

PART - IV

(To be filled in by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest Department).

17. Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks.

(While giving opinion the advance comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon).

The proposal concerns diversion of forest land pertaining to Laitkor Protected Forest at Lumparing. I have perused the views of the Conservator of Forest (Khasi & Jaintia Hills) Territorial in part III. It is noticed that during the earlier instance, when Form A was being processed for diversion of forest land, the proposal was recommended by the Conservator of Forest (Khasi & Jaintia Hills) Territorial in Part III of Form A vide his remarks dated 05th May 2016. However, the inspection note of the Conservator dated 28.09.2017 relating to the present proposal reveals that during the interregnum the area proposed for diversion has been broken and construction has commenced leading to an inference that the area has been encroached and violated. The Conservator has also voiced an apprehension that if the present proposal is conceded it may embolden others to encroach forest area and seek regularization of encroachment through the device of forest clearance under Forest Conservation Act triggering more encroachments in future. However, considering that the land is required for a public utility service through implementing a MLA Local Area Development Scheme, though the act of the user agency in breaking up the land prior to obtaining forest clearance is reprehensible, the proposal is recommended for granting clearance for diversion of forest land..

Hence, the proposal is **recommended**.

Date : 26th October, 2017.
Place : Shillong.



(C. P. Marak, IFS)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF,
Meghalaya, Shillong.

Principal
Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF
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