



**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER
JORHAT DIVISION::JORHAT**

(44)

Ph: 03762950090

E-mail: dfo.t.jorhat@gmail.com

Letter No.FJT/ B/ 1744
To

Date: 06/04/2023

The Senior Manager, Bhasati Airtel Limited,
3rd Floor, Subham Buildwell, Near NEEPCO Bhawan,
R G Baruah Road, Guwahati-781005, Assam.

Sub: "In Principal Approval" for diversion of 0.96 hectares of forest land for laying of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) in Dessoi Vally Reserved Forest under Jorhat Division in favour of Telesonic Networks Ltd – reg.

Ref: 1. The PCCF & HoFF's letter No. 27/FCA/Proposal/OFC/Jorhat Division/A, dtd. 10/03/2023.
2. The PCCF(WL) & CWLW's letter No. 27/FCA/Proposal/OFC/Jorhat Division/A, dtd. 10/03/2023.

Sir/ Madam,

With reference to the subject cited above, and on thorough perusal of your proposal it is learnt that your project involves laying of underground optical fibre cable through horizontal directional drilling and it does not involve any felling of trees and falls outside National Parks/ Sanctuary areas. Thus, as per point (xi) of para-4 File No. 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I), dtd. 6/01/2022 of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt of India, for the above-mentioned category, the Net Present Value (NPV) is fully exempted.

In this regard, for further processing your proposal, you are hereby requested to submit a compliance report on all the conditions from Sl. No. (i) to (xiv) along with necessary undertaking as being stipulated in the letter under reference (1). In addition to this, you are hereby requested to deposit 2% of the estimated project cost for Human-Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict Mitigation & Wildlife Conservation Plan to the corpus fund account of Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam and to provide proof of payment for the same to the undersigned for onward necessary action.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Enclosed - As stated above

Yours Sincerely

(Nandha Kumar, IFS)
Divisional Forest Officer,
Jorhat Division, Jorhat.

Letter No.FJT/A/ 12 19-23

Date: 06/04/2023

Copy for favour of kind information and necessary action to: -

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Ghy-37.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & CWLW Assam, Panjabari, Ghy-37
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Upper Assam Zone, Jorhat-1.
4. The Chief Conservator of Forest & Nodal Officer (FC Act), Assam O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Ghy-37.
5. The Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat -1.

Divisional Forest Officer,
Jorhat Division, Jorhat.



Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira
Paryavaran Bhavan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi-110 003

Date: 6th January, 2022

To

The Additional Chief Secretary (Forest)/Principal Secretary (Forest),
All States Governments/ Union Territory Administration

Sub: Revision of rates of Net Present Value – reg

Sir,

I am directed to invite your attention to Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 28.03.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202 of 1996 in the matter of T. N. Godavarman Thirumalpad vs. Union of India and Ministry' guidelines dated 05.02.2009 wherein rates to Net Present Value (NPV) to be realized in lieu of diversion of forest land have been fixed based on the outcome scientific assessment of ecosystem goods and services. Hon'ble Supreme Court in the said order has also directed the MoEF&CC for upward revision of the NPV rates.

2. In compliance of order dated 28.03.2008 of Hon'ble Court and with the approval of the competent authority, the following revised NPV rates have been prescribed for levying NPV in lieu of diversion of forest land:

Table: Revised NPV rates based on fitment factor of 1.53

(in Rs.)

Eco-Class	Very Dense	Dense	Open
Class-1	1595790	1436670	1116900
Class-II	1595790	1436670	1116900
Class-III	1357110	1228590	957780
Class- IV	957780	861390	670140
Class-V	1436670	1292850	1005210
Class-VI	1516230	1372410	1069470

Eco-Class-I:	Tropical Wet Evergreen Forests, Tropical Semi-evergreen Forests and Tropical Moist Deciduous Forests
Eco-Class-II:	Littoral and Swamp Forests
Eco-Class-III:	Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests
Eco-Class-IV:	Tropical Torn Forests and Tropical Dry Evergreen Forests
Eco-Class-V:	Sub-tropical Broad-Leaved Hill Forests, Sub-Tropical Pine Forests and Sub-Tropical Dry Evergreen Forests
Eco-Class-VI:	Montane Wet Temperature Forests, Himalayan Moist Temperature Forests, Himalayan Dry Temperature Forests, Sub Alpine Forest, Moist Alpine Scrub and Dry Alpine Scrub

3. NPV shall be charged to the extent of ten times of the normal NPV payable in the case of National Parks and five times in the case of Sanctuaries. The use of non-forest land falling within the National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries may be permitted on payment of an amount equal to the NPV payable for the adjoining forest area. In respect of non-forest land falling within marine National Parks / Wildlife Sanctuaries, the amount shall be five times the NPV payable for the adjoining forest area;

4. The proposals under the following categories are exempted from NPV to the extent as mentioned in the list below:

Category	Conditions
i. Schools	Full exemption upto 1 ha. of forest land, provided: a. no felling of trees is involved; b. alternate forest land is not available; c. the project is of non-commercial nature and is part of the Plan/Non-Plan Scheme of Government; and d. the area is outside National Park/ Sanctuary
ii. Hospitals	
iii. Children's playground of non-commercial nature.	
iv. Community centres in rural areas.	
v. Over-head tanks	
vi. Village tanks	
vii. Laying of underground drinking water, irrigation and PNG pipeline upto 4 inch diameter	
viii. Electricity distribution line upto 22 KV in rural areas.	

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ix. Relocation of villages from the National Parks/ Sanctuary to alternate forest land	Full exemption	
x. Collection of boulders/silts from the river belts in the forest area.	Full exemption, provided:- (a) area is outside National Park/ Sanctuary; (b) no mining lease is approved/signed in respect of this area; (c) the works including the sale of boulders/silt are carried out departmentally or through Government undertaking or through the Economic Development Committee or Joint Forest Management Committee; (d) the activity is necessary for conservation and protection of forests; and (e) the sale proceeds are used for protection/conservation of forests.	
xi. Laying of underground optical fiber cable	Full exemption, provided: (a) no felling of trees is involved; and (b) area falls outside National Park / Sanctuary.	
xii. Pre-1980 regularization of encroachments and conversion of forest villages into revenue villages	Full exemption provided these are strictly in accordance with MoEF&CC's Guidelines dated 18.9.1990.	
xiii. Underground mining	Surface strain predicted by 3-D subsidence prediction model	NPV to be paid
	i. Up to 5mm/m	NIL
	ii. 5mm to 10 mm/m	10% of normal rates
	iii. 10mm/m to 15 mm/m	25% of normal rates
	iv. 15 mm/m to 20 mm/m	50% of normal rates
	v. more than 20 mm/m	At Normal rates

xiv. Wind Power Projects	50% at the minimum NPV rate, provided, minimal tree felling is involved, irrespective of the eco-class in which the project lies.
xv. Hydroelectric Projects up to 25 MW capacity	50% of the applicable rates of the forest land actually diverted for setting up of such projects, provided, the project involves felling of not more than 5 trees per hectare.
xvi. Field Firing Range (FFR) of Defence Ministry not involving felling of trees and no likelihood of destruction of forests	At the rate of 20 % of the normal rates of NPV for the forest areas falling within the impact zone. The forest areas falling within safety zone of FFRs shall be fully exempted from the requirement of payment of NPV
xvii. The area of riverbed in a proposed water reservoir, that is to be under permanent submergence throughout the year	50 per cent of the normal rate applicable to the area.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Sandeep Sharma)

Asst. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, All State Governments/UTs
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the PCCF, All State Governments/UTs
3. The Regional Officer, All Integrated Regional Offices of the MoEF&CC
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEFCC, New Delhi
5. Guard File

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT
DISPUR, GUWAHATI
Email: environmentforestassam@gmail.com

ECF No.278364/63

Dated Dispur, the 6th March, 2023

To : The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Assam,
Panjabari, Guwahati-37.

Sub : Forest Diversion proposal of 0.96 ha forest land for lying of Optical Fiber Cable
(OFC) in Dessoi Valley Reserved Forest under Jorhat Division in favour of
Telesonic Network Limited.

Sir,

This has got reference to the letter No.FG.27/FCA/Proposal/OFC/Jorhat Division dated 17.02.2023 of O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam on the subject mentioned above, seeking prior approval of the State Government in accordance with General Approval under section 2(ii) of FCA, 1980 and in terms of the ***"Handbook of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Forest Conservation Rules, 2003 (Guidelines & Clarification), MoEF & CC, GoI, 2019"*** mentioned under Chapter-4 (para 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.3.1).

After careful consideration of the proposal of the PCCF & HoFF, Assam, I am directed to inform that the Government of Assam hereby conveys its ***"In- Principle Approval"*** for diversion of 0.96 ha forest land for laying of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) in Dessoi Valley Reserved Forest under Jorhat Division in favour of Telesonic Network Limited subject to the following conditions:

- i. The forest area involved is not within a National Park and/or a Wild Life Sanctuary.
- ii. User Agency shall explore all feasible alternatives to minimize use of forest land.
- iii. Forest land to be used shall be restricted to the bare minimum and shall be used only when it is unavoidable.
- iv. The User Agency shall pay the applicable NPV in pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- v. The User Agency shall provide an undertaking for payment of additional NPV, if any.
- vi. In addition to monthly report of diversions of forest land under General Approval accorded by MoEF & CC, PCCF & HoFF, Assam shall submit half yearly reports for the period ending June 30 and December 31 containing details of all forest lands diverted under the General Approval along with the actual status of actual utilization of the forestlands so diverted for the stated purpose, to the MoEF & CC, Govt. of India and its concerned Regional Office with intimation to Government of Assam.

I/139030/2023

- vii. The diversions and compliance to the conditions will be monitored by the PCCF & HoFF, Assam.
- viii. No tree felling is involved for the proposed work.
- ix. After completion of the project the area under RoW should be reclaimed suitably.
- x. **The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost for Human Elephant Conflict mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Purpose.**
- xi. User Agency agrees to make good any loss to Forest/Environment.
- xii. The User Agency will seek permission from the local Forest Official for carrying out any maintenance.
- xiii. In case, the proposed area falls in the RoW of the road passing through National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, General Approval is to be obtained from the State Board for Wildlife.
- xiv. In case, the proposed area falls in the RoW of the road passing through Tiger Reserves, General Approval is to be obtained from the National Board for Wildlife/NTCA.

After receipt of the compliance report from the PCCF & HoFF, Assam on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, final approval will be issued in this regard. Formal transfer of forest land shall not be effected by the PCCF & HoFF, Assam till final approval orders approving the diversion of forest land are issued by the Government of Assam.

This has the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Indreswar Kalita

Date: 06-03-2023 17:50:16

Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Environment and Forest Department.

Dated Dispur, the 6th March, 2023

Memo ECF No.- 278364/63-A

Copy to:

1. The Regional Officer, MoEF & CC, IRO, Guwahati, 4th Floor, Housefed Building, G.S. Road, Rukminigaon, Chy-22.
2. P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister, Environment & Forest, Dispur, Guwahati-06.
3. P.S. to the Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, E & F Department
4. P.S. to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, E & F Department
5. The Senior Manager, Telesonic Networks Ltd, Bharti House, Sixmile Khanapara, Guwahati- 781022.

(ESIGNED)

Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Environment and Forest Department