

I/3137/2020



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

एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय
 Integrated Regional Office
 "Kendriya Paryavaran Bhavan",
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F. No: 6-GJC057/2019-BHO/

Date:11/12/2020

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary (Forest)
 Govt. of Gujarat,
 Forest and Environment Department,
 Block No14, 8th Floor, New Sachivalaya,
 Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Sub: Diversion of 22.49 ha Protected Forest land for the project of widening to four lane of SH-04, Sarkhej-Dholka km 16/800 to 39/600 Range Discroi, Dholka in Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Ahmedabad District of Gujarat.

Ref: 1) In-principle approval letter No. 6-GJC 057/2019-BHO/186 dated 13/02/2020.
 2) Govt. of Gujarat letter No. FCA-1019/7-27/19/SF-161/F dated 07/11/2020.
 3) Online payment transaction dated 27/07/2020 & 01/09/2020.

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to your letter No. FCA-1019/7-27/19/SF-161/F dated 30/11/2019 & APCCF, Land, Gujarat State, Gandhinagar letter No. FCA/31-A/960/-61/2019-20 dated 06/02/2020 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Central Government vide letter (1) referred above had agreed In principle for diversion of 22.49 ha Protected forest land of above forest land for the purpose mentioned above subject to the fulfilment of conditions stipulated therein.

The State Government vide letter (2) referred above have reported compliance on the fulfillment of the conditions of the In-principle approval letter.

Therefore, the undersigned is hereby directed to convey formal approval of the Government of India under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 22.49 ha Protected Forest land for the project of widening to four lane of SH-04, Sarkhej-Dholka km 16/800 to 39/600 Range Discroi, Dholka in Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Ahmedabad District of Gujarat subject to the following terms and conditions:-

Specific Condition:

1. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over to the user agency.
3. **Compensatory Afforestation :**
 - a. Compensatory Afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 45.00 ha degraded forest land (Survey No. 61 Pt, Village-Navagam (Karana), Taluka-Dholera, District-Ahmedabad). As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
 - b. Total no. of saplings to be planted shall not be less than 74,970 (45.00 ha X 1666) Nos. in CA land. The composition of saplings (number species wise) to be planted in the CA land shall be as per the National Forest Policy and as per the CA scheme submitted vide Govt. of Gujarat letter No. FCA/31/A/960-61/2019-20 dated 06/02/2020 and record shall be kept.

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- c. The standard size saplings (minimum height & minimum collar girth and maximum sturdiness quotient species wise) as approved by the State Govt. as per specification in CA scheme submitted by Govt. of Gujarat letter No.FCA/31/A/960-61/2019-20 dated 06/02/2020 shall be planted in the selected CA land.
 - d. The height and collar girth (specie wise) shall be measured & recorded at the time of plantation and in November of plantation year. Further, data of height, collar girth and survival percentage (species wise) twice a year (April & November month) shall be recorded & records shall be maintained.
 - e. Plantation shall be taken up before end of 2022 monsoon season.
 - f. All the live stumps & pollards upto 90 cm Girth shall be dressed for the purpose of regeneration & record shall be kept in plantation Journal.
4. User agency shall restrict the felling of trees up to 3532 numbers & minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department. Year-wise tree felling data by the project shall be recorded.

General Condition:

1. User agency shall raise strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road as per the IRC norms.
2. Speed regulating singes will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas.
3. *User Agency shall provide suitable measures for free movement of wildlife in and around the forest area in accordance to eco friendly measures to mitigate impacts of linear infrastructure on wildlife (2016).*
4. The user agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
5. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
6. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
7. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourers after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
8. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitable demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
9. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
10. 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.
11. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
12. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.
13. 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.
14. All the conditions of State Forest rules/ local rules shall be applicable in this project.
15. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the para 1.21 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 Handbook, 2019.

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16. All the conditions stipulated in Stage-I/In-principle approval shall be strictly complied.
17. The six monthly compliance reports for all the conditions stipulated in this approval every year on 1st January and 1st July shall be uploaded on e.portal by the State Govt. and submitted to this office also.
18. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

This has been issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(B. Abhay Bhaskar)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Aranya Bhavan, Gandhinagar (Gujarat)
2. The Addl. Director General of Forest (FC), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110003.
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) Act, Arayan Bhavan, Gandhinagar (Gujarat).
4. The Dy. Conservator of Forests, Social Forestry Division Ahmedabad, District-Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
5. The Executive Engineer, R&B Division Ahmedabad, District-Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
6. Order File / NIC for upload.

(B. Abhay Bhaskar)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Signature Not Verified

Digitally signed by ABHAY
BHASKAR

Date: 2020.12.11 10:58:06 IST