



**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
RAMPUR FOREST CIRCLE, RAMPUR BUSHAHR,
HIMACHAL PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT**

(E-mail:- head-forcirram-hp@hp.gov.in Phone No. 01782-233068)



No.3058
H.P. Forest Department

Dated Rampur, the, 29.9.2023

From: C. C. F. Rampur.

To: Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF(FCA) O/o
Pr. CCF (HoFF) HP Shimla-1

Sub: Diversion of 7.3722 Ha. of additional forest land in favour of Shongtong Karchham Hydro Electric Project, HPPCL under the jurisdiction of Kinnaur Forest Division Distt. Kinnaur, H.P. (Online No. FP/HP/HYD/4061/2019).

Memo:

Kindly refer to Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GOI, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bag Road, Aliganj, New Delhi-110003 letter No. 8-78/2010-FC dated 08.08.2023 on the subject cited above.

2. The point wise reply of the observations raised by GOI in respect of the subject cited proposal is furnished as under:-

Sr. No.	Observation	Reply to observations																																																						
1	The State Govt. shall provide the details of approved dumping sites in earlier diverted area along-with the details of dumping sites proposed in the instant diversion proposal. A comparative list of dumping sites along with Kml files shall be submitted.	In the earlier approved proposal of 63.5015 ha there were 6 Nos. dumping sites. Whereas in the instant diversion proposal for 7.3722 ha. there are 4 Nos. proposed dumping sites, the comparative list is as under: - <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Approved dumping sites in the earlier diverted 63.5015 ha.</th> <th colspan="3">Proposed dumping sites in additional FC case 7.3722 ha.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Dumping site</th> <th>Kh. No</th> <th>Area in ha.</th> <th>Dumping site</th> <th>Kh. No</th> <th>Area in ha.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>D.S.1</td> <td>470</td> <td>1.1383</td> <td>DS-A</td> <td>2/2</td> <td>2.3813</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D.S. 2</td> <td>301, 648, 805</td> <td>0.3794</td> <td>DS-B</td> <td>2/1</td> <td>1.1005</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D.S. 3</td> <td>724/576/1, 571/1</td> <td>0.8928</td> <td>DS-C</td> <td>561/1, 568, 569</td> <td>1.4470</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D.S. 4</td> <td>4/1,</td> <td>1.2450</td> <td>DS-D</td> <td>3/2</td> <td>0.2960</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D.S. 5</td> <td>303/2</td> <td>0.8626</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>D.S. 6</td> <td>24/1/24/2</td> <td>0.5819</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total</td> <td>5.1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>5.2248</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Approved dumping sites in the earlier diverted 63.5015 ha.			Proposed dumping sites in additional FC case 7.3722 ha.			Dumping site	Kh. No	Area in ha.	Dumping site	Kh. No	Area in ha.	D.S.1	470	1.1383	DS-A	2/2	2.3813	D.S. 2	301, 648, 805	0.3794	DS-B	2/1	1.1005	D.S. 3	724/576/1, 571/1	0.8928	DS-C	561/1, 568, 569	1.4470	D.S. 4	4/1,	1.2450	DS-D	3/2	0.2960	D.S. 5	303/2	0.8626				D.S. 6	24/1/24/2	0.5819					Total	5.1			5.2248
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		KML file of both i.e. earlier diverted dumping sites DS-1 to DS-6 are attached in the shape of CD and proposed dumping sites i.e. DS-A to DS-D have been uploaded online in Part-I Column No. C (b) (1).												
2	The State Govt. shall submit justification for non-dumping of muck in the designated site of DS-4.	As per DFO Kinnaur, project proponent has dumped 48,401.0 cum of muck in designated Dumping Site No. 4 as per the actual quantity/capacity of dumping site. This position is also stated in response to observation 'Para No 3' vide this office Memo No. 1561 dated 15.07.2023. Further, DS-4 could not be used fully for dumping, due to landslide in and around the dumping site, the capacity of designated site reduced drastically. To make up for above deficit HPPCL has dumped muck on private land on specific request of the local people. In addition to above, forest land measuring 5.2248 ha. at four locations have been requested for diversion in present proposal for dumping of muck. Justification to this effect has been attached as Annexure-A .												
3	Govt. of Himachal Pradesh vide their letter dated 16.07.2023 reported that a committee has been formed to assess the capacity of all the designated dumping sites and the revised muck management plan will be finalized after finalization of land. Accordingly, the approved muck management plan shall be submitted.	As per user agency Muck Management Plan has been sent to H.P. State Pollution Control Board (HPSCB) for seeking approval. The copy of Muck management Plan of the proposed site is attached as Annexure-B . The approved Muck Management Plan will be submitted before Stage-II approval. Undertaking to this is attached as Annexure-C .												
4	The State Govt. shall submit the details of funds deposited towards revised CAT plan in National Authority and its confirmation which is not available with the Ministry. The reason for slow progress in implementation of CAT plan shall be given.	<p>The total outlay of revised CAT Plan in respect of Shongtong Karcham HEP. is for Rs.70,19,57,500/- which is 2.5% of total project cost i. e. Rs.2807.83 Crore. The cost of CAT was deposited in two installments as below:-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date of Deposition</th> <th>Amount deposited</th> <th>Remarks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>01.10.2012</td> <td>604400000</td> <td>Copy of Receipt enclosed as Annexure-D</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12.07.2023</td> <td>97557500</td> <td>Copy of Receipt enclosed as Annexure-E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>701957500</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>As per DFO Kinnaur reason for slow progress of implementation of CAT is due to limited working period and harsh weather condition in the Kinnaur area. In addition to this due to frequent changes in the</p>	Date of Deposition	Amount deposited	Remarks	01.10.2012	604400000	Copy of Receipt enclosed as Annexure-D	12.07.2023	97557500	Copy of Receipt enclosed as Annexure-E	Total	701957500	
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		climatic condition of the area in last few decades where CAT was to be implemented is also a reason for slow progress of CAT implementation.																																																																																																		
5	The State Govt. shall submit a detailed report in connection with compliance of Condition No. 15 of approval dated 14.11.2022 regarding regeneration of equivalent area of degraded forest land.	<p>To comply with the Stipulation No 15 of GOI dated 14.11.2022 project proponent had deposited an amount of Rs. 1,36,73,737/- vide demand Draft No 630174 dated 21.04.2011 with HP Forest Department. Accordingly in Kinnaur Forest Division during the year 2016-17 & 2017-18 plantations were raised over 125 ha and also expenditure of Rs.1,36,74,200/- incurred to regenerate the equivalent area of degraded forest land. The detail is as under:-</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year of Plantation</th> <th>Name of Range/Block/Beat</th> <th>Name of area</th> <th>Area in Ha.</th> <th>Amount utilized</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="10">2016-17</td> <td>Lippa</td> <td>C-216</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pangi</td> <td>C-234</td> <td>5</td> <td>312500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roghi</td> <td>C-245</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rarang</td> <td>UF-Thopan</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Moorang</td> <td>UF-Shurting</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leo</td> <td>UF-Chulling</td> <td>5</td> <td>312500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kalpa</td> <td>C-239</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cost of plants</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1485000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cost of material B/wire etc</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>816300</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Sub-Total</td> <td></td> <td>60</td> <td>6051300</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="10">2017-18</td> <td>Rarang</td> <td>UF-Rarang</td> <td>15</td> <td>937500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pangi</td> <td>C-237</td> <td>5</td> <td>312500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roghi</td> <td>C-244</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rarang</td> <td>RF-Khadra</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Moorang</td> <td>C-197</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Skibba</td> <td>C-187</td> <td>5</td> <td>312500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kalpa</td> <td>C-240</td> <td>10</td> <td>625000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cost of plants</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1608750</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maintt of plantation</td> <td></td> <td>60</td> <td>528000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cost of material</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1423650</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Sub-Total</td> <td></td> <td>65 (new Plantation)</td> <td>7622900</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>G. Total</td> <td></td> <td>125</td> <td>13674200</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The progress reports and utilization certificate are enclosed as Annexure-F, G, H.</p>	Year of Plantation	Name of Range/Block/Beat	Name of area	Area in Ha.	Amount utilized	2016-17	Lippa	C-216	10	625000	Pangi	C-234	5	312500	Roghi	C-245	10	625000	Rarang	UF-Thopan	10	625000	Moorang	UF-Shurting	10	625000	Leo	UF-Chulling	5	312500	Kalpa	C-239	10	625000	Cost of plants			1485000	Cost of material B/wire etc			816300		Sub-Total		60	6051300	2017-18	Rarang	UF-Rarang	15	937500	Pangi	C-237	5	312500	Roghi	C-244	10	625000	Rarang	RF-Khadra	10	625000	Moorang	C-197	10	625000	Skibba	C-187	5	312500	Kalpa	C-240	10	625000	Cost of plants			1608750	Maintt of plantation		60	528000	Cost of material			1423650		Sub-Total		65 (new Plantation)	7622900		G. Total		125	13674200
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6	There is a violation over an area of 0.5883 ha. as reported by the State. The justification and action taken report in this regard shall be submitted by the State.	As per DFO Kinnaur Shongtong Project is a flagship project as conveyed by Project proponent and the largest one undertaken by GoHP so far. Due to various reasons project has got delayed. The stated violation has happened in silt flushing area which is critical for the commissioning of the Project and is getting completed as a last activity of the project. In the instant FCA proposal which seeks diversion of this patch of land was submitted way back in October 2019; however, due to repeated objections at different levels the proposal is still not approved. HPPCL had started the work with the hope that proposal will get through																																																																																																		

		<p>in due course. So the work was started with greater public interest in mind and not due to any vested interest. As per DFO Kinnaur no damage report etc was issued against the project authorities for the violation in the Silt Flushing Area measuring 0.5883 ha. The Silt Flushing Component measuring 0.8595 ha including violation area measuring 0.5883 ha has also been included in the present proposal for seeking approval of GOI under FCA, 1980.</p> <p>DFO Kinnaur has calculated Penal NPV in this case for Rs. 41,21,058.0 with 12% interest from the date of reporting violation. The bill of NPV has been uploaded in Part-II as Additional information at Sr. No.6 Further also intimated by DFO Kinnaur that the works on area in question ha also been completely stopped and no construction activities are going on.</p>
7	<p>The reservoir to be created due to submergence is required to be declared as Reserve Forest under Indian Forest Act, 1927. A copy of notification for the same shall be submitted.</p>	<p>As per DFO Kinnaur, Project proponent has already taken up the matter with Deputy Commissioner, District Kinnaur and with his office to declare the reservoir to be created due to submergence as Reserve Forest. The declaration of reservoir as RF is a time taking process and there is certain SOP to be followed prior to completion of the project. As per user agency the works of project has already been delayed and the diversion of 7.3722 ha of forest land is very critical for the progress of the Project. It is therefore requested that the two issues may not be linked.</p>
8	<p>The area of 1.8248 ha. for the components of instant diversion [Adit-I (0.5883), Dumping site below Adit-I (1.1005 ha.) and Road to RBM Site (0.136 ha.)] is overlapping with the 'Barrage' component of earlier approved forest area (63.5015 ha.) which need clarification with correct KML file.</p>	<p>As per DFO Kinnaur Area measuring 0.5883 ha. for Adit -I & 1.1005 ha. for dumping site below Adit -I, has been included in the present proposal for diversion of 7.3722 ha of additional forest land. A portion of the road to RBM site measuring 0.1360 ha. was inadvertently left out in previous proposal due to its proximity with the larger patch diverted in original proposal of 60.5015 ha. Therefore this patch was included in the present proposal. As far as overlapping of the area with Barrage component is concerned the same is being rectified.</p>
9	<p>The KML file of earlier diversion of 63.5015 ha. Shall be uploaded on PARIVESH.</p>	<p>KML file of earlier diversion of 63.5015 ha. of forest land has been provided by user agency in the shape of CD which is enclosed herewith.</p>

Submitted for favour of kind information and necessary action please

Encl:- As above.

29/09/2023
 Chief Conservator of Forests
 Rampur Forest Circle,
 Rmpur Bsr