-20

Nagpur – 440 001, Date : 31/12/2019

To,
The Deputy Inspector General of Forests ,
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi-110003.

Sub:- Proposal for diversion of 121.83 ha. of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO) in Village Dudhala, Anjanwada, Nandgaon, Sawli (B), Tal.Aundha (Nagnath), District Hingoli Maharashtra-reg. (FP/MH/OTHERS/28610/2017)

- Ref:- 1. Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi's letter No.F.No.8-60/2018-FC,dt.24/12/2018. (165)
2. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Aurangabad letter No.Desk-5/land/CR.90/4(17-18)/1616,dt.09/12/2019. (431)
3. The Chief Administrative Officer, Director of Construction Services & Estate Management, Land Section, Department of Atomic Energy, Mumbai's letter No.DCSEM/1/315/2017(L)/Volume-III/499,dt.20/11/2019. (430)

Sir,

Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Forest Conservation Division, New Delhi conveyed the '**in-principle**' approval for Proposal for diversion of 121.83 ha. of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO) in Village Dudhala, Anjanwada, Nandgaon, Sawli (B), Tal.Aundha (Nagnath), District Hingoli Maharashtra under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to fulfillment of the conditions stated in the letter under reference. The compliance report of the conditions is furnished as under:-

Sr. No.	Conditions put forth by Government of India letter dt.24/12/2018.	Compliance
(i)	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.- I-A to B).
(ii)	Compensatory afforestation over the degraded forest land, twice in extent to the area of forest land proposed to be diverted shall be raised within three years from the issue of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter as per approved plan by the State Forest Department	Compensatory afforestation over 243.66 ha. degraded forest land is proposed for next 3 years at the cost of the user agency. In this regard, the User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs. 23,37,30,368/- towards the cost of

	at the cost of the User Agency. ✓	Compensatory Afforestation. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.-II-A to N). ✓
(iii)	The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.- III). ✓ 245 - 412 1 to 161
(iv)	The User Agency shall transfer the funds for the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No.5-3/2007-FC, dated 05.02.2009 through online portal of CAMPA account of the State Concerned; ✓	The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs. 76265580/- for Net Present Value through e-challan and the same has been transferred to CAMPA New Delhi, on 07/03/2019 of Corporation Bank, Bangalore. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.- IV-A to H). ✓ 237 - 244
(v)	No residential buildings shall be allowed on diverted forest land; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. -V-A to B). ✓ 235 - 236
(vi)	The User Agency to bear the cost of erecting an effective fencing and a provision of sufficient nos. of fulltime chowkidars for protection of degraded forest area where compensatory afforestation is to be taken; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.-VI-A to B). ✓ 233 - 234 translocated by ✓
(vii)	State Government shall explore the feasibility to transplant young trees at the cost of user agency on the area decided by local DCF/CF. Thus user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any trees felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department; ✓	The total 305 trees which were proposed for felling will be translocated and amount of Rs.36,70,767/- have been deposited by User Agency with Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli vide cheque No.331612, dated 25.03.2019. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. -VII A to E). ✓ 225 - 232
(viii)	Adequate precautions shall be taken to safeguard the adjoining areas from explosives and it shall not be stored in the forest area; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. -VIII-A to B). ✓ 221 - 222
(ix)	The User Agency shall not use the forest land for dumping that overburden; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. -IX-A to B). ✓ 219 - 220
(x)	The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. -X-A to B). ✓ 217 - 218
(xi)	The User Agency will demarcate the proposed forest area as desired by Forest Department	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as

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	and provide retaining walls, breast walls for protection of human beings; ✓	(Annexure No.-XI-A to B). ✓ 215 - 216
(xii)	The User Agency shall ensure that no damage is caused to the wildlife in the area, due to this project; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.-XII-A to B). ✓ 213 - 214
(xiii)	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. -XIII-A to B). ✓ 211 - 212
(xiv)	In the reports of PCCF (HoFF) & DFO, Hingoli and CCF, Aurnagabad a discrepancy was observed with reference to total number trees to be felled. Therefore, the number of trees required to be felled/translocated shall be listed accurately prior to Stage-II; ✓	The total 305 trees which were proposed for felling will be trans located and amount of Rs.36,70,767/- have been deposited by User Agency with Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli vide cheque No.331612, dated 25.03.2019. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.-XIV-A to B). ✓ 209 - 210
(xv)	At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the present rate, the user agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. -XV-A to C). ✓ 206 - 208
(xvi)	User Agency should ensure that the Compensatory levies (CA cost, NPV, etc) are deposited through challan generated online on web portal and deposited in appropriate bank online only. Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.-XVI). ✓ 205
(xvii)	The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo-sheet of 1:50,000 scale; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. -XVII & II-L to M). ✓ 204
(xviii)	The User Agency shall protect and conserve the proposed diverted forest area, which is not in operational use, by way of plantation in blanks; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.- XVIII-A to B). ✓ 202 - 203
(xix)	User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required. ✓	The User Agency has submitted Environment Clearance Member Secretary SEIAA vide letter dt.10/01/2019. A copy of the same is enclosure herewith as (Annexure No. -XIX-A to N). ✓ 188 - 201
(xx)	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land. ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No.-XX-A to B). ✓ 186 - 187
(xxi)	The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence as prescribed	The user agency has submitted the certificate of Collector, Hingoli under the provision of Scheduled Tribes and Other traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, issued vide letter No. 2018/land/Acq.602, dt.17/01/2018 in prescribed format (Form I) as per

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	by this Ministry in its letter No.11-9/1998-FC(pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013, in support thereof; ✓	Government of India guidelines dated 05/07/2013. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. XXI-A to B). ✓ 184 185
(xxii)	The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly; ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. XXII). ✓ 183
(xxiii)	Any other condition that the concern Regional Office of this Ministry with the approval of competent authority may stipulated in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife and ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. XXIII). ✓ 182
(xxiv)	The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance for the provision of 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. ✓	The user agency has submitted an undertaking. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith as (Annexure No. XXIV). ✓ 181

In view of the above, it is requested that the Government of India may kindly be moved for approval under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 at the earliest.

Encl:- As above

Yours sincerely,

(Sanjeev Gaur)

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer,

Copy submitted to Secretary (Forests), Revenue and Forest Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai -32 for information.

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Aurangabad for information.

Copy to the Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli for information.

Copy to the Chief Administrative Officer, Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy, Directorate of Construction, Services & Estate Management, Vikram Sarabhai Bhavan, 2nd floor, North Wing, Anushaktinagar, Mumbai-400094 for information.