

Sub.:- Forest Land- Raigad

Diversion of 9.1321 Ha. forest land for Panvel-Karjat suburban corridor project (Double Railway Line) in Raigad district in the State of Maharashtra.

PART - V

(To be filled up by the Secretary In charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

1. Recommendation of the State Government

The proposal is recommended vide Government letter

No.FLD-1320/ CR-53/ F-10

Dated: 10/03/2021

Arvind
10/03/2021

(Arvind Apte)

Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)

Arvind Apte

Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)

Revenue and Forests Department

Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400032

Place : Mumbai

Date : 10/03/2021

Government of Maharashtra

By Speed Post

No.FLD-1320/ C.R.53/ F-10
Revenue and Forest Department,
Room No.456/461 Annex,
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,
Madam Cama Marg,
Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400 032.
Date:- 10/03/2021

To,
Regional Officer (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Integrated Regionl Office,
Ground Floor, East Wing,
New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines,
Nagpur-440 001.

Sub.:- Forest Land- Raigad

Diversion of 9.1321 Ha. forest land for Panvel-Karjat suburban corridor project (Double Railway Line) in Raigad district in the State of Maharashtra.

Sir,

The Deputy Chief Project Manager-I, Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation, Mumbai submitted the proposal for diversion of 9.1321 ha. Forest land for Panvel-Karjat Suburban Corridor Project (Double Railway Line) in Raigad District in the State of Maharashtra. Total 56.3879 ha. non-forest land involved in the project. The detailed area statement of forest land is as under:-

Sr. No.	Village Name	Taluka	New Survey No.	Area		Legal Status	
				in Sq.mtr.	in Ha.		
1.	Belavali	Panvel	136	1525.27	0.1525	Reserved Forest (Sec-4)	
2.	Bhingar	Panvel	26	533.16	0.0533	Reserved Forest (Sec-4)	
3.	Barvai	Panvel	58	9136.37	0.9136	Reserved Forest (Sec-4)	
4.			36	972.64	0.0673	Reserved Forest under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975	
5.			35	344.15	0.0344		
6.			27	586.903	0.0587		
7.			37	622.03	0.0622		
8.			Bherale	Panvel	41		115
9.					42/1A	787	0.0787
10.	42/2A	1172			0.1172		
11.	Forest	2700.0			0.2700	Reserved Forest	
12.	Lodhivali	Khalapur	17	1306.87	0.1307	Reserved Forest under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975	
13.	Vavarle	Khalapur	153	3893.16	0.3893		
14.			156	103.14	0.0103	Reserved Forest	
15.			189	3577.95	0.3578	Reserved Forest under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975	
16.			201	3233.09	0.3233	Reserved Forest	

Sr. No.	Village Name	Taluka	New Survey No.	Area		Legal Status
				in Sq.mtr.	in Ha.	
17.			157	2896.18	0.2896	Reserved Forest under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975
18.			207	999.92	0.1000	
19.			208	400.74	0.0401	
20.			205	1241.33	0.1241	Reserved Forest
21.			194	63.84	0.0064	Reserved Forest under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975
22.			210	1035.84	0.1036	Reserved Forest
23.			188	874	0.0874	Reserved Forest under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975
24.			209	833	0.0833	
25.			158/A	928	0.0928	
26.			200	5	0.0005	
27.			166	10196.55	1.0197	Reserved Forest
28.	Kirawali	Karjat	26	16377.7	1.6338	Reserved Forest
29.			25	3137.96	0.3138	Reserved Forest (Sec-4)
30.			18	11331.95	1.1332	
31.			40	3842.65	0.3843	
32.	Vanjale	Karjat	170	6887.169	0.6887	Reserved Forest (Sec-4)
Total area in Hectare				91321	9.1321	

2. The User Agency has highlighted that the traffic on CR has been rising at 4% a year. The pressure on CST-Panvel section is more than that of CST Kalyan line. The area between Panvel and Karjat is also developing rapidly and hence there is increasing demand for extending the suburban train services to Karjat. Currently 29.60 km track connects Panvel with Karjat. It caters only to goods and few long distance passenger trains. Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation plans to increase network capacity and improve customer services on this corridor. MRVC has therefore commissioned the services of Omega Analytics to undertake a feasibility study for constructing an additional line between Panvel to Karjat, In view of this about 9.1321 ha forest land is required to be diverted for doubling Railway line Panvel-Karjat.

3. Deputy Conservator of Forests Alibag has certified that:-

- i. No suitable Alternate non forest land is available for the purpose and demand for the required forest land is lowest minimum demand.
- ii. Provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and guidelines, under it, have not been violated by user agency
- iii. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Alibag certified that 20.00 ha degraded forest land of Compt. No 647, Village-Aaptvne, Tal-Sudhagad, Distt-Raigad has been identified for Compensatory Afforestation is suitable for Afforestation and it is free from encroachment and encumbrances.
- iv. The proposed area is not likely to affect any monument site of cultural, historical religious, archaeological or recreational importance.

- v. Area proposed for project is not included in the area of any National Parks/Wildlife Sanctuary.
- vi. The proposed area is 11.1 km boundary of Karnala Bird Sanctuary and proposed railway line pass the Matheran Eco Sensitive Zone.
- vii. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Alibag has submitted Site Inspection Report dated 24/12/2019.
- viii. There are 607 trees felling (including 520 Bamboo) involved in the proposed project.
- ix. The proposed area belongs to Eco Value Cl-I, having density 0.1
- x. The non-forest land 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 under interim judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996.

4. User Agency has submitted the following undertaking/documents:-

- i. To bear the cost of clearance/removal of the vegetation growth from the proposed forest land.
 - ii. Agreed to bear the cost of Compensatory afforestation.
 - iii. To bear the cost of Net Present Value.
 - iv. Compliance of FRA-2006 has not been submitted by User Agency. However submitted the undertaking stating that the certificate will be submitted on receipt from Collector, Raigad.
 - v. Environmental clearance not applicable for the projects.
 - vi. Copy of Government of India, Ministry of Railways letter No. 2013/Proj./MRVC/MUTP-III/15/1, dated, 20.12.2016 regarding sanction of Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP)-Phase-III.
5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Alibag has recommended the proposal for approval as the proposal is public infrastructure facility and essential for convenient fast & safe travel. It is development project and the proposal of national interest undertaken by Govt of India. Project proponent is ready to bear all the Govt levies.
6. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Thane has recommended the proposal for approval.
7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur has recommended the proposal subject to the conditions, given in his specific recommendations, under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. His specific recommendations are enclosed in the proposal.
8. In the circumstances explained in above paragraphs and enclosures, the State Government recommends that the said forest land may be allowed to be diverted for the non-

forestry use subject to conditions proposed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur. The matter may kindly be placed before Government of India for its approval under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the same may please be obtained and communicated to this Government at earliest.

Yours faithfully,

Arvind Apte
10/03/2024

(Arvind Apte)

Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)

Encl: A) Set of case papers

b) The following documents are enclosed:-

1. Prescribed form as per Rules
2. Certificate regarding minimum demand for forest land for the project
3. Area Statement
4. Index map of suitable scale
5. Commitment from the Applicant for defraying the cost of exploitation as well as cost of compensatory plantation
6. User Agency has given an undertaking of Net Present Value
7. Brief note of the project from the project authority
8. Map of non-forest land for compensatory afforestation
9. Site Inspection Report
10. No violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
11. Certificate in Part-V

Copy to:

1. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur
2. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (CAMPA), Maharashtra State, Nagpur
3. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Thane
4. Collector, Raigad
5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Alibag
6. The Deputy Chief Project Manager-I, Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation, Mumbai, Churchgate Station Building, Second Floor, Maharshi Kavre Road, Mumbai-400 020.
7. Select File F-10.