

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: February, 2023

To

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The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Maharashtra,
Mumbai.

Subject: Diversion of 263.5406 ha forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for construction of Sambarkund Irrigation Project at Village Mahan, Taluka Alibag, District Raigad in the State of Maharashtra (Online No. FP/MH/IRRIG/142819/2021) - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra letter no. 17/Nodal/Thane/ID-13714(78)/2864/2022-23 dated 25.01.2023 on the above cited subject. In this regard following shortcomings have been observed in the information submitted by the State Govt.:-

- i. The total area of KML file of forest land proposed for diversion is found to be 235.780 ha instead of 263.5406 ha as per proposal. Further the KML file of forest land under diversion is still not commensurate with the component wise breakup given in online Part-I. This needs clarification and submission of correct KML file including for different components accordingly.
- ii. On examination of the KML file of the non-forest land involved in the proposal, it has been found that many features/component are found overlapping with each other. Also the KML file has not been prepared and submitted as per component wise breakup mentioned in online Part-I. Further the total project area (including Forest & Non-forest) calculated through KML file is found 441.2169 ha instead of 435.3583 ha as per online Part-I. This needs clarification and submission of correct KML file including for different components accordingly.
- iii. The State Govt. has reported that 268.70 ha area is suitable for CA. However, now the KML file is provided for an area of 309 ha. This needs clarification and State Government shall submit the correct KML file of CA land as per proposal.
- iv. Plantations activities are visible in some of the proposed CA sites under Villages namely BHANEGAON, KOHALI, MAHATALA, NIVGHA, SARSAM and SHIRUR. This needs clarification.
- v. Part of proposed CA land namely Villages HATOLA & PIMPRAHA is falling within Water body. The same needs clarification.
- vi. Encroachment/Agriculture land is visible in the proposed CA land under Village TARODA. The same needs clarification.
- vii. The translated copy of the Collector, Nanded order No. CR/5643/8/1/97, dated 03/11/1997 submitted by the user agency is not certified by official translator with its seal and stamp.
- viii. Upon examination of above mentioned translated copy of the Collector, Nanded order No. CR/5643/8/1/97, dated 03/11/1997 submitted by the user agency, it has been revealed that total 906.31 ha land was handed over to the DCF, Nanded for CA. Therefore, the details of this 906.31 ha revenue land including the area already utilized against approved forest diversion proposals and the remaining area proposed to be

utilized in future needs submission.

- ix. The State Govt. shall ensure that no forest land is required/ proposed to be utilized for rehabilitation of project affected families/ person in the extant proposal.
- x. The detail of the alternatives examined in the form of Maps/KML files and breakup/ schedule of land under different components has not been submitted.
- xi. The copy of the CAT plan as submitted has not been approved as per provisions contained in the Handbook of guidelines dated 28/03/2019.
- xii. The User Agency has submitted a single integrated Survey of India Topo-sheet map showing the DGPS coordinates of forest land under diversion and also showing the component wise utilization of forest land due to which many components are not legible. Therefore, the State Govt. is requested to provide a separate copy of Sol Topo-sheet map and DGPS map showing the component wise utilization of forest land under diversion.

Accordingly, it is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Signed by Suneet Bhardwaj

Date: 22-02-2023 22:45:11

Reason: Approved Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur;
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.