Diversion of 295.146 ha of forest land for construction of Bhensatori Tank Project in Guna district of Madhya Pradesh.

I am directed to refer to your letter No. F-5/62/83/10/3 dt. 1.4.99 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 295.146 ha of forest land for construction of Bhensatori Tank project in Guna district subject to following conditions -

(i) Legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.

(ii) Compensatory afforestation will be carried out over equivalent non forest land at project cost and the area will be notified as Protected/Reserved Forest under Indian Forest Act, 1927.

(iii) Penal Compensatory afforestation will be carried out over double the degraded forest land at project cost.

(iv) Water shall be made available free of cost for irrigating plantations over 500 ha. of forest land and other forestry activities in the vicinity of the project.

(v) Planting of nativel tree species will be undertaken on the tank side and other vacant land of the Irrigation Department.
(vi) Free fuelwood/alternate energy source shall be provided to the labourers and the staff so as to avoid any damage to the forests in the vicinity.

(vii) Any other condition which the State Govt. or Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhopal may stipulate from time to time in the interest of afforestation and protection of forests.

Yours faithfully,

(J.P. MISRA)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
2. Nodal Officer, Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forest, Regional Office, Bhopal.
4. RO(HQ), New Delhi
5. The Executive Engineer, Water Resources Division, Guna (M.P.)

(J.P. MISRA)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests