



F.No. FC-I/CH-176/2020/NGP/1128

Date: 22/12/2022

To,

Additional Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Forest Department, Mantralaya,
Mahanadi Bhavan, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar (CG).

Sub: Diversion of 4.00 ha of Forest Land in favour of M/s Gulf Oil Corporation Limited, Bilaspur for Storage of Explosives and Accessories and as per required for Mines in Chhattisgarh under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 at Village Biladi in Raipur District in the State of Chhattisgarh.

Sir,

Kindly refer letter no. F-5-29/2018/10-2 dated 07.01.2020 of the State Government of Chhattisgarh on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government, in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. It is to say that after examination of the proposal of the State Government, 'In-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide letter of even number dated 15.03.2021. Now, the State Government of Chhattisgarh, vide letter no. krmank/ F-5-29/2018/10-2 dated 28.09.2022 has submitted a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval and requested the Central Government to grant final approval to the proposal.

In this connection, it is informed that on the basis of compliance report submitted by the State Government of Chhattisgarh, vide letter no. krmank/ F-5-29/2018/10-2 dated 28.09.2022, the Central Government hereby accords **Final Approval** under Section - 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.00 ha of Forest Land in favour of M/s Gulf Oil Corporation Limited, Bilaspur for "Storage of Explosives and Accessories and as per required for Mines in Chhattisgarh under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 at Village Biladi in Raipur District in the State of Chhattisgarh" subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. Compensatory afforestation
 - a. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 4.00 ha of Non forest land of Khasra no. 117, 90/1, 90/2, 90/3, 137/1, 137/2, 136 at Village- Uslapur, Dist- Durg, in the State of Chhattisgarh at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along with 10% RET species of Durg District shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided;
 - b. The revenue forest land transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act, 1927 latest within a period of six months from

the date of issue of Stage--II approval. The Nodal Officer shall report compliance in this regard along with a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, as the case may be, within the stipulated time of six months to the Central Government for information and record;

- iii. The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- iv. Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- v. No tree cutting shall be permitted in the diverted forest land;
- vi. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector;
- vii. To improve the Forest/ Tree cover and to reduce pollution, as mandated in National Forest Policy, 1988 and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 respectively, the User Agency shall develop a separate nursery at one or more places to raise at least 2500 seedlings of forestry species along with bamboo, fruit bearing, medicinal, ornamental and indigenous/local every year. At least 50% of seedlings shall be planted by User Agency in the vicinity of project area including forest area and for hand holding with local people residing in vicinity of proposed road, User Agency shall voluntarily distribute remaining 50% of seedlings to them free of cost. A compliance report including species wise details of seedlings raised, location of plantation area and details of villagers whom seedlings have been distributed need to be prepared every six month and submitted to Regional Office of MoEF&CC.
- viii. Due to mishandling of the explosives, if any accident/mishap occurred and causes damage to forest area in vicinity, the user agency shall be responsible to compensate for the damages/losses occurred if any;
- ix. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- x. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xii. 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;
- xiii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
- xiv. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xv. 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;

- xvi. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;
- xvii. 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;
- xviii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018;
- xix. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- xx. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

Yours faithfully,

**Chaturbhuja Behera, IFS
Inspector General of Forests**

Copy to:

1. The Director, ROHQ, MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi.
2. The PCCF & HoFF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Sector-19, Aranya Bhavan, Atal Nagar, Naya Raipur (CG).
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Chhattisgarh, Sector-19, Aranya Bhavan, Atal Nagar, Naya Raipur (CG).
4. User Agency.
5. Guard File.

Chaturbhuja Behera
22/12/22
**Chaturbhuja Behera, IFS
Inspector General of Forests**