

**F. No. 8-22/2022-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)  
\*\*\*\*

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road  
New Delhi- 110003  
Dated:22-08-2025

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests)  
Government of Maharashtra  
Mumbai.

**Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 63.091 ha forest land at Village -Kagal, Taluka-Kagal, District Kolhapur for rehabilitation of Village Nivale in Chandoli Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra State (Online No. FP/MH/REHAB/121398/2021) - regarding.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Govt. of Maharashtra letter No. FLD-2322/CR-73/F-10 dated 08.08.2022 and further clarification/details provided vide letter dated 06.12.2022, 23.05.2023, 17.10.2023, 06.03.2023, 03.09.2024, 12.03.2025 and 29.07.2025 on the proposal mentioned in above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. In this regard, the following shortcomings has been observed in the information submitted by the State Govt.:

- i. The State Government has now mentioned that State had earlier acquired 16 ha. land for Gavthan purpose and other amenities in Galgale Village and not for the agricultural purpose. No where in our previous reply also we have mentioned about requirement of 16 ha. for agricultural purpose. Whereas, the State Government vide their letter dated 23.05.2023 uploaded on PARIVESH portal on dated 26.05.2023 had informed as follows: *In order to minimize the diversion of forest land, available 16.00 ha revenue Land in village Galgale was identified for part of the PAP's. Due to Hon'ble High Court orders the same was returned back to original land holders. Moreover, now the State has also informed that "Though the physical relocation of Nivale Village happened in the year 1999, only the Gavathan land was given to the beneficiaries".* Keeping above in view it is not clear whether the 16 ha land returned to the original landholders as per court orders was the same land which was given to the beneficiaries as Gavathan land in 1999 or otherwise. The State may give complete chronological details in this regard.

- ii. The state has informed that two similar kinds of proposals for diversion of forest land for agricultural land purpose for Chandoli relocated Villages are in the process. The details are as follows:
  - i. 215.42 ha. for rehabilitation of Village Chandel. Nivale, Sonarli Paiki Dhanagarwada, Tambave Paiki Kulyachiwadi. Tanali, Dhakale, Gothane for agricultural purpose.
  - ii. 318.04 ha. for rehabilitation of Village name is Chandel, Nivale, Sonarli Paiki Dhanagarwada, Kulyachiwadi, Tambave Paiki Tanali, Dhakale, Gothane for agricultural purpose.

In this regard, the state has only submitted the names of villages relocated from Chandoli, whereas the complete details of such villages in the entire State was sought. The State shall therefore submit the complete details for each such village in the state including their date of relocation, area involved in each village and the protected area involved.

Moreover, the village Nivale for which the instant forest land diversion proposal is submitted also stands included in both the 215.42 ha and 318.04 ha proposals mentioned by the State, which needs justification.

- iii. The State was asked to submit the certified copies of the documents, MoUs, allotment orders vide which the village Nivale was relocated/rehabilitated in the year 1999. The documentary evidence indicating the details of the families rehabilitated and the compensation given to the people was also asked to be submitted. The documents submitted in this regard are partly in Marathi. The state is therefore requested to provide the translated and certified copies of documents, MoUs, allotment orders vide which the village Nivale was relocated/rehabilitated in the year 1999 and the documentary evidence indicating the details of the families rehabilitated and the compensation given to the people.
- iv. The State has now provided a list of 73 PAPs relocated from the village Nivale, however in the said list some beneficiaries have been mentioned to be of Tanali Village. The state needs to provide the details and justification in this regard.

In view of above, the State Government is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to the Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

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

Copy to:-

i.

1. PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
2. DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's Regional Office, at Nagpur.
3. APCCF–cum-Nodal Officer, Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading.