

Government of West Bengal  
Department of Forest  
ARANYA BHAWAN  
LA-10A, Sector-III, Salt Lake, Kolkata- 106

No.917-FR/O/L/10T-9/2014

Dated- 08.06.2023

**ORDER**

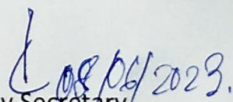
**Sub :** Final (Stage-II) Approval of the diversion of 1.997 ha of forest land in favour National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd for construction of 1000 mtrs length viaduct at Rongpo between km 51.100 to km 53.900 on Sevok-Gangtok Road (NH-31 A) under Kalimpong Forest Division.

With reference to the In-principle/Stage-I Approval accorded by Department of Forests vide No. 1256-For/O/L/10T-09/2014 dated- 5.7.2018, the undersigned is directed to say that the Governor is pleased to accord Stage-II/ Final Approval under Sec 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 1.997 ha of forest land for construction of 1000 mtrs length viaduct at Rongpo between km 51.100 to km 53.900 on Sevok-Gangtok Road (NH-31 A) under Kalimpong Forest Division by the original User Agency, National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd, subject to the fulfilment of the following conditions :

1. Legal status of the forest land diverted shall remain unchanged.
2. Compensatory afforestation shall be raised by the State Government over 4.00 ha of degraded forest land identified in Kalimpong Range, Beat Tarkhola, Block & Comptt. Rangpo-I under Kalimpong Forest Division at the cost of the User Agency. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of Compensatory afforestation and its maintenance for 10 years (revised as on the date to incorporate the existing wage structure) to the Forest Department.
3. The compliance of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights ) Act, 2006 has to be completed in accordance with relevant Rules and Guideline issued by the MoEF&CC, GoI in this regard.
4. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake appropriate afforestation measures all round the project site related to this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department, at the project cost.
5. 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 Officers.
6. The layout plan of the proposed diversion of the forest land shall not be changed without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.

7. a) All the natural streams and water bodies in surrounding area shall be protected.  
b) No labour camp shall be establish inside the forest land.  
c) The User Agency shall provide alternate fuels preferably LPG to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
8. a) The diverted forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified on the project proposal.  
b) The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of the project life.  
c) The diverted forest land shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department, or person without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
9. The User Agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order(s) and National Green Tribunal Order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time in force, as applicable to the project.
10. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MOEF&CC Guideline F.No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018.
11. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests and wildlife.

As has been mentioned at Para-1 of the Stage-II Approval, this approval for diversion of forest land is subject to the fulfilment of stipulated conditions mentioned in this approval letter. Therefore, in the event of non-compliance of any of the conditions laid out in this letter, the Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may withdraw the said approval for diversion of the forest land and stop the non-forest activity being carried out in the forest land besides initiating the legal action as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

  
Deputy Secretary

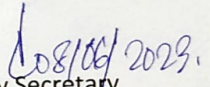


No. 917/1(4)-For

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Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

- 1) The PCCF (HoFF), WB
- 2) The APCCF & Nodal Officer, FCA 1980
- 3) The Inspector General of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, IB-198, Broadway Road, Sector-III, Salt Lake City Kolkata-700 106
- 4) The General Manager, National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd, Near Mount Carmel School, SSB Ground, ward-13, Dr B L Dixit Road, Kalimpomg, West Bengal- 734301.

  
Deputy Secretary