

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

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Date: 12.12.2023

F.No. FC-II/MH-236/2023-NGP /12621

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

Sub: Diversion of 14.979 ha of Forest land in favour of NH Division Amravati for Rehabilitation and Up-gradation of Amravati-Nandagaon-Morshi-Warud-Pondhurna National Highway from existing (Design km 0.00 to 43.00) (Package-I) and existing Km Maharashtra/Madhya Pradesh State Border up to Wardha River Bridge (Design 43000 to 95.390 km) (Package-II) to two lane with paved shoulders in Amravati District in the State of Maharashtra- regarding.

Sir.

The undersigned is directed to refer to Government of Maharashtra letter No. FLD-3123/C.R.140/F-10 dated 27.09.2023 and APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra Letter No. Desk-17/Nodal/Amravati/I.D-12695/297/2023-24 dated 26.04.2023 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 revealed following:

- i. As per the report of PCCF, User Agency has carried out work involving 1.312 ha. of forest land (In Part-II, point 11(i)(c), the violation area is mentioned as 0.207 ha). It is also mentioned that certain Court cases are pending in the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay, Nagpur Bench and Judicial Magistrate First Class, Warud relating to the violation. The present status of the Court cases and whether any specific directions are issued by the Hon'ble Courts relating to the project are not mentioned.
- ii. Part of the proposed area for diversion i.e 9.931 ha. is stated to be falls in Mahendri Conservation Reserve. Therefore, comments of CWLW may be obtained.
- iii. The State Government has reported that the proposed forest and non forest land is part of Tiger Corridor and stated that the User Agency should obtain Wildlife clearance prior to commencement of work (P5/c). The present status of obtaining Wildlife Clearance is not provided.
- iv. KML file of the CA area is not uploaded 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 further consideration of the proposal for approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

This issues with the approval of DDGF (Central), Regional Office, 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)