

## PART – III

Diversion of 480.8045 Ha. of Forest land in Villages: Laxmipar(Netra), Lifri, Nagviri & Ghadani in Nakhatrana Taluka and Mata na madh, Murachban, Samajiyaro, Ekliyo, Junagiya, Ramaniya, Chakarai, Baranda, Lakshmirani, Bhujpur, Nareda, Ratipal, Mudhan & Ukher Villages of Lakhapat Taluka in Kutch district for setting up 648 MW of Wind Energy Project under Forest Conservation act, 1980. Online Proposal No.FP/GJ/WIND/44682/2020

14	Whether site, Where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Chief Conservator of Forests (yes/no). If yes, the date of inspection and observation made in from of inspection note to be enclosed.	:	Yes,Date:27/12/2022, 6/1/2023/, 12/1/2023 & 5/3/2023
15	Whether the concerned Chief Conservator of Forests agree with information given in part-II and the recommendations of Deputy Conservator of Forests.	:	Yes.
16	Specific recommendation of concerned Chief Conservator of Forests for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.	:	<p>Proposal for diversion of 480.8045 Ha forest land is <b>Not Recommended</b> by the undersigned due to following reasons.</p> <p>1) As many alternative land available, the project under the proposal can be implemented outside the forest land as there is no specific need of forest land. Kutch district is one of the largest district of the country having 45,674SqKms of area. Other windmill projects of Kutch district are operating outside the forest land. As alternate suitable land for project under proposal is available, big area like 480.8045 Ha Forest Land is not recommended for diversion.</p> <p>2) Most of area under the</p>

proposal is near to Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary. Animals of Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary are using area under proposal as their habitat. This diversion can impact on Meta Population of Narayan Sarovar Sanctuary.

- 3) The area under proposal is very rich in faunal diversity. The area has healthy population of faunal species. Important Schedule-I species of Wildlife Protection act like Chinkara, Caracal, Pangolin, Leopard, Indian Grey Wolf, Honey Badger, Monitor Lizard are using area under the proposal as its natural habitat. Apart from these, other important faunal species like Porcupine, Chameleon, Small Indian Civet, Jackal, Mongoose, Striped Hyaena, Indian Hedgehog, Long Eared Hedgehog, Indian Hare, Nilgai, Wild Boar, Spiny Tailed Lizard are present in area under the proposal.

The area under the proposal is having a rich bird diversity of local, migratory and passage migrant avian species. Indian peafowl (Peacock) are in large numbers in area under the proposal. Other important Species like Lesser Florican (Schedule-I), Asian Houbara (Schedule-I), White Rumped Vulture (Schedule-I), Stoliczka's Bushchat,

Dalmation Pelican, Red Headed Falcon, Laggar Falcon, Indian Eagle Owl (Schedule-I) etc are present in the area under proposal. There are more than 250 bird species are likely to be present in and around the area under proposal.

The area under proposal is rich in floral diversity. Species like Gugal (Commiphora wightii), Gorad (Acacia Senegal), Desi Bawal (Acacia nilotica), Harmo (Acacia leucophloea), Mitha Pilu (Salvadora oleoides), Khara Pilu (Salvadora persica), Kundher, Vingo, Liyar, Pat Liyar, Ghangheti, Luska, Ingoria, Khijdo etc are present in the area and providing a shelter to rich faunal biodiversity of the region. These species are uniquely available in scrub and thorny forest of Kutch.

As alternative land for project under proposal is available in non-forest area, habitat of such a diverse floral and faunal species is not recommended for diversion.

- 4) Due to recent development activities of past two decades in Kutch, non-forest land is no more suitable for habitat for wildlife species. It is noticed that wildlife is using Forest Land as their main habitat due to facing disturbances outside the forest Land. In this scenario, Forest Land mentioned in the proposal is

		<p>not recommended for diversion.</p> <p>5) The land mentioned in proposal is habitat for migratory and passage migrant birds. Windmills and subsequent powerlines in forest area may make negative impact on avian fauna.</p> <p>6) It is observed that bird deaths in large numbers taking place even in non-forest area due to collision with powerlines and windmills. This scenario can become worst if windmills and powerlines allowed in bird diversity rich habitat of proposal. As the area under the proposal has very healthy population of specially Indian peafowl (Peacock), this diversion may make negative impact on its population.</p> <p>7) Kutch has a very fragile ecosystem as it is surrounded by Rann. Tree cutting in proposal area may make negative impact to combat desertification.</p> <p>8) The area under proposal has many patches of grassland ecosystem. These grasslands are very important from wildlife point of view as it works as a food and shelter source for species Chinkara, Lesser Floricane, Asian Houbara and many more.</p> <p>9) Kutch district is the district with the lowest rainfall in Gujarat state. Tree removal for project under proposal may impact on local rain conditions.</p>
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Date : 08/05/2023

Place : Bhuj



(V. J. Rana)

Chief Conservator of Forest  
Kutch Forest Circle, Bhuj