

Government of West Bengal
Department of Forests
For Branch
Aranya Bhavan (1st Floor), Block-LA-10A, Sector-III, Salt Lake City
Kolkata-700 098

No. 1256-For/O/L/10T-09/2014

Kolkata, the 5th July 2018

MEMORANDUM

Sub: Transfer of Stage-I approval accorded dt. 12/12/2014 in respect of diversion of 1.997 ha of forest land in favour of 87, Road Construction Coy (GREF), Project Swastik, for construction of 1000 mtr. length viaduct at Rongpo between km.51.100 to km.53.900 on Sevok-Gangtok Road (NH-31A) under Kalimpong Forest Division from the original user agency i.e. 87, Road Construction Coy (GREF), in whose favour Stage-I forest clearance was accorded to new user agency i.e. National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL).

The undersigned is directed to refer to the MoEFC letter no. 5-WBB079/2014-BHU dt. 4/12/2017 on the subject noted above requesting this Deptt. to transfer Stage-I approval granted under FC Act, 1980 for diversion of 1.997 ha of forest land in favour of 87, Road Construction Coy (GREF), Project Swastik, for construction of 1000 mtr. length viaduct at Rongpo between km.51.100 to km.53.900 on Sevok-Gangtok Road (NH-31A) under Kalimpong Forest Division from the original user agency i.e. 87, Road Construction Coy (GREF), in whose favour Stage-I forest clearance was accorded to new user agency i.e. National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL).

In this connection, after careful consideration of the said proposal in accordance with para 2.8 of the Guidelines issued under FCA, 1980 and in terms of letter no. 11-246/2014-FC dt. 3/11/2017 of Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change the undersigned is directed by order of the Governor to say that Governor is pleased to transfer Stage-I forest clearance dt. 12/12/2014 in respect of diversion of 1.997 ha of forest land in favour of 87, Road Construction Coy (GREF), Project Swastik, for construction of 1000 mtr. length viaduct at Rongpo between km.51.100 to km.53.900 on Sevok-Gangtok Road (NH-31A) under Kalimpong Forest Division from the original user agency i.e. 87, Road Construction Coy (GREF), in whose favour Stage-I forest clearance was accorded to new user agency i.e. National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (NHIDCL) subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:-

1. Lease transfer charges @ of 10% of the NPV or ₹ 1,00,000/- (1 Lakh) whichever is less will be realized from the new user agency and will be deposited in the account of Ad-hoc CAMPA.
2. Legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
3. The Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) shall submit monthly report to the Eastern Regional Office by 5th of every month regularly-failing which, the grant of such permission may be suspended by the Central Government for a specified period or till the information is submitted.
4. The User Agency shall be responsible for any loss to the flora/fauna in the surroundings, and, therefore, shall take all possible measures to conserve the same.
5. Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over 2 ha of degraded forest land identified at Beat-Tarkhola, Range-Kalimpong under Block & Compartment-Rongpo-1, Dist-Kalimpong.
6. The User Agency shall pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted Forest land at the rates stipulated by MoEFC from time to time and cost of raising CA as established by law.
7. The User Agency shall furnish NOC under FRA, 2006 as per prescribed format of Ministry.
8. Permission granted by this department shall be subject to the monitoring by the Eastern Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Govt. of India.
9. Forest land utilized for creation of the border infrastructure projects shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal. Any change in the land use without prior permission of the Central/State Govt. shall amount to the violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
10. State Forest Department or the Eastern Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India may impose, from time to time, any other condition in the interest of conservation, protection and/or development of Forest.
11. No construction work should be initiated before compliance of the conditions laid down hereinabove.

After receipt of compliance of fulfilment of the above conditions, formal approval will be issued in this regard under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sd/- M. Bandyopadhyay

Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

No. 1256/1(5)-For

Kolkata, the 5th July, 2018

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF), West Bengal.
2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (CAMPA), & Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980.
3. The General Manager (North), West Bengal Forest Dev. Corporation Ltd.
4. The Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India, Eastern Regional Office, A/3, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023, Orissa.
5. Sri Subodh Kumar Malik, General Manager (P), NHIDCL, Sillim, 1st Floor, 5th Mile, M. P. Golai, Tadong, Sikkim-737 102.