



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE

Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing,
New Secretariat Building Civil Lines,
Nagpur - 440001,

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F.No. FC-II/MH-187/2022-NGP/12890

Date: 16.02.2024



To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Revenue and Forest Department,
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk
Madam Cama Marg, Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400032.

Sub: Diversion of 22.6944 ha of Reserved Forest and Protected Forest land in favour of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. for re-orientation/realignment of existing 400KV and 220 KV transmission lines of Power Corporation of India Ltd. to facilitate the ROW for the construction of Ahmadabad Mumbai High Speed corridor of NHRCL in Palghar District in the State of Maharashtra- regarding.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Government of Maharashtra's letter no. FLD-12A20/CR-27/F-10 dated 14.07.2022 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980**. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, 'in-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter of even number dated 13.10.2022. The State Government submitted compliance report and requested to grant final approval to the proposal.

After careful consideration of the proposal and compliance report, I am directed to convey the Central Government's 'final approval' under Section- 2 of the **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980** for diversion of **22.6944 ha** of Reserved Forest and Protected Forest land in favour of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. for re-orientation/ realignment of existing 400KV and 220 KV transmission lines of Power Corporation of India Ltd. to facilitate the ROW for the construction of Ahmadabad Mumbai High Speed corridor of NHRCL in Palghar District in the State of Maharashtra subject to the following conditions::

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground **State Forest Department from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;**
- iii. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over **45.50 ha** of following degraded forest land from the amount which has

already been realized from the User Agency:

Compt. No.	Village	Taluka	District	Area
88	Gundle	Palghar	Palghar	30.00
233	Ambiste	Palghar	Palghar	15.50
Total				45.50

As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along with 10% RET species of Palghar District shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided. **Four water bodies in compartment no 88 and two in compartment no 233 shall be constructed in the form of tank/ stop dams etc by the State Government from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;**


- iv. Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency;
- v. 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;
- vi. The State Government, Maharashtra/ Nodal Officer (FCA), Maharashtra shall ensure settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (No. 2 of 2007) before issuing an order for handing over of forest land to the User Agency;
- vii. To improve the Forest/ Tree cover and to reduce pollution in the State, as mandated in National Forest Policy, 1988 and Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 respectively, the User Agency with involvement of Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMC's) and in consultation with local DCF shall raise at least 25,000 seedlings of forestry species along with bamboo, fruit bearing, medicinal, ornamental and indigenous/local for 10 years. At least 50% of seedlings shall be planted in the vicinity of project area and remaining 50% of seedlings shall be distributed among villagers as per choice of villagers. The concerned JFMC's shall maintain record of plantation/ seedling distribution to villagers;
- viii. Post construction of the all transmission lines; the 12.0326 ha area which has to be released from already diverted area shall be handed back to the State Forest Department and plan for eco-restoration of area shall be prepared and implement by the State Forest Department at the cost of User Agency;
- ix. **As stated by the State Government regarding inability to carryout medicinal plantation under transmission line, the State Forest Department shall carryout plantation of dwarf medicinal plants over suitable and required extent of degraded forest area at the cost of the User Agency;**
- x. The User Agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on upper conductor of transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;
- xi. The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas issued by Ministry and by the Hon'ble Supreme

Court from time to time.

- xii. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- xiii. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xiv. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xv. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
- xvi. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xvii. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less;
- xviii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal and **diverted forest area shall not exceed 22.6944 ha;**
- xix. The Forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
- xx. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of **Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980** and action would be taken as per the provision of **Adhiniyam** and rules/guidelines issued there under;
- xxi. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;


This order issues with the approval of DDGF(C), Regional Office, MoEF& CC, Nagpur.

Yours faithfully,


(C.B. Tashildar)
AIGF (Central)

Copy to:

1. The IGF (RoHQ), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi- 110003 **for information please**
2. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
4. User agency.
5. Guard file.


(C.B. Tashildar)
AIGF (Central)