

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (HEAD OF FOREST FORCE), MAHARASHTRA, NAGPUR
ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND NODAL OFFICER, MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR,
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Sub:- Proposal for 0.0440 ha. Forest land providing OFC based Broadband Connectivity through Right of Way of roads passing through forest pertaining to the proposals of Bharat Broadband Network Ltd (BBNL)/ Mahanet (Bharat Net) to provide high speed internet connectivity up to Gram Panchayats from Pimpalkhuti-Karegaon-Arli-Sawargaon-Parwa On SH-315 total 1.100 Km in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/OFC/141278/2021)

No. : Desk-17/Nodal/Yavatmal/ID- 12973/ **1958** /20-21
Nagpur – 440 001, Dated : **29/12/2021**

To,
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue & Forest Department,
Mantralya Mumbai-32

Ref:-1) Government of Maharashtra Circular No. FLD/2015/CR-2015/C.R.08/F-10,
dated 06/09/2021

2) The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Yavatmal vide letter No.CF (Y)/Desk-10/FCA/725, dated 06/12/2021

The Project Authority, Authorized Signatory for Sterlite Technologies Limited has submitted for 0.0440 ha. Forest land providing OFC based Broadband Connectivity through Right of Way of roads passing through forest pertaining to the proposals of Bharat Broadband Network Ltd (BBNL)/ Mahanet (Bharat Net) to provide high speed internet connectivity up to Gram Panchayats from Pimpalkhuti-Karegaon-Arli-Sawargaon-Parwa On SH-315 total 1.100 Km in the State of Maharashtra. The details of forest land proposed for development work is as given below-

Sr. No.	Chainage	Range	Round	Beat	Village	Compt/ Gut. No.	Length (in Mtr)	Width (in Mtr)	Area (in ha.)
1	13/800 to 14/800	Parwa	Kurli	Sawangi	Bhimkund	Survey No.4	260	0.40	0.0104
2	17/630 to 18/000	Pandhar-Kawada	Arli	Arli	---	Compt No.123	840	0.40	0.0336
Total Forest Area (in ha.)									0.0440

2.00 The User Agency has highlighted that the Government of Maharashtra GR No.GSD-Matsa082/3/2018-DIR-DIT(MH), dated 17/02/2018 has given directions for single window clearance for MahaIT project MAHANET (A BBNL Project) by laying Optical Fiber Cable Media connectivity can be provided to farther remote area. The Maharashtra Information

Technology Corporation Ltd, has given Technical approval/ Administrative Approval vide letter No.File No.MahaIT/CNI/001/01/2018, dated 03/11/2018 for laying Underground Optical Fiber Cable for MahaIT project MAHANET (A BBNL Project) for Government of Maharashtra to provide high speed internet connectivity up to Gram Panchayats from Pimpalkhuti-Karegaon-Arli-Sawargaon-Parwa On SH-315 total scope 1.100 Km in the State of Maharashtra. 5.50 meter carriage width with 3 meter Murum shoulder.

3.00 The Government of Maharashtra vide letter No. No.MahaIT/CNI/001/01/2018, dated 03/11/2018 has given work order for the implementation of MahaNet-I (BharatNet-II) in Maharashtra for package-B to M/s. Sterlite Technologies.

4.00 The Conservator of Forests (T), Yavatmal vide letter No. FCA (Y)/Desk-10/FCA/725, dated 06/12/2021 has recommended the proposal for consideration alongwith following documents as per Government of Maharashtra circular No.FLD/2015/CR-2015/C.R.08/F-10, dated 06/09/2021 and This office Circular No. Desk-17/NC/17-4/C.R.92/287/2021-22, dated 16/06/2021 and Para 4.1 Chapter 4 of the guidelines issued by Government of India, MoEF&CC (Laying of Under Ground Optical Fiber Cable (OFC), telephone lines).

4.1 Details of project & Recommendation of the Conservator of Forests (T), Yavatmal and the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Forest Division, Pandharkawada.

4.2 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Forest Division, Pandharkawada has certified that the proposed Underground Optical Fiber Cable for MahaIT project MAHANET (A BBNL Project) for Government of Maharashtra to provide high speed internet does not require prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

4.3 Project note

4.4 Site Inspection Report the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Forest Division, Pandharkawada

4.5 Cross section map

4.6 Area Statement.

4.7 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Forest Division, Pandharkawada has mentioned that in his Site Inspection Report the area belongs to Eco-value class-III and having density of forest is 0.4 to 0.6 (Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest).

4.8 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Forest Division, Pandharkawada has mentioned that in his Site Inspection Report the proposed OFC line 1 km away from

Tipeshawar Wildlife Sanctuary. The said area not included in Tipeshawar Wildlife Sanctuary.

4.9 The type of Underground Optical Fiber Cable as shown on the Survey of India, Toposheet map (Toposheet No.56/I/5) .

4.10 The Maharashtra Information Technology Corporation Ltd, has given Technical approval/Work order/ Administrative Approval vide letter No.File No.MahaIT/CNI/001/01/2018, dated 03/11/2018

5.00 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking that:-

5.1 to make good any loss to Forest/Environment.

5.2 no trees felling involved for the proposed work.

5.3 after completion of the project the area under RoW should be reclaimed suitably.

5.4 to seek permission from the local Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance in future.

5.5 legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.

5.6 the project is in ROW alongwith the State Highway, hence settlement of rights in accordance with Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is not required.

5.7 the copy of the MoU Universal Service Obligation Fund, Department of Telecommunications Government of India, Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) State Government of Maharashtra, Maharashtra IT Corporation Ltd is enclosed on page No.38

6.00 In view of this, the proposal is recommended as per Government of Maharashtra G.R dt.06/09/2021 subject the following conditions: –

- i) The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
- ii) As per Government of India guidelines No.FC-11/165/2019, FC dt.27/7/2020 the compensatory afforestation may not be levied in case of laying of underground Optical Fiber Cables(OFC). Therefore the cost of compensatory afforestation may not be insist upon the User Agency.
- iii) Net Present Value is exempted for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable as per the Government of India guidelines.
- iv) The Optical Fiber Cable Line will be laid within maximum size of the trench of 2.00 m depth & 1.0 m width with cable line under the PVC Pipeline.
- v) 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.
- vi) 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. For further maintenance of the project, the agency shall obtain permission from the Forest Department as and when required.
 - vii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal.
 - viii) No felling of trees shall done during the implementation of project.
 - ix) 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.
 - x) No new forest area beyond the Right of Way of existing road should be broken for laying Optical Fiber Cable.
 - xi) No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.
 - xii) All the conditions stipulated by the Forest Department shall be binding on the User Agency.
 - xiii) All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Act, Rules and Guidelines shall be complied with by the User Agency.
 - xiv) All necessary approvals required for the project as per the prevailing laws of the land would be obtained by the User Agency before statutory sanctions.
 - xv) The User Agency will make good the land after use/maintenance.

7.00 In view of the above, Government of Maharashtra is requested to consider the proposal for approval and issue the necessary permission order for OFC based Broadband Connectivity through Right of Way of roads passing through forest pertaining to the proposals of Bharat Broadband Network Ltd (BBNL)/ Mahanet (Bharat Net) to provide high speed internet connectivity up to Gram Panchayats from Pimpalkhuti-Karegaon-Arli-Sawargaon-Parwa On SH-315 total 1.100 Km in the State of Maharashtra

8.00 It is also submitted that Central Government vide letter F.No.11-9/1998-FC(pt), dated 17/09/2018 has clarified that the State Government may authorize the appropriate offer to grant

permission is Non Protected Areas. This office vide letter No. Desk-17/NC/17-4/C.R.92/287/2021-22, dated 16/06/2021 has recommended to authorize the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)/ Chief Conservator of Forests (T)/ Conservator of Forests (T) in their respective jurisdiction. The State Government may take appropriate decision accordingly, in respect of the proposal also.

Encl: As above



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

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

Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pandharkawada Forest Division, Pandharkawada for information.

Copy to the Project Authority, Authorized Signatory for Sterlite Technologies Limited 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 0.0440 ha. Forest land providing OFC based Broadband Connectivity through Right of Way of roads passing through forest pertaining to the proposals of Bharat Broadband Network Ltd (BBNL)/ Mahanet (Bharat Net) to provide high speed internet connectivity up to Gram Panchayats from Pimpalkhuti-Karegaon-Arli-Sawargaon-Parwa On SH-315 total 1.100 Km in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/OFC/141278/2021). The details of land proposed for diversion is as under-

Sr. No.	Chainage	Range	Round	Beat	Village	Compt/ Gut. No.	Length (in Mtr)	Width (in Mtr)	Area (in ha.)
1	13/800 to 14/800	Parwa	Kurli	Sawangi	Bhimkund	Survey No.4	260	0.40	0.0104
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Total Forest Area (in ha.)									0.0440

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: /12 /2021
Place: Nagpur

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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.

1) Proposal for 0.0440 ha. Forest land providing OFC based Broadband Connectivity through Right of Way of roads passing through forest pertaining to the proposals of Bharat Broadband Network Ltd (BBNL)/ Mahanet (Bharat Net) to provide high speed internet connectivity up to Gram Panchayats from Pimpalkhuti-Karegaon-Arli-Sawargaon-Parwa On SH-315 total 1.100 Km in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/OFC/141278/2021).

2.0 The details of forest land proposed for Optical Fiber Cable line work is as given below:-

Sr. No.	Chainage	Range	Round	Beat	Village	Compt/ Gut. No.	Lengt h (in Mtr)	Widt h (in Mtr)	Area (in ha.)
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(G. Saiprakash)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
Maharashtra State, Nagpur