TO. Date 22 /2/

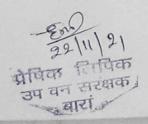
The Deputy Conservator of Forests Baran

Sub: Permission for underground laying of OFC in RoW of existing road.

Ref: Proposal No. FP/RJ/OFC/44037/2020 (Length 2.44 KMs & total area 0.1098 ha).

Sir.

- (1) May I draw your kind attention to letter No.F() /FCA/DCF/2020-21/5761 Dt. 9/7/2021 issued by your office asking us to provide information on 5 points mentioned therein.
- (2) Before replying to the 5 points mentioned in your letter, I would like to draw your kind attention to Rule 6 (3) (a) of FCA (Rules), 2003. The same is reproduced below: "The N.O. of the SG or the UTA, as the case may be, after having received the proposal under sub rule (1) and on being satisfied that the proposal is complete in all respects and requires prior approval under section 2 of the Act, shall send the proposal to the concerned DFO and the Døstrict Collector within a period of 10 days of the receipt of the proposal."
- (3) Rule 6 (3) (c) of FCA (Rules), 2003 is also reproduced below: "The DFO shall examine the factual details & feasibility of the proposal, certify the maps, carry out site-inspection & enumeration of the trees & forward his findings in the Format specified in this regard to the Conservator of Forests."
- (4) In Rule 6 (3)(d), timelines also have been set to process & forward the application to superior office.
- (5) The MoEF&CC, N.Delhi have granted General Approval for Critical Public & Strategic Defence Infra-structure. Chapter 4 of FCA Rules 2003 provides detailed instructions for such infrastructure activities/projects. Rule 4.2 deals with laying of underground OFC along the roads within existing RoWs.
- (6) Laying of OFC in RoW of the existing roads is an activity taken up in forest area which is already under non-forest use having been already diverted to road authority (PWD/NHAI/BRO etc.).
- (7) The aforesaid factual positions makes it amply clear that the Nodal Officer of the FCA, after having satisfied that the proposal is complete in all respects, had forwarded this proposal to your office.



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Date: 22 1/21

- (8) The informations asked for in your letter mentioned above, like villagewise, khasrawise calculation of area, revenue map of area, copy of JAMABANDI etc) may be necessary in cases of mines etc for which MoEF&CC have not granted G.A. under S/2(ii) of FCA & where diversion of fresh forest area (FFA) is needed.
- (9) The proposal No.FP/RJ/OFC/44037/2020 was submitted online on 20/01/2020. So much delay in permission, that too where MoEF&CC have granted GA U/S 2(ii) of FCA defeats the very purpose of General Approval for Critical Public & Strategic Defence Infrastructure.

May we, therefore, request you to forward the proposal after completing Part II of Form A as early as possible.

kind regards

(Abdul Salam Khon)

R. F.s. (R) Consulont