GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (HoFF):

MEGHALAYA

No.MFG.22/493/ 6227 To, Dated Shillong, the July, 2023.

The Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forest & Environment Department

Sub: Diversion of 0.9 ha Forest Land at Riat Laban Reserved Forest for construction of Alternative Road to Shillong View Point.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, regarding the EDS raised by the State Government on 26th July 2023, it is hereby informed that the proposal was pending with State Government since 2018 after the proposal was recommended by PCCF & HoFF in Part IV which can be viewed in the portal. The chronology of the proposal as per file records in this office are as given below: -

- The Proposal after due recommendation by PCCF was forwarded to the Principal Secretary to the Govt of Meghalaya Forest & Environment Department vide letter No. MFG.33/366/16074 dated 14th February 2018.
- 2) The Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forest & Environment Department forwarded the Proposal to the I/C, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C) vide letter no. 3-MG B 020/2018-SHI/4560-61 dated 20th February 2018.
- 3) The IRO vide letter no. 3-MG B 020/2018-SHI/4560-61 dated 15th March 2018 returned the proposal to the PCCF with a request to resubmit after proper uploading the proposal in the Ministry's website and also incorporating the lacking information.
- 4) The Proposal was then forwarded to DFO by the Nodal Officer (FC Act) for necessary action vide letter No. MFG.22/493/18383 dated 28th March 2018.
- 5) After necessary rectification, the DFO resubmitted the proposal to the Nodal Officer vide letter no. KH/F.C. Act, 1980/PWD/SVP/Rd/5157 dated 8th November 2018.
- 6) The Proposal was resubmitted to the Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forest & Environment Department by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HOFF, Meghalaya, Shillong vide letter No. MFG.22/493/12051 dated 21st November 2018.
- 7) The IRO vide letter no. 3-MG B 020/2018-SHI 3301-02 informed the Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya, Forest & Environment Department, Shillong to depute the Nodal Officer (FCA) Government of Meghalaya within a week time with the following information dated 3rd January, 2019.
- 8) The Chief Conservator of Forest (FC Act), Meghalaya Shillong vide letter No. MFG.22/493/15474 dated 18th January 2019 informed the DFO, East Khasi Hills & Ri Bhoi (T) Division, Shillong to furnish all documents and the information required by the IRO, MOEF & CC.
- 9) The Divisional Forest Officer, East Khasi Hills & Ri Bhoi (T) Division, Shillong submitted the required information on queries raised by MOEF & CC to the Chief Conservator of Forest F.C. Act, 1980, Meghalaya Shillong, vide letter no. KH/F.C. Act, 1980/PWD/ Shillong View Point/Rd/435 dated 29th April 2019.
- 10) The Chief Conservator of Forest (FC Act) cum Nodal Officer (FC Act) Meghalaya, Shillong furnished the information sought by IRO to the Joint Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forest & Environment Department vide letter No.MFG.22/493/1877 dated 9th May 2019.

- The Joint Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forests & Environment Department forwarded the proposal to the Additional Chief Conservator of Forests (C), MOEF & CC, Government of India, vide letter No. FOR 46/2007/629 dated 29th May 2019.
- 12) The IRO informed the State Government that the information furnished was incomplete and to furnish the lacking information vide letter no. 3-MG B 020/2018-SHI 887-88 dated 25th June 2019.
- 13) The State Government forwarded the letter no. 3-MG B 020/2018-SHI 887-88 dated 25th June 2019 to PCCF & HoFF, Meghalaya, Shillong vide letter No. FOR 46/2007/635 dated 10th July 2019.
- 14) The Nodal Officer informed the DFO, East Khasi Hills & Ri-Bhoi (T) Division Shillong for furnishing the required information vide letter No.MFG.22/493/9236 dated 15th July 2019. A reminder was issued by Nodal Officer vide letter No. MFG.22/493/10757 dated 8th August 2019.
- 15) The Divisional Forest Officer, East Khasi Hills & Ri Bhoi (T) Division, Shillong submitted the required information sought by IRO vide letter no. KH/F.C. Act, 1980/PWD/ Shillong View Point/ Rd/3838 dated 6th September 2019.
- **16)** The Nodal Officer (FC Act) Meghalaya Shillong forwarded the required information sought by IRO to the State Government vide letter No.MFG.22/493/13902 dated 19:09.2019.
- 17) IPA was granted by IRO vide letter no. 3-MG B/020/2018-SHI/4139-40 dated 5th March 2020.
- 18) The IRO sent a mail dated 6th March 2020 to the PCCF, Meghalaya to update the additional information on PARIVESH website, so that the In Principle/ Stage I Approval letter dated 5th March 2020 can be updated for the same.
- 19) The Nodal Officer informed the State Government vide letter No.MFG.22/493/25227 dated 19th March 2020, enclosing a copy of the email dated 6th March 2020, received from MOEF & CC requesting the PCCF to update the additional information on PARIVESH website. The required information was furnished to the State Government vide letter No.MFG.22/493/13902 dated 19.09.2019.

In the backdrop of the above facts and as per the indications in the timeline (*enclosed*), it is evident that the information regarding the proposal invariably should have been furnished by the State Government to the IRO. In this regard, you are requested kindly to take necessary action to enable the IRO upload the In-Principle Approval at the earliest and for further processing of the proposal of Stage-II clearance/Final Approval by the concerned office.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation & CAMPA) Meghalaya, Shillong.