

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Raod, Aliganj
New Delhi – 110003

Dated: 9th October, 2020

To

The Addl. Secretary (Forest)
Uttarakhand Forest Department
Government of Uttarakhand
Dehradun

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 87.0815 ha of forest land for "Expansion of the Jolly Grant Airport" under Forest Division and District Dehradun of the State of Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/Others/44884/2020)

Sir,

I am directed to refer to online proposal No. FP/UK/Others/44884/2020 dated 08.09.2020 received from the State Government of Uttarakhand for obtaining prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 regarding above mentioned subject. After scrutiny of the proposal the Ministry revealed to submit the following certain information/documents/justification related to the proposal from the State Government of Uttarakhand:

1. The area proposed for diversion falls under High Conservation Value area and also that will cause fragmentation of the riverside forests which is situated between the existing runway and the river. Out of the 87.0185 ha proposed area to be diverted 47.0 ha area falls under MDF. Therefore the State Govt, may explore alternatives for the proposal such as acquiring area lying north of the existing runway.
2. As per DSS analysis the entire proposed forest area for diversion falls within the Shivalik Elephant Reserve and elephant corridors within its 1 km radius. Moreover, the notified Kansaro-Barkot Elephant Corridor is located within 5km radius. The State Government should consider avoiding these sensitive areas and explore alternative lands.
3. Proposed forest land is located within 10 km radius of Rajaji National Park/Tiger Reserve. Therefore, status of the Wildlife Clearance/comments of Chief Wildlife Warden and NTCA may be furnished.
4. PDF file namely "DM's Letter for non availability of Civil Soyam Land for CA" as uploaded under column 13 (v) of Part-II is not accessible. Moreover, it is to inform that, certificate from Chief Secretary of the State for non-availability of the non-forest land for CA is required.
5. CA scheme is given for only 5 years. As per the FCA, 1980 Comprehensive Guidelines para 2.8 (ii) (e) detailed work schedule

including year wise operations, soil & moisture conservation, regeneration cleaning, silvicultural and other activities as prescribed in the working plan, species to be planted, including maintenance for 10 years and annual total costs in conformity with cost norms of the State/UT needs to be taken up. Accordingly CA scheme including maintenance for 10 years be submitted.

6. The Ministry had accorded approval for EXTENSION OF JOLLY GRANT AIR STRIP for use of 82.15 hectare forest land on 17.02.2003. The User Agency has not submitted details of old proposal in the online application part-I column B (B-1).
7. Whether any approval for expansion/any other activity related to Jolly Grant Airport given by RO Dehradun/Lucknow?
8. The status of the compliance report of the previous approval dated 17.02.2003 is required.
9. KML file of the already diverted forest land be provided.
10. Details of the employment generation may be uploaded in PARIVESH portal.
11. Undertaking to bear the cost of CA, NPV and Addl. NPV is not given.
12. Approved muck disposal plan be submitted.
13. Brief details of the activity proposed on 49.6725 ha.
14. Forest type (as per Champion & Seth classification) present in the proposed area of diversion may be provided.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests.

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun.
2. The Nodal Officer, (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun.
3. User Agency.
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.