

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS-cum-PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FORESTS, ENVIRONMENT & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT Forest Secretariat, Deorali – Gangtok, (SIKKIM) Pin 737 102,

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Ref. No. 1673/FCA/FEWMD/...700-06

Dated 05 - 03 · 2016

To,

The Secretary
Road & Bridges Department
Nirman Bhawan
GANGTOK.

Subject:Proposal for diversion of 0.992 Ha of Forest Land for construction of truckable road from Debrong to Chamgaon in South District of Sikkim by Road & Bridges Department

Sir.

Reference your proposal No FP/SK/ROAD/13441/2015 received through on-line/off line mode for seeking the approval of the Central Govt for the aforesaid project proposal.

After careful examination of proposal in accordance with the Rules/Guidelines framed under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and on completion of procedural formalities as required under the said Act, the State Govt is hereby pleased to accord the **Stage-I (In-principle) approval** in terms of the General approval as conveyed by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Govt of India, New Delhi under section 2 of Forest (conservation) Act 1980 with the Guidelines vide Letter F No.11-9/98-FC dated the 13th February 2014, for diversion of 0.992 ha of forest land for construction of truckable road from Debrong to Chamgaon in South District of Sikkim subject to compliance of conditions stipulated here as under:-

- (i) The legal status of forest land proposed for diversion shall remain unchanged.
- (ii) The User agency shall release the amount for Rs.15,51,486.00 (Rupees fifteen lakh, fifty one thousand four hundred and eighty six) only towards the cost of the compensatory afforestation to be raised mandatorily over the degraded forest land identified at Tendong RF under Namchi Range. A Demand Note is enclosed herewith for reference.
- (iii) The User agency shall release the Net Present Value of forest land to be diverted for project purposes for Rs.8,38,240.00 (Rupees two lakhs, thirty-eight thousand, two hundred fourty) only as per the Orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28-3-2008/09-05-2008 in WP (C) 202/1995 and subsequent Guidelines communicated by the Ministry vide Letter No.5-3/2007-FC dated 05-02-2009 in this regard.
- (iv) At the time of payment, the User agency shall furnish an Undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if any, that may become due after finalization of revised rates of NPV by the competent authority and communicated by the Ministry thereof.
- (v) All the above funds stipulated under condition No. ii & iii above, shall be transferred to the State-specific CAF account [SB 344902010105 432] maintained by the Ad Hoc CAMPA with the Union Bank of India, Sundernagar, New Delhi as per the CHALLAN generated under the "e-Payment" system of the Ministry.

- (vi) The User agency shall pay the cost for cutting, felling and extraction of project affected trees for Rs. 13,365.00 (Rupees thirteen thousand three hundred and sixty-five) only by separate Demand Draft drawn in favour of the Principal CCF-cum-Principal Secretary.
- (vii) The felling of trees shall be carried out when it is absolutely necessary and unavoidable, and that too under the strict supervision of field level forest officers of the respective Division.
- (viii) The boundary of forest land being diverted shall be demarcated on the ground by erecting four feet RCC pillars each inscribed with its serial numbers DGPS coordinates, forward/back bearing and distance from pillars to pillars, and the expenditure involved thereon shall be borne by the User agency as assessed by the respective Forest Division.
- (ix) The User agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act 1980 before consideration of final approval, if required, in the instant case.
- (x) The User agency shall obtain the forest clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for removal, if necessary, of stones, river sand and boulders in the forest land.
- (xi) The expenditure like boundary pillars, demarcation charges and cost of damages trees shall etc amounting to Rs.3,50,000.00 (Rupees three lakh and fifty thousand) only shall be paid by the User agency and deposited with the Department of Forests Environment & Wildlife Management Department.
- (xii) As per the Ministry's Letter No.11-30/96-FC (Pt) dated 14-9-2001, if the compliance of conditions stipulated in the instant project proposal, is awaited for more than 5 (five) years, the In-principle approval will be summarily revoked considering that the User agency is no longer interested for the project.
- (xiii) The User agency shall be at liberty to comply any other condition imposed by the State Forest Department/State Govt or the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest.

After fulfilment of the above conditions in completeness, the User agency shall submit the **compliance report** for seeking the final approval under the said Act. Diversion of forest land shall not be effected till the final approval is granted by the State Govt in the instant case.

This issue is initiated within the delegated powers of the State Govt as conveyed by the Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, Govt of India with the Guidelines referred to above.

Yours faithfully

(B. S. Siktel, IFS)

Conservator of Forests-cum-Nodal Officer Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

Copy to:-

B.S. Siktel,IFS

CF-cum-Nodal Officer

1) Addl Principal CCF (Central), MoEFCC, NERO, Shillong

: for information. Forest (Conservation) Act 19

2) Chief Conservator of Forests (Territorial), FEWMD, Gangtok: for information

or information Govt. of Sikkim

3) District Collector, South District, Namchi

: for information. : -do-

4) Conservator of Forests (Territorial)

: for information and follow up

5) DFO (T) South Division, Namchi