



GOVT. OF INDIA/BHARAT SARKAR
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS
REGIONAL OFFICE (NORTH EAST ZONE)
UPLAND ROAD, LAITUMKHEAH,

99/10/5
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No. 8-12-13/99/RO-NE-TR/ SHILLONG - 793 003
226-30

May 06, 1999

Date

To
The Forest Secretary
Govt of Tripura
Agartala, Tripura

Sub: Diversion of 2.49 ha of forest land for drilling operation by ONGC - at TI- (TICHNA- I).

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. F.6-183/Land/FOR-92/49-50 dt. 4.5.99 on the above mentioned subject, seeking formal approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Govt, the Central Govt conveys its approval in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the diversion of 2.49 ha of forest land for drilling operation by ONGC at Location TI-(TICHNA-I) under Udaipur Forest Division of West Tripura District, on lease basis for a period of 3 years subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (ii) The Compensatory afforestation will be raised on degraded forest land over double the area diverted. The compensatory afforestation raised shall be of mixed local species to the extent possible.
- (iii) The forest area will revert back to the State Forest Department after the lease period is over. However, the User Agency i.e. ONGC will undertake reclamation of the site before handing over according to the reclamation plan to be prepared in consultation with the concern Divisional Forest Officer.
- (iv) Permission for exploration drilling does not ipso-facto imply any commitment on the part of the Central Government of permanent diversion of the forest land for production of oil/gas in the event of the success of exploratory efforts.
- (v) Removal of the trees from the drilling site should be done by the Forest Department. Such works however may be carried out within shortest possible time.

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- (vi) The local tribals, including those whose lands had been affected should be given preference in temporary or daily-wage appointment of the project such as in the constructions of road, drilling site preparation, etc., either by the ONGC directly or works carried out through contractors, reports of which shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer as per the stipulations No. 3 of this Ministry's letter of even No dated 19.4.99.
- (vii) The DFO may be advised to raise mixed plantations of miscellaneous local species for CA in lieu of teak only as indicated in the proposal.
- (viii) Any other condition that the State Govt may impose.

Yours faithfully,

(R. Kemp)
Dy. Conservator of Forests (C)

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Forest Department, Govt of Tripura, Aranya Bhawan, Nehru Complex, Agartala 799 006.
2. The CCF/Nodal Officer, O/o The PCCF, Forest Department, Govt of Tripura, Aranya Bhawan, Nehru Complex, Agartala 799 006.
3. The DFO, Udaipur Forest Division, West Tripura, Pin 799 120 .
- ✓ 4. The Group General Manager, ONGC Tripura, Agartala 799 014.


(R. Kemp)
Dy. Conservator of Forests (C)