

I/10497/2022



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, जम्मू / Integrated Regional Office, Jammu

File No: 9-JKB-090/2021-Jammu

August, 2022

To,

Commissioner Secretary,
Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment,
U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir,
Civil Secretariat
Jammu & Kashmir
(csforestjk@gmail.com)

Sub: **Diversion of 1.9891 ha of forest land in favour of National Highway Authority of India, for development of package-15 (Km 468+100 to Km 503+250) of phase-II of Delhi-Katra Expressway, under Kathua and Samba Forest Division, District-Kathua and Samba, UT of Jammu & Kashmir (Online proposal no. FP/JK/Road/142566/2021)-reg.**

Ref: **i) UT Admin of J&K online proposal received on dated 24.11.2021
ii) In-principle approval dated 28.12.2021
iii) Letter of Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, Govt. of J&K, no. FST-Land0FC/109/2021-02 Dated 23.08.2022**

Sir,

Please refer to the above cited subject and letters seeking prior approval of the Central government for the diversion of Forest land for non-forestry purpose in accordance with section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Vide this office letter of even no dated **28.12.2021** *in principle* approval was accorded. The compliance of stage-I was received vide letter no. **FST-Land0FC/109/2021-02 Dated 23.08.2022**

2. After careful examination of the proposal of the UT Administration, approval is hereby conveyed for diversion of **1.9891 ha** of forest land for the above-mentioned project, subject to the following conditions;

- i. Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged.
- ii. Minimum number of trees/plants and in any case not more than **30 trees and 762 poles in Kathua division and 44 trees and 454 poles in Samba division** will be felled.
- iii. The UT Govt shall upload the KML files of the degraded forest area accepted for raising compensatory afforestation as well as the forest area proposed for diversion in the extant proposal in the E-Green watch portal.
- iv. No muck shall be dumped in the forest land in context of the undertaking submitted by User Agency.
- v. The DFO shall ensure that user agency shall not dump muck on forest land.
- vi. The forest land will not be used for any other purpose than that mentioned in the proposal.

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- The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department, or persons without approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- viii. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
 - ix. The user agency shall raise strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road at the project cost as per IRC specification with maintenance of seven to ten years.
 - x. No damage will be done to the adjoining forest land.
 - xi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
 - xii. The user agency shall pay additional amount of NPV as and when increased on the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court.
 - xiii. The User Agency shall provide firewood 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.
 - xiv. Compensatory afforestation will be carried out in two different patches of Degraded Forest Land (DFL) in two districts/forest divisions involved-upon **2.65 ha** in Samba district on Comp no. 15/D, Village-Sumbli, Tehsil- Bari Brahmana, District-Samba at the cost of Rs.5,30,000 and upon **2 ha** in Kathua district on Comp no. 75/J, Jasrota forest range, Tehsil- Hiranagar, District- Kathua at the cost of Rs.4,00,000 paid by the User Agency.
 - xv. DFO shall ensure that compensatory afforestation will be done within one year from final approval over the extent of land as approved, out of the funds provided by the user agency.
 - xvi. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the direction of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
 - xvii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction material for execution of the project work.
 - xviii. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from the time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
 - xix. It will be the responsibility of the UT Administration/User Agency to obtain all other prior approvals/clearances under all other relevant Acts/Rules/ Court's rulings/instructions, etc. including environmental clearance, as applicable to this proposal.
3. The Ministry may revoke/suspend the clearance if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory. **UT Administration shall ensure fulfilment of these conditions through forest department.**

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
(Raja Ram Singh)
DIGF (Central)
Regional Officer
IRO Jammu

Signed by Raja Ram Singh
Date: 30-08-2022 12:45:47
Reason: Approved

Copy to: -

1. The IGF (FC), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, Aliganj, New Delhi (adgfc-mef@nic.in).
2. The Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, UT of Jammu Kashmir (pccfjkforest@gmail.com).
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Van Bhawan, Below Gumat, Jammu, UT of Jammu Kashmir (ccffcajk1@gmail.com).
4. CEO, CAMPA O/o PCCF (HoFF), UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, UT of Jammu Kashmir (jkcampacell@gmail.com).
5. The Divisional Forest Officer, Kathua and Samba Forest Division and District Kathua and Samba, UT of Jammu and Kashmir.
6. National Highway Authority of India, H/No. 315, sec-1 Channi Himmat, District-Jammu, UT of Jammu and Kashmir (piujammu@gmail.com).