

PART - IV

(to be filled by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest Department)

17	Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance of otherwise of the proposal with remarks, (While giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon)	The specific recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of forest force) Maharashtra State, Nagpur is enclosed herewith on Page No. 22-A to C1
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Hand
24/7/16
Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
And Nodal officer
Maharashtra State, Nagpur

22-09-16 22/06

Recd. 22/09/2016

Proposal for diversion of 564.00 ha. forest land for Development of Gorewada Zoo under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980.

Specific Recommendations of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State (Head of Forest Force) with regards to acceptance or otherwise of the proposal supported by reasons.

The proposal is for diversion of 564.00 ha. forest land under Section 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of Forest Conservation Act for development of proposed International Standard Zoo under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 on land under the possession of Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. (FDCM) at Gorewada, Tal, Nagpur, Dist, Nagpur of Maharashtra State. The project includes developments of International Standard Zoo and Rescue Center comprising an area of 564.00 ha., which falls in village Junapani, Sitagondi, Makardhokda, Mahurzari, Budhala, Dabha, Hazari Pahad, Tah. Nagpur, Dist. Nagpur of Maharashtra, which is located within forest compartments No. 790,791,792,793. The site proposed for establishing Zoological Park and Rescue Center is a forest land measuring about 564.00 ha. situated on Nagpur Katol road and is about 7 km from Nagpur city. On the northern part of the road, a lake is situated, which caters to drinking water requirement of about 70% population of Nagpur City. The area on the southern part of Nagpur Katol road, i.e. project area bears minimum vegetation and therefore various attractions, viz. Indian Safari, African Safari, Biopark, Deep Time Trail, Tribal Village Trail, Trail of Sense, Entry Plaza, Reservoir, etc., are proposed to be created. It was decided by State Government in 2005 to establish the International Standard Zoo at Gorewada, Nagpur. The project area is continuous plain chunk of forest land under possession of Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd., (a Government of Maharashtra undertaking).

1.1 State Government vide Government Resolution No. WLP-1009/ File No.89/F-1 dated 12/12/2005 decided to develop an International Standard Zoo at Gorewada, Nagpur. State Government vide GR No. WLP-1009/C.R.119/F-1 Mumbai dated 29/11/2011 further assigned this project to FDCM. Since then FDCM is managing this area. The project will have positive impact on socio-economics of entire Vidarbha region & Central India. The project cost is estimated at about Rs. 451.35 crores. Central Zoo Authority (CZA) has approved the master plan of this zoo vide their letter dated 27/05/2015. Hon'ble Supreme Court have also agreed for establishment of this Zoo vide their order dated 05/08/2013.

1.2 In the context of applicability of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the activities necessary for ex-situ conservation of wild animals through Zoological Parks/Zoos/Biological Parks over forest land, Government of India vide their letter No. F.No.11-66/2004-FC, dated 13/11/2007 conveyed that activities required to be done in Zoo as per the approved management plan will not attract the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 provided such activities are necessary for management of animals & imparting education and have the prior approval of Central Zoo Authority (CZA). The master plan of International Standard Gorewada Zoo was approved by Central Zoo Authority (CZA) vide their letter No. WLP-1009/C.R.119/F-1, dt.29/11/2011. Subsequently, a reference was made by Managing Director, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd., to Government of India regarding the applicability of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the activities proposed for the

Zoo vide his letter No. Gorewada/GMWFP/Steno/1365, dt.24/12/2014 particularly in view of the fact that the activities are proposed to be undertaken through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with the involvement of Joint Venture Partner (Private Investor). In response, Government of India vide their letter bearing No. 11-29/2015-FC, dated. 05/05/2015 intimated that the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are attracted. Government of Maharashtra accordingly submitted proposal to Government of India vide letter bearing No. FLD-3415/CR-255/F-10, dt.30/09/2015, seeking clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 & reiterating its firm opinion again about the non-applicability of Forest (Conservation) Act.

1.3 Thereafter, Government of India returned this proposal directing to resubmit the proposal by uploading on the website of the ministry alongwith all necessary documents. Subsequently, on receipt of requisite clarifications regarding the area of operation of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) etc. from Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. Government of Maharashtra again requested Government of India to reconsider their views & re-examine the proposal vide letter dt. 16/03/2016. However no response was received from Government of India.

1.4 A meeting was thereafter held in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India New Delhi on 18/05/2016 which was attended by Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Government of Maharashtra. In this meeting Government of India's communication dated 08/01/2014 addressed to Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore was highlighted wherein, it has been specifically clarified that the establishment/ re-location of Zoo in forest area attracts the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. A note in this regard was submitted to Government by the Nodal Officer on dt.19/05/2016. In view of the Government of India's clarification dt.08/01/2014 (which was not circulated previously) and subsequent decisions in the matter, proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been prepared for diversion of an area of 564.00 ha.

1.5 Master Plan of Zoo and Rescue Center over 1914 ha. forest land was submitted to CZA. But CZA vide their letter No. F.No.23-11/99-CZA (403) (M),dt.14/12/2012 recommended for establishment of Zoo and Rescue Center, subject to compliance on total 13 observations, out of that observation no.8 is "The area earmarked as a Gorewada Reserve Area should not form the part of the proposal of the Zoo and Rescue Center, since it comes under in-situ area, therefore should be kept outside the zoo premises." Hence, total area of Gorewada Reserve located on Northern side of Nagpur-Katol Road which is 974.00 ha. and an area of 65.00 ha. earlier earmarked for Night Safari & falling on the northern side is presently not part of this proposal, whereas CZA separately approved Rescue Center on 25.00 ha. on northern side is included in the proposal.

1.6 CZA approved area on southern side of Nagpur-Katol Road is 850.00 ha. however, proposal for diversion of 539.00 ha. from this side under Forest Conservation Act-1980 has been prepared excluding an area of 311.00 ha. (On which no non-forest activities are proposed to be undertaken & which will be maintained by FDCM as such). In this way both Zoo and Rescue Center area adds up to 539.00 ha. + 25.00 ha. =564.00 ha. area, which forms this proposal. This

proposal is submitted considering present need of land for Zoo and Rescue Center. The comprehensive land use plan of this project is as follows-

Sr. No.	Item wise work purpose	Forest land required (ha.)	Non Forest Land required (ha.)
	Indian Safari	145.00	0
	African Safari	90.00	0
	Biopark	30.00	0
	Trails (Deep Time Trail, Trail of Senses & Deep Time Trail)	22.50	0
	Bird Aviaries	7.00	0
	Water Reservoir	30.00	0
	Entry Plaza including children park & parking area	10.00	0
	Buffer of Zoo components & other activity area.	204.50	0
	Rescue Centre	25.00	0
	Total	564.00	0
	Commercial Activity area	0	25.57
	Grand Total (ha.)	564.00	25.57

1.7 It is intended to form Special Purpose Vehicle by selecting suitable Joint Venture Partner (Private Investor) for developing and managing proposed Gorewada Zoo. It is clarified by Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd., that the activities of SPV will be restricted on 564.00 ha. area only which is proposal area. The remaining area which is in charge of FDCM Ltd., for management purpose will be managed exclusively by Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. only. The project, in addition to 564.00 ha. forest land, includes 25.57 ha. of non-forest land, which will be used for commercial activities such as hotels, restaurants, club houses, lawns, children park, night trail, recreational activities and ancillary activities.

1.8 This project is unique of its kind in the world since it has such a big Zoo containing Indian Safari, African Safari, Biopark, Trails, Bird aviaries, Water reservoir, Entry plaza, Rescue center & Commercial activity area at one place [The details given in chapter 4.3 of CZA approved master plan]

1.9 The major objectives of this project are 1) To promote wildlife conservation (planned breeding of endangered species and releasing them into wild); 2) Care and rehabilitation of injured, sick and orphan wild animals; 3) To collect and collate the scientific data on the biology, behavior and health care of various species of wild animals housed in the zoo and use the same in future management of the zoo; 4) To assist in conservation of the in-situ population of various species of endangered animals and their habitat by sensitizing the people; 5) To promote research and education on wildlife conservation; 6) To create amongst the visitors empathy towards wild animals through appreciation and better understanding; 7) To promote international eco-tourism and 8) to create the opportunities of employment/self employment,

Hence this project becomes important project for Central India and thus exemption from payment of NPV has been proposed. The details of total 564.00 ha of forest land required for the project are as under –

Area statement

Sr. No.	Item of Works/ Purpose	Name of Village	Forest land required			Total Area (in ha)	Legal Status of Land
			Sur/Gut No.	Comptt No.	Area (in ha.)		
1	Indian Safari	Junapani		791 792	105.00 40.00	145.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
2	African Safari	Junapani, Budhala		792 791	67.00 23.00	90.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
3	Biopark	Junapani Makardhokda		790 791	26.00 4.00	30.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
4	Trails (Deep Time Trail, Trail of Senses & Deep Time Trail)	Junapani Makardhokda		790 791	18.50 4.00	22.50	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
5	Bird Aviaries	Makardhokda		790	7.00	7.00	Notified under Section
6	Water Reservoir	Makardhokda Dabha		790 791	24.00 6.00	30.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
7	Entry Plaza including children park & parking area	Junapani Makardhokda		790 791	8.00 2.00	10.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
8	Buffer of Zoo components & other activity area.	Junapani, Makardhokda, Sitagondi, Budhala, Mabhurzari, Dabha, Hazaripahad		790 791 792	132.00 35.00 37.50	204.50	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
	Rescue Centre	Mahurzari		793	25.00	25.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
	Total					564.00	

The Compartment wise details of Forest area proposed for diversion are as under-

Survey No.	Compartment No	Area (in ha.)
1	790	215.50
2	791	179.00
3	792	144.50
4	793	25.00
	Total	564.00

2. Density of forest is below 0.2 (open forest) and Eco class value III, Southern tropical dry deciduous forests.
3. The project involves a total of 3970 trees in compartment number 790,791,792 and 793 of village Junapani Sitagondi, Makardhokda, Mahurzari, Budhala, Dabha, Hazari Pahad, Tah. Nagpur, Dist.Nagpur. The details are as below-

Teak (Tectona grandis)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	145	85	25	0	0	255

Babul (Acacia arabica)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	100	110	30	15	5	260

Kalam

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	45	30	0	0	0	75

Anjan/Arjuna (Terminalia arjuna)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	365	200	45	0	0	610

Tendu (Diospyros melanoxylon)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	60	5	0	0	0	65

Sissoo (Dalbergia ceiba)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	10	0	0	0	20

Katesavar (Bombax ceiba)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	50	35	25	5	0	115

Behada (Terminalia bellerica)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	45	25	5	0	0	75

Panjara (Terminalia catappa)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	35	50	60	0	0	145

Lokhandi

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	0	0	0	0	5

Hivar (Acacia leucopholoea)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	340	400	60	0	0	800

Bel (Aegle marmelos)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	15	0	0	0	0	15

Umber (Ficus glomerata)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	5	0	0	0	10

Khair (Acacia catechu)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	340	5	0	0	0	345

Shiras (Albezia procera)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	5	0	0	15

Shindhi (Prosopis cineraria)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	80	320	5	0	0	405

Neem (Azadirachta indica)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	40	15	0	0	0	55

Palas (Butea monosperma)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	145	90	50	25	0	310

Apta (Bauhinia racemosa)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	35	10	5	0	0	50

Chichva (Albizia lebbbeck)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	0	0	0	10

Aali

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	25	5	0	0	0	30

Dhavda (Anogeissus latifolia)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	5	0	0	0	10

Chinch (Tamarindus indica)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	0	10	0	0	0	10

Kardai (Anogeissus pendula)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	95	35	5	5	0	140

Murdi

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	0	0	0	0	5

Kumbhi (Careya arborea)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	0	0	0	10

Bor (Zizyphus jujuba)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	0	0	0	10

Kau

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	70	5	0	0	0	75

Dhaman (Grewia tilifolia)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	0	0	0	0	5

Vaghati

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	0	0	0	10

Ain (Terminalia tomentosa)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	20	0	5	0	0	25

Abstract of trees involved

Type of Trees	Total Trees to be felled in Compartment No.	Total trees involved
Teak (Tectona grandis)	790,791,792 and 793	255
Babul (Acacia Arabica)		260
Kalam		75
Anjan/Arujuna (Terminalia arjuna)		610
Tendu (Diospyrous melonoxylon)		65
Sisu (Dalbergia ceiba)		20
Katsavar (Bombax ceiba)		115
Behada (Terminalia bellerica)		75
Panjara (Termanalia catappa)		145

Lokhandi	5
Hivar (Acacia leuco pholoea)	800
Bel (Agegle marmelos)	15
Umber (Ficus glomerata)	10
Khair (Acacia catechu)	345
Shiras (Albezia procera)	15
Shindhi (Prosopis ceneraia)	405
Nim (Azadirchta indica)	55
Palas (Butea monosperma)	310
Apata (Bauhinia racemosa)	50
Chichva (Albbezia lebeck)	10
Aali	30
Dhavda (Anogeissus latifolia)	10
Chinch (Tamarindus indica)	10
Kardai (Anogeissus pendula)	140
Murdi	5
Kumbhi (Careya arborea)	10
Bor (Zizyphus jujuba)	10
Kau	75
Dhaman (Grewia tilifolia)	5
Vaghati	10
Yen (Termanalia tomentosa)	25
Total Trees	3970

Though the total number of trees in the project area is 3970, only unavoidable and minimum number of trees will be felled.

4. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division Nagpur has certified the Net Present Value of forest land involved in this project area.
5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division Nagpur has certified that no suitable alternative non-forest land is available other than the forest land demanded and demand for the forest land is barest minimum.
6. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division Nagpur has certified that except the establishment of Rescue Centre, the work has not been started in forest land as well as in non forest land and no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and or its Guideline have been committed and that the work will be started only after Government of India accords permission.

As regards the establishment of Rescue Centre, it is stated that since the master plan of Gorewada Zoo had been approved by Central Zoo Authority (CZA) and Hon'ble Supreme Court had also given permission for the establishment of Gorewada Zoo vide their order dt.05/08/2013 in I.A Nos. 22,23 & 24 in Writ Petition (Civil) No(s) 47 of 1998 as well as the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests (FC) letter dt. 13/11/2007 clearly mention that "activities required to be done in Zoo as per approved management plan will not attract the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 provided such activities are necessary

for management of animals and imparting education and have the prior approval of Central Zoo Authority (CZA)", therefore the work of Rescue Centre came to be started by the user agency. However, no other activity has been started.

7. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Forest Division, Nagpur, has certified that the project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
8. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Division Nagpur, has certified that the area involved is not included in the area of any existing National Park, Wild life Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc.
9. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Division Nagpur, has certified that 3970 trees are required to be felled for this project.
10. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Division Nagpur, has certified that the proposed project is beyond 10 Km from the boundary of the protected area.
11. Zudpi jungle land, twice in extent to the area proposed for diversion under this project (1128.00 ha.), falling in Nagpur, Bhandara and Wardha districts (459.00 ha. 547.00 ha. & 122.00 ha. respectively) has been proposed for compensatory afforestation. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Bhandara and Wardha have certified that the area is contiguous, suitable for afforestation & management and is also free from encroachment & other encumbrances. The details are as under-

Nagpur Division

Sr. No	Taluka	Range	Name of Village	Survey No.	Total Area (in ha.)	Area suitable for CA (in ha)
1	Nagpur (Rural)	Butibori	Sonegaon	11	6.91	6.91
2				12	5.75	5.75
3				145	5.56	5.56
4				154	6.05	6.05
5				117	6.00	6.00
6	Nagpur (Rural)		Tembhri	77	6.36	6.36
7				78	23.78	23.78
8	Nagpur (Rural)		Pohi	5	12.93	12.93
9				47	6.88	6.88
10	Nagpur (Rural)		Khatmari	18	13.59	13.59
11				31	14.60	14.60
12	Nagpur (Rural)		Dhawalpeth	108	35.60	35.60
13				3	13.72	13.72
14				18	5.14	5.14
15	Nagpur (Rural)		Jamtha	123	16.17	16.17
16	Nagpur (Rural)		Kanhalgaon	21	12.81	12.81
	Total (A)			16 sites	191.85	191.85
1	Saoner	Khapa	Kaotha	322	92.61	60.00
2	Saoner		Gosewadi	265	16.95	16.95
3				76	9.21	9.21
4	Saoner		Dohanghat	41	17.67	17.67
	Total (B)			4 sites	136.44	103.83
1	Kalmeshwar	Kalmeshwar	Gondkhairy	474	15.50	15.50

2	Kalmeshwar		Ubali	485	29.69	25.00
3	Kalmeshwar		Tondakhairy	184	14.67	12.00
4	Saoner		Angewada	140	7.24	7.02
5	Kalmeshwar		Telkamthi	705	14.80	10.00
6	Saoner		Hetisurla	3	16.43	10.00
7	Kalmeshwar		Dadhera	76	9.19	15.00
8				77	5.53	
9				78	3.06	
10	Kalmeshwar		Khursapar	7	33.87	25.00
	Total (C)			10 sites	149.98	119.52
1	Umred	North Umred	Salai	227	43.23	30.00
2				18	13.80	13.80
	Total (D)			2 sites	57.03	43.80
	Grand Total (A+B+C+D)			32 sites	535.30	459.00

Bhandara Division

Sr. No	Taluka	Range	Name of Village	Survey No.	Total Area (in ha.)	Area suitable for CA (in ha)
1	Bhandara	Bhandara	Chitarpur	234	21.77	15.00
2			Borgaon	253	91.74	25.00
	Total (A)					40.00
1	Paoni	Adyal	Pimpalgaon	740	22.40	16.00
2	Paoni	Adyal	Thana (Rithi)	246	13.42	10.00
3	Paoni	Adyal	Nerala	176	12.52	10.00
4	Paoni	Adyal	Nerala	421	12.25	10.00
5	Paoni	Adyal	Nerala	178	25.77	20.00
6	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	698	55.96	47.00
7	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	658	22.90	20.00
8	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	659	13.85	10.00
9	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	660	19.22	10.00
10	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	699	55.65	40.00
11	Paoni	Adyal	Katurli	449	25.62	20.00
12	Lakhani	Adyal	Pendhari	640/2	10.68	5.00
13	Lakhani	Adyal	Pendhari	679/1	38.53	10.00
14	Lakhani	Adyal	Pendhari	679/2	20.00	10.00
15	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	33	12.16	5.00
16	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	61	13.13	8.00
17	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	64/2	12.50	7.00
18	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	168/3	18.20	10.00
19	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	169/2	10.00	5.00
20	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	62	12.70	5.00
21	Lakhani	Adyal	Saigaon	2	13.43	10.00
22	Lakhani	Adyal	Saigaon	7	29.40	15.00
23	Lakhani	Adyal	Saigaon	21	47.20	25.00
24	Tumsar	Tumsar	Bapera	701	20.12	15.00
25	Tumsar	Tumsar	Warpindkepar	221	5.99	5.00
26	Tumsar	Tumsar	Warpindkepar	243	13.55	10.00
27	Tumsar	Tumsar	Warpindkepar	247	16.39	7.00
28	Tumsar	Tumsar	Khapa Mohadi	2	24.00	20.00
29	Tumsar	Tumsar	Khapa Mohadi	3	17.58	10.00

30	Tumsar	Tumsar	Chulardoh	10	20.28	15.00
31	Tumsar	Tumsar	Devezari	448	21.30	20.00
32	Tumsar	Tumsar	Devezari	447	15.54	10.00
33	Tumsar	Tumsar	Devezari	450	15.43	10.00
34	Tumsar	Tumsar	Sonegaon	462	15.44	10.00
35	Tumsar	Tumsar	Mandvi	14	16.85	12.00
36	Mohadi	Tumsar	Palora	404	40.00	35.00
	Total (C)					179.00
Grand Total (A+B+C)						547.00

Wardha Division

Sr. No	Taluka	Range	Round	Beat	Name of Village	Survey No.	Total Area (in ha.)	Area suitable for CA (in ha)
1	Wardha	Wardha	Wardha	Dahegoan	Tigaon	278	5.09	5.00
2				Madni	Yesamba	99	14.22	12.00
3						361	10.78	10.00
	(A) Total of Wardha Range					3 site	30.09	27.00
4	Arvi	Arvi	Pipalkhuta	Danapur	Gundmund	2--1	32.81	30.00
5						43	6.88	5.00
	(B) Total of Wardha Range					2 site	39.69	35.00
6	Ashti	Ashti	Ashti	Ashti	Peth Ahamadpur	155	53.24	20.00
7			Pillapur	Antora	Ismailpur	38	21.16	20.00
8						27	22.22	20.00
	(B) Total of Wardha Range					3 site	96.62	60.00
	Grand Total (A+B+C)					8 site	166.40	122.00

As the major objective of establishing Gorewada Zoo is to promote wildlife conservation, nature awareness, research and education, it is recommended that Government of India may not insist upon compensatory afforestation.

12. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, has certified that non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975 by virtue of application of section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and is not recognized as deemed reserved Forest as well as not included in the area identified as "Forest" as per the dictionary meaning of Forest as intimated by the Expert Committee appointed in accordance with the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996.
13. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur & Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Nagpur have recommended to approve the proposal.
14. The District Collector, Nagpur in compliance of the provisions under FRA has issued certificate in respect of the project land falling in 3 villages namely i) Mahurzari Tal. & Dist. Nagpur ii) Hazari Pahad Tal. & Dist. Nagpur iii) Dabha Tal. & Dist. Nagpur, whereas, villages namely i) Budhala ii) Junapani iii) Makardhokada iv) Sitagondi are not mentioned in the certificate issued by District Collector under Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 in prescribed format (Form II) as per the Government of India guidelines dt. 5/7/2013.

15. User Agency has agreed to bear the cost of clearance / removal of trees.
16. User Agency has agreed to defray the cost of compensatory afforestation as decided by Forest Department.
17. The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the proposed forest land for diversion.
18. The User Agency has submitted an undertaking for obtaining Environment Clearance.
19. The geo-digital map and KML files of the proposed forest land and proposed Compensatory Afforestation land is enclosed in the proposal.
20. Government of Maharashtra has approved the project for establishment of International Standard Zoo on land under possession of FDCM at Gorewada project, Nagpur, Tal, Nagpur, Dist, Nagpur vide letter No.WLP-1009/C.R.119/F-1,dt. 29/11/2011 .
21. The project area is at a distance of 30.7 kms from the protected area.

In view of the above, the proposal is recommended for approval under sections - 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 subject to the following conditions-

- i. The legal status of the land required will remain unchanged.
- ii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the project.
- iii. The User Agency will defray the cost of removal of 3970 trees in the area proposed for diversion. However, only the required and minimum number of trees will be felled.
- iv. As the major objective of establishing Gorewada Zoo is to promote wildlife conservation, nature awareness, research and education, it is recommended that Government of India may not insist upon compensatory afforestation.
- v. The User Agency will defray the cost of Net Present Value for 564.00 ha. forest land from compartment no. 790,791,792 & 793 of Village- Junapani Sitagondi, Makardhokda, Mahurzari, Budhala, Dabha, Hazari Pahad, Tah. Nagpur, Dist.Nagpur of Maharashtra. Alternatively, the User Agency will obtain exemption from Hon'ble Supreme Court from payment of NPV.
- vi. The User Agency will defray the additional / revised cost of Net Present Value of 564.00 ha. of forest land as per the latest guideline of Government of India.
- vii. The User Agency will furnish certificate from Collector regarding FRA in the format prescribed by Government of India vide letter No.11-9/98-FC (Pt), dt. 5/7/2013.
- viii. The User Agency will adhere to the master plan approved by Central Zoo Authority.
- ix. Construction of temporary dwelling/ hutments etc. for labourers will not be allowed in the forest area. No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.
- x. The User Agency will obtain Environment Clearance before final approval, if applicable.

(21)

- xi. The User Agency will strictly follow all the guidelines of Central Zoo Authority.
- xii. Provision of all relevant Acts, Rules made thereunder and guidelines applicable to the project shall have to be strictly followed.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
Maharashtra State, Nagpur

(57)

**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,

First Floor, 'B' Wing, Van Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.

Tel no. (0712) 2530166, 2556916, Fax no. (0712) 2550675 E-mail- apccfnodal@mahaforest.gov.in

Sub:- Proposal is for diversion of 564.00 ha. forest land under Section 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of Forest Conservation Act for development of proposed International Standard Zoo under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980

No. : Desk-17/NC/I/I.D-/ 779/16-17

Nagpur - 440 001, Dated : 22/07/2016.

To

The Secretary (Forests),
Revenue and Forests Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-32

Divisional Manager, Gorewada Project, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. (FDCM) at Gorewada Tal, Nagpur, Dist, Nagpur has submitted proposal for diversion of 564.00 ha. forest land under Section 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of Forest Conservation Act for development of proposed International Standard Zoo under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 on land under the possession of Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. (FDCM) at Gorewada Tal, Nagpur, Dist, Nagpur of Maharashtra State. The project includes developments of International Standard Zoo and Rescue Center comprising an area of 564.00 ha., which falls in village Junapani, Sitagondi, Makardhokda, Mahurzari, Budhala, Dabha, Hazari Pahad, Tah. Nagpur, Dist. Nagpur of Maharashtra, which is located within forest compartments No. 790,791,792,793. The site proposed for establishing Zoological Park and Rescue Center is a forest land measuring about 564.00 ha. situated on Nagpur Katol road and is about 7 km from Nagpur city. On the northern part of the road, a lake is situated, which caters to drinking water requirement of about 70% population of Nagpur City. The area on the southern part of Nagpur Katol road, i.e. project area bears minimum vegetation and therefore various attractions, viz. Indian Safari, African Safari, Biopark, Deep Time Trail, Tribal Village Trail, Trail of Sense, Entry Plaza, Reservoir, etc., are proposed to be created. It was decided by State Government in 2005 to establish the International Standard Zoo at Gorewada, Nagpur. The project area is continuous plain chunk of forest land under possession of Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd., (a Government of Maharashtra undertaking).

State Government vide Government Resolution No. WLP-1009/ File No.89/F-1 dated 12/12/2005 decided to develop an International Standard Zoo at Gorewada, Nagpur. State Government vide GR No. WLP-1009/C.R.119/F-1 Mumbai dated 29/11/2011 further assigned this project to FDCM. Since then FDCM is managing this area. The project will have positive impact on socio-economics of entire Vidarbha region & Central India. The project cost is estimated at about Rs. 451.35 crores. Central Zoo Authority (CZA) has approved the master plan of this zoo vide their letter dated 27/05/2015. Hon'ble Supreme Court have also agreed for establishment of this Zoo vide their order dated 05/08/2013.

In the context of applicability of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the activities necessary for ex-situ conservation of wild animals through Zoological Parks/Zoos/Biological Parks over forest land, Government of India vide their letter No. F.No.11-66/2004-FC, dated 13/11/2007 conveyed that activities required to be done in Zoo as per the approved management plan will not attract the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 provided such activities are necessary for management of animals & imparting education and have the prior approval of Central Zoo Authority (CZA). The master plan of International Standard Gorewada Zoo was approved by Central Zoo Authority (CZA) vide their letter No. WLP-1009/C.R.119/F-1, dt.29/11/2011. Subsequently, a reference was made by Managing Director, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd., to Government of India regarding the applicability of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the activities proposed for the Zoo vide his letter No. Gorewada/GMWFP/Steno/1365, dt.24/12/2014 particularly in view of the fact that the activities are proposed to be undertaken through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) with the involvement of Joint Venture Partner (Private Investor). In response, Government of India vide their letter bearing No. 11-29/2015-FC, dated. 05/05/2015 intimated that the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are attracted. Government of Maharashtra accordingly submitted proposal to Government of India vide letter bearing No. FLD-3415/CR-255/F-10, dt.30/09/2015, seeking clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 & reiterating its firm opinion again about the non-applicability of Forest (Conservation) Act.

Thereafter, Government of India returned this proposal directing to resubmit the proposal by uploading on the website of the ministry alongwith all necessary documents. Subsequently, on receipt of requisite clarifications regarding the area of operation of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) etc. from Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. Government of Maharashtra again requested Government of India to reconsider their views & re-examine the proposal vide letter dt. 16/03/2016. However no response was received from Government of India.

A meeting was thereafter held in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India New Delhi on 18/05/2016 which was attended by Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Government of Maharashtra. In this meeting Government of India's communication dated 08/01/2014 addressed to Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore was highlighted wherein, it has been specifically clarified that the establishment/ re-location of Zoo in forest area attracts the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. A note in this regard was submitted to Government by the Nodal Officer on dt.19/05/2016. In view of the Government of India's clarification dt.08/01/2014 (which was not circulated previously) and subsequent decisions in the matter, proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been prepared for diversion of an area of 564.00 ha.

Master Plan of Zoo and Rescue Center over 1914 ha. forest land was submitted to CZA. But CZA vide their letter No. F.No.23-11/99-CZA (403) (M), dt.14/12/2012 recommended for establishment of Zoo and Rescue Center, subject to compliance on total 13 observations, out of that observation no.8 is "The area earmarked as a Gorewada Reserve Area should not form the part of the proposal of the Zoo and Rescue Center, since it comes under in-situ area, therefore should be kept outside the zoo premises." Hence, total area of Gorewada Reserve located on Northern side of Nagpur-Katol Road which is 974.00 ha. and an area of 65.00 ha. earlier earmarked for Night Safari & falling on the northern side is presently not part of this proposal.

whereas CZA separately approved Rescue Center on 25.00 ha. on northern side is included in the proposal.

CZA approved area on southern side of Nagpur-Katol Road is 850.00 ha. however, proposal for diversion of 539.00 ha. from this side under Forest Conservation Act-1980 has been prepared excluding an area of 311.00 ha. (On which no non-forest activities are proposed to be undertaken & which will be maintained by FDCM as such). In this way both Zoo and Rescue Center area adds up to 539.00 ha. + 25.00 ha. =564.00 ha. area, which forms this proposal. This proposal is submitted considering present need of land for Zoo and Rescue Center. The comprehensive land use plan of this project is as follows-

Sr. No.	Item wise work purpose	Forest land required (ha.)	Non Forest Land required (ha.)
1	Indian Safari	145.00	0
2	African Safari	90.00	0
3	Biopark	30.00	0
4	Trails (Deep Time Trail, Trail of Senses & Deep Time Trail)	22.50	0
5	Bird Aviaries	7.00	0
6	Water Reservoir	30.00	0
7	Entry Plaza including children park & parking area	10.00	0
8	Buffer of Zoo components & other activity area.	204.50	0
9	Rescue Centre	25.00	0
	Total	564.00	0
1	Commercial Activity area	0	25.57
	Grand Total (ha.)	564.00	25.57

It is intended to form Special Purpose Vehicle by selecting suitable Joint Venture Partner (Private Investor) for developing and managing proposed Gorewada Zoo. It is clarified by Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd., that the activities of SPV will be restricted on 564.00 ha. area only which is proposal area. The remaining area which is in charge of FDCM Ltd., for management purpose will be managed exclusively by Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. only. The project, in addition to 564.00 ha. forest land, includes 25.57 ha. of non-forest land, which will be used for commercial activities such as hotels, restaurants, club houses, lawns, children park, night trail, recreational activities and ancillary activities.

This project is unique of its kind in the world since it has such a big Zoo containing Indian Safari, African Safari, Biopark, Trails, Bird aviaries, Water reservoir, Entry plaza, Rescue center & Commercial activity area at one place [The details given in chapter 4.3 of CZA approved master plan]

The major objectives of this project are 1) To promote wildlife conservation (planned breeding of endangered species and releasing them into wild); 2) Care and rehabilitation of injured, sick and orphan wild animals; 3) To collect and collate the scientific data on the biology,

behavior and health care of various species of wild animals housed in the zoo and use the same in future management of the zoo; 4) To assist in conservation of the in-situ population of various species of endangered animals and their habitat by sensitizing the people; 5) To promote research and education on wildlife conservation; 6) To create amongst the visitors empathy towards wild animals through appreciation and better understanding; 7) To promote international eco-tourism and 8) to create the opportunities of employment/self employment, Hence this project becomes important project for Central India and thus exemption from payment of NPV has been proposed. The details of total 564.00 ha of forest land required for the project are as under –

Area statement

Sr. No.	Item of Works/ Purpose	Name of Village	Forest land required			Total Area (in ha)	Legal Status of Land
			Sur/Gut No.	Comptt No.	Area (in ha.)		
1	Indian Safari	Junapani		791 792	105.00 40.00	145.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
2	African Safari	Junapani, Budhala		792 791	67.00 23.00	90.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
3	Biopark	Junapani Makardhokda		790 791	26.00 4.00	30.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
4	Trails (Deep Time Trail, Trail of Senses & Deep Time Trail)	Junapani Makardhokda		790 791	18.50 4.00	22.50	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
5	Bird Aviaries	Makardhokda		790	7.00	7.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
6	Water Reservoir	Makardhokda Dabha		790 791	24.00 6.00	30.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
7	Entry Plaza including children park & parking area	Junapani Makardhokda		790 791	8.00 2.00	10.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
8	Buffer of Zoo components & other activity area.	Junapani, Makardhokda, Sitagondi, Budhala, Mabhurzari, Dabha, Hazaripahad		790 791 792	132.00 35.00 37.50	204.50	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
9	Rescue Centre	Mahurzari		793	25.00	25.00	Notified under Section 4 of Indian Forest Act.
	Total					564.00	

The Compartment wise details of Forest area proposed for diversion are as under-

Survey No.	Compartment No	Area (in ha.)
1	790	215.50
2	791	179.00
3	792	144.50
4	793	25.00
	Total	564.00

Following documents as prescribed in Government of India Circular, No. F.No.5-3/2007/FC-dt.19/8/2010 and as per the instructions contained in Government of India Gazette REGD No.D.L-33004/99 published vide dt.14/3/2014 are enclosed in three copies.

1. Prescribed Form C, in accordance with the provision under the amended Forest (Conservation) Rules, as per amendment published in Gazette of India dated 14/3/2014.
2. Area Statement,
3. Index map in suitable scale,
4. The area belongs to Eco-value class-III and density from 0.50 to 0.60.
5. Density of forest is below 0.2 (open forest) and Eco class value III, Southern tropical dry deciduous forests.
6. The project involves a total of 3970 trees in compartment number 790,791,792 and 793 of village Junapani Sitagondi, Makardhokda, Mahurzari, Budhala, Dabha, Hazari Pahad, Tah. Nagpur, Dist.Nagpur. The details are as below-

Compartment No.790,791,792 & 793.

Teak (Tectona grandis)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	145	85	25	0	0	255

Babul (Acacia arabica)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	100	110	30	15	5	260

Kalam

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	45	30	0	0	0	75

Anjan/Arjuna (Terminalia arjuna)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	365	200	45	0	0	610

Tendu (Diospyros melanoxylon)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	60	5	0	0	0	65

Sissoo (Dalbergia ceiba)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	10	0	0	0	20

Katesavar (Bombax ceiba)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	50	35	25	5	0	115

Behada (Terminalia bellerica)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	45	25	5	0	0	75

Panjara (Terminalia catappa)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	35	50	60	0	0	145

Lokhandi

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	0	0	0	0	5

Hivar (Acacia leucopholoca)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	340	400	60	0	0	800

Bel (Aegle marmelos)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	15	0	0	0	0	15

Umber (Ficus glomerata)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	5	0	0	0	10

Khair (Acacia catechu)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	340	5	0	0	0	345

Shiras (Albezia procera)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	5	0	0	15

Shindhi (Prosopis cineraria)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	80	320	5	0	0	405

Neem (Azadirachta indica)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	40	15	0	0	0	55

Palas (Butea monosperma)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	145	90	50	25	0	310

Apta (Bauhinia racemosa)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	35	10	5	0	0	50

Chichva (Albizia lebbeck)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	0	0	0	10

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Aali

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	25	5	0	0	0	30

Dhavda (Anogeissus latifolia)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	5	0	0	0	10

Chinch (Tamarindus indica)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	0	10	0	0	0	10

Kardai (Anogeissus pendula)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	95	35	5	5	0	140

Murdi

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	0	0	0	0	5

Kumbhi (Careya arborea)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	0	0	0	10

Bor (Zizyphus jujuba)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	0	0	0	10

Kau

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	70	5	0	0	0	75

Dhaman (Grewia tilifolia)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	5	0	0	0	0	5

Vaghati

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	10	0	0	0	0	10

Ain (Terminalia tomentosa)

Girth	30-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total trees
Number of trees	20	0	5	0	0	25

Abstract of trees involved

Type of Trees	Total Trees to be felled in Compartment No.	Total trees involved
Teak (Tectona grandis)	790,791,792 and 793	255
Babul (Acacia Arabica)		260
Kalam		75

Anjan/Arujuna (<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>)	610
Tendu (<i>Diospyros melonoxylon</i>)	65
Sisu (<i>Dalbergia ceiba</i>)	20
Katsavar (<i>Bombax ceiba</i>)	115
Behada (<i>Terminalia bellerica</i>)	75
Panjara (<i>Terminalia catappa</i>)	145
Lokhandi	5
Hivar (<i>Acacia leuco phloea</i>)	800
Bel (<i>Agele marmelos</i>)	15
Umber (<i>Ficus glomerata</i>)	10
Khair (<i>Acacia catechu</i>)	345
Shiras (<i>Albezia procera</i>)	15
Shindhi (<i>Prosopis ceneraia</i>)	405
Nim (<i>Azadirchta indica</i>)	55
Palas (<i>Butea monosperma</i>)	310
Apata (<i>Bauhinia racemosa</i>)	50
Chichva (<i>Albbezia lebeck</i>)	10
Aali	30
Dhavda (<i>Anogeissus latifolia</i>)	10
Chinch (<i>Tamarindus indica</i>)	10
Kardai (<i>Anogeissus pendula</i>)	140
Murdi	5
Kumbhi (<i>Careya arborea</i>)	10
Bor (<i>Zizyphus jujuba</i>)	10
Kau	75
Dhaman (<i>Grewia tilifolia</i>)	5
Vaghati	10
Yen (<i>Terminalia tomentosa</i>)	25
Total Trees	3970

Though the total number of trees in the project area is 3970, only unavoidable and minimum number of trees will be felled.

7. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division Nagpur has certified the Net Present Value of forest land involved in this project area.
8. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division Nagpur has certified that no suitable alternative non-forest land is available other than the forest land demanded and demand for the forest land is barest minimum.
9. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division Nagpur has certified that except the establishment of Rescue Centre, the work has not been started in forest land as well as in non forest land and no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and or its Guideline have been committed and that the work will be started only after Government of India accords permission.

As regards the establishment of Rescue Centre, it is stated that since the master plan of Gorewada Zoo had been approved by Central Zoo Authority (CZA) and Hon'ble Supreme Court had also given permission for the establishment of Gorewada Zoo vide their order dt.05/08/2013 in I.A Nos. 22,23 & 24 in Writ Petition (Civil) No(s) 47 of 1998 as well as the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests (FC) letter dt. 13/11/2007 clearly

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 mention that "activities required to be done in Zoo as per approved management plan will not attract the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 provided such activities are necessary for management of animals and imparting education and have the prior approval of Central Zoo Authority (CZA)", therefore the work of Rescue Centre came to be started by the user agency. However, no other activity has been started.

10. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Forest Division, Nagpur, has certified that the project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
11. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Division Nagpur, has certified that the area involved is not included in the area of any existing National Park, Wild life Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc.
12. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Division Nagpur, has certified that 3970 trees are required to be felled for this project.
13. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Division Nagpur, has certified that the proposed project is beyond 10 Km from the boundary of the protected area.
14. Zudpi jungle land, twice in extent to the area proposed for diversion under this project (1128.00 ha.), falling in Nagpur, Bhandara and Wardha districts (459.00 ha. 547.00 ha. & 122.00 ha. respectively) has been proposed for compensatory afforestation. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Bhandara and Wardha have certified that the area is contiguous, suitable for afforestation & management and is also free from encroachment & other encumbrances. The details are as under-

Nagpur Division

Sr. No	Taluka	Range	Name of Village	Survey No.	Total Area (in ha.)	Area suitable for CA (in ha)
1	Nagpur (Rural)	Butibori	Sonegaon	11	6.91	6.91
2				12	5.75	5.75
3				145	5.56	5.56
4				154	6.05	6.05
5				117	6.00	6.00
6	Nagpur (Rural)		Tembhri	77	6.36	6.36
7				78	23.78	23.78
8	Nagpur (Rural)		Pohi	5	12.93	12.93
9				47	6.88	6.88
10	Nagpur (Rural)		Khatmari	18	13.59	13.59
11				31	14.60	14.60
12	Nagpur (Rural)		Dhawalpeth	108	35.60	35.60
13				3	13.72	13.72
14				18	5.14	5.14
15	Nagpur (Rural)		Jamtha	123	16.17	16.17
16	Nagpur (Rural)		Kanhalgaon	21	12.81	12.81
	Total (A)			16 sites	191.85	191.85
1	Saoner	Khapa	Kaotha	322	92.61	60.00
2	Saoner		Gosewadi	265	16.95	16.95
3				76	9.21	9.21
4	Saoner		Dohanghat	41	17.67	17.67
	Total (B)			4 sites	136.44	103.83
1	Kalmeshwar	Kalmeshwar	Gondkhairi	474	15.50	15.50
2	Kalmeshwar		Uballi	485	29.69	25.00
3	Kalmeshwar		Tondakhairi	184	14.67	12.00
4	Saoner		Angewada	140	7.24	7.02

5	Kalmeshwar		Telkamthi	705	14.80	10.00
6	Saoner		Hetisurla	3	16.43	10.00
7	Kalmeshwar		Dadhera	76	9.19	15.00
8				77	5.53	
9				78	3.06	
10	Kalmeshwar		Khursapar	7	33.87	25.00
	Total (C)			10 sites	149.98	119.52
1	Umred	North Umred	Salai	227	43.23	30.00
2				18	13.80	13.80
	Total (D)			2 sites	57.03	43.80
	Grand Total (A+B+C+D)			32 sites	535.30	459.00

Bhandara Division

S. N	Taluka	Range	Name of Village	Survey No.	Total Area (in ha.)	Area suitable for CA (in ha)
1	Bhandara	Bhandar	Chitarpur	234	21.77	15.00
2			Borgaon	253	91.74	25.00
	Total (A)					40.00
1	Paoni	Adyal	Pimpalgaon	740	22.40	16.00
2	Paoni	Adyal	Thana (Rithi)	246	13.42	10.00
3	Paoni	Adyal	Nerala	176	12.52	10.00
4	Paoni	Adyal	Nerala	421	12.25	10.00
5	Paoni	Adyal	Nerala	178	25.77	20.00
6	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	698	55.96	47.00
7	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	658	22.90	20.00
8	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	659	13.85	10.00
9	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	660	19.22	10.00
10	Paoni	Adyal	Adyal	699	55.65	40.00
11	Paoni	Adyal	Katurli	449	25.62	20.00
12	Lakhani	Adyal	Pendhari	640/2	10.68	5.00
13	Lakhani	Adyal	Pendhari	679/1	38.53	10.00
14	Lakhani	Adyal	Pendhari	679/2	20.00	10.00
15	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	33	12.16	5.00
16	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	61	13.13	8.00
17	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	64/2	12.50	7.00
18	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	168/3	18.20	10.00
19	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	169/2	10.00	5.00
20	Lakhani	Adyal	Dongargaon	62	12.70	5.00
21	Lakhani	Adyal	Saigaon	2	13.43	10.00
22	Lakhani	Adyal	Saigaon	7	29.40	15.00
23	Lakhani	Adyal	Saigaon	21	47.20	25.00
24	Tumsar	Tumsar	Bapera	701	20.12	15.00
25	Tumsar	Tumsar	Warpindkepar	221	5.99	5.00
26	Tumsar	Tumsar	Warpindkepar	243	13.55	10.00
27	Tumsar	Tumsar	Warpindkepar	247	16.39	7.00
28	Tumsar	Tumsar	Khapa Mohadi	2	24.00	20.00
29	Tumsar	Tumsar	Khapa Mohadi	3	17.58	10.00
30	Tumsar	Tumsar	Chulardoh	10	20.28	15.00
31	Tumsar	Tumsar	Devezari	448	21.30	20.00
32	Tumsar	Tumsar	Devezari	447	15.54	10.00
33	Tumsar	Tumsar	Devezari	450	15.43	10.00
34	Tumsar	Tumsar	Sonegaon	462	15.44	10.00
35	Tumsar	Tumsar	Mandvi	14	16.85	12.00

(47)

36	Mohadi	Tumsar	Palora	404	40.00	35.00
	Total (C)					179.00
Grand Total (A+B+C)						547.00

Wardha Division

Sr. No	Taluka	Range	Round	Beat	Name of Village	Survey No.	Total Area (in ha.)	Area suitable for CA (in ha)
1	Wardha	Wardha	Wardha	Dahegoan	Tigaon	278	5.09	5.00
2				Madni	Yesamba	99	14.22	12.00
3						361	10.78	10.00
	(A) Total of Wardha Range					3 site	30.09	27.00
4	Arvi	Arvi	Pipalkhuta	Danapur	Gundmund	2--1	32.81	30.00
5						43	6.88	5.00
	(B) Total of Wardha Range					2 site	39.69	35.00
6	Ashti	Ashti	Ashti	Ashti	Peth Ahamadpur	155	53.24	20.00
7			Pillapur	Antora	Ismailpur	38	21.16	20.00
8						27	22.22	20.00
	(B) Total of Wardha Range					3 site	96.62	60.00
	Grand Total (A+B+C)					8 site	166.40	122.00

As the major objective of establishing Gorewada Zoo is to promote wildlife conservation, nature awareness, research and education, it is recommended that Government of India may not insist upon compensatory afforestation.

15. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, has certified that non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975 by virtue of application of section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and is not recognized as deemed reserved Forest as well as not included in the area identified as "Forest" as per the dictionary meaning of Forest as intimated by the Expert Committee appointed in accordance with the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996.
16. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur & Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Nagpur have recommended to approve the proposal.
17. The District Collector, Nagpur in compliance of the provisions under FRA has issued certificate in respect of the project land falling in 3 villages namely i) Mahurzari Tal. & Dist. Nagpur ii) Hazari Pahad Tal. & Dist. Nagpur iii) Dabha Tal. & Dist. Nagpur, whereas, villages namely i) Budhala ii) Junapani iii) Makardhokada iv) Sitagondi are not mentioned in the certificate issued by District Collector under Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 in prescribed format (Form II) as per the Government of India guidelines dt. 5/7/2013.
18. User Agency has agreed to bear the cost of clearance / removal of trees.
19. User Agency has agreed to defray the cost of compensatory afforestation as decided by Forest Department.
20. The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the proposed forest land for diversion.
21. The User Agency has submitted an undertaking for obtaining Environment Clearance.
22. The geo-digital map and KML files of the proposed forest land and proposed Compensatory Afforestation land is enclosed in the proposal.

23. Government of Maharashtra has approved the project for establishment of International Standard Zoo on land under possession of FDCM at Gorewada project, Nagpur, Tal, Nagpur, Dist, Nagpur vide letter No.WLP-1009/C.R.119/F-1,dt. 29/11/2011 .
24. The project area is at a distance of 30.7 kms from the protected area.

In view of the above, the proposal is recommended for approval under sections - 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 subject to the following conditions-

- i. The legal status of the land required will remain unchanged.
- ii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the project.
- iii. The User Agency will defray the cost of removal of 3970 trees in the area proposed for diversion. However, only the required and minimum number of trees will be felled.
- iv. As the major objective of establishing Gorewada Zoo is to promote wildlife conservation, nature awareness, research and education, it is recommended that Government of India may not insist upon compensatory afforestation.
- v. The User Agency will defray the cost of Net Present Value for 564.00 ha. forest land from compartment no. 790,791,792 & 793 of Village- Junapani Sitagondi, Makardhokda, Mahurzari, Budhala, Dabha, Hazari Pahad, Tah. Nagpur, Dist.Nagpur of Maharashtra. Alternatively, the User Agency will obtain exemption from Hon'ble Supreme Court from payment of NPV.
- vi. The User Agency will defray the additional / revised cost of Net Present Value of 564.00 ha. of forest land as per the latest guideline of Government of India.
- vii. The User Agency will furnish certificate from Collector regarding FRA in the format prescribed by Government of India vide letter No.11-9/98-FC (Pt), dt. 5/7/2013.
- viii. The User Agency will adhere to the master plan approved by Central Zoo Authority.
- ix. Construction of temporary dwelling/ hutments etc. for labourers will not be allowed in the forest area. No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.
- x. The User Agency will obtain Environment Clearance before final approval, if applicable.
- xi. The User Agency will strictly follow all the guidelines of Central Zoo Authority.
- xii. Provision of all relevant Acts, Rules made thereunder and guidelines applicable to the project shall have to be strictly followed.

It is, therefore, requested that Government of India may kindly be moved for approving the proposal for diversion of 564.00 ha. forest land under Section 2 (ii) and 2 (iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of proposed International Standard Zoo.

Encl. :- Proposal 3 copies

Draft Approved by
M.S. Nagpur

for Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer,
Maharashtra State, Nagpur.

Copy to Managing Director, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. (FDCM) Nagpur for information.

Copy to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) M.S. Nagpur for information.

Copy to Regional Manager, FDCM Ltd., Nagpur for information.

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

Copy to Divisional Manager, Forest Development Corporation of Maharashtra, Nagpur Division, Gorewada, Nagpur for information and necessary action.

Copy to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur/Bhandara/Waradha Forest Division for information.