

Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

\*\*\*\*

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,  
New Delhi – 1100 03,  
Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

To,  
The Principal Secretary Forests,  
Department of Forests and Environment,  
Government of Madhya Pradesh,  
Bhopal.

**Sub: Proposal for diversion of 789.93 ha. of Forest Land in favour of Water Resources Department in Damoh District for Construction of Satdharu Irrigation Tank Project in Damoh District in the State of Madhya Pradesh. (Online proposal no. FP/MP/IRRIG/29283/2017)-reg.**

Madam/Sir,


I am directed to refer to the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, State Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter No. No. F-3/82/2017/10-11/12/3691 dated 08.12.2017 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the said Act, '*In-principle*' /*Stage -I* approval to the proposal was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 11.05.2018 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions prescribed therein. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Addl. Principal Chief conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter No. F-3/82/2017/10-11/12/691 dated 19.02.2020, letter No. F-3/82/2017/10-11/12/1809 dated 11.06.2020, letter No. 2562 dated 17.08.2020 and letter No. 3643 dated 27.10.2020 *Stage-II/ Final approval* of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section -2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 789.93 ha. of Forest Land in favour of Water Resources Department in Damoh District for Construction of Satdharu Irrigation Tank Project in Damoh District in the State of Madhya Pradesh, subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The State Government shall ensure that all the compensations, as per the norms and rules of the State Government to the affected persons shall be paid prior to handing over of forest land to the User agency;
- iii. The State Government shall ensure immediate implementation of the Catchment Area Treatment plan approved for this project;
- iv. The State Government shall ensure that forest area nearby shall not be encroached upon due to implementation of the project;
- v. User agency shall ensure that during lean season (in reservoir draw-down condition) the forest areas diverted for submergence will not be used for agriculture;
- vi. The State Government shall ensure that gainful opportunities of work shall be provided on

  
29/12/2020

- priority basis to the nearby resident population while implementing the project;
- vii. User agency shall ensure that water requirement for forestry activity in command area of the project will be provided to the State Forest Department free of charge;
- viii. Effect of the change in water regime on forest vegetation shall be monitored by the State Forest Department through a reputed institute after 5 years, and report will be shared with the Ministry also;
- ix. The State Government shall ensure that no forest land is used for raising compensatory afforestation in lieu of non-forestry use of forest land in this proposal;
- x. The State Government shall ensure that the minimum number of trees/plants/poles shall be removed, but in any case not more than 7,939 no.s be removed and the trees should be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- xi. The proposed forest land i.e. 789.93 ha shall be handed over to the User Agency only after when the User Agency has acquired the required non-forest land, if any, for the project;
- xii. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 789.93 ha non-forest/degraded land at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided;
- xiii. The State Government shall declare non-forest land into RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-20 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act, within a period of six months of issue of the final approval of the proposal by the State Government;
- xiv. 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;
- xv. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall implement afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost;
- xvi. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate alongwith requisite annexures from the concerned District Collector, before issue of final approval of the proposal by the State Government;
- xvii. The User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- xviii. The User agency shall take up afforestation activities all along the Reservoir / Dam / Canal in consultation with the Forest Department;
- xix. The User Agency shall provide free water from the project for all forestry related activities;
- xx. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xxi. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be implement with emphasis that no labour camp be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas;
- xxii. The 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;
- xxiii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the

  
29/12/2020



- project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
- xxiv. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xxv. 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;
- xxvi. The State Govt. and the user agency shall maintain green belt (33%) within the allotted area as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
- xxvii. No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused;
- xxviii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;
- xxix. 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;
- xxx. 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;
- xxxi. The Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the para 1.21 of comprehensive guidelines issued vide this Ministry F. No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2019;
- xxxii. 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; and
- xxxiii. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance of all conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval 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, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project:

Yours faithfully,

  
(Shrawan Kumar Verma)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to: -**

1. The Pr.CCF & HoFF, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
2. The Dy. Director General (Central), Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal.
3. The Nodal Officer FCA, O/o PCCF, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.