



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

Regional Office (WCZ)
Ground Floor, East Wing
New Secretariat Building
Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001
apccfcentral-ngp-mef@gov.in
Dated 08 December, 2017

FC-III/CH-22/2017-NGP | 2989

To

Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhavan,
New Raipur (CG).

Sub: Diversion of 459.522 ha of Forest Land in favour of Chhattisgarh East West Rail Corridor Ltd., for Construction of East West Rail Corridor from Marwahi Forest Division (77.178 ha) and Katghora Forest Division (382.344 ha), under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Bilaspur and Korba District in the State of Chhattisgarh.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh's letter no. F-5-65/2017/10-2 dated 12.10.2017 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section - 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that proposal was considered by the REC in its meeting held on 27.11.2017 and the Committee, after detailed examination, desired that proposal may again be placed before the Committee after receipt of the following information:

- Information submitted by the Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Chhattisgarh as sought by the Regional Office vide its letter dated 3.11.2017 may be examined by the Regional Office and placed before the Committee in its next meeting.
- Comments of the NTCA may be obtained as the proposed line is located at a distance of approximately 9.0 KM from the Achanakmar-Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve.
- A detailed report on the situational review of the existing capacity of the railway and likely requirement of strengthening of infrastructure
- A consolidated statement of area requirement for the construction of Corridor-III including the proposed main line and side lines.
- Possibility may be explored by the State Government/User Agency to shift the alignment at certain location to avoid the forest land for example alignment at Nagai to Kasimati may be shifted along the alternative proposed (depicted as white alignment), Shifting of alignment in Pasan Range to avoid protected forests and water bodies; Revenue Forest land at Deepka 1/1 of 1.740 ha - may be shifted western side; Nanbanka 234/1 patches of 1.369 ha and 0.205 ha-may be shifted on eastern side; Singhiya 105/2 of 4.410 ha and 1.256 ha-may be shifted to western side to avoid forest land. Other similar location may be re-examined by the State Government to keep the use of forest land at barest minimum.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the State Government to submit the information on the shortcomings, as per the observation of the REC, to the Regional Office for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(N K Dimri)
Technical Officer

Copy to:

- The PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur
- The Nodal Officer FCA), O/o of the PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
- User Agency.
- Guard File.

-sd-

(N K Dimri)
Technical Officer