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**Rajesh Ravindran, IFS
Additional PCCF &
Nodal Officer F(C), Act**



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No. FC2- 12003/2003

Date 11.02.2022

To

Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation)
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Jorbagh, New Delhi

Sir,

Sub:- Stage I compliance report submission by User Agency for diversion of 136.8623 Ha of Reserve forest land in Pattikkad Range, for shifting Thrissur Zoo from Thrissur to Puthur - (PARIVESH Portal Proposal No. FP/KL/Others/36775/2018)-reg.

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- 1) F NO. 8-72/2018-FC MoEF dated 13.02.2019
- 2) Letter No. TZP-287/2018 dated 08.08.2019
- 3) Letter no. TA2-3084/2006 dated 17.08.2019 from the office of DFO Thrissur
- 4) Letter No. FC2 -12003/2003 dated. 16.06.2020 from the office of PCCF & NO. FC, Act to MoEF& CC
- 5) Letter No. TA 2-3084/2006 dated 05.08.2020 from the Chief Conservator of Forests Thrissur
- 6) Letter no. Special Officer 1/18 dated 10.08.2020
- 7) File no. NA -1 -18/2020-NA letter from MoEF& CC dt.03.08.2020 to PCCF (FM) & NO FC act, Thiruvananthapuram
- 8) Order No. FC2-12003/2003 dated 31.12.2021 of APCCF & CEO CAMPA

Kind attention is invited to the subject and references cited. Vide reference 1 cited, MoEF& CC issued stage I clearance for diversion of Forest land for implementing the Project Thrissur Zoological Park at Puthur. User Agency thereby remitted the cost of payment of NPV and CA to the State Compensatory Afforestation Fund through District Treasury, Thrissur. In accordance letter 2 cited compliance report (hard copy) was furnished to the Office of Divisional Forest Officer Thrissur by User Agency. Vide reference 3, Divisional Forest Officer submitted the compliance report by User Agency to this office for further action. Further additional compliance report on revised compensatory

afforestation scheme was also submitted to that office vide letters 5&6 cited. In accordance to letter cited as ref. 7, MoEF & CC informed that compensatory levies shall be deposited through online Parivesh portal. Now the due compensatory levies for NPV and CA are remitted through online Parivesh Portal to comply with the direction of Ministry and also the payment is seen affected in the Parivesh Portal (Chalan enclosed).

In the circumstance, the compliance of the conditions of Stage I are as follows:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

The User Agency has furnished an undertaking that the legal status of the forest land will be reserve forest and the same will be kept unchanged (Undertaking enclosed as Annexure I).

2. NPV for 15% of the total area proposed to be diverted shall be paid by the UA. Thus, the User Agency shall transfer Net Present Value (NPV) of 15% of the entire area 136.8623 ha. Forest land 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 the Ministry vide its letter No.5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 through online portal of CAMPA account of the State Concerned;

The cost of NPV for fifteen percent of the proposed area of diversion (20.53 Ha) is Rs. 1,49,86,900/-. In compliance to the direction of MoEF& CC, an amount of Rs. 2,37,73,740/- towards Net Present Value and Compensatory Afforestation has been transferred to the bank account of Union Bank of India (A/c No. 1507419936775537) as per the challan generated through Parivesh Portal. (Copy of the challan attached as Annexure 2).

3. For CA, double the extent of degraded forest land equal to 30% of the total area (A Zoo involves both forestry activities such as ex situ conservation, rescue center, breeding of endangered species nature education and non-forestry activities such as cafeteria, parking. Therefore, it has been decided that for the purpose of diversion 15%

of the activities shall be considered as non-forestry activities) shall be identified and the cost of CA over the identified land shall be deposited by the user agency in the designated fund Account.

The User Agency has identified land for compensatory Afforestation. Double the extent of degraded forest land equal to 30% of the total area identified is 41.06 Ha. The cost per hectare of CA is 2.14 lakhs and the cost of CA for 41.06 Ha is Rs. 87,86,840/- (the detail of the proposed CA land is attached as **Annexure 3**). In compliance to the direction of MoEF& CC, an amount of Rs. 2,37,73,740/- towards Net Present Value and Compensatory Afforestation has been transferred to the bank account of Union Bank of India (Acc No. 1507419936775537) as per the challan generated through Parivesh Portal.

(Copy of the chalan is attached as **Annexure 4**)

4. The land under the existing Zoo, after its shifting to the new site shall be handed over to the forest department

It was decided in the High Power Committee meeting held on 20.03.2019 chaired by the Hon'ble Forest Minister to recommend diversion of 6 acre of land at Chembukavu Thrissur (on which the present Zoo is situated) to Forest Department in lieu of diversion of the forest land at Puthur. The matter is under consideration of the Kerala government (copy of the minutes of the meeting is enclosed as **Annexure 5**).

5. Permanent diversion under non-forestry use shall not be more than 15 per cent of the total area sought for diversion

At present the effective construction of the entire Zoo and services is limited to 13% (17.96 Ha) of the total area and majority of activities are forestry activities. The permanent diversion under non-forestry use is far less than 15% of the total area and will not exceed the limit in future too. An undertaking to this effect is enclosed as **Annexure 6**.

6. Before establishing/shifting the Zoo, the necessary clearance from Central Zoo Authority shall be obtained before seeking Stage-II clearance, if not already taken;

All necessary clearances from CZA have been obtained for establishing the Zoological Park at Puthur. The copies of the clearances are attached along with the proposals. The relevant copies are attached herewith as **Annexure 7 (7a, 7b, 7c, 7d)**

7. The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo-sheet of 1:50,000 scale

The land identified for the purpose of CA is depicted on a survey of India topo-sheet of 1: 50,000 scale and is already submitted along with the proposal. Copies are attached as **Annexure 8**.

8. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the admissible compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of Ad-hoc CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;

The User Agency has prepared and submitted to the Deputy Conservator of Forests detailed scheme for compensatory afforestation at current wage rate including appropriate provision for cost increase for operations to be carried out in subsequent years. Copy of the scheme is enclosed as **Annexure 9**. The cost is already remitted to the through online Parivesh Portal.Chalan enclosed.

9. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the present rate, the user agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India

The undertaking is enclosed as **Annexure 10**.

10. User Agency shall ensure that the Compensatory levies (CA cost NPV) 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;

The compensatory levies (CA & NPV) are deposited through challan generated online on web portal and deposited in appropriate bank online only (**Annexure 2 & 4**).

11. User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act , 1986, if required

The UA has already obtained Environmental Clearance as per letter no. 1127/EC/SEIAA/KL/2017 dated 17.03.2018 (copy enclosed as **Annexure 11**)

12. No labour camp shall be established on forest land and User agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labours and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;

No permanent labour camp is established in the forest land. The staff working at the site uses gas and electric stove; it will be ensured that no pressure of any sort affecting the forest land will be performed.

13. Forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal

The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal. An undertaking to this effect is enclosed, **Annexure 12**.

14. The lay out plan of the zoo shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government

The User Agency agrees to it. An undertaking to this effect is enclosed, as **Annexure 13**.

15. State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in term of the scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and

submit the documentary evidence in accordance with Ministry's guidelines as issued vide letter No.11-9/1998-FC (pt) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013, in support thereof.

Accordingly Collector, Thrissur has issued the Form II (for projects other than linear projects) letter no. B8-7310/2018 Dated 14/11/2018. Copy is enclosed as **Annexure 14.**

- 16. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;**

The User Agency agrees to it. An undertaking to this effect is enclosed as **Annexure 15.**

- 17. The user agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly**

The User Agency agrees to comply with the submission of report on regular basis. An undertaking to this effect is enclosed as **Annexure 16.**

- 18. Any other conditions that the concern Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate with the approval of competent authority in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and**

User Agency agrees to comply with it.

- 19. The user agency shall comply all the provisions Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force as applicable to the project.**

The User Agency agrees to comply with all such provisions. An undertaking to this effect is furnished by the user agency as **Annexure 17.**

Yours faithfully,


APCCF & Nodal Officer F(C), Act

- Copy to:-**
- 1) The Head of Forest Force for kind information
 - 2) The Special Officer, ERC & PZP for kind information
 - 3) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Central Circle, Thrissur
 - 4) The Divisional Forest Officer, Thrissur
 - 5) The Director, Thrissur Zoological Park