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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE
SUB -OFFICE
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File No. FC-II/CH-89/2018-NGP/1610

Date: - 27/03/2024

To,
Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Forest Department, Mantralaya,
Mahanadi Bhavan, Nava Raipur, Atal Nagar (CG).

Sub: Diversion of 24.585 ha of forest land in Favour of NHAI, Bilaspur for Rehabilitation and upgrading to 4-lane with Paved Shoulder Configuration of Bilaspur- Katghora section of NH-111 Bilaspur District in the state of Chhattisgarh-reg.

Sir,

Kindly refer to the letter no. F5-31/2018/10-2 dated 18.09.2018 of the State Government of Chhattisgarh, on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section -2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. It is to say that after examination of the proposal of the State Government, 'In-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter dated 14/02/2019. The State Government of Chhattisgarh has now submitted a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval and requested for final approval of the proposal.

In this connection, it is informed that on the basis of compliance report submitted by the letter no. Krmank/ F5-31/2018/10-2 dated 24.11.2023 of Government of Chhattisgarh and letter no. Bhu-Prabandh/Misc./115-737/2492 dated 03.11.2023 of the Addl. PCCF and Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Chhattisgarh, on the recommendation by the State Government, the Central Government hereby accords **"Final /Stage-II Approval"** under Section- 2 (i) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 24.585 ha of forest land in Favour of NHAI, Bilaspur for Rehabilitation and upgrading to 4-lane with Paved Shoulder Configuration of Bilaspur- Katghora section of NH-111 Bilaspur District in the state of Chhattisgarh, which is subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. **Compensatory Afforestation:**
 - a. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 51.256 ha. of Revenue forest land, Khasrah no. 1, 3,100/1 and 101 land is located at village- Jaitpuri (Chilhathi), Block- Masturi, Tehsil- Bilaspur Dist. Bilaspur (CG) at the cost of User Agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along with 10%

- RET species of Raipur District shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided. The User agency shall make necessary facility/ construction in the area to meet the water requirement for plantation and for wild animals throughout the year;
- b. The non-forest land which has been transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the State Forest Act. The Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 may report compliance within a period of six (6) months from the date of grant of final approval and send a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, to this Office for information and record;
- iii. The cost of Compensatory Afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- iv. **NPV:**
- a) Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- v. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portai (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
- vi. The State Government of Chhattisgarh/ Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department of Chhattisgarh shall ensure settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (No. 2 of 2007) before issuing an order for handing over of forest land to the User Agency as per Rule- 11 sub-rule (7) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 dated 29.11.2023;
- vii. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- viii. 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;
- ix. The user agency shall arrange to raise strip plantation on either side of the road and central verge at project cost, as per IRC specification, with maintenance of 10 years.
- x. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.

- xi. The reclamation of quarry should be done under the supervision of the State Forest Department. The quarry shall be reclaimed and afforested completely before the project is closed.
- xii. Overburden shall not be dumped outside the width of the road. The muck generated in the earth cuttings will be disposed of at the designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be allowed to roll down the hill slopes.
- xiii. The user agency will provide retaining walls, breast walls and drainage as per requirement to make the slope stable;
- xiv. The User Agency shall prepare and implement a comprehensive Soil Conservation Plan in the forest area being in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
- xv. The designing of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals should be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals.
- xvi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xvii. 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;
- xviii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- xix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- xx. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval on the Central Government.
- xxi. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- xxii. The existing carriageway in the forest area, in the patches corresponding to re-alignments, shall be dismantled and land shall be handed over back to the State Forest Department. A reclamation plan by planting suitable species of trees be prepared in consultation with the Forest Department and the amount so required will be deposited with the forest department by the user agency for taking up reclamation of the area, Exact extent of area to be recovered may be reported. A copy of plan so prepared shall be submitted to Regional Office, Raipur.
- xxiii. Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
- xxiv. The user agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the **avifauna**, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;
- xxv. The User Agency shall submit six monthly self- compliance reports as on 1st January and 1st July of every year to this office as well as to the Nodal Officer of the State;

- xxvi. The State Government shall monitor compliance of conditions of Forest Clearance and shall submit in this regard yearly report as on 31st December of every year;
- xxvii. 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;
- xxviii. 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;
- xxix. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- xxx. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

Chibh
27/3/24
Chaturbhuja Behera, IFS,
Inspector General of Forests.

Copy to:-

1. The Inspector General of Forests (RoHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi- 110003.
2. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Chhattisgarh, Aranya Bhawan, Sector-19, Nava Raipur, C.G
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Chhattisgarh, Aryan Bhawan, Nawa Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
4. User agency.
5. Guard file

Chibh
27/3/24
Chaturbhuja Behera, IFS,
Inspector General of Forests.