



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE
Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing,
New Secretariat Building Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001.
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F.No. FC-II/MH-213/2023-NGP/14614 Date: 27.08.2025

To,

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

Sub: Diversion of 9.90 ha (revised from 12.2607 ha) of forest land in favour of Thane Municipal Corporation for construction of Balkum to Gaimukh DP Road (NH-3 Connector Ghodbunder By-pass) in Thane District in the State of Maharashtra- final approval-regarding

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Government of Maharashtra's letter no. FLD-1223/CR-86/F-10 dated 27.03.2023 and APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra Letter No. Desk-17/Nodal/Thane/ID-13107(79)/3447/2022-23 dated 15.03.2023 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of **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 24.11.2023 from an area of **12.2607 ha**. The Addl. PCCF and Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, vide his letter no. Desk-17/FCA-S2/PID-148050/Thane/594/2025-26 dated 12.06.2025 submitted compliance report and reported that as suggested by the EAC, MoEF&CC, New Delhi, the User Agency had reduced the area from 12.2607 to 9.90 ha and requested to grant final approval to the proposal.

As the area differs, the proposal was once again considered by the REC in its 130th meeting held on 16.08.2025 and after detailed deliberation, approved the proposal for issuance of final approval for the reduced forest area of 9.90 ha.

After careful consideration of the compliance report and approval of the REC, I am directed to convey the Central Government's **'final approval'** under Section- 2 of the **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980** for diversion of **9.90 ha (revised from 12.2607 ha)** of forest land in favour of Thane Municipal Corporation for construction of Balkum to Gaimukh DP Road (NH-3 Connector Ghodbunder By-pass) in Thane District in the State of

[Signature]

Maharashtra subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground by the **State Forest Department from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;**
- iii. Compensatory Afforestation shall be carried over **15.00 ha.** Non-Forest Land identified at Survey no. 34, at Village-Kukudheti, Taluka-Sindewahim, District-Chandrapur. Since canopy density of the said land is more than 0.4, CA shall be carried over 15.00 degraded forest land in Compt. no. 45 at Village- Mendhebodi, Taluka- Wadsa, District- Gadchiroli, from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;
- iv. 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;
- v. 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;
- vi. **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;**
- 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 forestry 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 User Agency;
- ix. In conformity with Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, the User Agency in consultation with concerned DCF, shall construct box culverts of approximately 2 x 3 mtrs in forest area as well as in non-forest area where there is traditional route of Wildlife movement, for smooth movement of Wildlife and cattle;
- x. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas;

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- xi. **The User Agency shall ensure that the Hon'ble High Court permission for cutting of Mangroves and to take up development activities is obtained and shall implement mitigation measures if any suggest by the Hon'ble Court at the cost of the User Agency;**
- xii. **The User Agency shall comply with all the condition stipulated in the CRZ clearance at the project cost;**
- xiii. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- xiv. **The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;**
- xv. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xvi. 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;
- 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;**
- 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,



(Dayananda.N)

Technical Officer (Forestry)


29/08/25

Copy to:

- i. The IGF (RoHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi- 110003



- ii. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- iii. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- iv. User Agency.
- v. Guard file.


(Dayananda.N)

Technical Officer (Forestry)

29/08/25