

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 74.430 ha Reserved forest land under Section-2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 in favour of Water Resource Department for the construction of Damkheda Tank Project under Khargone District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online No FP/MP/IRRIG/40099/2019) - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-3/114/2019/10-11/10/1975 dated 08.04.2024 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 31 number of families dependent on the proposed forest land which are going to be affected due to instant project shall be submitted.
- vi. In case of rehabilitation of people, necessary correction in the Cost-Benefit Analysis is required to be made. Therefore revised cost benefit analysis keeping in view of all the listed parameters shall be submitted.
- vii. 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.

- viii. 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.
- ix. 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 socioeconomic benefits of the project. The State shall submit a detailed report on these aspects.
- x. 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.
- xi. As per DSS analysis of the KML file of the proposed forest area it has been observed that the waste weir is crossing the Canal feature. Moreover, the proposed Road (0.95 ha) is not found connected with the proposed Dam because it appears from the KML file that diversion of an existing road is proposed through instant proposal. Therefore, the State Govt. shall re-check the KML file of proposed layout and also inform about involvement of an additional forest land if so required for the construction of an approach to Dam.
- xii. Satellite imagery shows the presence of Agricultural lands, Road, Settlements in Submergence area as well as in the area earmarked for Canal. This needs clarification.
- xiii. Some earthen check dams and pre-plantation work are visible within the proposed CA land. Moreover, the proposed CA site are located near the Bhikarkhedi Dam. Therefore, the State Govt. shall verify that the pre-plantation work as visible in the proposed CA land is not part of any forest diversion proposal.

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

Yours sincerely,

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.