

**Forest Land-Satara**

**Re-Diversion of 0.40 Ha. Forest Land for Laying Underground Optical Fiber Cable along the Road in RoW of MDR-64 and NH-266 from Shere to Shenoli (village-Shenoli) in Karad Tehsil of Dist. Satara in the State of Maharashtra.**

**Government of Maharashtra  
Revenue and Forest Department  
Government Order No.: FLD-2025/CR.97/F-10  
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400 032  
Date: 31.07.2025**

**Reference:-**

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, MS, Nagpur Letter No. Desk-17/FCA-S1/PID-518464/Kolhapur/312, Dt.13.05.2025.

**Preamble:-**

M/s Bharti Airtel Ltd., Pune has submitted a proposal for re-diversion of 0.40 Ha. Forest Land for Laying Underground Optical Fiber Cable along the Road in RoW of MDR-64 and NH-266 from Shere to Shenoli (village-Shenoli) in Karad Tehsil of Dist. Satara 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 given by MoEF&CC, Govt. of India vide Handbook of VSESA Guidelines-2023, Chapter 4 (para-4.2), Government of Maharashtra is pleased to grant '**In-principle**' approval to the re-diversion of 0.40 ha. of Forest land under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for Laying Underground Optical Fiber Cable along the Road in RoW of MDR-64 and NH-266 from Shere to Shenoli (village-Shenoli) in Karad Tehsil of Dist. Satara in the State of Maharashtra.

**2.** The details of Forest Land proposed for diversion are as under:-

<b>Item of Work/ Purpose</b>	<b>Name of Village</b>	<b>Compt. No.</b>	<b>Survey No.</b>	<b>Gut No.</b>	<b>L x W (m.)</b>	<b>Area in sq.m.)</b>	<b>Area (in ha.)</b>	<b>Legal Status</b>
OFC line	Shenoli	699	378 p	126	4000 x1.0	4000	0.40	RF
	<b>Total</b>					<b>4000</b>	<b>0.40</b>	

**3. This 'In-principle' approval is issued subject to the following conditions-**

- 1) The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged.
- 2) The User Agency shall submit a no-objection certificate from the concerned authority to lay the Underground Optical Fiber Cable in RoW of MDR-64 and NH-266
- 3) Compensatory Afforestation:-**
  - a) Compensatory Afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 1.00 ha. degraded Forest land in Comp. No. 699, Sr. No.378 P, Gut No. 126 at Village Shenoli, Tal. Karad, Dist. Satara at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
  - b) The cost of Compensatory Afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per Compensatory Afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The Scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.
- 4) The Optical Fiber Cable Line will be laid within maximum size of the trench of 2 meter depth & 1.0 meter width with cable line under the OFC pipeline.
- 5) If User Agency has not submitted bank guarantee or paid security deposit with concern road authority (NHAI/MSRDC/PWD/ZP), the agency shall submit a bank guarantee at the rate of Rs.50/- per running meter and an undertaking to that effect shall also be submitted. If the agency fails to reclaim the land to the satisfaction of concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests, the cost for reclamation will be covered from the bank guarantee.
- 6) If the cable is going to be laid in the formation width of the road, then additional charges in form of bank guarantee shall be given at the rate of Rs.35/- per running meter. Similarly for reclamation of side drain and for tarred portion, the guarantee will be at the rate of Rs.300/- per meter and Rs.750/- per meter respectively. An undertaking shall be obtained from the User Agency that it has agreed to make good any loss to Forest/ Environment while laying the cable in the forest area and during maintenance of the same in future. For further maintenance of the project, the agency shall obtain permission from the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests as and when required.
- 7) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the proposal.
- 8) No felling of trees shall be done during the implementation of project.
- 9) No new forest area beyond the Right of Way of existing road should be broken for laying Optical Fiber Cable.
- 10) The User Agency shall pay the cost of Net Present Value, if required in future.

- 11) Underground Optical Fiber Cable can be laid only outside the confines of the Protected Areas.
- 12) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- 13) After completion of the project, User Agency will reclaim the area under RoW suitably.
- 14) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the State Government.
- 15) This sanction is subject to the final clearance by the Department of Information & Technology for the project and concerned road authorities for the project.
- 16) The User Agency shall compensate the private owners of forest land if any, in accordance with the prevalent laws, rules & guidelines.
- 17) The User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- 18) All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and Guidelines shall be complied by the User Agency.
- 19) All the conditions stipulated by the Forest Department shall be binding on User Agency.
- 20) The User Agency shall make good of any loss to Forest / Environment.
- 21) In case, the proposed area falls in the RoW of the road passing through National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, prior permission of the State Board for Wildlife and Chief Wildlife Warden should be obtained as per relevant guidelines in this regard.
- 22) All necessary approvals required for the project as per the prevailing laws of the land would be obtained by the User Agency.
- 23) 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.

3. This Government Order is available at the Government of Maharashtra's website [www.maharashtra.gov.in](http://www.maharashtra.gov.in) with reference No 202507311214136619. 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 (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
3. Deputy Director General of Forest (Central), Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, Nagpur.
4. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
5. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Nagpur.
6. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Nagpur.
7. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & CEO (Maha-CAMPA), Nagpur.
8. Collector, Satara.
9. Chief Executive Officer, Zilha Parishad, Satara.
10. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Kolhapur.
11. Deputy Conservator of Forests (T), Satara.
12. M/s. Bharti Airtel Ltd., Pune.
13. Select File-F-10.