

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 for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 0.62 ha of Reserved forest land in favour of Telesonic Network Limited, Pune for laying of underground OFC Duct and Cable Within RoW of existing MDR-63 road (Satara-Patan-Aral Route) passing through forest land at Village Tulsan in Satara District in the State of Maharashtra (Online No: FP/MH/OFC/139450/2021) – regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Maharashtra letter no. FLD-2022/CR-273/F-10 dated 24.11.2022 which has been forwarded by the Regional Office, Nagpur as per Sub Rule 2 (v) of Rule 10 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023. After examining the proposal, the following shortcomings have been observed:

- i. As per DSS analysis, the calculated area of Shape file/KML file of Forest land proposed for diversion is found 1606.869 ha whereas the proposal has been submitted for an area of 0.62 ha. Therefore, the correct KML file showing the Forest as well as Non-forest land shall be uploaded.
- ii. The DGPS and Survey of India toposheet map showing the proposed forest land for diversion shall be submitted.
- iii. As per the DSS analysis, the Koyna wildlife sanctuary is located at a distance of 1.34 Km and Chandoli National park at a distance of 3.14 Km. Further the State Govt. in online Part-II reported about presence of Panther, Barking deer, Indian pangolin, Indian wild boar etc. around the project area Therefore, it shall be confirmed whether the project falls outside the eco-sensitive zone of the wildlife sanctuary or otherwise along with relevant details.
- iv. The Copy of approved working plan prescription along with the details regarding the work carried out by the State Forest Department in the proposed area shall be uploaded/submitted.
- v. The details of three alternatives examined by the user agency before selecting the proposed route shall be submitted.
- vi. Land use plan along with complete KML file showing the 'To' and 'Fro' passage of the OFC shall be submitted.

- vii. It has been reported by the State Government that a case has been lodged against the user agency under the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927. Therefore, detailed chronology of the events, violation report and action taken against the un-lawful activity shall be submitted.
- viii. It needs clarification whether the instant proposal pertains to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 or the violation of Indian Forest Act, 1927. Further, the details of Agency/ officer given working permission without seeking prior approval under the Adhinyam,1980 needs submission.
- ix. The DFO in online Part-II reported that the proposed area is within ROW of existing road. Therefore, NoC from the PWD along with copies of approval under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 needs submission.

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, 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.