

**MINUTES OF THE 41st MEETING OF THE REGIONAL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE
OF REGIONAL OFFICE, NORTH CENTRAL ZONE, DEHRADUN
HELD ON 22 AUGUST, 2019**

The 41st meeting of the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) of the Regional Office (North Central Zone) Dehradun was held on 22 August, 2019 in the Meeting Room of the Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Dehradun under the Chairmanship of Shri. Pankaj Agrawal, IFS, Addl. PCCF, Regional Office, Dehradun.

Following official/non-official members & the special invitees were present in the meeting.

S.No.	Name	Designation
01	Shri Pankaj Agrawal, IFS, Addl. PCCF, Regional Office, Dehradun.	Chairman
02	Dr. R. B. S. Rawat, IFS	Non-official Member
03	Prof. S. D. Bhardwaj	Non-official Member
04	Shri D. J. K. Sharma	APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer (UK)
05	Representatives of the User Agencies	

Following proposals seeking diversion of forest land for non-forestry purpose pertaining to the state of Uttarakhand were discussed in detail and the case wise decision taken by REC is as under:

UTTARAKHAND

Agenda Item No. 01: Diversion of 15.892 ha of forest land for Expansion of Hospitals and other Institutions associated with Government Medical College, Uttarakhand within the jurisdiction of Tarai Central Forest Division District Nainital, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/DISP/6879/2014)

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 15.892 ha of forest land for Expansion of Hospitals and other Institutions associated with Government Medical College. The committee noted that 1640 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. The violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The case was also discussed in the REC meeting held on



29, Oct, 2018, wherein the REC committee decided that the State Government will constitute a team headed by a CF or above rank officer to inspect the site and will submit the complete violation report within 15 days. State Govt. Submitted the inspection report of the committee headed by CF.

The Conservator of forest, Dr. Parag Madhukar Dhakate gave detailed presentation before the committee. After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the REC decided that:

1. Conservator of Forest has submitted in his report that 4.00 ha land appears to be located outside FTI Campus, which is not in order and amounts to violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. However, Conservator of Forest also informed the committee that in 1980 FTI boundary was not clear and the constructed area might have been within the area of FTI at that time. The committee desired that the State Government may verify the records and submit the factual position along with documentary evidences. A certificate in this regard may be submitted by the Forest Department. Moreover, the approval/clarification was accorded by the MoEF&CC, New Delhi for use of 4.00 ha area for forestry activity. But, thereafter, the hospital was handed over to medical department, which is a non-forestry activity and such diversion of area without proper approval amounts to violation as per Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The State Government will submit separate proposal for this 4.00 ha area for regularisation.
2. The State Government will submit separate proposal for 1.702 ha area (construction of Road) for regularisation.
3. Out of the rest 10.19 ha area, the State Government will inform about the area in which construction has already been done and will return the rest of the area to Forest Department, Uttarakhand. In addition, the State Government will submit a separate proposal for the regularisation of above mentioned already constructed area.

Agenda Item No. 02: Diversion of 6.8378 ha of forest land for construction of Berinag-Gangolihat Motor Road to Kanara Gunth Motor Road (10 km) in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division, District Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand (Online proposal No.- FP/UK/ROAD/27164/2017).

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 6.8378 ha of forest land for construction of Berinag-Gangolihat Motor Road to Kanara Gunth Motor Road (10 km). The committee noted that 310 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of



flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The committee noted that the case was discussed in the REC meeting dt. 15.05.2019.

In this meeting the representative from the user agency briefed about the facts and importance of the project to the State Government before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information / clarifications:

1. Revised proposal may be submitted up to point no. 'D' (in between point No. 26-27) of geo-referenced digital map, (Longitude-80°6'7.78"E, Latitude- 29°37'42.24"N) as the proposed road beyond that point is not justified.
2. Revised trees enumeration list in view of point No. 01 above may be submitted and uploaded online.
3. The area for diversion may also be revised accordingly.

Agenda Item No. 03: Diversion of 5.738 ha of forest land for construction of Devalidhar to Sui motor road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Nainital Forest Division, District Nainital, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/24792/2017)

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 5.738 ha of forest land for construction of Devalidhar to Sui motor road. The committee noted that 449 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The representative from the user agency briefed about the facts and importance of the project to the State Government before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land with condition of submission of following documents/information / clarifications:

1. State Government may submit separate enumeration list of trees affected in 9 m width.

Agenda Item No. 04: Diversion of 8.057 ha of forest land for construction of Agron Bend to Aanvalaghat motor road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division, District Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/37042/2018).

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 8.057 ha of forest land for construction of Agron Bend to Aanvalaghat motor road. The committee noted that 417 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The representative from the user agency briefed about the facts and importance of the project to the State Government before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information / clarifications:

- 1- KML file of the proposed road showing the location of beneficiary village (as shown in the meeting), may be uploaded at para C (ii) b, Part I online.

Agenda Item No. 05: Diversion of 6.7025 ha of forest land for construction of Churagaad to Sutol Kanol motor road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Badrinath, Gopeshwar Forest Division, District Chamoli, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/38278/2019).

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 6.7025 ha of forest land for construction of Churagaad to Sutol Kanol motor road. The committee noted that 217 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The representative from the user agency briefed about the facts and importance of the project to the State Government before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information / clarifications:

1. It is seen that the Shape of CA area Patch 01 is different in KML file and digital map. State Government may upload the KML file of the CA area matching with the geo-referenced digital map.
2. As per the enumeration list of trees, a large number of *Chir* trees seem to be felled in the project at the elevation of 2000-2800 m. State Government may review the position on ground and clarify the same.

Agenda Item No. 06: Diversion of 29.061 ha of forest land for construction of Jagthan Motor Road from 8th km. of Chakrata-Tyuni (MDR-37) in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Chakrata Forest Division, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/38817/2019).

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 29.061 ha of forest land for construction of Jagthan Motor Road from 8th km. of Chakrata-Tyuni (MDR-37). The committee noted that 247 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The representative from the user agency briefed about the facts and importance of the project to the State Government before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information / clarifications:

- 1- It is seen that muck disposal plan is not submitted with the proposal. The muck disposal is proposed on NFL, however, muck disposal plan is still required. State Government is required to submit the complete muck disposal plan in original and upload the same online.
- 2- Site Inspection Report of DFO and authority letter are not submitted in original. State Government is required to submit the original copy of the said documents and upload the same online at designated places.
- 3- It is seen that a road is passing through the area proposed for CA. State Government is required to propose additional 1.45 ha area for CA and submit/upload all the relevant documents in original.



Agenda Item No. 07: Diversion of 5.54 ha of forest land for construction of Chamdeval to Nidil motor road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Champawat Forest Division, District Champawat, Uttarakhand (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/10142/2015).

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 5.54 ha of forest land for construction of Chamdeval to Nidil motor road. The committee noted that total 332 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The representative from the user agency briefed about the facts and importance of the project to the State Government before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information / clarifications:

- 1- KML file of the proposed road showing the location of beneficiary village (as shown in the meeting), may be uploaded at para C (ii) b, Part I online.

Agenda Item No. 08: Diversion of 10.787 ha of forest land for construction of Mori to Salra Motor Road in favour of PMGSY within the jurisdiction of Tons, Purola Forest Division, District Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand. (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/ROAD/33852/2018)

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 10.787 ha of forest land for construction of Mori to Salra Motor Road. The committee noted that total 1243 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government. The representatives from the user agency briefed about the facts and importance of the project to the State Government before the REC members.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information / clarifications:

1. Proceedings of VLC of *Moutad* and DFO's SIR have not been submitted with the hard copy of the proposal.
2. CA is proposed to be done over 21.574 ha of Civil Land but the CA Scheme has been submitted for 23.974 ha. Correction made in CA scheme needs to be authenticated by DFO.
3. The CA site has been shown in one compact patch in the KML file, Survey of India Toposheet and the Geo-referenced map uploaded online. However, shape of CA area in geo-referenced map is not matching with the shape shown in KML file. Further, the CA site has been shown in the RF in three patches in the Survey of India Toposheet and Geo-referenced map provided with the hard copy of the proposal.
4. The data given against S.No.1 of Table-B of Cost-benefit Analysis does not appear to be in accordance with the revised guidelines issued by the Ministry for calculation of Eco-system services losses due to proposed forest diversion. In addition, the data given against S.No.8 of Table-B pertaining to Compensatory Aforestation and Soil and Moisture conservation cost do not match with the cost of CA provided in the CA Scheme.
5. It is seen from the enumeration list provided in the hard copy of the proposal that 1243 trees (RF land-1187 Trees and Civil land-56 Trees) are present in the forest land proposed for diversion but the number of trees has been shown as 1280 trees in para-4(ii) of online Part-II, which includes 37 trees of Nap land. May upload 1243 trees online.
6. Administrative approval has been obtained for 12.00 Km but the length of the road is 16.55 Km. The State Government will provide the Administrative approval for 16.55 Km stretch of road.

Agenda Item No. 09: Diversion of 58.449 ha of forest land in favour of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited for the construction of 220 KV D/C Jauljibi, Pithoragarh transmission line and LILO of 400 KV D/C Dhauliganga Bareilly transmission line at 400/220 kV GIS Jauljibi within the jurisdiction of Pithoragarh Forest Division, Distt. Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand. (Online Proposal No. FP/UK/TRANS/35527/2018).

Regional Empowered Committee discussed the proposal seeking diversion of 58.449 ha of forest land for the construction of 220 KV D/C Jauljibi, Pithoragarh transmission line and LILO of 400 KV D/C Dhauliganga Bareilly transmission line at 400/220 kV GIS Jauljibi. The case was discussed in the REC meeting held on 29.07.2019, wherein the committee decided to defer the proposal as enumeration list of trees was not proper. The committee noted that 706 trees are proposed to be felled in the project. The forest land proposed for diversion is not a part of any

Protected Area and no rare and endangered species of flora and fauna have been reported in the area proposed for diversion. Further, no violation of FCA has been reported by the State Government.

The representative from the user agency briefed about the facts and importance of the project to the State Government before the REC members. The representative from the user agency submitted revised tree list duly authenticated by DFO and submitted that total number of trees in the proposal are 5106 out of which 706 trees will be cut and 494 will be lopped.

After detailed discussion on various aspects of the proposal, the committee decided to accord in-principle approval for diversion of forest land subject to submission of following documents/information / clarifications:

1. State Government may submit and upload the aerial distance certificate duly authenticated by DFO.
2. State Government may submit and upload the certificate of Chief Wild Life Warden.
3. State Government may submit and upload the revised tree enumeration list presented before the REC.

The meeting ended with thanks to the members and other participants.



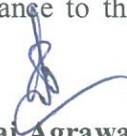
(Pankaj Agrawal)
APCCF -cum-Chairman, REC

File. No. RO-DDN/REC/1-2014/VOL-4/ 1171

Dated: 23 August, 2019

Distribution:

1. Dr. R B S Rawat, IFS (Member, REC), 188/1 Vasant Vihar, Dehradun-248 001 (Uttarakhand).
2. Prof. S. D. Bhardwaj, (Member, REC), 33-Sai Niwas, Scientist Colony, Post Office Shanti, Tehsil & Distt. Solan- 173 212 (Himachal Pradesh). Email: shrwander@yahoo.co.in
3. Dr. R. S. Bisht, IFS (Member, REC), Green Street, Uttaranchal colony, Gas Godam Road, Kusum Kheda, Haldwani-263 139 (Uttarakhand)
4. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Forest), Govt. of Uttarakhand, 4 Subhash Road, Dehradun.
5. Principal Secretary (Forest), Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Armsdale Building, Shimla.
6. The APCCF & Nodal Officer, Forest Conservation, Uttarakhand, Indira Nagar, Forest Colony, Dehradun for information. He is requested to take action on the decisions taken in the REC meeting (Project wise) & ensure submission of compliance to this office for further necessary action.
7. The CCF-cum-Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Talland, Shimla, H.P. for information. She is requested to take action on the decisions taken in the REC meeting (Project wise) & ensure submission of compliance to this office for further necessary action.



(Pankaj Agrawal)
APCCF-cum-Chairman, REC