

diversion of 0.1320 ha. Forest land vide letter No Desk-10/FCA/CR-40/2019-20/OW-122/20-21, dated 09/07/2020 for laying of 6" dia steel pipeline to set up Natural Gas from Sanjan to Angam at village Uplat & Amgaon, Tal. Talasari, Dist. Palghar in Maharashtra.

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

Chief Conservator of forests (T) Thane has submitted the for diversion of 0.1320 ha. Forest land vide letter No Desk-10/FCA/CR-40/2019-20/OW-122/20-21, dated 09/07/2020 & dated 27/11/2020 for laying of 6" dia steel pipeline to set up Natural Gas from Sanjan to Angam at village Uplat & Amgaon, Tal. Talasari, Dist. Palghar in Maharashtra. There is 0.6780 ha. non-forest land involved in this project. The detailed area statement of forest land is shown as under:-

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Item of work / purpose	Village	Taluka	Forest land required				Status of Forest Land
			Sur./ Gut No.	Length (Meter)	Width (Meters)	Area (Ha.)	
3	1	2	4	5	6	7	8
Natural Gas Pipeline from Sanjan to Angam	Amgaon	Talasari	118	387	0.9	0.0348	Private Forest (35.Sec)
	Uplat	Talasari	1281	392	0.9	0.0353	Protected Forest
	Uplat	Talasari	1050	120	0.9	0.0108	Protected Forest
	Uplat	Talasari	1279	80	0.9	0.0072	Protected Forest
	Uplat	Talasari	1282	488	0.9	0.0439	Protected Forest
Total						0.1320	

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3. The proposal has been initiated by Associated Vice President (PR), Gujrat Gas Limited, 901, 9th Floor Avdesh House Opp, Shri Guru Govind Gurudwara, S.G. Highway, Ahmedabad 380 054.

4. The User Agency has highlighted that the Gujarat Gas Limited (GUJARAT GAS) is currently in the business to setup Piped Natural Gas network (PNG) to provide PNG for residential consumers as well as commercial units and CNG Station in various cities of Maharashtra. The Gujrat Gas Limited is planning to lay 6" dia Steel pipeline to supply natural gas to Talasari Taluka and its surrounding area to provide natural gas to en route industries/consumers in Palghar District.

4.1 The said project approximately 9/00 Km long 6" dia Steel pipeline in Talasari & Surrounding area is required to be laid in Palghar District. It will be laid underground with a minimum clear cover of 1.2 meter.

4.2 Therefore the User Agency has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.1320 ha. Forest land for laying of 6" dia steel pipeline to set up Natural Gas from Sanjan to Angam at village Uplat & Amgaon, Tal. Talasari, Dist. Palghar in Maharashtra under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

5. Deputy Conservator of Forests Dahanu submitted the following Certificates :-

- P-24 | 5.1 Document verification have been scrutinized as per the revised check list and found to be correct.
- P-25, 26 | 5.2 All other alternate for the purpose have been explored and demand for the proposed forest land is the barest minimum demand.
- P-27 | 5.3 Provisions of the FCA, 1980 and guidelines under it, have not been violated by User Agency.
- P-28 | 5.4 1.00 Ha. Double degraded land Survey No. /Compt. No. 241pt at Village-Rampur, Tah-Dahanu, Dist Palghar proposed for Compensatory Afforestation and is suitable for Afforestation and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances .
- C-113-87 | CA Scheme for 10 years submitted
- P-44 | 5.5 Certificate of Identified forest and Acquired forest for Non forest area under the project (12/12/1996)
- P-46 | 5.6 The proposed area not likely to affect any monument site of culture, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
- P-47 | 5.7 Wildlife Certificate
The proposed area is not included from the area of any National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary or Nature reserve.
- P-48, 51 | The proposed area is about 65 Kms of the boundary of the Tugareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- P-49 | 5.8 **NPV Certificate** Proposed area belongs to Eco-value Class-I, **Density 0.4.**
- P-50 | 5.9 There is no cutting or felling of tress in the proposed laying natural gas pipeline project.
- P-52 | 5.10 DCF, Dahanu certified that, No Objection of villagers to the project authority for forest areas which are under enquiry under Private Forest acquisition act, 1975.
- P-53 | 5.11 Certified that, all other alternates for the purpose have been examined in details, that the proposed alignment is the most suitable.
- P-56 | 5.12 DCF, Dahanu certified that, the required of forest land are being proposed along with the road and forms part of the ROW verified on dated 20.09.2019.
- P-57 | 5.13 List of flora and fauna found in the proposed area
- P-58 | 5.14 Mangrove areas not involved in the project
6. The user agency has submitted the following Certificate / undertakings :-
- P-61 | 6.1 Submitted the undertaking that user agency is responsible for any damage of the trees and will pay any loss to the Forest Department
- P-67 | 6.2 Agrees to bear the cost of Compensatory Afforestation.
- P-68 | 6.3 Agrees to bear the cost of Net Present Value for the 0.1320 ha. of land.
- P-70 | 6.4 Environmental Clearance is not required for the project as the project cost is less than 100 cores
- P-60 | 6.5 User agency has not submitted the FRA-2006 certificate dated 18/06/2020 issued by District Collector Palghar for area 0.0787 ha. instead of 0.1320 ha. , however submitted undertaking stating that the same will be submitted on receipt from District Collector.

The District Collector vide letter dated 06/07/2020 certified that the Survey No 1281,

1050 and 1279 at Village Uplat is belongs to Private Owner hence FRA certificate cant not be issued.

6.6 The proposed pipeline laying parallel and across the road , a alternate routes may not be applicable in this case

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7. In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under section - 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions

7.1 Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.

7.2 Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over by the user agency.

7.3 Compensatory afforestation

a) Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 1.00 Ha. Double degraded land Survey No. /Compt. No. 241pt at Village-Rampur, Tah- Dahanu, Dist Palghar at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of laocal indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.

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.

7.4 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.

7.5 NPV

a) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) for the 0.1320 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. 5-2/2006-FC dated 03/10/2006 and 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009 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 form the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.

7.6 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.

7.7 All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal.

7.8 The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.

- 7.9 User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- 7.10 The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 7.11 No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 7.12 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.
- 7.13 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.
- 7.14 No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 7.15 The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
- 7.16 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- 7.17 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.
- 7.18 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 29/1/2018.
- 7.19 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.
- 7.20 The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)

(Dr. N Rambabu)

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

07/01/2021

7/1/21

S.D. Wadhwa
8/1/2021

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.- The Associated Vice President (PR), Gujrat Gas Limited, 901, 9th Floor Avdesh House Opp, Shri Guru Govind Gurudwara, S.G. Highway, Ahmedabad has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.1320 ha. Forest land for laying of 6" dia steel pipeline to set up Natural Gas distribution network from Sanjan to Angam at village Uplat & Amgaon, Tal. Talasari, Dist. Palghar in Maharashtra under section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980. The details of the forest land proposed for diversion is as under :-

Item of work / purpose	Village	Taluka	Forest land required				Status of Forest Land
			Sur./G ut No.	Length (Meter)	Width (Meters)	Area (Ha.)	
3	1	2	4	5	6	7	8
Natural Gas Pipeline from Sanjan to Angam	Amgaon	Talasari	118	387	0.9	0.0348	Private Forest (35.Sec)
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Total						0.1320	

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

Date :
Place : Nagpur

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

Sanjeev Gaur
17/01/2021



Certified by ISO
9001:2015

**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

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

Sub.:- Diversion of 0.1320 ha. Forest land for laying of 6" dia steel pipeline to set up Natural Gas distribution network from Sanjan to Angam at village Uplat & Amgaon, Tal. Talasari, Dist. Palghar in Maharashtra.

No. : Desk-17/2/NC/II/ID 12804(71)/1048 /20-21
Nagpur - 440 001, Dated: 18/01/2021

To ,

**The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue & Forest Department
Mantralaya Mumbai -32**

- Ref:-**1) Chief Conservator of forests, (T) Thane letter No Desk-10/FCA/CR-40/19-20/OW-122/20-21, dated 9/7/2020
2) Chief Conservator of forests, (T) Thane letter No Desk-10/FCA/CR-40/19-20/286 /20-21, dated 27/11/2020

Sir,

Chief Conservator of forests (T) Thane vide letter under reference no. 1 & 2 has submitted the for diversion of 0.1320 ha. Forest land for laying of 6" dia steel pipeline to set up Natural Gas distribution network from Sanjan to Angam at village Uplat & Amgaon, Tal. Talasari, Dist. Palghar in Maharashtra. There is 0.6780 ha. non-forest land involved in this project. The detailed area statement of forest land is shown as under:-

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4. The User Agency has highlighted that the Gujarat Gas Limited (GUJARAT GAS) is currently in the business to setup Piped Natural Gas network (PNG) to provide PNG for residential consumers as well as commercial units and CNG Station in various cities of Maharashtra. The Gujrat Gas Limited is planning to lay 6" dia Steel pipeline to supply natural gas to Talasari Talka and its surrounding area to provide natural gas to en route industries/consumers in Palghar District.

4.1 The said project approximately 9/00 Km long 6" dia Steel pipeline in Talasari & Surrounding area is required to be laid in Palghar District. It will be laid underground with a minimum clear cover of 1.2 meter.

4.2 Therefore the User Agency has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.1320 ha. Forest land for laying of 6" dia steel pipeline to set up Natural Gas from Sanjan to Angam at village Uplat & Amgaon, Tal. Talasari, Dist. Palghar in Maharashtra under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

5. **Deputy Conservator of Forests Dahanu submitted the following Certificates :-**

- P-24 | 5.1 Document verification have been scrutinized as per the revised check list and found to be correct.
- P-25, 26 | 5.2 All other alternate for the purpose have been explored and demand for the proposed forest land is the barest minimum demand.
- P-27 | 5.3 Provisions of the FCA, 1980 and guidelines under it, have not been violated by User Agency.
- P-28 | 5.4 1.00 Ha. Double degraded land Survey No. /Compt. No. 241pt at Village-Rampur, Tah-Dahanu, Dist Palghar proposed for Compensatory Afforestation and is suitable for Afforestation and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances .
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- The proposed area is not included from the area of any National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary or Nature reserve.
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6. **The user agency has submitted the following Certificate / undertakings :-**

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- 6.4 Environmental Clearance is not required for the project as the project cost is less than 100 cores 1 P-70
- 6.5 User agency has not submitted the FRA-2006 certificate dated 18/06/2020 issued by District Collector Palghar for area 0.0787 ha. instead of 0.1320 ha. , however submitted undertaking stating that the same will be submitted on receipt from District Collector. 1 P-6

The District Collector vide letter dated 06/07/2020 certified that the Survey No 1281, 1050 and 1279 at Village Uplat is belongs to Private Owner hence FRA certificate cant not be issued.

- 6.6 The proposed pipeline laying parallel and across the road , a alternate routes may not be applicable in this case 1 P-98

7. In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under section - 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions

- 7.1 Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- 7.2 Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over by the user agency.

7.3 Compensatory afforestation

- a) Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 1.00 Ha. Double degraded land Survey No. /Compt. No. 241pt at Village-Rampur, Tah- Dahanu, Dist Palghar at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of laocal indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
- 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.
- 7.4 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.

7.5 NPV

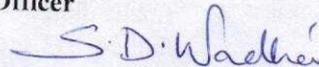
- a) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) for the 0.1320 ha. forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002, 01/08/2003, 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA No. 5-2/2006-FC dated 03/10/2006 and 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009 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 form the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
- 7.6 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.
- 7.7 All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal.

- 7.8 The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- 7.9 User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- 7.10 The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 7.11 No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 7.12 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.
- 7.13 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.
- 7.14 No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 7.15 The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
- 7.16 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- 7.17 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.
- 7.18 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 29/1/2018.
- 7.19 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.
- 7.20 The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)

8. It is therefore requested that the Central Government may kindly be moved to approve diversion of 0.1320 ha. Forest land for laying of 6" dia steel pipeline to set up Natural Gas distribution network from Sanjan to Angam at village Uplat & Amgaon, Tal. Talasari, Dist. Palghar in Maharashtra under section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.

Encls : As above


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


Copy to Chief Conservator of forests, (T) Thane for information.
Copy to Deputy Conservator of Forests Dahanu for information.
Copy to M/s. Gujrat Gas Limited, 301-304, 3rd floor, IT Tower-1, Info city, Gandhi Nagar, Gujart State for information