

Forest Land - Palghar

Proposal for seeking prior approval for exploration for Geotechnical Investigation by taking 20 boreholes at Village Khanivade and Gargaon, Tal.& Dist. Palghar in the State of Maharashtra. (Area 295.23 ha.)

**Government of Maharashtra
Revenue and Forest Department
Government Order No.: FLD-12A25/CR.174/F-10
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400 032
Date:- 20.08.2025**

Reference:-

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Nagpur
Letter No. Desk-17/ Nodal / S1/PID-535955/Thane/1026/25-26, Dt.31.07.2025.

Preamble:-

Deputy General Manager (PP&D), Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, Mumbai has submitted a proposal of 295.23 ha. Forest land for the exploration for Geotechnical Investigation by taking 20 boreholes at Village Khanivade and Gargaon, Tal.& Dist. Palghar to the State Forest Department. APCCF & Nodal Officer has submitted this proposal to Government of Maharashtra vide letter under referred above.

Order:-

In exercise of powers under general approval granted by MoEF&CC, Govt. of India vide Handbook of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, Guidelines-2023 (Chapter-6), Government of Maharashtra is pleased to permission to Exploration for Geotechnical Investigation by taking 20 boreholes at Village Khanivade and Gargaon, Tal.& Dist. Palghar in the State of Maharashtra.

2. The details of Forest Land are as under:-

Sr. No	Item of work	Name of Village	Taluka	Survey No.	Comptt. no.	Area (Ha.)	Status
1	Exploration for Geotechnical Investigation by taking boreholes	Gargaon	Palghar	82	77	161.08	Reserve Forest
					77 & 78	59.99	Reserve Forest
2		Khanivade		106	78	25.02	Reserve Forest
3				9	79 & 80	89.52	Reserve Forest
4				29	--	19.61	Protected Forest
Total Forest Area (In Ha.)						295.23	

3. This permission is subject to the following conditions-

- 1) The legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged.
- 2) User Agency shall submit NOC of the Forest Rights holders of the proposed Land, prior to commencement of work and compensate them as per prevalent Acts and Rules in this regard.

- 3) If there are claims by forest rights holders, after obtaining a certificate from the District Collector, working permission shall be given, by DCF, Dahanu.
- 4) The Net Present Value, in respect of surveys, involving breaking of forest land, shall be charged and deposited into the account of State Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority on the basis of impact area of a bore hole which is observed to be 0.1 ha per bore hole.
- 5) Construction of temporary dwelling/hutments etc., for labourers will not be allowed in the forest areas.
- 6) Adequate precautions shall be taken to safeguard and adjoining area from explosives and it shall not be stored in the forest area.
- 7) The User Agency will not dump any kind of burden on the forest land.
- 8) The User Agency should clearly understand that this permission is being granted only for 20 bore holes over 295.23 ha. for Geotechnical investigation.
- 9) The User Agency shall be allowed exploratory drilling of a maximum of 1 bore holes of 4" diameter over 295.23 ha. forest land.
- 10) The said permission shall remain admissible up to the prescribed period specified under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.
- 11) The permission for drilling in the area do not confer any right to the user agency to claim forest land diversion in future for ancillary activities related to the project under section 2(ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. All such cases will be dealt on merits.
- 12) User agency shall seek permission of DCF/DFO of concern Forest Division before entering into the forest area.
- 13) User agency shall not sublease the drilling work.
- 14) A bore-hole shall be dug with prior permission of the DCF/DFO.
- 15) Proper plugging of boreholes shall be made after drilling activities are complete.
- 16) User agency shall report the progress of drilling work to the DCF/DFO, and also furnish detailed report thereof on completion of the project.
- 17) No felling of trees shall be done during the implementation of project.
- 18) Adequate measures shall be taken by the user agency to ensure that drilling activities do not harm the wildlife in the area. Any damage done in this context, shall be compensated by the user agency as per assessment by the local DCF/DFO.
- 19) The user agency shall be responsible for any loss to the flora and fauna in the surrounding. Any damage done in this regard shall be compensated by the user agency from the project cost as per assessment of the local DCF/DFO.
- 20) DCF, Dahanu may impose any other condition for protection and conservation of the flora and fauna in the forest area.
- 21) In case, rights over forest land proposed to be used for drilling purpose, has already been settled in favour of eligible claimants as per provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006, the claimants shall either be compensated appropriately or location of borehole be suitably re-located.

- 22) No fire will be kindled inside and in the vicinity of the forest area.
 - 23) User Agency shall provide a list of authorized officials/ workers engaged in drilling to the forest department before commencing the work and also provide the Identity Cards/ Documents to each such official/ worker, to be produced when demanded by the forest department.
 - 24) The samples collected during the drilling shall be used purely for investigation purposes and shall in no case be used for trade or commerce purpose;
 - 25) DCF, Dahanu shall deploy adequate staff to supervise the activities to be undertaken by the user agency to prevent any damage to the flora (especially the fresh regeneration), fauna and also to prevent felling of trees during drilling of holes and movement of equipment;
 - 26) After completion of the drilling bore hole shall be completely filled up and the ground restored back to its original position;
 - 27) During transportation of Bore Drilling Machine / rigs, no new road/ permanent path in the forest area will be constructed.
 - 28) Deputy Conservator of Forests should ensure that all requirements are fulfilled as per the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.
 - 29) All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.
 - 30) The Layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the State Government.
 - 31) All necessary approvals required for the project as per the prevailing laws of the land would be obtained by the User Agency.
 - 32) Also, the said permission shall be given subject to the conditions proposed by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
 - 33) Any breach of the conditions by the User Agency will be treated as violation of the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action will be taken accordingly.
4. This Government Order is available at the Government of Maharashtra's website www.maharashtra.gov.in with reference No. 202508201326133719. This Order has been signed digitally.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

(Ganesh Jadhao)

Under Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra

Copy to:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi.

2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), MS, Nagpur.
3. Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, Nagpur.
4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Nagpur
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & CEO (Maha-CAMPA), Nagpur
6. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Nagpur
7. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Thane.
8. Deputy Chief Conservator of Forests, Dahanu.
9. Deputy General Manager (PP&D), Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, Mumbai
10. Select File-F-10.