F.No. 8-02/2022-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)
*****

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jor bagh Road
New Delhi– 110003
Dated:11-03-2026

To

The Secretary (Forests),
Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,
Government of Mizoram.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in f/o Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Mizoram for non-forestry use of 63.441 ha Reserved forest land for construction of National Institute of Technology in Aizawl District in the State of Mizoram (Online Proposal No FP/MZ/SCH/148602/2021)- regarding.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer toState Government of Mizoram's letter no G.20015/61/2018-FST dated 0302.2022 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal, ***'in-principle'/Stage-I*** approval to the proposal was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 07.06.2023 read with letter dated 04.11.2024 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions prescribed therein. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Government of Mizoram vide their letter No. G-20/53/2025-EFCC dated 03.09.2025, letter No. G-20/53/2025-EFCC dated 14.10.2025 and letter No. G-20/53/2025-EFCC dated 14.01.2026 forwarding additional information as sought by Ministry on 22.09.2025 and 24.11.2025, ***'final approval/ Stage- II'*** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Mizoram for non-forestry use of 63.441 ha Reserved forest land for construction of National Institute of Technology in Aizawl District in the State of Mizoram subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
ii. Compensatory Afforestation:

a. The State Government shall ensure that Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised and maintained over already identified non- forest land (NFL) over an area of 64.25 ha. and 86 ha Penal Compensatory Afforestation land at the cost of the User Agency. Since 53 ha. NFL identified for CA is medium Dense Forest (MDF) and cannot accommodate 1000 plants/ha, therefore balance seedlings shall be planted over degraded forest land (DFL) identified in Mamit Forest Division or elsewhere in other districts/divisions in the State.
b. The non-forest land identified for CA and penal CA, transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department, shall be notified by the State Government as PF under Section- 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act before handing over of forest land to the user agency.

iii. The State Government has realized the NPV of the forest area diverted under this proposal from the User Agency, as per the orders dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines given under para 3 of the Chapter- 3 of the Consolidate Guidelines and Clarifications issued under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 published by the Ministry on 29.12.2023, the user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
iv. The State Government shall ensure that 18 ha area proposed to be developed as Green zone shall not be used for any construction activity in the future;
v. As far as possible, the construction should be done using eco-friendly materials and the campus be developed as a green campus to the best extent possible in order to maintain the micro-climate of the area;
vi. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
vii. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
viii. The State Government shall ensure that forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal. Thus, the State Govt. ensure that the forest land shall be used exclusively for the purpose of National Institute of Technology as per the plan approved from the competent authority. No commercial activity shall be allowed on forest land;

ix. The State Government shall ensure that no labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
x. The State Government shall ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
xi. The State Government shall ensure that 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, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS coordinates;
xii. The State Government shall ensure that no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
xiii. The State Government shall ensure that no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
xiv. 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;
xv. The State Government shall ensure that layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
xvi. The State Government shall ensure that 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;
xvii. The State Government shall ensure that 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;
xviii. The State Government shall ensure that User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
xix. Any other condition that the concerned Integrated Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, with prior approval of competent authority, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
xx. The user agency shall comply 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;

xxi. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval letter dated 07.06.2023 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S), if any, or the time being in force, including compliance of the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2006, before handing over the forest land to the user agency;

xxii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 29.12.2023; and

xxiii. The Government of Mizoram shall demarcate all the forest land in State to avoid similar complications in future. A time-bound action plan should be made, which will be submitted to MoEFCC.

Digitally signed by Charan Jeet Singh
Date: 11-03-2026 22:38:55

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'E'

Copy to: -

1. The PCCF & HoFF, Govt. of Mizoram.
2. The Nodal Officer, Government of Mizoram.
3. The DDGF (C) Regional Office, Shillong, MoEF&CC.
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF& CC, New Delhi for uploading.
5. User Agency.