



No. 5-ORB388/2019-BHU

8th November, 2019

To

The Principal Secretary,
Forest & Environment Deptt.,
Govt. of Odisha,
Bhubaneswar.

Sub:- Diversion of 39.59 ha of forest land for preparation of land bank for relocation of villagers within core and buffer area of Similipal Tiger Reserve under jurisdiction of Karanjia Division by Tahasildar, Thakuramunda Tahasil of Mayurbhanj District.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Govt. letter No10F(Cons)51/19-11590/F&E dated 22.06.2019 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. After due consideration of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of approval of Regional Empowered Committee meeting held on 26.07.2019 and further approval by MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide letter No.14-3/2019-ROHQ dated 22.10.2019, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change **hereby conveys approval** for diversion of 39.59 ha of forest land for preparation of land bank for relocation of villagers within core and buffer area of Similipal Tiger Reserve under jurisdiction of Karanjia Division by Tahasildar, Thakuramunda Tahasil of Mayurbhanj District, subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions.

- (i) The legal status of the diverted forest land shall be changed to revenue land.
- (ii) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- (iii) The user agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
- (iv) The land vacated in the protected area due to relocation of village shall be developed as per approved Wildlife Management Plan/NTCA guideline/CWLW.
- (v) No fragmentation of forests/wildlife habitat should take place due to the relocation of project.
- (vi) The relocation activity shall be undertaken solely as a process of consolidation of the wildlife habitat.
- (vii) The land/villages within the forest which have been vacated shall be brought under the protected area network through enabling notification under Wildlife Protection Act after extinguishing all the existing rights over the vacated land.
- (viii) The extent of land de-reserved/de-notified for resettlement shall not be more than the extent vacated by the settlers in the core area.
- (ix) The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.

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- (x) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- (xi) The user agency and the State Govt. shall ensure compliance of all the Court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force as applicable to the project.
- (xii) Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife, shall be complied by the user agency.
- (xiii) 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 Handbook of comprehensive Guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by Ministry's letter No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
- (xiv) The State Govt. shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions.

Yours faithfully,



(A.K. Jena)

Technical Officer (Forestry)

Copy to:-

1. The Dy. Inspector General of Forests, ROHQ, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Agni Block, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023.
3. The Divisional Forest Officer, Karanjia Forest Division, Karanjia, Dist: Mayurbhanj, Odisha.
4. The Tahasildar, Thakurmunda Tahasil, Thakurmunda, Dist: Mayurbhanj, Odisha.
5. Guard file.

Technical Officer (Forestry)