## GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA FOREST DEPARTMENT

No.F. 6-960/FC/For-14/Pt-I/.36400 - 429 ORDER Dated, the, 06/02/, 2016

Subject: - Proposal for diversion of 172.856 ha of forest land for construction of new broad gauge railway line from Agartala-Sabroom under District Forest Officer, Gomati & South in the State of Tripura

In pursuance to the Final approval issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi vide letter F.No.8-17/2013-FC dated 22.06.2015 and also to comply with the order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal vide letter dated 24.07.2013, I am directed to state that after due consideration the State Govt. approves handing over of 172.856 ha of forest land for construction of new broad gauge railway line from Agartala-Sabroom under District Forest Officer, Gomati & South to the User Agency (N.F Railway) by the District Forest Officer, Gomati/South in the State of Tripura with the following conditions:-

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged
- ii. 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.
- iii. The User Agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- iv. The User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection), Act, 1986, if required.
- v. Conditions to be stipulated by the Standing Committee of the NBWL shall be complied with.
- vi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- vii. The User Agency shall provide fuels 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.
- viii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar.
  - ix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
  - x. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
  - xi. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
- xii. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.

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- xiii. 4 nos. quarters of Forest Department affected by the construction of the above proposed Rail line will be reconstructed by the Railway at their cost at the specification given by the Forest Department.
- xiv. The User Agency, in consultation with the State Government, shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests, artificially made out of eco-friendly material, shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project.
- xv. 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.
- xvi. No quarry shall be established in forest area without prior permission.
- xvii. The reclamation of quarry should be done under the supervision of the State Forest Department. The quarry shall be reclaimed and afforested completely before the project is closed.
- xviii. Overburden shall not be dumped outside the width of the Railway line. The muck generated in the earth cutting will be disposed off at the designate dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris shall be allowed to roll down the hill slopes.
- xix. The User Agency will provide retaining walls, breast wall and drainage as per requirement to make the slope stable.
- xx. The User Agency will undertake comprehensive soil, conservation measures at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department.
- xxi. The User Agency will assist the State Government in preservation of flora and fauna of the area in accordance with the plan prepared by the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State. Attention will be particularly given to providing safe crossing and corridors for wildlife species and protecting sensitive habitat like wetlands, grasslands and woodlands from degradation.
- xxii. Where canopy continuity is required for particular species, special measures shall be prescribed by the CWLW for providing crossing points. Where certain trees used for nesting/rookeries of species like birds of prey, herons, storks, hornbills, etc., are to be destroyed, alternative structure shall be provided and the trees transplanted.
- xxiii. All other conditions proposed by the State Government at the time of submission of the proposal to the Central Government shall be complied with by the User Agency.
- xxiv. Rehabilitation of project affected families, if any, shall be done as per the National Rehabilitation policy/State Rehabilitation policy whichever is better in consultation with the Sate Forest Department at the cost of user agencies.

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- The User Agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above condition to the State Government and to the concerned Regional Officer of the Ministry regularly.
- xxvi. Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest & Wildlife; and
- xxvii. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure strict compliance of conditions for which undertakings have been obtained from the project proponent and also to the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable, as applicable to the project.
  - 2. The copies of the Forest Clearances and this order should be submitted to the all head of local bodies. Panchayats and Municipal bodies etc. for wide publicity.
  - 3. The District Forest Officer, Gomati/South is also requested to submit the monitoring report time to time to the Nodal Officer, FCA after fulfillment of all conditions.
  - 4. The handing over and taking certificate is to be submitted to the Nodal Officer, FCA along with GPS reading and polygon over the diverted land.

Enclo:- As stated

(Dr. K. Sasikumar) Addl. Secretary

to the Government of Tripura

## Copy to:-

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Tripura for favour of kind information please.
- 2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, Tripura for favour of kind information please.
- 3. The Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New delhi-110003 of kind information please.
- 4. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, North Eastern Regional Office, Law-U-Sib, Lumbatngen, Near M.T.C. Workshop, Shillong 793021 of kind information please
- 5. The Nodal Officer, FCA, O/O- the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Tripura for favour of kind information please.
- 6. The Director, ICAT, Agartala with a request to publish the same in two widely circulated daily newspaper one in vernacular language and the other in English Language.
- 7. The Dy. Chief Engineer/ Con-1 or 2, N.F Railway, Agartala, Agartala Railway Station Complex,
- 8. P.O-Sidhi Ashram, Badharghat, Dist. West Tripura, Agartala, Pin-799003 for kind information and necessary action please.
- 9. The District Magistrate & Collector, Gomati/South for kind information for kind information and necessary action please.
- 10. The District Forest Officer, Gomati/South for information and necessary action please.
- 11. The Sub-Divisional Forest Officer, Udaipur/Bagafa/Sabroom Forest Division for information and necessary action please.
- 12. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Belonia/Santirbazar/ Sabroom Sub-Division for information and necessary action please.
- 13. The Wildlife Warden, Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary for information and necessary action please.

  14. The In-Charge, GIS Lab, O/O- the PCCF(T), Agartala with a request to upload the same in the website of Forest Department, Tripura and submit the status report to the Nodal Officer, FCA.

to the Government of Tripura

o. 8-17/2013-FC Government of India

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

Aliganj, Jorbagh Roc'

The Principal Secretary (Forests)

Government of Tripura,

Agartala.

Diversion of 172.856 ha of forest land for construction of new broad gauge Sub: railway line from Agartala - Sabroom of Maouja Fulchari and Manubazar under the Bagafa Forest Division and Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary in the State of Tripura – regarding.

Sir.

I am directed to refer to the Government of Tripura's letter no. F.6-960/FC/FoR-2013/1053-59 dated 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section- 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful examination of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the said Act, 'in-principle' approval to the proposal was granted by the Ministry vide its letter of even number dated 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2014 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 the Central Government 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 Orissa vide their letter no. F.6-960/FC/FoR-2013/723-25 dated 19.11.2014 and an email communication dated 20.06.2015 received from the Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Tripura, final approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 172.856 ha of forest land for construction of new broad gauge railway line from Agartala - Sabroom of Maouia Fulchari and Manubazar under the Bagafa Forest Division and Trishna Wildlife Sanctuary in the State of Tripura subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged
- ii. 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.
- iii. The User Agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- iv. The User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (protection) Act, 1986, if required.
- v. Conditions to be stipulated by the Standing Committee of the NBWL shall be



## complied with

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- vi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- vii. The User Agency shall provide fuels 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.
- viii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar.
- ix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- x. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- xi. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
- xii. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
- xiii. 4 nos. quarters of Forest Department affected by the construction of the above proposed Rail line will be reconstructed by the Railway at their cost at the specification given by the Forest Department.
- xiv. The User Agency, in consultation with the State Government, shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests, artificially made out of eco-friendly material, shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project.
- xv. 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.
- xvi. No quarry shall be established in forest area without prior permission.
- xvii. The reclamation of quarry should be done under the supervision of the State Forest Department. The quarry shall be reclaimed and afforested completely before the project is closed.
- xviii. Overburden shall not be dumped outside the width of the Railway line. The muck generated in the earth cutting will be disposed off at the designate dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris shall be allowed to roll down the hill slopes.
  - xix. The User Agency will provide retaining walls, breast wall and drainage as per requirement to make the slope stable.

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- xx. The User Agency will undertake comprehensive soil, conservation measures at the project cost in consultation with the State Forest Department.
- xxi. The User Agency will assist the State Government in preservation of flora and fauna of the area in accordance with the plan prepared by the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State. Attention will be particularly given to providing safe crossing and corridors for wildlife species and protecting sensitive habitat like wetlands, grasslands and woodlands from degradation.
- xxii. Where canopy continuity is required for particular species, special measures shall be prescribed by the CWLW for providing crossing points. Where certain trees used for nesting/rookeries of species like birds of prey, herons, storks, hornbills, etc., are to be destroyed, alternative structure shall be provided and the trees transplanted.
- xxiii. All other conditions proposed by the State Government at the time of submission of the proposal to the Central Government shall be complied with by the User Agency.
- xxiv. Rehabilitation of project affected families, if any, shall be done as per the National Rehabilitation policy/State Rehabilitation policy whichever is better in consultation with the Sate Forest Department at the cost of user agencies.
- xxv. The User Agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above condition to the State Government and to the concerned Regional Officer of the Ministry regularly.
- xxvi. Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of thes Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest & Wildlife; and
- xxvii. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure strict compliance of conditions for which undertakings have been obtained from the project proponent and also to the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable, as applicable to the project.

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(Rajagopal Prashant)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

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- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Tripura, Agartala.
- 2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Shillong.
- 3. The Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 Forest Department, Government Tripura, Agartala.
- 4. User Agency.
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
- 6. Guard File.

(Rajagopal Prashant)

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Assistant Inspector General of Forests