



International Environmental
Law Research Centre

SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT

FOREST CLEARANCE

**Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests,
8 September 1987, No. 8 37283 PC**

*This paper can be downloaded in PDF format from IELRC's website at
<http://www.ielrc.org/content/c8702.pdf>*

Sub: Diversion of 13,388.48 ha (6,488.84 ha in Maharashtra, 4,165.91 ha in Gujarat and 2,731.00 ha in Madhya Pradesh) of forest land in Dhule, Bharuch and Khargone district respectively for Sardar Sarovar Project.

Sir,

1. I am directed to refer to your letter No. (1) FLD 1282.78159-V-1 dated 17.2.83 (Gujarat), (2) 8/58/83/10/3 dated 31.8.84 (Madhya Pradesh) and (3) CLD 1080/111531-II-F3 dated 8.9.83 (Maharashtra) on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Cons.) Act, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been considered by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section 3 of the Forest (Cons.) Act, 1980.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval for diversion of 13,388.48 ha of forest land for Sardar Sarovar Project as per details given below:

<u>State</u>	<u>Forest Land to be diverted (ha)</u>
i. Gujarat	4,165.91
ii. Madhya Pradesh	2,731.00
iii. Maharashtra	6,488.84

3. This approval is strictly subject to the following conditions:

- i) Legal status of land will remain unchanged.
- ii) The full details of the non-forest lands for raising compensatory afforestation with complete details viz Khasara No., village etc will be reported by the state governments before 30.9.87.
- iii) The non-forest areas available for rehabilitation of all the oustees will be reported by the state governments or a proposal to the satisfaction of the Government of India in this regard will be furnished by the State Governments before 30.11.87.
- iv) No work on the project in forest area will be commenced until and unless conditions under (ii) and (iii) above are fulfilled.
- v) Since the project involves violation and also most of the non-forest areas for compensatory afforestation are away from the project area, the state governments will raise compensatory afforestation in double the degraded forest lands also in the project impact areas in addition to the afforestation on equivalent non-forest land. A scheme for this will be submitted by 30.11.87.
- vi) The State Governments will prepare by 30.11.87 a plan for the treatment of catchments areas failing which the Central Government will appoint a team for this purpose at the cost of the project.
- vii) No forest land will be utilised for the rehabilitation of oustees.
- viii) Tree felling will be permitted in submergence area only up to 4 metres below FRL.
- ix) Tree planting will be done on either side of the canals, roads, foreshore of the reservoir and in the wasteland/ vacant lands under the control of the Irrigation Department.
- x) Water will be supplied free of cost to Forest Department for raising nursery and for irrigating forestry plantations in the command area.
- xi) In order that the construction labour & staff while working on the project in the forest area may not cause destruction to the forest area for meeting their fuelwood needs, the user agency will establish fuelwood depots and will provide suitable alternative domestic fuel such as fuelwood, coal, kerosene oil etc. to them free of cost or at a cost deducted from their salary and wages.

www.ielrc.org