

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

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**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: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion 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 Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter No. F-3/129/2022/10-11/10/1903 dated 02.04.2024 forwarding the proposal on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and to say that the said proposal was placed before the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 26.05.2025. The minutes of the meeting of the AC may kindly be seen at [www.parivesh.nic.in](http://www.parivesh.nic.in).

After detailed deliberation on the matter, the Committee '**deferred**' the proposal for want of following information:

- i. The State Government shall furnish a comprehensive report indicating the impact of the proposed project on downstream flow of water.
- ii. The proposed diversion of forest land is located within a distance of 6.51 km from Yawal Wildlife Sanctuary in the State of Maharashtra. Therefore, the comments and clear recommendations of the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWLW), shall be submitted.
- iii. The proposed project is located within 0.50 km of the inter-state boundary with Maharashtra, and a portion of the canal alignment lies in close proximity to this border. In view of the possible downstream and inter-state implications of the project, the State Government shall obtain and submit the "No Objection Certificate" from the Government of Maharashtra.
- iv. The user agency shall furnish a report from the State Dam Safety Organisation (SDSO) regarding all technical aspects wrt the safety of the dam. The recommendations shall be implemented by the user agency to

- avoid any possible unforeseen conditions.
- v. Further, the State Government shall obtain approval of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) on the recommendations made by the State Dam Safety Organisation (SDSO) and submit the same.
  - vi. The details about the command area, irrigation potential, present cropping pattern, total population of the villages to be benefitted 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.

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

Yours sincerely,

Digitally signed by  
SUNEET BHARDWAJ  
Date: 10-06-2025  
15:21:17

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, 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.