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GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
FORESTS & ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR
NOTIFICATION

Dated Shillong, the 3rd August, 2023.

No.FOR.34/2022/110:- On the basis of the compliance report furnished by the O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, vide letter No.MFG/22/D/AR-RCC/LRF/3778, dated 09.06.2023 and payment of compensatory levies made by the User Agency, the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to accord '**Final Approval**' under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **0.043 Ha** of forest land for construction of approach road towards the RCC Reservoir to provide potable drinking water to Laitkor and its neighbouring areas in East Khasi Hills subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:-

1. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the Forest Department over **0.18 ha.** in single patch in the blank areas of compartment No.5 in the forest land at Upper Shillong Protected Forest under Shillong South Range in East Khasi Hills District at the cost of the User Agency. As far as possible, mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
3. The boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be suitably 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 and other related items as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer before handing over the forest land to the user agency.
4. The approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to Environmental Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986, if required.
5. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
6. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of the concerned authority.
7. The User Agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surrounding forests and forest land by their actions/activities.

8. Tree felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any, shall be done under the supervision of the Forest Department.
9. The layout plan shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
10. The User Agency shall be responsible for any loss to the flora and fauna in the surrounding. Any damage done in this regard shall be compensated by the user agency from the project cost as per assessment of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
11. The proposal will be implemented under the overall supervision of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
12. No labour camp shall be established on forest land. In order to avoid pressure on neighbouring forests, the user agency should arrange for fuel, preferably alternate fuel, to the labourers working at site.
13. 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 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change vide letter No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
14. The User Agency shall ensure compliance of 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.
15. The complete compliance of the Schedule Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned Deputy Commissioner.
16. 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.
17. The User Agency will have to obtain the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 clearance for stone, river sand, river boulders in forest land, if necessary.
18. The User Agency shall submit an annual self-monitoring report indicating status of the implementation of the conditions stipulated in the approval accorded for diversion of said forest land to the State Government.

- 19. This approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the State Government.
- 20. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change/ State Government may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

Sd/-
 (Syed Md. A. Razi, IRTS)
 Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
 Forests & Environment Department.

Memo No.FOR.34/2022/110-A,

Dated Shillong, the 3rd August, 2023.

Copy to:-

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information.
- 2. The Deputy Director General of Forest (C), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Shillong for kind information.
- 3. The Conservator of Forests (T & WL), Khasi & Jaintia Hills, Shillong for information and necessary action.
- 4. The Divisional Forest Officer, East Khasi Hills & Ri-Bhoi (T) Division, Shillong for information and necessary action.
- 5. The Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department.

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By order etc.,

Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
 SK Forests & Environment Department.

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