F. No. 8-70/2018-FC

Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj New Delhi – 110 003 **Dated:** (**March, 2019

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Department of Forests & Environment, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.

Sub: Diversion of 40.5084 ha. of forest land in favour of ADM- cum-Dy. DIR ADMN C/o ADM Office Bilaspur for the construction of proposed AIIMS at Kothipura, within the jurisdiction of Bilaspur Forest Division, District Bilaspur, State of Himachal Pradesh (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/DISP/35397/2018)-regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the PCCF (HoFF), Himachal Pradesh's letter No. Ft.48-3781/2018 (FCA) dated 16.08.2018 on the above subject, wherein prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of 40.5084 ha. of forest land in favour of ADM- cum- Dy. DIR ADMN C/o ADM Office Bilaspur for the construction of proposed AIIMS at Kothipura, within the jurisdiction of Bilaspur Forest Division, District Bilaspur, State of Himachal Pradesh, was sought in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under Section-3 of the said Act, *In-principle approval /stage-I clearance* for diversion of the proposed forest land was accorded by the Ministry vide its letter of even number dated 30.01.2019 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. The State Government of Himachal Pradesh has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the stage-I approval and has requested to 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 Nodal Officer-Cum-APCCF (FCA), Himachal Pradesh's letter No. Ft.48-3781/2018 (FCA) dated 21.02.2019, **Final approval/Stage – II Clearance** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 40.5084 ha. of forest land in favour of ADM- cum- Dy. DIR ADMN C/o ADM Office Bilaspur for the construction of proposed AIIMS at Kothipura,

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within the jurisdiction of Bilaspur Forest Division, District Bilaspur, State of Himachal Pradesh, subject to the following conditions-:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency will manage the unused area within the diverted forest area as green cover, planting with local species in consultation with the State Forest Department;
- iii. The State Government shall ensure that after dumping is completed, the proposed dumping sites will be reclaimed in a phased manner and shall be kept as green cover by the funds already deposited by the user agency;
- **iv.** The Compensatory Afforestation shall be done over double degraded forest land to the forest area proposed to be diverted within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved CA Scheme in consultation with the State Forest Department at the funds already deposited by the User Agency.
- v. At the time of payment on 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;
- vi. The User agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- vii. Layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- viii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person;
 - ix. The State Government shall ensure that felling of trees, if unavoidable on the forest land being diverted will be reduced to the bare minimum and trees should be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department. Moreover it shall be ensure that wherever possible maximum marked trees for felling should be translocated in the consultation of the State Forest Department;
 - x. The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence Page 2 of 3

Decl, 8.3.11:

- as prescribed by this Ministry in its letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013 in support thereof;
- xi. The State Government shall ensure that boundary of the forest land proposed to be diverted shall be demarcated on ground at the funds already deposited by the User Agency, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates;
- **xii.** Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- xiii. The user agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and this Ministry by the end of March of every year regularly; and
- **xiv.** The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (s) and National Green Tribunal (NGT) Order(s), if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Sharma) H3/15.

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The PCCF, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.

- 2. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office (North Central Zone), Dehradun.
- 3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department O/o PCCF, Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.

4. User Agency.

5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.

6. Guard File.

(Sandeep Sharma) 3/15

Assistant Inspector General of Forests