



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

F.No.4- GOC 1237/2020-BAN

Date **As per the signature**

To

**The Principal Secretary (Forests),**

Government of Goa,  
 Secretariat Annexe,  
 Secretariat, Porvorim,  
 Goa -403 521.

**Subject: Diversion of 28.18 ha (revised from 29.836 ha.) of forest land for four laning of existing NH -17 from km 475.040 to km 611.000 in the State of Goa on BOT (Toll) basis under NHDP-III (Patradevi to Pollem Section) in South Goa Division in favour of the Executive Engineer, WD Division VII (NH), Public Works Department, Panaji, Goa - reg.**

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 6-863-2020-21-FD/34 dated 20.04.2020, letter No.6-863-2020-21-FD/3261 dated 10/11/2020 and letter No.6-863-2022-23-FD/2534 dated 06/09/2022 seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of the above project. The in-principle (Stage-I) approval to the project was accorded by the Central Government vide letter of even number dated 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2022. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Monitoring & Evaluation, Forest Department, Government of Goa's letters No.6-863-2024-25-FD/3563 dated 26/11/2024 and No.6-863-2024-25-FD/4012 dated 23/12/2025 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated by the Central Government in the in-principle approval. The National Authority vide letter No.1-17/2019-NA dated 06/02/2025 has confirmed the receipt of Rs. 9,25,26,480/- payment made by User Agency in the CAMPA account of maintained by the Karnataka State Forest Department.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey Central Government's final approval (**Stage-II**) under Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of **28.18 ha** of forest land for four laning of existing NH -17 from km 475.040 to km 611.000 in the State of Goa on BOT (Toll) basis under NHDP-III (Patradevi to Pollem Section) in South Goa Division in favour of the Executive Engineer, WD

Division VII (NH), Public Works Department, Panaji, Goa, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar.
3. Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over double the extent of degraded forest land in the State of Karnataka in Sy. No. 162,163,164,165,173,174 and 175 (p) to an extent of 75 ha identified in Dharwad District, 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 over identified degraded forest land within two years of grant of final approval.
4. The State of Goa shall ensure successful raising of Compensatory Afforestation in double the extent of degraded forest land in the State of Karnataka as proposed by the State of Goa and its maintenance. The State Government shall submit a compliance of raising Compensatory Afforestation within two years of the sanction of the project.
5. The KML file of the area diverted and compensatory afforestation area shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details.
6. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the user agency.
7. Mitigative measures as prescribed by Chief Wildlife Warden which was submitted vide letter No.6-863-2024-25-FD/4012 dated 23/12/2025 shall be undertaken by the User Agency.
8. The User Agency shall restrict the width and number of trees to be felled to a minimum required extent and number as per their technical requirements, in line with the decision by Central Empowered Committee and Hon'ble Supreme Court in similarly placed NH 4A in the State of Goa.
9. All statutory clearances including Environment Clearance, if applicable shall be obtained before commencing the work in forest area.
10. Suitable soil moisture conservation works needs to be taken up on either side of the road, wherever vulnerable. Further to stabilize the cutting and fillings and to prevent them from affecting the adjacent vegetation, suitable slope stabilization measures including greening, shall be undertaken.
11. During the construction process, strict engineering/other containment measures shall be adopted to prevent the cutting or the cut material from spilling over beyond the area diverted.
12. 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.
13. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
14. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
15. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User

Agency to the labour after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.

16. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
17. 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.
18. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
19. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
20. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 28.18 ha.
21. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area.
22. 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, Bengaluru by the end of March every year.
23. Any other condition that the Central Government may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.
24. The State Government and user agency shall comply the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT order & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
25. The conditions required to be adhered under the Forests Right Act, 2006 as per the guidelines issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 shall be strictly complied with.
26. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

Yours faithfully,

**(Yasodha K)**

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, Forest Department, Government of Goa, Panaji (GOA), PIN- 403001.
4. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Goa, Panaji (GOA), PIN- 403001.

5. The Chief Executive Officer, CAMPA, Forest Department, Government of Goa, Panaji (GOA), PIN- 403001.
6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18<sup>th</sup> Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru – 560 003.
7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (VSESA) /Nodal Officer (VSESA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18<sup>th</sup> Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru – 560 003.
8. The Chief Executive Officer, State CAMPA, office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18 th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
9. The Executive Engineer, WD Division VII (NH), Public Works Department, 13-A, C Type Government Quarters, Patto, Panaji, Goa 403 001.
10. Office Copy / Guard file.