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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bag Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110003 Dated: 9th January, 2023

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai

Subject: Diversion of 73.94 ha forest land for construction of Kareghat Minor Irrigation Tank at Kareghat, Tal. Nawapur, District Nandurbar in the State of Maharashtra (Online No. FP/MH/IRRIG/61238/2020) - regarding.

Madam/Sir.

I am directed to refer to the Government of Maharashtra's letter no. FLD-2022/CR-01/F-10 dated 12.09.2022 on the above cited subject. In this regard following shortcomings have been observed in the proposal submitted by the State Govt.:

- i. The State Govt. has mentioned that three site visits two by DCF & one by the CCF (T), Dhule has been done and the Proposed area 73.94 ha of Kareghat is not part of Conservation reserve. However the DCF, Nandurbar in its Site Inspection Report dated 21.05.2021 mentioned that Nandurbar forest division has proposed some area to be declared as Kareghat Conservation reserve as per WPA, 1972. So this project area will be part of above mentioned conservation reserve if proposal for the same attains finality. This needs clarification.
- ii. The State Govt. has informed that as the area required for the proposed site is barest minimum the proposed site for the Minor Irrigation Tank at Kareghat is most suitable from Technical, Economical and Forest Point of view and no suitable alternate on non forest land is available. However the detail of the alternatives examined along with detailed analysis and KML files of the alternatives examined needs submission.
- iii. The State Govt. has intimated that as the project is minor irrigation tank and it's submergence is very less hence, CAT Plan is not necessary. However the copy of the approved CAT plan as per provisions contained in Handbook of guidelines dated 28.03.2019 is required to be submitted.
- iV. The Cost Benefit analysis is not submitted on the prescribed format as per Ministry's Handbook, 2019 of FC Act, 1980. The same shall be submitted.
- V. The State Govt. has informed that 3.60 ha non-forest area involved in the project will be used for canal. However, KML file of the same is not provided by the State Govt. vide its letter dated 13/12/2022. Moreover, the KML file of Non-forest land involved in the instant project is also not found uploaded on PARIVESH. The same shall be submitted and uploaded.
- Vi. The State Govt. has informed that the area proposed for diversion is 73.94 ha. It has also been mentioned that the revised KML file is enclosed herewith. However, revised KML file of proposed forest land has neither been enclosed nor uploaded on PARIVESH. Further, the State Govt. is again requested to submit/upload the component wise KML file of 73.94 ha forest land proposed for diversion on PARIVESH.
- Vii. The DGPS map showing the component wise requirement of forest land and the latest Survey of India topo-sheet showing the proposed forest land for diversion has not been uploaded on PARIVESH. The

same shall be submitted/uploaded.

- viii. The State Govt. has not provided the reason for uploading copy of technical sanction order against the ownership proof of CA land in online Part-I as the same is still visible in online Part-I. The same shall be submitted.
 - iX. The 7/12 extract submitted with reference to the area proposed for CA does not mention that the area proposed for CA is Non- forest land. It has also not been specified that the Gut No. 117, Taluka Sakri, Dist. Dhule having an area of 77.24 ha has been mutated for the purpose of CA. The State Govt. shall therefore submit the copy of revenue documents indicating that the area proposed for CA is Non- forest land and free from all encumbrances.
 - X. The State Govt. has informed that the Compensatory Afforestation (CA) area has been provided to Forest Department is 91.26 ha but DCF, Dhule has given suitability certificate for 87.00 ha. Remaining 4.26 ha land for Compensatory afforestation is not suitable for plantation. However, the KML file of 91.26 ha Non-forest/ Revenue land given to the Forest Department for CA has not been uploaded on PARIVESH. The KML of the same is also not found attached with the physical copy of the letter furnished by the State Govt. vide its letter dated 13.12.2022. The same shall be submitted/uploaded.

Accordingly, it is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Signed by Suneet Bhardwaj Date: 10-01-2023 15:38:50

Yours sincerely,
Sd/(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

- 1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur;
- The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur;
- 3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur;
- 4. User Agency;
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.