

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110003
Dated: 11th January, 2022

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Department of Forest and Environment,
Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal.

Subject: Diversion of 126.42 ha forest land for the construction of Sarkula Medium Lift Irrigation Project in favour of Water Resource Division under Shivpuri District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online Proposal No. FP/MP/IRRIG/34676/2018) - reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-3/53/2018/10-11/15/4119 dated 09.12.2021 forwarding a fresh proposal on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After examining the proposal, the following shortcomings have been observed:

- i. The area proposed for diversion is more than 40 ha. therefore the Site Inspection Report of concerned CF/CCF is required to be submitted. The inspection report shall also include the the DFL and NFL proposed for Compensatory Afforestation.
- ii. The satellite imagery shows the presence of agricultural lands within the forest area proposed for diversion. This needs clarification.
- iii. The satellite imagery shows the presence of road, check-dams etc within the forest land proposed for diversion. This needs clarification.
- iv. The DSS analysis has revealed that after superimposing the complete project boundary of 320.784 ha over the forest compartment boundary available on the DSS portal, the actual forest area affected through the instant proposal is found to be 208.252 ha instead of 126.42 ha. The user agency needs to submit the revised proposal accordingly with all relevant documents.
- v. The DFO, Shivpuri in his Site Inspection Report has mentioned that "an extent of 126.50 ha non-forest land proposed by the user agency towards CA is not suitable for plantation. The reasons for non-suitability and justification for accepting such unsuitable non-forest land for CA may be submitted.
- vi. The DSS analysis has revealed that the CA patches proposed on the forest land i.e. RF 432 has a steep slope and in another CA patch namely PF 885 a river tributary is passing through it. The state govt. may therefore re-examine the suitability of CA land.

- vii. The copy of CAT plan as submitted does not show that the same is approved by the Principal CCF & HoFF or any other officer authorized by him for the purpose as prescribed under the Chapter-9 at para 9.2 (vi) of Comprehensive guideline Handbook, 2019. The same needs submission.
- viii. The state govt may also specify whether the dam to be constructed will be an earthen dam or otherwise.
- ix. The plan with details for further distributing the water and involvement of forest land in the same may also be submitted.
- x. Out of 126.42 ha of forest land involved 117.24 is going to get submerged however rest of the land is being taken for activities like spillway, control room, road etc. Why can't these facilities be constructed on non-forest land? This needs clarification.
- xi. Project employment details given in the Part-I of the application do not match with the extent of project and the budget involved. The same needs clarification.
- xii. Details of 3 alternatives are not justifiable. The term Live capacity used may also be elaborated.
- xiii. The rates of NPV have now been revised by the Ministry vide letter dated 06/01/2022, therefore the Cost Benefit analysis has to be revised accordingly. The estimated cost of the project may also be cross checked.

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

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

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