GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS

No.F.1(75) Forest/2010

Jaipur, dated: 5 SEP 2014

ORDER

In reference to the clearance issued by MoEF, GoI vide letter No. 8 -105/2010-FC dated 23.07.2014 for the project proponent Chief Construction Engineer (R&D), DRDO, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi for diversion of 370.00 ha. forest area for purpose of Establishing a facility or strategic Defence Near Rupnagar (Beawar), district Pali. The State Government hereby accords Approval of Final stage clearance under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act with the following conditions:-

1. The conditions imposed by MoEF, GoI in their clearance dated 23.07.2014 will be complied by all concerned.

2. This order along with conditions imposed by the Central Government according to stage I and stage II clearance are mandatorily required to be displayed in the website by State Forest Department as well as by MoEF, GoI.

The project proponent should publish the entire forest clearances granted in verbatim along with the conditions and safeguards imposed by the Central Government in Forest Clearance in two widely circulated daily newspapers one in vernacular language and the other in English language so as to make people aware of the permission granted to the project proponent for use of forest land for non-forest purposes.

3. The copies of the Forest clearance should also be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.

4. Any other condition as and when imposed by the State Government.

(C.S. Ratnasamy)
Secretary, Forest

Copy to the following for necessary compliance:-

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Rajasthan, Jaipur.
2. Regional Office, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India, Kendriya Bhavan, Lucknow.
3. Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests, In-charge, Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF, Govt. of India, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 510 - with a request to ensure uploading of the order passed by the State Government on the MoEF website.
4. Director, Regional Office (Headquarters), Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
5. Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FCA), Rajasthan, Jaipur - with a request to get the order and clearances uploaded on the State Forest Department website.
6. Chief Conservator of Forests, IF, Aravali Bhawan, JLN Marg, Jaipur - to ensure the uploading of the order and clearances on the State Forest Department website.
7. Concerned Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Jodhpur.
8. Deputy Conservator of Forest, Pali.

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Rajasthan,
Jaipur.

Sub: Diversion of 370.00 ha of forest land near Rupnagar (Beawar) for establishing a strategic Defence project in favour of M/s DRDO, Ministry of Defence in Pali Forest Division in Pali district of Rajasthan.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government’s letter no. P1(75)/Van/2010 dated 10.12.2010 on the subject mentioned above 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 under Section-3 of the said Act, ‘in-principle’ approval was granted vide this Ministry’s letter of even number dated 17.06.2011 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 vide letter no. F 14/2008/Vasu/Pramuvans/394 dated 29.10.2012, 24.01.2014 and 30.05.2014, final approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 370.00 ha of forest land near Rupnagar (Beawar) for establishing a strategic Defence project in favour of M/s DRDO, Ministry of Defence in Pali Forest Division in Pali district of Rajasthan subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

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

2. The Compensatory Afforestation (CA), over 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.

3. The User Agency shall pay the additional NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of Hon’ble Supreme Court of India.

4. The State Government will suggest comprehensive soil conservation measures to be undertaken in the area at the cost of User Agency.

5. Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable under strict supervision of the
State Forest Department.

6. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be submitted with emphasis that no labour camp be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas.

7. The user agency shall provide alternate fuel to the labourers working at the site to avoid damage / felling of trees.

8. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.

9. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.

10. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person.

11. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.

12. Muck should be disposed at designated sites and not to be disposed off on downhill side.

13. The user agency shall take up protection and conservation measures for wildlife found in high altitude areas in consultation with State Forest department.

14. Wildlife Management Plan, prepared by the State Forest Department for protection of wildlife of the area will be implemented by the user agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department and be reviewed by the Defence Authorities periodically.

15. Blasting to be restricted to minimum to avoid impact on migratory birds.

16. The Divisional Forest Officer of the area will be provided controlled access to the project site for silvicultural and afforestation purposes during the constructional and post-constructional phase.

17. The State Government will make alternate arrangement for fuel and fodder to meet the requirement the local people affected by this project.

18. The joint Committee, constituted by the MoEF vide its order of even number dated 28.05.2014 for monitoring of compliance of conditions stipulated in the approval granted to the proposal under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will submit its report on the monitoring of compliance of conditions to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, annually.

19. Any other conditions that concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests and wildlife;

20. The User Agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Govt. and to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry regularly;
21. All other conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval for which undertakings have been submitted should be complied with strictly;

22. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provision of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, in force, as applicable to the project;

Yours faithfully,

(T. C. Nautiyal)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:
1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
2. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Lucknow.
3. Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
4. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.
5. User agency (Chief Construction Engineer (R&D), Central, DRDO, Ministry of Defence, New Delhi – 110 010).

(T. C. Nautiyal)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)
To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Rajasthan,
Jaipur.

Sub: Diversion of 370.00 ha of forest land near Rupnagar (Beawar) for establishing a strategic Defence project in favour of M/s DRDO, Ministry of Defence in Pali Forest Division in Pali district of Rajasthan.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government’s letter no. P1(75)/Van/2010 dated 10-12-2010 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under section-3 of the said Act.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, the Central Government hereby conveys the stage-I approval for diversion of 370.00 ha of forest land near Rupnagar (Beawar) for establishing a strategic Defence project in favour of M/s DRDO, Ministry of Defence in Pali Forest Division in Pali district of Rajasthan subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

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

2. (i) The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) will be raised and maintained over double the degraded forest land at the cost of User Agency.

(ii) The User Agency will submit the details of area identified for Compensatory Afforestation on SOI toposheet of 1:50,000 scale.

(iii) The User Agency shall transfer the cost (incorporating the current wage structure) of raising and maintaining Compensatory Afforestation to the State Forest Department.

(iv) Compensatory Afforestation was earlier proposed for 7 years maintenance. It should be extended to a period for 10 years. This is considered essential given the arid conditions and the slow rates of recruitment in such an ecological setting. Indigenous species of trees and shrubs are to be chosen.

3. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the forest area
diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the Judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008 & 09.05.2008 in IA No. 566 in WP (C) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 in this regard.

4. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

5. All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred to Ad-hoc CAMPA in SB account number CA 25225 of Corporation Bank, Block-11, CGO Complex, Phase-1, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110 003.

6. The State Government will suggest comprehensive soil conservation measures to be undertaken at the cost of User Agency.

7. Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.

8. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be submitted with emphasis that no labour camp be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas.

9. The user agency shall provide alternate fuel to the labourers working at the site to avoid damage / felling of trees.

10. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.

11. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.

12. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person.

13. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.

14. The muck disposal plan be prepared and submitted before the commencement of the work and the muck not to be disposed of on downhill side. Excavated materials should not be thrown haphazardly and the muck disposal sites to be identified every 500 m to stack such materials.

15. The user agency to take up protection & conservation measures for wildlife found in high altitude areas in consultation with State Forest department.

16. A long term wildlife management plan to be prepared for the protection of wildlife of the area to be reviewed by the Defence Authorities periodically.
17. Blasting to be restricted to minimum to avoid impact on migratory birds.

18. The Divisional Forest Officer of the area will be provided controlled access to the project site for silvicultural and afforestation purposes during the constructional and post-constructional phase.

19. The State Government will make alternate arrangement for fuel and fodder to meet the requirement the local people affected by this project.

20. The user agency will obtain the clearance under the provisions of ST&OTFD (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 before the final approval and will submit certificate towards the settlement of all claims and rights over the proposed forest land under the Act along with the as per the advisory dated 03.08.2009 issued by MoEF.

21. The Ministry of Defence and the MoEF will create a Joint Monitoring Mechanism at Central Government level to monitor the compliance of these conditions.

22. Any other condition that the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Lucknow may impose from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of flora and fauna of the area.

After receipt of the compliance report on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, the Central Government shall consider the handing over of forest land for non-forest purposes under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully,

(Rajesh Sharma)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Lucknow.
5. Monitoring cell.

(Rajesh Sharma)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests