

Government of Maharashtra

No.FLD-1923/C.R.229/F-10

Revenue and Forest Department,

Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400 032.

Dated:- 08.11.2023

To,

Deputy Director General of Forests (Central),

Regional Office, MoEF&CC,

Government of India,

Civil Lines, Nagpur.

Subject: Forest Land-Pune

Diversion of 0.2800 ha. Forest land for construction of underground Optical Fiber Cable for High speed broadband connectivity of Gram Panchayat in Mulshi Block of Pune District in the State of Maharashtra.
(FP/MH/OFC/145751/2021)

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has submitted proposal for diversion of 0.2800 ha. Forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of underground Optical Fiber Cable for High speed broadband connectivity of Gram Panchayat in Mulshi Block of Pune District in the State of Maharashtra.

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

Sr. No.	Location	Taluka	District	Survey /Gut No.	Area (Ha.)	Status
1	Tamhini	Mulshi	Pune	40	0.01338	Private Forest
2	Pimpari			131	0.059124	Reserved Forest
				83	0.042642	
3	Bhambarde			318	0.072	
(A) Total Forest Area in Pune Division (in ha.)					0.187146	
4	Nive	Mulshi	Pune	47	0.0238	Reserved Forest In Tamhini Wildlife Sanctuary Pune
5	Pimpari			392	0.0331	Reserved Forest In Sudhagad Wildlife Sanctuary Thane
				393	0.0249	
6	Barpe			112	0.0104	
(B) Total Wildlife Area (in ha.)					0.0992	
	Grand Total (A) + (B)				0.273946 (0.28)	

2. The project has been initiated by Sub-Divisional Engineer, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Pune for seeking approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for proposal is for diversion of 0.2800 ha forest land for construction of underground Optical Fiber

Cable for High speed broadband connectivity of Gram Panchayat in Mulshi Block of Pune District in the State of Maharashtra. The User Agency has highlighted that as per the policy of the Government of India, it is planned to lay Optical Fiber Cable for reliable communication from remote place to District/State Headquarters. Basic aim of the project is to provide the people of under developed areas with reliable and high speed media connectivity. In this regard, the User Agency has submitted the proposal for diversion 0.2800 ha. forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The User Agency has highlighted that the Government of Maharashtra GR No. GSD-Matsa 082/3/2018-DIP(MH), dated 17/02/2018 has given directions for single window clearance for Maha IT project MAHANET (A BBNL Project). The Sub-Divisional Engineer, BSNL dated 08/06/2016 and Technical approval accorded by the CGM (West Zone), BBNL, Mumbai vide Letter dated 25/06/2013 for laying underground Optical Fiber Cable for Maha IT Project MAHANET (A BBNL Project) for Government of Maharashtra to provide high speed internet connectivity up to Gram Panchayats in Mulshi Block of Pune District.

3. The Deputy Conservator of Forest (Wildlife), Pune and Deputy Conservator of Forest, Pune Forest Division, Pune 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 having density is below 0.01 (Open Forest).
- 3.3) There are 28 trees of various species and trees involved in implementation of the project. Girth wise break up of trees is as under:-

Below 30 cms	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91-105	106-120	121-135	above 136	Total
0	13	11	4	0	0	0	1	0	28

- 3.4) The proposed area is passing through Tamhini Wildlife Sanctuary.
 - 3.5) Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
 - 3.6) The Deputy Conservator of Forest, Pune Forest Division, Pune has mentioned in its Part-II, the User Agency has done violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
 - 3.7) 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.
4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur, has recommended the proposal subject to the conditions, given in his

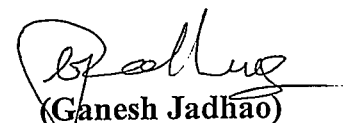
recommendations, under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. His recommendations are enclosed in the proposal.

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 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) and Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer, Nagpur as well as following additional condition:-

i) The Deputy Conservator of Forest (Wildlife), Pune and Deputy Conservator of Forest, Pune Forest Division, Pune shall ensure the legal status of proposed forest land.

ii) User Agency shall submit the Record of Rights of proposed forest land at Village Pimpari S.No.131, 312 & 313 and Village Barpe S.No.157 in Pune District before the In-Principle approval.

iii) User Agency shall obtain wildlife clearance.


(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. Brief note of the project
4. Site Inspection Report.
5. Certificate in Part V.

Copy:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), M.S., Nagpur
3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & C.E.O, Maha-CAMPA, Nagpur

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

4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer,
Maharashtra State Nagpur with reference to his letter No.Desk-17/FCA-S1/PID-
145751/Pune/1030, Dt. 05.07.2023.
5. Conservator of Forests (T), Pune.
6. The Deputy Conservator of Forest (Wildlife), Pune and Deputy Conservator of
Forest, Pune Forest Division, Pune.
7. Sub-Divisional Engineer, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Pune.
8. Select File (F-10)

Forest Land-Pune

Proposal for diversion of 0.2800 ha. Forest land for construction of underground Optical Fiber Cable for High speed broadband connectivity of Gram Panchayat in Mulshi Block of Pune District in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/OFC/145751/2021)

PART - V

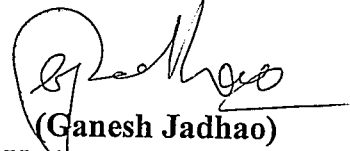
(To be filled up by the Secretary In charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

1. Recommendation of the State Government

The proposal is recommended vide Government letter .

No. FLD-1923/CR-229/F-10

Dated:-08/11/2023



(Ganesh Jadhao)
Under Secretary to the
Government of Maharashtra

Place: Mumbai

Date:- 08/11/2023

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