

PART -IV

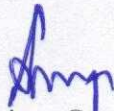
**(To be filled by Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force))**

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

Sub:- Proposal for diversion of 0.102 ha. forest land in favour of M/s Reliance JIO, Infocomm Ltd. for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable, passing within the existing ROW of the State Highway 267 road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal. The details of land proposed for diversion are as under-

Sr. No	Item	Name of Village	Survey No	Comptt. No	Length Width	Area (in ha)	Legal Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Laying Optical Fiber Cable Line	Inzala	28 & 46	226	1459 x 0.40	0.059	Reserved Forest
		Yerandgaon	29	227	1090 x 0.40	0.043	
Total Area (in ha.)						0.102	

Specific recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) MS Nagpur is attached on page no. 2B


(Sanjeev Gaur)

**Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer**

Date: 16/1/2020

Place: Nagpur

Diversion of 0.102 ha. forest land in favour of M/s Reliance JIO, Infocomm Ltd. for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable, passing within the existing ROW of the State Highway 267 Road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal of the Maharashtra State.

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

- 1) The proposal is for diversion of 0.102 ha. forest land in favour of M/s Reliance JIO, Infocomm Ltd. for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable, passing within the existing ROW of the State Highway 267 road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal. The location and the forest land proposed for the project is shown as under:-

Sr. No	Item	Name of Village	Survey No	Compartment No	Length Width	Area (in ha)	Legal Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Laying Optical Fiber Cable Line	Inzala	28 & 46	226	1459 x 0.40	0.059	Reserved Forest
		Yerandgaon	29	227	1090 x 0.40	0.043	
Total Area (in ha.)						0.102	

The project has been initiated by M/s. Reliance JIO, Infocomm Ltd. Nagpur, for laying underground underground Optical Fiber Cable along State Highway 267 from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal.

2.0 M/s. Reliance JIO, Infocomm Ltd, is setting up a pan India telecom network to provide to the highly under serviced India Market, reliable (4th generation) high speed internet connectivity rich communication services and various digital services on pan India basis in key domains such as education, healthcare, security, financial services, government citizen interfaces and entertainment. RJIL aims to provide anytime anywhere access to innovative and empowering digital content, applications and services thereby propelling India into global leadership in digital economy.

2.1 Keeping in mind the above, the project authority has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.102 ha. forest land for approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The aforesaid project is pursuant to the directives issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Communications & IT Department of Telecommunications vide their letter No 10-31/2011-CS-III, dt 23/06/2011.

2.2 Government of Maharashtra, Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Yavatmal has accorded permission for laying utility along SH-27 Sharad Fatta to Saifal road from chainage Km.144/400 to km 182/200, total length 37.800 on Left Side, PWD, Yavatmal Division vide letter No.916 dated 5/3/2018.

2.3 The Government of India has accorded general approval under section -2 of forest (Conservation) Act 1980 vide letter no. F.No.11-9/98-FC, dt.7/9/2015 for the underground laying of optical fibre cables, telephone lines, drinking water supply pipelines, CNG/PNG pipelines within the existing right of way of roads and petroleum pipelines. The proposed Optical Fiber

underground Cable Line is passing through within the existing ROW of the State Highway 267 road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal.

2.4 The project is demarcated on Survey of India Top sheet No. 55 L/8 and the forest area lies within Latitude and Longitude is A] N-20009'029" to E-78033'7.20" B] N-20007'583" to E-78033'7.20" C] N-20006'159" to E-78033'7.63" and D] N-20005'0485" to E-78033'9.78". Total non forest area involved in the project is 0.278 ha. The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Division, Pandharkawada is enclosed on page no.57 to 58.

3.00 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Division, Pandharkawada has certified that:-

- 3.1 the area belongs to Eco-value class -III and having density of forests 0.6.
- 3.2 no suitable alternate land is available and the forest land required is minimum.
- 3.3 there is not cutting and felling of tress involved in the project.
- 3.4 the area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc.
- 3.5 proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
- 3.6 there is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.
- 3.7 the proposed area for the project is not in 10 kms from the boundary of the protected area (Sanctuary and National Park).
- 3.8 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.
- 3.8 and proposed compensatory afforestation over 1.00 ha. forest land in compartment No.226 of Village-Sakhara Tal. Ghatanji in Ghatanji range and it is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances.


4.0 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking that:-

- 4.1 to defray the cost of compensatory afforestation.
- 4.2 to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed under diversion.
- 5.0 Net Present Value is exempted for laying of underground optical Fibre cable as per Handbook under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Government of India guidelines No 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009.
- 6.00 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Division, Pandharkawada and Conservation of Forests (T), Yavatmal Circle have recommended the proposal for diversion of 0.102 ha. of forest land.

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

- 6.1 The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
- 6.2 The User Agency shall defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation over 1.00 ha. forest land in compartment No.226 of Village-Sakhara Tal. Ghatanji in Ghatanji range
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 For further maintenance of the project, the agency shall obtain permission from the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests as and when required.
- 6.7 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal.
- 6.8 The user agency will be authorized to lay the Optical Fiber Cable outside the confines of the protected area after compliance of this order. Any breach of the conditions by the user agency will be treated as violation of the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- 6.9 This sanction will be subject to the final clearance by the Department of Information & Technology, Government of India in pursuance to their letter dated 23/06/2011 and concerned PWD authorities for the project.
- 6.10 No new forest area beyond the Right of Way of existing road should be broken for laying Optical Fiber Cable.
- 6.11 All the conditions stipulated by the Forest Department shall be binding on the User Agency.
- 6.12 The User Agency will make good the land after use/maintenance.
- 6.13 All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.

6.14 All necessary approvals required for the project as per prevailing laws of the land would be obtained by the user agency before statutory sanction.


(Dr. N. Rambabu)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
Maharashtra State, Nagpur

**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (HEAD OF
FOREST FORCE), MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR**

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) 2530166, 2556916, Fax no. (0712) 2550675 E-mail- apccfnodal@mahaforest.gov.in

Sub : Forest land-Yavatmal

Diversion of 0.102 ha. forest land in favour of
M/s Reliance JIO, Infocomm Ltd. for laying of
underground Optical Fiber Cable, passing within
the existing ROW of the State Highway 267
road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal.
Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal.

No. : Desk-17/NC/I/LD- / 1679 /19-20
Nagpur - 440 001, Dated : 16/11/2020

To,

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

M/s. Reliance JIO Infocomm Ltd. Nagpur has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.102 ha. forest land in favour of M/s Reliance JIO, Infocomm Ltd. for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable, passing within the existing ROW of the State Highway 267 road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal. The location and the forest land proposed for the project is shown as under:-

Sr. No	Item	Name of Village	Survey No	Compartment No	Length Width	Area (in ha)	Legal Status
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1	Laying Optical Fiber Cable Line	Inzala	28 & 46	226	1459 x 0.40	0.059	Reserved Forest
		Yerandgaon	29	227	1090 x 0.40	0.043	
Total Area (in ha.)						0.102	

2.00 Following documents as prescribed in Government Circular, Revenue and Forest Department No.FLD-1081/2041/(A)/F-3, dated 20/03/1982 and according to Government of India's instructions issued from time to time are enclosed in two copies.

- (1) Prescribed form dated 10/01/2003.
- (2) Certificate regarding minimum demand of forest land for the project,
- (3) Area Statement,

- (4) Index map in suitable scale,
 - (5) The Deputy Conservator of Forests Pandarkawada Forest Division, Pandarkawada has certified that the proposed project is beyond 10 km of the boundary of the Protected area.
 - (6) There is no cutting and felling of trees involved in the project the certificated given by the Deputy Conservator of Forests Pandarkawada Forest Division, Pandarkawada.
 - (7) The Optical Fiber underground Cable Line passing through within the existing ROW of the State Highway 267 road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal.
 - (8) The user agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation of the forest land proposed for diversion.
- 3.00 The Government of India has accorded general approval under section -2 of forest (Conservation) Act 1980 vide letter no. F.No.11-9/98-FC, dt.7/19/2015 for the underground laying of optical fibre cables, telephone lines, drinking water supply pipelines, CNG/PNG pipelines within the existing right of way of roads and petroleum pipelines. The proposed Optical Fiber underground Cable Line is passing through within the existing ROW of the State Highway 267 road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal.

4.0 Net Present Value is exempted for laying of underground optical Fibre cable as per Handbook under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Government of India guidelines

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

- 5.1 The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
- 5.2 The User Agency shall defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation over 1.00 ha. forest land in compartment No.226 of Village-Sakhara Tal. Ghatanji in Ghatanji range.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 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.
- 5.5 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.

- 5.6 For further maintenance of the project, the agency shall obtain permission from the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests as and when required.
- 5.7 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal.
- 5.8 The user agency will be authorized to lay the Optical Fiber Cable outside the confines of the protected area after compliance of this order. Any breach of the conditions by the user agency will be treated as violation of the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- 5.9 This sanction will be subject to the final clearance by the Department of Information & Technology, Government of India in pursuance to their letter dated 23/06/2011 and concerned PWD authorities for the project.
- 5.10 No new forest area beyond the Right of Way of existing road should be broken for laying Optical Fiber Cable.
- 5.11 All the conditions stipulated by the Forest Department shall be binding on the User Agency.
- 5.12 The User Agency will make good the land after use/maintenance.
- 5.13 All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.
- 5.14 All necessary approvals required for the project as per prevailing laws of the land would be obtained by the user agency before statutory sanction.

It is, therefore, requested that in view of the general approval accorded by Government of India vide letter dt.7/9/2015 for the underground laying of optical fibre cables, telephone lines, drinking water supply pipelines, CNG/PNG pipelines within the existing right of way of roads and petroleum pipelines, the Government of Maharashtra may kindly be moved for diverting 0.102 ha. forest land in favour of M/s Reliance JIO, Infocomm Ltd. for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable, passing within the existing ROW of the State Highway 267 road from route Ghatanji to Inzala in Tal. Ghatanji, Dist. Yavatmal, under section 2 (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act-1980.

Encl. :- Proposal 2 copies

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

Copy to Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Yavatml for information.
Copy to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandarkawda Forest Division, Pandarkawda for information.
Copy to M/s. Reliance JIO Infocomm Ltd., Nagpur for information.

S.D. Wadhwa
16/1/2020