

Ref: RJIL/SCO/2023/CA/02

Date: 17th June 2023

To, The Nodal Officer Forest Conservation ACT & Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest Aranya Bhavan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata

Subject: EDS raised by IRO Kolkata for setting up of e-Node(Mobile Tower) at Hilajhora forest Compartment under Jalpaiguri Forest Division

Ref: IRO Ref No IRO/KOL/WB/Others/145923/2021/141 dated 12th April 2023

Madam,

In reply to the query as raised by IRO Kolkata against the reference no mentioned above, this is to bring your kind notice that MOEFCC circular no **FC-11/118/2021-FC** dated 13th June 2023 on clarification on the provisions of raising compensatory afforestation, it is mentioned in the Para V.(b) that cost of plantation shall be minimum of 100 trees or ten times the number of tree likely to be felled can be levied from user Agency in cases of "Diversion of forest land up to one hectare".

Our proposal for diversion of forest land is only for 0.0144 Ha, so in this case requirement of providing non-forest land for Compensatory Afforestation does not arise. User Agency only need to pay the cost of plantation as per the circular.

Regarding the observation made by IRO, Kolkata considering the google earth image, it has been appeared as Dense Forest. In this context we would like to inform you that necessary joint field inspection as per the direction of the then DFO was made with the officials of Jalpaiguri Forest Division (ADFO & Concern Range Officer) with the Technical Team of RJIL. During field visit it was observed the entire area is covered with thick bushes, two photo graph of the site is enclosed herewith as a reference which was taken during inspection. After wards DFO Concern & CCF of the circle was also inspected the site and recorded their remarks in Part-II. So assessment through google earth cannot be more reliable than field visit.

Hope this will satisfy the queries towards issuance of Stage-I Clearance.

Thanks & Regards.

For Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited

AUTHORISED SIGNATORY (Ashish Dasgupta)

Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited (formerly Infotel Broadband Services Limited); CIN U72900MH2007PLC234712





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