



F.No. FC-I/MH-319/2023-NGP /11860

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST
& CLIMATE CHANGE

Integrated Regional Office
Ground Floor, East Wing
New Secretariat Building
Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001
apccfcentral-ngp-mef@gov.in

Date: 11.07.2023

✓ To,

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

Sub: Diversion of 0.0440 ha of Reserved Forest land in favour of TATA Power Co. Ltd., Mumbai for replacement of existing tower no. 24 of 110 KV Khopoli-Davde-Bhira transmission line in Village- Pimpri, Taluka- Mulshi, District- Pune in the State of Maharashtra- regarding.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Government of Maharashtra letter no. FLD-1923/CR-44/F-10 dated 06.03.2023 and APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra letter no. Desk-17/Nodal/Pune/ID-14073(25)/3029/2022-23 dated 09.02.2023 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section- 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Government of Maharashtra letter no. FLD-1923/C.R.44/F-10 dated 02.06.2023 forwarding additional information as sought by this Office vide letter of even number dated 05.04.2023 and to say that the said proposal has been examined in the Integrated Regional Office in light of the relevant provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Guidelines issued thereunder.

After careful examination of the proposal and on the basis of the recommendation of State Government of Maharashtra, the Central Government hereby accords 'in-principle' under Section - 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.0440 ha of Reserved Forest land in favour of TATA Power Co. Ltd., Mumbai for replacement of existing tower no. 24 of 110 KV Khopoli-Davde-Bhira transmission line in Village- Pimpri, Taluka- Mulshi, District- Pune in the State of Maharashtra subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. **Compensatory afforestation**
 - a. The State Forest Department shall undertake plantation of 100 plants over degraded forest land as Compensatory Afforestation, in lieu of forest land being diverted at the cost of the User Agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along with 10% RET species of Pune District shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided;
- iii. The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;

iv. **NPV:**

- a. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) for the 0.0440 ha forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002, 01/08/2003, 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA No. 566 in WP (C) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No. 5-1/1998-FC (Pt.II) dated 18/09/2003, letter No. 5-2/2006-FC dated 03/10/2006, letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009, letter No. 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and letter No. 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 22.03.2022 in this regard;
 - b. Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- v. No tree felling or cutting shall be permitted under instant proposal;
- vi. All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
- vii. The State Government, Maharashtra/ Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra shall ensure settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (No. 2 of 2007) before issuing an order for handing over of forest land to the User Agency as per Rule- 9 (6) (b) (ii) of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 dated 28.06.2022;
- viii. To improve the Forest/ Tree cover and to reduce pollution, as mandated in National Forest Policy, 1988 and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 respectively, the User Agency shall develop a separate nursery at one or more places to raise at least 500 seedlings of forestry species along with bamboo, fruit bearing, medicinal, ornamental and indigenous/local every year. At least 50% of seedlings shall be planted by User Agency in the vicinity of project area including forest area and for hand holding with local people residing in vicinity of proposed area, User Agency shall voluntarily distribute remaining 50% of seedlings to them free of cost. A compliance report including species wise details of seedlings raised, location of plantation area and details of villagers whom seedlings have been distributed need to be prepared every six month and submitted to Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC;
- ix. The User Agency shall submit the project specific Wildlife Mitigation Plan approved by Chief Wildlife Warden along with Stage- I compliance report;
- x. The User Agency in consultation with the State Forest Department prepare a detailed scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in right of way under the transmission line and provide funds for execution of the said scheme to the State Forest Department;
- xi. The User Agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on upper conductor of transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;
- xii. The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas issued by Ministry vide letter no. 7-25/2012-FC dated 05/05/2014 & 19/11/2014;




- xiii. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- xiv. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xv. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xvi. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
- xvii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
- xviii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xix. 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;
- xx. The Forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;
- xxi. The Forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
- xxii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018;
- xxiii. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- xxiv. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

After receipt of a report on the compliance of conditions no iii, iv (a), vi, ix and undertakings, duly authenticated by the competent authority in the State Government, in respect of all other conditions, from the State Government, formal approval will be considered in this regard under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

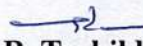
This issues with the approval of DDGF (C)/ Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, MoEF& CC, Nagpur.

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- 110003.
- ii. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- iii. User agency.
- iv. Guard file.


(C.B. Tashildar)
AIGF (Central)