

भारतसरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण ,वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440001, <u>apccfcetral-ngp-mef@gov.in</u>



F.No. FC-I/MH-369/2023-NGP/ 12698

Date: 02.01.2024

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Revenue and Forest Department, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk Madam Cama Marg Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400032.

Sub: Diversion of 3.30 ha. forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of Ranjangaon to Ukhalgaon Doubling of Railway line, a part of DaundManmad Doubling of Railway track DaundManmad Railway at Village Ukkhalgaon, Tal Shrigonda, Dist. Ahmednagar in the state of Maharashtra- FP/MH/RAIL/147694/2021- in principle approval - regarding.

Sir,

Please refer to the Government of Maharashtra letter no. FLD-1823/CR-186/F-10 dated 16.11.2023 and FLD-1823/CR-186/F-10 dated 07.12.2023 and online application No FP/MH/RAIL/147694/202 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

After careful consideration of the proposal submitted by the State Government and with the approval of the competent authority, I am directed to convey the Central Government's *In-principle* approval under **Section '2' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam,1980** for diversion of **3.30 ha.** forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of Ranjangaon to Ukhalgaon Doubling of Railway line, a part of DaundManmad Doubling of Railway track DaundManmad Railway at Village Ukkhalgaon, Tal Shrigonda, Dist. Ahmednagar in the state of Maharashtra, subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:-

- 1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;
- 2. The demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;
- 3. As per the rule (16). Sub rule (8) (ii), the instant proposal further to be processed as per the provision of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023, hence, as per the provision of rule 13(1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023, the UA shall identify the suitable non forest land for Compensatory Afforestation(CA) purpose and same shall be transferred and mutated in favour of forest department before final approval. The State Government shall notify such mutated area in to RF/PF and as the NFL to be provided for CA is less than 10 ha, CA scheme shall be prepared as per the provision under SI No 4 of the Schedule II of the Van (SanrakshanEvam Samvardhan) Rules 2023. The State

Government shall ensure to upload all details like kml, map, CA scheme etc in to the PARIVESH portal;

- 4. The State Government shall realize 5 times the penal NPV over an extent of forest area reported to be under violation. The realization of NPV & simple interest shall be recovered as per the provision of 1.21 (ii) of the hand book of guidelines. The State Government may ensure action under 3A and 3B of the Adhiniyamto be ,as applicable;
- 5. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring <u>3.30 ha</u> from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos.826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 and Ministry's guideline No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and clarification issued vide letter dated 22.03.2022.
- Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- 7. All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<u>https://parivesh.nic.in/</u>);
- 8. As the proposed forest area for diversion is a part of GIB Wildlife Sanctuary, the UA shall obtain prior approval of the SC-NBWL under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 before carrying out any non-forest activity. The State Government shall ensure SC NBWL approval before handing over of forest area for non-forestry purpose. The site specific wildlife mitigation plan duly approved by the SC NBWL shall be implemented at the cost of the project;
- 9. All mitigation measures required as per the Wildlife Institute of India(WII) prescribed for such linear projects and recommendation of SC NBWL shall be implemented;
- 10. No tree felling shall be carried out in the forest area;
- 11. The construction work shall be carried out only as per the timings that may be prescribed by the CWLW or SCNBWL direction as the case may be;
- 12. Proper labour camps shall be constructed in the non-forest area and in any case, labour camp shall not be made within the RF area;
- 13. Speed limit of the train may be restricted as required in consultation with the CWLW and court orders, if any specific to the speed regulation in such wildlife habitats;
- 14. After ensuring settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007), the State Government shall issue order for working permission and diversion as the case may be;
- 15. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the railway line at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas;
- 16. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- 17. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourers after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;

18. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for the transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;

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- 19. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
- 20. Pre-fabricated structures should be used to the maximum possible extent to reduce the extent of disturbance in the habitat;
- 21. The debris / earth excavated during the track laying work should be disposed off or reused suitably so that the natural drainage of the area is not blocked;
- 22. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **3.30 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. **The User** Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- 23. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to the all acts, rules, regulation and guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to the railway line projects;
- 24. Any other condition that the Regional Office, Nagpur may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area shall be complied by the User Agency;
- 25. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the rules / guidelines issued under <u>Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan)</u> Adhiniyam, 1980;
- 26. The State Government shall process and submit compliance report on the above conditions through online (<u>https://parivesh.nic.in/</u>).
- 27. In case, the SC NBWL rejects or not recommend the instant proposal under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the in principle approval order issued under <u>Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan)</u> Adhiniyam, 1980 shall be deemed to be null and void;

The in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of **2 years** from the date of issue of the same. In the event of non- compliance of the above conditions within the stipulated period, this in-principle approval **shall be deemed to be null and void**;

This issues with the approval of DDGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF& CC, Nagpur.

Yours faithfully,

(C.B. Tashildar) AIGF (Central)

Copy to:

- i. The IGF (RoHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi- 110003for information please
- ii. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- iii. User agency.
- iv. Guard file.

(C.B. Tashildar) AIGF (Central)