

I/7369/2022

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 16th February, 2022

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Jharkhand,
Ranchi.

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 133.64 ha of forest land for Polpol Kalan PF of Khundri Range, Medininagar Forest Division for Relocation of Kujrum, Latu & other villages from Palamu tiger Reserve, Daltonganj, Jharkhand-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Jharkhand's letter No. Van Bhumi-20/2021-3641/ V.P. dated 22.12.2021 on above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that after examination of the proposal following is revealed:

- i. Component wise breakup of the forest area proposed for rehabilitation has not been submitted. The same needs to be submitted by the State.
- ii. Details of methods/principles relied upon for calculation of area proposed for rehabilitation has not been mentioned in the proposal. The State Government may, therefore, intimate, if area proposed for various components of rehabilitation has been rationalized based on certain standardized parameters prescribed/developed in this regard or requirement of proposed area is arbitrary based on the observations and estimations of the state officials.
- iii. Details of families proposed to rehabilitated and detail of individual and cumulative forest area estimated for families involved and other common facilities needs to be informed by the State.
- iv. State Government needs to confirm if the proposal is in compliance of guidelines dated 22.05.2019 issued by the MoEF&CC i.e. said guidelines which inter-alia provides that area proposed for rehabilitation should be equal to the area proposed to be vacated from the Protected Area. Compliance of said guidelines by the State Government cannot be ascertained as the detail of area proposed to be vacated has not been provided in the proposal. The same needs to be provided by the State along with its differential GPS and KML/Shape files.
- v. It is also observed that another proposal, involving forest area of 166 ha for the rehabilitation of villages Kujrum, Latu and others villages, is currently under the consideration of the authorities in the State. Soliciting approval of Central

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Government in piecemeal may defeat the purpose of rehabilitation under Project Tiger to create inviolate areas. Therefore, State Government needs to submit the consolidated proposal for the entire village(s) to ensure that area vacated by the villagers becomes inviolate with no possibility of back migration.

- vi. KML/Shape files of the area being vacated by the villages being rehabilitated may be provided by the State. Differential GPS map of the area being vacated, conspicuously depicting the area under settlement and nistar rights may be provided by the State.
- vii. R & R Plan proposed to be implemented for the rehabilitation of the villagers from the PTR may be submitted by the State Government.
- viii. The rehabilitation of villages has been proposed in the Eco-sensitive Zone of Palamau WLS the Protected Area. The State Government may therefore, confirm if restrictions related to ESZ within which the villages are to be relocated, have been discussed with the villagers and villagers have given their consent for the same.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to furnish information/documents as indicated above for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-
(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
2. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
3. The Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Ranchi.
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC
6. Guard file