

**Office of The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, (HoFF) Maharashtra State,
Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur 440 001.**

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State,
Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur 440 001.

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Speed Post/Email

No. Desk-17/Nodal/Chandrapur/I.D.12781/ 2040 /2022-23
Nagpur – 440 001 Dated 14/11/2022.

To,
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue and Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-32

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 75.24 ha.(Revised Area 63.540) Reserved / Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka.Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Road/25848/2017).

- Ref:** 1) This office letter No. Desk-17/Nodal/Chandrapur/I.D.12781/1751/22-23 dtd 7/10/2022
2) Govt. of India, MoEF&CC (FC Division) letter No.8-29/2022/FC dtd 10th November, 2022.
3) This office letter no.Desk-17/NC/I/ID-/397/20-21, dtd.20/08/2020
4) The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Chandrapur vide letter No. Desk-Survey/Land/2022-23/1125, dated 14/11/2022

The proposal for diversion of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved/Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka. Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Others/42471/2019) has been submitted by this office vide letter under reference 1. The Govt. of India has communicated shortcomings vide letter under reference 2.

In this regard study was conducted by Wildlife Institute of India and submitted their report on 19.03.2020. The Wildlife Institute of India has suggested two options -

1. *The proposed Greenfield Airport at Murti village (GAMV) site is well known for the wildlife value, especially for tiger conservation and its importance as connecting corridor with other areas of tiger conservation importance in this landscape Hence, the present site may or shall not be considered for the construction of the airport.3 The proposed airport is going to impact functional connectivity and may result in enhancement of wildlife conflict in the district.*
2. *In case there is no alternative site for the proposed Airport, this may be constructed at the Murti village (GAMV), Chandrapur, Maharashtra after undertaking the following mitigatory measures;*
 - a. *Re-align airport boundary or reduce the area of "Runway end safety area".*

- b. *Restoration and strengthening of existing wildlife habitat along the corridor and in the forests of Chandrapur Division, Maharashtra.*
- c. *Minimize the likely impact of peripheral lights and sound level.*
- d. *Undertake suggested mitigatory measures across roads passing through the existing corridor and minimize the extent of increased disturbance with this development in this landscape.*
- e. *Wildlife use shall be monitored during the construction phase and for five years once the airport is operationalized. The estimated budget is Rs. 475.00 lakhs. All the costs for such monitoring shall be met by MADC. The Wildlife Institute of India shall provide a separate proposal with the cost details.*
- f. *MADC shall consider and accept any mid-term mitigatory measure suggested based on the monitoring undertaken during construction and after operation of the airport by the Wildlife Institute of India and*
- g. *A committee shall monitor the compliance of suggested mitigatory measure.*

On dt.20/08/2020 Nodal Officer had submitted the instant proposal under reference 3 to Govt. of Maharashtra considering option (i) of report submitted by Wildlife Institute of India, Deharadun & he mentioned that *"the first recommendation of the report prepared by Wildlife Institute of India is that given the wildlife value of the area and its importance of connecting corridors, the present site may or shall not be considered for the construction of the proposed Greenfield airport."* Similarly, the then PCCF (WL), M.S. mentioned that *"In view of the benefits that seem to be accruing due to the project for local population in terms of the number of employment opportunities, the trade of between the protection of the corridor to be disrupted if the project comes through and the benefits proposed weighs heavily in favour of protection of the corridor."* On the basis of above report submitted by then Nodal Officer and the then PCCF (WL), Mantralaya Mumbai had decided not to send this proposal to Govt. of India.

Meanwhile the User Agency requested Govt. of Maharashtra to reconsider the said proposal on the basis of option (ii) suggested by Wildlife Institute of India. Accordingly the Minister of State for Forests had called a meeting on dt.05.03.2021 and after discussion it was it was decided that *"the Forest Department after scrutinizing the proposal, the same shall be submitted to Chief Minister"*.

Accordingly the User Agency has submitted a revised proposal as per option no (ii) suggested by the Wildlife Institute of India's, Deharadun report dt.19.03.2020. This proposal was resubmitted as per the option (ii) suggested by Wildlife Institute of India, Deharadun with following alteration is the proposal -

- a) The area of "Runway End Safety Area" (RESA) is reduced by 200m.
- b) High intensity area of tiger corridor is excluded from proposal.

As per Parivesh portal, proforma cannot be changed once uploaded, hence the User Agency/ DCF / CCF/ and Nodal Office was not in a position to upload revised Performa of I to IV. Hence, hard copy submitted with revised proposal. Most of the queries raised in reference letter No.2 are based on old Proforma I to IV. Kindly consider revised proforma I to VII annexed as mentioned below-

- Annexure-I as Part-I
- Annexure-II as Part-II

Annexure-III as Part-III
 Annexure-IV as Part-IV
 Annexure-V as Nodal Officer letter dtd 7/10/2022
 Annexure-VI as PCCF (HoFF) Specific Recommendation
 Annexure-VII as PCCF (WL) Comments

Query wise compliance is submitted as below:-

Sr. No.	Queries	Compliance
i.	<p>In the Part-IV of the application form against the specific recommendation of the Nodal Officer / PCCF (HoFF) it has been mentioned that the specific recommendation of PCCF (HoFF) is attached, whereas as per attached letter dtd.20.08.2020 which is also signed by the Nodal Officer, the proposal has been submitted to Govt. for consideration subject to certain conditions. However, the specific recommendation of the Nodal Officer or PCCF (HoFF) has not been found in the proposal.</p>	<p>Query is raised on the basis of earlier Part-IV. However in Parivesh once proforma is uploaded, it is not changeable. Kindly refer to Annexure-V & VI which is submitted earlier and enclosed herewith.</p>
ii.	<p>The proposal area is part of Tiger Corridor. In the para 8.20 of the letter dtd.20.08.2020, it has been mentioned that "the first recommendation of the report prepared by Wildlife Institute of India is that given the wildlife value of the area and its importance of connecting corridors, the present site may or shall not be considered for the construction of the proposed Greenfield airport". The Justification for selecting the present site shall therefore be submitted.</p>	<p>After consideration at Govt. of Maharashtra level, option (ii) of WII accepted by Govt. of Maharashtra and area has been reduced from 75.24 ha to 63.54 ha. after reducing RESA area from 400Mtr to 200 Mtr. as per WII report and after due consideration of Mitigation Measures suggested by WII. This is the only available best available site suitable for Greenfield Airport. In other alternatives forest area involved is much more. As there is no alternative site for the project, the proposal is considered because the User Agency has given an undertaking to adhere to all the mitigation plans suggested by WII, Dehradun. Moreover, the User Agency has also submitted proposal for wildlife clearance as per the provisions under section 38-O(1)(g) of Wildlife (Protection) Act -1972 and proposal is being examined to put before the consideration of Sate Board for Wildlife.</p>

iii.	The detail of the other alternatives examined and the reasons for their rejection have not been submitted. The State Govt. shall submit the details including KML, files of all such alternatives examined along with the justification for selecting the present proposed forest area.	Details of three alternatives are enclosed herewith as Annexure -VIII .
iv.	As per the remarks of CWLW given in the para 8.22 of the letter dtd.20.08.2020 issued by the office of PCCF (HoFF), it has been mentioned that " <i>In view of the benefits that seem to be accruing due to the project for local population in terms of the number of employment opportunities, the trade of between the protection of the corridor to be disrupted if the project comes through and the benefits proposed weighs heavily in favour of protection of the corridor</i> ". The justification for recommendation of the proposal in view of the above remarks of CWLW is therefore required to be submitted.	Latest comments of PCCF(WL) enclosed herewith for your perusal. Keeping in view the development of backward district Chandrapur and employment generation potential of this project, this proposal is submitted for approval. Comments of Chief Wildlife Warden are submitted here as Annexure-IX .
v.	The Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Chandrapur Circle in Site Inspection Report has informed that 10 ha of Teak Plantation raised in 2004 and 20 ha Mix Plantation is included within the proposed diversion. The State Govt. shall submit detail of plantation including the schemes under which they have been taken up.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 10 ha teak plantation of 2004 as mentioned in the query is in nearby revenue area, where plantation was undertaken by Social Forestry dept. It is not a part of proposed area for diversion. 2) 20 ha mixed plantation is undertaken by forest dept in 2018, comp no. 173. Out of this 20 ha., 6 ha. area is part of proposed diverted area. 3) 20 ha mixed plantation is undertaken by Forest Dept in 2018, under NTSP, in comp 200. Out of this, 1.3 ha plantation area is affected by the proposed diverted forest land. <p>Plantation cost will be incurred from User Agency.</p>
vi.	The existing Chandrapur Airport is just 39 Kms away from proposed diversion site and the Nagpur Airport is 158 Kms from proposed diversion site. Therefore, the State Govt. shall submit detail justification for	As per report submitted by User agency, the existing airport has limited scope and commercial facility cannot be developed because of the following obstacles in surrounding area:-

	proposing new Airport involving forest land proposed site.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All airport areas connected/ touched to the boundaries of residential and industrial areas. 2. To heightened chimneys of Dhariwal Power plant are near the airport 3. No land is available for expansion of the airport boundary 4. The nearest area is covered with high tension power lines <p>Only chartered flights of limited capacity can be handled on this airport and the proposed Murti airport is under development for commercial and cargo facilities.</p>
vii.	Project report mentions that the total requirement of land 339.94 ha (including both forest as well as Non -forest land) and project will be implemented in two phases wherein Phase-I involves 63.54 ha forest land and 216.19 ha Non-forest land. The remaining non-forest area of 48.57 ha is proposed to be utilized in Phase-II. The State Govt. shall submit the reason for not utilizing the remaining 48.57 ha non-forest area in Phase-I instead of proposed forest area.	Actual requirement of land for this project is 339.94ha. However, MADC bifurcated the said project in two phases as per the requirement of essential mandatory area and optional developmental area as per the availability of funds with User Agency. Forest area required is most essential part of the project because forest area proposed for runway strip. Acquisition of revenue land is time consuming that's why it was shown as Phase-II. However, in presence circumstances both Phase-I and Phase-II are merged together and acquisition process started for Phase II also.
viii.	Keeping in view the standard area requirements for the construction of Airports, the State Govt. shall submit the justification that the bare minimum forest area is proposed for diversion.	As per report submitted by the User Agency generally for air strip A320 aircraft requires run way strip of 3000 meters and total area required is approximately 400 ha. However, in this proposed airport, area involved is 339.94 ha. and forest area involved is 63.54 ha.
ix.	The component wise break-up of the forest land involved has not been uploaded in the Part-I on the PARIVESH which is required to be done. Further, in the letter dtd.20.08.2020 of the office of PCCF (HoFF) a tabular statement of different component has been given wherein it has been provided that 38.25 ha , 26.11 ha and 1.54 ha in different villages will be used for <i>other related infrastructure and open Space</i> . The details break-up regarding the said	As per report submitted by the User Agency component wise area statement is enclosed as Annexure No. X .

	areas shall be provided.	
x.	The project is located at a distance of around 1 Km from Wardha River and its tributaries. The State Govt. shall examine this aspect from <i>flood zone</i> point of view and the mitigation measures required to be taken during construction phase.	As per report submitted by the User Agency, the flood line is 1.2 km from the proposed new greenfield airport boundary and it will not affect the construction as well as the airport activities.
xi.	The copy of the report prepared by Wildlife Institute of India has not been submitted which is required to be done.	Report prepared by WII is enclosed herewith for your perusal as Annexure-XI .
xii.	The Geo referenced land use map of the project area involved in the instant proposal needs submission.	As per report submitted by the User Agency the geo-reference map is attached with the proposal.
xiii.	The Status of declaration of ESZ around Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary needs submissions.	Kanhargaon wildlife Sanctuary is notified vide WLP.0614/CR.153/F-1 dated 15 March 2021 over an area of 269.40 Sq. Km and the proposal for final notification of ESZ for Kanhargaon wildlife Sanctuary is being sent by CCF (I) Chandrapur. As per the draft proposal, the extent of ESZ of Kanhargaon wildlife Sanctuary is from 1km to 10 km from the boundary of WLS. The proposed airport site is 8.35 km from the boundary of Kanhargaon wildlife Sanctuary and does not fall within area proposed in the draft ESZ proposal.
xiv.	The user agency initially applied for diversion of 75.24 ha forest land. However, the State Govt. has recommended only 63.540 ha forest land for diversion. Therefore, the same needs correction in online Part-I. The component wise breakup for both the forest land and non-forest is required to be corrected and uploaded accordingly.	Part I is not replaceable on Parivesh so enclosed herewith as Annexure I. Component wise break up for both forest land and non forest land is submitted for your perusal. Compartment wise break up is enclosed here as Annexure XII
xv.	As per DSS analysis, the Satellite imagery shows the presence of Plantation activities <i>Kaccha Road</i> and encroachment for agriculture within the forest land sought diversion. This needs clarification.	There is encroachment in the proposed forest land for diversion. 9 pattas have been granted to Kolam tribals and 5 pattas are pending for approval at DLC level.
xvi.	DSS analysis, shows the presence of encroachments on patches of DFL proposed for planting the balance seedlings and in one patch namely <i>CHUNALA</i> plantation has	There is encroachment in the DFL as clarified in point (xv). The said plantation of 2015 is at least 500 m

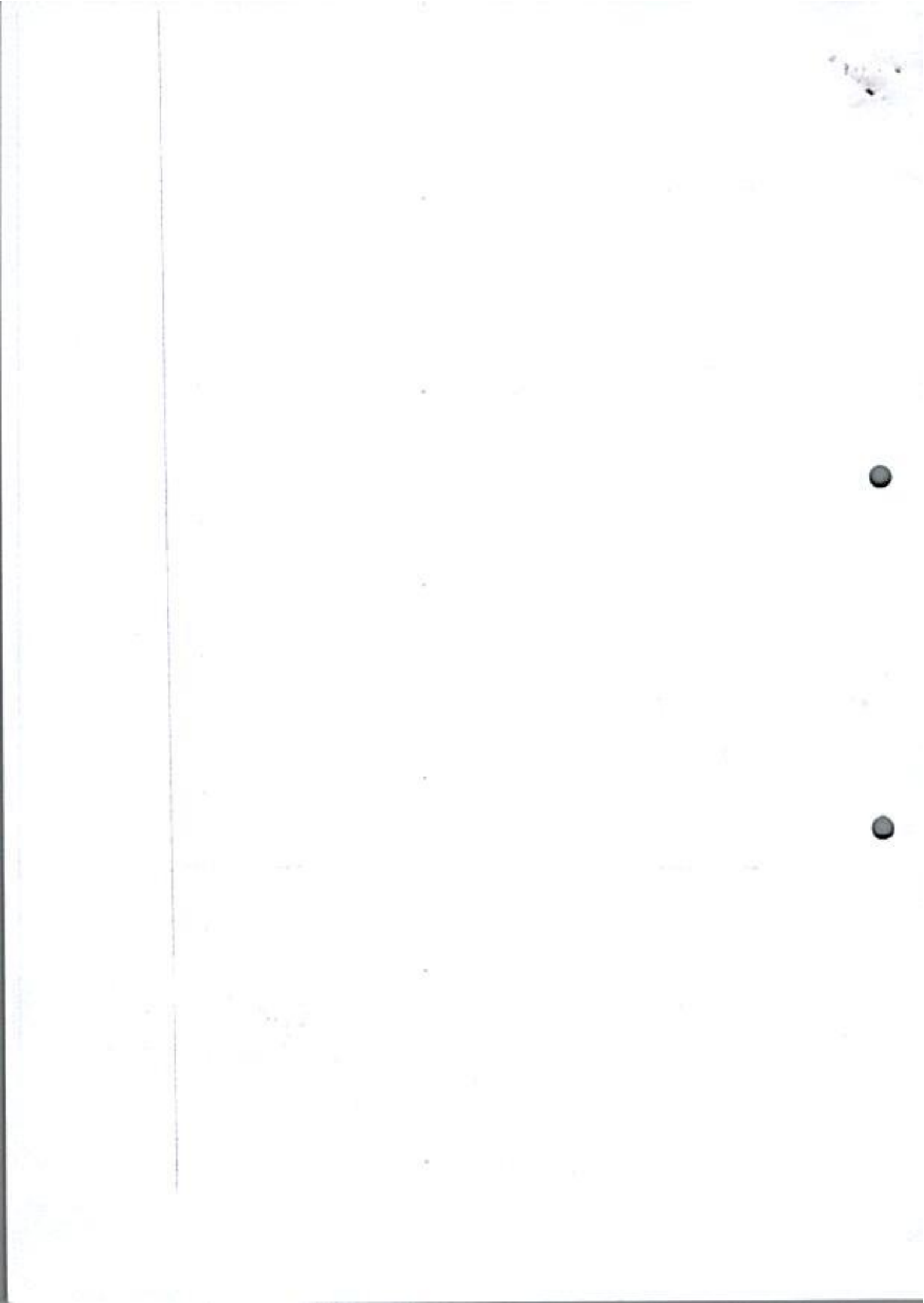
	been done in the year 2015. Further, as per DSS analysis, 4 ha area <i>Jogapur</i> the category of VDF. Therefore, the proposed DFL areas identified for plantation balance seedlings shall be revisited	away from the proposed sites for compensatory afforestation plantation. It is not in the proposed DFL. Jogapur area is not considered for Compensatory Afforestation as per the list of sites attached.
xvii.	Details like village, compartment No. & area (ha) of the Compensatory Afforestation sites on the forest land not matching with the details mentioned in online Part-II. The same shall be examined and corrected.	Part II is not replaceable on Parivesh so details enclosed herewith for your perusal as Annexure II.
xviii.	Relevant copy of note containing justification for locating the project in forest shall be uploaded online in part-I of the application form.	Justification is mentioned in Nodal Officer letter dtd. 7/10/2022 and revised Part I annexed herewith as Annexure I.
xix.	The copy of the Cost Benefit Analysis and the recommendations of Divisional Forest Officer (T), Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Chandrapur and Nodal Officer as submitted by State Govt vide letter dtd.18.10.22 are not in conformity with that uploaded in online application form on PARIVESH portal. Therefore, the correct documents shall be uploaded and provided to Ministry.	Query is raised on the basis of earlier proforma. However, in parivesh once proforma is uploaded it is not changeable kindly refer to revised proposal which is enclosed and all Proforma.
xx.	The correct Survey of India Toposheet Map, Geo-referenced Map, KML files and complete Compensatory Afforestation scheme along with the site suitability certificates w.r.t. proposed Compensatory Afforestation on degraded forest land shall be uploaded on PARIVESH portal.	Query is raised on the basis of earlier complete Compensatory Afforestation scheme along with the site suitability certificates w.r.t. proposed Compensatory Afforestation on degraded forest. The same has now been uploaded on Parivesh portal.

It is therefore, requested that proposal may kindly be submitted to Central Government for approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 at the earliest

NA
14/11/22

(Naresh Zurmure)
Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
& Nodal Officer

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Chandrapur for information.
Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Chanda Forest Division for information.
Copy to the Authorized Officer, M.A.D.C Ltd. for information.





महाराष्ट्र शासन



वनविभाग

मुख्यवनसंरक्षक, चंद्रपूर वनविभाग, यांचे कार्यालय मुल रोड, चंद्रपूर

E-mail :- ccfchandrapur@gmail.com

No. Desk-Survey/Land/2022-23/1125
/11/2022

Chandrapur, Date 14/11/22

To,

**The APCCF & Nodal Officer, Forest Conservation
Van Bhawan, Nagpur**

Subject :- Diversion of 63.540 ha. Forest land for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, taluka Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra (Online Ni. FP/MH/Others/42471/2019) regarding.

Reference :- Central Government letter No. File No. 8-29/2022-FC dated 10th November, 2022.

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Shri Jashi
Regarding the proposal for diversion of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved/Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka. Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Others/42471/2019) has been submitted by this office, the Govt. of India has communicated shortcomings vide letter under reference 1.

Following is the point wise compliance for the same.

Sr. No.	Queries	Compliance
i.	In the Part-IV of the application form against the specific recommendation of the Nodal Officer / PCCF (HoFF) it has been mentioned that the specific recommendation of PCCF (HoFF) is attached, whereas as per attached letter dtd.20.08.2020 which is also signed by the Nodal Officer, the proposal has been submitted to Govt. for consideration subject to certain conditions. However, the specific recommendation of the Nodal Officer or PCCF (HoFF) has not been found in the proposal.	Query is raised on the basis of earlier Part-IV. However in Parivesh once proforma is uploaded, it is not changeable. Kindly refer to Annexure-V & VI which is submitted earlier and enclosed herewith.

ii.	<p>The proposal area is part of Tiger Corridor. In the para 8.20 of the letter dtd.20.08.2020, it has been mentioned that "the first recommendation of the report prepared by Wildlife Institute of India is that given the wildlife value of the area and its importance of connecting corridors, the present site may or shall not be considered for the construction of the proposed Greenfield airport". The Justification for selecting the present site shall therefore be submitted.</p>	<p>After consideration at Govt. of Maharashtra level, option (ii) of WII accepted by Govt. of Maharashtra and area has been reduced from 75.24 ha to 63.54 ha. after reducing RESA area from 400Mtr to 200 Mtr. as per WII report and after due consideration of Mitigation Measures suggested by WII. This is the only available best available site suitable for Greenfield Airport. In other alternatives forest area involved is much more. As there is no alternative site for the project, the proposal is considered because the User Agency has given an undertaking to adhere to all the mitigation plans suggested by WII, Dehradun. Moreover, the User Agency has also submitted proposal for wildlife clearance as per the provisions under section 38-O(1)(g) of Wildlife (Protection) Act -1972 and proposal is being examined to put before the consideration of State Board for Wildlife.</p>
iii.	<p>The detail of the other alternatives examined and the reasons for their rejection have not been submitted. The State Govt. shall submit the details including KML, files of all such alternatives examined along with the justification for selecting the present proposed forest area.</p>	<p>Details of three alternatives are enclosed herewith as Annexure -VIII.</p>
iv.	<p>As per the remarks of CWLW given in the para 8.22 of the letter dtd.20.08.2020 issued by the office of PCCF (HoFF), it has been mentioned that "<i>In view of the benefits that seem to be accruing due to the project for local population in terms of the number of employment opportunities, the trade of between the protection of the corridor to be disrupted if the project comes through and the benefits proposed weighs heavily in favour of protection of the corridor</i>". The justification for recommendation of the proposal in view of the above remarks of CWLW is therefore required to be submitted.</p>	<p>Latest comments of PCCF(WL) enclosed herewith for your perusal. Keeping in view the development of backward district Chandrapur and employment generation potential of this project, this proposal is submitted for approval. Comments of Chief Wildlife Warden are submitted here as Annexure-IX.</p>

v.	<p>The Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Chandrapur Circle in Site Inspection Report has informed that 10 ha of Teak Plantation raised in 2004 and 20 ha Mix Plantation is included within the proposed diversion. The State Govt. shall submit detail of plantation including the schemes under which they have been taken up.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 10 ha teak plantation of 2004 as mentioned in the query is in nearby revenue area, where plantation was undertaken by Social Forestry dept. It is not a part of proposed area for diversion. 2) 20 ha mixed plantation is undertaken by forest dept in 2018, comp no. 173. Out of this 20 ha., 6 ha. area is part of proposed diverted area. 3) 20 ha mixed plantation is undertaken by Forest Dept in 2018, under NTSP, in comp 200. Out of this, 1.3 ha plantation area is affected by the proposed diverted forest land. <p>Plantation cost will be incurred from User Agency.</p>
vi.	<p>The existing Chandrapur Airport is just 39 Kms away from proposed diversion site and the Nagpur Airport is 158 Kms from proposed diversion site. Therefore, the State Govt. shall submit detail justification for proposing new Airport involving forest land proposed site.</p>	<p>As per report submitted by User agency, the existing airport has limited scope and commercial facility cannot be developed because of the following obstacles in surrounding area:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All airport areas connected/ touched to the boundaries of residential and industrial areas. 2. To heightened chimneys of Dhariwal Power plant are near the airport 3. No land is available for expansion of the airport boundary 4. The nearest area is covered with high tension power lines <p>Only chartered flights of limited capacity can be handled on this airport and the proposed Murti airport is under development for commercial and cargo facilities.</p>
vii.	<p>Project report mentions that the total requirement of land 339.94 ha (including both forest as well as Non -forest land) and project will be implemented in two phases wherein Phase-I involves 63.54 ha forest land and 216.19 ha Non-forest land. The remaining non-forest area of 48.57 ha is proposed to be utilized in Phase-II. The State Govt. shall submit the reason for not utilizing the remaining 48.57 ha non-forest area in Phase-I instead of proposed forest area.</p>	<p>Actual requirement of land for this project is 339.94ha. However, MADC bifurcated the said project in two phases as per the requirement of essential mandatory area and optional developmental area as per the availability of funds with User Agency. Forest area required is most essential part of the project because forest area proposed for runway strip. Acquisition of revenue land is time consuming that's why it was shown as Phase-II. However, in presence</p>

		circumstances both Phase-I and Phase-II are merged together and acquisition process started for Phase II also.
viii.	Keeping in view the standard area requirements for the construction of Airports, the State Govt. shall submit the justification that the bare minimum forest area is proposed for diversion.	As per report submitted by the User Agency generally for air strip A320 aircraft requires run way strip of 3000 meters and total area required is approximately 400 ha. However, in this proposed airport, area involved is 339.94 ha. and forest area involved is 63.54 ha.
ix.	The component wise break-up of the forest land involved has not been uploaded in the Part-I on the PARIVESH which is required to be done. Further, in the letter dtd.20.08.2020 of the office of PCCF (HoFF) a tabular statement of different component has been given wherein it has been provided that 38.25 ha , 26.11 ha and 1.54 ha in different villages will be used <i>for other related infrastructure and open Space</i> . The details break-up regarding the said areas shall be provided.	As per report submitted by the User Agency component wise area statement is enclosed as Annexure No. X .
x.	The project is located at a distance of around 1 Km from Wardha River and its tributaries. The State Govt. shall examine this aspect from <i>flood zone</i> point of view and the mitigation measures required to be taken during construction phase.	As per report submitted by the User Agency, the flood line is 1.2 km from the proposed new greenfield airport boundary and it will not affect the construction as well as the airport activities.
xi.	The copy of the report prepared by Wildlife Institute of India has not been submitted which is required to be done.	Report prepared by WII is enclosed herewith for your perusal as Annexure-XI .
xii.	The Geo referenced land use map of the project area involved in the instant proposal needs submission.	As per report submitted by the User Agency the geo-reference map is attached with the proposal.
xiii.	The Status of declaration of ESZ around Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary needs submissions.	Kanhargaon wildlife Sanctuary is notified vide WLP.0614/CR.153/F-1dated 15 March 2021 over an area of 269. 40 Sq. Km and the proposal for final notification of ESZ for Kanhargaon wildlife Sanctuary is being sent by PCCF office. As per the draft proposal, the extent of ESZ of Kanhargaon wildlife Sanctuary is from 1km to 10 km from the boundary of WLS. The proposed airport site is 8.35 km from the boundary of Kanhargaon wildlife Sanctuary and does not


		fall within area proposed in the draft ESZ proposal.
xiv.	The user agency initially applied for diversion of 75.24 ha forest land. However, the State Govt. has recommended only 63.540 ha forest land for diversion. Therefore, the same needs correction in online Part-I. The component wise breakup for both the forest land and non-forest is required to be corrected and uploaded accordingly.	Part I is not replaceable on Parivesh so enclosed herewith as Annexure I. Component wise break up for both forest land and non forest land is submitted for your perusal. Compartment wise break up is enclosed here as Annexure XII
xv.	As per DSS analysis, the Satellite imagery shows the presence of Plantation activities <i>Kaccha Road</i> and encroachment for agriculture within the forest land sought diversion. This needs clarification.	There is encroachment in the proposed forest land for diversion. 9 pattas have been granted to Kolam tribals and 5 pattas are pending for approval at DLC level.
xvi.	DSS analysis, shows the presence of encroachments on patches of DFL proposed for planting the balance seedlings and in one patch namely <i>CHUNALA</i> plantation has been done in the year 2015. Further, as per DSS analysis, 4 ha area <i>Jogapur</i> the category of VDF. Therefore, the proposed DFL areas identified for plantation balance seedlings shall be revisited	There is encroachment in the DFL as clarified in point (xv). The said plantation of 2015 is at least 500 m away from the proposed sites for compensatory afforestation plantation. It is not in the proposed DFL. <i>Jogapur</i> area is not considered for Compensatory Afforestation as per the list of sites attached.
xvii.	Details like village, compartment No. & area (ha) of the Compensatory Afforestation sites on the forest land not matching with the details mentioned in online Part-II. The same shall be examined and corrected.	Part II is not replaceable on Parivesh so details enclosed herewith for your perusal as Annexure II.
xviii.	Relevant copy of note containing justification for locating the project in forest shall be uploaded online in part-I of the application form.	Justification is mentioned in Nodal Officer letter dtd. 7/10/2022 and revised Part I annexed herewith as Annexure I.
xix.	The copy of the Cost Benefit Analysis and the recommendations of Divisional Forest Officer (T), Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Chandrapur and Nodal Officer as submitted by State Govt vide letter dtd.18.10.22 are not in conformity with that uploaded in online application form on PARIVESH portal. Therefore, the correct documents shall be uploaded and provided to Ministry.	Query is raised on the basis of earlier proforma. However, in parivesh once proforma is uploaded it is not changeable kindly refer to revised proposal which is enclosed and all Proforma.

xx.	The correct Survey of India Toposheet Map, Geo-referenced Map, KML files and complete Compensatory Afforestation scheme along with the site suitability certificates w.r.t. proposed Compensatory Afforestation on degraded forest land shall be uploaded on PARIVESH portal.	Query is raised on the basis of earlier complete Compensatory Afforestation scheme along with the site suitability certificates w.r.t. proposed Compensatory Afforestation on degraded forest. The same has now been uploaded on Parivesh portal.
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It is therefore, requested that proposal may kindly be submitted to Central Government for approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 at the earliest


(Prakash J Lonkar)
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Chandrapur Forest Circle,
Chandrapur

Copy to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Chanda for information


(Prakash J Lonkar)
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Chandrapur Forest Circle,
Chandrapur

FORM - A

Form for seeking prior approval of Central Government under section 2 of the Forest(Conservation) Act,1980 for
Diversion of fresh forest area

PART - I

(To be filled up by User Agency)

A. General Details**A-1. Project Details**

(i). **Proposal No.** : FP/MH/Others/42471/2019

(ii). **Name of Project for which Forest Land is required** : Diversion of 63.540 ha. forest land for development of Green Field Airport at Village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra.

(iii). **Short narrative of the proposal and Project/scheme for which the forest land is required** : Proposal outlines the necessity of the Greenfield Airport at Chandrapur (Vihirgaon and Murti, taluka - Rajura), to accelerate the industrial growth and facilitate the transportation to and fro to important parts of the country. Also explains the viability of the area, in consideration for the proposed

(iv). **State** : Maharashtra

(v). **Category of the Proposal** : Others

(vi). **Shape of forest land proposed to be diverted** : Non Linear

(vii). **Estimated cost of the Project(Rupees in lacs)** : 30000

(viii). **Area of forest land proposed for diversion(in ha.)**: 63.54

(ix). **Non-forest land required for this project(in ha.)**: 216.19

(x). **Total period for which the forest land is proposed to be diverted(in years)**: 99

A-2. Details of User Agency

(i). **Name** : GREENFIELD AIRPORT CHANDRAPUR

(ii). **Address1** : wihirgaon & murti ,post - wihirgaon, taluka- rajura, district -chandrapur

(iii). **Address2** : NIL

(iv). **State** : Maharashtra

(v). District : Chandrapur

(vi). Pin : 442905

(vii). Landmark : rajura

(viii). Email address : rishabhmetaipat@gmail.com

(ix). Landline Telephone No. : 712-2295079

(x). Fax No. : 712-2295079

(xi). Mobile No. : 8600118001

(xii). Website (if any) : NIL

(xiii). Legal status of User Agency : State Government

A-3. Details of Person Making Application

(i). First Name: ashok

(ii). Middle Name: premchand

(iii). Last Name: bhurawat

(iv). Gender: Male

(v). Designation: consultant

(vi). Address 1: 132 shivanand building rajiv nagar

(vii). Address 2: NIL

(viii). State: Maharashtra

(ix). District: Nagpur

(x). Tehsil: Nagpur (Urban)

(xi). Pin: 440025


(xii). Landmark: wardha road

(xiii). Email Address: ashok.bhurawat@yahoo.com

(xiv). Landline Telephone No.: 712-2295079

(xv). Fax No.: 07122295079

(xvi). Mobile No.: 8600118001

(xvii). Copy of documents in support of the competence/authority of the person making this application to make application on behalf of the User Agency: **B. Details of land required for the Project**

B-1. Details of proposal seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Act for diversion of forest land for the Project already submitted in the past

List of proposal submitted in Past							
S.no	Proposal Status.	Proposal No.	Moef File No.	Area Proposed for Diversion(Ha.)	Area Diverted(Ha.)	Date of In-Principle Approval	Date of Final Approval
NIL							

B-2. Details of forest land proposed to be diverted

B-2.1 Details of Divisions involved

Details of Divisions involved			
S.no	Division Name	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1.	Central Chanda	63.54	216.19
Total		63.54	216.19

B-2.2 Details of Districts involved

District wise breakup			
S.no	District Name	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1.	Chandrapur	63.54	216.19
Total		63.54	216.19

B-2.3 Village wise breakup




Villages wise breakup			
S.no	Village	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1	Vihiragaon	36.7	28.319
2	Murti	26.84	187.871

Total	63.54	216.19
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B-2.4 Component wise breakup

Component wise breakup			
S.no	Component	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1	Property boundary wall	0.051	0
2	Road	2.258	0
3	GSE Parking	0.36	0
4	Run Way Strip	1.375	0
5	Isolated parking position	1.26	0
6	Perimeter Gate	0.025	0
7	Rese	2.16	0
8	Blast pad paved surface	0.27	0
9	Apron	1.123	0
10	Drain	0.397	0
11	Other related infrastructure (Air strip, terminal)	54.242	216.19
12	Operational Boundary Wall	0.019	0
Total		63.54	216.19

C. Maps of forest land proposed to be diverted

Division 1, : Central Chanda	
(i). Area of forest land proposed to be diverted(in ha.) : 75.24	
(ii). Nature of the Project: Non Linear	
(a). No. of patches : One	
Patch wise details	
Patch No.	Area of Patch(in ha.)
1.	63.54
Kml File of PatchesTo view KML file on google the same may be downloaded and then open if in google earth install in your computer.	
 View File	
(iii). Copy of Survey of India Toposheet indicating boundary of forest land proposed to be diverted: 	
(iv). Scanned copy of the Geo-referenced map of the forest land proposed to be diverted prepared by using GPS or Total Station: 	

D. Justification for locating the Project in forest land and details of alternatives examined:

(i). Copy of note containing justification for locating the Project in forest land: 

E. Employment likely to be generated

(i). Whether the Project is likely to generate employment?: Yes

(ii). Permanent/Regular Employment(Number of persons): 300

(iii). Temporary Employment(Number of person-days): 300

F. Displacement of People due to the Project, if any

(i). Whether Project involves displacement?: No

G. Details of Cost-Benefit analysis for the Project

(i). Whether the Project requires Cost-Benefit analysis?: Yes

(a). Copy of Cost-Benefit analysis: 

H. Status of Environmental Clearance

(i). Whether the Project requires Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986?: Yes

(a). Status of the Environmental Clearance to the Project: EC under process

(ii). Environmental Clearance File No.: 10-9/2019-IA-III

I. Status of Wildlife Clearance

(i). Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in any Protected Area or their Eco sensitive zone?: Yes

(a). Whether Project or a part thereof is located within a Protected Area?: No

(ii). Status of approval of the Standing Committee of National Board for the Wildlife(NBWL) to the Project: Application under process

(a). Date of submission of proposals: 30 Sep 2022

(b). Current status: NIL

J. Applicability of special provisions governing Scheduled Areas

(i). Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in a Scheduled Area?: No

(vi). Copy of Survey of India Toposheet in 1:50,000 scale indicating location of the land identified for creation of Compensatory Afforestation:

Additional Information Details

Documents		
S.No	Documents	Remarks
1	---	Revised Suitability
2	---	WII report
3	---	Mitigation measure
4	---	Area details
5	---	AUTHORIZATION LETTER
6	---	PROJECT NOTE
7	---	LAND USE PLAN
8	---	NOTIFICATION OF LEASE LOT1
9	---	NOTIFICATION OF LEASE LOT2
10	---	CERTIFICATE - NO SUITABLE ALTERNATE NON FOREST LAND
11	---	CERTIFICATE MINIMUM DEMAND
12	---	CERTIFICATE - NO VIOLATION OF CERSERVATION
13	---	CERTIFICATE - ARCHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE
14	---	CERTIFICATE - COST OF FELLING
15	---	CERTIFICATE - NET PRESENT VALUE
16	---	CERTIFICATE - ABOUT PROJECT AREA LYING WITHIN OR OUTSIDE SCHEDULE TRIBAL AREA
17	---	CERTIFICATE - COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION
18	---	CERTIFICATE - ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE
19	---	CERTIFICATE - UNDERTAKING TO BEAR THE COST OF RAISING AND MAINTENANCE
20	---	UNDERTAKING FRA
21	---	Study of Alternate site for Construction of Greenfield Airport at Chandrapur

FORM-A

(Form seeking prior approval under section 2 of the proposal by the State Govt. and other Authorities)

(See Rule 6)

PART-I

(To be filled up by user agency)

1	Project Details	
i)	Short narrative of the proposal and project/ scheme for which the forest land is required.	<p>The user agency has already submitted the proposal for 75.24Ha earlier but as suggested by Government of Maharashtra and DyCF Central Chanda, Chandrapur re-submitting revised proposal as per WII Dehradun, Mitigation Measures given on page no 34. To reduced 200m area from Varsapendi Nala to reduced runway and safety area (RESA) in northern side. Corrected maps, area statement of reduced 11.70Ha area and all other related documents for 63.54 Ha area.</p> <p>The proposal envisages is to seek the forest clearance under the forest conservation act 1980 and necessity of the proposal for obtaining forest clearances for proposed Greenfield airport at Chandrapur at village Vihirgaon and Murti Tahsil Rajura District Chandrapur, to accelerate the industrial growth and facilitate the transportation to and from important parts of the Country. Socio-economic standards of people will be improved due to increased employment opportunities provided by this project. This will also help medical emergencies in Naxalite area of Gadchorli district. This will also lead to economic development of the backward Region of the Vidharbha Area.</p> <p>MADC was constituted in the year 2002 by the Government of Maharashtra (GoM) as a Special Purpose Company. MADC has been mandated to play a lead role in the planning and implementation of the Multi-modal International Hub Airport at Nagpur (MIHAN) project, development & operation of Aviation infrastructure in the state of Maharashtra, keeping in mind the key objectives. MADC is headed by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra as its Chairman, MADC comprises a mission driven team of professionals and experts from all sectors.</p> <p>MADC is looking after following Airports Development/Maintenance projects;</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nagpur International Airport, Shirdi Greenfield International Airport, Greenfield International Airport at</p>

		<p>Pune, Solapur (Boramani) Greenfield Airport, Karad Airport Chandrapur Airport, Dhule Airport, Phaltan Airport, Amravati Airport .</p> <p>Enclosed on page no. 18 to 22.</p>
	Cost of Project	Approximately Rs. 285 Cr.
iii)	Justification for locating the project in forest area.	<p>1) Upon request of MADC, AAI had surveyed the existing airport at Chandrapur, to explore the possibilities of its expansion, but due to heavy Industrialisation in around areas, and unavailability of the land, it was concluded that the existing airport is not suitable for expansion.</p> <p>2) As suggested by Government of Maharashtra and DyCF Central Chanda, Chandrapur re-submitting revised proposal as per WII Dehradun, Mitigation Measures given on page no 34. To reduced 200m area from Varsapendi Nala to reduced runway and safety area (RESA) in northern side. Corrected maps, area statement of reduced 11.70Ha area and all other related documents for 63.54 Ha area.</p>
		<p>Thus, upon MADC's request, the proposed site at Mouja Murti and Vihirgaon, dist Chandrapur – was surveyed, visited on 03.01.2018, by a team, comprising AAI representatives, Local Administration and MADC representatives.</p>
		<p>As MADC proposed to develop the airport in two different phases -</p> <p>a) Phase – 1 – operational airport for Q - 400 and below aircrafts – Land required already falls under the boundary earmarked by MADC, thus no additional land may be required.</p> <p>b) Phase – 2 – Operational airport for the other bigger Aircrafts which may require additional land will be required to facilitate complete movement of the Aircrafts</p> <p>ALTERNATE SITE EXAMINATION</p> <p>As per Ministry of Civil Aviation's (MOCA) guidelines, Airport Authority of India (AAI) has the sole authority to decide on locations and prepare prefeasibility of Greenfield airport. The location as finalized by AAI have been provided to MADC to further plan, design and develop the airport at Chandrapur.</p>

		<p>Land Uses</p> <p>Proposed land use is that of airport infrastructure that will include Air strip, terminal building, apron and other related infrastructure. That is construction of terminal building, taxi Runway End Safety Area (RESA), Doppler VHF Omni Direction Range (DVOR), Air Traffic Controller (ATC) etc will be done.</p> <p>Employment generation</p> <p>Local skilled, semiskilled and unskilled labourers will be employed during the construction phase approx 250 no.</p> <p>In the operation phase, commuting of employees for operation of airport and passengers will take place in permanent nature approx. 300 no.</p> <p>Enclosed on page no. 25 to 26 .</p>
iv)	Cost benefit analysis (to be enclosed)	<p>Cost benefit analysis is applicable to the proposal involving forest land up to 20 Ha. In plains and up to 5 Ha in hills. The present proposal envisages the diversion of 75.24 Ha of forest land. Therefore, cost benefit analysis enclosed on page no. 26-A to 26-F.</p>
v)	Employment like to be generated	<p>The employment expected to be generated at the construction time and after completion of the project will be as under:</p> <p>Local skilled, semiskilled and unskilled labourers will be employed during the construction phase approx 250 no.</p> <p>In the operation phase, commuting of employees for operation of airport and passengers will take place in permanent nature approx. 300 no.</p> <p>The employment generated will be huge.</p> <p>Enclosed on page no. 30.</p>
2.	Purpose wise breakup of the total land required.	<p>Purpose wise breakup of the total land required for the Greenfield airport at Chandrapur at village Vihirgaon and Murti Tahsil Rajura District Chandrapur, is Enclosed on page no. 27 to 29.</p>

3.	Details of displacement of people due to the project, if any:	There is no displacement of people due to the project.
i.	Number of families.	Nil
ii.	Number of Schedule Cast/Scheduled Tribe families.	Nil
iii.	Rehabilitation plan (to be enclosed)	Not required.
4.	Whether clearance under Environment (Protection) Act 1986 required? (Yes/No)	No, the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 is being obtained separately Certificate is enclosed on page no. 44.
5.	Undertaking to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation and/ or penal compensatory afforestation as well as cost for protection and regeneration of Safety Zone, etc. As per the scheme prepared by the State Govt. (undertaking to be enclosed)	Required certificate is enclosed on page no.39
6.	Details of certificates/documents enclosed as required under the instructions.	Required certificate and documents are provided separately in respective sections. Certificate and Additional documents are enclosed on page no. 36 to 59 .

Place: Chandrapur

Date: 30/09/2022



Authorized Signatory

Gaurav S. Upshyam
(Gaurav S. Upshyam)

Sr. Manager R.C.S.,
MADC Ltd.

State serial No. of proposal.....

(to be filled up by the Nodal officer with date of receipt)

(To be filled by the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests)

1	Location of the project/scheme	Greenfield Airport Chandrapur at Village Vihirgaon & Murti Range- Rajura, Round- Vihirgaon, Beat- Vihirgaon & Murti
i.	State/Union Territory	Maharashtra
ii.	District	Chandrapur
iii.	Forest Division/circle	Central Chanda Forest division, Chandrapur Circle, Chandrapur
iv.	Area of forest land proposed for diversion	Total Area 63.54 Ha. Forest land required for the proposed project. Detail statement of Village wise, Survey number wise, Area wise forest land has been attached with the proposal.
v.	Legal Status of forest	Reserve Forest C. No. 173 & 200, Protected Forest C. No. 593
vi.	Density of vegetation	Density 0.5 Eco-value Class - III
vii.	Species-wise (scientific names) and diameter class wise enumeration of trees to be enclosed. In case of Irrigation/Hydel projects enumeration at FRI, FRL-2 & FRL-4 also to be enclosed.	Species-wise (scientific names) and diameter class wise enumeration of trees to be enclosed.
viii.	Brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion.	Does not form part of any seriously Eroded area. Gentle slopes of Wardha river basin. Moderately eroded.
ix.	Approximate distance of proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.	The proposed site for forest diversion is within Reserve & Protected forest.
x.	Whether forms part of National Park, Wild life sanctuary, biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, elephant corridor etc. (if so, the details of the area and comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed)	The proposed forest area is not part of any National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, biosphere reserve, tiger reserve, elephant corridor etc. But the project area falls within grid No. 248 of (C. No. 173, 200 & 593) as per WII report on Tiger Corridors of Eastern Vidharbha Landscape (Tiger Corridor in Chandrapur District)
xi.	Whether any rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna in the area. If so, details thereof	Yes. Tiger, Leopard, Sloth Bear are found in the area.
xii.	Whether any protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment of any other important monument located in the area. If so, the details thereof.	There is no any protected/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument located in the area.
2.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in col.2 of part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item wise with details of alternatives	Requirement of forest land is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. Certificate of User Agency attached herewith.

	examined.																																									
3.	Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out (Yes/No). If yes, details of the same including period of work done, action taken on erring official. Whether work in violation is still in progress.	No. As the work has not yet started, there is no violation of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.																																								
4.	Details of Compensatory Afforestation Scheme:	Attached herewith <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA land in Ratnagiri (Chiplun) District of Maharashtra. CA plantation in Central Chanda Forest Division, Chandrapur as per guidelines of 27/08/2014 issued by MoEF. 																																								
i.	Details of non-forest area/ degraded forest area identified for compensatory Afforestation, it's distance from adjoining forest, number of patches, size of each patch.	<p>The Divisional Forest Officer, Ratnagiri (Chiplun) letter dated 04/01/2020 according to this, the forest land that was set aside for compensatory afforestation at village Panchmbe is not suitable for plantation, but since the area is closed to the Sahiyadri Sanctuary, the Government letter dated 27/08/2014 certificate is given that it is permissible to take possession as per the suggestion. As per the guidelines above letter, compensatory afforestation of this project is proposed in the following degraded forest areas in this division.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Range</th> <th>Round</th> <th>Beat</th> <th>C. No.</th> <th>Proposed CA Area in ha</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Wirur</td> <td>Dewada</td> <td>Kawadgondi</td> <td>313</td> <td>10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wirur</td> <td>Dewada</td> <td>Dewada</td> <td>301</td> <td>10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rajura</td> <td>Tembhurwahi</td> <td>Tulana</td> <td>170</td> <td>15.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rajura</td> <td>Rajura</td> <td>Sumthana</td> <td>154</td> <td>10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rajura</td> <td>Vhirgaon</td> <td>Murb</td> <td>200</td> <td>10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rajura</td> <td>Rajura</td> <td>Chunala</td> <td>158</td> <td>10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Total</td> <td>65.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Range	Round	Beat	C. No.	Proposed CA Area in ha	Wirur	Dewada	Kawadgondi	313	10.00	Wirur	Dewada	Dewada	301	10.00	Rajura	Tembhurwahi	Tulana	170	15.00	Rajura	Rajura	Sumthana	154	10.00	Rajura	Vhirgaon	Murb	200	10.00	Rajura	Rajura	Chunala	158	10.00	Total				65.00
Range	Round	Beat	C. No.	Proposed CA Area in ha																																						
Wirur	Dewada	Kawadgondi	313	10.00																																						
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Rajura	Vhirgaon	Murb	200	10.00																																						
Rajura	Rajura	Chunala	158	10.00																																						
Total				65.00																																						
ii.	Map showing non-forest/ degraded forest area identified for compensatory Afforestation and adjoining forest boundary.	Map enclosed with the proposal.																																								
iii.	Detailed compensatory Afforestation scheme including species to be planted, by the implementing agency, time schedule, cost structure etc.	Detailed compensatory Afforestation scheme attached.																																								
iv.	Total financial outlay for compensatory Afforestation scheme.	Rs. 5,60,15,765/- As per estimate.																																								
v.	Certificates from the competent authority regarding suitability of area identified for compensatory Afforestation and from management point of view (to be signed by the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests).	Suitability Certificate attached.																																								
5.	Site inspection report of the DCF (to be enclosed) especially highlighting facts asked in column 7 & 8 & 9 above.	Site Inspection report attached.																																								

6.	Division/ District:	Central Chanda Forest Division, Chandrapur District – Chandrapur.
i.	Geological area of the division	3504.219 Sq. Km.
ii.	Forest area of the division	1143.111 Sq. Km.
iii.	Total forest area diverted since 1980	954.981 ha.
iv.	Total compensatory Afforestation stipulated in the Division since 1980 on.	1629.664 ha.
a.	Forest land including penal compensatory Afforestation	1105.580 ha.
b.	Non—forest land	524.084 ha.
v.	Progress of compensatory Afforestation as on	1629.664 ha.
7.	Specific recommendations of the DCF for acceptance or other wise of the proposal with reasons.	<p>WII report recommends the following two options with respect to diversion of forest area for construction of Airport in Murti & Vhirgaon village, ta. Rajura -</p> <p>1) Forest Land should not be diverted for construction of airport.</p> <p>2) If diversion is unavoicable, it has to be done after compliance of wildlife mitigation measures given in the report. (Due to the presence of Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape)</p> <p>As per MADC, joint inspections were conducted in multiple sites for technical viability for airport construction, and Murti site was considered to involve the least diversion of forest land while also being at least 190 km away from next domestic airport - Dr Baba Saheb Ambecker Airport in Nagpur. It is also centrally located with respect to industrial areas of Bellampally, Sirpur Khagajnagar (Telangana), Gadchandur, Gondpimpri, Naranda, Awadpur etc that fall within 50 km radius of the proposed site.</p> <p>However, the area falls in the Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape (grid number 248); and as per notification of Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary, dated 15th March of 2021, the proposed site now falls in the de-facto upto-10km radius Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Protected Area as stipulated in Wildlife Conservation Strategy 2002. Nevertheless, as per the ruling of Hon. Supreme Court dated 3rd June, 2022, Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary falls in category B according to the second report of CEC dated 20th Sep, 2012, making a 1 km wide ESZ from the boundary of the protected area mandatory. Accordingly, a proposal for final notification of ESZ for Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary is</p>

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	<p>Proposed. The considered site for airport is not in the proposed ESZ of Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary (Site is 8.242 km from the boundary of the PA).</p> <p>In consideration of the above points and upon receiving compliance report of wildlife mitigation measures from the user agency, the proposal is recommended for approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 conditional upon the approval of central govt. regarding the final notification of ESZ for Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary.</p>
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Place :-Chandrapur

Date :- 03/10/2022



(Swetha Boddu)

Dy. Conservator of Forests,
Central Chanda Forest Division, Chandrapur

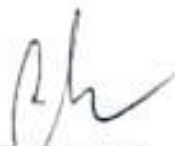
PART-III**(To be filled by the concerned Chief Conservator of Forests)**

1	Whether site, Where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Chief Conservator of Forests (Yes), if yes, the date of inspection and observation made in form of inspection note be enclosed.	Yes. on dated 16/09/2022.
2	Whether the concerned Chief Conservator of Forest agreed with the information given in Part-II and the recommendation of Dy. Conservator of Forests.	I agree with the information given in Part-II and recommendation of Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Chanda Division, Chandrapur
3	Specific recommendation of concerned Chief Conservator of Forests for acceptance of otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.	The proposal is recommended for giving approval under Forest (conservation) Act 1980, subject to condition the 1. The area being a Tiger corridor User Agency should agree to abide mitigation measures as suggested by Wildlife Institute of India.

Place - Chandrapur

Date - 06.10.2022




(P.J. Lonkar)
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Chandrapur Circle, Chandrapur.

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, CHANDRAPUR

1.	Name of Project and location (Range, Round, Beat)	Proposal for diversion of 63.54 ha. Forest land for construction of Greenfield Airport, Chandrapur at Village Vihirgaon & Murti. Range- Rajura, Round- Vihirgaon, Beat- Vihirgaon & Murti.
2.	Name of the User Agency	Maharashtra Airport Development Corporation, Mumbai
3.	Date of Site Inspection	Dt. 16/09/2022
4.	Extent (ha.) and legal status of forest land proposed for diversion,	37.70 Reserve Forest & 26.84 Protected forest. Total 63.54 ha.
5.	a) Details of forest land proposed for diversion and activity-wise break-up of forest land,	Construction of Greenfield Airport Area 63.54 ha.
	b) Density and Eco-value class	Density – Approximately 0.5, Eco-value Class-III
6.	Where the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency in Col.2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If no recommended area item-wise with details of alternative examined.	Yes, Unavoidable and barest minimum.
7.	Whether proposal involves any construction of building (including residential) or not? If yes, details thereof.	Yes, plan is attached.
8.	a) Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not.	Yes, It important from Wildlife point of view.
	b) Details of any rare or endangered or unique species of flora and fauna found in proposed forest land if so. The details thereof.	Tiger, Sloth Bear & other herbivorous animals move through the area.
	c) Aerial distance from the nearest boundary of any protected Area (km.)	8.242 Km. Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary.
	d) Remarks about sensitivity of the forest area likely to be affected due to project.	Since Wildlife Mitigation measures are proposed Intensity of negative impact will be reduced.
	e) Whether wildlife mitigation plan is required? If yes reasons thereof,	Yes, it is part of Tiger corridor Grid No. 248 (Vihirgaon & Murti C.No. 173, 200,593) as per WII Report on Tiger corridor EVL (Tiger Corridor in Chandrapur District) Yes. It is prepared.
9.	Details of vegetation	Total 3392 tree.
	a) Total number of trees to be felled.	
	b) Number of trees to be felled girth below 60 cm.	2081
	c) Number of trees to be felled of girth above 60 cm.	2081 1311

	d) Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area.	Loss of vegetation of 3392 trees. It is a dense bushy area with less tree cover.
10.	Background note on the proposal (short summary)	To accelerate the Industrial growth & facilitate the transportation to and from important parts of the country, an airport has been envisaged at a distance of about 190 km from Nagpur airport. This project is expected to improve socio- economic standards of the region due to increased employment opportunities. It is also expected to improve economic development of the backward region of the Vidharbha area.
11.	Whether the proposal involves any violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980? If yes a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials to be attached.	No
12.	Whether the proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced person. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been approved by the State Government?	No
13.	Details on catchment and culturable command area under the project (if applicable)	Not applicable
	Status of catchment area treatment plan to prevent siltation of reservoir (if applicable)	Not applicable
14.	Utility of the project.	Public utility project.
15.	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious values? Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/ forests exist in the areas proposed for diversion?	No
16.	Any other important information related to the project (separate note may be attached if required)	On inspection it is found that 10 ha. of Teak plantation raised in 2004 and 20 ha. mix plantation raised are found in this proposed C.No.173.
17.	Details of documents and photographs enclosed.	Yes
18.	Recommendations of the Inspecting Officer CCF	Recommended for approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 subject to the conditions of final notification of Kanhargaon wildlife sanctuary Eco-Sensitive Zone and compliance report from User Agency of wildlife mitigation measures proposed by WII.

Date :- 06/10/2022

Place :- Chandrapur



(P.J.Lonkar)
Chief Conservator of Forests
Chandrapur Circle, Chandrapur

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 diversion of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved / Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka, Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/.....).
0402/4247/2019

The details of land proposed for diversion is as under-

Sr. No.	Item work purpose	Name of Village	Survey & Gut No.	Compt. No.	Length (MTR)	Width (MTR)	Area (in ha)	Legal Status
1.	Run Way	Vihirgaon	402	173	903.763	406.08	36.700	Reserve Forest
		Murti	166	593	387.67	68.184	25.270	Protected Forest
		Murti	166	200	62.129	25.27	1.570	Reserve Forest
Grand Total							63.540	

Specific recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) MS Nagpur is attached on page no.



(Naresh Zurmure)

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer
Maharashtra State, Nagpur

Date: 10/10/2022

Place: Nagpur



सत्यमेव जयते
महाराष्ट्र शासन

Annexure - V

**Office of The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, (HoFF) Maharashtra State,
Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur 440 001.**

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests And Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State,
Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur 440 001.

0712-2556916

Email: apccfnodal@mahaforest@gov.in

Speed Post/Email

No. Desk-17/Nodal/Chandrapur/I.D.12781/1751/22-23
Nagpur - 440 001 Dated 07/10/2022.

To,
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue and Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-32

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved / Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka.Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Others/42471/2019).

Ref: Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Chandrapur letter no.Desk-3(1)/Land/C.R.479/22-23/1726,dtd.04.10.2022.

The proposal is for diversion of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved / Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka.Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Road/25848/2017) has been submitted by Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Chandrapur vide letter under reference.

This proposal was earlier submitted to Govt. of Maharashtra vide this office letter no.397, dtd.20/08/2020 under section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposal was kept on hold at government level for want of some clarification. Wildlife Institute of India has suggested some mitigation measures and to reduce runway and safety area (RESA) on the Northern side. Now, the User Agency has revised the proposal accordingly and resubmitted for approval.

2.00 The details of the forest land proposed for diversion are as under:-

Sr. No	Item work purpose	Name of Village	Survey & Gut No.	Compt. No	Length (MTR)	Width (MTR)	Area (in ha)	Legal Status
1.	Run Way	Vihirgaon	402	173	903.763	406.08	36.700	Reserve Forest
		Murti	166	593	387.67	68.184	25.270	Protected Forest
		Murti	166	200	62.129	25.27	1.570	Reserve Forest
Grand Total							63.540	

3.00 The proposal has been initiated by the Authorized Officer, M.A.D.C. Ltd for seeking approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposed proposal for development of

the Greenfield Airport at Village Vihirgaon and Murti Tahsil Rajura District Chandrapur aims to accelerate the Industrial growth and facilitate the transportation to and fro to important parts of the Country. The total non forest involved in the project is 216.19 ha. The B:C ratio for the project is 1.73. As per the Note submitted by the User Agency following benefits and development possible because of this project:-

- Employment generated consequent to the activities in the Greenfield Airport Project will benefited around 600 people (Direct including through Contractors and indirect self-employment).
 - The project will have tremendous boost to the local and the regional economy benefiting population over 2 lakhs.
 - Ample commercial opportunities will become available for economic development in the Chandrapur District through ancillary services and cottage industries.
 - The State Govt. will directly benefited the revenue on account of Greenfield Airport Project.
 - The project will reduce the distance over connecting the Road to the existing Greenfield Airport plant which implied saving of Foreign Exchange on the precious fuel used in Road Transport.
 - Unlike the financial benefits, the social benefit arising out of this proposal can expressed only as value judgment. This includes increases in the standard of living local population, educational opportunities, training and development of skill etc.
 - The project will provide wide opportunities for increase interaction in one side word and will draw the local population out of their shell and encourage them to join national mainstream.
 - This will also help medical emergencies in Naxalite area of Gadchiroli District.
 - The most important from the Greenfield Airport will be creating of an industrial channel that will defuse the potentially grave social problems that the district faces in the form of illiteracy which thrive on ignorance, poverty and isolation of the local people will cease to have their rationale and hence will fade out the area.
 - Chandrapur District is already having established Defence products Manufacturing Mega Units and all related since 1970. If the Airport facility is established in this district, it will help huge scopes and development possibilities in Defence related sector as Govt. of India is promoting "MAKE IN INDIA" movement in all sectors with flexible policies.
- 4.00 The Project is administratively approved vide Government of Maharashtra, General Administration Department vide letter No.MADC-1217/C.No.255/28-A,dt.21/12/2018. The total non forest area involved in the project is.216.19 ha. The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Chanda Forest Division, Chandrapur is enclosed on page no.100 to 101.
- 4.1 The site inspection report of the Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Chandrapur is enclosed on page no.172 to 173.

5.00 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Chanda Division, Chandrapur has certified that:-

- 5.1 No suitable alternate land is available and the forest land required is minimum.
5.2 The area belongs to Eco-value class-III and having density is 0.5
5.3 There are 3392 trees of various species involved in implementation of the Project. Earlier there were 3817 trees. The Girth wise break up is as under:-

Division	Total tree felling						
	0-30	31-60 cm	61-90 cm	91-120 cm	121- 150 cm	Above 150 cm	Total
Central Chanda	0	2081	851	238	154	68	3392

5.4 The area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc.

5.5 Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.

5.6 There is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.

5.7 The proposed area for the project is beyond 10 km from the boundary of the protected area. (The distance of wildlife sanctuary i.e. Kanhargaon WLS is 8.242 Km. The proposed site now falls in the de-facto up to 10 Km radius Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Protected Area as stipulated in Wildlife Conservation Strategy 2002. Nevertheless, as per the ruling of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 3rd June 2022, Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary falls in category B according to the second report of CEC dated 20th Sept.2012, making a 1 Km wide ESZ from the boundary of the protected area mandatory. Accordingly, a proposal for final notification of ESZ for Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary is proposed. The considered site for airport is not in the proposed ESZ of Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary (Site 8.242 Km from the boundary of the PA).

5.8 The non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of application of Section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and are not recognized as deemed reserved forest as well as not included in the area identified as "forest" as per dictionary meaning of forest as intimated to the expert committee appointed under interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996.

5.9 Alternative non forest land proposed for Compensatory Afforestation over 76.06 ha. in private area Gut No.69/7,69/10, Pt.69/11 of Village Pachambe, Tal. Sangameshwar, Dist. Ratnagiri is contiguous and suitable for management purpose. It is also free from encroachment and encumbrances.

However as the tree cover is more than 60% in this area, afforestation works cannot be taken in this area as the area already has tree cover. However, the proposed land is acceptable as per Government of Maharashtra letter dt.27/08/2014 as the area is included in the proposed Eco-Sensitive Zone of Sahiyadri Tiger Reserve. In accordance with the guidelines issued by MoEF& CC vide letter No.F.No.11-423/2011-FD, dt.02/04/2019 compensatory afforestation has been proposed over 65.00 ~~ha~~ forest land elsewhere in compartment No.313,301,170,154,200,158 - Village Kawadgondi, Dewada, Tulana, Sumantha, Murti, Chunala Dist. Chandrapur and it is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it is free from encroachment and an encumbrances.

6.00 **The User Agency has submitted an undertaking that:-**

- 6.1 To defray the cost of compensatory afforestation.
- 6.2 To defray the cost of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed under diversion.
- 6.3 Government of India vide letter No.11-43/2013-FC, dt.3/12/2018 has issued guidelines regarding compliance of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Right) Act, 2006. As per these guidelines:-

'Accordingly, it is clarified that within the time period stipulated for compliance of Stage I condition, Deputy Commissioner shall complete the process of compliance of FRA (including forwarding its findings to be concerned CF), hence for the purpose of the MoEF & CC, as per the provisions under the Forest (Conservation) amendment rules, 2016 the compliance under FRA is not required for consideration of in-principle approval. This has to be furnished by the State Government for consideration of the proposal by the Ministry for final approval'.

Hence, the user agency has given an undertaking regarding the compliance under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 stating that it has been applied and is under process and shall be submitted before in-principle approval.

- 7.00 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Central Chanda Division, Chandrapur and Chief Conservator of Forest (T), Chandrapur have recommended the proposal for diversion of 75.240 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved / Protected Forest land.
- 8.06 The CCF Chandrapur has mentioned in his site inspection report that the forest area proposed for diversion is important from the wildlife point of view and that Tigers, Sloth bear and other herbivorous animal move through the area. He has further mentioned that the site is at a distance of 8.242 kms from the Kanhargaan Sanctuary.
- 8.07 He has also pointed out that the proposed site is part of the **Tiger Corridor Grid No. 248** as per the Wildlife Institute of India's report on Tiger Corridors of the **Eastern Vidarbha Landscape**.
- 8.08 The total number of trees to be felled in the forest area required for the project is 3392 out of which the trees above 60cms girth are 1311.
- 8.09 MADC entered into an MoU with **Wildlife Institute of India**, Deharadun for a wildlife study.
- 8.10 The report mentions that in case there is no alternative site for the proposed airport mitigation measures as suggested need to be considered. Important amongst them;
 3. Re-align GAMV boundary;
 4. In case realignment of the airport boundary is not possible, reduce runway and safety area (RESA) in northern side.
- 8.11 **On dtd.15.06.2020, the CWLW has given his remarks / comments.**

9.00 **In view of this, the proposal may be submitted with recommendation section -2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions: -**

- 9.1 The legal status of the forest land required will remain unchanged.

- 9.2 Compensatory Afforestation over over 65.00 ~~degraded~~^{non} forest land elsewhere in compartment No.313,301,170,154,200,158 Village Kawadgondi, Dewada, Tulzna, Sumantha, Murti, Chunala.
- 9.3 The user agency will defray the cost of Net Present Value of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) of forest land as per the latest guidelines of the Government of India.
- 9.4 The user agency will defray the additional cost of Net Present Value of forest land as per the latest guidelines of Government of India.
- 9.5 The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation, at the current wage rate, to the State Forest Department. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.
- 9.6 All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<http://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- 9.7 The non-forest land identified for raising compensatory afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department before issue of the Stage-II clearance.
- 9.8 Wherever possible and technically feasible, the user agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall undertake by involving local community the afforestation measures within the area diverted under this approval at the project cost.
- 9.9 The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act,1986, if required.
- 9.10 No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 9.11 The user agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labours and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
- 9.12 The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar.
- 9.13 The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- 9.14 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal
- 9.15 The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
- 9.16 No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
- 9.17 Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Government.
- 9.18 The User Agency shall undertake comprehensive soil conservation measures at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department, if required and a plan on the same to be submitted.
- 9.19 The User Agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project.

- Bird's nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project.
- 9.20 The user agency shall obtain the certificate of the Collector, Chandrapur under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 after Stage I approval.
- 9.21 Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
- 9.22 All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.
- 9.23 The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- 10 It is therefore, requested that Government of India may kindly be moved for approving the in Chandrapur District in the State of Maharashtra, under section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- Encl.:- Proposal 2 copies



(Naresh Zurmure)

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer,
Maharashtra State, Nagpur

Copy of covering letter submitted with compliments to The Deputy Director General (Central) Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur 440 001 for information.

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests (Territorial) Chandrapur for information.

Proposal for diversion of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved / Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka.Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Others/42471/2019).

Specific Recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State (Head of Forest Force) Maharashtra State, Nagpur with regards to acceptance or otherwise of the proposal supported by reasons.

The proposal is for diversion of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved / Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka.Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Others/42471/2019).

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1. Re-align GAMV boundary;
 2. In case realignment of the airport boundary is not possible, reduce runway and safety area (RESA) in northern side.
- 8.05 **On dtd.15.06.2020, the CWLW has given his remarks / comments.**
- 9.00 **In view of this, the proposal may be submitted with recommendation section -2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions: -**
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- 9.22 All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.
- 9.23 The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)

Y. L. P. Rao

(Y. L. P. Rao)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

Maharashtra State, Nagpur

o/c
07/11/22
Bak
7/12



Forest Department

O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State

Phone No. - 0712-2560953 Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Maharashtra State

E-mail - pccfwlmgp@mahaforest.gov.in Website - www.mahaforest.gov.in

"Van Bhavan", 3rd Floor, Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440 001.

No:- D-23(2)/Survey/C.N.199/ 2105 /2022-23, Dated 02/11/2022

Office Note

Subject :- Proposal for diversion of 75.24 ha (Revised Area 63.540) Reserved/Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra.

Ref:- File received from Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Cell, Maharashtra State dated 02/11/2022.

With respect to the subject and reference cited above, the comments of Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra State is sought to ascertain whether the area proposed for diversion under FCA - 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at Village - Vihirgaon and Murti, Tal. Rajura of District - Chandrapur falls under tiger corridor or not.

In this regard, the comments of Chief Wildlife Warden is as follows:

In the present proposal, a total area of 75.24 ha. (Revised Area 63.540 ha.) is to be diverted under FCA-1980 for Green Field Airport. It is examined with the help of Tiger Conservation Plan of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve and Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidharbha Landscape as published by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun that whether area proposed for diversion falls under tiger corridor or not. The factual condition is as follows :

Sr. No	Village / Taluka	Legal Status of Land	Compt. Number	Total Forest area in Ha.	Remark
1	Vihirgaon, Tal. Rajura	Reserve Forest	173	36.700	EVL Grid No. 247 & 248 Page No. 392 & 393 ID No. 665 Tiger Conservation Plan of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve Page No. 82 ID No. 254
2	Murti, Tal. Rajura	Protected Forest	593	25.270	EVL Grid No. 247 & 248 Page No. 392 & 393 ID No. 673 Tiger Conservation Plan of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve Page No. 82 & 83, ID No. 313 & 590
3	Murti, Tal. Rajura	Reserve Forest	200	1.570	
Total				63.540	

From above details, it is clear that ^{compt. No. 173,593 and 200} from which forest land diversion is proposed for the Green Field Airport falls in the Tiger corridor as given in Tiger Conservation Plan of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve and Tiger Corridor of Eastern Vidharbha Landscape as determined by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. Also proposed project area falls in the deemed Eco-Sensitive Zone of Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary and is at a distance of 8.242 km from the boundary of Kanhargaon Wildlife Sanctuary.

Hence, as per the Section 38(O)(g) of Wildlife (Protection) Act-1972, it is necessary to obtain permission from the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife for the project. The project agency has submitted Wildlife Clearance proposal for the project on 02/11/2022. After technical scrutiny of the proposal, it will be put before upcoming State Board for Wildlife meeting for approval.

The file received from your office is being sent to you for further action.

Encl- As above


(Maheep Gupta)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Wildlife)
Maharashtra State.


Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Cell,
Maharashtra State, Nagpur.



Note No. 1620/MHIAN/fin/01/2019

Date: 14/03/2019

Subject: Study of alternate site for construction of Greenfield Airport at Chandrapur

Reference: 1. Email of Mr. Vilas Madhkar dt: 11/03/2019
 2. MOM dt: 07/03/2019- Construction of Greenfield Airport at Chandrapur

Development of the existing Morwa airport is limited by surrounding obstructions, particularly the thermal power plant. Thus, to cater with future need of air transportation, Greenfield Airport is proposed near Rajura town. Before selecting the site, following alternate locations were surveyed/ studied by MADC but were not selected due following reasons:

1. District Chandrapur, village Mul, Mauza Sushi Daabgoan and kelzar- Site visit date- 30/09/2013

As per instructions of Mr. Sudhir Mungantiwar, Honorable Minister of Govt. Of Maharashtra, surveyed the site and total land of 388.62 Ha was proposed for Greenfield airport but land of Kelzar, as per-record of Talati belongs to Samudayak Society & Ambedkar Society and Sushi Daabgoan land belongs to forest department and also has nuisance of Naxalities.

2. District -Ballarpur, Village- Visapur- Site Visit date- 18/07/2009

Surrounded by chimney of Ballarsha paper mill, Telephone antennas, High tension electric towers, difference in level with surrounding area, obstructions in approach & inner horizontal surface.

3. District -Ballarpur, Village- Kotbari, Palasapur, Amodi- Site Visit date- 18/07/2009

Surrounded by of Antena (telecom etc), Low elevation causes flood due nearby nullah & River, major state road passing through area, approach on eastern side has obstruction, hill in outer horizontal surface.

Maharashtra Airport Development Company Ltd.

(A Government of Maharashtra Undertaking)

CIN:U45203MH2002SGC136979

GSTIN-SEZ: 27AADCY0623M1ZV / GSTIN-NON SEZ: 27AADCY19623M1ZZ

Central Facility Building, B - Wing, 1st Floor, MILAN SEZ, Kharaj (Kly.), Napper - 441 108

Tel: (02) 2701-10000 • Fax: (02) 2701-10000 • Email: info@mahadco.com • Web: www.mahadco.com

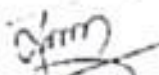


4. District- Badravati Village- Chandankheda and Dhorvasa - Site visit date-03/01/2014
Site is 18kms inside Nagpur- Chandrapur higyway has coal mines of WCL and some land from MIDC was allotted to Nippon Denro. As per possession on 7/12, the ownership of land belonged to Nippon Denro at the time of survey. Electric power station of NTPC Badravati is available in near vicinity, 05 HT line towers were passing through this land. Ordnance factory, Badravati has potable water line from this site. Over burden material of WCL is dumped at the site.

The above given details are brief reasons for not selecting the above mentioned four sites & other details can be obtained from the attachments. This is for information & further necessary action please.


Airport Manager


Airside Manager


Superintending Engineer


Advisor (Tech)




Senior Manager (R.C.S.)
Maharashtra Airport Development
Company Ltd. Nagpur.



Forest Department

O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State

Phone No.- 0712-2560953 Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Maharashtra State
E-mail - pccfwlmgp@mahaforest.gov.in Website - www.mahaforest.gov.in
"Van Bhavan", 3rd Floor, Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440 001.

Desk-23(2)/WL/Survey/CR.No.199(Nodal)/ 2204 /2022-23, Date 15 /11/2022

Office Note

Subject: Proposal for diversion of 75.24 ha.(Revised Area 63.540) Reserved / Protected Forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka.Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Road/25848/2017).

Reference: Government of India, MoEF&CC (FC Division) letter No.8-29/2022/FC Dated 10th November, 2022.

With respect to the subject mentioned above, the comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra State on point No. ii, iv and xiii sought in view of the development of Green Field Airport at village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka.Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra is as under :

Sr. No.	Queries	Comments of Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra
ii	The proposal area is part of Tiger Corridor. In the para 8.20 of the letter dtd.20.08.2020, it has been mentioned that "the first recommendation of the report prepared by Wildlife Institute of India is that given the wildlife value of the area and its importance of connecting corridors, the present site may or shall not be considered for the construction of the proposed Greenfield airport". The Justification for selecting the present site shall therefore be submitted.	The proposed Greenfield airport at Chandrapur falls in the tiger corridor as per the "Tiger Corridors of Eastern Vidarbha Landscape" Published by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun and approved Tiger Conservation Plan of Todoba- Andhari Tiger Reserve. The mitigation Plan is prepared by WII, Dehradun and submitted vide its letter no. WII/AE&CB/BH/MADC/2019/01/2020-21 Dt. 19/03/2020 . According to the wildlife study report, there are two options : Option I : The proposed GAMV site is well known for the wildlife value, especially for tiger conservation and its importance as connecting corridor with other areas of tiger conservation importance in this landscape. Hence, the present site may or shall not

be considered for the construction of the airport. The proposed airport is going to impact functional connectivity and may result in enhancement of wildlife conflict in the district.

Option 2 :

In case there is no alternative site for the proposed airport, this may be constructed at the Murti village(GAMV), Chandrapur, Maharashtra after undertaking the following mitigatory measures:

- a. Re-align airport boundary or reduce the area of " Runway end safety area"
- b. Restoration and strengthening of exiting habitat along the corridor and in the forest of Chandrapur Division , Maharashtra.
- c. Minimize the likely impact of peripheral lights and sound level.
- d. Undertake suggested mitigatory measures across roads passing through the existing corridor and minimize the extent of increased disturbance with this development in this landscape.
- e. Wildlife use shall be monitored during the construction phase and for five years once the airport is operationalized. The estimated budget is Rs. 475.00 lakhs. All the costs for such monitoring shall be met by MADC. The Wildlife Institute of India shall provide a separate proposal with the cost details.
- f. MADC shall consider and accept any mid-term mitigatory measures suggested based on the mitigatory undertaken during construction and after operation of the airport by the Wildlife Institute of India, and
- g. A committee shall monitor the compliance of suggested mitigatory measures.

		<p>After consideration at Government of Maharashtra level, the option II proposed by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun was accepted and the proposed area has been reduced from 75.24 ha. to 63.54 ha. after reducing the Run-way and safety area (RESA) from 400 m to 200 m.</p> <p>As there is no alternative site for the project, the proposal is considered because the User Agency has given an undertaking to adhere to all the mitigation plans suggested by WII, Dehradun. Moreover, the User Agency has also submitted proposal for wildlife clearance as per the provisions under section 38-O(1)(g) of Wildlife (Protection) Act -1972 and proposal is being examined to put before the consideration of State Board for Wildlife.</p>
iv	<p>As per the remarks of CWLW given in the para 8.22 of the letter dtd.20.08.2020 issued by the office of PCCF(HoFF), it has been mentioned that " In view of the benefits that seem to be opportunities due to the project for local population in terms of the number of employment opportunities, the trade off between the protection of the corridor to be disrupted if the project comes through and the benefits proposed weighs heavily in favour of protection of the corridor". The justification for recommendation of the proposal in view of the above remarks of CWLW is therefore required to be submitted.</p>	<p>As per the report of WII, Dehradun on Greenfield airport, Chandrapur, it is stated that the proposed site shall not be consider for the construction of the airport. But in case if there is no alternative site for the proposed airport, Some mitigation measures have been proposed which are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Re-align airport boundary or reduce the area of " Runway end safety area" b. Restoration and strengthening of exiting habitat along the corridor and in the forest of Chandrapur Division, Maharashtra. c. Minimize the likely impact of peripheral lights and sound level. d. Undertake suggested mitigatory measures across roads passing through the existing corridor and minimize the extent of increased disturbance with this development in this landscape. e. Wildlife use shall be monitored during the construction phase and for five years once the airport is operationalized. The estimated

budget is Rs. 475.00 lakhs. All the costs for such monitoring shall be met by MADC. The Wildlife Institute of India shall provide a separate proposal with the cost details.

- f. MADC shall consider and accept any mid-term mitigatory measures suggested based on the mitigatory undertaken during construction and after operation of the airport by the Wildlife Institute of India, and
- g. A committee shall monitor the compliance of suggested mitigatory measures.

The User Agency has given undertaking to adhere to all the mitigation measures and also submitted the proposal for wildlife clearance which is being examine for the consideration of Sate Board for Wildlife.

It is mentioned that in the report that GAMV has been planned mostly on area which is meanly under agriculture (dry land farming) except small proportion of private, and forest land. However, the northern part of the airport boundary is a very closed to most important drainage " Varsapindi Nala"

The " Varsapindi Nala" Which starts from the western site of the Wardha river and flows 5 Km of north before meeting with " Pachkawani Nala" near the railway underpass in Rajura Reserve Forest area. Hence, Varsapindi Nala is the most conducive site for tiger moving between Kanhargaon Reserve Forest and Rajura Reserve Forest area, and tiger signs were found on Varsapindi Nala during our survey. Thus, this side should remain disturbance free at least by 200 meters from the boundary wall of the airport. And it is suggested to realign the boundary as suggested to reduce boundry and safety area (RESA) on

FORM - A

Annexure - X of XII

Form for seeking prior approval of Central Government under section 2 of the Forest(Conservation) Act,1980 for
Diversion of fresh forest area

PART - I

(To be filled up by User Agency)

A. General Details

A-1. Project Details

(i). Proposal No. : FP/MH/Others/42471/2019

(ii). Name of Project for which Forest Land is required : Diversion of 63.540 ha. forest land for development of Green Field Airport at Village Vihirgaon and Murti, Taluka Rajura of District Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra.

(iii). Short narrative of the proposal and Project/scheme for which the forest land is required : Proposal outlines the necessity of the Greenfield Airport at Chandrapur (Vihirgaon and Murti, taluka - Rajura), to accelerate the industrial growth and facilitate the transportation to and fro to important parts of the country. Also explains the viability of the area, in consideration for the proposed

(iv). State : Maharashtra

(v). Category of the Proposal : Others

(vi). Shape of forest land proposed to be diverted : Non Linear

(vii). Estimated cost of the Project(Rupees in lacs) : 30000

(viii). Area of forest land proposed for diversion(In ha.): 63.54

(ix). Non-forest land required for this project(In ha.): 216.19

(x). Total period for which the forest land is proposed to be diverted(In years): 99

A-2. Details of User Agency

(i). Name : GREENFIELD AIRPORT CHANDRAPUR

(ii). Address1 : wihirgaon & murti ,post - wihirgaon, taluka- rajura, district -chandrapur

(iii). Address2 : NIL

(iv). State : Maharashtra

- (v). District : Chandrapur
- (vi). Pin : 442905
- (vii). Landmark : rajura
- (viii). Email address : rishabhmetaipat@gmail.com
- (ix). Landline Telephone No. : 712-2295079
- (x). Fax No. : 712-2295079
- (xi). Mobile No. : 8600118001
- (xii). Website (if any) : NIL
- (xiii). Legal status of User Agency : State Government

A-3. Details of Person Making Application


- (i). First Name: ashok
- (ii). Middle Name: premchand
- (iii). Last Name: bhurawat
- (iv). Gender: Male
- (v). Designation: consultant
- (vi). Address 1: 132 shivanand building rajiv nagar
- (vii). Address 2: NIL
- (viii). State: Maharashtra
- (ix). District: Nagpur
- (x). Tehsil: Nagpur (Urban)
- (xi). Pin: 440025
- (xii). Landmark: wardha road

(xiii). Email Address: ashok.bhurawat@yahoo.com

(xiv). Landline Telephone No.: 712-2295079

(xv). Fax No.: 07122295079

(xvi). Mobile No.: 8600118001

(xvii). Copy of documents in support of the competence/authority of the person making this application to make application on behalf of the User Agency: 

B. Details of land required for the Project

B-1. Details of proposal seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Act for diversion of forest land for the Project already submitted in the past

List of proposal submitted in Past							
S.no	Proposal Status.	Proposal No.	Moef File No.	Area Proposed for Diversion(Ha.)	Area Diverted(Ha.)	Date of In-Principle Approval	Date of Final Approval
NIL							

B-2. Details of forest land proposed to be diverted

B-2.1 Details of Divisions involved

Details of Divisions involved			
S.no	Division Name	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1.	Central Chanda	63.54	216.19
Total		63.54	216.19

B-2.2 Details of Districts involved

District wise breakup			
S.no	District Name	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1.	Chandrapur	63.54	216.19
Total		63.54	216.19

B-2.3 Village wise breakup




Villages wise breakup			
S.no	Village	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1	Vhiraagon	36.7	28.319
2	Murti	26.84	187.871

Total	63.54	216.19
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B-2.4 Component wise breakup

Component wise breakup			
S.no	Component	Forest Land(ha.)	Non-Forest Land(ha.)
1	Property boundary wall	0.051	0
2	Road	2.258	0
3	GSE Parking	0.36	0
4	Run Way Strip	1.375	0
5	Isolated parking position	1.26	0
6	Perimeter Gate	0.025	0
7	Resa	2.16	0
8	Blast pad paved surface	0.27	0
9	Apron	1.123	0
10	Drain	0.397	0
11	Other related infrastructure (Air strip, terminal)	54.242	216.19
12	Operational Boundary Wall	0.019	0
Total		63.54	216.19

C. Maps of forest land proposed to be diverted

Division 1. : Central Chanda		
(i). Area of forest land proposed to be diverted(in ha.) : 75.24		
(ii). Nature of the Project: Non Linear		
(a). No. of patches : One		
Patch wise details		
Patch No.	Area of Patch(in ha.)	Kml File of PatchesTo view KML file on google the same may be downloaded and then open if in google earth install in your computer.
1.	63.54	 View File
(iii). Copy of Survey of India Toposheet indicating boundary of forest land proposed to be diverted: 		
(iv). Scanned copy of the Geo-referenced map of the forest land proposed to be diverted prepared by using GPS or Total Station: 		

D. Justification for locating the Project in forest land and details of alternatives examined:

(i). Copy of note containing justification for locating the Project in forest land:

E. Employment likely to be generated

- (i). Whether the Project is likely to generate employment?: Yes
- (ii). Permanent/Regular Employment(Number of persons): 300
- (iii). Temporary Employment(Number of person-days): 300

F. Displacement of People due to the Project, if any

(i). Whether Project involves displacement?: No

G. Details of Cost-Benefit analysis for the Project

(i). Whether the Project requires Cost-Benefit analysis?: Yes

(a). Copy of Cost-Benefit analysis:

H. Status of Environmental Clearance

(i). Whether the Project requires Clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986?: Yes

(a). Status of the Environmental Clearance to the Project: EC under process

(ii). Environmental Clearance File No.: 10-9/2019-IA-III

I. Status of Wildlife Clearance

(i). Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in any Protected Area or their Eco sensitive zone?: Yes

(a). Whether Project or a part thereof is located within a Protected Area?: No

(ii). Status of approval of the Standing Committee of National Board for the Wildlife(NBWL) to the Project: Application under process

(a). Date of submission of proposals: 30 Sep 2022


(b). Current status: NIL

J. Applicability of special provisions governing Scheduled Areas

(i). Whether the Project or a part thereof is located in a Scheduled Area?: No

K. Status of settlement of rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed to be diverted

(i). Whether the process for settlement of Rights under the Forest Rights Acts 2006 on the forest land proposed to be diverted has been completed? : Yes

(a). Copy of documentry evidence in support of settlement of rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed to be diverted: 

L. Details of land identified for Compensatory Afforestation

(i). Whether non-forest or Revenue forest land is required to be provided by User Agency?: Yes

(ii). Whether the area of non-forest land or Revenue forest land required to be provided by User Agency for raising Compensatory Afforestation is less than area of forest land proposed to be diverted?: Yes


(a). Reason Category: CA Will be raised on degraded forest land as well as on land provided by User Agency


(b). Degraded forest area on which CA has to be raised by forest department(in ha.): 75.24

(c). Area of non-forest or Revenue forest land required to be provided by User Agency for raising Compensatory Afforestation(in ha.): 76.06

(iii). No. of districts involved for raising Compensatory Afforestation: 1

(iv). No. of patches: One

District 1. : Ratnagiri	
(a). Village:	pachambe
(b). Area(In ha.):	76.06
(c). Copy of KML file of the patch:	 View File
(d). Khasra details:	69/7,69/10,69/11
(e). Present owner:	User Agency
(f). Copy of Ownership proof:	No Data

(v). Scanned copy of the map of the land identified for creation of Compensatory Afforestation prepared by using GPS or Total Station: 

(vi). Copy of Survey of India Toposheet in 1:50,000 scale indicating location of the land identified for creation of Compensatory Afforestation:

Additional information Details

Documents		
S.No	Documents	Remarks
1		Revised Suitability
2		WII report
3		Mitigation measure
4		Area details
5		AUTHORIZATION LETTER
6		PROJECT NOTE
7		LAND USE PLAN
8		NOTIFICATION OF LEASE LO1
9		NOTIFICATION OF LEASE LO12
10		CERTIFICATE - NO SUITABLE ALTERNATE NON FOREST LAND
11		CERTIFICATE MINIMUM DEMAND
12		CERTIFICATE - NO VIOLATION OF CERSERVATION
13		CERTIFICATE - ARCHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE
14		CERTIFICATE - COST OF FELLING
15		CERTIFICATE - NET PRESENT VALUE
16		CERTIFICATE - ABOUT PROJECT AREA LYING WITHIN OR OUTSIDE SCHEDULE TRIBAL AREA
17		CERTIFICATE - COMPENSATORY AFFORESTATION
18		CERTIFICATE - ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE
19		CERTIFICATE - UNDERTAKING TO BEAR THE COST OF RAISING AND MAINTENANCE
20		UNDERTAKING FRA
21		Study of Alternate site for Construction of Greenfield Airport at Chandrapur

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