



Government of Maharashtra
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No.D-6/Nocell/L.Tek/ID-12880/25-26/ **524**
 Kolhapur - 416003, Date - **09/07/2025**

To,
 Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest
 and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur.

Sub: - Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 63.091 ha forest land at Village -Kagal, Taluka-Kagal, District Kolhapur for rehabilitation of Village Nivale in Chandoli Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra State (Online No.FP/MH/REHAB/121398/2021) - regarding.

Ref: - 1. Letter Dated 30.04.2025, from GOI, MOEF&CC, (FC Division), New Delhi.
 2. Letter No. D-17/FCA-S1/PID-121398/Kolhapur/263, Dated 5.05.2025 from APCCF & Nodal Office.
 3. Letter No.A/Nosel/2025-26/386, Dated 7.07.2025 from DCF Kolhapur.

GOI, MoEF&CC, (FC Division), New Delhi vide letter dated 30.04.2025 raised few queries.
 DCF Kolhapur vide reference 2 submitted the query compliance, as shown below

Sr. No.	Points	Remark
i)	There is no valid and cogent reason or justification given for the retrospective implementation of the guidelines issued in 2019 for a village which has already been relocated in the year 1999. Moreover, the said guidelines have been issued on the basis of an order of Hon'ble Supreme Court. The State shall give clarification in this regard.	<p>The old chandoli Village Nivale presently Galgale in Kagal Taluka was relocated in the year of 1999. The Government of Maharashtra vide its Government Resolution (GR), Dated 17th July 2000, for relocation of villages inside National Park/Sanctuary, Page No.3 (Point No.3) which clearly mentions that "Any Village relocated from Sanctuary/National Park and where land is not available in the command area of such irrigation project, such relocation has to be made either on only Government land or Forest land whichever is suitable." If such land is not available than State Government may acquire the suitable Private land for relocation.</p> <p>1. Every family relocated from Sanctuary/National Park has to be given equal land against the acquired land inside protected area, but minimum land shall not be less than one hectare.</p>

2. It is proposed to provide one acre of irrigated land to each landless family under Schedule Part (3) of the Maharashtra Project Affected People Rehabilitation Act, 1999. On the same lines, one acre of irrigated land or one hectare of non-irrigated land will be provided to each landless family displaced in the Sanctuary/National Park.

3. Such land selected and approved shall be made suitable for agriculture.

The provisions of this GR were applied and the forest land Lakshmi Tekadi was finalized to distribute the land for agricultural purpose. Hence the proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 was moved in the year 2021. Though the physical relocation of Nivale Village happened in the year 1999, only the Gavathan land was given to the beneficiaries. Agricultural land is not given till date. There are no other Government land available nearby which is suitable for agricultural purpose for families of Galgale (old Nivale) Village. The total land acquired inside Chandoli is 159.30 ha. as against the proposed 63.091 ha. Hence there is no violation of any of the provisions of guidelines issued in 2019.

ii)	The basis for the change in requirement of land from 16 ha. (As initially mentioned,) to 63.091 ha. in the current proposal is not justifiable.	The State Government had earlier acquired 16 ha. for Gavthan purpose and other amenities in Galgale Village and not for the agricultural purpose. No where in our previous reply also we have mentioned about requirement of 16 ha. for agricultural purpose. Even the initiation of this proposal for diversion of 63.091 ha. for agricultural purpose for was Galgale Village.
iii)	The details about other similar cases in the state where the villages have already been relocated from various Protected areas and now additional forest land is required/proposed to be given shall be provided.	<p>Two similar kinds of proposal for diversion of forest land for agricultural land purpose for Chandoli relocated Villages is in the process. The details are as follows:</p> <p>a. 215.42 ha. for rehabilitation of Village Chandel, Nivale, Sonarli Paiki Dhanagarwada, Tambave Paiki</p>

		Kulyachiwadi, Tanali, Dhakale, Gothane for agricultural purpose. b. 318.04 ha. for rehabilitation of Village name is Chandel, Nivale, Sonarli Paiki Dhanagarwada, Tambave Paiki Kulyachiwadi, Tanali, Dhakale, Gothane for agricultural purpose.
iv)	The area proposed for diversion is actually the Compensatory Afforestation, area of the Patagaon irrigation project. Keeping in view the proposed activity which is not site specific in nature, the use of compensatory afforestation area is not justifiable.	The area proposed for diversion at Lakshmi Tekadi, Kagal is site specific and suitable for agricultural purpose for Galgale Village. There are no other Government land/forest land available near this Galgale Village. Though the area purposed falls under the compensatory afforested area of Patgaon irrigation project, it has less importance from the forest management point of view. The land proposed for diversion is very site specific and has no alternative for the agricultural purpose of Galgale Village.
v)	The State shall submit the certified copies of the documents, MoUs, allotment orders vide which the village Nivale was relocated/rehabilitated in the year 1999. The documentary evidence indicating the details of the families rehabilitated and the compensation given to the people shall also be submitted. Accordingly, it is requested to furnish the above-mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.	The family-wise details, compensation given to the family as per the then provision, allotment orders etc. are enclosed herewith.

Encl: As above.



(G. Guruprasad)
Chief Conservator of Forests (T),
Kolhapur.

Copy submitted to: Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Maharashtra State, Nagpur for Information.

Copy submitted to: Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) West, Mumbai for information.

Copy submitted to: Conservator & Field Director, Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, Kolhapur for information.

Copy submitted to: Deputy Conservator of Forest, Kolhapur for information and necessary action.