

**Diversion of 575.0749 Ha of Forest land for the construction of dam across Markandeya River and ancillary infrastructure in forest lands of Gokak, Godachinamalki, Konnur and Mavanura villages in Gokak and Hukkeri Taluks, Belagavi District for storing 6 TMC of water under Ghatti-Basavanna Drinking Water Supply Project by KNNL, Govt of Karnataka (FP/KA/WATER/65437/2020)**

Sn	Observations	Clarifications
i	The PCCF letter dtd 06.03.2023 mentions about per para 2.4 (i) of comprehensive guidelines of this Ministry which states that the revenue land and all such category of the land not under the management and /or administrative control of Forest Dept. on which provision of FC Act 1980 is not applicable shall be considered for the purpose of CA. Therefore the state Govt. is requested clarify whether the CA land identified for the instant proposal i e 689.10 ha ia an Non-Forest land or its any land as per para 2.4 of this Ministry Comprehensive guidelines then the state Govt. requires to provide double the extent of such kind of land for CA i e 1150.148 ha instead of 689.1 ha.	The identified CA land is a Government non forest land and hence para 2.4 (i) of Comprehensive guidelines of the Ministry is not applicable and the area of around 100 ha additionally identified as buffer for survey mismatch, land disputes, illegal encroachments during implementation of the project.
ii	Detaild Compensatory Afforestation scheme has not been provided by the State Govt. The same may be submitted.	The CA scheme attached herewith.
iii	The copy of the CAT plan as submitted is not approved by the principal CCF & HoFF or any other authorized by him for the purpose as prescribed under the chapter-9 at para 9.2 (vi) of Comprehensive Guideline Handbook, 2019. The same needs re-submission.	Catchment Area Treatment Plan is enclosed as Annexure-1, Forwarded for further approval.
iv	As per the land use plan an area of 12.95 ha is proposed for Dam office & guest house (4.50 ha) and dam view point (8.45 ha) which are non-site specific activity. In this regard appropriate justification and the details of alternative lands identified for the said purpose may be submitted.	<p>Since the proposed dam is in the forest land and also the height of dam being very high, it is necessary to provide Dam Office and Guest house near dam considering Dam Safety Measures for continuous monitoring, operation and maintenance of the Dam including watch tower at higher elevation from where submergence and spillway portion can be watched continuously. On study of top sheet, the highest land available is on the right flank where the above activity can be controlled. There is no alternative non forest land is available near Dam location on highest point for these activities which are very much essential for the project. Hence, Dam office, Guest House and Dam View Point is proposed near dam on highest point.</p> <p>Dam View Point is an open area with a watch tower for controlling the operations including early response as a part of disaster management. The Dam view point will be used for assembling the people during Disaster (Safe Assembly Point) and also for safe evacuation. During major disaster, people can't be shifted towards downstream since it will be under heavy floods and the évacuation has to be done to a higher elevation and hence this location has been selected.</p>



v	As per the landuse plan an component namely utility is proposed for 1.054 ha. In this regard the State Govt. may clarify for what purpose the area is sought for.	Utility component comprising of approach road to Dam site and to negotiate with the ridge level near entry to the dam site, a curve has been proposed to turn around for the entry of vehicles.
vi	Component wise area of the proposed forest land is submitted. However, Component-wise KML of 575.0749 Ha of proposed Forest land is not available on PARIVESH. The same requires submission.	Component wise KML prepared and enclosed as Annexure-2.
vii	It has been informed by PCCF (HoFF) that the area of 0.27 Ha of Nirvanappa Temple located in Sy No.410 of Gokak Village & Taluk will be submerged after the project is completed. In this regard the measures taken for shifting the temple to another location may be furnished and the comments in this regard may be furnished by State Govt.	Nirvanappa Temple is located in Sy No. 410 of Gokak village and Taluk and it will be submerged after the project is completed. Nirvanappa Temple is a historic Temple which has developed sentiments with local population. Several devotees visit the Temple frequently. During the site inspection and interaction, it was informed to the project authorities that the relocation of Temple will not be permitted. Hence, project authorities have decided to keep the location at its original place with good accessibility without shifting the location to another location with suitable water retaining structure as constructed in 'Kudalasangama', Karnataka. The proposed arrangement is acceptable to the Temple Authorities including the devotees and hence the same has been proposed in the project. NOC obtained from the Tahsildar, Gokak Taluk is enclosed as Annexure-3.
viii	As per details provided in Part-II certain schedule-I species have been reported in the area. In this regard comments and recommendation of CWLW Govt. of Karnataka on likely impact of the project on the movement of wildlife and the applicability of NBWL clearance is required.	Wildlife mitigation plan prepared by user agency to reduce impact of the project for movement of Wildlife. The said Wildlife Mitigation Plan forwarded for approval.
ix	It is observed from the DSS analysis that Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary is located at an approx. aerial distance of 5.10 Km from the proposed forest land. In this regard comment and recommendation of CWLW Govt. may also provide the details (notification and KML) of ESZ with respect to Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary.	As per MOEFCC OM Dt: 17.05.2022, the project does not find place in the Schedule of EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments and PA boundary at 3.10 Km and ESZ of Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary is 2.94 Km away from the project site. The notification of Eco-sensitive Zone of Ghataprabha Bird sanctuary is attached as additional information in part-II of the proposal. and KML showing boundary of eco-sensitive zone attached in separate CD.
x	Based on the observation on Google Earth agriculture land, settlement and road are visible in the proposed area for diversion. In this regard the State Govt. is requested to offer comments whether any violation of FC Act 1980 had taken place or there are any encroachments reported.	The extent of 1.871 Ha is encroachment already existed in proposed diversion area, as per the RFO Gokak field inspection report dated.12.06.2023.
xi	The State Govt. may also specify whether the dam to be constructed will be an earthen dam or otherwise.	The proposed dam is Concrete Gravity Dam
xii	The plan with details for further distribution the water and involvement of forest land in the same may also be submitted.	The Project envisages the construction of water storage reservoir only. Doesn't involve any distribution network. However, water for the drinking purpose will be released to



the river throughout the year through the river sluice gates proposed in the dam. Same will be tapped through the existing Jackwell points located along the downstream of the dam and will be supplied for drinking water after suitable water treatment through existing water supply distribution network of local bodies such as City Municipal Corporation, Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board and ZillaPanchayath. No forest land is involved in distributing the water.

xiii Out of 575.074 ha of forest land involved 519.68 ha is going to get submerged however rest of the land being taken for other activities. The State Govt. may clarify that whether these facilities may be constructed on non-forest land ?

The entire project lies in a forest land. Therefore there is very less non forest land is available near the dam and is already taken for possible activities. Because of unavoidable and dam safety point of view, some of the activities which are very much essential for the project need to be taken in forest land only.


xiv Details of 3 identified alternative sites with their KML files along with no. of trees proposed for felling against each alternative forest land be submitted with appropriate justification for identifying the forest land for division.

The RFO, Gokak & ACF, Ramadurg has submitted three alternative land details along with number of trees to be felled against each alternative & Their KML files. The details of identified three alternative lands are as fallows.

Alternatives	Area (Ha)	Block No	No. of trees to be felled
Alternative-I	570.62 (Gokak FS No.401, 399, 398, 396, 397, 417, 410,409,404, 408, 405, 406 & 407. Godachinamlki FS No.163. Konnur FS No. 676, 677 & 675)	I	7120
		II	9437
		III	11288
		IV	9157
		VI	11246
		VII	11057
		VIII	8802
		IX	9623
		X	6276
		<b>Total</b>	<b>84006</b>
Alternative-II	534.42 (Gokak FS No.401, 399, 398, 396, 397, 417, 410,409,404, 408, 405, 406 & 407. Godachinamlki FS No.163. Konnur FS No. 676, 677 & 675)	I	6459
		II	8776
		III	10627
		IV	8496
		VI	10585
		VII	10396
		VIII	8141
		IX	8962
		X	6276
		<b>Total</b>	<b>78718</b>
Alternative-III	519.675 (Gokak FS No.401, 399, 398, 396, 397, 417,	I	6183
		II	8500
		III	10351



		410,409,404, 408, 405, 406 & 407. Godachinamlki FS No.163. Konnur FS No. 676, 677 & 675)	IV VI VII VIII IX X Total	8220 10309 10120 7865 8686 6276 76510
		After verifying all three alternatives, Alternative-III has less forest area for diversion and less number of trees to be felled, Hence alternative-III is proposed for diversion.		
xv	As per Part-I (form-A) user Agency has requested for total period for which the forest land proposed to be diverted as 50 years but PCCF (HoFF) & Nodal Officer has recommended for only 20 years. The State Govt. may provide its comments on this regard.	PCCF, Karnataka Forest Department has to provide compliance		
xvi	Ministry vide its guidelines dated 06.01.2022 read with 28.03.2022 has revised the rates to NPV. The new rates are applicable in the instant proposal. In this regard, State Government is requested to submit the revised C:B ratio as per the new NPV rates.	Revised C:B Ratio considering recent NPV rates is enclosed as Annexure-5.		
xvii	The State Govt. is requested to submit the approved DPR of the instant project.	Approved DPR is enclosed as Annexure-6.		
Xviii	The ministry on 28.06.2022 has notified the forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 & The FC Rules 2022 is applicable in the instant proposal. In this regard as per this Ministry's guidelines dated 14.11.2022 the State Govt. is requested to submit the minutes of the meeting of Project Steering Committee with respect to the instant proposal.	PCCF, Karnataka Forest Department has to convene a Project Steering Committee meeting.		

  
 Deputy Conservator of Forests,  
 Ghataprabha Division, Gokak.