



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE  
REGIONAL OFFICE (RANCHI)

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जहाँ है हरियाली ।  
वहाँ है आशावादी ॥

No. FP/BR/TRANS/22212/2016 / 2716

Dated 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

To

The Principal Secretary,  
Department of Environment and Forests,  
Government of Bihar, Sinchai Bhawan,  
Secretariat, Patna.

Sub: Diversion of 0.7682 ha of forest land for construction of 400 KV D/C Rajarhat-Purnea Transmission Line in Purnea & Bhagalpur Forest Division of Bihar by PGCIL.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Govt. letter No. Van Bhumi-35/2016-812(E)/Pa.Va. dated 7.12.2016, wherein prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for diversion of 0.7682 ha of forest land for construction of 400 KV D/C Rajarhat-Purnea Transmission Line in Purnea & Bhagalpur Forest Division of Bihar by PGCIL, was sought in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal of the State Government, 'in-principle' approval for diversion of the said forest land was accorded by the Ministry vide letter of even number dated 6.07.2017 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government of Bihar vide their letter No. Van Bhumi-35/2016-1167/Va.Pa. dated 22.10.2018, **approval** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.7682 ha of forest land for construction of 400 KV D/C Rajarhat-Purnea Transmission Line in Purnea & Bhagalpur Forest Division of Bihar by PGCIL subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

1. Legal status of forest land proposed for diversion shall remain unchanged.
2. Additional amount of NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, shall be charged by the State Govt. from the user agency.
3. The State Govt. shall plant 3500 numbers of trees (as CA & Penal CA) to maintain the green cover at the project cost. Planting site for the purpose shall be identified by the State Forest Department preferably within or in the surrounding area of the project. Only indigenous tree species shall be used for such plantation.

4. Felling of trees on the forest land being diverted shall be reduced to the bare minimum and the trees should be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
5. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on the ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, DGPS coordinates, forward and back bearing and distance from adjoining pillars etc. The distance between any two pillars shall be kept at 50 meter and each pillar should be clearly visible from pillars on both sides.
6. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other user agency, department or person without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.
7. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.
8. The forest area proposed for diversion shall not be used for any purpose other than that shown in the diversion proposal.
9. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
10. The User Agency shall provide alternate fuels preferably LPG to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.
11. It will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers, staff engaged in construction activity do not damage the nearby forest flora and fauna.
12. Width of Right of Way for the Transmission Line shall be limited to 46 m.
13. The User Agency shall install circuit breakers at suitable places besides maintaining necessary ground clearance to prevent electrocution of wild animals.
14. To minimize the felling for construction of Transmission Line, User Agency shall comply with the following guidelines:
  - a) Below each conductor, width clearance of 7 mts would be permitted for stringing purpose. The trees on such strips may be felled but after stringing work is completed, the natural regeneration will be allowed to come up.
  - b) One outer strip may be left clear to permit maintenance of the Transmission Line.
  - c) In the remaining width the Right of Way felling/ pollarding/ pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the local Forest Officer whenever necessary to maintain the electrical clearance. Trees shall be allowed to be



felled or lopped to the extent required, for preventing electrical hazards by maintaining the minimum 2.8 meter clearance between conductors and trees. The sag and swing of the conductors are to be kept in view while working out the minimum clearance mentioned as above.

- d) The Scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in Right of Way under the Transmission Line, as prepared by the State Forest Department (for which funds have to be provided by the User Agency) shall be implemented from the funds provided by the User Agency.
- e) In case a portion of the Transmission Line to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut.
15. The user agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall create and maintain alternate habitat/ home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in the project. Bird nests artificially made out of eco-friendly materials shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project.
16. The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance of provisions of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
17. Any other conditions that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area shall be complied by the user agency.
18. In case of non-compliance of any of the above conditions, the State Govt. shall report to this office as per procedure laid down in the clause 1.9 of guidelines issued under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

As has been mentioned at Para-2 of the Stage-II approval, this approval for diversion of forest land is subject to the fulfillment of stipulated conditions mentioned in this approval letter. Therefore, in the event of non-compliance of any of the conditions laid out in this approval letter, the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may withdraw the said approval for diversion of the forest land and stop the non-forest activity being carried out in the forest land besides initiating the legal action as per provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully,



(R.K.Samal)

Conservator of Forests (Central)

O/C

Copy to:-

1. The Director, RO(HQ), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Bihar, Aranya Bhawan, Shahid Pir Ali Khan Path, Patna - 800 014.
3. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Bihar, Aranya Bhawan, Shahid Pir Ali Khan Path, Patna - 800 014.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Bhagalpur & Purnea Forest Division, Bihar.
5. The Sr.Engineer/ TL (Const)/ Purnea, Bihar.
6. Guard File.

Conservator of Forests (Central)

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