



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE
CHANGE

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BY SPEED POST

F.No.4-KLB1255/2020-BAN/

Date **As per the signature**

To

The Additional Chief Secretary,
Government of Kerala,
Forests & Wildlife (C) Department,
Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram,
Kerala, PIN – 695 001.

Subject :Diversion of 1.495 ha. of forest land at KDH village, Munnar Forest Division, Idukki District for Rehabilitation and Upgradation of NH 85 from Km 119/017 to 161/300 (Design chainage Km 119/017 to 160/800) Bodimettu to Munnar on EPC mode in favour of the Assistant Executive Engineer, NH Sub Division, Devikulam -reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No.FWLD-C2/67/2020-FWLD dated 20/08/2020, 07/01/2021, 22/02/2021 and 31/03/2021 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section '2' of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The in-principle (Stage-I) approval to the project was accorded by the Central Government vide letter of even number dated 9th April, 2021. The State Government vide letters No.FWLD-C2/67/2020-FWLD dated 19/08/2023, 03/10/2025 and 11/11/2025 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated by the Central Government in the in-principle approval.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey Central Government's final approval **(Stage-II)** under Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of **1.495 ha.** of forest land at KDH village, Munnar Forest Division, Idukki District for Rehabilitation and Upgradation of NH 85 from Km 119/017 to 161/300 (Design chainage Km 119/017 to 160/800) Bodimettu to Munnar on EPC mode in favour of the Assistant Executive Engineer, NH Sub Division, Devikulam, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates before handing over of the forest area to the User Agency.
3. The non-forest land identified for Compensatory Afforestation (CA) i.e. 1.50 ha in Sy.No. 20/1, Chinnakanal village shall be notified as Protected Forest or Reserved Forest under Indian Forest Act, 1927 or local Forest Act, before handing over of

forest land to the user agency by the State Government. The nodal officer, after notification of such non forest land, shall upload a copy of said notification on PARIVESH portal.

4. The Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over equal extent of degraded forest land identified in Ranni Reserved Forest, Erumeli Range, Kottayam District within two years from the date of Stage –II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency and at least 1000 plants per hectare shall be planted over identified degraded forest land. If it is not possible to plant so many saplings in the area identified for CA balance saplings shall be planted in any other forests as per prescriptions of approved working plan with provision of ten years on subsequent maintenance.
5. The KML file of the forest area to be diverted and CA area (both non forest land and degraded forest land) shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details before issue of diversion order by the State Government.
6. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the user agency.
7. The Wildlife Mitigation Plan approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden shall be implemented at the cost of User Agency.
8. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
9. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
10. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
11. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
12. The forest area shall be used for the purpose for which it is granted. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 1.495 ha.
13. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, Department or person without prior approval of Government of India.
14. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
15. 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 lesser.
16. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forest in the surrounding area.
17. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year.
18. The State Government and user agency shall comply the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT order & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
19. Any other condition that the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bengaluru may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.
20. The conditions required to be adhered under the Forests Right Act, 2006 as per the guidelines issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 shall be strictly complied with.
21. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed

under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

Yours faithfully,

(Praneetha Paul)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority, Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, 3rd Floor (Front Portion), Supreme Court Metro Station Building (Line-3), New Delhi-110 001.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ Division), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Deptt, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram-695 014, Kerala.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, PIN- 695 014, Kerala.
5. The Chief Executive Officer, Kerala State CAMPA, Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, PIN- 695 014, Kerala.
6. The Assistant Executive Engineer, NH Sub Division, Devikulam, Idukki District, Kerala -685 613.
7. Guard file.

(Praneetha Paul)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)