

Government of Maharashtra

No.FLD-1223/CR-269/F-10
Revenue and Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400 032.

Dated:-25.09.2023

To,

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

Subject: Forest Land- Raigad & Thane

Diversion of 8.2222 ha. Forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of coastal road from jalmarg sector-16 Kharghar to Sector-11 in CBD Belapur and Balance Link Transport Terminal in Nerul Mumbai in Thane and Raigad District in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/ROAD/153241/2022)

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has submitted proposal for diversion of 8.2222 ha. Forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of coastal road from jalmarg sector-16 Kharghar to Sector-11 in CBD Belapur and Balance Link Transport Terminal in Nerul Mumbai in Thane and Raigad District in the State of Maharashtra.

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

Sr. No.	Item wise Work Proposed	District	Taluka	Village	Survey No.	Gut No.	Area (Ha.)	Land Status
1.	Proposed 30 mtr. road	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.2876	Un-notified (Mangrove)
2.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.1351	Un-notified (Mangrove)
3.					163/P	--	0.0077	Un-notified (Mangrove)
4.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0440	Un-notified (Mangrove)
5.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0263	Un-notified (Mangrove)
6.					4/P	461/P	0.3380	Un-notified (Mangrove)
7.					4/P	461/P	0.3000	Un-notified (Mangrove)
8.					6/4	463/4P	0.0450	Un-notified (Mangrove)

9.					6/2	463/2P	0.4182	Un-notified (Mangrove)
10.					4/P	461/P	0.0952	Un-notified (Mangrove)
11.					4/P	461/P	0.2150	Un-notified (Mangrove)
12.	Proposed Main Bridge	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	79/P	--	0.0580	Un-notified (Mangrove)
13.					81/P	--	0.2340	Un-notified (Mangrove)
14.					82/A/P	--	0.2916	Un-notified (Mangrove)
15.					83/P	--	0.0094	Un-notified (Mangrove)
16.					82/B/P	--	0.0052	Un-notified (Mangrove)
17.	Proposed 40 mtr road	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.2600	Un-notified (Mangrove)
18.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0240	Un-notified (Mangrove)
19.					146/P	--	0.0412	Un-notified (Mangrove)
20.					146/P	--	0.0560	Un-notified (Mangrove)
21.					147/P	--	0.2434	Un-notified (Mangrove)
22.	Proposed Culvert	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0451	Un-notified (Mangrove)
23.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0183	Un-notified (Mangrove)
24.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0376	Un-notified (Mangrove)
25.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0210	Un-notified (Mangrove)
26.	Proposed 45 mtr road.	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.1229	Un-notified (Mangrove)
27.					4/P	--	0.5857	Un-notified (Mangrove)
28.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0102	Un-notified (Mangrove)
29.					227/P	--	0.0072	Un-notified (Mangrove)
30.					227/P	--	0.0187	Un-notified (Mangrove)
31.	Proposed Ramp 2	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	79/P	--	0.0157	Un-notified (Mangrove)
32.					81/P	--	0.0675	Un-notified (Mangrove)
33.	Proposed Ramp 3	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	79/P	--	0.0080	Un-notified (Mangrove)
34.	Proposed Ramp 4	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	80/P	--	0.0400	Un-notified (Mangrove)
35.					81/P	--	0.0717	Un-notified (Mangrove)
36.					81/P	--	0.0463	Un-notified (Mangrove)

37.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.2050	Un-notified (Mangrove)
38.					145/C/P	--	0.0175	Un-notified (Mangrove)
39.					82/A/P	--	0.0177	Un-notified (Mangrove)
40.	Proposed Ramp 5	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	83/P	--	0.0060	Un-notified (Mangrove)
41.	Proposed Ramp 6	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	81/P	--	0.0716	Un-notified (Mangrove)
42.					81/P	--	0.0485	Un-notified (Mangrove)
43.					82/A/P	--	0.0835	Un-notified (Mangrove)
44.					4/P	--	0.0401	Un-notified (Mangrove)
45.					82/B/P	--	0.0550	Un-notified (Mangrove)
46.					83/P	--	0.0390	Un-notified (Mangrove)
47.	Proposed Widening Road	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	79/P	--	0.0160	Un-notified (Mangrove)
48.					81/P	--	0.0483	Un-notified (Mangrove)
49.					83/P	--	0.0320	Un-notified (Mangrove)
50.					81/P	--	0.0472	Un-notified (Mangrove)
51.					82/A/P	--	0.0365	Un-notified (Mangrove)
52.					81/P	--	0.0180	Un-notified (Mangrove)
53.					80/P	--	0.0180	Un-notified (Mangrove)
54.					81/P	--	0.0207	Un-notified (Mangrove)
55.					81/P	--	0.0115	Un-notified (Mangrove)
56.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0663	Un-notified (Mangrove)
57.					145/C/P	--	0.0105	Un-notified (Mangrove)
58.					4/P	--	0.0165	Un-notified (Mangrove)
59.					146/P	--	0.0194	Un-notified (Mangrove)
60.					147/P	--	0.0094	Un-notified (Mangrove)
61.					147/P	--	0.0097	Un-notified (Mangrove)
62.	Proposed Connecting Road	Raigad	Panvel	Kharghar	147/P	--	0.1056	Un-notified (Mangrove)
63.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0224	Un-notified (Mangrove)
64.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0440	Un-notified (Mangrove)

65.					149/C/P	--	0.1659	Un-notified (Mangrove)
66.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0471	Un-notified (Mangrove)
67.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.0654	Un-notified (Mangrove)
68.					Unsurvey No. Creek	--	0.2558	Un-notified (Mangrove)
69.					167/P	--	0.2977	Un-notified (Mangrove)
70.					168/P	--	0.1817	Un-notified (Mangrove)
71.					170/P	--	0.0168	Un-notified (Mangrove)
(A) Total Area of Alibag Division							6.4171	--
72.	Proposed 30 mtr Road	Thane	Thane	Shahabaj	456/P	--	0.0280	Un-notified (Mangrove)
73.					456/P	--	0.0130	Un-notified (Mangrove)
74.					456/P	--	0.2276	Un-notified (Mangrove)
75.					470/P	--	0.0090	Un-notified (Mangrove)
76.					255/P	--	0.0450	Reserved Forest (Mangrove)
77.					456/P	--	0.0822	Un-notified (Mangrove)
78.					456/P	--	0.0012	Un-notified (Mangrove)
79.					456/P	--	0.0410	Un-notified (Mangrove)
80.					456/P	--	0.1300	Un-notified (Mangrove)
81.					456/P	--	0.0650	Un-notified (Mangrove)
82.					456/P	--	0.2175	Un-notified (Mangrove)
83.					456/P	--	0.0800	Un-notified (Mangrove)
84.	Proposed 40 mtr Road	Thane	Thane	Shahabaj	453/P	--	0.3600	Un-notified (Mangrove)
85.					456/P	--	0.1000	Un-notified (Mangrove)
86.					453/P	--	0.1000	Reserved Forest (Mangrove)
87.					453/P	--	0.3056	Un-notified (Mangrove)
(B) Total Area of Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit							1.8051	--
Grand Total (A) + (B)							8.2222	--

2. The proposed project is construction of coastal road from jalmarg sector-16 Kharghar to Sector-11 in CBD Belapur and Balance Link Transport Terminal in Nerul Mumbai in Thane and Raigad District in the State of Maharashtra. The proposed coastal road has been

divided into two parts-I is construction of coastal road from sector 11 CBD, Belapur to Jalmarg sector No.16, Kharghar (Raigad District) and Part-II is construction of balance line of coastal road from Sector 15 at CBD, Belapur to Passenger Water Transport Terminal in Nerul (Thane District). The Benefit of proposed area is shown as under:-

- CIDCO has prepared Navi Mumbai development plan which covers 95 villages and 14 well plan and self-sustained Nodes viz. Airoli, Ghansoli, Koparkhairane Vashi, Sanpada, Nerul, Belapur, Kharghar, Kamothe, Kalamboli, New Panvel, Ulwe, Pushapak Nagar and Dronagiri.
- Initially CIDCOs focus of development was in Vashi, Sanpada, CBD, Koparkhairane and Airoli and this node were developed completely in 1990 and subsequently handed over to Navi Mumbai Municipal corporation in than year 1994. This part of Navi Mumbai is referred to as Navi Mumbai (North).
- Thereafter, upon arrival Harbor Railway line which is extension from Mankhurd to New Panvel in 1990 there was tremendous increase in population in Navi Mumbai when CIDCO had to shift it's devolvment focus to other to Nodes like Kharghar, Kamothe, Kalamboli, New Panvel, Ulwe and Dronagiri. These Nodes come under Raigad district are now referred as Navi Mumbai (South) which is under CIDCO's jurisdiction.
- Kharghar Node is located below forest land which is beautifully planned node of CIDCO and termed as to be most modern and Iconic node of CIDCO. Kharghar is primarily as residential township and having several education institutes in its fold as per present status of development sector 1 to 22 in this node are fully developed. Except sector 9 which is surrounding Kopara village and yet another development other sector like 26 to 45 are still under development the pace of development in these sector is now picked up.
- This node also has CIDCO housing project such as Spagheti, Gharkul, Vastu Vihar Celebration, Valley Shilp and Swapnapurti constructed by CIDCO for various categories (EWS, LIG and MIG) of population. CIDCO has taken up the PMAY housing scheme in sector No.40 and at Pendhar Taloja within Kharghar Node Kharghar has also encompasses Kharghar Valley Golf Course as well as Central Park which are other iconic project of CIDCO.
- An International Standard Corporate Park in line with BKC Mumbai has also been planned of an area of 120 ha. Sector 28 to 31 of this node.

3. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Alibag Forest Division, Alibag and Divisional Forest Officer, Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit have 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-II, having density is 0.3 to 0.4.
- 3.3 There are 1182 trees of various species and trees involved in implementation of the project. The Girth wise break up is as under:-

Division	Below 30 cms	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91- 105	106- 120	121- 135	Above 136	Total
Alibag	210	290	270	65	2	0	0	0	0	837
MMCU	215	94	26	8	2	0	0	0	0	345
Total	425	384	296	73	4	0	0	0	0	1182

3.4 The area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc.

3.5 Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archaeological or recreational importance.

3.6 There is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.

3.7 (i) The proposed project is about 13.50 Km. from Karnala Bird Sanctuary and 6.200 Km. from the boundary of the Eco-Sensitive Zone of Karnala Bird Sanctuary.

(ii) The proposed project is 9.350 Km from nearest boundary of Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary.

3.8 The non-forest land covered under the project is not included in the area as forest as identified by the expert committee appointed under the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 12/12/1996. Also this land is not acquired under the provisions of Private Forest (Acquisition) Act, 1975 by virtue of application of section 35 of Indian Forest Act, 1975 by virtue of application of section 35 of India Forest Act, 1975 and is not recognized as deemed reserved forest.

3.9 The proposed alignment is best suitable from forestry point of view.

4. The User Agency had handed over 126.0180 ha. area at Village Nhave, Tal. Panvel in Survey No.57, 60 to 61 Part, 75, 76 to 135, 142, 161, 164, 165 to the forest department on 05/05/1997 and mutated in the in favour of Forest Department for Rajivali-Sativali Vasai Virar Water Supply scheme (CIDCO project), but the project was not finalised. Therefore, notification u/s 4 of Indian Forest Act, 1927 for this land has not been issued yet. This land at Nhave is having naturally grown mangrove vegetation. So, now this land is not suitable for raising Compensatory Afforestation scheme as per guidelines and attracts provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Now, CIDCO has requested Forest Department to consider 8.31 ha. land out of above said 126.018 ha. land as a Compensatory land for this project. this land was handed over to Forest Department as a non-forest land in 1997. The State Government considered the issue and is of opinion that as this land is not suitable for Compensatory Afforestation, it may be accepted as equivalent compensatory land and actual Afforestation can be carried on equivalent degraded forest land.

Therefore, Compensatory Afforestation is proposed over 9.00 ha. degraded forest land in compartment No.216, Survey No.283 Pt. at Village Vani (Goyandawadi), Taluka Roha, Dist.Raigad is contiguous & suitable for afforestation and management purpose, it is also free from encroachment and encumbrances

5. The User Agency has submitted undertakings:-


5.1 to defray the cost of compensatory afforestation.

5.2 to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed for diversion.

5.3 to submit compliance under FRA-2006.

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 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 as well as following additional conditions:-
- As per the KML file, the proposed land for compensatory afforestation has 30% vegetation, if planting 1000 trees per hectare is not possible, the Concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests will propose another suitable degraded forest land for compensatory afforestation."
 - User Agency shall compensate the Private landholders of the proposed Land, as per prevalent Acts and Rules in this regard.

The matter may kindly be placed before the Government of India for its approval under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, be obtained and communicated to this Government.



(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:-

- Prescribed form as per Rules.
- Area Statement
- Commitment from the Applicant for defraying the cost of Net Present Value & Compensatory Afforestation.
- Brief note of the project
- Site Inspection Report.
- Certificate in Part V.

Copy:-

- Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & C.E.O, Maha-CAMPA, Nagpur.
- Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State Nagpur with reference to his letter No.Desk-17/FCA-S1/PID-153241/1362/Thane, Dt.01.08.2023

3. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Thane
4. Deputy Conservator of Forests (T), Thane
5. Divisional Forest Officer, Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit, Mumbai.
6. General Manager (Forest) CIDCO Ltd., CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai.
7. Select File (F-10).

Subject:-Forest Land- Raigad & Thane

Diversion of 8.2222 ha. Forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of coastal road from jalmarg sector-16 Kharghar to Sector-11 in CBD Belapur and Balance Link Transport Terminal in Nerul Mumbai in Thane and Raigad District in the State of Maharashtra (FP/MH/ROAD/153241/2022)

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-1223/CR-269/F-10
Dated: 25.09.2023



(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

Place: Mumbai.

Date: 25.09.2023