

F. No. 8-53/2018-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forest and Climate Change
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 30th November, 2018

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Assam,
Guwahati.

Sub: Diversion of 523.046 ha of forest land for construction of Lower Kopili Hydro Electric Project by Assam Power Generation Corporation Ltd. (APGCL) under Dima Hasao West Division, Haflong and Hantren Division, Assam.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Assam's letter No. FRS.152/2018/F-5-40/2016/10-2 dated 30.07.2018 on the above subject proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said proposal was considered in the meeting of Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) on 26.10.2018 and FAC after thorough deliberation and discussion with the APCCF Regional Office and Nodal Officer, Assam, **deferred its decision till the following information on the proposal are furnished** to the Ministry.

- i. From the perusal of detail of Land Use submitted by the user agency it is observed that 176.746 ha have been earmarked for "miscellaneous activities". State Government shall clarify the activities in detail.
- ii. As per land use there are certain activities which are not site specific. State Government and user agency in consultation with Regional Office, Shillong shall explore the possibilities of shifting the activities to non-forest area. Efforts shall be made to minimize the requirement of forest area. Both Regional Office and State Government shall use DSS to minimize the requirement of forest area. The DSS analysis report in this regard shall also be submitted.
- iii. From the perusal of CA land status, it is observed that the CA has been proposed over double degraded forest area. As per FCA guidelines this dispensation is not acceptable for projects of State PSUs. Regional Office, Shillong shall inspect the CA site and submit its report.
- iv. User Agency shall submit approved R&R Plan.

- v. State Government shall submit detail cost benefit analysis in accordance with Ministry's guidelines.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to provide the information/documents as indicated above for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,


(Shrawan Kumar Verma)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests(FC)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Assam, Guwahati.
2. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Assam, Guwahati.
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Shillong.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Divisions.
6. Guard File


(Shrawan Kumar Verma)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests(FC)

