



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT 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



F.No. FC-I/MH-86/2018-NGP /14718

Date: 30.09.2025

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue and Forest Department,
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk
Madame Cama Marg, Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400032.

Sub: Diversion of 2.8715 ha of Forest land in favour of National Highway Division, Ratnagiri for Rehabilitation and Upgradation of existing two lane of NH-66 from Km 406 to Km 450/170 (Kalmath to Zarap section) to Four lane configuration with paved shoulder under NHDP Phase- IV in Sindhudurg District in the State of Maharashtra- Regarding

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to The APCCF & Nodal (FCA), Maharashtra Letter No. Desk-17/NC/I/I.D./2585/17-18 dated 01.02.2018 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 (1) of the 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 27.02.2018. The Addl. PCCF and Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, vide his letter no. Desk-17/FCA-S1/PID-31292/Kolhapur/25-26/1402 dated 18.09.2025 submitted compliance report through online as sought vide this office letter of even number dated 17.10.2023 and requested to grant final approval to the proposal.

After careful consideration of the proposal and compliance report, I am directed to convey the Central Government's 'final approval' under Section- 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 diversion of **2.8715 ha** of Forest land in favour of National Highway Division, Ratnagiri for Rehabilitation and Upgradation of existing two lane of NH-66 from Km 406 to Km 450/170 (Kalmath to Zarap section) to Four lane configuration with paved shoulder under NHDP Phase- IV in Sindhudurg District in the State of Maharashtra, subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. As proposed by the State Government, the State Forest

Department shall carry out compensatory afforestation @ **625 trees /ha over 6.0 ha** of degraded forest area identified in Sy No 271, 273, 275 in Compt No 172 of Village Amboli (Nagartash), Tal Swantwadi, District Sindudurg. Further, raising of required nos i.e. 1000 plants / ha is not possible in the identified DFL, as proposed, the State Forest Department shall carryout plantation of remaining numbers **i.e. 5743 trees shall be raised over identified 3.18 ha of DFL** in Sy No 270, 271, 273, 275 in Compt No 172 of Village Amboli (Nagartash), Tal Swantwadi, District Sindudurg from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;

- iii. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing 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;
- iv. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- v. The boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;
- vi. The user agency shall arrange to raise strip plantation on either side of the road and central verge at project cost, as per IRC specification, with maintenance of 7-10 years.
- vii. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
- viii. The reclamation of quarry should be done under the supervision of the State Forest Department. The quarry shall be reclaimed and afforested completely before the project is closed.
- ix. Overburden shall not be dumped outside the width of the road. The muck generated in the earth cuttings will be disposed of at the designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be allowed to roll down the hill slopes.
- x. The user agency will provide retaining walls, breast walls and drainage as per requirement to make the slope stable;
- xi. The State Forest Department shall implement a comprehensive Soil Conservation Plan in the forest area from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;**
- xii. The designing of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals should be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals.

- xiii. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xiv. 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;
- xv. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- xvi. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- xvii. 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;
- xviii. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- xix. As the forest area is inhabited by the Schedule-I species, a Wildlife Conservation Plan, at project cost, shall be prepared and implemented in consultation with the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & CWLW, if required in future;
- xx. The existing carriageway in the forest area, in the patches corresponding to re alignments, shall be dismantled and land shall be handed over back to the State Forest Department. A reclamation plan by planting suitable species of trees be prepared in consultation with the Forest Department and the amount so required will be deposited with the forest department by the user agency for taking up reclamation of the area. A copy of plan so prepared shall be submitted to Regional Office, Nagpur.
- xxi. Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- xxii. **From the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency, the State Forest Department shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests artificially made out of ecofriendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;**
- xxiii. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector;
- xxiv. The User Agency shall submit six monthly self-compliance reports as on 1st January and 1st July of every year to this office as well as to the Nodal Officer of the State;
- xxv. The State Government shall monitor compliance of conditions of Forest Clearance and shall submit in this regard yearly report as on 31st December of every year;
- xxvi. Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office, Nagpur may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- xxvii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of



VSSA, 1980 and action would be taken as per the provision of Act and rules & Guidelines issued thereunder;

- xxviii. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project; and

**This order issues with the approval of Competent Authority,
Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur.**

Yours faithfully,


(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale)
AIGF (Central)

Copy to:

- i. IGF (RoHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi 110003 (For information please)
- ii. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- iii. User agency.
- iv. Guard file.


(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale)
AIGF (Central)