

Subject:- Forest Land- Hingoli

Proposal for prospecting (Research) for 121.83 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO) in village Dudhala, Anjanwada, Nandgaon Sawali (B), Tal-Aundha (Nagnath), District-Hingoli by taking 150 Bore holes in 0.375 ha. forest area.

PART - V

(To be filled up by the Secretary Incharge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

**1. Recommendation of the
State Government**

The proposal is recommended
vide Government letter
No.FLD-2018/CR-204/F-10
Dated: 28th June, 2018

V. P. Tiwari

(Virendra Tiwari) 28/6/18
Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)

Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)
Revenue and Forest Department
Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032

Place : Mumbai

Date : 28th June, 2018

Government of Maharashtra

By Speed Post

No.FLD-2018/ C.R.204/ F-10
Revenue and Forest Department.
Room No.456/461 Annex,
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,
Madam Cama Marg,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400 032.
Date:- 28th June, 2018

To,

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi.-110 003.

Subject:- Forest Land- Hingoli

Proposal for prospecting (Research) for 121.83 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO) in village Dudhala, Anjanwada, Nandgaon Sawali (B), Tal-Aundha (Nagnath), District-Hingoli by taking 150 Bore holes in 0.375 ha. forest area.

Sir,

The Chief Administrative Officer, Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy (DCS & EM) has submitted the proposal for prospecting (Research) for 121.83 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO) in village Dudhala, Anjanwada, Nandgaon, Sawali (B), Tal-Aundha (Nagnath), District-Hingoli by taking 150 Bore holes in 0.375 ha. forest area. The location of project area is as given below:-

Item of Works	Tehsil & District	Village Name	Compt. No.	Gut No.	Area (in ha)	Legal Status
Boreholes (150 nos.)	Tehsil- Aundha Nagnath)	Dudhala	620,621, 621A	435,434, 406,407, 391	86.97	Reserved Forest
	District-Hingoli	Anjanwada	615C, 616	42	28.86	
		Nandgaon	625C	65,75	4.15	
		Sawali (B)	623	294	1.85	
Total Forest Area (in ha)					121.83	Reserved Forest

2. The proposal has been initiated by the Chief Administrative Officer, Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy (DCS & EM). The Union Cabinet chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister has given approval on 17.02.2016 for setting up mega science project called Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory Project [LIGO- India Project] in India. This project is under joint collaboration with Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO), USA and it is funded by Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and Department of Science & Technology (DST) of Government of India. The LIGO-India shall be a unique facility in the world along with US Detectors for unraveling some greatest mysteries of the universe called gravitational-wave. In this regard, a MoU has been signed in March, 2016 in US among the US National Science, Foundation, DAE and DST in the presence of Hon'ble, Prime Minister of India. The proposed project will bring

unprecedented opportunities for Scientists and Engineers to dig deeper into the realm of gravitational wave and take global leadership in this new astronomical frontier. LIGO, India project will also bring considerable opportunities in cutting edge technology for the Indian Industry, which will be engaged in the construction of 8 km long beam tube at Ultra-High Vacuum on a leveled terrain. Thus, the project will motivate Indian students and young scientists to explore newer frontiers of knowledge, and will add further impetus to scientific research in the country. The total 150 bore holes are proposed within forest area which is required for prospecting (research) in 0.375 ha. Reserve Forest which will temporary be affected.

3. Prescribed Form-C, in accordance with the provision under the amended Forest (Conservation) Rules, as per amendment published in Gazette of India dated 14/3/2014 is enclosed with the proposal.

4. Area Statement is enclosed with the proposal.

5. Index map in suitable scale is enclosed with the proposal.

6. The area belongs to Eco-value class-III and having density 0.1 open forest.

7. The Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli Forest Division, Hingoli has certified that no suitable alternate non forest land is available other than forest land. Therefore the demand of forest land required is the barest minimum.

8. The area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary and Nature Reserve as certified by the Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli Forest Division, Hingoli.

9. The Assistant Director, Department of Archaeology, Mumbai has certified that the area involved does not affect any monument site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance. & The Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli Forest Division, Hingoli has certified that proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.

10. There is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, as certified by the Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli Forest Division, Hingoli.

11. The Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli Division, Hingoli has certified that the proposed project is beyond 10 km of the boundaries of the protected area.

12. The Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli Division, Hingoli has certified that there is no cutting and felling of trees.

13. The user agency has submitted the certificate of Collector, Hingoli under Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dweller's (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 issued vide letters No.2018/land/Acq.602, dt.17/01/2018 and No.2017/land/Acq.561, dt.10/11/2017 in prescribed format (Form I) & (Form II) as per Government of India guidelines dt. 5/7/2013 respectively.

14. The instant proposal pertains only to prospecting for affecting the area of 0.375 ha. only temporarily, the condition of taking up compensatory afforestation and payments of Net Present Value seems to be not applicable at this stage. However, if the exploration leads to finding Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO), it will necessitate submission of proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 and these conditions shall become applicable.

15. As regards the working period for prospecting/drilling, decision may be taken at Government level.

16. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur has recommended the proposal subject to the conditions, given in his specific recommendations, under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. His specific recommendations are enclosed in the proposal.

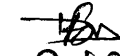
17. In the circumstances explained in above paragraphs and enclosures, the State Government recommends the proposal for prospecting (Research) for 121.83 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO) in village Dudhala, Anjanwada, Nandgaon, Sawali (B), Tal-Aundha (Nagnath), District-Hingoli by taking 150 Bore holes in 0.375 ha. forest area under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on the conditions proposed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur. The matter may kindly be placed before Government of India for its approval under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the same may please be obtained and communicated to this Government at earliest.

Yours faithfully,



(Virendra Tiwari)

Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)
Chief Conservator of Forests (Mantralaya)
Revenue and Forest Department
Mantralaya, Mumbai 400 032


22-08-2012

ok

Encl: A) Set of case papers

b) The following documents are enclosed:-

- 1) Prescribed form as per Rules.
- 2) Certificate regarding minimum demand for forest land for the project
- 3) Area Statement
- 4) Index map of suitable scale
- 5) Brief note of the project from the project authority
- 6) Certificate that there is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
- 7) Certificate in Part-V.

Copy to:

- 1) Secretary (Tribal), Tribal Development Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai.
- 2) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
- 3) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (CAMPA), Maharashtra State, Nagpur
- 4) Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Aurangabad
- 5) Collector, Hingoli
- 6) Divisional Forest Officer, Hingoli Forest Division, Hingoli.
- 7) Chief Administrative Officer, Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy (DCS & EM).
- 8) Select File F-10.