

Justification of USOF Project

The area proposed for the forest land diversion to build mobile tower is only 0.0225 hectare per location, i.e. 15x15 meters only. The locations are technically appropriate and strategically defined by Department of Telecommunications, Government of India. Erection of mobile tower in these particular locations will cover numbers of villages with large population. Most importantly, these areas particularly are not having any telecommunication network till date. The main motive of the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) Project by "Ministry of Telecommunication" Government of India is to cover remote areas not having any telecommunication coverage. Since, most of the non-forest densely populated areas were already covered by numbers of telecommunication service providers, the people residing in those non-forest areas are already enjoying advanced mobile network services. While on the other hand, remote forest dwellers residing in notified Forest Villages are still deprived of minimum mobile network services. Keeping this context in mind, Department of Telecommunication strategically proposing these nominal at Forest Villages to provide at least 2G cellular service to the already deprived forest dwellers.

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