

File No.: 8-63-2017-FC (E-119237)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi- 110003
Dated: 17-10-2025

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Government of Madhya Pradesh
Bhopal.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 789.93 ha. of Forest Land in favour of Water Resources Department in Damoh District for Construction of Satdharu Irrigation Tank Project in Damoh District in the State of Madhya Pradesh- change in CA lands- regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter dated 11.09.2025 regarding the above mentioned subject.

2. Also, after examination of the Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter dated 11.09.2025, the State Government is requested to furnish the information on the following points:

- i. It has been reported that 499.3 hectares of land, initially proposed for Compensatory Afforestation (CA) before the grant of Stage-II approval, has now been found unsuitable for such purposes. The State Government is requested to clarify why an unsuitable land was proposed for the CA earlier, and to provide reasons for the non-suitability of the site along with the details of the efforts done for raising the plantation on the site (if any)
- ii. Before the grant of the Stage-II approval, the State Government vide letter dated 19.02.2020 submitted that all these lands identified for Compensatory Afforestation are transferred to Forest Department and notification of all these lands under IFA, 1927, Section 29 is under process at DFO, Forest Division- Damoh level. The State Government is requested to provide the copy of the notification of the CA land (if notified).
- iii. The State Government has not submitted detailed CA scheme over 495.30 ha alternate non-forest land. Further, the State shall give details as to how the plantation work will now be carried out as per existing wage rates/schedule of rates which would be substantially

higher than the earlier rates when the proposal was approved. A detailed justification needs to be submitted by the State Government.

- iv. The State has informed that new non-forest land over 495.30 ha has been allotted by the Revenue Department in lieu of the 499.30 ha of already approved CA site. Detailed justification with regard to reduction in the area of 4.00 ha needs to be submitted.
- v. The DFO, Damoh in its letter dated 01.09.2025 submitted that the earlier identified CA land, which has been transferred in favour of the State Forest Department has now been transferred to the Revenue Department and a new CA land of 495.3 Ha has been transferred to the State Forest Department from the Revenue department. This has been done without the approval of this Ministry. The State Government is requested to provide the justification in this regard.
- vi. The State Government has not submitted a site suitability certificate for the newly proposed CA land. The state shall ensure that the area proposed for CA is suitable and the get same ascertained through Regional Office.
- vii. State Govt. has provided the KML files of only two patches of CA land, out of which one KML file has been given without attributes/annotation. Thus, due to non-availability of complete KML files, the proposed CA land can not be analyzed.

3. Accordingly, the State Government is requested to submit the information/documents as indicated above, for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Encl: as above

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
2. DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's Regional Office, at Bhopal. **The Regional Office vide letter dated 30.11.2020 had recommended the CA site for the instant proposal. Accordingly, the RO Bhopal is requested to submit the comments/clarification in the matter. The RO shall also ascertain the suitable of newly proposed CA area.**
3. APCCF—cum-Nodal Officer, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

4. User Agency.

5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading.