To

The Principal Secretary,
Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Government of Bihar, Sinchaj Bhawan,
Secretariat, Patna.

Sub: Diversion of 0.0165 ha of forest land for construction of approach road for opening retail outlet of Essar Oil Ltd. on side of Buxar-Kochas-Sasaram Road by Shri Chandra Prakash Singh in Buxar district of Bihar.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Govt. letter No.Van.Bhumi-74/2018-1216(E)/Pa.Va. dated 23.1.2019, wherein prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change for diversion of 0.0165 ha of forest land for construction of approach road for opening retail outlet of Essar Oil Ltd. on side of Buxar-Kochas-Sasaram Road by Shri Chandra Prakash Singh in Buxar district of Bihar, was sought in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal of the State Government, ‘in-principle’ approval for diversion of the said forest land was accorded by the Ministry vide letter of even number dated 23.1.2019 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. 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-74/2018-260(E)/Pa.Va. dated 28.2.2019, approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.0165 ha of forest land for construction of approach road for opening retail outlet of Essar Oil Ltd. on side of Buxar-Kochas-Sasaram Road by Shri Chandra Prakash Singh in Buxar district of Bihar, subject to the following conditions and stipulations:-

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

2. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other user agency, department or person.

3. The layout plan of the proposed diversion shall not be changed without the prior approval of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.

4. The State Govt. shall plant 50 numbers of trees to maintain the green cover at the project cost. Planting site for the purpose shall be identified by the State Forest Department preferably within or in the surrounding area of the project. Only indigenous tree species shall be used for such plantation.
5. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads segment covered under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.

6. Earth or any other material shall not be brought from the adjoining forest area and debris resulting during construction shall not be disposed of in the adjoining forest area by the user agency.

7. It will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers, staffs engaged in construction activity cause no damage to the nearby forest flora and fauna.

8. 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.

9. 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, as applicable to the project.

10. Any other conditions that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & 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.

11. In case of non-compliance of any of the above conditions, the State Govt. shall report to this office as per procedure laid down in the clause 1.9 of guidelines issued under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

As has been mentioned at Para-2 of the Stage-II approval, this approval for diversion of forest land is subject to the conditions and stipulations 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, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India may withdraw the said approval for diversion of the forest land and stop forthwith 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 faithfully,

(Sujoy Dutta)
Technical Officer (Forestry)

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 (HoPF), Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of Bihar, Aranya Bhawan, Shahid Pir Ali Khan Path, Patna - 800 014.

3. The APCCF-cum-Nodal Officer, Department of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of Bihar, Aranya Bhawan, Shahid Pir Ali Khan Path, Patna - 800 014.

4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Bhojpur Forest Division, Ara, Bihar.


[Signature]

Technical Officer (Forestry)