

Government of Maharashtra

No.FLD-3423/CR-201/F-10

Revenue and Forest Department,

Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400 032.

Dated:-20.07.2023.

To,

Regional Officer (Central),

Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC,

Government of India, Civil Lines, Nagpur.

Subject: Forest Land-Nagpur

Diversion of 0.34 ha. Forest land for rehabilitation and up-gradation of Nagpur-Warud National Highway (NH-353J) from existing Km 60+100 (End of Katol bypass) to (Warud up to Joint Junction) to two lane with Paved shoulder in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/ROAD/115795/2020)

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has submitted proposal for diversion of 0.34 ha. Forest land for rehabilitation and up-gradation of Nagpur-Warud National Highway (NH-353J) from existing Km 60+100 (End of Katol bypass) to (Warud up to Joint Junction) to two lane with Paved shoulder in the State of Maharashtra.

The details of forest land proposed for diversion are as under:-

Nagpur-Katol-Warud National Highway (NH353J) from existing Km60 + 100 (End of Katol bypass) to 101+085 (Warud up to Joint Junction)								
District	Taluka	Village	Survey No.	Comptt. No.	Length X Width	Area (Sq. Mtr.)	Area (in ha)	Legal Status
Nagpur	Katol	Paradsinga	245	46	100 X 26	2600.00	0.26	Protected Forest
	Narkhed	Bharsingi	26	--	31 x 26	800.00	0.08	Zudpi Jungle (Revenue)
Total Forest land involved area (in ha.)							0.34	

2. The proposal has been initiated by The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) Govt. of India, for seeking approval under Forest Act, 1980. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) Govt. of India, has decided to take up the

development of Nagpur-Katol-Warud section of NH-353J in the State of Maharashtra for augmentation of capacity for safe and efficient movement of traffic by up-gradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration based on the traffic demand. The project road starts from End of Katol Bypass Km 60+100 and ends at Warud Km 100+565. The total length is 40.465 Km and proposed Right of Way (PRoW) varies 24-45 m for main carriageway. The alignment passes through Nagpur and Amravati districts of Maharashtra via Katol. The area is predominantly orange producing and will help farmers from Warud, Morshi and Jalakheda.

3. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur has certified that:-

- 3.1) No suitable alternate land is available and the forest land required is barest minimum.
- 3.2) The area belongs to Eco-value class-III and having density of forest is 0.4 Open Forest.
- 3.3) The area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc.
- 3.4) No felling of Trees in this proposal.
- 3.5) Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archaeological or recreational importance.
- 3.6) There is violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.
- 3.7) The proposed project area for the project is beyond boundary of National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary.
- 3.8) The non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of application of Section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and are not recognized as deemed reserved forest as well as not included in the area identified as "forest" as per dictionary meaning of forest as intimated to the expert committee appointed under interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996.
- 3.9) Compensatory Afforestation is proposed over 1.00 ha. Zudpi Jungle land in Survey No.10 at Village Chakdoh, Range-Kondhali, Round-Chameli & Beat Ringanabodi, Taluka-Katol, Dist. Nagpur & it is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it free from encroachment and an encumbrances.
- 3.10) There is no alternative alignment is possible to avoid or minimize use of forest land and the required forest area is minimum needed for the purpose of proposed project.

4. **The User Agency has submitted undertakings:-**

- 4.1 to defray the cost of Net Present Value.
- 4.2 to defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation.
- 4.3 to submit compliance under FRA-2006.

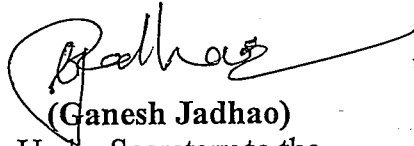
5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur has recommended the proposal subject to the conditions, given in his specific recommendations, under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. His specific recommendations are enclosed in the proposal.

6. MoEF&CC has issued guidelines regarding processing of proposals involving ex-post facto approval vide letter dt. 22.03.2022 & 08.09.2022, accordingly proposal may be submitted to Ministry level. IRO, MoEF&CC is requested to forward this proposal to Head Office of MoEF&CC at New Delhi on PARIVESH portal, as system automatically sends it to IRO, MoEF&CC office due to required forest land is below 40 ha. and project is linear in nature.

7. In the circumstances explained in the aforesaid paragraphs and enclosures, the State Government recommends that the said forest land may be allowed to be diverted subject the conditions proposed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur in addition to following conditions:-

- i) *DCF shall submit information regarding distance of project from protected area, wildlife corridor.*
- ii) *User Agency shall submit KML File of the proposed area.*
- iii) *User Agency shall obtain wildlife clearance, if required.*

The matter may kindly be placed before the MoEF&CC (Head Quarter), New Delhi as per its guidelines dated 22.03.2022 for approval under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.


(Ganesh Jadhao)
Under Secretary to the
Government of Maharashtra

Encl: A) Set of case papers

B) The following documents are enclosed:-

- 1. Prescribed form as per Rules.
- 2. Area Statement
- 3. Commitment from the Applicant for defraying the cost of Net Present Value & Compensatory Afforestation.

4. Brief note of the project
5. Site Inspection Report.
6. Certificate in Part V.
7. Violation Report.

Copy:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & C.E.O, Maha-CAMPA, Nagpur
3. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State Nagpur with reference to his letter No.Desk-17/Nodal/Nagpur/ID-13757/585/23-24, Dt. 25.05.2023.
4. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Nagpur.
5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur.
6. Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Nagpur.
7. Select File (F-10)

Sub: Forest Land-Nagpur

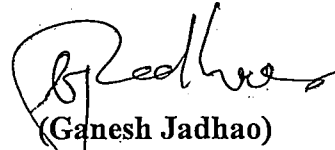
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PART - V

(To be filled up by the Secretary In charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

**1. Recommendation of the
State Government**

The proposal is recommended
vide Government letter
No. FLD-3423/CR-201/F-10
Dated:-20 /07/2023



(Ganesh Jadhao)
Under Secretary to the
Government of Maharashtra

Place: Mumbai

Date:-20/07/2023