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भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय
लाउसीब, लुम्बटगेन
एम टी सी वर्कशॉप के पास, शिलांग 793021
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No.RONE/F/AP/MISC/2012/3579-81

Dated 28.03.2016

To,

Dr.Anil Kumar,IFS,
Additional Director General of Forests(FC),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Aliganj Jorbagh Road,
New Delhi-110003.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 280.54 ha of Forest land for construction of Talong Londa Hydro Electric Project (225 MW) in East Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh by M/s GMR Londa Hydro Power Pvt Ltd.

Ref: FOR.329/Cons/2010/584-89 Dated 27.05.2015.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am to enclosing herewith the site inspection report along with the necessary annexures.

This has approval of Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(Central).

Yours faithfully,

(B.S.Kharmawphlang)
Chief Conservator of Forests (C)

Enclosure: As stated above.

Copy to,

1. The PCCF cum Principal Secretary, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Department of Forests, Environment & Wildlife, Itanagar.
2. Shri.Sandeep Sharma,IFS,Assistant Inspector General of Forests(FC Division), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Aliganj Jorbagh Road, New Delhi -110003.

Chief Conservator of Forests (C)

Site inspection report for diversion of 280.54 ha of forest land for construction of Talong Londa Hydro Electric Project (225 MW) in East Kameng District of Arunachal Pradesh by M/s GMR Londa Hydro Power Private Limited.

The site inspection was carried out on 28.01.2016 accompanied by Shri.C.D.Singh,CCF(Cons)& NO(FCA),Shri.T.Pali,DFO,Seppa,Shri.Amit Kumar Upraity(GMR)J.M.R Londa HEP Private Ltd,Deputy Forest Civil and Shri.J.M.Ngomdir Deputy Forest Ranger,Seppa.

1. Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion.
Unclassed State Forest under Seppa Forest Division, East Kameng District.
2. Item wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for diversion.
 - (a) *Dam, Power House,TRC ,Coffer Dams and Switch Yard 4.31 ha*
 - (b) *(Upstream)Approach road DT inlet ,Portal and Slope Protection Area 1.62 ha*
 - (c) *(Downstream) Approach road DT inlet ,Portal and Slope Protection Area 2.98 ha*
 - (d) *River Bed area 110.44 ha*
 - (e) *Submergence area 161.18 ha*

Total Area of Forest land required for diversion is 280.54 ha
3. Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes details thereof.

Yes, such construction are identified in the Non-forest land as per the break up at Annexure 16 A

Total cost of the project at present rates.

Rs.2172.90 Crs. As mentioned in Form A Part I Sl.No.1(iii).
4. Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not.

No
5. Vegetation

The vegetation consist of Miscellaneous Spps and in the disturbed area were Jhum Cultivation exist the Agricultural crops and Horticultural crops are mingle with the Forest patches. These Forest patches are seen along the river to a certain extent.

Total number of trees to be felled.

The Divisional Forest Officer Seppa has enumerated and compiled the list of trees to be felled for both Forest and Non-Forest area. Therefore it is not possible to carry out sample checking on the Forest area since there were no sample plots and the trees are not marked in the forest area. The Divisional Forest Officer is to enumerate all the trees in the forest land as mentioned in the item wise break up details at Sl.No.2 above.

As per the records in the proposal the number of trees is to be felled upto 60 cm girth is 14370 and trees above 60 cm girth is 17748. The enumeration has been carried out 3-4 years back, with the biotic interference and the Jhuming of the Forest land by the local people the number of trees in the forest land will definitely be less each year.

The DFO, Seppa will again have to carry out fresh enumeration in the Forest area of 280.54 ha as per the break up at Sl.No.2 above. The trees enumerated are to be serially numbers and the enumeration plot is to be provided by the GPS Co-ordinates.

Effect of removal of trees on the general eco-system in the area.

The effect of removal of trees on the general eco system in the area cannot be estimated as the exact no of trees to be felled in the Forest area is not known to the Forest Department and the Project Proponent.

6. Background note on the proposal.

The Talong Londa Hydro Electric Project was identified as a part of Hon'ble Prime Minister 50,000 MW accelerated Hydro Power Development Scheme. Initial investigations and pre Feasibility Report of the project was carried out by North Eastern Electric Power corporation Ltd.(NEEPCO) in December, 2003. As per the Government Policy for involvement of the private developers, this project was awarded to GEL in January, 2007.

The Project is located about 20 km upstream from Seppa, the district head quarter of East Kameng. The nearest rail head (broad gauge) is at Nayagaon, Assam (310 km). Seppa is at about 290 km by metalled road from Nayagaon. The nearest airport is at Guwahati which is 410 km from the project site, Itanagar, the capital of Arunachal Pradesh is at 290 km from the project site.

The project is a run of the river scheme with gross storage of 92.050 MCM. The project comprises of concrete dam with a maximum height of 108.50 m above deepest foundation level across river Kameng near village Pachi/Londa. The water conductor system consist of 94 m length and 5.2 m diameter three parallel penstocks along the dam surface to feed the three units 75 MW of vertical Francis turbines in surface power house of 225 MW. The power house is located on left bank - toe of the dam. The rated Net Head of the scheme is 71.0 meters with design discharge of 349.23 cumecs and Annual Generation (with 90% dependable) of 890.44 MU.

7. Compensatory afforestation:

The Compensatory Afforestation area has been proposed in four separate sites namely viz :-

(i) Pakiapu under Shoshi Bagan Village 250.00 ha, (ii) N.K. Doka under Doka Village 102.08 ha, (iii) Mebua Camp 107.00 ha and (iv) Rongbuk Mabua 102.00 ha. These sites has been proposed as Village Reserved Forest by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

These 4 sites are not in a compact Block but located at a separate location far from each other. The distance to Sl.No. (i) to (ii) is about 4 hrs journey on foot and by vehicle in the remote area. Sl.No. (iii) and (iv) are located at a distance of about 2 hr journey on foot and is near the PWD road.

The Rongbuk Mabua was inspected along with the Forest Department and it was found that the patches of natural forest are separated by Open Area of Jhum cultivation. Photograph taken during the site inspection are appended as Annexures. As observed in the field thought the area proposed is 102 ha but the Jhum area which is suitable for plantation is approximately 50%. Therefore in order to raise plantation for an area of 102 ha some additional area is to be acquired by the User Agency.

It is to be mentioned that the CA Scheme has been prepared for an area of 280.54 x 2 which is 561.08 ha. The presence of Forest patches in the 3 other sites will definitely lesser the area for a purpose of Compensatory Afforestation of double the area.

The G.P.S Co-ordinates of the 4 sites proposed for Compensatory afforestation are processed in the Decision Support System. The final results on 4 proposed site for C.A is indicates as InViolate(Annexure-1).

8. Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials.

No violation of FC Act 1980.

9. Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not.

Yes, As stated in the State Govts letter No.FOR.329/Cons/2010/584-89 Dated 27.05.2015.SI.No.8.

10. **Reclamation plan:**
Details and financial allocation.

The R & R Plan is under Revision as in the State Govts letter No.FOR.329/Cons/2010/584-89 Dated 27.05.2015.SI.No.8

11. Details on catchment and command area under the project. Catchment area treatment plan to prevent siltation of reservoir.

The Catchment and Command area under the project as per the CAT Plan at Table.2.9 is 1968 ha. These areas are Community Forest Area and Non-Forest Area and No Government Forest area is involved. Submitted by the User Agency in the proposal.

12. Cost benefit ratio.

The Project proponent has submitted the Cost Benefit Ratio in the proposal which has been approved by the State Government while forwarding the proposal to MoEF & CC, Government of India.

13. Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government.

The PCCF of the State Government has recommended the proposal in Part V Dated 20.05.2015.

14. Recommendations of Regional Chief Conservator of Forests (Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests) along with detailed reasons.

The recommendation of the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests will be his forwarding letter to the Ministry.

15. Regional Chief Conservator of Forests shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives routes/alignment for locating the project on the non-forest land.

As this is a Hydro Electric Project there are no other alternative routes or sites as the Percentage of the Forest in Arunachal Pradesh is 81.21 % Source ,India's State of Forest Report 2015.

Numbers of Scheduled caste/Scheduled Tribe to be benefited by the project.

The area of the project is inhabited by the local tribal people of the Arunachal Pradesh. Therefore any development and other related fringe benefit due to the construction of the project will directly benefit these local tribals.

16. Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious value.
Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/forests exists in the areas proposed for diversion.

Whether the land under diversion forms part of any unique eco-system.

The Forest land proposed for diversion is disturbed by the local people for Jhum purpose. Therefore, there are no sacred groves etc and does not form a part of any unique eco system.

17. Situation w.r.t. any P.A.

It is located at distance of approximately 63 kms away from Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary.

18. Any other information relating to the project.

Observations made during the site visit:-

- 1. The dam axis was marked only on the left bank of the river and not on the right bank.*
 - 2. The State Government will have to select other sites for raising Compensatory Afforestation as the proposed Compensatory Afforestation site has been shown as Inviolate in the DSS.*
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3. *The Compensatory Afforestation site which are to be identified must be in a compact location to ensure Protection and Management of the Plantation.*

In view of the above, before the recommendation of this proposal the Divisional Forest Officer, Seppa (i) will have to carry out the enumeration of the trees in the forest area. (ii) To identify 561.08 ha of degraded land for raising of Compensatory Afforestation.

4. *The photograph taken during the site visit showing the location of the dam submergence area and Compensatory Afforestation as enclosed as Annexure -2.*

(B.S.Kharmawphlang)
Chief Conservator of Forests(C)