

Government of Maharashtra

By Speed Post

No.FLD-2018/ C.R.253/ F-10
Revenue and Forest Department,
Room No.456/461 Annex,
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,
Madam Cama Marg,
Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400 032.
Date: - 12/09/2018

To,

✓ The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Regional Office, West Central Region,
Ground Floor, East Wing,
New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines,
Nagpur- 440 001.

Sub.:- Forest Land- Satara

Diversion of 7.26 ha Reserved Forest Land for construction of new six lane tunnel in Khambatki Ghat including approaches from Ex.KM 771.730 (Design KM 771.730) to Ex.KM 782.000 (Design KM 778.190) in Pune-Satara section of NH-4.

Sir,

The proposal is for diversion 7.26 ha of Reserved Forest land for construction of new six lane tunnel in Khambatki Ghat including approaches from Ex. km 771.730 (Design Km 771.730) to Ex. Km 782.000 (Design km 778.190) in Pune Satara section of NH-4 in the state of Maharashtra. Total non-forest area involved in the project is 46.023 Ha. The details of forest land proposed for diversion is as under:-

| Village | Taluka | Dist. | Sur.No./ Compt. No. | Area in Sq. mtr. | Area in Ha. | Legal Status. |
|--------------|----------|--------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Vele | Wai | Satara | 473 | 50100 | 5.01 | Reserved Forest |
| Wanyachiwadi | Khandala | | 1010 | 22500 | 2.25 | |
| Total Area | | | | | 7.26 | Reserved Forest |

2. The Project has been initiated by Project Director, National Highway Authority of India, PIU, S. No.134/1, Plot No.-11, BAIF Bhavan Campus, Dr. Manibhai Desai Nagar, Wajre, Pune for construction of new six lane tunnel in Khambatki Ghat including approaches from Ex km 771.730 (Design Km 771.730) to Ex Km 782.000 (Design km 778.190) in Pune Satara section of NH-4 in the state of Maharashtra.

The existing NH-4 from Pune Satara already widened to 6 lane Highway to meet traffic demand, except existing two lane tunnel in Khambatki Ghat. This existing two lane tunnel is going to become a bottleneck in near future as the traffic on the Highway is about 46000 PCU, widening of existing two lane tunnel is not feasible. Further, the improvements

proposed as part of six laning for the RHS carriageway is not completely eliminating all the geometric deficiencies in the alignment, as it is following the existing Ghat road. Also it is not possible to improve the right carriageway to desired geometric standards of existing Ghat.

Considering these difficulties for improvement of existing alignment of Left and Right carriageway, NHAI desired to construct separate 6 lane tunnel with improved geometry on West side of the existing 6 lane on Satara side at Ex. 771.730 (design Km 771.730) and on Pune side at Ex. Km 782.000 (design Km 778.190). There is no suitable alternate land is possible other than locating the 6 lane tunnel in the village Vele of Taluka Wai and village Wanyachiwadi of Taluka Khandala in Satara district of Maharashtra. The project has been administratively approved by Government of India, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, New Delhi vide letter No RW/NH-37011/46/2017-PPP dated 09/11/2017.

Therefore project authority has submitted the proposal for diversion of 7.26 ha Reserved forest land under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of new six lane tunnel in Khambatki Ghat including approaches from Ex km 771.730 (Design Km 771.730) to Ex Km 782.000 (Design km 778.190) in Pune-Satara section of NH-4 in the state of Maharashtra.

3. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has certified that all other alternate for the purpose have been explored and the demand for the project is the barest minimum demand.
4. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has certified that three alternatives have been examined in detailed and come to a conclusion that the proposed alternative is most suitable from forestry point of view.
5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has certified that there is no violation of Forest Conservation Act 1980 & its guidelines.
6. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has submitted the Site Inspection Report.
7. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has certified that the proposed project area belongs to Eco value class III and has the density above 0.4.
8. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has certified that the proposed project is not included in the area of any National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary.
9. The Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara has certified that the proposed project is beyond 10 km of the boundaries of the protected area.
10. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has proposed 15.00 ha degraded forest land:- 1) 5.00 ha of Compartment No. 19 pt at Village Pandewadi, Tal-Wai , Distt -Satara; 2) 10.00 ha. of forest Gut No. 123,124 at Village Tondal, Tal-Khandala , Distt Satara for compensatory afforestation and certified that it is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and also it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances.
11. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has certified that the proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site or site of historical, archeological importance.
12. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has certified that there are 129 trees of various species and girth class standing in the area proposed for diversion.

13. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has certified that the non-forest land involved in the project is not virtue of application of section 35 of Private Forest Act, 1975 and is not recognized as deemed Reserved Forest as well as not included in the area identified as "Forest" as per the dictionary meaning of Forests as intimated to the expert Committee appointed under interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996.
14. The project authority has fulfilled the compliance of FRA- 2006. (Collector, Satara certificate dated 11/06/2018).
15. The user agency has submitted an undertaking to bear the cost of trees felling from the proposed forest land.
16. The user agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed for diversion.
17. The user agency has submitted an undertaking to agree to defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation as determined by the Forest Department.
18. The project agrees to provide Octroi free services to forest department vehicles and provide check Naka at Octroi booth on highway.
19. The user agency has submitted the cost benefit analysis report.
20. The user agency has submitted that the Environmental Clearance is not required as project highway is less than 100 kms.
21. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara has recommended the proposal for sanction.
22. Chief Conservator of Forests, (T) Kolhapur has recommended the proposal for diversion.
23. 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.
24. 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 on the 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,



(Virendra Tiwari) 12/9
Additional Principal 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. Certificate that there is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
11. Certificate in Part-V

Copy to:

1. Principal Secretary, Public Works Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
2. Secretary (Tribal), Tribal Development Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
3. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (CAMPA), Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
5. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Kolhapur.
6. Collector, Satara.
7. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara.
8. Project Director, National Highway Authority of India, PIU, S. No. 134/1, Plot No. 11, BAIF Bhavan Campus, Dr. Manibhai Desai Nagar, Wajre, Pune.
9. Select File F-10.

Sub.:- Forest Land- Satara

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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-2018/CR-253/F-10

Dated: 12/09/2018


(Virendra Tiwari) 12/9

**Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Mantralaya)**

Place : Mumbai

Date : 12/09/2018

VIRENDRA TIWARI
Additional **Principal**
Chief Conservator of **Forests** (Mantralaya)
Revenue and **Forest** Department
Mantralaya, **Mumbai** 400 032

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