



File No: 9-JKC-093/2021-Jammu

October, 2022

To,

Commissioner Secretary,
Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment,
U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir,
Civil Secretariat
Jammu & Kashmir
(csforestjk@gmail.com)

Sub: **Diversion of 78.3877 ha of forest land in Ramban forest division in favour of National Highway Authority of India, for 4 Laning of Ramban Banihal Section of NH 44 (old NH1A) at critical locations between km 151 and km 187, District Ramban, UT of Jammu & Kashmir (Online proposal no. FP/JK/ROAD/145108/2021)-reg.**

Ref: i) UT Admin of J&K online proposal received on dated 15.12.2021
ii) In-principle approval dated 15.02.2022
iii) Letter of Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, Govt. of J&K, no. FST-Land0FC/117/2021-02 Dated 25.08.2022

Sir,

Please refer to the above cited subject and letters seeking prior approval of the Central government for the diversion of Forest land for non-forestry purpose in accordance with section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Vide this office letter of even no. dated **15.02.2022 in principle** approval was accorded. The compliance of stage-I was received vide letter no. **FST-Land0FC/117/2021-02 Dated 25.08.2022**

2. After careful examination of the proposal of the UT Administration, approval is hereby conveyed for diversion of **78.3877 ha** of forest land for the above-mentioned project, subject to the following conditions;

- i. Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged.
- ii. Minimum number of trees/plants and in any case not more than **1585 trees and 1553 u/s poles and plants** will be felled.
- iii. The UT Govt shall upload the KML files of the degraded forest area accepted for raising compensatory afforestation as well as the forest area proposed for diversion in the extant proposal in the E-Green watch portal.
- iv. No muck shall be dumped in the forest land in context of the undertaking submitted by User Agency.
- v. The DFO shall ensure that user agency shall not dump muck on forest land.
- vi. The forest land will not be used for any other purpose than that mentioned in the proposal.

- vii. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department, or persons without approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
 - viii. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
 - ix. The user agency shall raise strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road at the project cost as per IRC specification with maintenance of seven to ten years.
 - x. No damage will be done to the adjoining forest land.
 - xi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
 - xii. The user agency shall pay additional amount of NPV as and when increased on the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court.
 - xiii. The User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
 - xiv. Compensatory afforestation will be carried out over Degraded Forest land (DFL) upon **100 ha** of land on Comp No. Co 42/Bnl and Co 8/Bnl, Range-Banihal, Co 61/AR and Co 58/Ar, Range-Gool, Co 9/R, Co 09/Rbn, Co 19/Rbn and Co 42/Rbn, Range-Ramban, District-Ramban, as per proposed CA scheme, at a cost of **₹ 1,11,51,002/-** (One crore eleven lakh fifty-one thousand two rupees only) provided by the User Agency.
 - xv. Moreover, the User agency had submitted Additional CA amount for the Biological measures and muck disposal i.e. **₹ 2,39,60,320/-** (Two crore thirty-nine lakh sixty thousand three hundred twenty only). The DFO shall ensure implementation of Biological Measures and muck disposal exactly as per the approved plan.
 - xvi. DFO shall ensure that compensatory afforestation will be done within one year from final approval over the extent of land as approved, out of the funds provided by the user agency.
 - xvii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the direction of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
 - xviii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction material for execution of the project work.
 - xix. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from the time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
 - xx. It will be the responsibility of the UT Administration/User Agency to obtain all other prior approvals/clearances under all other relevant Acts/Rules/ Court's rulings/instructions, etc. including environmental clearance, as applicable to this proposal.
3. The Ministry may revoke/suspend the clearance if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory. **UT Administration shall ensure fulfilment of these conditions through forest department.**

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Raja Ram Singh)
DIGF (Central)
Regional Officer
IRO Jammu

Copy to: -

1. The IGF (FC), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh, Aliganj, New Delhi (ramesh.pandey@nic.in)
2. The Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), U.T. of Jammu & Kashmir, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, UT of Jammu Kashmir (pccfjkforest@gmail.com)
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest, Ecology & Environment, Van Bhawan, Below Gumat, Jammu, UT of Jammu Kashmir (ccffcajkl@gmail.com).
4. CEO, CAMPA O/o PCCF (HoFF), UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh, Near Lal Chowk, Srinagar, UT of Jammu Kashmir (jkcampacell@gmail.com).
5. The Divisional Forest Officer, Ramban Forest Division, District-Ramban, UT of Jammu and Kashmir (dforamban@gmail.com).
6. National Highway Authority of India, District-Ramban, UT of Jammu and Kashmir (piuramban@gmail.com).