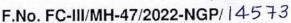


भारत सरकार

GOVER NMENT 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, apccfcentral-ngp-mef@gov.in



Date: 3.08.2025

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue and Forest Department,
HutatmaRajguru Chowk
Madam Cama Marg, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400032.

Sub: Diversion of 44.0397 ha of Forest Land in favour of EHV Project Division, Chandrapur for laying of 132 KV DC Mul-Sicom Chandrapur Electricity Transmission Line in Chandrapur 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-2021/CR-200/F-10 dated 07.01.2022 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 02.05.2022. The The Addl. PCCF and Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, vide his letter no. Desk-17/FCA-S2//PID-45600/Chandrapur/2023-24/2767 dated 26.12.2023 submitted compliance report. Further, the State Government of Maharashtra's letter no. FLD-2021/CR-200/F-10 dated 07.08.2025, submitted a report on the queries sought vide this office letter of even no. dated 11.04.2024, and requested that final approval be granted to the proposal.

After careful consideration of the proposal and compliance report, I am directed to convey the Central Government's <u>'final approval'</u> under Section- 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 44.0397 ha of Forest Land in favour of EHV Project Division, Chandrapur for laying of 132 KV DC Mul-Sicom Chandrapur Electricity Transmission Line in Chandrapur District in the State of Maharashtra subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;

ii. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 88.50 ha degraded forest land in Compartment No. 43, Survey No. 129. Gat No. 101 at Village- LondheMohitewadi, Taluka- Malshiras, District-Solapur (Area 31.1165 ha.) & in Compartment No. 91, Survey No. 260, Gat no. 962 at Village- Katphal, Taluka-Sangola, District- Solapur (Area 57.3835 ha.) from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along with 10% RET species of Solapur Division shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided. At least three water bodies in Compt. No. 43 and four water

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- bodies in Compt. No. 91 shall be constructed in the form of tank/ stop dams etc if the same are not available in the area or in nearby vicinity from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;
- iii. 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;
- iv. User agency shall restrict the felling o trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;
- v. 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;
- vi. 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 50,000 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; The above activities shall be carried out from the amount which has already been realised from the User Agency;
- vii. The user agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on upper conductor of transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;
- viii. The State Government shall implement an Avifauna Conservation Plan for ten years specifically for the GIB and Sarus Crane at the cost of User Agency;
- ix. The User Agency shall implement all recommendation and conditions imposed by the SC NBWL before commencement of any work even in nonforest land;
- x. The minimum clearance between conductor and the from the ground clearance as suggested / recommended by the SC NBWL shall maintained;
- xi. The User Agency shall ensure compliance of following recommendation as suggested by the PCCF (Wildlife):
- a. Any felling/pollarding of trees will be done as permitted for electrical clearance.
- Vegetation clearance along forest stretches will be avoided or minimized by increasing height of towers structure to maintain safe vertical clearance.
- c. Adhere to guidelines issued by National Green Tribunal, if applicable
- d. No construction activity from 6.00 pm to 7.00 am.
- e. The Labour camps at least 1.00 Km away from the forest.
- xiii. The State Forest Department carryout plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in right of way under the transmission line from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;

- xiv. The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas issued by Ministry;
- xv. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- xvi. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government:
- xvii. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xviii. 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;
- xix. 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:
- xx. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xxi. 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:
- xxii. 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 44.0397 ha;
- xxiii. 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;
- vxiv. 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;
- xxv. 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 order issues with the approval of competent authority, Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur.

Yours faithfully,

Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale AIGF (Central)

Copy to:

- i. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- ii. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- iii. User agency.
- iv. Guard file.

Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale AIGF (Central)