

I/332014/2022

Government of Punjab
Department of Forests & Wildlife Preservation
(Forest Branch)

Dated: 14/03/2022

To

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Punjab, S.A.S. Nagar.

Sub: - Diversion of 1.5652 ha. of forest land for laying of optical fiber cable from Khanpur to PNB Bank Malikpur Chowk=8.7 K.M, Tank chowk to Near Malikpur chowk=10.00 K.M, Sainik Gurduwara to Indira Colony=3.3 K.M, Axis Bank to Tagore Public School=5.7 K.M, Kamal sweets to Shahpur Chowk=6.5 K.M, Total Leght 34.200 k.m. under forest division Pathankot (FP/PB/OFC/40155/2019).

Government of India has accorded general approval under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 vide letter No. F.No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019 in under para 4.2 according in the cases of laying of Underground Telephone Lines, Optical Fiber Cable/Underground Laying of Drinking Water Supply Pipeline.

After careful consideration of the proposal submitted vide your letter under reference general approval of Govt. of India under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for "**In-principle approval**" of temporary diversion of 1.5652 ha. of forest land measuring 34200 mtrs. Long and 0.45 mtrs wide along the road for laying of Optical Fiber Cable (Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd) is hereby conveyed subject to the following conditions:-

1. Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged.
2. The forest land to be diverted as per in-principle approval will not be used for any other purpose.
3. No tree will be felled by the user agency.
4. As per the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28-3-08 in I.A No. 826 in 566 in W.P.(C) 202 of 1995, the user agency is exempted for paying of the charges under NPV: (a) no felling of trees is involved; and (b) the areas fall outside National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary.
5. User Agency has given Bank Guarantee of Rs. 8,55,000/- to

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Divisional Forest Officer Pathankot.

6. It is Mandatory for the User Agency not to exceed the permissible trench limit of 0.45 meter in width, 1.65 meter in depth and 34200 meter in Length.
7. The Optical Fiber Cable will be laid along the road within the existing right of way and closed to the outermost edge of the forest land. The dug out land shall be restored by the User Agency and the same shall be made good immediately after the approved operation.
8. This approval is subject to the clearance of the proposal under relevant local Acts/Rules/Court's Rulings/instructions etc. as applicable.
9. The User Agency shall seek prior permission from the DFO, Pathankot for carrying out any maintenance operation.
10. The User Agency shall abide by any other condition (s) that may be imposed by this Department in the interest of afforestation and protection of environment.
11. The State Forest Department may revoke/suspend this approval, if any of the above conditions is not satisfactorily fulfilled by the User Agency.
12. An undertaking is tendered by the User Agency for abiding all the aforesaid conditions.
13. If any other NOC is necessary for the work under any Act/Rules/Guidelines etc. from any other Departments, the user agency should obtain the same on its own before the commencement of laying of Cable.
14. DFO, Pathankot shall ensure fulfillment of the above conditions and CF, South Circle will supervise it.
15. The User agency shall provide certificate regarding Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers Recognition of Forest Rights Act, 2006 from the concerned Deputy Commissioner to Divisional Forest Officer.

Gursharan Kaur

UNDER SECRETARY

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Copy to:-

1. Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Bays No. 24-25, Sector 31-A, Chandigarh.
2. Conservator of Forests, North Circle.
3. Divisional Forest Officer, Pathankot.
4. Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited, O/o Office-101, Saffron, Near Centre Point, Panchwati 5 Rasta,Ambawadi, Ahmedabad,Gujarat.