



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, राँची / INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE, RANCHI
BUNGALOW NO.A-2, SHYAMLI COLONY, RANCHI - 834002
TEL: 0651-2410007, 2410002, E-mail: ro.ranchi-mef@gov.in



No. FP/JH/TRANS/33110/2019/4929

Date: 30th September 2021

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,
Department of Forests, Environment & Climate Change,
Government of Jharkhand,
Nepal House, Ranchi - 834002.

Sub: Final (Stage-II) approval of Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for proposed diversion of 44.069 ha forest land for construction of 765 KV D/C Ranchi to Medinipur Transmission Line in favour of PGCIL in Ranchi, Khunti and Seraikela districts of Jharkhand - reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to you the Jharkhand Govt.'s letter No. Van Bhumi-37/2019-3138/Va.Pa. dated 13.8.2019, wherein prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for diversion of 44.069 ha forest land for construction of 765 KV D/C Ranchi to Medinipur Transmission Line in favour of PGCIL in Ranchi, Khunti and Seraikela districts of Jharkhand, was sought in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal of the State Government, the 'in-principle' approval of the Central Government for diversion of the said forest land was accorded vide this office letter of even number dated 22.08.2019 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government of Jharkhand vides their letter No.Van Bhumi-37/2019-2749/Va.Pa. dated 24.9.2021 have furnished compliance report in respect of the relevant conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval for grant of final approval.

In this connection, on the basis of the compliance report under reference, the **final approval** of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is hereby accorded for diversion of 44.069 ha forest land for construction of 765 KV D/C Ranchi to Medinipur Transmission Line in favour of PGCIL in Ranchi, Khunti and Seraikela districts of Jharkhand, subject to the following conditions and stipulations:-

- (1) Legal status of the forest land diverted shall remain unchanged.

- (2) **Compensatory afforestation:** Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 94 ha. degraded forest land (Site - Semla, Thana No.Bero, Plot No.1245, 1308, 1313 under Ranchi FD; Site - Nuridih, Thana No.Tamar/228, Plot No.9(p); Site - Lungtu, Thana No.Tamar/139, Plot No.108, 109, 2679, 329, 106(p) under Khunti FD; Site - Gura PF, Thana No. Seraikela/190, Plot No.1627 under Seraikela FD) at the cost of the User Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.
- (3) **The KML files of the area to be diverted and the CA area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal before issue of final approval by the State Government of Jharkhand.**
- (4) The State Government shall take actions for the violations under reference as prescribed under sub para (iii) and (iv) of Para 3(B) of the Ministry's letter No.11-42/2017-FC dated 29.01.2018.
- (5) The State Government shall ensure that compliance of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been completed in accordance with the relevant Rules and Guidelines issued by the MoEF&CC, GoI in this regard.
- (6) User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department, and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- (7) Width of RoW for the Transmission Line shall be limited to 67 m.
- (8) The User Agency shall install circuit breakers at suitable places besides maintaining necessary ground clearance to prevent electrocution of wild animals especially the elephants.
- (9) To minimize the felling for construction of Transmission Line, User Agency shall comply with the following guidelines:
 - a) The normal width clearance below each conductor or conductor bundle in case of 765 KV D/C line will be 7 m only. However in areas falling under Elephant Reserve in order to prevent electrocution of elephants in view Ministry's guideline dated 19.11.2014, at least 6 m additional clearance shall be provided over and above minimum clearance (as stipulated under Central Electricity Authority Measures relating to safety & Electricity Supply Regulations, 2010) above the ground from the

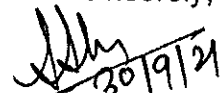
- lowest conductor of the Transmission Line. The trees on such strips may be felled but after stringing work is completed, the natural regeneration will be allowed to come up.
- b) Outer strip may be left clear to permit maintenance of the Transmission Line.
 - c) In the remaining width the Right of 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 9 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 the 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.
- (10) The layout plan of the proposed diversion of the forest land shall not be changed without prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- (11) a) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for execution of the project work.
 b) No labour camp shall be established inside the forest land.
 c) 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.
- (12) a) The diverted forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
 b) The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of the project life.
 c) The diverted forest land shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department, or person without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- (13) The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble

Court Order(s) and National Green Tribunal Order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time in force, as applicable to the project.

- (14) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018.
- (15) Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests and wildlife.

2. 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, Forest & 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 sincerely,


30/9/21
(Shashi Shankar)

Asst. Inspector General of Forest (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The DIGF (ROHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)/ The PCCF-cum-Nodal Officer (FC), Deptt. of Forests, Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Jharkhand, Doranda, Ranchi.
3. The Divisional Forest Officer, Ranchi, Khunti & Seraikela Forest Division, Jharkhand.
4. The Chief Manager (TBCB), PGCIL, Ashok Nagar, Ranchi, Jharkhand.
5. Guard File.

/
Asst. Inspector General of Forest (Central)