

**Diversion of 0.1517 ha. Reserved Forest land for construction of Optical Fiber Cable Line from Akkalpada to Ichapur Road along NH-6 in Compt No 397 and 403 at Village Akkalpada, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule in the State of Maharashtra.**

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

The proposal is for diversion of 0.1517 ha. Reserved Forest land under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of Optical Fiber Cable line from Akkalpada to Ichapur Road along NH-6 in Compt No 397 and 403 at Village Akkalpada, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule in the State of Maharashtra. Non forest area is not involved in the project. The details of forest land proposed for the project is as under:-

Item of Work	Village, Tehsil & District	Compt No	Length x Width	Area in Sq Mtr	Area in Ha.	Legal Status
Construction of OFC Line	Vill –Akkalpada	397	160 x 0.50	80.00	0.1517	Reserved Forest
	Tal-Sakri	403	2495 x 0.50	1247.50		
	Distt-Dhule	403	380 x 0.50	190.00		
Total				1517.50	0.1517	

2.1 The project has been initiated by Bharti Airtel Limited, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Interface-7, New link Road, Malad (W) Mumbai for construction of Optical Fiber Cable from Akkalpada to Ichapur Road along NH-6 in Compt No 397 and 403 at Village Akkalpada, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule in the State of Maharashtra.

2.2 The Project Authirty has highlighted that as per Govt of India policy it was planned to lay Optical Fiber Cable line for reliable communication from remote places to district/State Headquarters. Priority has been given to tribal/under developed areas. Therefore Optical Fiber Cable line has been proposed from from Akkalpada to Ichapur Road along NH-6 in Compt No 397 and 403 at Village Akkalpada, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule in the State of Maharashtra

2.3 The aforesaid project is pursuant to the directives issued by the Government of India MOEF (FC Division) vide their letter No. 11-9/98-FC dated 13/02/2014 and GOI Ministry of Communications & IT Department of Telecommunications vide their letter No 10-31/2011-CS-III, dt 23/06/2011.

2.4 Manager (T), National Highways Authority of India, Project Implementation Unit-Dhule conveyed In-principal approval for laying of underground OFC vide letter No NHAI/PIU-Dhule/NH-6/80/OFC/2018/1296 dated 29/07/2019.



3. Government of India has conveyed its general approval vide letter No. 11-9/98-FC dated 13/02/2014 & 21/08/2014 for 13 activities subject to some conditions under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion not more than 1.00 ha forest land to Government Departments, Government undertakings, Boards, Corporations and various user agencies. 'Electric and telecommunication lines' is included in these 13 activities. The validity of General approval under section 2(ii) of FC Act, 1980 has been extended up to 31/12/2020 vide GOI letter dated 15/02/2018.

4. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Dhule vide letter No Desk-5/Nodal/CR/157/2018-19 dated 31/01/2019 and Desk-5/Nodal/CR/29/2019-20 dated 03/06/2019 has submitted the proposal in prescribed form alongwith following documents :-

**4.1 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Dhule has submitted the following certificates :-**

- 4.1.1 No suitable alternative Non Forest land is available other than forest land and demand for the forest land is minimum.
- 4.1.2 The provision of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and guidelines under it, has not been violated by the user agency.
- 4.1.3 The project area is not included in the area of any National Park/Wild Life Sanctuary or Nature Reserve. The project area is beyond 10 Kms of the boundary of protected area (Sanctuary and National Park).
- 4.1.4 There is no cutting and felling of trees involved in the project.
- 4.1.5 1.00 ha degraded forest land of Survey No 399 at Vill-Echapur, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule identified for compensatory afforestation and is suitable for afforestation and Management purpose and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances.
- 4.1.6 The proposed project area belong Eco Value Class III, Consisting of Tropical dry Deciduous Forests. Density below 0.4.
- 4.1.7 The proposed area is not likely to affect any monument site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
- 4.1.8 The Deputy Conservator of Forest, Dhule has submitted the site inspection report dated 22/01/2019.

**4.2 The User Agency has submitted the following undertakings :-**

- 4.2.1 To defray the cost as determined by the Forest Department for compensatory afforestation on degraded forest land.
- 4.2.2 User Agency will restore the land to its original level by proper back filling, after laying underground OFC along the NH-6 road side from Akkalpada to Ichapur Road in Compt No 397 and 403 at Village Akkalpada, Tal-Sakri, in Dhule district.



4.2.3 The project authority has agrees to provide 2MBPS Bandwidth independently at free of cost, as per Revenue & Forest Department GR No Land/10/2000/CR-91/J-I dated 27/04/2000.

5. The Deputy Conservator of Forest, Dhule has recommended the proposal for sanction.

6. Chief Conservator of Forests (T) , Dhule has recommended the proposal for sanction.

7. In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under section - 2 (ii) subject to the following conditions.

7.1 The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.

7.2 The compensatory afforestation will be raised on 1.00 ha degraded forest land of Survey No 399 at Vill-Ecchapur, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule .As per GOI guidelines dated 08/11/2017 at least 1000 plants per ha. to be planted on degraded forest land identified for compensatory afforestation.

7.3 Net Present Value is exempted for laying of underground optical Fibre cable as per GOI guidelines No 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009.

7.4 The optical fiber cable line will be laid within maximum size of the trench of 2.00 m depth & 1.00 m width with cable line under the PVC Pipeline.

7.5 The land under project will be reclaimed by the user agency for which the agency shall submit a bank guarantee at the rate of Rs. 50/- per running meter and an undertaking to that effect shall also be submitted. If the agency fails to reclaim the land to the satisfaction of Deputy Conservator of Forests concerned, the cost for reclamation will be recovered from the bank guarantee

7.6 If the cable is going to be laid in the formation width of the road, then additional charges in form of bank guarantee shall be given at the rate of Rs.35/- per running mtr Similarly for reclamation of side drain and for tarred portion, the guarantee will be at the rate of Rs. 300/- per mtr and Rs.750/- per mtr respectively. An undertaking shall be obtained from the user agency that it has agreed to make good any loss to Forest/ Environment while laying the cable in the forest area and during maintenance of the same in future.

7.7 For further maintenance of the project, the user agency shall obtain permission from the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests as and when required.

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


7.9 No felling of trees shall be done during the implementation of project.

7.10 No new forest area beyond the Right of Way of existing road should be broken for laying Optical Fiber Cable.

7.11 The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Dhule shall report the details of amount recovered from the project authority towards the cost of compensatory afforestation at prevalent rate and all other cost required as per rules in due course of time.



- 7.12 The user agency will make good the land after use/maintenance
- 7.13 All the amount received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred to the Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority (CAMPA) in A/c No. SB01025218 of Corporation Bank, Block-11, CGO Complex, Phase-I, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003 and compliance will be reported to this office for record.
- 7.14 The sanction will be subject to the final clearance by the Department of Information & Technology, GOI in pursuance to their letter dated 23/06/2011 and concerned PWD authorities for the project.
- 7.15 The user agency will be authorized to lay the Optical Fiber Cable only outside the confines of the protected area. Any breach of the conditions by the user agency will be treated as violation of the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- 7.16 The user agency shall compensate the private owner of forest land, if any in accordance with the prevalent laws, rules and guidelines.
- 7.17 All the conditions stipulated by the Forest Department shall be binding on the user agency.
- 7.18 All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and Guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.
- 7.19 All necessary approvals required for the project as per prevailing laws of the land would be obtained by the user agency before statutory sanction.



(U K Agrawal)

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



**PART -IV**

**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.:- Bharti Airtel Limited (W) Mumbai submitted the proposal for construction of optical Fiber Cable line from Akkalpada to Ichapur Road along NH-6 in Compt No 397 and 403 at Village Akkalpada, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule in the State of Maharashtra for which 0.1517 ha. Reserved forest land required under Section - 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been proposed by user agency. The details of the forest land proposed for diversion is as under :-

Item of Work	Village, Tehsil & District	Compt No	Length x Width	Area in Sq Mtr	Area in Ha.	Legal Status
Construction of OFC Line	Vill -Akkalpada	397	160 x 0.50	80.00	0.1517	Reserved Forest
	Tal-Sakri	403	2495 x 0.50	1247.50		
	Distt-Dhule	403	380 x 0.50	190.00		
Total				1517.50	0.1517	

*Specific recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) MS Nagpur is attached on page no. 18A.*

Date : 20 /08/2019  
Place : Nagpur

  
(Sanjeev Gaur)  
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
& Nodal Officer





Certified by ISO  
9001:2015

E-mail- apccfnodal@mahaforest.gov.in Website: www.mahaforest.gov.in

**Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force), Maharashtra State**

**Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer,  
Maharashtra State, Nagpur**

**First Floor, 'B' Wing, Van Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001**

**Tel no. (0712) 2556916, Fax no. (0712) 2550675**

**Sub.:-** Proposal for diversion of 0.1517 ha. Reserved Forest land in favour Bharti Airtel Limited (W) Mumbai for construction of optical Fiber Cable line from Akkalpada to Ichapur Road along NH-6 in Compt No 397 and 403 at Village Akkalpada, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule in the State of Maharashtra.

No. : Desk-17/NC/II/ID 12711/(30)/ 883 /2019-20

Nagpur – 440 001, Dated: 22/08/2019

To ,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Revenue and Forests Department,  
Mantralaya, Mumbai-32

**Ref:-** CCF (T) Dhule letter No. Desk-5/Nodal/C.R/ 157 /2018-19 dated 31/01/2019 and  
Desk-5/Nodal/C.R/ 72 /2019-20 dated 31/07/2019

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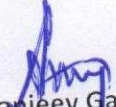
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


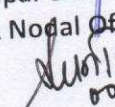
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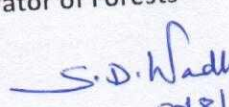
In view of para 3 above, it is requested that the Government of Maharashtra may kindly accord general approval for diversion of 0.1517 ha Reserved forest land in favour of Bharti Airtel Limited (W) Mumbai for construction of optical Fiber Cable line from Akkalpada to Ichapur Road along NH-6 in Compt No 397 and 403 at Village Akkalpada, Tal-Sakri, Distt-Dhule in the State of Maharashtra under section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Encls : As above

  
 (Sanjeev Gaur)  
 Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
 & Nodal Officer,

  
 19/8/2019

  
 19/8

  
 S.D. Wadhai  
 28/8/2019

Copy forwarded to Chief Conservator of Forests, (T) Dhule for information.

Copy forwarded to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Dhule for information.

Copy forwarded to Bharti Airtel Limited, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Interface-7, New link Road, Malad (W) Mumbai