Government of Maharashtra

No.FLD-1823/CR-186/F-10 Revenue and Forest Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400 032. Dated:- 16/11/2023

To.

Deputy Director General of Forests (Central). Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Government of India, Civil Lines, Nagpur.

Sub: Forest Land-Ahmednagar

Diversion of 3.30 ha. forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of Ranjangaon to Ukhalgaon Doubling of Railway line, a part of Daund Manmad Doubling of Railway track Daund Manmad Railway at Village Ukkhalgaon, Tal Shrigonda, Dist. Ahmednagar in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/RAIL/147694/2021).

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has submitted proposal for diversion of 3.30 ha. forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of Ranjangaon to Ukhalgaon Doubling of Railway line a part of Daund Manmad Doubling of Railway track Daund Manmad Railway at Village Ukkhalgaon, Tal Shrigonda. Dist. Ahmednagar in the State of Maharashtra.

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

Sr. No	ltem work Purpose	Name of Village	Taluka	District	Survey / Gut No.	Length X Width	Area (ha.)	Status
1	construction of Ranjangaon to Ukhalgaon Doubling of Railway line, a part of Daund Manmad Doubling of Railway track Daund Manmad Railway	Ukkhalgaon	Shrigonda	Ahmed- nagar	469	660 x 50	3.30	Reserved Forest
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)							3.30	

2. The proposal has been initiated by the Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction). Daund. Ahmednagar Central Railway for seeking approval under Forest (Conservation)

Act, 1980 for proposal for diversion of 3.30 ha. forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act. 1980 for Construction of Ranjangaon to Ukhalgaon Doubling of Railway line a part of Daund Manmad Doubling of Railway track Daund Manmad Railway at Village Ukkhalgaon. Tal. Shrigonda, Dist. Ahmednagar in the State of Maharashtra. This proposed project for doubling the rail track part of rail track is passing through GIB Sanctuary area. Forest land required from Gut No.469 at Village Ukhalgaon. Tal. Shrigonda and Forest land required length of 800 mt. with different width. Total area required is 3.30 ha. there is no felling of trees. The new BG line is inevitably required to be laid parallel to existing BG line.

3. The Deputy Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Pune has certified that:-

- 3.1 No alternate alignment is possible and the forest land required is barest minimum.
- 3.2 The area belongs to Eco-value class-III having density is below 0.01 (Open Forest).
- 3.3 There is no cutting and felling of trees in proposed forest land
- 3.4 Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical religious, archaeological or recreational importance. (P/20)
- 3.5 There is violation of Forest (Conservation) Act. 1980. The detail violation report is enclosed herewith.
- 3.6 Proposed project is included in the Great Indian Bustard Wildlife Sanctuary. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife). Maharashtra State vide office note dated 16/05/2023 has informed that the permission of SBWL/NBWL would be required to this project.
- 3.7 Compensatory Afforestation is proposed over 6.60 ha. degraded forest land in Gut No.1086 at Village Karjat, Taluka Karjat, Dist. Ahmednagar is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances.
- 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. (P/19)
- 3.9 There is no suitable alternative non forest land is available.

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

- 6. 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.
- 7. In the circumstances explained in aforesaid paragraphs and enclosures, the State Government recommends that the said forest land may be allowed to be diverted under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, subject to conditions proposed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur as well as following additional condition:-

"User Agency shall obtain wildlife Clearance, Prior to commencement of work."

(Ganesh Jadhao)
Under Secretary to the

Government of Maharashtra Under Secretary

Revenue and Forests Department Hutatma Rajguru Chowk

Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya Mumbai 400 032

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.

Copy:-

- 1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi
- 2. Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Nagpur
- 3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife). Nagpur
- 4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & C.E.O, Maha-CAMPA, Nagpur
- 5. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State Nagpur with reference to his letter No.Desk-17/Nodal/Pune/ID-13095 (25)/568/2022-23, Dt. 24.05.2023.
- 6. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife West Region, Mumbai.
- 7. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Pune
- 8. Deputy Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Pune
- 9. Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), Daund, Ahmednagar Central Railway
- 10. Select File (F-10).

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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. No.FLD-1823/CR-186/F-10 Dated: 16 November, 2023

Infler Secretary to the

Government of Maharashtra

Under Secretary Revenue and Forests Department Hutatma Rajguru Chowk Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya Mumbai 400 032

Place: Mumbai.

Date: - 16 November, 2023