

I/543490/2023

Government of Punjab
Department of Forests & Wildlife Preservation
O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)
Forest Complex, Sector-68, SAS Nagar.
(FCA Branch)

Dated:12/04/2023

To

Divisional Forest Officer,
Shri Muktsar Sahib, Punjab.

Sub: - Diversion of 1.877 ha. of forest land for laying OFC along the route from (1) FF road Km. 85-86 = 500 Mtr. LHS (2) DHS road km. 409-416 = 7000 Mtr. (LHS) (3) Noorshah Link road km. 4-5 = 500 Mtr. LHS (4) Fazilka Destroy RD 52-57 = 1650 Mtr. (LHS) (5) FF road km 74-75 = 500 Mtr. LHS (6) Alamshah Minor RD 15-21 = 1800 mtr. LHS (7) Khrowala road RD 5-8 = 700 mtr. RHS (8) Hindumalkot road km 0-14 = 14000 mtr. KHS (9) Kehowali Dhab to Hindumalkot road km 14.200-22.030 = 7830 mtr. RHS (10) Abohar to Hindumalkot road km 19.430 to 26.200 = 6770 mtr. RHS (Total length = 41250 mtr.) on route Shamshabad-tutwala link ID 2.3.01 for Amry project Ascon PH-IV, Under Forest Division Shri Muktsar Sahib (FP/PB/OFC/156219/2022).

The Stage-I approval was accorded by State Government to the proposal file No FOREST-FCA0FC1M/17/2022 letter no. I/531200/2023 **dated 21.03.2023**. Divisional Forest Officer, **Shri Muktsar Sahib** has submitted compliance report vide letter no. **9148 dated 29.03.2023**. Government of India has accorded general approval under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 vide letter No. 11-9/98-FC dated 08-04-2009 and 02.02.2015 in the cases of laying of Underground Telephone Lines, Optical Fiber Cable, Underground Laying of Drinking Water Supply Pipeline.

The Nodal Officer FCA has been authorized by the State Government to issue Final Approval vide e-office file no. 38957. After careful examination of the proposal under General Approvals issued by Govt. of India vide letter No. F.No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019, **“Stage-**

II approval” is hereby conveyed for diversion of **1.877 ha.** of forest land for digging of trenches measuring **41250 mtr long, 0.45 mtr wide and 1.65 mtr. depth** along the road for laying of optical fiber cable under Forest Division Shri Muktsar Sahib of forest land for the above mentioned proposal subject to the following conditions :-

1. Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged.
2. The forest land will not be used for any other purpose.
3. No tree will be felled by the user agency.
4. Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 28-3-08 in I.A No. 826 in 566 in W.P.(C) 202 of 1995 has fully exempted NPV provided: (a) no felling of trees is involved; and (b) the areas fall outside National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary.
5. User Agency has given Bank Guarantee of Rs. **10,31,250/-** to **DFO, Shri Muktsar Sahib**
6. The Optical Fiber Cable will be laid along the road within the existing right of way and close to the outermost edge of the forest land. The dug out land shall be restored by the User Agency and the same shall be made good immediately after the approved operation.
7. User agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance under prevailing Acts/Rules/Guidelines, if applicable.
8. This approval is subject to the clearance of the proposal under relevant local Acts/Rules/Court's Rulings/instructions etc. as applicable.
9. The User Agency shall seek prior permission from the DFO, **Shri Muktsar Sahib** for carrying out any maintenance operation.
10. The User Agency shall abide by any other condition (s) that may be imposed by this Department in the interest of afforestation and protection of environment.
11. The State Forest Department may revoke/suspend this approval, if any of the above conditions is not satisfactorily fulfilled by the User Agency.
12. An undertaking is signed by the User Agency for abiding by all the aforesaid conditions.
13. If any other NOC is necessary under any Act/Rules/Guidelines etc. from other Departments, the user agency should obtain the same before the commencement of laying Cable.
14. CF, Ferozepur Circle, Ferozepur /DFO **Shri Muktsar Sahib** shall ensure fulfillment of the above conditions.

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15.This approval is granted subject to the condition that there is no court case pending in any court pertaining to the land or trees in the present FCA case. Any legal liability arising out of such case; if any, will be the sole responsibility of the land owning Department.

Basanta Raj Kumar
NODAL OFFICER (FCA)
12/04/2023

CC:-

1. Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, Department of Forests & Wildlife Preservation, Chandigarh.
2. Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Bays No. 24-25, Sector 31-A, Chandigarh.
3. Member Secretary, Pollution Control Board, Nabha Road, Patiala.
4. Member Secretary SEIAA, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Punjab, Directorate of Environment, Science & Technology, MGSIPA, sector-26, Chandigarh.
5. Conservator of Forests, Ferozepur Circle, Ferozepur.
6. ITI Bhawan, Doorvaninagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka.