

I/60643/2023



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

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INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE
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F.No.4-KRB1273/2021-BAN/ 333
Dated the 21st December, 2023

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka,
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department,
M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bengaluru – 560 001.

Subject: Diversion of 3.92 ha. of forest land in Sy.No. 580/A, 711, 717 and 718/A, Khangaon village, Gokak Taluk, Belagavi District, Ghataprabha Forest Division for construction of Canal and Laying of Underground Pipeline under Chachadi Lift Irrigation Project in favour of the Executive Engineer, Karnataka Neeravari Nigama Ltd (KNNL), Ghataprabha Right Bank Canal Construction (GRBCC), Division No. 3, Gokak, Belagavi District -reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letters No. FEE 83 FLL 2020 (e) dated 28/12/2020 seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in respect of the above project. The in-principle (Stage-I) approval to the project was accorded by the Central Government vide letter of even number dated 4th February, 2021. The State Government vide letter No. FEE 83 FLL 2020 (e) dated 15/09/2023 and 14/12/2023 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 **3.92 ha.** of forest land in Sy.No. 580/A, 711, 717 and 718/A, Khangaon village, Gokak Taluk, Belagavi District, Ghataprabha Forest Division for construction of Canal and Laying of Underground Pipeline under Chachadi Lift Irrigation Project in favour of the Executive Engineer, Karnataka Neeravari Nigama Ltd (KNNL), Ghataprabha Right Bank Canal Construction (GRBCC), Division No. 3, Gokak, Belagavi District, subject to the following conditions:-

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A. Conditions which need to be complied prior to issue of final approval by State Government and handing over of forest land to User Agency:

1. 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.
2. The State Government shall upload the KML file of the forest area diverted and CA area on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details.

B. Conditions which need to be complied after handing over of forest land to the User Agency by the State Government:

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.
3. Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over identified non-forest land in Sy.No. 700 of Kanagavi village, Gokak Taluk, Belagavi District shall be raised within 2 years and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency and at least 1000 plants per hectare shall be planted over identified non-forest land. If it is not possible to plant so many saplings in the area identified for CA, the balance saplings will be planted in any other forests as per prescriptions of approved working plan with provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance.
4. The 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 User Agency and the same shall be transferred to the designated Adhoc CAMPA Account.
5. User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department. The cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
6. All statutory clearances including Environment Clearance, if applicable shall be obtained before commencing the work in forest area.
7. 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.
8. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
9. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
10. The 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.
11. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
12. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.

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13. The 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.
14. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 3.92 ha.
15. 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.
16. 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, Bengaluru by the end of March every year.
17. The User Agency shall comply all the provisions of the 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.
18. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.
19. 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,

(M.K.Shambhu)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. 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.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru – 560 003.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) /Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru – 560 003.
4. The Executive Engineer, Karnataka Neeravari Nigama Ltd (KNNL), Ghataprabha Right Bank Canal Construction (GRBCC), Division No. 3, Gokak, Belagavi District -591 307.
5. Guard file.

(M.K.Shambhu)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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21/12/2023