GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायू परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE F.No. FC-II/MH-231/2023-NGP 1256 1

भारत सरकार

Regional Office Ground Floor, East Wing New Secretariat Building Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001 apccfcentral-ngp-mef@gov.in

Date: 28.11.2023

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Revenue and Forest Department, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk Madam Cama Marg Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400032.

Sub: Diversion of 8.2222 ha. Forest land in favour of City Industrial Development Corporation Of Maharashtra for construction of coastal road from jalmarg sector-16 Kharghar to Sector-11 in CBD Belapur and Balance Link Transport Terminal in Nerul Mumbai in Mangrove and Raigad District in the State of Maharashtra- regarding.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Government of Maharashtra's letter no. FLD-1223/C-269/F-10 dated 25.09.2023 and APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra's letter no. Desk-17/FCA-S1/PIC-153241/1362/Thane dated 01.08.2023 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that preliminary scrutiny of the proposal in the Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur revealed following:

- i. Consolidated single KML file of entire road alignment under instant proposal, duly highlighting proposed forest area for diversion has not been submitted. The same needs to be submitted.
- ii. The details of structures like bridges and flyovers have not been submitted in general, particularly between chainage 0+700 meter to 1+100 meter. The same need to be submitted.
- iii. KML File of CA land has not been uploaded on PARIVESH portal online in Part-II. The same need to be uploaded.
- iv. The CA has been mentioned to be carried over an area of 9.00 ha of degraded forest land; whereas, the KML file of CA Land is 18.00 ha in measurement. Clarification in this regarding needs to be submitted in light of Guideline No. 2.4 (vi) of the Handbook of Guidelines published on March 28, 2019.
- v. KML File for Alternative alignment has not submitted.
- vi. Details of employment potential in terms of man days of skilled, semiskilled and unskilled persons on permanent (direct and indirect) and temporary (direct and indirect) basis have not been provided. The same needs to be provided.
- vii. It is not clear whether the area proposed for diversion is falling in the Eco-Sensitive zone/default ESZ of Thane Flamingo Sanctuary.
- viii. Status of obtaining Environment and CRZ clearance is not mentioned in the proposal.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the State Government to submit information on the shortcomings, as indicated above, to this Ministry for

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further consideration of the proposal for approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

This issues with the approval of the DDGF(C)/RO (Central), RO, MoEF & CC, Nagpur.

Yours faithfully, (C.B. Tashildar) AIGF (Central)

Copy to:

- i. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- ii. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- iii. User agency.
- iv. Guard file.

(C.B. Tashildar) AIGF (Central)