

**8-19/2024-FC**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**(Forest Conservation Division)**

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

To,

**The Principal Secretary (Forests),**  
Government of Madhya Pradesh,  
Bhopal.

**Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for non-forestry use of 43.149 ha Reserve Forest land in favour of the Water Resource Department for the construction of Ganga Bawari Tank Project under Neemuch District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online No. FP/MP/IRRIG/32285/2018) - regarding.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, 1980, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-3/82/2018/10-11/16/4572 dated 27.08.2024 received in the Ministry on dated 19.11.2024 on the above cited subject. In this regard, the following shortcomings have been observed in the information submitted by the State Govt.:

- i. The recommendation of the State Government in the Part-V as well as recommendation of the Nodal officer, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh in Part-IV form for the revised proposal has not been submitted/uploaded on PARIVESH. The same needs submission.
- ii. Keeping in view the revised area of the proposal, the state shall ensure that all the requisite documents, recommendations and the site inspection reports of the authorities as applicable are submitted/uploaded.
- iii. The State Govt. has not submitted the basic details of proposed Dam like its height, length, command area, details about the canal/Distributaries, technical approval, hydrological assessment report etc. along with any study carried out in the basin has not been submitted with the proposal. Moreover, any alternative examined with relevant map/ KML file shall also be uploaded/submitted.
- iv. The State Government shall clearly specify whether the proposal involved the violation under Van (Sanrakshan Evam samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 or offence has been booked under the provisions of the Indian Forest Act, 1927. The same needs submission along with detailed report on the action taken by

- the State Government regarding concerned person/ officials.
- v. The minutes of the Project Screening Committee held in the State has not been found uploaded on PARIVESH. The same needs submission.
  - vi. The State Govt. shall re-examine the site specificity of the proposal and submit detailed report along with justification as to why the project cannot be executed in non-forest area.
  - vii. The user agency shall furnish a report from the State Dam Safety Organisation (SDSO) regarding all technical aspects w.r.t the dam. The recommendations shall be implemented by the user agency to avoid any possible unforeseen conditions. The State Government shall obtain approval of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) on the recommendations made by the State Dam Safety Organisation (SDSO).
  - viii. The State shall also intimate whether any study of the impact of the project on the flow of water downstream has been carried out or not?
  - ix. The State shall give the details of the likely socio-economic benefits of the project and the expected changes in the cropping pattern of the area and other likely impacts of the project in detail.
  - x. The Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan is required to be submitted and approved as per Para 9.2 (vii) of consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. The copy of approved CAT plan shall be submitted as above shall be submitted.
  - xi. The user agency has proposed to establish many components over the forest land apart from proposing majority area of forest under submergence. However, justification behind proposing these components/ purpose wise requirement of forest land has not been submitted with the proposal. The same needs submission.
  - xii. The State Government in the online Part-II reported the presence of Schedule-I species like Crocodile along with other important species like Panther, Hyaena, Jackal, Wild Pig, Blue Bull, Monkey, Varanus, Mongoose, Hare, Peafowl, Vulture, Python etc. Therefore, the comments of the CWLW, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh along with suggesting mitigation measures needs submission.
  - xiii. The State Govt. in online Part-II reported that the proposed forest land for diversion is currently under management of Forest Department Prescribed in the Working Plan under Improvement and Rehabilitation Management Working Circle. Therefore, details of works done in the past as per the approved working plan/ scheme in the forest land proposed for diversion needs submission.
  - xiv. A copy of approved R&R plan and details of number of families going to affected due to instant project shall be uploaded online. In case of rehabilitation of people is involved, necessary correction in the Cost-Benefit Analysis is required to be made.
  - xv. The cost benefit analysis has been carried out on the old NPV rates. Therefore, the revised cost-benefit analysis as per latest NPV rates and keeping in view of all techno-economic factors as well as environmental factors and the calculation sheet on the benefits likely to generate due to instant project needs submission.
  - xvi. The State shall clarify as to how the requirement of electricity will be met by the user agency to run project and its components. The detail of forest area required for the purpose (if any) shall be submitted.
  - xvii. The details of distribution network like canals and pipelines, which may further have required diversion of forest land etc. has not been given. A

holistic proposal is required to be submitted as forest land may be required for laying of underground pipelines as well. The State Govt. shall therefore provide the complete lay out plan indicating all the components like canal, pipelines etc. The detail of the area requirement for these components shall also be submitted keeping in view Para 9.1 of Chapter-9 of the consolidated guidelines and clarifications issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan), Adhiniyam, 1980.

- xviii. An approved copy of the muck-disposal plan needs submission. The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency will not utilize the forest land for muck-disposal. A table showing the muck likely to be generated under each proposed components shall also be submitted.
- xix. The State Govt. in online Part-II reported that total 1872 number of trees exist within the proposed forest land which found in variance with respect to the crop density 0.6 as mentioned in the proposal. This needs justification and method of data collection related to number of trees present in the area may also be elaborated.
- xx. As per the District Collector, Neemuch order dated 27.02.2018 has allotted 28.25 ha land for CA against the instant project, out of which 4.11 ha is appeared as Proposed Forest land. This needs justification. Further, the people from Village Fusariya had shown dissent regarding the land allotted for CA. This needs clarification and the State Govt. shall also ensure that the land proposed for CA is free from all sort of encroachment and encumbrances.
- xxi. The District Collector, Neemuch vide order dated 10.05.2023 has allotted 22.51 ha Non-forest Govt. land to various irrigation projects of the State. Out of which 2 ha land has been allotted in the Village Bhagal whereas the State Forest Department in the Part-II form reported that 4.14 ha land has been proposed for CA in the Village Bhagal. This variation needs clarification and the District collector order indicating 4.14 ha land allotted in the Village Bhagal needs submission.
- xxii. The DSS analysis revealed the presence of Agricultural lands, Earthen dam and extraction of top soil (breaking of forest land for non-forestry work) within the proposed forest land for diversion. This needs clarification.
- xxiii. The DGPS map along with the KML files showing the proposed component wise utilization of the forest land as well as the Non-Forest land has not been submitted with the proposal. The same needs to be uploaded on PARIVESH.
- xxiv. As per DSS analysis, calculated area of Shape file/ KML file of Forest land proposed for diversion is found 55.946 ha instead of 43.149 ha as per proposal. Therefore, the correct KML file of the proposed forest land shall be uploaded.
- xxv. The State Govt. has identified degraded forest land for plantation work in order to accommodate the balance saplings which cannot be planted over proposed non forest land for CA. In this regard, the State Govt. has not submitted the specific details such as area bearing vegetation of 0.4 canopy density or more. The State shall ensure that the area proposed for compensatory afforestation must be suitable for raising plantation. In case the area proposed already has a density of 0.4 or above, a programme for improvement of the forest crop shall be submitted.
- xxvi. Satellite imagery shows some pre-plantation work along with some non-forestry work is also visible in one of the proposed CA patch namely village Bhagal. This needs clarification.

xxvii. The Survey of India Toposheet Map, DGPS map along with the consolidated statement showing total financial outlay required for carrying out CA has not been submitted. Therefore, the same needs submission.

Accordingly, it is requested that the information on shortcomings, as indicated above, may be submitted 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 Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
2. The Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
3. The Nodal Officer, Department of Forest Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.