No.Ft. 48-3468/2016(FCA), Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh

From:

Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF (FCA), O/o Pr.CCF(HoFF) HP Shimla-1.

To:

The Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, (North-Central Zone) 25, Subhash Road, Dehradun-248001(Uttrakhand).

Dated Shimla-1, the **3 DEC 2018**

Subject:

Diversion of 3.6593 ha of Forest land for the construction of Shimla Passenger Ropeway in favour of MC Shimla within the jurisdiction of Shimla(Urban) Forest Division. Online No. FP/HP/Others/32176/2018)

Sir,

Kindly refer to your EDS dated 16.11.2018 on the subject cited proposal.

2. The point wise reply to the EDS vide your above referred letter is submitted as below:-

- In this regard, it is submitted that the total trees coming in the alignment of Ropeway are 1361 number as has been shown in the abstract placed in the proposal. Out of these 1361 trees, 530 trees are proposed to be felled, whereas 830 trees will not be felled. The enumeration lists have been corrected accordingly, a copy of which is enclosed herewith as annexure-A.
- 2. In this regard, it is submitted that necessary corrections in the enumeration lists have been made as mentioned supra. The total 1361 trees coming in the alignment of the Ropeway belong to the Forest Department and status of land is UPF. The trees coming in the alignment other than forest land will be processed separately by the User Agency as the land of CPWD is non-forest land and does not fall in the forest area.
- 3. In this regard, it is submitted that ejectment orders in respect of four encroachments in forest land proposed for diversion have been passed by the Sub Division Magistrate, Shimla (Urban).
- 4. In this regard, it is submitted that Hon'ble NGT vide 9order dated 25.05.2017 (copy enclosed as annexure-B) has ordered that the Forest Department of Government of Himachal Pradesh shall plant at least 30 trees of the local species in the same vicinity. The Ld. Advocate General, HP has also admitted in the Hon'ble NGT on 30.08.2017 (copy enclosed as annexure-C) that the they would carry-out the directions issued by the

Tribunal in its true spirit and substance and would plant at least 30 trees at the place where they are to fell a tree. It is pertinent to mention here that only 530 Numbers of trees are to be felled and 830 numbers of trees will not be felled as these trees are only coming in the alignment of the Ropeway. Therefore, as per the order of the Hon'ble NGT, the Forest Department has calculated numbers of plants to be planted on the purposed trees for felling i.e. 530, which comes to (530 x 30) 15,900 plants and area comes to 19.88 hac. (or say 20 hac). The plants to be planted have been calculated as per norm of 800 plants/hac. applicable for enrichment planting scheme as approved by the State Government. So, as per Hon'ble order, 15,900 numbers of plants have to be planted in the vicinity where trees are to be felled and accordingly, site has been selected and proposed for planting. So far as the observation for non suitability of 14 hac. for planting activities, it is informed that the site selected is very much suitable for planting second storey plants in Deodar Forest i.e. Ban, Khanoor, Brass, Kainth, Tuni, and some other native species of Shimla area, as per the land suitability Certificate as Annexure-D. It is pertinent to mention hare that the area of 18 ha reported earlier was calculated as per norms of 1100 plants/ha. which is applicable to the blank/degraded forests. Now, it has been felt appropriate to plant at norm of 800 plants/hac approved under Enrichment Planting Scheme. The revised KML file for 20 ha is uploaded now and soft copy of the same is enclosed herewith.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above.

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Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF (FCA) O/o Pr. CÇF(HoFF),H.P.Shimla-1

1 3 DEC 2018 Dated Shimla-171001

Endst.No.Ft.48-3468/2016 (FCA) Copy for information is forwarded to:-

- 1. CCF Shimla w.r.t his memo No.C-28-b-1600/FCA/7669 dated 05.2.2018.
- 2. DFO Shimla (Urban).
- 3. Er. Narender Kumar, EE-cum-Project Director, Municipal Corporation Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF (FCA) O/o Pr.CCF(HoFF),H.P.Shimla-1

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