



# Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests

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सत्यमेव जयते

No.A/JMN/T.11/151-52/2022-23

Dt.07/05/2022.

To,  
Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Junagadh Forest Circle,  
Junagadh.

**Sub. :** Proposal for diversion of 598.2427 Ha. Forest land for Methla Bandhara Irrigation Project near Village Methla in Talaja Taluka in Bhavnagar District of Gujarat State (Online Proposal No.FP/GJ/IRRIG/ 4498/2020)-reg.  
**Ref. :** Your Letter No.B/Land/689/T.12/7139 Dt.13/01/2022.

Respected Sir,

With reference to the subject and your reference letter, the requested information about this proposal is done in detail below. Which is requested to be reported.

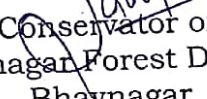
1. User agency has provided 598.2427 Ha. None Forest Land At-Monpur Ta-Vallabhipur, Survey No-515/1 for purpose of Compensatory Afforestation out of which 140.5978 Ha area is encroached by local peoples and 2.6503 Ha area has pond therefore area not free from all encumbrances in this regard Collector Bhavnagar has directed Mamlatdar, Vallabhipur by latter Dt.31/03/2022 to remove all encroachments and hand over encroachment free land to forest department. In this regard the process of encroachment removal is in progress. The Site suitability certificate mentioning that the proposed Compensatory Afforestation area is suitable for plantation is attached herewith (Annexure-2)
2. Compensatory Afforestation scheme referring to planting of 500 grass species and 1111 plants per Ha. has been attached herewith (Annexure-1)
3. Out of total 598.2427 Ha sought for diversion, approx.417 Ha forest area was found submerged as per satellite imagery dt.26/09/2018 and it is observed that, dam like structure was erected at the river mouth during the year 2018. As per status report submitted by Rfo, Mahuva Dt.25/09/2020 (Annexure-3), compliance report submitted by Exe, Engineer salinity control, Bhavnagar Dt.28/06/2021 (Annexure-4), and compliance report submitted by DCF Bhavnagar Dt.28/07/2021 and Dt.09/09/2021 (Annexure-5). It is submitted that, the dam like structure observed in satellite imagery is actually an earthen bund constructed by local villagers by voluntary

contribution of labour (*shramdan*) toward work. (Annexure-9) The bund is not in reserved forest. The forest area which is seen submerged as per satellite image is under submergence due to sea water before construction of bunds as seen in satellite image Dt.14/01/2017 (Annexure-10).

The proposed location of Methala Bandhara (Dam like structure) is 338 Mt. Away from existing bund (Annexure-6) the proposed site falls in Reserved forest survey No-205 North-west Bhag. As on Date-22/03/2022 the construction of Methala Bandhara has not been started by user agency. The map showing actual location of existing bund and proposed location of Mathala Bandhara is attached herewith (Annexure-6) and latter from Executive engineer regarding location and status of proposed work is attached herewith (Annexure-11).

4. Coast-benefit analysis has been prepared as per prescribed format given in guidelines issued by Ministry. Attached here with(Annexure-7)
5. Approved copy of CAT plan in accordance with para. 9.2 of comprehensive guideline dated.28/03/2019 is prepared and attached herewith in four (4) copies. (Annexure-8)

Yours faithfully,

  
Deputy Conservator of Forests  
Bhavnagar Forest Division  
Bhavnagar

**Copy to:** Exicutive Engineer, Salinity Control Division, Bhavnagar for necessary information.