



Government of West Bengal

Directorate of Forests

Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Kalimpong Forest Division

Ringkingpong Road, Kalimpong:: 734301

Phone - Fax:: (03552) 255496. Email Id-dfokpgdiv@gmail.com/dfokalsc-wh@nic.in



Memo No. 3310 /9-41

Dated, Kalimpong, the 29/08/2022

To,
The Chief Conservator of Forests,
Hill Circle, West Bengal.

Sub: Proposal for Diversion of 0.58 ha of forest land in favour of Reliance Jio Infocom for laying of Optical Fibre Cable from Jaldhaka Bridge to Kumani along with Chapramari Railway Station-Kumani more under Kalimpong Forest Division.

Sir/Madam

With the reference to the above, the updated status of the proposal with the following information is hereby submitted to you for your reference.

- 1) On perusal of the .kml file of proposed location on PARIVESH portal, it has been observed that vegetation is present in the area, whereas in PART-II pt.4 details of vegetation available are given NIL by DFO Kalimpong Forest Division: **As the project involves no felling of trees, hence vegetation was mentioned as nil. An updated list of trees has been uploaded.**
- 2) In PART-II pt. 8(i), DFO stated that wild animals viz., barking deer, jackal, elephant and leopard are present and further DFOs of both the Divisions stated that rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna are found in the proposed area. In connection to these observations, comments of CWLW on the presence of endangered animals in divisions and Biodiversity Management Plans duly signed by competent authority are required. **Plan has been prepared with the help of CCF Wildlife North.**
- 3) Sol toposheet of proposed CA land is not uploaded on PARIVESH portal: **Signed copy of SOI Toposheet has been uploaded.**
- 4) Location map of proposed site indicating longitude and latitude is not signed by concerned DFOs: **Signed copy of location map has been uploaded.**
- 5) FRA certificate for both the districts are not submitted. **Has been uploaded by User Agency.**
- 6) Site inspection report submitted by DFO Kalimpong stated that "It has been found that the user agency has violated (Conservation), Act and 1980 provisions. Details report as per para 1.9 of Chapter 1, Para C of Hand Book of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 attached" but no such report is submitted with the proposal. A detailed report along with photographs is required: **Errrection of steel tubulars (poles) measuring 367 in number were unlawfully constructed in**

forest area by the User Agency along the Kumani-Jhalong Route. The area diverted is of 11 ha as measured.

The User Agency has explained this diversion and uploaded the same in parivesh portal after query from the office. Whether this explanation is enough or it attracts the provisions of Forest Conservation Act 1980, the competent authority in Government of India may take a final decision on the matter.

7) Revised NPV must be submitted vide File No.5-3/2011-FC (vol-1) of Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change needs to be submitted. **Revised NPV Has been Uploaded in parivesh portal.**

8) DFO mentioned that proper soil and moisture conservation measures have to be taken up while using forest land for these purposes but no SMC plan is submitted along with the CA plan, therefore SMC plan is required: **SMC Plan has been uploaded in parivesh portal.**


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