

F.No. FC/HPB/09/49/2021
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi– 110003
Dated:12-10-2025

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Department of Environment and Forests,
Government of Himachal Pradesh.
Shimla.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of Education Department, Himachal Pradesh for non-forestry use of 2.26 ha of forest land for the construction of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Ghumarwin, within the jurisdiction of Bilaspur Forest Division, District Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/SCH/19350/2016)– regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Himachal Pradesh letter No. Ft.48-3484/2016(FCA) dated 25.11.2021 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal, '**in-principle**'/**Stage-I** approval to the proposal was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 31.07.2024 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions prescribed therein. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Government of Himachal Pradesh vide letter No. HPFD-F05/314/2023-FCA dated 02.07.2025 which was uploaded on Parivesh portal on 07.07.2025 and letter dated 18.09.2025, '**final approval**'/**Stage- II** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of Education Department, Himachal Pradesh for non-forestry use of 2.26 ha of forest land for the construction of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Ghumarwin, within the jurisdiction of Bilaspur Forest Division, District Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The State Government shall ensure that Compensatory afforestation over degraded forest land double in extent to the forest land being diverted (4.52 ha. degraded forest land in DPF C27 Kalri, Tehsil-Shree Naina Devi Ji, Division/District Bilaspur) side is initiated within two years from the date of issue of Stage- II approval and maintained thereafter as per approved plan by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency. Further, as far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided;
- iii. The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo sheet of 1:50,000 scale;
- iv. The State Govt. shall ensure that the minimum number of trees be felled in the project and the blank areas shall be enriched and maintained as green patches;
- v. The State Govt. shall ensure that land use plan shall not be changed and no diversion of forest land will be allowed for any further expansion of this project work;
- vi. State Govt. shall take all measures and required permissions for the safety of the proposed building/ infrastructure from seismic activity and any other natural exigencies;
- vii. The State Govt. shall ensure that no muck and debris disposal will be allowed in the forest area;
- viii. The State Govt. shall ensure that tree felling shall be done only in built up area and bare minimum felling shall be permitted in other non-built-up areas. Felling of trees before the start of construction should be verified by the concerned DFO;
- ix. The State Government shall ensure that KML files of diverted area and the CA areas are uploaded on e-Green watch portal;
- x. The State Government has realized the NPV of the forest area diverted under this proposal from the User Agency, as per the orders dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines given under para 3 of the Chapter- 3 of the Consolidate Guidelines and Clarifications issued under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 published by the Ministry on 29.12.2023, the user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- xi. The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest

- Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted as per the sub-rule (7) of Rule 11 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.
- xii. The State Govt. shall ensure that trees should be felled in phased manner as per the requirement in the approved Plan with prior permission of concerned DFO;
 - xiii. The State Govt. shall ensure that no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
 - xiv. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
 - xv. The User Agency, if required, shall obtain the Environment Clearance under the Environment Impact Assessment issued Notification, under 2006 the FC/HPB/09/49/2021 I/78481/2024 Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986;
 - xvi. The State Govt. shall ensure that no labor camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the laborer's and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
 - xvii. The State Govt. shall ensure that no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
 - xviii. The State Govt. shall ensure that boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high wall or RCC pillars (in case of RCC pillars- each pillar should be inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS coordinates);
 - xix. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less;
 - xx. The State Govt. shall ensure that forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
 - xxi. The State Govt. shall ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
 - xxii. The State Government shall ensure that concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;
 - xxiii. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional

- Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly.
- xxiv. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency;
- xxv. The State Government shall ensure that user agency shall comply all the provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
- xxvi. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 29.12.2023;
- xxvii. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval letter dated 31.07.2024 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S), if any, or the time being in force, including compliance of the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2006, before handing over the forest land to the user agency; and
- xxviii. The monitoring report by the Regional Offices or State Government and annual self compliance report by the user agency shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>) regularly.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

(S. Sundar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
2. The Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Chandigarh.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading.