

F. No. 8-34/2017-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110 003
Dated: 30th October, 2017
9th Nov.

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal.

Sub: Diversion of 285.700 hectares of forest land for relocation of forest village Malani-II situated in Bori Sanctuary of Satpura Tiger Reserve to RF - 154 of Bhora Range of North Betul in Betul District of Madhya Pradesh.,

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Addl. Principal Chief conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, State Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter No. F-5/802/2016/10-11/971 dated 12th April, 2017 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of 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 constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby agrees *to accord stage-I / In-principle* approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the diversion of 285.700 hectares of forest land for relocation of forest village Malani-II situated in Satpura Tiger Reserve to RF - 154 of Bhora Range of North Betul in Betul District of Madhya Pradesh, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) The legal status of the diverted forest land will be revenue land;
- (ii) The User Agency shall obtain the Environment clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required under the said Act;
- (iii) The forest land vacated by the villagers inside the Satpura Tiger Reserve shall be afforested/developed as per the prescriptions of the management plan of the Tiger Reserve;
- (iv) State Govt. would carry out relocation, social economic analysis which would be submitted to this Ministry;
- (v) 100% enumeration of the existing tree growth in the proposed site be carried out and all fully grown trees like Tamarind, Neem etc. which are part and parcel of the daily life of villagers are retained;
- (vi) State Forest Department at appropriate level shall be made part of the body responsible for preparing detailed layout plan of the village so as to 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 village, as natural groves;
- (vii) Connectivity of the proposed residential site of the village to the metal road should be worked out in advance;
- (viii) Felling of trees on the forest land being diverted shall be reduced to the bare minimum and the trees should be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.

- (ix) 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;
- (x) The boundary of the forest land being diverted shall be demarcated on ground by the user agency, using four feet high RCC pillars, each pillar inscribed with the serial number, DGPS coordinated, forward and backward bearings and distance from adjoining pillars etc;
- (xi) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than the specified in the proposal and under no circumstance be transferred to any other agency, department or person;
- (xii) Layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xiii) State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence as prescribed by this Ministry in its letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (pt.) dated 03.08.2009, read with letter dated 5.07.2013, in support thereof;
- (xiv) The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
- (xv) Any other condition that the Regional Office, Bhopal of this Ministry and State Govt. may stipulate from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest & wildlife; and
- (xvi) Activities which may adversely impact the biodiversity of the area and adjacent forest area shall not be carried out;
- (xvii) The State Government shall ensure compliance on the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations Guidelines & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

3. After receipt of the report on compliance to the conditions stipulated in the paragraph-2 above, from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, final/ stage-II approval for diversion of the said forest under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will be issued by this Ministry. Transfer of the said forest land to the user agency shall not be affected by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh till final/stage-II approval for its diversion is issued by this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Nisheeth Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office (Western Zone), Bhopal.
3. The Nodal Officer, under the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.
6. Guard File.

(Nisheeth Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)