भारत सरकार



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय

INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE

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F.No.4-KRC1227/2020-BAN/ 21
Dated the 5th April, 2022

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 10.45 ha. of forest land in Devalli, Kalambuli and Konashet villages in Kyasalaraka Hobli, Jodi Taluk, Uttara Kannada District (Haliyal Forest Division and Kali Tiger Reserve) for doubling of Tinaighat-Castlerock-Carzon Railway Lane (Southern Western Railways) in favour of Chief Engineer (Construction), Club Road, Keshwapur, Hubbali, Dharwad District - reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No.FEE 02 FLL 2019 dated 28/01/2020 and 30/01/2021 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 04th February, 2021. The State Government vide letter No.FEE 13 FLL 2020 (e) dated 05/01/2022, 02/03/2022 and 04/04/2022 has reported compliance to the conditions stipulated by the Central Government in the in-principle approval.

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' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 10.45 ha. of forest land in Devalli, Kalambuli and Konashet villages in Kyasalaraka Hobli, Jodi Taluk, Uttara Kannada District (Haliyal Forest Division and Kali Tiger Reserve) for doubling of Tinaighat-Castlerock-Carzon Railway Lane (Southern Western Railways) in favour of Chief Engineer (Construction), Club Road, Keshwapur, Hubbali, Dharwad District, subject to the following conditions:-

- 1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
- 2. The boundary of the forest land to be diverted shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 3. Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over double the degraded forest land over an extent of 21.0 ha. of degraded forest land in Sy.No. 69 of Belavattagi village, Belavattagi Reserve Forest, Murakwad Hobli, Haliyal Taluk, Uttara Kannada District shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency.

The State Government shall obtain prior permission of Central Government for change of location and schedule of compensatory afforestation, if any.

- 4. The 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 User Agency and the same shall be transferred to the designated Adhoc CAMPA Account.
- User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
- The KML file of the area diverted, SMC works and CA area shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details before issue of final approval by the State Government.
- All statutory clearances including Environment Clearance, if applicable shall be obtained before commencing the work in forest area.
- 8. The conditions stipulated by the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife and Chief Wildlife Warden shall be strictly complied with.
- 9. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the railway line at regular intervals in the Protected Areas / Forest Areas.
- 10. The mitigation measures as proposed by Wildlife Institute of India in Tinaighat to Caranzol stretch of the forests needs to be strictly adhered to.
- 11. Suitable soil moisture conservation works needs to be taken up on either side of the track, wherever vulnerable.
- 12. To address the apprehensions of the people as well as to prevent spillage of ore, coal, etc., all the rakes of the freight trains shall have a spill proof/ sealed cover, which is presently absent.
- 13. Further, provision for long term monitoring of the impact of the project, the effectiveness of the mitigation measures undertaken and analysis of coursecorrections required if any should be part of the Management Plan to ensure long time well being of the forests & wildlife.
- 14. The Railway authorities shall issue standing instructions to its staff and officers concerned to closely co-ordinate and co-operate with the local State Forest Department officials during and after the project implementation.
- 15. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 16. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.

- 17. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel shall be provided by the User agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- 18. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
- 19. No additional or new permanent paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 20. The forest area shall be used for the purpose for which it is granted. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 10.45 ha.
- 21. 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.
- 22. 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.
- 23. 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.
- 24. 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.
- 25. 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.
- 26. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
- 27. 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.

Yours faithfully,

(B.N.Anjan Kumar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

 The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.

- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) /Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
- The Deputy Chief Engineer IV (Construction), South Western Railway, Old GM Building, Club Road, Keshawpur, Hubli – 580023.

4. Guard file.

B.N.Anjan Kumar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)