

Government of Punjab
Department of Forests & Wildlife Preservation
Forest Complex, Sector-68,
S.A.S Nagar, Punjab.
(FCA Branch)

FP/PB/Others/33014/2018

To

Addl. Director General (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Northern Regional Office, Bays No. 24-25,
Sector 31-A, Chandigarh.

No: FCA/1980/269/2018/ 522 Dated 30-10-19

Sub:

FCA/1980/269/2018:- Diversion of 30.25 ha (instead of 31.42 ha) of forest land for Development of International Standard Tourism/Theme Destination in State of Punjab on Pathankot –Dalhousie road around Ranjit Sagar Lake area Forest Division and Distt. Pathankot (by Special Secretary Govt. of Punjab, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Punjab).

Ref:

Your office letter No. 9-PBBC303/2019-CHA dated -07-2019.


With reference to the subject cited above, reply to the observations made by your office, as per discussions in the REC meeting held on 15.7.2019 is as under:-

1. Musharba Island having an area of 2.9 acres has been removed from the project. A Revised proposal for diversion of 30.25 ha (instead of 31.42 ha) is submitted for approval. Now 3180 trees and 1350 poles will be felled in this proposal. All the required documents online ,uploaded and attached with proposal. Revised layout plan is enclosed at Annexure-I.
2. The revised Digital Elevation Map for the catchment and the drainage flow map are also attached for ready reference. The High Flood Level of the site area is 527.91 m as conveyed by Dam Authority vide letter no. 2302/46w dated 22.04.2015. It is also pertinent to mention that no development shall take place between 3meters and HFL conveyed by the authority. Furthermore, it is proposed that no development shall take place within 60 meters buffer from the Mean Sea Level as precautionary measure not to cause any change in the present drainage pattern is enclosed at Annexure-II and III.
3. The revision of area statement has been made while removing Musharba Island from the project's scope. The project site has been revised to 74.76 acres and the Detailed Project Report has been revised and resubmitted with this response is already enclosed at Annexure-II and III.
4. The revision of area statement has been made while removing Musharba Island from the project's scope. The project site has been revised to 74.76 acres and the Layout Plan has been revised in accordance to the revised DGPS maps for the project is enclosed at Annexure-IV and VI.
5. The justification of the project has been elaborated in accordance to the valuable suggestions received during the REC meeting is enclosed at Annexure-V.
6. The cost benefit analysis has been revised based on the valuable suggestions obtained during the previous 26th REC meeting. Annexure-VII.
7. The total number of workers that would be involved for four years during the construction phase is estimated to be 5,000 approx. which are cumulative of skilled and unskilled labour based on the minimum wage notification as prescribed by the Government of Punjab. The total number of rooms envisioned in the project is approx. 400 wherein it is estimated to generate 600 direct jobs including Managers (10%), Supervisors (10%) and staff (80%). The positions for staff shall be offered to the local community as first preference.
8. All workers employed at the stage of construction under unskilled would be considered temporary employment i.e. 3700 approx. whereas all the workers employed during construction phase as skilled labour would be considered permanent i.e. 1300 workers and all employees during operational phase would also be considered as permanent workers.

9. Opinion from SEIAA, Punjab to be obtained by REC.
10. Revised Addl. Compensatory Afforestation scheme is enclosed is attached at Annexure-VIII.
11. To Check soil erosion the Catchment area Treatment Plan is enclosed is attached at Annexure-IX.
12. The date of Issuance of EC. Is 23.01.2017 vide no. SEIAA/2017/67. The needful has been done.
13. The exercise was carried out by DFO, Pathankot wherein the possibility was explored to have a contiguous land for CA but due to private land parcels and non-availability of government land in between the selected sites, a continous patch is not available.
14. Revised Recommendation (Part-III) of Conservator of Forests, North Circle, Hoshiarpur is enclosed at Annexure-X.
15. PIDB has written for providing of NOC/Mitigation Plan to DFO (WL), Pathankot.
16. A copy of revised DPR is enclosed at Annexure-XI.

It is, therefore, requested that In-principle approval of Government of India under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 to divert the forest area for use of non-forestry purpose may kindly be conveyed.

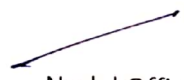
Encl: As above


Nodal Officer (FCA),
Punjab, S.A.S. Nagar.

Endst No: FCA/1980/269/2018/_____

Dated: _____

A copy is forwarded to Conservator of Forests, North Circle/DFO Pathankot w.r.t. Divisional Forest Officer, Pathankot's Letter No. 1240 dated 04.10.2019.


Nodal Officer (FCA),
Punjab, S.A.S. Nagar.