Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)
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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110003
Dated: 8th April, 2022

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Department of Forest and Environment,
Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal.

Subject: Diversion of 339.80 ha of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for relocation of Village Suplai from Bori Sanctuary under Satpura Tiger Reserve District Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh State (Online No. FP/MP/FVC/145866/2021) - reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter No. F-5/1055/2021/10-11/2735 dated 12.08.2021 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee "**In-principle/ Stage-I**" approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forest use of 339.80 ha of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for relocation of Village Suplai from Bori Sanctuary under Satpura Tiger Reserve District Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh State to the fulfilment of following conditions:

A. Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department and compliance is to be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:

i. *The State Govt. will submit the documentary evidence/relevant record indicating that an area of 260 ha is under occupation by way of Nistar/Community Rights;*
ii. *The State Govt. shall submit a written confirmation that the Village Suplai is within the core of Bori Wildlife sanctuary;*
iii. *State Government shall submit the certificate of compliance under FRA, in both the areas i.e. the area being vacated and the area where the people will be relocated;*
iv. The correct and complete KML file of the area proposed for diversion shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details;
v. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/).

B. Conditions which need to be complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of

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undertaking shall be submitted and compliance is to be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:

i. Legal status of the diverted forest land may be changed to non-forest land by the State in accordance with Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 28.01.2019 in IA No. 3924 of 2015 in WP(C) 202/1995 and Ministry's Guidelines dated 20.05.2019;

ii. *The State Government shall ensure that the area under the Suplai Village becomes inviolate and no families are left within this village for further relocation. The 418.00 ha area to be made available as inviolate on account of relocation of village Suplai will be used for Wildlife conservation;*

iii. *State Government shall take effective steps to ensure that the villagers who are relocated do not return to the area;*

iv. *The Forest Department should encourage rehabilitated families in relocated forest area for improvement of their livelihood based on tree/ forest based economic opportunities by providing appropriate training and imparting skillsets in ecotourism, Bamboo and Medicinal plants and other NTFPs through sustainable collection, processing, value addition and marketing etc. to help in conservation of forest area around rehabilitation;*

v. The State Government shall ensure that further diversions of forest land in the tiger corridor of Satpura Tiger reserve for any upcoming developmental project should be curtailed as much as possible or appropriately mitigated with green infrastructures;

vi. The State Govt shall ensure that the resettled village should be fenced off as an enclosure on the forest side so as to prevent its further expansion and minimize human wildlife interfaces;

vii. The area to be vacated shall be mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/PF under relevant sections of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or the State Forest Act as the case may be;

viii. The State Government shall ensure that the land vacated in the protected area due to relocation of Village will be developed as per approved Wildlife Management Plan/NTCA Guidelines;

ix. The State Government shall ensure that the relocation package is implemented with due regard to specific court orders and Government norms in this regard;

x. The State Government shall ensure that no fragmentation of forests should take place due to the relocation project;

xi. The State Govt. shall ensure that the details of relocation shall be provided to the NTCA for onward legal action/ compliance in IA No. 3924 of 2015 in WP(C) 202/1995;

xii. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;

xiii. The State Govt. shall ensure that as far as possible naturally growing trees are retained along the roads, in the school, other Government / public utility complexes around the boundaries of the proposed village, as natural groves;

xiv. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under the supervision of the State Forest Department;

xv. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;

xvi. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the

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proposal;

xvii. The forest land proposed to be diverted may be transferred by the State Government to the villagers being rehabilitated;

xviii. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;

xix. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year;

xx. Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate with the approval of competent authority in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;

xxi. The user agency shall comply 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;

xxii. 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.

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 affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Yours sincerely

(Suneet Bhardwaj) 08/04/2022

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), 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.