

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS DEPARTMENT  
DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6

No.FRS.80/2015/64

Dated Dispur, the 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2015

From : Smti N.Dutta, ACS,  
Deputy Secretary to the Government of Assam,  
Environment and Forests Department.

To : The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Central)  
Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate  
Change, North Eastern Regional Office, Law-U-Sib,  
Lumbatnngen, Near M.T.C. Workshop, Shillong-793021.

Sub : Diversion of 3.545 hectare of forest land for drilling of  
proposed location MKD under Doomdooma Division in  
favour of Oil India Ltd.

Case No. : State Sl. No.401 dtd. 01.02.2014.

Sir,

I am directed to send herewith a proposal received from the PCCF & HoFF, Assam state for drilling of proposed location MKD under Doomdooma division for diversion of 3.545 hectare of forest land submitted by Oil India Ltd. for seeking diversion of forest land under section 2 (ii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

**1. Brief Description :-**

This proposal seeks diversion of 3.545 Ha forest land for drilling of proposed location MKD under Mechaki Reserve Forest. The Co-ordinate of the proposed location MKD details of project proponent a year of incorporation, past tract record, areas of business operation along with project cost and justification of the project are enclosed in the part-I submitted by the user agency.

The Oil India Ltd. has stated justification for the location for the proposed project at Part-I which clearly mentioned that the site has been identified on the basis of geographical facts & seismic interpretation and any alternatives in this aspect may hamper in the achieving the objectives. In view of the above no alternate has been examined.

SJP.  
For record ML  
3/9/15.



Si J. Dutta  
CM (LAB)  
3/9/15

O/c

## 2. Details of forest land proposed for diversion :-

The total land involved in the project is 3.545 Ha. out of this, the forest land in the State of Assam is as follows :

|                    |           |                           |          |
|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------|----------|
| a) RF              | 3.545 Ha. | a) Revenue forest         | ..... Ha |
| b) PF              | ..... Ha. | b) Panchayat forest       | ..... Ha |
| c) Un-classed      | ..... Ha  | c) Area recorded          | ..... Ha |
| d) Village forests | ..... Ha  | d) Area defined as forest | ..... Ha |

In dictionary meaning

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| e) Private forest | ..... Ha |
|-------------------|----------|

**Total 3.545 Ha.**

**Total ..... Ha**

## 3. Maps enclosed:-

The user agency has furnished the following maps duly countersigned by the Divisional Forest Officer,

- Maps showing the location of proposed project in the State (scale 1:50,000).
- Toposheet No. (S) of the Survey of India of the proposed diversion area (scale 1:50,000).
- Map showing the proposed site for Compensatory Afforestation (scale 1:50,000 for non-forest areas and scale 1:50,000 for CA on double degraded forests).

Total forest area involved 3.545 Ha.

## 4. Assessment of Stock :-

The proposed site for drilling location is situated in the Mechaki Reserve Forest under Doomdooma Division in the state of Assam. The vegetation cover in the proposed site is almost nil as it was earlier under some unauthorized occupiers.

## 5. Flora and Fauna and archaeological importance :-

The area does not form/form a part of National Park/Sanctuary or Biosphere Reserve, Sample or preservation plot. Moreover, the area does not leave/possess importance from archaeological view point.

## 6. Compensatory Afforestation :-

The forest land to be diverted from the above project is 3.545 Ha. for which twice the area of the area of 8.0 Ha for compensatory afforestation against Oil India Ltd. drilling location MKD has been proposed inside the Mechaki North Reserve Forest of Doomdooma Division which is suitable for plantation and management points of view.



**Forest land identified the Compensatory Afforestation**

| District | Division              | Range | Block   | Compartment<br>No. (s) | Area       | Working<br>circles (s) | Felling Treatment<br>Series |
|----------|-----------------------|-------|---------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tinsukia | Doomdooma<br>Division |       | Mechaki | Compt<br>t.<br>No.1    | 8.0<br>Ha. |                        |                             |

The map showing the above identified land has been enclosed with the diversion proposal. The identified non-forest land for Compensatory Afforestation forms Patches, comprising of area of 3.545 Ha.

The above area is proposed to be covered under plantation. The Divisional Forest Office, has drawn-up Compensatory Afforestation schemes with a financial outlay of Rs. 58,26,271.00. The compensatory afforestation schemes envisage block plantation 8.0 Ha and fencing over 1200 running meter.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Doomdooma Division has given certificate regarding suitability undertaking to bear the cost of compensatory afforestation over 8.0 Ha. The User agency has furnished undertaking to deposit the amount of CA scheme after Stage 1 clearance is granted.

**7. Displacement of Human population:-**

No human population is being displaced owing to the project. No Schedule Cast/ Schedule Tribe families are being displaced.

**8. Environmental Clearance :-**

Oil India Ltd. submitted to Ministry of Environment & Forest Govt. of India proposal for drilling activities in 6 Nos exploration /appraisal wells in onshore Oil exploration Block Mechaki area in Tinsukia District in Assam based on the information provided by the project proponent, the Ministry of Environment & Forest hereby accords environmental clearance to the above project under the provision of EIA notification 2006. Copy of the EC clearance order from Ministry of MoFF, Govt. of India is enclosed for ready reference.

The project proponent has already initiated action to obtain NOC/Consent for proposed location SUAA under the provision of water (prevention and control of pollution) Act,1974 and Air (prevention and control of pollution) Act,1981, from the Pollution Control Board, Assam.

9. **Cost-benefit analysis :-**

Oil India Ltd. is public sector undertaking giving B/C Ratio devoted to exploration and production of Oil & Gas. Production of Oil is of immense importance to the Govt. from both economic & defense angles. Production of Oil & Gas benefit the State Govt. as well as the Central Govt. as it receives substantial royalty. Local inhabitants benefit greatly from growth of Oil production. Communication facilities are developed with the growth of Oil Industries, local youth get job in the companies.

10. **Violation of Forests Conservation Act/ Indian Forest Act:-**

There was no violation of Forest Conservator Act or any other forest act is reported.

11. **Recommendations of the State Government :-**

The PCCF & HoFF, Assam/ Addl. PCCF & Nodal officer has recommended the proposal. The Assessment Officer has provided by adverse comments on the proposal and it has been suitable commented upon the seniors officers. The proposed diversion site is not a part of National Park/ Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve. Sample plot, preservation plot and ecologically fragile zone, The diversion does not affect habitat of any endemic, threatened species of fauna or flora, diversion does not affect on timbers fuel wood etc. Production of Oil benefit the State Govt. as it receives substantial royalty. Local inhabitants benefits greatly from the growth of Oil production. Civil works of construction of road and drill site would give temporary employment to the local people.

I would, therefore, request you kindly convey the approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India under Section-2 (ii) of the forest Conservation Act, 1980 for diversion of the forest land in question of favour of Oil India Ltd.

Yours faithfully,

O/c

  
Deputy Secretary to the Government of Assam,  
Environment and Forests Department



Memo No.FRS.80/2015/64-A

Dated Dispur, the 21<sup>st</sup> August,2015

Copy to :

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Assam , Rehabari, Guwahati-8.
2. The Addl Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, (FC Act), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam , Rehabari, Guwahati-8.
3. The Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Doomdooma Division, Tinsukia.
5. The Head Land, Oil India Ltd., Land Department, P.O. Duliajan, Dist.- Dibrugarh, Pin- 786602, Assam for information.

By order etc.

*[Signature]*  
Deputy Secretary to the Government of Assam,  
*[Signature]* Environment and Forests Department

*O/c*