

Government of Maharashtra

By Speed Post

No. FLD-2022/C.R.87/F-10
Revenue and Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400 032.
Date: 06/12/2022

To,
The Secretary,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Government of India,
New Delhi.

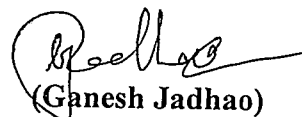
Sub.:- Forest Land-Satara

Diversion of 46.06 ha. Forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Disforestation of forest land at Village Bopegaon, Tal.Wai, Dist. Satara for rehabilitation of Village Deur, Tal. Jaoli, Dist.Satara in Koyana Wildlife Sanctuary in the State of Maharashtra.

- Ref:** 1. Your Office Letter No. 8-14/2022-FC, Dt.05.07.2022
2. APCCF & Nodal Officer Letter No. Desk-17/Nodal/Kolhapur/(28)/ID-12922/2005/2022-23, Dt.10.11.2022

MoEF&CC, Government of India has sought additional information with respect to proposal for diversion of 46.06 ha. Forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Disforestation of forest land at Village Bopegaon, Tal.Wai, Dist. Satara for rehabilitation of Village Deur, Tal. Jaoli, Dist.Satara in Koyana Wildlife Sanctuary vide letter under reference No.1.

2. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has submitted compliance report to the Government of Maharashtra vide letter under reference no.2, Compliance Report submitted by the APCCF & Nodal Officer is self-explanatory and attached herewith for further necessary action in the matter.


(Ganesh Jadhao)

Under Secretary to
the Government of Maharashtra
Under Secretary
Revenue and Forests Department
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk
Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya
Mumbai 400 032

Encl: As above.

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
2. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Nagpur.



**Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forests Force),
Maharashtra State**

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer,
1st Floor, B Wing,
Van Bhavan, Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440 001
Tel.No.: 0712- 2556916 , E-mail: apccfnodal@mahaforest.gov.in

By E-mail / Speed Post

No.Desk-17/Nodal/Kolhapur/(28)/ID-12922/2005 /2022-23
Nagpur - 440 001, Date: 10/11/2022

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue & Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai -400032

Sub:- Proposal for the diversion of 46.06 ha. reserved forest under section 2 (ii) of the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for disforestation of forest land Village Bopegan Tal.Wai, Dist. Satara for rehabilitation of Village Deur, Tal. Jaoli, Dist. Satara in Koyana Wildlife Sanctuary in the State of Maharashtra.

Ref:- 1. Government of India, MoEF&CC (Forest Conservation Division), New Delhi letter dated 05/07/2022 of F.No.8-14/2022-FC.
2. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur letter No.D-6/Nocel/Rehab /Deur/ID-12922/22-23/772, dated 02/11/2022.

Sir,

Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division), New Delhi vide letter under reference No.1 had sought compliance on 16 points. Accordingly, the Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur vide letter under reference No.2 has submitted the compliance of shortcomings on 15 points to this office. Revised Part-IV to fulfill shortcomings No.ii with specific recommendations of the Nodal Officer is being submitted. The compliance report on 16 points as desired by the Government of India vide letter dated 05/07/2022 is being submitted as under:-

Sr. No.	Points	Compliance report															
i	The Chief Wildlife Warden has mentioned that for rehabilitation of this village a total of 46.06 ha. forest land would be needed, however the land proposed to be acquired is 34.36 ha. only. This needs clarification.	It's true that for rehabilitation of PAP's at Deur a total of 46.06 ha. Forest Land is needed in lieu of 34.36 ha. of private land, but after relocation of village Deur along with 34.36 ha. of private land 119.71 ha. of revenue land is also going to be added as forest land, Thus total increase in forest land will be 34.36 ha + 119.71 ha. = 154.07 ha. in lieu of 46.06 ha. of forest land at proposed relocation site.															
ii	Nodal Officer has not provided his own specific recommendation for the proposal in Part-IV of the prescribed form.	Revised Part-IV including the specific recommendation of the Nodal Officer for the proposal is enclosed herewith as Annexure- 12 .															
iii	The State Govt. has reported that an area of 2141.09 ha will be made available after rehabilitation of forest village 'Deur' whereas the DCF, Satara has reported that an area of 1579.07 ha will be made available after rehabilitation of village Deur. This needs clarification.	<p>It is clarified that as per Notification of Revenue and Forest Department No. WLP-2012/ CR.No.240/ F-1 Dated 21/08/2012, 2140.19 ha. of land will be made available after rehabilitation of village Deur. The Details given below. (Project Note attached herewith Annexure-1A And Notification of 21/08/2012 is enclosed herewith Annexure-3B</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Revenue land area (ha.)</th><th>Private Land area (ha.)</th><th>Forest Land area (ha.)</th><th>Irrigation Acquired area (ha.)</th><th>Total area (ha.)</th></tr><tr><th>I</th><th>II</th><th>III</th><th>IV</th><th>V</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>119.71</td><td>34.36</td><td>1425.45</td><td>560.67</td><td>2140.19</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>The Project note from DCF Satara reported that 1579.07 ha. of land will be available after rehabilitation of village Deur, but actually it should be 1579.52 ha., which includes land mentioned in above table column no. I, II and III. Rest of the</p>	Revenue land area (ha.)	Private Land area (ha.)	Forest Land area (ha.)	Irrigation Acquired area (ha.)	Total area (ha.)	I	II	III	IV	V	119.71	34.36	1425.45	560.67	2140.19
Revenue land area (ha.)	Private Land area (ha.)	Forest Land area (ha.)	Irrigation Acquired area (ha.)	Total area (ha.)													
I	II	III	IV	V													
119.71	34.36	1425.45	560.67	2140.19													

		560.67 ha. area acquired by irrigation is under submergence. Revenue Land 7/12 abstract attached herewith as Annexure-2 .
iv	As per DSS analysis, the calculated area through KML file of the forest land proposed for diversion is 48.980 ha. instead of 46.06 ha. as per the proposal. Therefore, the correct KML file of the area proposed for diversion is required to be submitted.	Therefore, the correct KML file of 46.06 ha. and map submitted herewith in CD.
v	High-resolution satellite imagery shows that the plantations have been carried out within the forest land proposed for diversion. This needs clarification.	Records shows that plantation has not been carried out in last 20 years. Composition of trees shows that there are total 4782 Nos. of trees on proposed 46.06 ha. land of which majority of trees i.e. 3451 are Glyricidia species (exotic tree species).
vi	The KML file of the forest village 'Deur' which is proposed to be re-located from the Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary has not been submitted.	The KML file of the forest village 'Deur' which is proposed to be re-located from the Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary is submitted in CD.
vii	Project Note submitted with the proposal envisages that the total area of notified Koyna wildlife sanctuary was 423.55 sq.km. On recommendation of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), the non forest area of 14 villages has been excluded. The boundaries of the Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary have therefore been altered with a total area of 335.30 sq.km. Keeping this in view, the KML file of Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary (335.30 sq. Km) along with its Core area is required to be submitted.	Project report mentions that the total area of notified Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary is 423.55 sq.km. Out of which non forest area of 14 villages has been excluded as per find notification no. WLP-0319/S.No.88/F-1 Dated 29 may 2019, the boundaries of the Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary have been altered and the same has been reconstituted with and area of 335.30 sq. km. Therefore, the KML file of Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary (335.30 sq. km) along with its core area is attached herewith in CD. Project Note and Final notification of Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary attached herewith as Annexure-1A & 1B .
viii	Examination of the DGPS map revealed that provision of road connectivity to the proposed forest land from the National Highway (NH)-4 has not been provided. Therefore, it shall be clarified whether more forest land would be required for connecting the proposed forest land with existing Road/Highway or not.	The road required for connectivity of rehabilitation site with existing road passes through private land and therefore more Forest land would not be required. The process to acquire private land (approx. 0.09 ha.) is in progress. Map is enclosed herewith as annexure-10 .
ix	DGPS map shows that the Reserve forest land of Village-Bopegaon Gat no. 711 has not been included in the instant proposal. As per latest satellite imagery, the Gat no. 711 will become an isolated forest patch between the already existing agricultural land and the area proposed for diversion. This may lead to the degradation of this	Though Gut no.711 seems to be isolated in DGPS map, but if we look into larger landscape. Gut No. 711 of village Bopegaon is in continuation with forest area of the Gut No. 481 of village Kavathe. Toposheet showing Gut No. 711 is a part of larger forest landscape (area) and is continuous forest. Map/Toposheet showing factual situation is enclosed herewith as annexure-11A and 11B .

	forest patch in future owing to human encumbrances and activities.	
x	The Survey of India (SoI) topo-sheet map of forest land proposed for diversion has not been uploaded on PARIVESH.	The correct topo-sheet map is submitted herewith in CD.
xi	The satellite imagery shows the proposed forest area for diversion is having slightly undulating surface. The vulnerability of the forest area to erosion may therefore be examined.	Though area is slightly undulating, only suitable area for agriculture is selected for diversion. The area is inspected by Taluka Agriculture Officer and necessary suitability certificate is issued by Taluka Agriculture Officer. Consent is also accorded from PAP's as the land under consideration is best available option forest division. PAP's were shown all available and possible forest lands in satara forest division but PAP's has opted for this land only. Due precautions and proper care would be taken while preparing the land for rehabilitation that there is no erosion of the forest area.
xii	The State Govt. shall certify that the Village proposed to be relocated is within the core of a National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary.	Certification is attached herewith as annex no 3A and 3B. Village Deur proposed for rehabilitation is within core of STR and Koyna WLS. Map and notification showing Deur village well within core of STR and Koyna WLS is enclosed herewith as Annexure 3A and 3B.
xiii	The State Govt. shall ensure that the proposal fulfills all the conditions laid down in the Ministry's guidelines dated 20.05.2019.	<p>The Proposal fulfills all the conditions laid down in the Ministry's Guidelines dated 20.05.2019. Details as per Guidelines –</p> <p>a) Resettlement / relocation within the boundaries of the notified forest land be considered only if suitable non-forest land is not available within the vicinity of the protected area from where the relocation is proposed</p> <p>- Certificate of non-availability of non-forest land within the vicinity of the protected area is enclosed herewith as Annexure-4.</p> <p>b) The District Collector concerned shall furnish to the NTCA a certificate of non-availability of land suitable for relocation of the villages located within the Protected Area and Tiger Reserves before any proposal of relocation within the forest is approved</p> <p>- Required certificate is furnished by District Collector, Satara and it is enclosed herewith as Annexure-4.</p> <p>c) The land identified for relocation/rehabilitation should not result in fragmentation of the forest/wildlife habitat.</p> <p>- Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara about land identified for relocation/rehabilitation is not resulting in fragmentation of the forest/wildlife habitat. Necessary certificate is enclosed herewith as Annexure-5.</p> <p>d) The relocation activity shall be undertaken solely as a process of consolidation of the wildlife habitat.</p> <p>- Such Certificate is furnished by Deputy Director, Sahyadri Tiger Reserve Kolhapur at Karad is enclosed herewith as Annexure -6.</p> <p>e) The relocation shall be undertaken only along the fringes of the forest such that all facilities to the resettled families can be provided without recourse to further diversion of forest land for providing infrastructure</p> <p>- Such Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest Satara is enclosed herewith as Annexure -7.</p> <p>f) The land / villages within the forest which have been vacated shall be brought under the protected area network through enabling notification under the Wildlife Protection Act after</p>

		<p>extinguishing all the existing rights over the vacated land - Such undertaking is furnished by Deputy Director, Sahyadri Tiger Reserve Kolhapur at Karad is enclosed herewith as Annexure - 8. g) The extent of land de-reserved / de-notified for resettlement shall not be more than the extent vacated by the settlers in the core area. - Such Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest Satara is enclosed herewith as Annexure - 9. h) The payment of NPV and cost of CA may be exempted in all such cases of voluntary relocation/rehabilitation of families from the protected areas undertaken within the forest land. - Already exempted by GOI GR Letter no. 5-3/2011-FC (VOL-I) dated 6 Jan. 2022.</p>
xiv	The State Govt. shall clarify whether the proposed relocation of villagers will make the total area under the village inviolate or not.	Village "Deur" proposed for relocation has 28 PAP's as per list prepared by Revenue Department. All 28 PAP's has given their consent for relocation at proposed site i.e. Village Bopegaon, Dist. Satara. Hence proposed relocation of villagers will make the total area under the village inviolate.
xv	The project Note submitted is without the signatures of the authorities mentioned therein.	The project Note submitted is duly signed by the Project Officer and DCF Satara. Project Note is enclosed herewith as Annexure No. 1A.
xvi	The part-1 of the application form mentions that 40.01 ha area is required for agriculture, whereas the Project Note mentions that the area required for agriculture is 36.40 ha. only which may be clarified. Further it has been mentioned that 10% of the land is unsuitable. The justification for including the same in the diversion proposal is also required to be provided.	The total area needed to be disforested for rehabilitation is 46.06 ha which includes 36.40 ha. suitable land for agriculture, unsuitable land of 3.66 ha. and 6.00 ha. for resettlement of Gaothan.

The compliance report as submitted above may kindly be forwarded to the Central Government for further consideration of the proposal.

Encl.: As above in two copies.


Jan. 10/1/22

(Naresh Zurmure)

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

Copy forwarded for information to:-

1. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur
2. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara.

PART -IV

**(To be filled by Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)**

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

Sub.:- Proposal for the diversion of 46.06 ha. reserved forest under section 2 (ii) of the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for disforestation of forest land Village Bopegaon Tal. Wai, Dist. Satara for rehabilitation of Village Deur, Tal. Jaoli, Dist. Satara in Koyana Wildlife Sanctuary in the State of Maharashtra. The details of forest land proposed for diversion is as under-

Village Name	Taluka	District	Item of work /Purpose	Gat No.	Compt.No.	Area in Ha.	Legal Status
Bopegaon	Wai	Satara	Area for Gaonthan	771p	42	6.00	Reserved Forest
			Area for agriculture	712,771p		40.6	
Total forest land area required for this project						46.06	

Specific recommendations of the undersigned are as under:-

Project is highly recommended as land is being used for the rehabilitation of the village from the core area of the tiger reserve.

Specific recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF,) M.S. Nagpur are enclosed herewith.


10/11/22

(Naresh Zurmure)

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

Date: 10 / 11 / 2022

Place: Nagpur