



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, भोपाल/ REGIONAL OFFICE, BHOPAL



Kendriya Paryavaran Bhavan, Link Road No.3, E-5, Ravi Shankar Nagar,
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File No. 6-MPC011/2020-BHO/366

Dated : 15/04/2025.

To,

The Additional Director General of Forests (FC)
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj
New Delhi - 110 003.

Sub: Site Inspection for diversion of 43.149 ha Reserve Forest land in favour of the Water Resource Department for the construction of Ganga Bawari Tank Project under Neemuch District of Madhya Pradesh State ((Online proposal No. FP/MP/IRRIG/32285/2018)

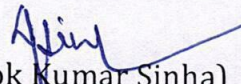
Ref: MoEF&CC, New Delhi Letter no. 8-19/2024-FC dated 03.12.2024

Sir,

With respect to the subject and reference cited above, the Site Inspection Report of Regional Office, Bhopal in respect of 43.149 ha Reserve Forest land in favour of the Water Resource Department for the construction of Ganga Bawari Tank Project under Neemuch District of Madhya Pradesh State is submitted herewith for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully

Encl : As above.


(Ashok Kumar Sinha)
Dy. Director General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

Shri Suneet Bhardwaj, AIGF, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bag Road, Aliganj, New Delhi.

Field Inspection Report of Rajesh Darade , IFS, AIGF (C), RO Bhopal

Ref: MoEF&CC, New Delhi Letter no. 8-19/2024-FC dated 03.12.2024

Date of Inspection: 14/01/2025 & 15/01/2025

Officers present at the time of inspection: -

- 1) Shri Rajesh Darade, Assistant Inspector General of Forests (C), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal.
- 2) Shri S. K. Atode, DFO, Neemuch
- 3) Shri R. R. Parmar, Sub DFO, Neemuch -
- 4) Shri Shashvat Divedi- Forest Range Officer
- 5) Shri Mahesh Patidar- FBO,
- 6) Shri Vimal Shrivastva, Executive Engineer, WRD
- 7) Shri Himanshu Bhabor, SDO, WRD
- 8) Other Forest Officials - Forest Division

Title of the Project:		Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 43.149 ha Reserve Forest land in favour of the Water Resource Department for the construction of Ganga Bawadi Tank Project under Neemuch District of Madhya Pradesh State. (Online proposal No. FP/MP/IRRIG/32285/2018)																													
1.	Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:	Reserved Forest: 43.149 ha																													
2.	Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion:	Following is the break-up details of the proposed area for diversion: <table><tr><th>No.</th><th>Component</th><th>Name of Forest Division</th><th>Range</th><th>Forest Compartment no.</th><th>Area (ha)</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Approach and Spill</td><td rowspan="3">Neemuch</td><td rowspan="3">Manasa</td><td rowspan="3">RF- 287,290,293 &295</td><td>1.48</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Main dam</td><td>0.5</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>submergence area</td><td>41.169</td></tr><tr><td colspan="5">Total</td><td>43.149</td></tr></table>						No.	Component	Name of Forest Division	Range	Forest Compartment no.	Area (ha)	1	Approach and Spill	Neemuch	Manasa	RF- 287,290,293 &295	1.48	2	Main dam	0.5	3	submergence area	41.169	Total					43.149
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Total					43.149																										
3.	Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:	No																													

4.	Total cost of the Project at present rates:	Rs. 1501.24 Lakhs (As per online Part-I)
5.	Wildlife:	Wildlife Panther, Hyaena, Jackal, Wild pig, Blue Bull, Monkey, Mongoose, Hare, Peafowl, Vulture, Python, etc.
6.	Vegetation:	<p>Eco Class-3 and Canopy Density is 0.6 to 0.7</p> <p>The main species found in the area are as follows: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> ii. <i>Anthocephalus cadamba</i> iii. <i>Anogeissus latifolia</i> iv. <i>Terminalia tomentosa</i> v. <i>Madhuca indica</i> vi. <i>Acacia leucophloea</i> vii. <i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> viii. <i>Azadirachta indica</i> ix. <i>Terminalia bellarica</i> x. <i>Butea monosperma</i> xi. <i>Cassia fistula</i> xii. <i>Holoptelea integrifolia</i> xiii. <i>Mangifera indica</i> xiv. <i>Albizia procera</i> xv. <i>Acacia catechu</i> xvi. <i>Sterculia urens</i> xvii. <i>Ficus religiosa</i> xviii. <i>Ficus benghalensis</i> xix. <i>Bombax ceiba</i>
7.	Background note on the proposal:	<p>The Ganga Bawadi Tank Project is a part of water conservation and management scheme located in Neemuch district of Madhya Pradesh. It is part of a regional initiative to increase water availability and resources. The initiative focuses on irrigation, drinking water, and other local requirements of the people, livestock, and animals, particularly in drought-prone and severe water scarcity regions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The User Agency had applied for forest clearance in 2018. 2. The proposal was discussed in 43rd REC meeting dated 26.02.2020 at agenda no. 09. REC deferred the proposal wants of some information. 3. The State Govt. of MP submitted the reply vide letter dated 27.05.2022 and revised the proposal to 39.399 ha. 4. The Regional Office, Bhopal raised EDS vide letter dated 26.07.2022 to State Govt. to re-check the proposed area for diversion and other information.

			5. The State Govt. of MP submitted the reply vide letter dated 27.08.2024 and revised the proposal and the proposed area again becomes 43.149 ha. According to the existing FCA rules and guidelines, the proposal was sent to MoEF &CC, New Delhi.																																														
8.	Compensatory Afforestation:	<div>As per SIR/Part-II</div> <table><tr><th>Sr. No.</th><th>District/D ivision</th><th>Village</th><th>Khasra No.</th><th>Area (ha)</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td rowspan="4">Neemuch</td><td>Fusariya</td><td>1158</td><td>7.75</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Hanspur</td><td>715, 716, 719, 721</td><td>3.399</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Daanta, Bhagal</td><td>497/2(s), 498</td><td>3.75</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Dabi jetiliya</td><td>01 (s)</td><td>28.25</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">Total</td><td>43.149</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th>Sr. No.</th><th>Forest Division</th><th>Range</th><th>Forest Comp.</th><th>Area (ha)</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td rowspan="2">Neemuch</td><td>Ratangarh</td><td>199</td><td>28.25</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Manasa</td><td>318</td><td>26.40</td></tr><tr><td colspan="4">Total</td><td>54.65</td></tr></table>		Sr. No.	District/D ivision	Village	Khasra No.	Area (ha)	1	Neemuch	Fusariya	1158	7.75	2	Hanspur	715, 716, 719, 721	3.399	3	Daanta, Bhagal	497/2(s), 498	3.75	4	Dabi jetiliya	01 (s)	28.25	Total				43.149	Sr. No.	Forest Division	Range	Forest Comp.	Area (ha)	1	Neemuch	Ratangarh	199	28.25	2	Manasa	318	26.40	Total				54.65
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9.	Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action Taken against the concerned officials:	<div>Yes</div> <div>Details of violation:</div> <p>The construction of main Dam (Earthen barrage) had been started but not yet completed. At the two ends of the Earthen barrage, the construction has taken place in RF land without the prior approval of the Central Government. Hence, the necessary prior approvals for construction were not obtained from the MoEF&CC. Thus, resulting in to the violation of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The large portion of the main Dam (Submergence area) is outside Reserved Forest.</p> <p>The vide letter no. 1815/work/Ganga Bawadi Tank/2024 dated 30.07.2024 of Water Resource Department reported that the details of violation as follows:</p> <div><div>a) Period of work done (in Years): Year 2017-2018</div><div>b) Area of forest land involved in violation (in ha.): Total Area 1.30 ha</div><div>c) Name of person(s) responsible for violation: Shri M.A. Siddiqui, Sub Engineer. WR Sub Div. Rampura</div><div>d) The Forest Department had stopped the construction work but no action taken against the concern WRD official.</div></div>																																															

10.	Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:	No
11.	Reclamation Plan: (If applicable, submit details and Financial allocation:	-
12.	Details on catchment and command area under the project:	The Catchment area is 12.81 sq km. The Command area-430 ha.
13.	Cost benefit ratio:	1:1.35
14.	Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:	The proposal is recommended by the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & State Government in Part-IV & Part-V.
15.	Utility of the Project:	The Ganga Bawadi Tank project is the water conservation and management initiative project located in the Neemuch District of Madhya Pradesh. It is part of the efforts to improve water availability and water resources in the region. The project is focused on irrigation, drinking water and other local needs of the peoples, cattle's and wildlife as well, especially in the areas prone to drought and severe water shortage.
16.	Whether land being diverted has any socio cultural/religious value:	No.
17.	Situation w.r.t. Any P.A.	Proposed area is neither a part of any protected area nor it falls in any Tiger Corridor. The nearest protected area, The Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary of Madhya Pradesh is situated at a distance of more than 10 kms.
18.	Any other information relating to the Project:	-

19.	Specific comments/ observation of inspecting officer
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INSPECTION OF THE PROPOSED DIVERSION AREA

Date of Inspection: 14/01/2025

Forest Division-Neemuch Forest Division

Range-Manasa

Forest Block name-Kanjarda

Comp. No. RF-287, 290, 293 & 295; Area-43.149Ha

GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division), letter No. 8-19/2024-FC, Dated-03th December, 2024, the Regional Office, Bhopal was requested to submit/upload the Site inspection reports of area proposed for diversion of The Ganga Bawadi Tank Project i.e. 43.149 ha (Online proposal No. FP/MP/IRRIG/32285/2018) and its CA area. Accordingly, the site inspection was carried out on 14/01/2025 & 15/01/2025.

The Ganga Bawadi Tank is situated near village Ganga Bawadi of Tehsil Manasa, District Neemuch. The catchment area is 12.81 sq km. The live storage of the tank is 2.144 M.cum. The construction of dam will provide rabi irrigation to approximately 430 ha. land of nearby villages. It will also raise the ground water level of the region.

The proposed area for diversion is found to be a gentle slope towards west side and hills on three side of proposed area i.e. North, South and East. The proposed project area constitutes forest area (RF) 43.149 ha and non-forest land 14.41 ha. The vegetation in the area was found to be sparse near to the Dam site and density varying with about 0.6 to 0.7 in the catchment area. It has observed that the area coming under submergence is at the foot hills of the adjoining hills. The common vegetation found in the area *Diospyros melanoxylon*, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Madhuca indica*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Terminalia bsellarica*, *Holoptelea integrifolia*, *Ficus benghalensis*, *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*, etc. As enquired from local forest Officials, wildlife presence in the area is Panther, Hyaena, Jackal, Wild pig, Monkey, Mongoose, Hare, Peafowl, Vulture, Python, etc.

It is observed that; the area is very dry due to low rainfall (800 mm) specially during the summer. Due to this flora and fauna including human population and local cattle are facing water scarcity.

The project is proposed to be constructed on seasonal stream, flowing mainly during rainy season. The Ganga Bawadi tank will come on the eastern and north eastern side of the Earthen

Barrage. Therefore, the project would help in impounding water for larger period of time which would be useful for local flora, fauna and human settlements in the region.

As observed in the site location of the proposed area for diversion:

- 1. The construction of both ends of the earthen barrage fall into the Reserved Forest compartment no. 287.**
- 2. In the Reserved Forest compartment no. 290 & 293, the ground i.e. Submergence area was broken, borrow pits were found. The soil was used and transported for the construction of the earthen barrage.**

The necessary prior approvals for construction were not obtained from the MoEF&CC. Thus, resulting in to the violation of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

As enquired from the DFO, Neemuch, no action was taken against the concern WRD Officials and Forest Officials for allowing the violation.

INSPECTION OF CA AREA

Date of Inspection: 14/01/2025

Officers present at the time of inspection: -

- 1) Rajesh Darade, Assistant Inspector General of Forests (C), Regional Office, MoEF Bhopal.
- 2) Shri S. K. Atode, DFO, Neemuch
- 3) Shri R. R. Parmar, Sub DFO, Neemuch -
- 4) Shri Shashvat Divedi- Forest Range Officer
- 5) Shri Mahesh Patidar- FBO,
- 6) Shri Vimal Shrivastva, Executive Engineer, WRD
- 7) Shri Himanshu Bhabor, SDO, WRD
- 8) Other Forest Officials - Forest Division

1) District-Nemuch; Division-Neemuch Forest Division

Range-Manasa; Village -Hanspur, Khasra Nos.- 715, 716, 719, 721, Area-3.399 Ha

It is generally a plain which gentle slope towards west side. The depth of the soil is very thin with coarse grain rock structures. The area is prone for animal grazing. It is interspersed with very small seasonal stream moving towards north west side. Certain natural growth of trees was found to be existing e.g. *Acacia Leucophloea*, etc. As enquired form the concern forest staff, the wildlife in the area comprises of Nilgai, Jackals, Leopards and pythons, etc.

The area requires soil and moisture conservation works such as staggered contour trenching, check dams, percolation tanks at suitable locations for proper rejuvenation of the area. On the whole, the area is found to be suitable for raising plantations with native species such as *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Tectona grandis*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Capsicum annuum*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, etc. after protecting the area by chain link fence.

2) District-Nemeuch; Division-Neemuch; Range-Manasa; Village -Bhagal , Khasra Nos.- 497, 498, Area-3.75 Ha

It is generally a plain which gentle slope towards north side. The depth of the soil is moderate with the soil structures is red coarse grain rock structures. The area is prone for animal grazing. The area infested with *Lantana camara*. As enquired from the concern forest staff, the wildlife in the area comprises of Nilgai, Jackals and pythons, etc. It was further observed that certain staggered contour trenching works was earlier done by the local villagers under MGNREGS (Panchayat), the impressions of which are clearly visible on Google Imagery.

The Soil conservation works like continuous contour trenching, Staggered contour trenching, Percolation tanks, etc. at suitable locations are suggested for better results. The area is found suitable for raising CA plantation with native species *Azadirachta indica*, *Capsicum annuum*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, etc. after protecting the area all around with chain link fencing.

3) District-Nemeuch; Division-Neemuch; Range-Ratangarh; Beat-Baanda, Village -Dabi, Khasra Nos.- 1 (S), Area-28.25 Ha

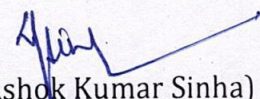
It is generally a plain which gentle slope towards southern side. The depth of the soil is moderate with the soil structures is sandy stone rock structures. The area is prone for animal grazing. As enquired from the concern forest staff, the wildlife in the area comprises of Nilgai, Jackals and pythons, etc.

The Soil conservation works like continuous contour trenching, Staggered contour trenching, Percolation tanks, etc. at suitable locations are suggested for better results. For maintenance/irrigation of plantation a bore well with solar pump is suggested. On the whole, the area is found to be suitable for raising plantations with native species such as *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Tectona grandis*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Capsicum annuum*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, etc. after protecting the area by chain link fence. The area is found suitable for raising CA plantation with native species after protecting the area all around with chain link fencing.

20	Comments of Assistant Inspector General of Forests (C) along with detailed reasons:	<p>Taking into consideration the observations as illustrated above and the fact that the Ganga Bawadi Tank Project is the water conservation and irrigation project in the drought prone and severely water shortage area of the Neemuch District of the Madhya Pradesh. The construction of dam will provide rabi irrigation to 430 ha land of the nearby villages. The project is approximately 90% percent is already completed.</p> <p>In the interest of public, the project is recommended for approval subject to imposition of penal provisions as deemed fit in the light of the violations as mentioned above.</p>
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 (Rajesh Darade)
 Assistant Inspector General of Forests (C)

21	Comments and Recommendation of Deputy Director General of Forests, Regional Office Bhopal	<p>Agreed with the observations made by AIG. The project involves violation of VAN (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Therefore, the proposal is recommended for approval subject to imposition of Penal provisions as deemed fit for, in the light of the violation as mentioned above</p>
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 (Ashok Kumar Sinha)
 Dy. Director General of Forests
 Regional Office, Bhopal

Photographs of Inspection

Inspection photographs of Diversion Area



Inspection photographs of CA Area



CA site of Hanspur Village



CA site of Bhagal Village