

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated:30-09-2024

To,

The Additional Secretary (Forests),
Government of Tripura,
Forest Department
Tripura.

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s. Jubilant Oil & Gas Pvt. Ltd. Tripura for non-forestry use of 1.368 ha. of Reserved forest land for construction of drill site, waste pit, drill site accommodation, TSR camp and its approach road at location Dev-2A at Mouja-Birendranagar under South Tripura District in the State of Tripura (Online proposal No. FP/TR/Others/18888/2016)- regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Government of Tripura letter No. F.6-1100/FC/For-2016/1574-81 dated 30.03.2023 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted by the Central Government under Section- 3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government of Assam and on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee (AC), the Central Government hereby agrees to accord **Stage-I/In-principle** approval under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of M/s. Jubilant Oil & Gas Pvt. Ltd. Tripura for non-forestry use of 1.368 ha. of Reserved forest land for construction of drill site, waste pit, drill site accommodation, TSR camp and its approach road at location Dev-2A at Mouja-Birendranagar under South Tripura District in the State of Tripura, subject to the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;
- iii. The Compensatory Afforestation over double the degraded forest land i.e. 2.74 ha in Rev. C.S. Plot No. 2658, Kh. No. 4/1, Mouja-Muhuripur RF, Santibazar Block, Kakulia Range, Bagafa Forest Division, South District, shall be raised by the State Forest Department at the project cost within two years from the date of grant of Stage- II approval;
- iv. 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 user agency. The CA will be

maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include afforestation of indigenous species with appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years, into the account of National Authority, CAMPA managed by the State Govt.;

- v. The land identified for plantation of ten times the number of trees shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo sheet of 1:50,000 scale;
- vi. The KML files of prospecting area, the CA area, the proposed SMC treatment area and the WLMP area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details prior to Stage II approval;
- vii. The user agency shall transfer the funds towards the cost of Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 06.01.2022 read with 22.03.2022 through online portal of CAMPA account of the State Concerned;
- viii. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the present rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- ix. The Compensatory levies to be realized from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited, through e-challan, in to the account of National Authority, CAMPA pertaining to the State concerned through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
- x. The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted as per the sub-rule (7) of Rule 11 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023;
- xi. The complete compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
- xii. ***A Wildlife Management plan will be prepared by the User Agency. It shall be duly approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Tripura along with specific recommendations and shall be submitted by the State Government along with Stage- I compliance report. The cost of Wildlife management plan will be deposited in CAMPA fund by the User Agency. The implementation of the Wildlife Management plan will be done by the Forest Department and implementation of the Wildlife Management plan must start within a year of from the date of issuance of Stage-II.***
- xiii. User Agency shall seek permission of concerned Divisional Forest Officer before entering into the forest area and borehole shall be dug with prior permission of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer and also furnish detailed report thereof on completion of the project;
- xiv. Proper plugging of borehole shall be made after exploration activities are complete to the satisfaction of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
- xv. Trees should be felled in phased manner as per the requirement in the approved Plan with prior permission of concerned DFO;
- xvi. The cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;

- xvii. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- xviii. The area used for path during the prospecting work shall be restored to its original status of forest after completion of prospecting work;
- xix. The User Agency for the purpose of prospecting activities and drilling of bore holes will limit to 01 no. with diameter of 17^{1/2}" within forest land;
- xx. Any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Government;
- xxi. The samples collected during the prospecting shall be used purely for investigation purposes and shall in no case be used for trade or commerce purpose;
- xxii. To minimize disturbance to the wildlife, User Agency shall take all possible measures to minimize noise during prospecting operations and halt the prospecting activities during night and during such periods in the day as may be advised by the concerned Chief Wildlife Warden, concerned State Forest Department;
- xxiii. This permission shall, in no way, confer any rights to the project proponents or any other agency for grant of approval under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of forest land for any other non-forestry use of the said forest land;
- xxiv. Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;
- xxv. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- xxvi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land and no work shall be allowed after sunset;
- xxvii. The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
- xxviii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xxix. 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 coordinates;
- xxx. The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- xxxi. 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;
- xxxii. No damage to the flora, fauna or the environment of the adjoining area shall be caused; Adequate measures to ensure no damage to the adjoining areas should be taken by the User Agency at the project cost;

- xxxiii. 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;
- xxxiv. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
- xxxv. 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 shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency;
- xxxvi. The user agency shall comply all the provisions of 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; and
- xxxvii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 29.12.2023;

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

**Sd/-
(S. Sundar)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Tripura.
2. The DDGF (Central), Regional Office, Shillong of MoEF&CC.
3. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Tripura.
4. The User Agency.
5. The Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF& CC, New Delhi for uploading.