

UTTARAKHAND CIVIL AVIATION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
GOVERNMENT OF UTTARAKHAND

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Letter No:- **5185** /ucada/2021

Dated: **23/09/2021**

To,
D.F.O,
Forest Department,
Indira Nagar,
Dehradun.

Sub:- Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 87.0815 ha of forest land for "Expansion of the Jolly Grant Airport" under Forest Division and District Dehradun of the State of Uttarakhand.
(Online Proposal No. FP/UK/others 44884/2020)- reg.

Ref:- MoEF&CC, Gol, Letter No. 8-19/2020-FC dated 30th January, 2021.

Kindly refer the above dated letter regarding clarifications on the referral forest land transfer proposal for the expansion of the Jolly Grant Airport under Dehradun Forest Division of the State of Uttarakhand. Clarifications are given below :-

S.No.	Detail of Queries	Compliance
i	Reply of the State Government is silent on fragmentation of the riverside forests. Comments provided the State Government on 47 ha of MDF land involved in the project does not seem convincing for want of detail of alternatives sites studied/discarded thereby establishing inescapability of 47 ha of MDF land for the intended purpose. Moreover, reply of the State is largely limited to the proposed forest area only, holistic ecological value of the area vis-à-vis impact of the proposed project has not been commented upon by the State as envisaged in point no. (i) of the letter dated 9.10.2020.	<p>The proposal is for expansion of existing facility and capacity of the Jolly Grant Airport (including extension in length of existing runway strip), which is necessary in the light of strategic importance of the area, its nearness to the Indo-China LAC, swift response in case of disaster management, etc.</p> <p>The present layout of the Airport is bounded by thick human habitation immediately in junction with the North, North-Western, Western, South-Western, and almost half way through the Southern boundary. The South-Eastern and Eastern boundaries are adjacent to forest and Jakhan river (which is a seasonal river). Given this geographical disposition of the existing Jolly Grant Airport, it becomes clear that there is only one alternative towards extending the existing airstrip- which happens to be forested area. This patch of Forest contains various stages of Riverine succession primarily represented by <i>Delbergia sissoo</i>; <i>Acacia katechu</i>; and other intermittent sparsely distributed species like <i>Bombax ceiba</i>; <i>Holoptelia integrifolia</i>; <i>Geruga pinnata</i>; <i>Aegle mermelos</i>; <i>Tectona grandis</i>, etc. Further, most of the tree species (~79%) are of pole stage. It is noteworthy that this area is also heavily infested with <i>Lantana camera</i>. Hence, the foraging functions of this forest patch are relatively insignificant. Therefore, the factor of forest fragmentation has an insignificant impact</p>

on the forest wrt succession or vegetative prospects of this forest patch.

The minimum width of the land between the existing Airport boundary and Western Bank of the Jakhan River is approximately 750 mts, and is an isthmus connecting Badkot Reserved Forests and Thano Reserved Forests. This isthmus is used by wildlife occasionally for movement- which is one of this forest's major ecological functions. After considering the proposed land transfer, the minimum available width of land between the proposed airports boundary and the western bank of the Jakhan River come to minimum 150 mts. This width is in addition to the River bed width (approximately 150 mts at the narrowest site). Therefore, the ecological function of the area wrt movement of wildlife will not be impacted. The other ecological functions (enrichment of air, sequestering of Carbon and the like) will be compensated by means of Compensatory Afforestation and various dedicated forestry works done by money received under NPV. Therefore, in a holistic consideration, the impacts of land transfer of this forest area for extension of the Airport are minimal and adequately compensated by means of CAMPA CA and ancillary forestry works.

ii On the examination of the old proposal KML file and newly proposed area it has been found the there is some area/gap in-between the boundaries of already diverted forest land and currently proposed forest land for expansion of the airport. The area has been analysed with the help of high-resolution time series satellite images of Google Earth and it is observed that non-forestry activities has been done in-between gap area of the two boundaries and along the periphery of already diverted forest land. As per the Recorded Forest Area (RFA) boundary for the State of Uttarakhand available on DSS application, it is found that the gap available between the two boundaries is also part of notified forest land. The State Government is silent on the violation of FC, Act, 1980. The State Government may provided the full details of Violation Report and action taken on the wilful violation.

The construction of the existing Jolly Grant Airport had been done on land from various land owners. Some part of Forest Land had also been incorporated for the same. On matching of the kml files of the old land transfer and the new proposal, it was noted that some gap had erroneously crept in between them along the Southern boundary. This has been rectified, and the correct kml files have been attached along. There is no gap between the southern boundary of the previous land transfer and the new proposal, and there is no non forestry activity on this boundary. The map of the earlier Forest Land transferred for the existing Jolly Grant Airport is being annexed as additional information in part-II of parivesh portal.

iii

Examination of the compliance of approval dated 17.02.2003 revealed that in respect of condition no 12 of the approval regarding rehabilitation of the project affected families, it is reported that it will be complied with imply that condition is yet to be complied with. It is therefore, desirable that the State Government may intimate the status of rehabilitation of PAPs, if any, to the Ministry along with the justification for non-compliance of the same.

In respect of the query regarding rehabilitation of project affected people (PAPS), it is submitted that since there was no displacement of people from the aforesaid forest land. Hence rehabilitation is not applicable.

A copy of the letter no.-225/12y-54 (2020-23) DLRC dated 10 April, 2021 wherein details are provided by District Magistrate, Dehradun is attached.

iv

In compliance to condition no 2 of the approval dated 17.02.2003, the State Government has reported that CA has been raised over 140 ha of degraded forest land. However, present status of the plantation viz. its survival percentage, expenditure incurred as per CA scheme, etc. have not been intimated. The same needs to be intimated along with KML/Shape files of the CA land.

140 ha CA done in degraded forest land in lieu of diversion of 70 ha forest land for construction of Jollygrant Airport in 2003, the details are follows here under :

Sl. No.	Name of Range	Name of Area	Area	Number of sampling	Survival percentage	Expenditure Incurred
1	Malhan	Sahasra-1b	10	20000	27	349300
2	Asharodi	Arcadia-2	10	20000	65	349300
3		Arcadia-3	10	20000	35	349300
4	Jhajra	Doonga-2	10	20000	35	349300
5	Rishikesh	Lalpani-2	10	20000	23	349300
6		Veerbhadra-2d	10	20000	24	349300
7	Barkot	Jakhan-1	10	20000	7 / 60	349300
8		Bhaniyawala-2b	10	20000	26.30	349300
9	Lachiwala	Vanvah-1 (1)	10	20000	35	349300
10		Vanvah-1(2)	10	20000	24	349300
11	Thano	Song-4	10	20000	21	349300
12		Song-3	10	20000	22	349300
13		Lambirau-39b	10	20000	24	349300
14		Vidhalana-1	10	20000	23.35	349300
Total-			140	280000		4890200

v

Results of DSS analysis revealed that CA site namely Nahi-0, involving 10 ha of degraded forest land for CA, has forest falling in VDF category which may not be suitable for CA. Therefore, the State Government may re-confirm the suitability of the sites and if needed alternate CA site may be identified for raising CA along with site suitability certificate.

The site initially identified for CA in the case was 10 ha degraded forest land in Nahi Compartment-01 of Thano Range under Dehradun Forest Division. The site has been revisited, and now 10 ha. Of suitable land has been identified in Nahi compartment-03. DSS done by FSI of the said area mentions 70% as MDF, but on visit to site for its suitability for afforestation it has been found that the area is covered by Lantana and other weeds/bushes that render a high vegetation signature. The site has been found to be suitable for Compensatory plantation. The relevant certificate has attached on Part-II of Parivesh Portal as additional information.

vi

Certificate issued by the Chief Secretary with regard to the non-availability of non-forest land is in contravention to the provisions provided in the relevant guidelines issued under the FC Act as the certificate is issued in respect of Dehradun District only while as per guidelines, the Chief Secretary is suppose of issue such certificate only

The certificate regarding non availability of non forest land issued by Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand is attached in Part-I of Parivesh Portal as additional information.

	after getting the revenue records assessed for the entire state for the non availability of non-forest land. Certificate as per the format prescribed may be submitted failing which proposal of CA may accordingly be changed, in case non-forest land/revenue forest land is available in the State.	
2	Recently, Hon'ble High Court of Uttarakhand has made crucial observation in respect of wildlife values of the area. The State Government may, therefore, re-visit the proposal in light of observations contained in the Hon'ble High Court of Uttarakhand at Nainital order dated 11.01.2021 , specially with reference to issues pertaining to the conservation and protection of wildlife and fragmentation of the forest area serving as connecting link for intermittent or stray movement for charismatic wildlife species of the State	The directions issued by Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court in WPPIL No 05/2021 till date have been followed in toto by the Uttarakhand Forest Department and State Government. The final judgement in the case is awaited, and Uttarakhand Government and Uttarakhand Forest Department will follow all directions issued by the Hon'ble Uttarakhand High Court.


Enclosure: As Above

Yours faithfully,


(Swati S. Bhadauria)
Chief Executive Officer

Copy to:-

- 1- Secretary, Civil Aviation, Uttarakhand Government.
- 2- ACEO, UCADA.


(Swati S. Bhadauria)
Chief Executive Officer



मुख्य सचिव
Chief Secretary

संख्या-407/2021/IX-3/11/20

उत्तराखण्ड शासन
Govt. of Uttarakhand
नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस भवन
Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Bhawan
सचिवालय
Secretariat

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संख्या 212/11(IX)2008 TC-1
देहरादून: दिनांक 20 अप्रैल 2021

प्रमाण-पत्र

जनपद देहरादून में अवस्थित जौलीग्रॉन्ट एयरपोर्ट के विस्तारीकरण हेतु राजस्व भूमि उपलब्ध न होने के कारण वन विभाग की 87.0815 है० भूमि नागरिक उड्डयन विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड को हस्तान्तरित की जानी है। उक्त वन भूमि हस्तान्तरण के एवज में क्षतिपूरक वृक्षारोपण हेतु दोगुनी भूमि अर्थात् 174.163 है० सिविल सोयम/बंजर भूमि उपलब्ध करायी जानी है। मण्डलायुक्त कुमाऊँ एवं गढ़वाल मण्डल द्वारा प्रदत्त आख्या के आधार पर प्रमाणित किया जाता है कि उत्तराखण्ड राज्य में क्षतिपूरक वृक्षारोपण हेतु गैर वन भूमि अथवा सिविल/बंजर भूमि उपलब्ध नहीं है। अतः क्षतिपूरक वृक्षारोपण हेतु अवनत वन भूमि में वृक्षारोपण प्रस्तावित किया गया है।

यह प्रमाण-पत्र जिलाधिकारियों से प्राप्त आख्या के आधार पर निर्गत किया जा रहा है।

Om Prakash

(ओम प्रकाश)
मुख्य सचिव

उत्तराखण्ड शासन।

प्रेषक,

जिलाधिकारी,
देहरादून।

सेवा में,

अपर सचिव,
नागरिक उड्डयन विभाग, उ०शासन
देहरादून।

संख्या- 225/12ए-54 (2020-23)डी०एल०आर०सी०

दिनांक /८ अप्रैल 2021

विषय- देहरादून स्थित जौलीग्रान्ट हवाई अड्डे के विस्तारीकरण हेतु वन भूमि हस्तान्तरण के सम्बन्ध में।

महोदय,

उपरोक्त विषयक नागरिक उड्डयन अनुभाग उ०शासन के पत्रांक 78/2021/IX(3)-11 (IX) 2008 TC-1 दिनांक 09 फरवरी 2021 का सन्दर्भ ग्रहण करने का कष्ट करें जिसके द्वारा जौलीग्रान्ट हवाई पट्टी के विस्तारीकरण हेतु 87.0815 है० वन भूमि हस्तान्तरण के प्रस्ताव पर भारत सरकार, मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एन्वायरमेंट, फॉरेस्ट एण्ड क्लाइमेट चेन्ज, फॉरेस्ट कन्जर्वेशन डिविजन द्वारा अपने पत्रांक संख्या 8-19/2020-FC दिनांक 30.01.2021 में अपेक्षा की गई है कि " Examination of the compliance of approval dated 17.02.2003 revealed that in respect of condition no-12 of the approval regarding rehabilitation of the project affected families, it is reported that it will be complied with imply that condition is yet to be complied with. It is therefore, desirabale that the State Government may intimate the status of rehabilitation of PAPs, if any, to the Minisry along with the Justification for non-compliance of the same. (संलग्नक-1)

प्रश्नगत प्रकरण में जॉच उपजिलाधिकारी डोईवाला से करायी गयी। उपजिलाधिकारी डोईवाला द्वारा अपने कार्यालय पत्रांक संख्या 790/र०का०-2021 दिनांक 19 मार्च 2021 एवं पत्रांक संख्या 819/र०का०-2021 दिनांक 15 अप्रैल 2021 के द्वारा आख्या प्रेषित की गयी है जिसमें उल्लेख किया गया है कि जनपद देहरादून में जौलीग्रान्ट हवाई पट्टी के विस्तारीकरण हेतु भारत सरकार, पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय के पत्र संख्या-8-110/2002-एफ०सी० दिनांक 17.02.2003 के अनुपालन में शासनादेश संख्या जी०आई० 635/1-1-2003-800(404)/2002 दिनांक 15 मार्च 2003 के अनुसार 70.000 है० वन भूमि नागरिक उड्डयन विभाग उत्तरांचल को हस्तान्तरण की गयी, जो वर्तमान में भारतीय विमानपतन प्राधिकरण को दी गयी है तथा उक्त स्थान पर भारतीय विमानपतन प्राधिकरण का कब्जा है, उक्त भूमि को प्राधिकरण द्वारा प्रयोग में लायी जा रही है। भारतीय विमानपतन प्राधिकरण की कब्जे वाली 70.000 है० आवंटित भूमि पर किसी प्रभावित परिवार का पुनर्वास नहीं किया गया है तथा जौलीग्रान्ट एयरपोर्ट के विस्तार हेतु वन भूमि हस्तान्तरण प्रस्ताव के अनुसार 70.00 है० वन भूमि हस्तान्तरण की कार्यवाही से कोई भी परिवार विस्थापित नहीं हुआ है जिस कारण पुनर्वास योजना लागू नहीं होती है।

अतः शासन के पत्रांक 78/2021/IX(3)-11 (IX) 2008 TC-1 दिनांक 09 फरवरी 2021 के क्रम में उपजिलाधिकारी डोईवाला से प्राप्त आख्या संलग्नको सहित विधिसम्मत कार्यवाही हेतु सादर प्रेषित है।

संलग्नक-यथोपरि।

भवदीय,



Digitally signed by ASHISH KUMAR SRIVASTAV
Date: Wed May 05 15:49:13 IST 2021
Reason: Approved
(डो० आशीष कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
जिलाधिकारी,
देहरादून

CNR-16048/2021/16/2/21

21/02/2021

संख्या 78/2021/IX(3)-11(IX)2008 TC-I

प्रेषक,

डा० आशीष चौहान,
अपर सचिव,
उत्तराखण्ड शासन।

जिलाधिकारी,
देहरादून।

नागरिक उड्डयन अनुभाग

विषय: देहरादून स्थित जौलीग्रान्ट हवाई अड्डे के विस्तारीकरण हेतु वन भूमि हस्तांतरण के सम्बन्ध में।

महोदय,

कृपया उपरोक्त विषयक पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के संलग्न पत्र संख्या 8-19/2020-FC, दिनांक 30.01.2021 (प्रति संलग्न) का सन्दर्भ ग्रहण करने का कष्ट करें। जिसके द्वारा जौलीग्रान्ट हवाई पट्टी के विस्तारीकरण हेतु 87.0815 है० वन भूमि हस्तान्तरण के प्रस्ताव पर भारत सरकार द्वारा अपने उक्त पत्र के बिन्दु संख्या-1(iii) में निम्न अपेक्षा की गई है:-

"Examination of the compliance of approval dated 17.02.2003 revealed that in respect of condition no 12 of the approval regarding rehabilitation of the project affected families, it is reported that it will be complied with imply that condition is yet to be complied with. It is therefore, desirable that the State Government may intimate the status of rehabilitation of PAPs, if any, to the Ministry along with the Justification for non-compliance of the same."

2. उल्लेखनीय है कि जौलीग्रान्ट एयरपोर्ट के विस्तारीकरण हेतु वर्ष 2003 में भी भूमि हस्तांतरण/अधिग्रहण किया गया था। भूमि हस्तांतरण की शर्त संख्या 12 के अनुसार Project Affected Families (PAPs) का पुनर्वास किया जाना था। भारत सरकार की उपरोक्त पृच्छा के क्रम में पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के संलग्न पत्र संख्या 8-19/2020-FC, दिनांक 30.01.2021 की प्रति संलग्न कर प्रेषित करते हुए मुझे यह कहने का निदेश हुआ है कि कृपया वर्ष 2003 में Project Affected Families (PAPs) के पुनर्वास के संदर्भ में आख्या अभिलेखों सहित यथाशीघ्र शासन को उपलब्ध कराने का कष्ट करें।

संलग्नक:-उक्तानुसार।

भवदीय,
(डा० आशीष चौहान)
अपर सचिव।

संख्या 78/2021/IX(3)-11(IX)2008 TC-I तददिनांकित
प्रतिलिपि:- वरिष्ठ प्रमुख निजी सचिव, सचिव, नागरिक उड्डयन विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड शासन को सचिव महोदय के संज्ञानार्थ।

अ.डी.म. (P)

सचिव (P)

आज्ञा से,

(चिरंजी लाल)
अनु सचिव।

सचिव (P)

20/2/21

104
S.D.M. Dehradun

ह. का. म. 42

17/2/21

S.D.M. Dehradun

ह. 22/11/20 22/2/21
वा. म. 42/11/20 4/2/21
उपलब्ध 42/11/20 का म. 42

42