File No.8-05/2022-FC

Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira ParyavaranBhawan, JorBagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi: 110003, **Dated: 20th April, 2022**

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur

Subject: Diversion of 466.592 ha. Forest land in favour of Airport Authority of India Kota for Construction of New Green Field Airport Kota, District – Bundi in the State of Rajasthan (FP/RJ/Others/150590/2021).

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Rajasthan letter No. No.P.1(33)VAN/2022 dated 01/04/2022 forwarding the above subject proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government, in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In this regard the following shortcomings have been observed in the proposal:

- i. Component-wise break-up of the forest land proposed for diversion has not been given;
- ii. The Compensatory Afforestation scheme duly approved by the competent authority has not been submitted;
- iii. The High resolution satellite imagery shows the presence of Agricultural land, ponds, built-up area and transmission line within the forest land proposed for diversion which needs clarification;
- iv. As per DSS analysis, Mukundara Hills Tiger Reserve is located at a distance of 9.86 Km from the forest land sought for diversion. The State Govt may therefore clarify the status of the proposed area vis-a-vis the Eco-sensitive zone around the tiger reserve. The map/kml file indicating the ESZ may also be submitted.
- v. The state govt shall submit the comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden regarding the project;
- vi. As per DSS analysis, plantation activities have been carried out in the past within the forest land applied for diversion. The same may be clarified;
- vii.As per forest compartment boundary available on DSS, it has been observed that 33.408 ha NFL included in the instant proposal is within the said forest boundary. The state govt shall therefore re-ascertain the area proposed for diversion and take required action accordingly;

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viii.The CA patches namely DEVGARH, GANESHGANJ C and SALAWALIYA DANG certain pre-plantation operations like benching and contouring are visible. The same needs clarification.

In view of above, State Govt. is requested to furnish the clarification/information/document on the above points to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely

Sd/-(Suneet Bhardwaj) Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

- 1. The Principal CCF & (HoFF), Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur;
- 2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC, Jaipur, Rajasthan;
- 3. The Nodal Officer(FCA), O/o the PCCF, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur;
- 4. User Agency;
- **5.** Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.