



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE  
REGIONAL OFFICE (RANCHI)  
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जहाँ है हरियाली ।  
वहाँ है खुशहाली ॥

No.5-BHB230/2014-BHU /160

Dated 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

To

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

Sub: Diversion of 5.0922 ha. of forest land for construction of 800 KV/ HVDC Gopalganj-Gorakhpur Transmission Line in Gopalganj and Saran Forest Division of Bihar by PGCIL.

Sir,

I am directed to refer State Govt. letter No.Van.Bhumi-15/2014-284(E)/Pa.Va. dated 17.06.2014, wherein prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change for diversion of 5.0922 ha. of forest land for construction of 800 KV/ HVDC Gopalganj-Gorakhpur Transmission Line in Gopalganj and Saran 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 State Government, the in-principle approval for diversion of the said forest land was accorded by this office vide letter of even number dated 15.07.2015 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions prescribed therein. 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.

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-15/2014-509 (E)/Pa.Va. dated 9.10.2015 and OSD, Ad-hoc CAMPA, New Delhi's letter No.1-5/2014-CAMPA dated 28.10.2015, approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change is hereby granted under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 5.0922 ha. of forest land for construction of 800 KV/ HVDC Gopalganj-Gorakhpur Transmission Line in Gopalganj and Saran 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. Compensatory Afforestation over the degraded forest land, twice in extent to the forest land being diverted, shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department from the funds already provided by the User Agency.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.
7. The forest area proposed for diversion shall not be used for any purpose other than that shown in the diversion proposal.
8. The user agency shall obtain Environment clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 if applicable.
9. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
10. The User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuels 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 69 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 10 mts would be permitted for carrying the tension stringing equipment. 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 10.6 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 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 shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Govt. and to the Regional Office, regularly.
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, which are applicable to the project.
17. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and 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.

Yours faithfully,

*14/10/15*  
 (Vasanta Kiran Babu)  
 Dy. 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 CCF & Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Bihar, Aranya Bhawan, Shahid Pir Ali Khan Path, Patna - 800 014.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Gopalganj and Saran Forest Division, Bihar.
5. The Chief Manager (I/C), Muzaffarpur, 800 KV HVDC T/L Office, H/O - Tufail Ahmed, Near Chandra Cinema Hall, Banjari, Gopalganj, Bihar.
6. Guard File.

*14/10/15*  
 Dy. Conservator of Forests (Central)  
*o/c*