

NH/HOP/SHEP/Env/2024/Camp-Jammu/ 36

Date: 10.10.2024

**The Additional Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests,
& Nodal Officer (FCA),
Jammu.**

Sub: Reply to the EDS raised by the Pr. Secretary (Forests), I/o Sawalkote HE Project (1850 MW), District Ramban, J&K, UT on 06-04-2024.

Ref: Proposal No. FP/JK/HYD/15056/2021 dated 31-12-2021.

Sir,

In response to the observations raised in EDS dated 24.04.2024 by the Administrative Department (Forests) in respect of above proposal, the reply is submitted as under:-

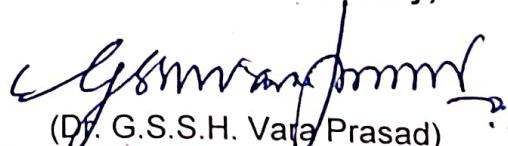
1. Regarding providing of Non Forest Land instead of Degraded Forest Land for raising compensatory afforestation. It is submitted that matter has been deliberated with the MoEF&CC New Delhi. The MoEF&CC, has issued clarification In terms of MoEF&CC vide Notification (FC.No.FC-11/111/2024-FC) issued by IG Forests dated 20th September 2024. GSR 582 (E)- Point No. 3 in Schedule -II to the rule in the table (i). as per the guidelines laid down rule 13 of the Van (Samrakshan Evar Samvarhan) Rules 2023 as under :

"CA on degraded forest land has been allowed in case of projects implemented by Central Government PSUs". Since the User agency being a Central Government PSU, the Compensatory Afforestation on degraded Forest Land is allowed.

Further, it is submitted that, the approval for CA Plan was already accorded by PCCF (HoFF), J&K Government and approval for CAT Plan was also accorded by the PCCF (HoFF), J&K Government.

in this regard, it is requested to kindly consider our proposal and forward the proposal to Ministry for accord of Stage-I approval.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. G.S.S.H. Vara Prasad)
Senior Manager (Environment)

Copy to:

1. Executive Director, Sawalkote HE Project for information.
2. General Manager (Civil) Sawalkote HE Project for information.