

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: As per e-Sign

To,

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

Subject: Diversion of 49.320 ha Reserved forest land (34.45 ha in Sendhwa Forest Division and 14.87 ha in Khargon Forest Division) in favour of Water Resource Department for the construction of Sonkhedi Tank Project under Barwani District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online No FP/MP/IRRIG/155614/2022) - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-3/129/2022/10-11/10/1903 dated 02.04.2024 forwarding a fresh proposal on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980. After examining the proposal, the following shortcomings have been observed:

- i. The component wise KML file of the proposed forest land for diversion along with the DGPS/Geo-referenced map showing the purpose wise utilization of forest land for diversion shall be uploaded on PARIVESH portal.
- ii. The complete KML file of the forest land as well as the Non-forest land involved in the project shall be submitted.
- iii. The basic details of proposed Dam like its height, length, command area, technical approval, hydrological assessment etc. shall be submitted.
- iv. The copy of approved Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan as per Para 9.2 & 9.3 of the consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan), Adhinyam, 1980 shall be submitted.
- v. A copy of approved R&R plan for the 22 number of families dependent on the proposed forest land which are going to affected due to instant project shall be submitted.
- vi. The Cost Benefit analysis has been calculated keeping in view the NPV rates for open forest instead of dense forest rates. Moreover, habitation fragmentation cost has not been included. The revised CB analysis has to be submitted on the prescribed format and by keeping all parameters in view.
- vii. The State Govt. has identified degraded forest land for plantation work in order to accommodate the balance saplings which cannot be planted over

- proposed non forest land for CA. In this regard, However the State Govt. has not submitted the specific details such as area bearing vegetation of 0.4 canopy density or more in this regard. The State shall ensure that the area proposed for compensatory afforestation must be suitable for raising plantation. In case the area proposed already has a density of 0.4 or above, a programme for improvement of the forest crop shall be submitted.
- viii. The details of distribution network like canals and pipelines, which may further have required diversion of forest land etc. has not been given. A holistic proposal is required to be submitted as forest land may be required for laying of underground pipelines as well. The State Govt. shall therefore provide the complete lay out plan indicating all the components like canal, pipelines etc. The detail of the area requirement for these components shall also be submitted keeping in view Para 9.1 of Chapter-9 of the consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan), Adhinyam, 1980.
- ix. The State shall submit the status of Cumulative Impact Study and the Carrying Capacity Study as stipulated in the Para 9.3(i) and 9.3(ii) of the Chapter-9 of the consolidated guidelines and clarifications dated 29.12.2023 issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan), Adhinyam, 1980.
- x. The details about the command area, irrigation potential, present cropping pattern, total population of the villages to be benefited and the likely impact of the project on cropping pattern in future is essential for evaluating the socio-economic benefits of the project. The State shall submit a detailed report on these aspects.
- xi. The State Govt. has not submitted the copy of revenue documents indicating that the area proposed for CA is Non-forest land and free from all encumbrances.

Accordingly, it is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Signed by Suneet Bhardwaj

Date: 19-05-2024 20:24:02

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
2. The Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.