

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (HEAD OF FOREST FORCE), MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR
ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND NODAL OFFICER, MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR,
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Sub:- Proposal is for diversion of 6.4325 ha. (Revised area 9.4715 ha.) Forest land for laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline passing through district Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (Maharashtra Border) in the State of Maharashtra has been initiated by the GAIL India Limited. (FP/MH/Pipeline/153017/2022)

No.: Desk-17/Nodal/Nagpur/ID-14211/188/24-25
 Nagpur - 440 001, Dated :- 29/04/2024

To,
 The Principal Secretary (Forests),
 Revenue and Forest Department,
 Mantralaya, Mumbai -32

The Chief Manager (Construction) of M/s. GAIL (India) Limited, Nagpur has submitted proposal for diversion of 6.4325 ha. (Revised area 9.4715 ha.) Forest land for laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline passing through district Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (Maharashtra Border) in the State of Maharashtra has been. The details of forest land proposed for diversion is as given below: -

[A] Nagpur Forest Division (Part-I, P/39 to 42)

Sr. No	Item work purpose	District	Name of Village	Taluka	Survey /Gut No.	Length X Width in Mtrs	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status
1	Laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline	Nagpur	Warora	Nagpur	42	255.188 x 1.00	0.0255	Zudpi Jungle
					14	13.631 x 1.00	0.0014	
					16	1.67 x 1.00	0.0002	
					41	137.426 x 1.00	0.0137	
					37	47.498 x 1.00	0.0047	
					44	79.284 x 1.00	0.0079	
2		Wela Harichandra	Kamptee	122	87.9007 x 1.00	0.0088		
				82	71.8318 x 1.00	0.0072		
				83	36.585 x 1.00	0.0037		
				87	44.9316 x 1.00	0.0045		
3	Bhendala	Mauda	240	Irre. Shape x 10	0.0032			
			268	174.642 x 10.00	0.1746			
			35	502.129 x 10.00	0.5021			
			52	101.01 x 10.00	0.1010			
	Warshi							
	Charbha							
	Khandala Gujar							
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)							0.8584	

[B] Bhandara Forest Division (Part-I, P/43 to 44)

Sr. No	Item work purpose	District	Name of Village	Taluka	Survey /Gut No.	Length X Width in Mtrs	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status
1	Laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline	Bhandara	Hardoli	Mohadi	443	88.859 x 10.00	0.0888	Chote Zad ka Jungle
			Dongargaon		1239	32.989 x 10.00	0.0330	Zudpi Jungle
					1236	25.126 x 10.00	0.0251	
2			Kharbi	Tumsar	627/2	100.07 x 10.00	0.1001	
			Paraswada (Dewadi)		200	27.6 x 10.00	0.0276	
					199	28.14 x 10.00	0.0281	
			Tudaka		137	21.957 x 10.00	0.0219	
			Shiwani		249	62.885 x 10.00	0.0628	
			Bamhani		371	150.352 x 10.00	0.1503	
					373/1, 373/2	165.792 x 10.00	0.1658	
			Dewhada		314	470.114 x 10.00	0.4701	
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)							1.1736	

[C] Gondia Forest Division (Part-II, P/45 to 49)

Sr. No.	District	Taluka	Name of village	Comptt No	Survey/Gat. No	Length (in Mt.)	Width (in Mt.)	Area (in ha.)	Status
1	Gondia	Tiroda	Patitola	---	143	38.3813	10	0.0384	Zudpi Jungle
				---	183	183.6053	10	0.1836	
2			Ghogara	---	50	20.2400	10	0.0202	
				---	52	61.1300	10	0.0611	
3			Belati Buzurg	---	234	91.9600	10	0.0920	
4			Kawalewada	---	1682	177.7060	10	0.1777	
				---	1304	71.7970	10	0.0718	
				---	1656	93.3000	10	0.0933	
				---	1067	16.1000	10	0.0161	
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				---	100	19.8000	10	0.0198	
				---	79	31.2000	10	0.0312	
7			Boda	---	639	4.4000	10	0.0044	
8	Gondia	Gondia	Bijaitola	---	106	188.2000	10	0.1882	
9			Songpuri	---	91	151.5713	10	0.1516	
				---	221	11.8159	10	0.0118	
				---	234	66.9698	10	0.0670	
				---	276	83.2553	10	0.0833	
				---	289	23.0008	10	0.0230	
				---	288	89.8000	10	0.0898	
10			Nilagondia	---	36	291.9866	10	0.2920	
11			Pandharabodi	---	926	14.3000	10	0.0143	
12			Chandanitola	---	720	46.6940	10	0.0467	

				---	333	18.2000	10	0.0182	
13			Barbaspora	---	337	181.0800	10	0.1811	
14			Asoli	---	47	1.0616	10	0.0011	
				---	423	52.6060	10	0.0526	
				---	450	7.3000	10	0.0073	
				---	456	43.0000	10	0.0430	
				---	504	127.6000	10	0.1276	
15			Nawargaon Khurd	---	41	19.7390	10	0.0197	
16			Godama	---	756	63.2400	10	0.0632	
				---	754	300.1500	10	0.3002	
17	Gondia	Amgaon	Khursipar	---	624	21.7110	10	0.0217	
				---	438	129.7190	10	0.1297	
18			Khursipar Tola	---	51	10.6192	10	0.0106	
19			Jawari	---	252	15.0450	10	0.0150	
20			Bothali	---	515	26.1000	10	0.0261	
21			Jamkhairi	---	358	30.2180	10	0.0302	
22			Nangtola	---	94/2, 94/1,	4.0050	10	0.0040	
				---	95	17.4960	10	0.0175	
23			Pauldawana	2336 (493)	123	73.9824	10	0.0740	Protected Forest
					124	61.0618	10	0.0611	
					127	71.6903	10	0.0717	
					131	27.5590	10	0.0276	
					132	83.7210	10	0.0837	
24			Kumbhartoli	2332 (475)	117	13.9960	10	0.0140	
				2332 (475)	158	14.4000	10	0.0144	
				2332 (475)	69	359.5372	10	0.3595	
25			Borkanhar	---	34	128.8320	10	0.1288	Zudpi Jungle
				---	160	13.0530	10	0.0131	
26			Anjora	---	284	180.5910	10	0.1806	
				---	383/1	34.5000	10	0.0345	I.F.
				2319 (476)	286	107.6000	10	0.1076	Protected Forest
27	Gondia	Salekasa	Pangaon	---	446	50.9000	10	0.0509	Identified Forest
28			Satgaon	---	163	0.1000	10	0.0001	Protected Forest
				---	189	44.3545	10	0.0444	
29			Durgutola	---	47	29.9000	10	0.0299	Protected Forest
30			Makkatola	---	249	274.4499	10	0.2744	Zudpi Jungle
				---	247	198.4960	10	0.1985	
				---	248	427.9933	10	0.4280	
				---	257	2.0200	10	0.0020	
				---	258	74.4000	10	0.0744	Protected Forest
				---	295	81.0000	10	0.0810	
				---	294	62.4000	10	0.0624	

			---	293	109.8000	10	0.1098	
			---	292	75.3000	10	0.0753	
			---	288	55.3000	10	0.0553	
			---	Road	55.2000	10	0.0552	
			---	287	1.0000	10	0.0010	
			---	278	24.6000	10	0.0246	
			---	279	48.1000	10	0.0481	
			---	235	68.9000	10	0.0689	
			---	236	13.1000	10	0.0131	
			---	234	95.1000	10	0.0951	
31		Serpar	---	332	146.5160	10	0.1465	Zudpi Jungle
			---	330	192.9144	10	0.1929	
			---	295	0.4816	10	0.0005	
32		Halbitola	---	230	131.5000	10	0.1315	Protected Forest
			---	180	112.6000	10	0.1126	
33		Bijepar	---	98	165.5000	10	0.1655	Zudpi Jungle
			---	193	56.5616	10	0.0566	
			---	309	459.0862	10	0.4591	
			---	308	83.8000	10	0.0838	
			---	310	25.5000	10	0.0255	
			2029 (506 Pt)	321/1	40.9000	10	0.0409	Protected Forest
			2029 (506 Pt)	595	27.6000	10	0.0276	
34		Pandharwani	---	443	3.4000	10	0.0034	
			---	530	51.8000	10	0.0518	
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)								7.4394

Abstract

Sr.No.	Name of Division	Area in (ha.)
1	Nagpur	0.8584
2	Bhandara	1.1736
3	Gondia	7.4394
Total Forest Area (in ha.)		9.4714

2.0 The project has been initiated by Mr. Rajendra Narnaware, Chief Manager (Construction) of M/s. GAIL (India) Limited, Nagpur for seeking approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for laying of underground Natural Gas Pipeline of Nagpur to Jharasguda along with Optical Fiber Cable passing through, Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (MH/MP Border) in the State of Maharashtra (PART-I, P/13)

3.00 Following documents as prescribed in Government Circular, Revenue and Forest Department No.FLD-1081/2041/(A)/F-3,dated 20/03/1982 and according to Government of India's instructions issued from time to time are enclosed in two copies.

3.1 Prescribed form dated 10/01/2003.

3.2 Certificate regarding minimum demand of forest land for the project,

3.3 Area Statement,

3.4 Index map in suitable scale

4.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia have certified that:-

4.1 The total non-forest involved in project is 327.9925 ha. **(Part-I, P/1)**

4.2 (i) The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Forest Division, Nagpur is enclosed on page No.236 to 237. **(Part-I)**

(ii) The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhandara Forest Division, Bhandara is enclosed on page No.238 to 239. **(Part-I)**

(iii) The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Gondia Forest Division, Gondia is enclosed on page No.17 to 21 **(Part-II)**

4.3 No alternate alignment is possible and the forest land required is lowest minimum. **(Part-I, P/205) & (Part-III, P/264)**

4.4 (i) The area belongs to Eco-value class-III having density is 0.1 (Open Forest). **(P/223), (P/224). (Part-I)**

(ii) The area belongs to Eco-value class-III having density is 0.3 (Open Forest). **(P/13), (Part-II)**

4.5 (i) Total number of 411 trees involved in the project, but transplantation of 411 saplings of Survey No.268 in Village Wirshi, Tauka Mauda in Ramtek Range Dist. Nagpur by the Forest Department at suitable site on forest land at the cost of the User Agency. **(P/226) (Part-I)**

(ii) There are 2714 trees of various species involved in implementation of the project. Girth wise break up of trees is as under:- **(Part-I, P/227) & (Part-II, P/14 & P/53 to 57)**

Division	Below 30	31-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	150 above	Total
Bhandara	22	14	10	2	0	0	48
Gondia	1878	567	106	61	27	27	2666
Total	1900	581	116	63	27	27	2714

4.6 The area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc. **(Part-I, P/219,220) (Part-II, P/22)**

- 4.7 The proposed pipeline is passing in Pinch Point of EVL showing village Charbha, Kandala and Navegaon in Taluka Mauda is in Wildlife Corridor between Pench Tiger Reserve/Umred Karhandla Wildlife Sanctuary and Pinch Point map of Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape. **(Part-I, P/219)**
- 4.8 The project area affects the Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape (EVL) identified by WII, Dehradun near Village Dewhada (Khurd), Tal. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara. **(Part-I, P/220)**
- 4.9 The proposed gas pipeline through 25 villages which fall either under NTCA's Corridor map or WII's Eastern Vidarbha Landscape (EVL) Tiger Corridor Atlas. **(P/22 to 24) (Part-II)**
- 4.10 Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance. **(Part-I, P/215, 216) (Part-II, P/50)**
- 4.11 (i) There is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. **(Part-I, P/208 & 206)**
- (ii) The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Gondia has certified that there is violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The detail of violation report is enclosed on **page No. 1 to 8 (Part-II)**
- 4.12 (i) Proposed project is beyond 10 Kms. of the boundary of the Protected Area (Sanctuary and National Park) **(Part-I, P/229 & P/230).**
- (ii) Proposed project is 11.900 Km from the nearest aerial distance point of Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary (C.No.116) is part of the Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve, Gondia **(Part-II, P/13)**
- 4.13 The non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of application of Section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and are not recognized as deemed reserved forest as well as not included in the area identified as "forest" as per dictionary meaning of forest as intimated to the expert committee appointed under interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996 **(Part-I, P/212, 213 & 214).**
- 4.14 Proposed Compensatory Afforestation over 21.00 ha. degraded forest land in Compt No.271 RF, at Village Lakhandur, Tal. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara and it is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances. **(Part-II, P/67).**

5.0 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking that:-

- 5.1 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Net Present Value (P/277) (Part-I)
- 5.2 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation (P/275) (Part-I)
- 5.3 The User Agency has submitted to provide the non-forest land for compensatory afforestation before Stage-II approval. (File P/186)
- 5.4 The User Agency has submitted Cross Section Map is enclosed herewith on page No.294 (Part-I)
- 5.5 The User Agency has submitted a copy of the administrative approval is enclosed on page No.285 (Part-I)
- 5.6 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking regarding the compliance under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been applied and is under process and shall be submitted before final approval as per Government of India vide letter No.11-43/2013-FC, dt.03/12/2018 (P/282).(Part-I)
- 6.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia and the Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Nagpur has recommended the revised proposal for diversion of 9.4715 ha. of Forest land with the conditons of SBWL sanction. (Part-I, P/28 to 35) & (Part-II, P/15 to 16)

2.00 In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under the section -2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions: –

2.1 The legal status of the forest land required will remain unchanged.

2.2 Compensatory Afforestation :-

- a) Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 21.00 ha. degraded forest land in Compt No.271 RF, at Village Lakhandur, Tal. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
- 2.3 The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.

2.4 NPV:-

- a) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) for the 9.4715 ha. forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002, 01/08/2003, 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA No.566 in WP (C) No.202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No.5-1/1998-FC (Pt.II), dated 18/09/2003 as well as letter No.5-2/2006-FC, dated 03/10/2006 and 5-3/2007-FC, dated 05/02/2009 in this regard.
 - b) Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
- 2.5 User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- 2.6 All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<http://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- 2.7 The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- 2.8 The pipeline shall be laid down 1.5 meter below the ground and after lying down of pipe line the ground will be leveled.
- 2.9 The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 2.10 No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 2.11 Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- 2.12 The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 2.13 No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 2.14 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.

- 2.15 The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Government of India.
- 2.16 Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guidelines F.No.11-42/2017-FC, dated 29/01/2018.
- 2.17 Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
- 2.18 The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)

3.0 This office vide letter dated 25/01/2024 & 21/03/2024 has informed to the CF (T), Nagpur and User Agency to provide details of Non-Forest land for compensatory afforestation. The said proposal is monitored by the PMG/Pragati meeting. So, the aforesaid proposal is considered as a special case. The User Agency has already submitted undertaking for the same. In this context, the proposal submitted for consideration of prior approval of Government of India.

4.0 Keeping in view facts mentioned in above para this proposal for proposal is for diversion of 6.4325 ha. (Revised area 9.4715 ha.) Forest land for laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline passing through district Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (Maharashtra Border) in the State of Maharashtra has been initiated by the GAIL India Limited. is recommended for approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Encl. :- Proposal 2 copies



(Naresh Zurmure)
Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

Copy to the Conservator of Forests (T), Nagpur for information.

Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Bhandra and Gondia Forest Division for formation.

Copy to the Chief Manager (Construction) of M/s. GAIL (India) Limited, Nagpur for information.

(To be filled by Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force))

Sub.:- Proposal is for diversion of 6.4325 ha. (Revised area 9.4715 ha.) Forest land for laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline passing through district Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (Maharashtra Border) in the State of Maharashtra has been initiated by the GAIL India Limited. (FP/MH/Pipeline/153017/2022). The details of land proposed for diversion is as under-

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2			Dhargaon	Kamptee	122	87.9007 x 1.00	0.0088	
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			Charbha		35	502.129 x 10.00	0.5021	
			Khandala Gujar		52	101.01 x 10.00	0.1010	
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)							0.8584	

[B] Bhandara Forest Division (Part-I, P/43 to 44)

[B] Bhandara Forest Division (Part-I, 1/45 to 47)								
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			Dewhada		314	470.114 x 10.00	0.4701	
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)							1.1736	

[C] Gondia Forest Division (Part-II, P/45 to 49)

Sr. No.	Distri ct	Taluk a	Name of village	Compt t No	Surve y/ Gat. No	Length (in Mt.)	Widt h (in Mt.)	Area (in ha.)	Status
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				---	100	19.8000	10	0.0198	
				---	79	31.2000	10	0.0312	
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8	Gondia	Gondia	Bijaitola	---	106	188.2000	10	0.1882	
9			Sonpuri	---	91	151.5713	10	0.1516	
				---	221	11.8159	10	0.0118	
				---	234	66.9698	10	0.0670	
				---	276	83.2553	10	0.0833	
				---	289	23.0008	10	0.0230	
				---	288	89.8000	10	0.0898	
10			Nilagondia	---	36	291.9866	10	0.2920	
11			Pandharabodi	---	926	14.3000	10	0.0143	
12			Chandanitola	---	720	46.6940	10	0.0467	
				---	333	18.2000	10	0.0182	
13			Barbaspura	---	337	181.0800	10	0.1811	
14			Asoli	---	47	1.0616	10	0.0011	
				---	423	52.6060	10	0.0526	
				---	450	7.3000	10	0.0073	
				---	456	43.0000	10	0.0430	
				---	504	127.6000	10	0.1276	
15			Nawargaon Khurd	---	41	19.7390	10	0.0197	
16			Gudama	---	756	63.2400	10	0.0632	
				---	754	300.1500	10	0.3002	
17	Gondia	Amgaon	Khursipar	---	624	21.7110	10	0.0217	
				---	438	129.7190	10	0.1297	
18			Khursipar Tola	---	51	10.6192	10	0.0106	
19			Jawari	---	252	15.0450	10	0.0150	
20			Bothali	---	515	26.1000	10	0.0261	
21			Jamkhairi	---	358	30.2180	10	0.0302	
22			Nangtola	---	94/2, 94/1,	4.0050	10	0.0040	
				---	95	17.4960	10	0.0175	
23			Pauldawana	2336 (493)	123	73.9824	10	0.0740	Protect ed Forest
					124	61.0618	10	0.0611	
					127	71.6903	10	0.0717	
					131	27.5590	10	0.0276	
					132	83.7210	10	0.0837	
24			Kumbhartoli	2332 (475)	117	13.9960	10	0.0140	
				2332 (475)	158	14.4000	10	0.0144	

				2332 (475)	69	359.5372	10	0.3595	
25			Borkanhar	---	34	128.8320	10	0.1288	Zudpi Jungle
				---	160	13.0530	10	0.0131	
26			Anjora	---	284	180.5910	10	0.1806	
				---	383/1	34.5000	10	0.0345	I.F.
				2319 (476)	286	107.6000	10	0.1076	Protect ed Forest
27	Gondia	Salekasa	Pangaon	---	446	50.9000	10	0.0509	Identifi ed Forest
28			Satgaon	---	163	0.1000	10	0.0001	Protect ed Forest
				---	189	44.3545	10	0.0444	
29			Durgutola	---	47	29.9000	10	0.0299	Protect ed Forest
30			Makkatola	---	249	274.4499	10	0.2744	Zudpi Jungle
				---	247	198.4960	10	0.1985	
				---	248	427.9933	10	0.4280	
				---	257	2.0200	10	0.0020	
				---	258	74.4000	10	0.0744	Protect ed Forest
				---	295	81.0000	10	0.0810	
				---	294	62.4000	10	0.0624	
				---	293	109.8000	10	0.1098	
				---	292	75.3000	10	0.0753	
				---	288	55.3000	10	0.0553	
				---	Road	55.2000	10	0.0552	
				---	287	1.0000	10	0.0010	
				---	278	24.6000	10	0.0246	
				---	279	48.1000	10	0.0481	
				---	235	68.9000	10	0.0689	
				---	236	13.1000	10	0.0131	
				---	234	95.1000	10	0.0951	
31			Serpar	---	332	146.5160	10	0.1465	Zudpi Jungle
				---	330	192.9144	10	0.1929	
				---	295	0.4816	10	0.0005	
32			Halbitola	---	230	131.5000	10	0.1315	Protect ed Forest
				---	180	112.6000	10	0.1126	
33			Bijepar	---	98	165.5000	10	0.1655	Zudpi Jungle
				---	193	56.5616	10	0.0566	
				---	309	459.0862	10	0.4591	
				---	308	83.8000	10	0.0838	

			---	310	25.5000	10	0.0255	Protect ed Forest
			2029 (506 Pt)	321/1	40.9000	10	0.0409	
			2029 (506 Pt)	595	27.6000	10	0.0276	
34		Pandharwani	---	443	3.4000	10	0.0034	
			---	530	51.8000	10	0.0518	
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)							7.4394	

Abstract

Sr.No.	Name of Division	Area in (ha.)
1	Nagpur	0.8584
2	Bhandara	1.1736
3	Gondia	7.4394
Total Forest Area (in ha.)		9.4714

Specific recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) Maharashtra State, Nagpur is attached on page no.

(Signature) 27/4/24

(Naresh Zurmure)

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

Date: 29/04/2024

Place: Nagpur

Proposal is for diversion of 6.4325 ha. (Revised area 9.4715 ha.) Forest land for laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline passing through district Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (Maharashtra Border) in the State of Maharashtra has been initiated by the GAIL India Limited. (FP/MH/Pipeline/153017/2022)

Specific Recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State (Head of Forest Force) Maharashtra State, Nagpur with regards to acceptance or otherwise of the proposal supported by reasons.

1) Proposal is for diversion of 6.4325 ha. (Revised area 9.4715 ha.) Forest land for laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline passing through district Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (Maharashtra Border) in the State of Maharashtra has been initiated by the GAIL India Limited. (FP/MH/Pipeline/153017/2022) for seeking approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2.0 The details of the forest land proposed for diversion are as under:-

[A] Nagpur Forest Division (Part-I, P/39 to 42)

Sr. No	Item work purpose	District	Name of Village	Taluka	Survey /Gut No.	Length X Width in Mtrs	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status	
1	Laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline	Nagpur	Warora	Nagpur	42	255.188 x 1.00	0.0255	Zudpi Jungle	
					14	13.631 x 1.00	0.0014		
					16	1.67 x 1.00	0.0002		
					41	137.426 x 1.00	0.0137		
					37	47.498 x 1.00	0.0047		
Wela Harichandra			44	79.284 x 1.00	0.0079				
2			Dhargaon	Kamptee	122	87.9007 x 1.00	0.0088		
					Lihigaon	82	71.8318 x 1.00		0.0072
						83	36.585 x 1.00		0.0037
						87	44.9316 x 1.00		0.0045
3	Bhendala	Mauda	240	Irre. Shape x 10	0.0032				
			Warshi	268	174.642 x 10.00	0.1746			
			Charbha	35	502.129 x 10.00	0.5021			
			Khandala Gujar	52	101.01 x 10.00	0.1010			
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)							0.8584		

[B] Bhandara Forest Division (Part-I, P/43 to 44)

Sr. No	Item work purpose	District	Name of Village	Taluka	Survey /Gut No.	Length X Width in Mtrs	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status
1	Laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda	Bhandara	Hardoli	Mohadi	443	88.859 x 10.00	0.0888	Chote Zad ka Jungle
			Dongargaon		1239	32.989 x 10.00	0.0330	Zudpi Jungle
					1236	25.126 x 10.00	0.0251	
2			Kharbi	Tumsar	627/2	100.07 x 10.00	0.1001	
			Paraswada (Dewadi)		200	27.6 x 10.00	0.0276	
			Tudaka		199	28.14 x 10.00	0.0281	
					137	21.957 x 10.00	0.0219	

Pipeline		Shiwani		249	62.885 x 10.00	0.0628
		Bamhani		371	150.352 x 10.00	0.1503
				373/1, 373/2	165.792 x 10.00	0.1658
		Dewhada		314	470.114 x 10.00	0.4701
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)						1.1736

[C] Gondia Forest Division (Part-II, P/45 to 49)

Sr. No.	District	Taluka	Name of village	Comptt No	Survey/Gat. No	Length (in Mt.)	Width (in Mt.)	Area (in ha.)	Status
1	Gondia	Tiroda	Patihola	---	143	38.3813	10	0.0384	Zudpi Jungle
				---	183	183.6053	10	0.1836	
2			Ghogara	---	50	20.2400	10	0.0202	
				---	52	61.1300	10	0.0611	
3			Belati Buzurg	---	234	91.9600	10	0.0920	
4			Kawalewada	---	1682	177.7060	10	0.1777	
				---	1304	71.7970	10	0.0718	
				---	1656	93.3000	10	0.0933	
				---	1067	16.1000	10	0.0161	
				---	1582	5.5000	10	0.0055	
				---	1583	3.9000	10	0.0039	
5			Paldongari	---	837	6.4082	10	0.0064	
				---	878	7.9862	10	0.0080	
6			Berdipar	---	99	108.5000	10	0.1085	
				---	100	19.8000	10	0.0198	
				---	79	31.2000	10	0.0312	
7			Boda	---	639	4.4000	10	0.0044	
8	Gondia	Gondia	Bijaitola	---	106	188.2000	10	0.1882	
9			Songpuri	---	91	151.5713	10	0.1516	
				---	221	11.8159	10	0.0118	
				---	234	66.9698	10	0.0670	
				---	276	83.2553	10	0.0833	
				---	289	23.0008	10	0.0230	
				---	288	89.8000	10	0.0898	
10			Nilagondia	---	36	291.9866	10	0.2920	
11			Pandharabodi	---	926	14.3000	10	0.0143	
12			Chandanitola	---	720	46.6940	10	0.0467	
				---	333	18.2000	10	0.0182	
13			Barhaspura	---	337	181.0800	10	0.1811	
14			Asoli	---	47	1.0616	10	0.0011	
				---	423	52.6060	10	0.0526	
				---	450	7.3000	10	0.0073	
				---	456	43.0000	10	0.0430	
				---	504	127.6000	10	0.1276	
15			Nawargaon Khurd	---	41	19.7390	10	0.0197	

16			Gudama	---	756	63.2400	10	0.0632	
				---	754	300.1500	10	0.3002	
17	Gondia	Amgaon	Khursipar	---	624	21.7110	10	0.0217	
				---	438	129.7190	10	0.1297	
18			Khursipar Tola	---	51	10.6192	10	0.0106	
19			Jawari	---	252	15.0450	10	0.0150	
20			Bothali	---	515	26.1000	10	0.0261	
21			Jamkhairi	---	358	30.2180	10	0.0302	
22			Nangtola	---	94/2, 94/1,	4.0050	10	0.0040	
				---	95	17.4960	10	0.0175	
23			Pauldawana	2336 (493)	123	73.9824	10	0.0740	Protected Forest
					124	61.0618	10	0.0611	
					127	71.6903	10	0.0717	
					131	27.5590	10	0.0276	
					132	83.7210	10	0.0837	
24			Kumbhartoli	2332 (475)	117	13.9960	10	0.0140	
				2332 (475)	158	14.4000	10	0.0144	
				2332 (475)	69	359.5372	10	0.3595	
25			Borkanhar	---	34	128.8320	10	0.1288	Zudpi Jungle
				---	160	13.0530	10	0.0131	
26			Anjora	---	284	180.5910	10	0.1806	LF.
				---	383/1	34.5000	10	0.0345	
				2319 (476)	286	107.6000	10	0.1076	
27	Gondia	Salakasa	Pangaon	---	446	50.9000	10	0.0509	Identified Forest
28			Satgaon	---	163	0.1000	10	0.0001	Protected Forest
				---	189	44.3545	10	0.0444	
29			Durgutola	---	47	29.9000	10	0.0299	Protected Forest
30			Makkatola	---	249	274.4499	10	0.2744	Zudpi Jungle
				---	247	198.4960	10	0.1985	
				---	248	427.9933	10	0.4280	
				---	257	2.0200	10	0.0020	
				---	258	74.4000	10	0.0744	Protected Forest
				---	295	81.0000	10	0.0810	
				---	294	62.4000	10	0.0624	
				---	293	109.8000	10	0.1098	
				---	292	75.3000	10	0.0753	
				---	288	55.3000	10	0.0553	
				---	Road	55.2000	10	0.0552	
				---	287	1.0000	10	0.0010	
				---	278	24.6000	10	0.0246	
				---	279	48.1000	10	0.0481	
				---	235	68.9000	10	0.0689	

			---	236	13.1000	10	0.0131	
			---	234	95.1000	10	0.0951	
31		Serpar	---	332	146.5160	10	0.1465	Zudpi Jungle
			---	330	192.9144	10	0.1929	
			---	295	0.4816	10	0.0005	
32		Halbitola	---	230	131.5000	10	0.1315	Protected Forest
			---	180	112.6000	10	0.1126	
33		Bijepar	---	98	165.5000	10	0.1655	Zudpi Jungle
			---	193	56.5616	10	0.0566	
			---	309	459.0862	10	0.4591	
			---	308	83.8000	10	0.0838	
			---	310	25.5000	10	0.0255	
			2029 (506 Pt)	321/1	40.9000	10	0.0409	Protected Forest
			2029 (506 Pt)	595	27.6000	10	0.0276	
34		Pandharwani	---	443	3.4000	10	0.0034	
			---	530	51.8000	10	0.0518	
Total Forest Area required (in ha.)							7.4394	

Abstract

Sr.No.	Name of Division	Area in (ha.)
1	Nagpur	0.8584
2	Bhandara	1.1736
3	Gondia	7.4394
Total Forest Area (in ha.)		9.4714

3.0 The project has been initiated by Mr. Rajendra Narnaware, Chief Manager (Construction) of M/s. GAIL (India) Limited, Nagpur for seeking approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for laying of underground Natural Gas Pipeline of Nagpur to Jharasguda along with Optical Fiber Cable passing through, Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (MH/MP Border) in the State of Maharashtra (PART-I, P/13)

4.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia have certified that:-

4.1 The total non-forest involved in project is 327.9925 ha. (Part-I, P/1)

4.2 (i) The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Forest Division, Nagpur is enclosed on page No.236 to 237. (Part-I)

(ii) The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhandara Forest Division, Bhandara is enclosed on page No.238 to 239. (Part-I)

(iii) The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Gondia Forest Division, Gondia is enclosed on page No.17 to 21 (Part-II)

4.3 No alternate alignment is possible and the forest land required is lowest minimum. (Part-I, P/205) & (Part-III, P/264)

4.4 (i) The area belongs to Eco-value class-III having density is 0.1 (Open Forest). (P/223), (P/224). (Part-I)

(ii) The area belongs to Eco-value class-III having density is 0.3 (Open Forest). (P/13), (Part-II)

4.5 (i) Total number of 411 trees involved in the project, but transplantation of 411 saplings of Survey No.268 in Village Wirshi, Tuka Mauda in Ramtek Range Dist. Nagpur by the Forest Department at suitable site on forest land at the cost of the User Agency. (P/226) (Part-I)

(ii) There are 2714 trees of various species involved in implementation of the project. Girth wise break up of trees is as under:- (Part-I, P/227) & (Part-II, P/14 & P/53 to 57)

Division	Below 30	31-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121-150 cm	150 above	Total
Bhandara	22	14	10	2	0	0	48
Gondia	1878	567	106	61	27	27	2666
Total	1900	581	116	63	27	27	2714

4.6 The area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc. (Part-I, P/219,220) (Part-II, P/22)

4.7 The proposed pipeline is passing in Pinch Point of EVL showing village Charbha, Kandala and Navegaon in Taluka Mauda is in Wildlife Corridor between Pench Tiger Reserve/Umred Karhandla Wildlife Sanctuary and Pinch Point map of Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape. (Part-I, P/219)

4.8 The project area affects the Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape (EVL) identified by WII, Dehradun near Village Dewhada (Khurd), Tal. Mohadi, Dist. Bhandara. (Part-I, P/220)

4.9 The proposed gas pipeline through 25 villages which fall either under NTCA's Corridor map or WII's Eastern Vidarbha Landscape (EVL) Tiger Corridor Atlas. (P/22 to 24) (Part-II)

4.10 Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance. (Part-I,P/215,216) (Part-II, P/50)

4.11 (i) There is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. (Part-I, P/208 & 206)

(ii) The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Gondia has certified that there is violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The detail of violation report is enclosed on **page No. 1 to 8 (Part-II)**

4.12 (i) Proposed project is beyond 10 Kms. of the boundary of the Protected Area (Sanctuary and National Park) **(Part-I, P/229 & P/230).**

(ii) Proposed project is 11.900 Km from the nearest aerial distance point of Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary (C.No.116) is part of the Navegaon Nagzira Tiger Reserve, Gondia **(Part-II, P/13)**

4.13 The non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of application of Section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and are not recognized as deemed reserved forest as well as not included in the area identified as "forest" as per dictionary meaning of forest as intimated to the expert committee appointed under interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996 **(Part-I, P/212, 213 & 214).**

4.14 Proposed Compensatory Afforestation over 21.00 ha. degraded forest land in Compt No.271 RF, at Village Lakhandur, Tal. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara and it is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances. **(Part-II, P/67).**

8.0 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking that:-

5.1 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Net Present Value **(P/277) (Part-I)**

5.2 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation **(P/275) (Part-I)**

5.3 The User Agency has submitted to provide the non-forest land for compensatory afforestation before Stage-II approval. **(File P/186)**

5.4 The User Agency has submitted Cross Section Map is enclosed herewith on page **No.294 (Part-I)**

5.5 The User Agency has submitted a copy of the administrative approval is enclosed on **page No.285 (Part-I)**

5.6 The User Agency has submitted an undertaking regarding the compliance under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been applied and is under process and shall be submitted before final

approval as per Government of India vide letter No.11-43/2013-FC, dt.03/12/2018 (P/282).(Part-I)

- 6.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia and the Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Nagpur has recommended the revised proposal for diversion of 9.4715 ha. of Forest land with the conditons of SBWL sanction. (Part-I, P/28 to 35) & (Part-II, P/15 to 16)

2.00 In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under the section -2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions: -

2.1 The legal status of the forest land required will remain unchanged.

2.2 Compensatory Afforestation :-

- a) Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 21.00 ha. degraded forest land in Compt No.271 RF, at Village Lakhandur, Tal. Lakhandur, Dist. Bhandara at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.

2.3 The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.

2.4 NPV:-

- a) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) for the 9.4715 ha. forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002, 01/08/2003, 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA No.566 in WP (C) No.202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No.5-1/1998-FC (Pt.II), dated 18/09/2003 as well as letter No.5-2/2006-FC, dated 03/10/2006 and 5-3/2007-FC, dated 05/02/2009 in this regard.
- b) Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.

- 2.5 User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- 2.6 All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<http://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- 2.7 The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- 2.8 The pipeline shall be laid down 1.5 meter below the ground and after lying down of pipe line the ground will be leveled.
- 2.9 The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 2.10 No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 2.11 Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- 2.12 The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 2.13 No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 2.14 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- 2.15 The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Government of India.
- 2.16 Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guidelines F.No.11-42/2017-FC, dated 29/01/2018.
- 2.17 Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
- 2.18 The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)

3.0 This office vide letter dated 25/01/2024 & 21/03/2024 has informed to the CF (T), Nagpur and User Agency to provide details of Non-Forest land for compensatory afforestation. The said proposal is monitored by the PMG/Pragati meeting. So, the aforesaid proposal is considered as a special case. The User Agency has already submitted undertaking for the same. In this context, the proposal submitted for consideration of prior approval of Government of India.

4.0 Keeping in view facts mentioned in above para this proposal for proposal is for diversion of 6.4325 ha. (Revised area 9.4715 ha.) Forest land for laying of underground Natural Gas pipeline along with Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) Stretch of Nagpur to Jharasguda Pipeline passing through district Nagpur, Bhandara and Gondia (Maharashtra Border) in the State of Maharashtra has been initiated by the GAIL India Limited. is recommended for approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.



(Shailesh G. Tembhurnikar)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
Maharashtra State, Nagpur