

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT
DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6.**

No.FRS.121/2021/63

Dated Dispur, the 11th July, 2022

To : The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Assam,
Panjabari, Guwahati-37.

Sub : Forest diversion proposal of 0.092 Ha. forest land for laying of Optical
Fibre Cable (OFC) in Bhomoraguri Reserved Forest under Sonitpur
West Division by Reliance Jio Infocom Ltd.

Sir,

This has got reference to the letter No.FG.27/FCA/Proposal/OFC/Jio Digital Cable/S.W. Division dated 07.10.2021 of O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam on the subject mentioned above, seeking prior approval of the State Government in accordance with General Approval under section 2(ii) of FCA, 1980 and in terms of the "*Handbook of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Forest Conservation Rules, 2003 (Guidelines & Clarification), MoEF & CC, GoI, 2019*" mentioned under Chapter-4 (para 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.3.1).

After careful consideration of the proposal, "In- Principle Approval" was granted vide this department's letter No. FRS.121/2021/54 dated 30.12.2021 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The PCCF & HoFF, Assam has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the In- Principle Approval and has requested the State Government to grant final approval.

In this connection and on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the PCCF & HoFF, Assam vide letter No.FG.27/FCA/Proposal/OFC/Jio Digital Cable/S.W. Division dated 02.06.2022, I am directed to inform that the Government of Assam hereby conveys its "**Final Approval**" in accordance with General Approval under section 2(ii) of FCA, 1980 and in terms of the "*Handbook of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Forest Conservation Rules, 2003 (Guidelines & Clarification), MoEF & CC, GoI, 2019*" mentioned under Chapter-4 (para 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.3.1) for diversion of 0.092 Ha. forest land for laying of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) in Bhomoraguri Reserved Forest under Sonitpur West Division by Reliance Jio Infocom Ltd. subject to the following conditions:

- i. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii. Permanent demarcation of forest land proposed for diversion shall be done on the ground at project cost before handing over the forest land to the User Agency.
- iii. The land shall not be handed over without demarcation and erection of pillars.
- iv. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- v. The User Agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance.
- vi. The land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of Forest Department)
- vii. The User Agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surrounding forest and forest land by their actions/activities.
- viii. Tree felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any, shall be done under the supervision of Forest Department.
- ix. The User Agency will undertake comprehensive soil and water observation measures at the project cost.
- x. The proposal will be implemented under the overall supervision of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.

Contd.../-

- xi. No damage to the flora fauna of the area shall be caused.
- xii. In case of any violation of the stipulated conditions immediate actions is to be taken by the Forest Department as per MoEF & CC, GoI letter No.5-5/86/FC dated 07.12.1999 and letter No. 2-1-51/2004/RONE/Vol II/3182-02 dated 28.12.2006.
- xiii. The layout plan shall not be changed without the prior approval of the State Government. The User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the project provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if required under the said act.
- xiv. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- xv. All other clearance/ NOCs under different rules/ regulations /local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as required vide MoEF & CC, GoI guideline No.11-9/1998-FC(Pt) dated 03.08.2009 shall be complied with.
- xvi. Any other conditions as may be found appropriate in future for the betterment of environment & wildlife, may be imposed by Environment and Forest Department, Assam.

This has the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully

[Handwritten Signature]
11/07/22

(I. Kalita, ACS)

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Environment and Forest Department.

Memo No. FRS.121/2021/63-A

Dated Dispur, the 11th July, 2022

Copy to:

1. The Inspector General of Forests (C), MoEF & CC, IRO, Guwahati, 4th Floor, Housefed Building, G.S. Road, Rukminigaon, Ghy-22.
2. P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister, Environment & Forest, Dispur, Guwahati-06.
3. P.S. to the Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department, Dispur, Guwahati-06.
4. The Asstt. Manager, Reliance Jio Infocom Ltd., Bijay Crescent Building, Rukmini Gaon, Guwahati-22.

[Handwritten Signature]

(I. Kalita, ACS)

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Environment and Forest Department

[Handwritten Mark]