

File No.:6-MPR015/2023-BHO
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.
Dated: As per E-sign.

To

**The Principal Secretary (Forests)
Government of Madhya Pradesh
Bhopal.**

Sub: Diversion of 244.039 ha (237.385 ha Dhar & 6.654 ha Alirajpur Forest Division) Reserved Forest land for construction of Chhotaudepur to Dhar New Broad Gauge Railway line in favour of Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction-II) Western Railway in Dhar & Alirajpur Districts of Madhya Pradesh (Online No. FP/MP/RAIL/154962/2022) -reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Madhya Pradesh letter no. F-5/1259/2023/10-11/1712 dated 27.04.2023 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. After careful examination and recommendation of the proposal by the Advisory Committee, constituted under Section-3 of the said Act, 'in-principle' approval under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 08.07.2024 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide their letter No. F-5/1259/2023/10-11/677 dated 18.02.2025, letter no. F-5/1259/2023/10-11/1314 dated 28.04.2025 and letter no. F-5/1259/2023/10-11/1813 dated 02.07.2025, **final approval** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 244.039 ha (237.385 ha Dhar & 6.654 ha Alirajpur Forest Division) Reserved Forest land for construction of Chhotaudepur to Dhar New Broad Gauge Railway line in favour of Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction-II) Western Railway in Dhar & Alirajpur Districts of Madhya Pradesh subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. **Compensatory Afforestation:**
 - i. The Compensatory afforestation over degraded forest, double in extent to the

forest land being diverted, shall be raised by the State Forest Department and the work of compensatory afforestation shall start within two years from the date of grant of Stage - II approval. Further, the State shall ensure that the compensatory afforestation area is made free from of all encumbrances;

- ii. The compensatory afforestation scheme, as approved, shall be implemented by the State Forest Department. The CA will be maintained for 10 years and the CA scheme may include afforestation of indigenous species with appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.
3. The State Government shall ensure that detailed Animal Passage and mitigation plan shall be prepared in consultation with the Chief Wildlife warden **before handing over the forest land to the user agency** and the same shall be implemented by the user agency at its own cost;
4. The State Government has realized the NPV of the forest area diverted under this proposal from the User Agency in accordance with the MoEF&CC's guidelines dated 6.01.2022 read with guidelines dated 19.01.202, 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;
5. The State Government shall ensure controlled speed limit of the trains passing through the forest portion to enable the train drivers to react to the sudden appearance of the wild animals on the track. As and when required, speed of train shall be regulated in consultation with Chief Wildlife Warden of the State Government;
6. The state has informed that there is only one railway station named "jamaniya" in the forest land under the jurisdiction of DFO/Dhar, which comes under compartment number 81 & 82 of Tanda forest range and the required area for jamaniya station is 18.31 ha and the rest 225.728 ha area will be used for Railway line work. The state shall ensure that the no deviation or change in land use from above is allowed without the prior approval of central government.
7. The State Government shall ensure that 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;
8. The State Government shall ensure that the reclamation of quarry, if any, should be done under the supervision of the State Forest Department. The quarry shall be reclaimed and afforested completely before the project is closed;
9. The State Government shall ensure that the user agency will provide retaining walls, breast walls and drainage as per requirement to make the slope stable;
10. The State Government shall ensure that the User agency, if required, will undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures in the area being diverted at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department;
11. The State Government shall ensure that if required, provision for construction of sufficient underpasses for safe crossing of animal shall be made in consultation with Chief Wildlife Warden;
12. The State Government shall ensure that the forest land will be handed over

only after required non-forest land in the project is obtained by the user agency;

13. The State Government shall ensure that the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;
14. The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
15. The State Government shall ensure that 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;
16. The State Government shall ensure that the R&R Plan shall be implemented as per the R&R Policy of State Government in consonance with National R&R Policy, Government of India before the commencement of the project work and implementation. The said R&R Plan will be monitored by the State Government/Regional Office of MoEF&CC along with indicators for monitoring and expected observable milestones;
17. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
18. The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency shall undertake afforestation along the periphery of the reservoir;
19. 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;
20. State Government shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease and safety zone, as applicable, 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;
21. State Government shall ensure that 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. State Government shall ensure that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
23. The State Government shall ensure that the layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
24. The State Government shall ensure that the no additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for the execution of this project;
25. 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;
26. The State Government shall ensure that 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;

27. 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;
28. The 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;
29. 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;
30. 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 shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency;
31. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications on Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter dated 29.12.2023;
32. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the 'Stage-I/In-principle' approval letter of even no. dated 08.07.2024 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, for the time being in force; and
33. As per Sub-rule 7 of Rule 11 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 the State Govt. after receiving the 'Final' approval of the Central Government under sub-section (1) of section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and after fulfilment and compliance of the provisions of all other Acts and rules made thereunder, as applicable including ensuring settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007), shall issue order for diversion of forest land.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal
2. The Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Bhopal.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.