

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17th Main Road, IInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560 034. Tel.No.080-25635912, E.Mail: rosz.bng-mef@nic.in





То

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore – 560 001.

Subject: Diversion of 3.238 ha. of forest land in F.Sy. No.68, Unkal village, Hubballi Taluk, Dharwad District for educational purpose (construction of Auditorium, College Building, Ladies & Boys Hostels, Play Ground, Indoor Games Room etc.) in favour of Vemana Vidyavardhaka Sangha, Hubli (Pre-FCA lease given in the name of Reddy Educational and Social League, Dharwad) –reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. FEE 79 FLL 2020 (e) dated 02/02/2021 and 23/07/2021 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section'2' of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above project.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of 2.0326 ha. of forest land in F.Sy. No.68, Unkal village, Hubballi Taluk, Dharwad District for educational purpose excluding the forest area falling under steep slope (0.8094 ha), Ladies Hostel (0.233 ha) & Boys Hostel (0.163 ha) in favour of M/s. Vemana Vidyavardhaka Sangha, Hubli, subject to the following conditions:-

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department.

- The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02. 2009. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State Concerned.
- 2. The identified equivalent non-forest land in Sy.No. 18/2A/1, 18/2A/2, 18/2A/3, 18/2A/5, Kusalapura village, Shirahatti Hobli, Shirahatti Taluk, Gadag District for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in the name of forest department and notified as RF/PF prior to Stage II approval.
- 3. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in

the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme shall include demarcation of CA area using appropriate fencing, tall plants for better survival, provision for watering and SMC works and appropriate provision to be provided for anticipated cost escalation for the works scheduled for subsequent years.

- 4. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- 5. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
- 6. The User Agency shall pay compensation to Forest Department 3 acre plantation taken up by the Department in the proposed forest area during 2018.
- 7. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<u>https://parivesh.nic.in/</u>).
- 8. Revised land use plan for an area of 2.0326 ha. shall be submitted.
- 9. The KML file of the area diverted and CA area shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with compliance report.
- 10. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates.
- 11. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
- B: Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:
 - 1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
 - 2. Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over equal identified non-forest land (NFL) land within three years from the date of Stage –II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency and at least 1000 plants per hectare shall be planted over identified non- forest land within three years of grant of final approval. If it is not possible to plant so many saplings in the area identified for CA, the balance saplings will be planted in degraded forest area as per prescriptions of approved working plan with provision for subsequent maintenance of ten years.

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- 3. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- 4. The balance area of 1.2054 ha. shall be resumed back by State Forest Department and protected with proper fencing.
- 5. Tree felling shall be restricted to the barest minimum possible and under confirmation from the local forest officials.
- 6. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
- 7. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 8. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 9. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
- 10. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
- 11. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- 12. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year.
- 13. The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be effected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall be revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully,

(B.N. Anjan Kumar) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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Copy to:-

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore 560 003.
- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) /Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
- 3. The Chairman, M/s. Vemana Vidyavardhaka Sangha, Hubli-Dharwad, K.H.Patil College Campus, Vidyanagar, Hubli -580 031.
- 4. Guard file.

fmX.3/2/21

(B.N. Anjan Kumar) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)