

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 28th September, 2022

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal.

Subject: Proposal for diversion of 160 ha of Forest land for relocation of forest village Karmajhiri in Seoni District under Pench Tiger Reserve in the State of Madhya Pradesh (Online proposal No. FP/MP/FVC/39952/2019) – regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the letter no. F-5/891/2020/10-11/3284 dated 22.09.2022 from Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer (FCA,1980), Government of Madhya Pradesh on the above captioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In this regard following shortcomings have been observed in the information submitted by the State Govt:

- i. The State Government had earlier informed that the total area of village Karmajhiri as per the Working Plan is 367.12 ha and same was also reported in the letter no. F-5/891/2020/10-11/2397 dated 30.07.2020 of Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Madhya Pradesh. However, now the State has informed that Village Karmajhiri was established by order number 1933 dated 21.05.1907 and 8494 dated 23.12.1909 and 323.800 hectare area has been allotted to the forest village Karmajhiri and accordingly in the notification of Karmajiri Sanctuary also, the area allotted to Village has been shown as 323.800 hectare only. This variation in terms of total area of village Karmajhiri as mentioned in working plan wrt the area mentioned in notification needs clarification.
- ii. The proposal was processed keeping in view an area of 367.12 ha which is correct as per the Working Plan. Therefore, the reasons for not including the total area of 367.12 ha in the Wildlife Sanctuary shall be submitted.
- iii. The State Government shall provide KML file of 1410.420 ha area notified as Sanctuary and the KML file of 323.800 ha area of Karmajhiri Village which has been included in the Wildlife Sanctuary.
- iv. The State Govt shall also submit a certificate that entire village will be relocated and the complete area will become inviolate after the diversion of the 160 ha area included in the instant proposal.
- v. Keeping in view the above changes in the proposal, the State Govt. shall certify that

the Karmajhiri village being vacated is a part of the Core/Critical Tiger Reserve or Core of a Protected Area (National Park or Sanctuary). The State Govt. shall also ensure that the instant proposal fulfills all the conditions of Voluntary village relocation guidelines dated 20.05.2019 issued by the Ministry and submit a point-wise reply for the same.

2. It is therefore requested that the information on shortcomings, as indicated above, may be submitted for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The P.C.C.F & HoFF, Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
3. The Nodal Officer, FCA, Department of Forest, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi, for uploading on PARIVESH portal.