

ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND NODAL OFFICER, MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR,
First Floor, 'B' Wing, Van Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.

Sr. No	Item work purpose	District	Name of Village	Taluka	Survey/ Gut No.	Length x Width	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status
1	Proposal proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad District in the State of Maharashtra	Solapur	Kasabe Solapur	North Solapur	496	265.15 x 18.77	0.4977	Reserved Forest
					496	272.32 x 15.80	0.4303	
2		Mardi		165	405.30 x 40.00	1.6212	Reserved Forest	
				216	37 x 52.53	0.1945		
				217	186 x 33.59	0.6248		
(A) Total Area in Solapur Forest Division						3.3685		
3		Osmanabad	Tuljapur Rular	Tuljapur	44	137.22 x 68	0.9331	Reserved Forest
4			Sangavi Mardi		211	69.20 x 30	0.2076	
(B) Total Area in Osmanabad Forest Division						1.1407		
Grand Total (A)+ (B)						4.5092		

3) The User Agency has submitted the following justification of the project:-

In absence of direct rail connection between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad, at present the travel mode through railway from Solapur to Osmanabad is via Kurduwadi which is 153 Km long. Accordingly, a new broad gauge railway line proposed from Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad will shorten this distance by 69 km. This new proposed line would be passing through the district of Solapur & Osmanabad, administrative districts in the Marathwada region of the State of Maharashtra in India. Central Railway (CR), Solapur Division (Construction) is the implementing agency for this project. The newly proposed greenfield Railway alignment starts at Ch.0+000 at Solapur town, North Solapur Taluka in Solapur District to Ch. 82+600 at Shingoli Village, Osmanabad Taluka in Osmanabad District of Maharashtra State of length 82.6 km passes through Khed, Mardi, Tamalwadi, Malumbra, Raikhed, Tuljapur, Wadgaon, Sanjha and other important towns in North Solapur, Tuljapur and Osmanabad Talukas.

The project alignment has been selected out of many alternatives studied by the experts based on various decision parameters. Each parameters and their indicators were evaluated based on different weights assigned to each alternative option. The comprehensive comparison analysis of all the alternatives pertaining to the section was done as per each parameter and their indicators for preparation of decision matrix. The alignment that scored the highest has been selected as the final one. Wherever possible non forest land has been used as a result of which the forest land requirement is minimum and barely essential. In line of above reasons, it can be concluded that the portion of the proposed alignment passing through 3.3685 ha. and 1.1407 ha. of forest land in Solapur and Osmanabad cannot be located on any non forest land; therefore, involves diversion for this forest land under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non forestry purpose. Since the proposed forest land cannot be located elsewhere, the project location is site specific and as such the proposed diversion requirement of 4.5092 ha. is minimum and fully justified. (Part-I, P/9).

4.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur and Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad Forest Division, Osmanabad Unit have certified that:-

- 4.1 The total non forest land involved in the project is 626.5663 ha. (Part-I, P/10 to 13 & Part-II, P/11)
- 4.2 The Site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur and the Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad are enclosed on Page No. Part-I, P/27 to 29 & Part-II, P/177 to 179.

- 4.3 There is no other suitable alternative non forest land available other than the proposed forest land that can be used for the purpose and the demand for diversion is barest minimum **(Part-I, P/33, Part-II, P/56).**
- 4.4 The area belongs to Eco-value class-III, having density is below 0.4 (Open Forest) **(Part-I, P/41) (Part-II, P/104)**
- 4.5 The project involves felling of 13851 trees of various species. The Girth wise break up is as under. **(Part-I,P/42 & P/69) (Part-II, P/118)**

Solapur Forest Division (Tree Girth in cm)						
00-30 cm	31-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total
13573	56	49	4	5	0	13687

Osmanabad Forest Division (Tree Girth in cm)											
00-15 cm	16-30 cm	31-45 cm	46-60 cm	61-75 cm	76-90 cm	91-105 cm	106-120 cm	121-135 cm	136 - 150cm	Above 150 cm	Total
35	42	26	36	18	3	3	1	0	0	0	164

- 4.6 Proposed project is not likely to affect any monument site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance and/or Defense. **(Part-I, P/39, Part-II, P/102)**
- 4.7 (i) The proposed area is not included in area of any Wildlife Sanctuary/National Park/Nature Reserve. It is located at aerial distance of 227 m from Core boundary and falling within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Great Indian Bustard Wildlife Sanctuary **(Part-I, P/40)**
- (ii) The proposed area is not included in area of any Wildlife Sanctuary/Protected Area/National Park/Nature Reserve in Osmanabad Forest Division **(Part-II, P/103)**
- 4.8 There is no violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. **(Part-I, P/34, Part-II, P/58).**
- 4.9 (i) The proposed project is falling within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) and at a radial distance of 227 m from core boundary of the Great Indian Bustard Wildlife Sanctuary **(Part-I,P/43).**
- (ii) Proposed project is within 10 Km distance of Yedshi Ramling Ghat Wildlife Sanctuary (6.158 Km aerial distance) and 5.479 Km aerial distance from Gangewadi Wildlife Sanctuary. **(Part-II, P/106)**
- 4.10 The 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 are not recognized as deemed reserved forest as well as not included in the area identified as "forest" as per dictionary

meaning of forest as intimated to the expert committee appointed under interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996 (**Part-I, P/37, Part-II, P/100**)

- 4.11 The Divisional Forest Officer, Dharashiv has inspected the Village Jevali Uttar, Old Gaothan Area 4.5092 ha. Tal. Lohara, Dist. Dharashiv, Old Gaothan area of to be transferred to the Forest Department as alternate land for compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land required for the Project proposal for diversion of 4.5092 ha. Area (1.1407 ha. in Dharashiv Forest Division & 3.685 ha. in Solapur Forest Division) for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad district in the State of Maharashtra. It is contiguous suitable for afforestation and management purpose also and it is free from encroachment and encumbrances. (**file P/155**)

5.0 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking that:-

- 5.1 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Net Present Value. (**Part-I, P/79, Part-II, P/133**).
- 5.2 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation (**Part-I, P/77, Part-II, P/131**).
- 5.3 (i) The User Agency has submitted an undertaking and mentioned that we will provide FRA, 2006 certificate for the FCA case of diversion of 3.3685 ha. of forest land for "Construction of proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total Length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad districts in the State of Maharashtra" under Solapur Forest Division in Solapur District. As and when we receive the certificate in prescribed format from the District Collector, Solapur, the same shall be submitted to the Forest Department subsequently. (**Part-I, P/104**)
- (ii) The User Agency has submitted an undertaking and mentioned that we will provide FRA, 2006 certificate for the FCA case of diversion of 1.1407 ha. of forest land for "Construction of proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total Length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad districts in the State of Maharashtra" under Osmanabad Forest Division in Osmanabad District. As and when we receive the certificate in prescribed format from the District Collector, Osmanabad, the same shall be submitted to the Forest Department subsequently. (**Part-II, P/157**)

- 5.4 The User Agency has submitted undertaking that this project construction of proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total Length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad districts in the State of Maharashtra does not require Environmental Clearance as per EPA, 1986. **(Part-I P/81)**
- 5.5 The User Agency has submitted Administrative and Technical approval accorded by the Government of India, Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi vide letter No.2018/W-I/CR/NL/Solapur-Osmanabad, dated 08/01/2019 **(Part-I, P/94)**
- 6.0 (i) **The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur has recommended the proposal for diversion of 3.3685ha. forest land. (file P/160 to 162)**

Specific recommendation of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur:-

'The proposed alignment passing through gut no.478,480,481,482,483,223, 225,220,219,218,215,214,165,217,218 and 212 of Village Mardi Tal. North Solapur is in Eco Sensitive Zone around the Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary finally declared vide Central Government Gazette No. S.O.654 (E), dated 11/02/2020. Hence this project required NBWL and SBWL clearance.The project is recommended under the conditions of is as follows:-

- 1. Plantation area at Kasabe Solapur is within city limit and near to Railway track, needs protection from encroachment. Hence construction of compound wall at Kasabe Solapur Reserve Forest Survey No.496 around the forest area is required.*
- 2. Wildlife Mitigation measures are required to protect wildlife and its habitat near GIB Sanctuary of proposed railway track.*
- 3. Other conditions as stipulated by NBWL/SBWL.*

- (ii) **The Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad has recommended the proposal for diversion of 1.1407 ha. forest land. (Part-II,P/174 to 176)**

Specific recommendation of the Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad:-

' The proposed project is for construction of new Railway line between Solapur to Osmanabad Railway line between Solapur to Osmanabad of 84.439 Km length passing through Solapur & Osmanabad districts. The proposed alignment is most suitable option as per Alternative alignment analysis. The demand of forest area is unavoidable and barest minimum. The project is of infrastructure development and public utility purpose. This project will provide speedy & safe transportation for commuters, industrial & agro development and improved connectivity leading to

more economical benefits to the State. Hence the proposal for diversion is recommended for acceptance and necessary approval in favour of the User Agency

7.0 The Chief Conservator of Forest (T), Pune has agreed with the recommendation of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur & Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad and recommended the proposal:- (Part-I,P/ 31)

Specific recommendation of the Chief Conservator of Forest (T), Pune:-

'The project is recommended for acceptance'

8.0 In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under the Section -2 (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 subject to the following conditions: –

8.1 Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.

8.2 Compensatory afforestation:-

- a) The Divisional Forest Officer, Dharashiv has inspected the Village Jevali Uttar, Old Gaothan Area 4.5092 ha. Tal. Lohara, Dist. Dharashiv, Old Gaothan area of to be transferred to the Forest Department as alternate land for compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land required for the Project proposal for diversion of 4.5092 ha. Area (1.1407 ha. in Dharashiv Forest Division & 3.685 ha. in Solapur Forest Division) for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad district in the State of Maharashtra. It is contiguous suitable for afforestation and management purpose also and it is free from encroachment and encumbrances.
- b) The non-forest land proposed for CA shall be transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/PF prior to Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Government prior to Stage-II approval;

8.3 The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.

8.4 NPV:

- a) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value(NPV) for the 4.5092 ha forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002, 01/08/2003, 28/03/2008,

24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA No. 566 in WP (C) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No. 5-1/1998-FC (Pt.II) dated 18/09/2003, as well as letter No. 5-2/2006-FC dated 03/10/2006 and 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009 and 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009, File No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I), dated 06/01/2022 and Consolidated Guidelines and Clarification issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam,1980 issued by Government of India on 29/12/2023 in this regard.in this regard.

- b) Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
- 8.5 User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- 8.6 All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
- 8.7 The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- 8.8 Speed regulating signage will be erected along the railway line at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas.
- 8.9 The user agency shall provide suitable under/ over passes in ProtectedArea/ Forest Area as per recommendations of CWLW / NBWL / FAC / REC.
- 8.10 User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable
- 8.11 The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 8.12 No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 8.13 Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel
- 8.14 The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 8.15 No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.

8.16 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.

8.17 The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.

8.18 Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018.

8.19 Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife

8.20 The compliance report shall be uploaded on *e-portal* (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

9.0 On the basis of above facts and subject to above mentioned conditions, the proposal is recommended for approval. It is requested that Government of Maharashtra may kindly recommend the proposal for approving the diversion of 4.5092 ha. forest land for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad District in the State of Maharashtra.

Encl. :- Proposal 2 copies

 13/12/24

(Naresh Zurmure)
Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

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

Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur & Osmanabad for information.

Copy to the Deputy Chief Engineer (Const.) Central Railway, Solapur for information.

PART -IV

**(To be filled by Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force))**

(Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks)

Sub.- Proposal for diversion of 4.5092 ha. forest land for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad District in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/RAIL/155198/2022). The details of land proposed for diversion is as under-

Sr. No	Item work purpose	District	Name of Village	Taluka	Survey/ Gut No.	Length x Width	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status		
1	Proposal proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad District in the State of Maharashtra	Solapur	Kasabe Solapur	North Solapur	496	265.15 x 18.77	0.4977	Reserved Forest		
					496	272.32 x 15.80	0.4303			
2			Mardi		165	405.30 x 40.00	1.6212	Reserved Forest		
					216	37 x 52.53	0.1945			
		217			186 x 33.59	0.6248				
		(A) Total Area in Solapur Forest Division						3.3685		
3		Osmanabad	Tuljapur Rular		Tuljapur	44	137.22 x 68	0.9331	Reserved Forest	
4	Sangavi Mardi		211	69.20 x 30		0.2076				
(B) Total Area in Osmanabad Forest Division							1.1407			
Grand Total (A)+ (B)							4.5092			

Specific recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) Maharashtra State, Nagpur is attached on page no.



**(Naresh Zurmure)
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer**

Date: 13/12/2024
Place: Nagpur

Proposal for diversion of 4.5092 ha. forest land for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad District in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/RAIL/155198/2022)

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

- 1) The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Pune on 08/08/2023 has submitted proposal for diversion of 4.5092 ha. forest land for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad District in the State of Maharashtra initiated by the Deputy Chief Engineer (Const.,) Central Railway, Solapur for seeking approval under Section-2 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. (file P/2).
- 2) The details of the forest land proposed for diversion are as under:- (Part-I, 10 to 13 & Part-II, P/11)

Sr. No	Item work purpose	District	Name of Village	Taluka	Survey/ Gut No.	Length x Width	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status	
1	Proposal proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad District in the State of Maharashtra	Solapur	Kasabe Solapur	North Solapur	496	265.15 x 18.77	0.4977	Reserved Forest	
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4	Sangavi Mardi		211		69.20 x 30	0.2076			
(B) Total Area in Osmanabad Forest Division							1.1407		
Grand Total (A)+ (B)							4.5092		

- 3) The User Agency has submitted the following justification of the project:-

In absence of direct rail connection between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad, at present the travel mode through railway from Solapur to Osmanabad is via Kurduwadi which is 153 Km long. Accordingly, a new broad gauge railway line proposed from Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad will shorten this distance by 69 km. This new proposed line would be passing through the district of Solapur & Osmanabad, administrative districts in the Marathwada region of the State of Maharashtra in India. Central Railway (CR), Solapur Division (Construction) is the implementing agency for this project. The newly proposed greenfield

Railway alignment starts at Ch.0+000 at Solapur town, North Solapur Taluka in Solapur District to Ch. 82+600 at Shingoli Village, Osmanabad Taluka in Osmanabad District of Maharashtra State of length 82.6 km passes through Khed, Mardi, Tamalwadi, Malumbra, Raikhed, Tuljapur, Wadgaon, Sanjha and other important towns in North Solapur, Tuljapur and Osmanabad Talukas.

The project alignment has been selected out of many alternatives studied by the experts based on various decision parameters. Each parameters and their indicators were evaluated based on different weights assigned to each alternative option. The comprehensive comparison analysis of all the alternatives pertaining to the section was done as per each parameter and their indicators for preparation of decision matrix. The alignment that scored the highest has been selected as the final one. Wherever possible non forest land has been used as a result of which the forest land requirement is minimum and barely essential. In line of above reasons, it can be concluded that the portion of the proposed alignment passing through 3.3685 ha. and 1.1407 ha. of forest land in Solapur and Osmanabad cannot be located on any non forest land; therefore, involves diversion for this forest land under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non forestry purpose. Since the proposed forest land cannot be located elsewhere, the project location is site specific and as such the proposed diversion requirement of 4.5092 ha. is minimum and fully justified. (Part-I, P/9).

4.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur and Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad Forest Division, Osmanabad Unit have certified that:-

- 4.1 The total non forest land involved in the project is 626.5663 ha. (Part-I, P/10 to 13 & Part-II, P/11)
- 4.2 The Site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur and the Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad are enclosed on Page No. Part-I, P/27 to 29 & Part-II, P/177 to 179.
- 4.3 There is no other suitable alternative non forest land available other than the proposed forest land that can be used for the purpose and the demand for diversion is barest minimum (Part-I, P/33, Part-II, P/56).
- 4.4 The area belongs to Eco-value class-III, having density is below 0.4 (Open Forest) (Part-I, P/41) (Part-II, P/104)
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- 4.11 The Divisional Forest Officer, Dharashiv has inspected the Village Jevali Uttar, Old Gaothan Area 4.5092 ha. Tal. Lohara, Dist. Dharashiv, Old Gaothan area of to be transferred to the Forest Department as alternate land for compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land required for the Project proposal for diversion of 4.5092 ha. Area (1.1407 ha. in Dharashiv Forest Division & 3.685 ha. in Solapur Forest Division) for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad district in the State of Maharashtra. It is contiguous suitable for afforestation and

management purpose also and it is free from encroachment and encumbrances.
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- (ii) The User Agency has submitted an undertaking and mentioned that we will provide FRA, 2006 certificate for the FCA case of diversion of 1.1407 ha. of forest land for "Construction of proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total Length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad districts in the State of Maharashtra" under Osmanabad Forest Division in Osmanabad District. As and when we receive the certificate in prescribed format from the District Collector, Osmanabad, the same shall be submitted to the Forest Department subsequently. **(Part-II, P/157)**
- 5.4 The User Agency has submitted undertaking that this project construction of proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total Length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad districts in the State of Maharashtra does not require Environmental Clearance as per EPA, 1986. **(Part-I P/81)**
- 5.5 The User Agency has submitted Administrative and Technical approval accorded by the Government of India, Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi vide letter No.2018/W-I/CR/NL/Solapur-Osmanabad, dated 08/01/2019 **(Part-I, P/94)**
- 6.0 (i) **The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur has recommended the proposal for diversion of 3.3685ha. forest land. (file P/160 to 162)**

Specific recommendation of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur:-

'The proposed alignment passing through gut no.478,480,481,482,483,223, 225,220,219,218,215,214,165,217,218 and 212 of Village Mardi Tal. North Solapur is in Eco Sensitive Zone around the Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary finally declared vide Central Government Gazette No. S.O.654 (E), dated 11/02/2020. Hence this project required NBWL and SBWL clearance. The project is recommended under the conditions of is as follows:-

- 1. Plantation area at Kasabe Solapur is within city limit and near to Railway track, needs protection from encroachment. Hence construction of compound wall at Kasabe Solapur Reserve Forest Survey No.496 around the forest area is required.*
- 2. Wildlife Mitigation measures are required to protect wildlife and its habitat near GIB Sanctuary of proposed railway track.*
- 3. Other conditions as stipulated by NBWL/SBWL.*

(ii) The Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad has recommended the proposal for diversion of 1.1407 ha. forest land. (Part-II,P/174 to 176)

Specific recommendation of the Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad:-

'The proposed project is for construction of new Railway line between Solapur to Osmanabad Railway line between Solapur to Osmanabad of 84.439 Km length passing through Solapur & Osmanabad districts. The proposed alignment is most suitable option as per Alternative alignment analysis. The demand of forest area is unavoidable and barest minimum. The project is of infrastructure development and public utility purpose. This project will provide speedy & safe transportation for commuters, industrial & agro development and improved connectivity leading to more economical benefits to the State. Hence the proposal for diversion is recommended for acceptance and necessary approval in favour of the User Agency

7.0 The Chief Conservator of Forest (T), Pune has agreed with the recommendation of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Solapur Forest Division, Solapur & Divisional Forest Officer, Osmanabad and recommended the proposal:- (Part-I,P/ 31)

Specific recommendation of the Chief Conservator of Forest (T), Pune:-

'The project is recommended for acceptance'

8.0 In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under the Section -2 (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 subject to the following conditions: –

8.1 Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.

8.2 Compensatory afforestation:-

- a) The Divisional Forest Officer, Dharashiv has inspected the Village Jevali Uttar, Old Gaothan Area 4.5092 ha. Tal. Lohara, Dist. Dharashiv, Old Gaothan area of to be transferred to the Forest Department as alternate land for compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land required for the Project proposal for diversion of 4.5092 ha. Area (1.1407 ha. in Dharashiv Forest Division & 3.685 ha. in Solapur Forest Division) for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad district in the State of Maharashtra. It is contiguous suitable for afforestation and management purpose also and it is free from encroachment and encumbrances.
 - b) The non-forest land proposed for CA shall be transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/PF prior to Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Government prior to Stage-II approval;
- 8.3 The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.

8.4 NPV:

- a) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value(NPV) for the 4.5092 ha forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002, 01/08/2003, 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA No. 566 in WP (C) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No. 5-1/1998-FC (Pt.II) dated 18/09/2003, as well as letter No. 5-2/2006-FC dated 03/10/2006 and 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009 and 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009, File No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I), dated 06/01/2022 and Consolidated Guidelines and Clarification issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam,1980 issued by Government of India on 29/12/2023 in this regard.in this regard.
- b) Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.

- 8.5 User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- 8.6 All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
- 8.7 The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- 8.8 Speed regulating signage will be erected along the railway line at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas.
- 8.9 The user agency shall provide suitable under/ over passes in ProtectedArea/ Forest Area as per recommendations of CWLW / NBWL / FAC / REC.
- 8.10 User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable
- 8.11 The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 8.12 No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 8.13 Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel
- 8.14 The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 8.15 No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 8.16 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- 8.17 The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.
- 8.18 Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018.
- 8.19 Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife
- 8.20 The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

9.0 On the basis of above facts and subject to above mentioned conditions, the proposal is recommended for approval. It is requested that Government of Maharashtra may kindly recommend the proposal for approving the diversion of 4.5092 ha. forest land for proposed Greenfield Railway line between Solapur-Tuljapur-Osmanabad (Total length of 84.439 Km) passing through Solapur and Osmanabad District in the State of Maharashtra.



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