



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE

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F. No. FC-II/MH-76/2018-NGP 3248

Dated: 8th February, 2018

To

✓ The Secretary,
Govt. of Maharashtra,
Revenue & Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400032

Sub: Diversion of 18.1824 ha Forest land in favour of Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA), Bandra (E), Mumbai for construction of link road between Thane-Belapur road to NH-4 including tunnel through Parsik Hill in Thane District in the State of Maharashtra.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Maharashtra's letter no. FLD-1218/C.R.01/F-10 dated 09.01.2018 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that examination of the proposal in the Regional Office revealed following:

- i. Differential GPS map of the area identified for raising compensatory afforestation has not been submitted. The same needs to be submitted along with soft copies of its KML/Shape Files.
- ii. Detailed site – specific CA scheme inter-alai containing protection measures for seven to ten years has not been submitted along with the proposal. The same needs to be submitted by the State Government.
- iii. The DCF, Osmanabad has certified that the land identified for raising CA is suitable, contiguous, and is free from the encroachment and encumbrances. However, examination of the Google Satellite imagery of the area identified for raising CA revealed that it is surrounded by the agricultural fields. Therefore, the State Government needs to re-confirm the legal status of land existing in the contiguity of the proposed CA land.
- iv. A Muck Disposal Plan detailing the provisions of the spaces earmarked for dumping of all excavated material generated from construction of tunnel and its utilization, outside forest area may be submitted by the State Government.
- v. The RoW proposed for the road ranges from 10 meters to 65 meters. It is also observed that RoW in the PF and RF has been kept at maximum upto 65 meters while in the Private forest land the same has been kept at lower side upto 10 meters. The rationale for proposing higher RoW in the notified forest land and lesser RoW in the private/acquired forest land has not been mentioned by the State Government.
- vi. Further examination of the alignment revealed that twin tunnels (3 in nos) have been proposed. Examination of the Google Satellite Imagery of the proposed alignment revealed a mining quarry above the tunnel proposed near to the MIDC industrial area. The State Government may therefore furnish its comments on the present status of mining vis-a-vis safety/stability of the proposed tunnel in the said area.

- vii. Compliance of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 revealed that proceedings of Sub Divisional Level Committee has been submitted in vernacular language and also not being cross signed by the all members of Sub Division Level Committee. The English version of the same shall be submitted. Further, original copy of the District Collector certificate may also be submitted by the State Government.
- viii. As per detail furnished in the map depicting the alternative alignments, a total 6 alternate alignments have been explored by the User Agency. However, alignment wise complete detail of attributes examined for the selection of proposed alignment and discarding others has not been submitted by the State Government. The same needs to be submitted detailing the information on the parameters like forest area, number of trees, forest density, presence of endangered species etc.
- ix. Details of employment potential in terms of man days of skilled, semiskilled and unskilled persons on permanent (direct and indirect) and temporary (direct and indirect) basis have not been provided.
- x. The State Government may obtain undertaking from the User Agency in accordance with the provisions as contained in the MoEF&CC's guidelines dated 7.01.2013.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the State Government to submit information on the shortcomings, as indicated above, to the Regional Office for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,


(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'C'

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
2. The Nodal Officer FCA), O/o of the PCCF, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
3. User Agency.
4. Guard File.


(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'C'