

Dated: 17-10-17

From APCCF (FC) &  
Nodal Officer (FCA)  
Punjab, S.A.S. Nagar.

To Divisional Forest Officer,  
Gurdaspur.

**Sub: - Diversion of 0.99 ha. Forest land for laying OFC from vill Mehta to Hargobindpur near bear bridge total length 22.00 km. LHS, under Gurdaspur forest division & Distt Gurdaspur Punjab.**

Ref: - Your letter No. 1433 dated 17.08.2017.

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Government of India has accorded general approval under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 vide letter No. 11-9/98-FC dated 08-04-2009 dated 02.02.2015 in the cases of laying of Underground Telephone Lines, Optical Fiber Cable/Underground Laying of Drinking Water Supply Pipeline.

After careful consideration of the proposal submitted vide your letter under reference general approval of Govt. of India under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for "In-principle Approval" of temporary diversion of **0.99 ha** of forest land for digging of trenches measuring 22000 mtrs. long and 0.45 mtrs wide along the road for laying of Optical Fiber Cable is hereby conveyed (**Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited**) with directions for strict compliance of the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal New Delhi Dated 19.05.2016 in O.A. 161 & O.A. 162 of 2016 Dr. Amandeep Aggarwal V/s State of Punjab & Others and Peacock Environment & Wildlife V/s State of Punjab & Others Should also be ensured:-

1. Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged.
2. The forest land will not be used for any other purpose.
3. No tree will be felled.
4. Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 28-3-08 in I.A No. 826 in 566..... in W.P.(C) 202 of 1995 has fully exempted NPV provided: (a) no felling of trees is involved; and (b) the areas fall outside National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary.
5. User Agency has given Bank Guarantee of Rs. 5,50,000/- to DFO, Gurdaspur.
6. The Optical Fiber Cable will be laid along the road within the existing right of way and close to the outermost edge of the forest land. The dug out land shall be restored by the User Agency and the same shall be made good immediately after the approved operation.
7. This approval is subject to the clearance of the proposal under relevant local Acts/Rules/Court's Rulings/instructions etc. as applicable.
8. The User Agency shall seek prior permission from the DFO, Gurdaspur for carrying out any maintenance operation.
9. The User Agency shall abide by any other condition (s) that may be imposed by this Department in the interest of afforestation and protection of environment.
10. The State Forest Department may revoke/suspend this approval, if any of the above conditions is not satisfactorily fulfilled by the User Agency.
11. An undertaking is signed by the User Agency for abiding by all the aforesaid conditions.
12. If any other NOC is necessary under any Act/Rules/Guidelines etc. from other Departments, the user agency should obtain the same before the commencement of laying of Cable.
13. **The User Agency shall provide certificate regarding Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers Recognition of Forest Right Act, 2006 from the concerned Deputy Commissioner to Divisional Forest Officer before the work started.**
14. CF, Bist/DFO, Gurdaspur shall ensure fulfillment of the above conditions.

Addl. PCCF (FC) &  
Nodal Officer (FCA),  
Punjab, S.A.S. Nagar

Endst. No. FCA/1980/80/2017/\_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Copy to: -

1. Director (ROHQ) GOI, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh, New Delhi- 110003.
2. Addl. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab, Department of Forests and Wildlife Preservation, Chandigarh.
3. Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Bays No. 24-25, Sector 31-A, Chandigarh.
4. Conservator of Forests, Bist Circle, Jalandhar/DFO Gurdaspur w.r.t DFO, Gurdaspur's letter No. 1433 dated: 17.08.2017
5. Master file

Addl. PCCF (FC) &  
Nodal Officer (FCA),  
Punjab, S.A.S. Nagar