



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
LAW-U-SIB, LUMBATNGEN
SHILLONG-793021
PHONE NO: 0364-2537609
FAX NO: 0364-2536041
E mail: moefshil_09@rediffmail.com

No. 3-AS C 028/2015-SHI 1280-81

21st July, 2015

To

The Principal Secretary,
Environment & Forests Department,
Government of Assam,
Dispur, Guwahati.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 29.855 ha (Aie Valley Forest Division 11.600 ha, Dhubri Forest Division 1.964 ha, Parbatjhora Forest Division 0.710 ha and Dhubri Forest Division 15.606 ha) forest land proposed for construction of New Broad Gauge Railway line from Maynaguri-Jogighopa by Northern Frontier Railway Line project in the State of Assam.

Sir,

This has reference to the State Govt letter No. FRS.60/2015/221 dated 06.05.2015 on the subject mentioned above, seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of 29.855 ha (Aie Valley Forest Division 11.600 ha, Dhubri Forest Division 1.964 ha Parbatjhora Forest Division 0.710 ha and Dhubri Forest Division 15.606 ha), was sought in accordance with Section 2 of the FCA, 1980.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government of Assam by the Regional Empowered Committee in its meeting held on 17.07.2015 and its recommendation, I am to inform that "**In Principle Approval**" is hereby granted under Section 2 of the FCA, 1980 for diversion of 29.855 ha (Aie Valley Forest Division 11.600 ha, Dhubri Forest Division 1.964 ha, Parbatjhora Forest Division 0.710 ha and Dhubri Forest Division 15.606 ha) forest land proposed for construction of New Broad Gauge Railway line from Maynaguri-Jogighopa by Northern Frontier Railway Line project in the State of Assam subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The User agency shall transfer the cost of compensatory afforestation as estimated by State Forest Department over an area of 55.42 ha {8 ha of **non-forest land** (in 3 Nos. of patches i.e. 3.2 ha, 3.5 ha & 1.2 ha) at the adjoining to Sreogram RF in Dhubri district and an area of 47.42 ha of **degraded forest land** (16.00 ha at Sreogram RF in Dhubri district, 1.42 ha at Mahamaya RF in Kokrajhar district and 30 ha at Bhairab Hill PRF in Bongaigaon District) to Adhoc CAMPA through State Forest Department.
- (ii) The State Govt shall charge the Net Present Value of the forest land diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the Judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008 & 09.05.2008 in IA No.566 in WP (C) No.202/1995 and as per the guideline issued by this Ministry vide letter No. 5-3/2001-FC dated 05.02.2009 in this regard.

- (iii) All the above funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred preferably through RTGS in the newly opened State –specific saving Bank Account of the Ad-hoc CAMPA Fund (CAF) in New SB Account No CA SB01025200 of Corporation Bank, CGO Complex, Phase-I, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 003 or Union Bank of India, Sunder Nagar Branch, New Delhi, 110003 (New SB A/c No. 344902010105 409).
- (iv) The non-forest land proposed for the compensatory afforestation should be transferred and mutated in favour of Forest Deptt and action taken as per Ministry's letter No. 8-84/2002-FC dated 3.02.2004.
- (v) The equivalent non-forest land identified for the compensatory afforestation transferred to the ownership of State Forest Department should be declared as Reserved/Protected Forests so that the plantation raised can be maintained permanently. The transfer must take prior to the commencement of the project.
- (vi) The User Agency shall demarcate the land proposed for diversion on the ground by erecting at least 4' high cement-concrete pillars duly numbered, forward and backward bearing and distance from pillar to pillar written on the pillars. Photograph (coloured) to be submitted along with compliance report.
- (vii) The charges for felling, logging and transportation of project affected trees should be collected from the User Agency at the rates approved by the State Govt and deposited with the DFO concerned for utilization immediately following the diversion of forest land.
- (viii) The expenditure like stone pillars, demarcation charges, cost of damage of trees felling should, be deposited with the DFO concerned.
- (ix) The Govt shall obtain the NBWL clearance as per the Ministry's letter F.No 8-64/2013-FC dated 20.08.2014 and submit the current status to this office.

After receipt of the compliance report from the State Government on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, final approval will be issued in this regard. Formal transfer of forest land shall not be effected by the State Govt till final approval orders approving the diversion of forest land are issued by the Central Government.

This has the approval of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central).

Yours faithfully,

(R.L.Sanga)

Conservator of Forests (C)

Copy to:

- (1) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Government of Assam, Environment & Forests Department, Government of Assam, Rehbari, Guwahati.

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Conservator of Forests (C)

21/7/15