



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE
Sub-Office, Raipur
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NAYA RAIPUR, ATAL NAGAR, CHHATTISGARH -
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F. No.: FC-II/IROCH-19/2023/ 83

Date: 6.10.2025

To,

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

Sub: Diversion 28.811 ha (18.245 ha in Bilaspur Forest Division and 10.566 ha. In Marwahi Forest Division) of forest land in favour of M/s Chief Engineer PWD NH Raipur, Chhattisgarh for non-forest purpose under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 proposed for Rehabilitation and Upgrading to 2/4 laning with paved shoulder Under Corridor Scheme on EPS basis of Keonchi to Ratanpur Section NH-45 (Ex.) in Bilaspur and Marwahi Forest Division and District in the State of Chhattisgarh- reg.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh vide letter no. F-5-04/2023/10-2 dated 07.03.2023 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 and with the approval of the REC, the 'in-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter of even number dated 24.03.2023. The State Government of Chhattisgarh's letter no. F-5-04/2023/10-2 dated 01.04.2024 and letter no. F-5-04/2023/10-2 dated 20.03.2025 (received through online on 29.08.2025) submitted compliance report 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 '**final approval**' under Section- 2 of the **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980** for diversion **28.811 ha** (18.245 ha in Bilaspur Forest Division and 10.566 ha. In Marwahi Forest Division) of forest land in favour of M/s Chief Engineer PWD NH Raipur, Chhattisgarh for Rehabilitation and Upgrading to 2/4 laning with paved shoulder Under Corridor Scheme on EPS basis of Keonchi to Ratanpur Section NH-45 (Ex.) in Bilaspur and Marwahi Forest Division and District in the State of Chhattisgarh subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions:

- Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the State Forest Department over 61.414 ha Degraded Forest Land in Pandri village Compartment no. PF-2047 of Marwahi Forest Division, District Gurela-Pendra-Marwahi from the amount which has already been realized from the user agency. As far as

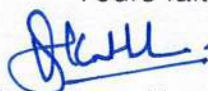
- possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided;
- iii. Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the 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 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 Rules framed under VSSA, 1980;
 - vi. Wildlife conservation plan and Avifauna conservation plan shall be implemented by the State Forest Department from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;
 - vii. The User Agency in consultation with State Forest Department, shall construct wildlife passages in the form of underpasses (box culverts of approximately 3 x 4 mtrs) at regular interval in forest land as well as in non-forest areas, where there is traditional route of wildlife movement, for smooth movement of wildlife and cattle as suggested by Wildlife Institute of India in manual entitled "Eco-friendly Measures to Mitigate Impacts of Linear Infrastructure on Wildlife, published in 2016. Hume Pipe Culverts should be avoided in Forest land as far as possible;
 - viii. The state forest department shall ensure that the user agency shall provide, speed breakers, embankment and also provide wildlife movement sign boards at appropriate intervals along the road passing through the proposed forest area;
 - ix. State Forest Department shall undertake avenue plantation of tall plants as per IRC norms at the cost of User Agency;
 - x. The User Agency shall submit the undertaking for no rehabilitation and upgradation work will be done in revenue forest land Khasra no. 49/1, 0.271 ha and Khasra no. 44, 0.166 ha total 0.437 ha area in the 182 metres length passing through the ESZ;
 - xi. The existing carriageway in the forest area, which will not be used after re-alignment, shall be dismantled and the land shall be handed over back to the State Forest Department;
 - xii. 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;
 - xiii. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the road at regular intervals in the Protected -Areas/ Forest Areas;
 - xiv. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;



- xv. The muck generated while construction of road shall not be kept inside forest area and same shall be deposited in designated place outside the forest area;
- 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. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xxi. 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;
- xxii. 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;
- xxiii. 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;
- xxiv. 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;

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

Yours faithfully,


(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale)
AIGF (Central)

Copy to:

- i. The IGF (RoHQ), MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi- 110003 **for information please.**
- ii. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Chhattisgarh, Aranya Bhawan, Sector-19, Nava Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- iii. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Chhattisgarh, Aranya Bhawan, Sector-19, Nava Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- iv. User agency.
- v. Guard file.


(Vijay Sahebrao Kanthale)
AIGF (Central)