



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE  
REGIONAL OFFICE (RANCHI)  
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जहाँ है हरियाली ।  
वहाँ है खुशहाली ॥

No. FP/BR/ROAD/30705/2017 / 2604

Dated 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2018

To

The Principal Secretary,  
Department of Environment and Forests,  
Government of Bihar, Sinchai Bhawan,  
Secretariat, Patna.

Sub: Diversion of 33.49 ha (revised) of forest land for widening and strengthening project of Sonepur - Darihara Road (0.00 - 39.40 Km) in Saran district of Bihar.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to letter No. Van Bhumi-01/2018-398(E)/Pa.Va. dated 3.4.2018 & letter No. Van Bhumi-01/2018-948(E)/Pa.Va. dated 23.8.2018 of the State Government on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

After due consideration of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of decision of Regional Empowered Committee held on 17.9.2018, the Central Government, hereby, conveys "**in-principle**" approval for diversion of 33.49 ha (revised) of forest land for widening and strengthening project of Sonepur - Darihara Road (0.00 - 39.40 Km) in Saran district of Bihar, subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions.

1. Legal status of forest land proposed for diversion shall remain unchanged.
2. The State Govt. shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) of forest area proposed to be 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 05.02.2009 in this regard.
3. Additional amount of NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, shall be charged by the State Government from the user agency.
4. Compensatory Afforestation over the degraded forest land twice in extent to the forest land being diverted shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency. The user agency shall transfer the cost of plantation and its maintenance for 10 years (revised as on the date to incorporate the existing wage structure) to State Forest Department.

5. User Agency should ensure that the compensatory levies (CA cost, NPV, etc.) are deposited through challan generated online on web portal and deposited in appropriate bank online only. Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
6. The boundary of the forest land proposed for diversion, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, DGPS coordinates, forward and back bearing and distance from adjoining pillars etc.
7. Felling of trees as required should be done expeditiously, under the supervision of the State Forest Department so that project works are not affected.
8. The State Government shall plant local and non-browsable tall tree species (10 times of the trees proposed for felling of more than 60 cm girth and 2 times of the trees less than equal to 60 cm girth), local trees mostly peepal and banyan may be planted using low cost bamboo gabion. The cost of the plantation along with 3 years maintenance shall be provided by the User Agency to the State Forest Department.
9. Extra underpasses excluding the existing culverts, bridges and Hume pipe passages shall be constructed/ renovated by the User Agency for the safe passage of the wildlife including amphibians and reptiles, so that no adjacent underpasses are more than 500 meters apart.
11. The designing of new culverts/bridges and redesigning the existing ones over the natural streams/rivers/canals should be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, so that it does not hamper movement of wild animals including fishes & amphibians migration.
12. Earth or any other material shall not be brought from and debris resulting during construction shall not be disposed of in the adjoining forest area by the user agency.
13. It will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers and staff engaged in construction activity do not damage the nearby forest flora and fauna.
14. The User Agency shall provide LPG to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas for collection of firewood for their use.
15. The lay out plan of the proposed forest land shall not be changed without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

16. The forest land proposed for diversion shall, under no circumstances, be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
17. The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
18. Any other conditions that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency.

After receipt of the compliance report on fulfillment of the conditions as stipulated above, from the State Government, formal approval will be issued in this regard under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land to user agency should not be effected by the State Government till formal order approving diversion of forest land is issued by the Central Government. To facilitate speedy execution of projects involving linear diversion, the in-principle approval may be deemed as the working permission for tree felling and commencement of work, if the required funds for CA, NPV and all other compensatory levies specified in the in-principle approval are realised from the user agency and accordingly the State Government, by passing an order, may allow the commencement of work of the linear project in forest land for a period of one year (The detail guideline issued vide Ministry letter No. 11-306/2014-FC, dated 20.08.2015 may be referred).

Yours faithfully,

  
(Vasanta Kiran Babu)

Dy. Conservator of Forests (Central)

o/c

Copy to:-

1. The Director, RO(HQ), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Bihar, Aranya Bhawan, Shahid Pir Ali Khan Path, Patna - 800 014.
3. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Bihar, Aranya Bhawan, Shahid Pir Ali Khan Path, Patna - 800 014.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Saran Forest Division, Bihar.
5. The Executive Engineer, RCD Road Dn, Chapra, Bihar.
6. Guard File.

  
Dy. Conservator of Forests (Central)

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