

8-29/2022-FC

I/36594/2022

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: 23rd December, 2022

To

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

Subject: Diversion of 63.540 ha forest land for development of Green Filed Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra (Online No. FP/MH/Others/42471/2019) - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

This is in reference to the FLD-2022/C.R-272/F-10 dated 18.10.2022 on the above mentioned subject. In this regard, the proposal for diversion of 63.540 ha forest land was considered by the FAC in its meeting held on 09.12.2022.

After thorough deliberations and discussions, keeping in view the location of the proposed area within a Tiger Corridor, the recommendation of the Wildlife Institute of India and the non-site specific nature of the project, the FAC **deferred** the proposal and decided that:

- i. The State Government shall examine the financial viability of the project and submit a detailed analysis/report in this regard.
- ii. The construction of a Greenfield airport is a non-site specific activity and the proposed site is surrounded by Non-forest land. The State Government shall therefore explore other options of using non-forest land instead of using Forest land for the project. The State shall also explore the possibility of expanding the already existing Chandrapur (Morwa) Airport. In this regard the State Govt. shall provide a detailed presentation along with DGCA and MADC before the FAC.
- iii. Keeping in view the ecological importance of the area, the Ministry shall seek detailed comments from WII, Dehradun and NTCA on the instant proposal for the construction of Greenfield airport.

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

Yours sincerely,

Signed by Suneet Bhardwaj
Date: 26-12-2022 10:26:54

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur;
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur;
4. User Agency;

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5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.