

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi – 110003,

Dated: 28th July, 2023

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Forests & Wildlife Preservation Department,
Government of Agartala,
Tripura.

Subject: Diversion of 77.87 ha of forest land for establishment of Gas Based Thermal Power Project in Udaipur Forest Division of South Tripura District of Tripura -Proposal for change in land use -regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to Govt. of Tripura's letter No.6-477/FC/For-05/Part-I/330-32 dated 12.07.2023 submitting their response on Ministry's letter of even no. dated 19/20.06.2023. After scrutiny of the reply, it is noticed that out of four observation of the Ministry, the reply for the points (1, 2 and 4) are not satisfactory. The reasons are given below:

- i. The component-wise and purpose-wise land use for entire diversion of 77.87 ha of forest land is not given stating that OTPC had already obtained Environment Clearance (EC) vide EC No. J-13011/11/2006-IA. II (T) dated 07.02.2007 for installation of 2 x 363.3 MW combined cycle power plant at Palatana village and during the EC approval process OTPC had submitted all relevant component wise and purpose wise land use details, however the same has not been received in the instant case with the reply . The desired information may please be furnished.
- ii. The KML file and Map as given has been examined through DSS tool and found that the State Govt. has marked a feature namely GMS Boundary and the purpose & acronym of GMS is not clear. Moreover, the calculated area of Gas Drying Unit (GDU) is found 0.045 ha and the area of GMS is found 1.068 ha. Thus, the total area proposed for land use change comes to now 1.113 ha of forest land instead of 0.1 ha forest land. Further the State Govt. has submitted revised boundary of 76.80 ha diverted forest land instead of 77.87 ha actually diverted forest land. Thus, the corrected KML file for the proposed land use of 0.1 ha along with the entire diverted land of 77.87 ha. showing purpose-wise/component-wise land use shall be furnished.
- iii. The State Govt. was informed that the balance 50% of the schemes for bio-diversity conservation and livelihood support as well as that for creation of green belt had been deposited by the user agency on 17.03.2009 whereas in compliance to condition no. (vii) of approval dated 25.04.2006 this should have been deposited within six month from the date of handing over the forest land to the user agency, and it was requested for clarification whether the referred condition of approval has been complied in time. But the State Govt. has not given reply of this specific query. The same needs to be furnished.

In view of above, Govt. of Tripura is again requested to furnish the information/clarification along-with documentary evidences for the points indicated above to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Tripura, Agartala.
2. The Nodal Officer under forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Tripura, Agartala.
3. The Dy. Director General of Forests (Central) ,Regional Office, Shillong.
4. User Agency.
5. Forest Conservation Monitoring Cell, MoEF & CC, IPB, New Delhi.