

Government of Maharashtra

By Speed Post

No. FLD-2022/C.R.111/F-10
Revenue and Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400 032.
Date: 12/09/2022


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

Sub:- Diversion of 227.90 ha. Forest Land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of Village Bahule. Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara and Village Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi and Gosavewadi, Tal. Karad. Dist. Satara for Rehabilitation of Village Male, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara from Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve.

Ref: 1. Government of India Letter No. 8-11/2022-FC, Dt.30.06.2022
2. APCCF& Nodal Officer Letter No. Desk-17/Nodal/Kolhapur/(29)/ID-2995 /1305/2022-23, Dt.24.08.2022

Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Government of India has sought additional information with respect to proposal for diversion of 227.90 ha. Forest Land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of Village Bahule. Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara and Village Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi and Gosavewadi, Tal. Karad. Dist. Satara for Rehabilitation of Village Male, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara from Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve vide letter referred above.

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



(Ganesh Jadhao)

Under Secretary to
the Government of Maharashtra

Encl: As above.

Copy to:

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



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

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

By E-mail / Speed Post

No.Desk-17/Nodal/Kolhapur/(29)/ID-12995/1305 /2022-23
Nagpur - 440 001, Date: 24/08/2022

To.

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

Sub:- Proposal for the diversion of area 227.90 ha. Reserved Forest Land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of Village Bahule, Tal. Patan. Dist. Satara and Village Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi and Gosavewadi, Tal. Karad, Dist. Satara for rehabilitation of Village Male, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara from Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve of the State of Maharashtra.

Ref:- 1. Government of India, MoEF&CC (FC Division), New Delhi letter dated 30/06/2022 of File No.8-11/2022-FC.
2. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur letter No.D-6/NC/Rehab/Male/ID-12995/2022-23/484, dated 10/08/2022.

Sir.

Government of India. Ministry of Environment. Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division). New Delhi vide letter under reference No.1 had sought compliance on 11 points. Accordingly, the Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur vide letter under reference No.2 has submitted the compliance of shortcoming in this regard to this office. The compliance report as desired by the Government of India vide letter dated 30/06/2022 is submitted as under:-

Sr. No.	Points	Compliance report
i	The Nodal Office has not provided his own specific recommendation for the proposal in Part- IV of the proposal.	Revised Part-IV including the specific recommendation of the Nodal Officer for the proposal is enclosed herewith as Annexure-9.
ii	As per DSS analysis, the calculated forest area for diversion is found to be 239.301 ha. instead of 227.90 ha as per proposal. Therefore the correct KML file of 227.90 ha. shall be submitted.	The correct KML file of 227.90 ha. in C.D. is enclosed herewith as Annexure 1A.
iii	The KML file of the forest village 'Male' which is proposed to be re-located from the Chandoli National Park has not been submitted, which is required to be done.	The KML file of the forest village 'Male' which is proposed to be re-located from the Chandoli National Park submitted in C.D. is enclosed herewith as Annexure 1A.
iv	High-resolution satellite imagery shows that the plantations have been carried out within the forest land proposed for diversion at village Gosavewadi,	Many forest lands (patches) were scrutinized for resettlement of proposed project affected persons (PAP's) of village Male. Most of the forest land patches were unsuitable for agriculture so consent was not accorded by PAP's. But the said patches of 227.90 ha. is found a suitable patch of which terrain is comparatively leveled, also located near water source and

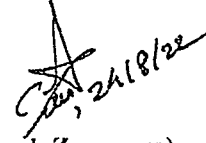
	<p>Hanbarwadi, Kharade and village Bahule. This needs clarification.</p>	<p>having better soil depth. So consent has been given by PAP's. Land being suitable for plantation so plantation activities carried out on the said patch as per description given below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="699 255 1433 595"> <thead> <tr> <th>Village</th> <th>Com No.</th> <th>Year of Plantation</th> <th>Area (in Ha.)</th> <th>Expenditure (inRs.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bahule</td> <td>509, 510</td> <td>2014-15</td> <td>50</td> <td>2863620/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kharade</td> <td>653</td> <td>2003-04</td> <td>9.15</td> <td>193000/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Helgaon</td> <td rowspan="2">653</td> <td>2014-15</td> <td>15</td> <td>1162198/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019-20</td> <td>15</td> <td>72425/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Hanabarwadi</td> <td rowspan="2">653</td> <td>2015-16</td> <td>29</td> <td>2000000/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016-17</td> <td>20</td> <td>2266000/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gosaviwadi</td> <td>653</td> <td>2016-17</td> <td>20</td> <td>2400000/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">Total</td> <td>10957243/-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Though most of above expenses over plantation are going to be unfruitful but lack of alternate suitable land with potential irrigation facilities compel us to divert this land which is under plantation. Another considerable point is that, it is going to save expenses over leveling of land and bringing it under irrigation which is otherwise to be born up by department. Another justification is that at the cost of this territorial plantation we are going to save and develop very rich wildlife area forming an inviolate area as per Hon. Supreme Court Guidelines.</p>	Village	Com No.	Year of Plantation	Area (in Ha.)	Expenditure (inRs.)	Bahule	509, 510	2014-15	50	2863620/-	Kharade	653	2003-04	9.15	193000/-	Helgaon	653	2014-15	15	1162198/-	2019-20	15	72425/-	Hanabarwadi	653	2015-16	29	2000000/-	2016-17	20	2266000/-	Gosaviwadi	653	2016-17	20	2400000/-	Total				10957243/-
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		<p>b) The District Collector concerned shall furnish to the NTCA a certificate of non-availability of land suitable for relocation of the villages located within the Protected Area and Tiger Reserves before any proposal of relocation within the forest is approved- This certificate is furnished by District Collector, Satara and it is enclosed herewith as Annexure -3.</p> <p>c) The land identified for relocation/rehabilitation should not result in fragmentation of the forest/wildlife habitat.- Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara about land identified for relocation/rehabilitation will not result in fragmentation of the forest/wildlife habitat is enclosed herewith as Annexure -4.</p> <p>d) The relocation activity shall be undertaken solely as a process of consolidation of the wildlife habitat.- Such Certificate is furnished by Divisional Forest Officer Chandoli National Park is enclosed herewith as Annexure-5.</p> <p>e) The relocation shall be undertaken only along the fringes of the forest such that all facilities to the resettled families can be provided without recourse to further diversion of forest land for providing infrastructure- Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara is enclosed herewith as Annexure-6.</p> <p>f) The land / villages within the forest which have been vacated shall be brought under the protected area network through enabling notification under the Wildlife Protection Act after extinguishing all the existing rights over the vacated land. - Such undertaking is furnished by Divisional Forest Officer Chandoli National Park is enclosed herewith as Annexure-7.</p> <p>g) The extent of land de-reserved / de-notified for resettlement shall not be more than the extent vacated by the settlers in the core area. -Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara and Divisional Forest Officer Chandoli National Park is enclosed herewith as Annexure-8.</p> <p>h) The payment of NPV and cost of CA may be exempted in all such cases of voluntary relocation/rehabilitation of families from the protected areas undertaken within the forest land.- Already exempted by GOI Letter no. 5-3/2011-FC (VOI.-I) dated 6 Jan. 2022.</p>																																
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xi.	The State Govt. shall clarify whether the proposed relocation of villagers will make the total area under the village inviolate or not.	Village "Male" proposed for relocation has 140 PAP's as per list prepared by Revenue Department. Hence, out of total 140 PAP's 20 PAP's accorded their consent to relocate as per Option I and remaining 120 PAP's willing to relocate as per option II. This proposal for relocation of 120 PAPs has been submitted. Hence, relocation of all PAP's will make this area devoid of any people and inviolate.
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The compliance report as submitted above may kindly be forwarded to the Central Government for further consideration of the proposal.

Encl.: As above in two copies.



(Naresh Zurmure)

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

Copy forwarded for information to:-

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



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

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

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No.Desk-17/Nodal/Kolhapur/(29)/ID-12995/1305 /2022-23
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		<p>b) The District Collector concerned shall furnish to the NTCA a certificate of non-availability of land suitable for relocation of the villages located within the Protected Area and Tiger Reserves before any proposal of relocation within the forest is approved- This certificate is furnished by District Collector, Satara and it is enclosed herewith as Annexure -3.</p> <p>c) The land identified for relocation/rehabilitation should not result in fragmentation of the forest/wildlife habitat.- Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara about land identified for relocation/rehabilitation will not result in fragmentation of the forest/wildlife habitat is enclosed herewith as Annexure -4.</p> <p>d) The relocation activity shall be undertaken solely as a process of consolidation of the wildlife habitat.- Such Certificate is furnished by Divisional Forest Officer Chandoli National Park is enclosed herewith as Annexure-5.</p> <p>e) The relocation shall be undertaken only along the fringes of the forest such that all facilities to the resettled families can be provided without recourse to further diversion of forest land for providing infrastructure- Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara is enclosed herewith as Annexure-6.</p> <p>f) The land / villages within the forest which have been vacated shall be brought under the protected area network through enabling notification under the Wildlife Protection Act after extinguishing all the existing rights over the vacated land. - Such undertaking is furnished by Divisional Forest Officer Chandoli National Park is enclosed herewith as Annexure-7.</p> <p>g) The extent of land de-reserved / de-notified for resettlement shall not be more than the extent vacated by the settlers in the core area. -Certificate is furnished by Deputy Conservator of Forest, Satara and Divisional Forest Officer Chandoli National Park is enclosed herewith as Annexure-8.</p> <p>h) The payment of NPV and cost of CA may be exempted in all such cases of voluntary relocation/rehabilitation of families from the protected areas undertaken within the forest land.- Already exempted by GOI Letter no. 5-3/2011-FC (VOL-1) dated 6 Jan. 2022.</p>																																
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x	<p>The basis of calculation of the total area getting vacated has not been provided, which is required to be given.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="683 1720 735 1783">Sr. No.</th> <th data-bbox="735 1720 1182 1783">Details</th> <th data-bbox="1182 1720 1318 1783">Number of PAP's</th> <th data-bbox="1318 1720 1461 1783">Land (Ha.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="683 1783 735 1823">1.</td> <td data-bbox="735 1783 1182 1823">PAP's ready to relocation</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1783 1318 1823">120</td> <td data-bbox="1318 1783 1461 1823">261.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="683 1823 735 1921">2.</td> <td data-bbox="735 1823 1182 1921">Out of total 140 PAPs 20 PAPs accorded their consent to relocate as per Option I</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1823 1318 1921">20</td> <td data-bbox="1318 1823 1461 1921"></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="683 1921 1182 1962" style="text-align: center;">Total Number of PAPs</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1921 1318 1962">140</td> <td data-bbox="1318 1921 1461 1962">261.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="683 1962 735 2002">3.</td> <td data-bbox="735 1962 1182 2002">Revenue Land</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1962 1318 2002"></td> <td data-bbox="1318 1962 1461 2002">257.61</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="683 2002 1182 2029" style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td data-bbox="1182 2002 1318 2029"></td> <td data-bbox="1318 2002 1461 2029">519.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="683 2029 735 2069">4.</td> <td data-bbox="735 2029 1182 2069">Forest Land</td> <td data-bbox="1182 2029 1318 2069"></td> <td data-bbox="1318 2029 1461 2069">1141.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="683 2069 1182 2087" style="text-align: right;">Grand Total</td> <td data-bbox="1182 2069 1318 2087"></td> <td data-bbox="1318 2069 1461 2087">1660.64</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sr. No.	Details	Number of PAP's	Land (Ha.)	1.	PAP's ready to relocation	120	261.88	2.	Out of total 140 PAPs 20 PAPs accorded their consent to relocate as per Option I	20		Total Number of PAPs		140	261.88	3.	Revenue Land		257.61	Total			519.49	4.	Forest Land		1141.15	Grand Total			1660.64
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xi.	The State Govt. shall clarify whether the proposed relocation of villagers will make the total area under the village inviolate or not.	Village "Male" proposed for relocation has 140 PAP's as per list prepared by Revenue Department. Hence, out of total 140 PAP's 20 PAP's accorded their consent to relocate as per Option I and remaining 120 PAP's willing to relocate as per option II. This proposal for relocation of 120 PAP's has been submitted. Hence, relocation of all PAP's will make this area devoid of any people and inviolate.
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The compliance report as submitted above may kindly be forwarded to the Central Government for further consideration of the proposal.

Encl.: As above in two copies.

NA, 24/8/22

(Naresh Zurmure)

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

Copy forwarded for information to:-

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

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

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

Sub.: - Proposal for the diversion of area 227.90 ha. Reserved Forest Land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of Village Bahule, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara and Village Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi and Gosavewadi, Tal. Karad, Dist. Satara for rehabilitation of Village Male, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara from Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve of the State of Maharashtra.

The details of forest land proposed for diversion is as under:-

Sr. No.	Name of Village	Taluka	District	Compt. No.	Gut.No.	Area (Ha.)	Area required for / Purpose	Legal Status	
1.	Bahule	Patan	Satara	509,510	346	106.9	Agriculture	RF	
						6.00	Gaonthan		
2	Kharade	Karad		653		314	9.15		
3	Helegaon					1187b	32.85		
4	Hanbarwadi					130	49		Agriculture
5	Gosavewadi				95,117	24			
Area Total						227.90			

Specific recommendation of the undersigned:- The proposal is recommended as rehabilitation of Village Male from the core area of Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve will help to make the core area inviolate, which will definitely aid in Wildlife Conservation.

Specific recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), M. S. Nagpur is attached herewith.

(Naresh Zurmure)

**Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer**

Date: 24/08/2022

Place: Nagpur

Proposal for the diversion of area 227.90 ha. Reserved Forest Land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of Village Bahule, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara and Village Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi and Gosavewadi, Tal. Karad, Dist. Satara for rehabilitation of Village Male, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara from Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve of the State of Maharashtra.

Specific recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Maharashtra State with regard to acceptance or otherwise of the proposed supported by reasons.

Proposal for the diversion of area 227.90 ha. Reserved Forest Land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of Village Bahule, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara and Village Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi and Gosavewadi, Tal. Karad, Dist. Satara for rehabilitation of Village Male, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara from Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve of the State of Maharashtra. The proposal has been initiated by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara. The non-forest area does not involve in this project. The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara is enclosed on page no.22 to 24 and The site inspection report of the Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur is enclosed on page no.24A to 24C.

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

Sr. No.	Name of Village	Taluka	District	Compt. No.	Gut.No.	Area (Ha.)	Area required for / Purpose	Legal Status	
1	Bahule	Patan	Satara	509,510	346	106.9	Agriculture	RF	
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3	Helegaon					1187b	32.85		
4	Hanbarwadi					130	49		
5	Gosavewadi			95,117	24				
Area Total						227.90			

3.0 Chandoli National Park which is a part of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve is one of the important Protected areas of the Maharashtra State, which is located in Western Ghats. Western Ghats area is considered among the top ten Bio-diversity hot spots of the world. Chandoli National Park is included in world heritage site by UNESCO'S world heritage committee on 1 July 2012. Govt. of Maharashtra has declared Chandoli Wildlife Sanctuary vide notification No. WLP-1085 CR-588/(I) dated 16th September 1985 under section 18 of Wildlife (Protection) Act- 1972 for the purpose of protecting, propagating and development of Wildlife therein and its environment. The total area of notified sanctuary is 308.17 sq. kms. Then it is upgraded as Chandoli National Park adding one village Amboli of Kolhapur District and notified total area of 316.67 sq.kms vide Government of Maharashtra notification dated 14 May 2004. Area is notified as part of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve on 5th January 2010.

4.0 The Sahyadri Tiger Reserve is located in the Sahyadri Ranges of the Western Ghats of Maharashtra. These ranges forms a common boundary between Maharashtra, Karnataka and Goa. These areas constitute rich evergreen, semi-evergreen & moist deciduous forest. These forest areas encompasses Warana river valley. It is the first Tiger Reserve of Western Maharashtra & 4th Tiger Reserve of Maharashtra State spreading over two protected Areas, those of the Chandoli National Park and Koyana Wildlife Sanctuary of 741.22 sq.km. and adjoining area in the landscape 424.35 sq.kms, total of 1165.57 sq.km. The area is spread over 4 districts namely, Satara, Satara, Kolhapur and Ratnagiri.

5.0 The area is located in the Northern ranges of Western Ghats called Sahyadris. The Buffer area as per notification dt. 21.08.2012 admeasuring 565.45 sq. kms. is spread over the geographic area of 4 districts of Maharashtra state and covers 1 village in Sangli district, 9 villages in Kolhapur district, 66 villages in Satara district and 4 villages in Ratnagiri district.

6.0 As provided in the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and Maharashtra Land Revenue Code, 1864 the concerning Collectors had already enquired into rights and concessions of the inhabitants and has also ascertained the willingness of the people to relocation. The status of rehabilitation of 33 villages from Chandoli National Park is as follows:

- **Villages relocated during 1979 to 1994 due to Warana Project by Irrigation Dept. :**
Dist. Sangli : Ambole, Bhogiv, Devare, Konoli, Shiddheswar, Aloli (Part), Petlond (Part), Khundlapur (Part), Chandoli Bk. (Part)
Dist. Kolhapur : Durgewadi, Karade, Wadihudumb, Amboli, Sonarli (Part), Tambave (Part).
- **Villages under enquiry :** Village Amboli dist. Kolhapur is added in National Park notification. Total population is rehabilitated by Irrigation dept due to Warana project, only open land above submergence is under enquiry.
- **Villages relocated due to Chandoli National Park by Forest dept. :**
Dist. Sangli (during 1997 to 1999): Rundiv, Jaoli, Chandoli Kd., Gave, Lotiv, Nivale, Vetti, Takale, Zolambi, Nandoli, Aloli Dhangarwada, Petlond Dhangarwada.
Dist. Kolhapur (during 1998 to 1999): Chandel, Dhakale, Nivale, Tanali, Sonarli Paiki Dhangarwada, Tambave Paiki Kulyachiwadi.
Dist. Ratnagiri (during 2000 to 2012): Gothane
- **Villages to be relocated due to Chandoli National Park by Forest dept:**

Sr. No.	Name of Village	No. of PAP's	Required land for rehabilitation Ha.	Proposed Location	Remarks
1	Male	140	227.90	Bahule, Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi and Gosavewadi, Dist. Satara	Included in this proposal
2	Kolane	79	108.00	Killechindragad Dist Sangli and Sonaichiwadi and Malharpeth, Dist. Satara.	Proposal is to be submitted
3	Patharpunj	106	193.00	Yet to be decided by PAP's	Proposal is to be submitted
4	Khundlapur Paiki Dhangarwada	72	105.00	Yetgaon dist. Sangli	Proposal is submitted by DCF Sangli
5	Chandoli Bk. Paiki Janaiwadi	14	30.00	Yet to be decided by PAP's	Sankalan is not finalized, figures are approximate Proposal is to be submitted
Total----->		411	663.900		

7.0 Human in-habitations are mostly been established in fertile lands with assured water supply. Such sites within the forest area are limited and therefore are ecologically significant. Flat grounds along major nalas can support revival floral and faunal attributes and such attributes are completely

lost, with the presence of intensive agricultural attributes. Relocation in Chandoli National Park have amply demonstrated the benefits of relocation, especially to wild herbivores and consequently to the whole eco-system. Relocation of village Male will make available an area of 261.88 ha. of private agriculture land along as compensatory land for this project. Also an area of 257.61 ha. of revenue waste land and 1141.15 ha. of forest land will be free from human interference.

8.0 Out of 140 projects affected persons/ Khatedars of Male Village, 20 Khatedars accorded consent to Option-I with 10 lakh package. Remaining 120 Khatedars accorded consent to Option-II of land to land and Gaonthan rehabilitation. Out of this one group of 58 Khatedars selected forest land at Bahule, Tahsil Patan and another group of 62 Khatedars selected forest land at Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi and Gosavewadi, Tahsil Karad for rehabilitation. Reasons to relocate one village at two different places includes unavailability of continuous patch of land at a stretch that can accommodate all 120 project affected persons / Khatedars who opted Option-II and also willingness and personal choices of two groups in selection of sites. Thus establishment of two gaonthans at Bahule and Kharade - Helgaon became unavoidable.

Details of land requirement are as follows :-

Sr. No.	Location	No. of Khatedars	Land for agriculture	Gaonthan Area	Unsuitable land in-between	Total Area Required
1.	Bahule	58	95.90 ha.	6.00 ha.	11.00 ha.	112.90 ha.
2.	Kharade, Helgaon, Hanbarwadi, Gosavewadi	62	95.60 ha.	9.15 ha.	10.25 ha.	115.00 ha.
Total --->		120	191.50 ha.	15.15 ha.	21.25 ha.	227.90 ha.

Total 227.90 ha. area is proposed for diversion which includes the area as below :-

Sr. No.	Name of village	Forest gat no.	Area in ha
1	Bahule	346	112.90
2	Kharade	314	9.15
3	Helgaon	1187b	32.85
4	Hanbarwadi	130	49.00
5	Gosavewadi	95	16.00
6	Gosavewadi	117	8.00
Total ----->			227.90

9.0 Hence, the proposal for diversion of 112.90 ha. reserve forest land from Bahule forest gat no. 346 and 9.15 ha. reserve forest land from Kharade forest gat no. 314, 32.85 ha. reserve forest land from Helgaon forest gat no.1187b, 49.00 ha reserve forest land from Hanbarwadi forest gat no. 130 and 24.00 ha reserve forest land from Gosavewadi forest gat no. 95, 117 is submitted.

10.0 As per para 1.15 of Handbook issued vide Government of India's letter dated 28/03/2019, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara has submitted complete justification for locating the project in the forest area to prove the project is site-specific as under:-

‘Land is not available in any command area of Irrigation Projects in Satara districts. There is no sufficient land available from “Gairan” or “Revenue waste land” in possession of Revenue department. Even in forests, it is not available in a continuous patch of land at a stretch that can

accommodate all 120 PAP's, at one location. Also we are getting more non-forest land (519.49 ha.) than the total forest land (227.90 ha.) proposed to be diverted.'

11.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara has certified that:-

- 11.1 No suitable alternate land is available and the forest land required is the lowest minimum.
- 11.2 Density of site wise varies from 0.4 to 0.8 (Mixed plantation area).
- 11.3 The Project involves felling of total 38738 number of trees. The Girth wise abstract is as under:-

Tree Girth in Cm.						
0-30	31-60	61-90	91-120	121-150	(>150)cm	Total
9045	24780	4608	283	18	4	38738

- 11.4 The proposed area does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve.
- 11.5 The Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archaeological or recreational importance.
- 11.6 There is no violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980.
- 11.7 The Proposed project is not within 10 kms from the Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park.
- 11.8 The non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of the 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 the interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996.
- 12.0 Government of India vide letter dated 3/12/2018 of F.No.11-43/2013-FC has issued guidelines regarding compliance of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) 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 Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara has certified that FRA certificate of Collector Satara has been applied and the same will be submitted on receipt from the Collector Satara, before Stage-2 clearance for the proposal, as per MoEF Guideline F.No.11-43/2013-FCD, dated 03/12/2018. We are bounded to submit FRA certificate before Stage-2 and we are promising you to submit it before Stage-2 clearance.

13.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara has submitted the undertaking that:-

- 13.1 As per the guideline of the Central Government dt. 20/05/2019 & dt. 06/01/2022 there is exemption from payment of Net Present Value (NPV) and cost of Compensatory Afforestation in the said proposal.
- 13.2 Agrees to defray the cost of felling of trees.

- 14.0 The KML file of the forest land proposed for diversion is enclosed and placed in the file at the top.
- 15.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara and the Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur have recommended the proposal for diversion of 227.90 ha. of forest land.
- 16.0 Nodal officer on 18/02/2022 had requested the Chief Wildlife Warden to offer their remarks in accordance with the Central Government's guideline dated 20/05/2019 for the said proposal. The Chief Wildlife Warden vide office note No.Desk-23(2)/WL/Survey /C.R.194(Nodal)/3226/2021-22, dated 10/03/2022 has conveyed his remarks as follows:-

“Following area would be acquired due to rehabilitation of Village Male.

Name of Village	Area to be acquired after rehabilitation.			
	Private Area (Ha.)	Forest Area (Ha.)	Revenue Area (Ha.)	Total Area (Ha.)
Male	261.87	1141.15	257.61	1660.63

As per the details given above, the area to be disforested as per proposal of disforestation is 227.90 Ha. and in lieu of this, 1660.63 Ha. land will be acquired and therefore approval to the proposal of disforestation has been accorded.”

- 17.0 **In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under section-2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:-**
- 17.1 Legal status of the forest land diverted under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for rehabilitation of Village Male, Tal. Patan, Dist. Satara from Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve shall cease to be forest land.
- 17.2 User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
- 17.3 Land vacated in the protected area due to relocation of Village shall be developed as per approved Wildlife Management Plan/NTCA guideline/CWLW.
- 17.4 No fragmentation of forests should take place due to the relocation project.
- 17.5 The boundary of the diverted land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 17.6 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- 17.7 The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance of all the Court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force as applicable to the project.
- 17.8 Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F.No.11-42/2017-FC, dt. 29/01/2018.
- 17.9 Any other condition that Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife. The State Government shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions.


(Y.L.P.Rao)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force),
Maharashtra State, Nagpur