

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110003
Dated: 31st December, 2021

To

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

Subject: Diversion of 1248.821 ha forest land for the construction of Maa Ratangarh Multipurpose Project in favour of Executive Engineer, Dabra under Datia and Gwalior Districts of Madhya Pradesh State (Online Proposal No. FP/MP/IRRIG/40397/2019) - reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-3/50/2019/10-11/6/3729 dated 11.11.2021 forwarding a fresh proposal on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In this regard, the following shortcomings have been observed in the proposal:

- i. As per DSS analysis, the area of Forest land proposed for diversion is 1246.638 ha instead of 1248.821 ha. The correct KML file of 1248.521 ha forest land therefore needs submission.
- ii. As per the satellite imagery, the proposed forest area in Forest Compt. No 31, 23,24,25,29 &14 of Range Seondha under Datia district and Forest compt. No. 137 & 138, Range: Benhat under Gwalior district is having very dense tree cover, whereas the density reported by State Govt. is 0.3 only. In view of the above, the density of forest land proposed for diversion shall be re-examined.
- iii. The number of trees at FRL-2 meters have been mentioned as Nill, whereas the FRL is within the areas of dense tree cover as per the kml files submitted. The correct enumeration detail of the trees may therefore be submitted. The details regarding the local and scientific names of the trees have also not been mentioned in the Part-II which shall be done.
- iv. The total area within the proposed submergence zone at Full Reservoir Level is 3149.648 ha. The complete KML file of said submergence area shall be uploaded/submitted.
- v. It has been observed that some of the CA patches proposed in the villages namely Sankri, Sikata, Bilaw & Bhonpura (Patch-1, Area:5.844 ha) under Bhind District are partially within the Protected Forests (PF). The same can not be accepted for CA.
- vi. It is also observed that one proposed CA patch in Village namely Nunhata (Patch-1,

Area:2.689 ha) is less than 5 ha in area and isolated as well. The same can not be accepted for CA.

- vii. The CA patch proposed in Village Dongarpur (20.618 ha), Datia district appears to be under the submergence zone of instant project. The area within the submergence zone can not be accepted for CA.
- viii. The Detailed scheme for Compensatory afforestation has not been submitted.
- ix. It has been mentioned by the DFO that the 626.06 ha allotted for CA is not according to point no. 7 of the guidelines of MP Forest Department dated 31.07.2020. The State Govt may provide details in this regard.
- x. The copy of approved Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan shall be submitted.
- xi. The state govt. shall re-examine the site specificity of the proposal and submit detailed report along with justification as to why the project can not be executed in non-forest area.
- xii. DFO Datia and DFO Gwalior in their report have mentioned that the user agency need to compensate for the rehabilitation and resettlement for the villagers in various villages. However, the State Govt. has reported that the project does not involve R&R. In view of above the copy of approved R&R plan may be submitted.
- xiii. In case of rehabilitation of people, necessary correction in the Cost-Benefit Analysis is required to be made .
- xiv. High resolution satellite imagery shows the presence of agricultural land within the forest area proposed for diversion which needs clarification.
- xv. As per online Part-II on PARIVESH portal, Wolf, Wild bear and other wild animals such as Hyna, Chital, Nilgai, wild pig etc. are reported in the forest land proposed for diversion under Datia District and Blue Bull, Jackal, chinkarka, rabbit, crocodile etc. are reported under Gwalior district. Since many of the animals as reported are listed in Schedules under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972., therefore the comments of Chief Wildlife Warden in this regard needs submission.
- xvi. The CCF of the area has not found the CA land fit for plantation, however Nodal Officer in his letter has mentioned about recommending the proposal based on a team constituted by the State Govt which has found the land fit for raising CA plantation. In this regard the details of the team constituted, the orders of the State Government in this regard and the ToR given to the team shall be submitted.

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.