



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
 पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
 FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE**
 क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, **REGIONAL OFFICE**
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**BY****SPEED POST**

F.No.4-KRB 1492/2024-BAN
 Date **As per the signature**

/945

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka,
 Forest, Ecology & Environment Department,
 M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi,
 Bangalore – 560 001.

Subject : Diversion of 1.1594 ha of forest land in 12 villages in Shivamogga District (Shivamogga Wildlife Division) for laying of underground OFC cable within the existing RoW from Biligalluru to Nagavalli in favour of DGM, Jio Digital Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru. (Proposal No. FP/KA/OFC/144741/2021)

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. FEE 12 FLL 2023 (e) dated 16/10/2024, 31/05/2025 (received online on 09/07/2025) and 16/12/2025 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the above project.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of **1.1594 ha** of forest land in 12 villages in Shivamogga District (Shivamogga Wildlife Division) for laying of underground OFC cable within the existing RoW from Biligalluru to Nagavalli in favour of DGM, Jio Digital Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru, subject to the following conditions:-

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. 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.
3. The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal as per the guideline issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06/01/2022 and as per the

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provision of Chapter 3 of the consolidated Guidelines and Clarification issued vide MoEF&CC order dated 29.12.2023.

4. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
5. The Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised 2.7 ha of DFL identified in sy no 98 A, Tatwanagi Village, Haliyal range, Uttar Kannada **within two years from the date of Stage –II Clearance** and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency and at least 1000 plants per hectare shall be planted.
6. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in the designated CAMPA account of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme shall include demarcation of CA area using concrete pillars of suitable size, provision for planting, SMC works and appropriate provision for anticipated cost escalation for the works scheduled for subsequent years. The CA will be maintained for 10 years.
7. The User Agency shall undertake that the conditions stipulated in the meeting held on 03.11.2022 by the State Board of Wildlife shall be strictly complied with.
8. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
9. The KML file of the forest area to be diverted and CA area shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with compliance report including GPS ids of E-Green watch portal.
10. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the project life.
11. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
12. No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
13. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
14. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 1.1594 ha. The user agency shall furnish the undertaking to this effect.
15. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
16. After completion of the project the area under RoW should be reclaimed suitably.
17. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
18. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
19. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year.

20. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
21. The user agency shall comply with 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.
22. The State Govt. shall ensure that the complete compliance of FRA 2006 as per the rule 11 (7) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023.
23. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.
24. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

After receipt of the compliance report on the fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under section '2(1)' of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be effected till final approval is granted by the Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions within 5 years, the in-principle approval may be revoked by the Central Government.

Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by
Praneetha Paul
(Praneetha Paul)

Date: 20/01/2026
Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority, Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, 3rd Floor (Front Portion), Supreme Court Metro Station Building (Line-3), New Delhi-110 001.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ Division), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru – 560 003.
4. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (VSESA) /Nodal Officer (VSESA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru – 560 003.
5. The Chief Executive Officer, State CAMPA, office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya

Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.

6. The DGM, Jio Digital Pvt Ltd, No. 51, RMZ Icon, Palace Cross Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru -560 052.
- ✓ 7. Guard file.