

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, उन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440001, apccfcetral-ngp-mef@gov.in



F.No. FC-II/MH-203/2022-NGP/ 14-334

Date: 09.06.2025

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Revenue and Forest Department, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk Madam Cama Marg, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400032.

Sub: Diversion of 6.295 ha of Reserved Forest land in favour of MSRDC, Mumbai for Rehabilitation and Up-gradation of Pahur-JamnerBodhwad-Muktainagar-Barhanpur(Km 0+000 to Km 78+145,NH-753 L) to two lane with paved shoulder in Villages- Jamner&Sonari, Taluka- Jamner, District-Jalgaon in the State of Maharashtra- Final approval regarding.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to State Government of Maharashtra letter no. FLD-1922/CR-206/F-10 dated 10.11.2022 and The APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra Letter No. Desk-17/Nodal/Dhule/ID-13054/1017/2022-23 dated 22.07.2022 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, 'in-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter of even number dated 06.04.2023. The State Government of Maharashtra's letter no. FLD-1922/C.R.206/F-10 dated 20.07.2023 and The Addl. PCCF and Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, vide his letter no. Desk-17/FCA-S1/PID-13054/Dhule/523/24-25 dated 03.06.2025 submitted compliance report as sought vide this office letter of even number dated 11.09.2023 and requested to grant final approval to the proposal.

After careful consideration of the proposal and compliance report, I am directed to convey the Central Government's <u>'final approval'</u> under Section- 2 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 diversion of **6.295 ha** of Reserved Forest land in favour of MSRDC, Mumbai for Rehabilitation and Upgradation of Pahur-JamnerBodhwad-Muktainagar-Barhanpur(Km 0+000 to Km 78+145,NH-753 L) to two lane with paved shoulder in Villages- Jamner&Sonari, Taluka- Jamner, District- Jalgaon in the State of Maharashtra, subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Departmentover 13.00 ha. degraded Forest land at Compartment No. 427 in Village- Lakh, Taluka- Jamner, District-Jalgaon from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along with 10% RET species of Jalgaon District shall be

planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided. As proposed water bodies shall be constructed in the form of tank/ stop dams etc in nearby vicinity. Further, if existing tanks/ stop dams are available and needs desilting/ repair; same shall be carried out to meet the water requirement of wild animals throughout the year;

- iii. 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;
- iv. User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department. Maximum numbers of trees in outer RoW will be kept intact;
- v. The State Government, Maharashtra/ Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra 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 the VSS Rules;
- vi. To improve the Forest/ Tree cover and to reduce pollution in the State, as mandated in National Forest Policy, 1988 and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 respectively, the User Agency with involvement of Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMC's) and in consultation with local DCF shall raise at least 10,000 seedlings of forestry species along with bamboo, fruit bearing, medicinal, ornamental and indigenous/local for 10 years. At least 50% of seedlings shall be planted in the vicinity of project area and remaining 50% of seedlings shall be distributed among villagers as per choice of villagers. The concerned JFMC's shall maintain record of plantation/ seedling distribution to villagers;
- vii. The trees having bird nests shall not be felled without written permission from the DCF concern both in forest as well as non-forest land;
- viii. The Forest Department shall carryout the avenue plantation by planting 8 feet tall suitable species outside RoW passing through the Forest Areas as well as non-forest areas as per the IRC norms from the amount which has already been realized from the cost of User Agency;
- ix. For smooth movement of resident wildlife and cattle all hume pipes in the forest area shall be converted in to the box culverts as per the proposed size in consultation with the DCF concern;
- x. 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 need to be prepared in consultation with the Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency;
- xi. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas;
- xii. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of

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the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;

- xiii. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xiv. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xv. 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;
- xvi. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
- xvii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xviii. 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;
- xix. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal and **diverted forest area shall not exceed 6.295 ha**
- xx. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
- xxi. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and action would be taken as per the provision of Adhiniyam and rules/guidelines issued there under
- xxii. 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;

This order issues with the approval of Competent Authority, Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur.

Yours faithfully,

(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale) AIGF (Central)

Copy to:

- IGF (RoHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110003 (For Information)
- 2. PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur
- 3. User Agency
- 4. Guard File