FC-II/MH-216/2023-NGP I/92904/2025

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bag Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110003 Dated: As per E-sign

To,

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

Subject: Proposal seeking Ex-post facto approval under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 6.0760 ha of forest land (Zudpi jungle) for laying of 220 KV Kalmeshwar substation to 220 KV Warud substation transmission line in favour of MSETCL, EHV Project Division, Amravati in Taluka - Katol, District-Nagpur in the State of Maharashtra (Online No. FP/MH/TRANS/38296/2019) -regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Maharashtra letter no. FLD-2022/C.R.309/F-10 dated 19.12.2024 on the above cited subject. In this regard following have been observed:

- i. It has been reported that the proposed forest land was notified as Reserved Forest vide notification dated 21.12.2017 and 10.04.2019 and as per proposal timeline, the Nodal officer accepted the proposal on 06.12.2019 and processed the proposal as diversion of 6.076 ha forest land (Zudpi Jungle) whereas the proposal is for diversion of 6.076 ha Reserve Forest land indeed. Therefore, the clarification behind processing the proposal as diversion of Zudpi Jungle land instead of diversion of Reserve forest land needs submission.
- ii. The State Govt. has now reported that the plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) shall be carried out within the RoW of transmission line. However, the approved scheme along with financial outlay and species to be planted has not been submitted.
- iii. Copy of Wildlife Clearance for the instant proposal has not been submitted and same needs submission.
- iv. As per the DSS analysis, the total area of forest land and Non- forest land involved in the project is found to be 235.436 ha instead of 232.2565 ha (226.1805 ha + 6.0760 ha) as reported by the State Govt. Hence, variation of 3.1795 ha in the project area has been observed which requires clarification.
- v. As per the DSS analysis, an area of 0.38 ha Protected forest land in compartment no 78, Katol Range, Nagpur Circle has not been included in the proposal. The State Govt. shall ensure that the proposal involving complete forest land involved in the project shall be submitted.

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vi. As per the DSS analysis, some pre-plantation works are visible within the proposed CA land. The State Govt. shall ensure that the said plantation has not been carried out against CA in some other proposal.

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

Signed by

Yours sincerely,

Dheeraj Mittal

Date: 08-01-2025 11:52:51

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

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