

No.Ft. 48-5297/2021 (FCA)
H.P. Forest Department

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

To: The Assistant Inspector General of Forests,
Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate change,
(Forest Conservation Division) Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-11003.Dated Shimla-1, the

Subject: **Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 211.8427 ha. of forest land for construction of 500 MW Dugar Hydro Electric Project in favour of NHPC Ltd. Under Pangri Forest Division and Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh (Online No. FP/HP/HYD/123533/2021).**

Kindly refer to your office letter No. 8-15/2022-FC I/59734/2023 dated 12.12.2023 on the subject cited above.

2. The reply to the observations as raised vide your above referred communication is submitted as below:-

3. In this connection, with regard to Point No. 1: "A study of the project area, impact of the proposed and feasibility shall be got conducted by the Wadia Institute of Himalayan geology, Dehradun at the cost of the user agency", DFO Pangri as per the submission of User Agency has submitted that User Agency vide their letter No. NH/DHEP/2024/641 dated 14.05.2021 that Wadia Institute, Dehradun has been requested several times to conduct the study. After repeated pursuance by User Agency, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun intimated that Institute scientists are busy in other important works and it seems that Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun is not taking interest to conduct the study for Dugar HEP 500MW. Thereafter, the User agency had also requested to your good office to allow User Agency to conduct the study from any other Institute/University who has expertise in such studies through letter dated 05.02.2024 and 07.02.2024 (Copies attached). Further, taking action at your level a letter has been sent from your office to Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC), MOEF &CC, New Delhi vide your office letter No. HPFD- F05/139/2023-FCA – HPFD I/349877 dated 21.02.2024 (Copy attached). But, since then also more than three months have been lapsed but no any response/instruction is received from GoI, in this regard. And the User Agency i.e., NHPC Limited to avoid further delays has now requested to this office through DFO Pangri to allow

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I/420069/2024 permission to conduct the such studies from following institutes who too have expertise in conducting such studies instead of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun.

1. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
2. Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee.
3. Sikkim University, Gangtok
4. Delhi University.

It is therefore, you are requested to kindly follow up in the matter with the GoI, MOEF for the approval for conducting the such studies from above mentioned Institutes instead of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun to avoid any further delay for establishment of Dugar HEP. Reply to Point No. ii, iii & iv will be submitted soon by User Agency after this study is conducted.

Yours faithfully

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