

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj
New Delhi: 1100 03,
Dated: As per e-Signature

To,

The Secretary (Forests),

Department of Forests, Environment and Wildlife,
Government of Jammu & Kashmir,
Jammu.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (i) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of NHPC URI-ISTAGE-II, Baramula Jammu & Kashmir for non-forestry use of 17.00 ha. of forest land for underground work of URI-I Stage II HE Project, District Baramula UT of Jammu & Kashmir (Online Proposal No. FP/JK/HYD/144277/2021)– regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Jammu & Kashmir's letter No.FP/JK/HYD/144277/2021 dated 13.10.2023 on the above-mentioned subject seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section 2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. In this regard it is informed that the matter was discussed in the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 30.04.2024. The detailed minutes of the said AC meeting are uploaded at parivesh.nic.in. The Committee after detailed discussion and deliberation with the DDGF (Central), RO Chandigarh and after going through the facts of the proposal decided that:-

- i. The proposal shall be deferred till the State Government obtain the Cumulative Impact Study (CIS) and Carrying Capacity Study (CCS) report for the Jhelum River Basin, as per para 9.3 of chapter 9 of the consolidated guidelines issued by the Ministry on 29.12.2023.
- ii. Site Suitability certificate for CA land by the DFO concerned shall be submitted.
- iii. Comments of Chief Wildlife Warden, Jammu & Kashmir Government for the land proposed for diversion along with conservation measures, if required, may be submitted since there is presence of Black Bear on it, as per Part II of the proposal.

In view of the above, the Government of Jammu & Kashmir is requested to kindly furnish the above information/clarification at the earliest for further processing of the proposal under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

Yours faithfully,

Sd-

(S. Sundar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. The PCCF & HoFF, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir, Jammu.
2. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir, Jammu.
3. The DDGF (C), Regional Office, Chandigarh, MoEF&CC.
4. The Monitoring Cell, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
5. User Agency.