

No. J-12011/10/2015-IA-I (R)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
(IA-I Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jorbagh, New Delhi
Dated: 13.10.2016

To,

Shri Chhote Lal,
Commissioner (Flood Management),
Ministry of Water Resources, RD&GR,
8th Floor, Black - II,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110003

**Sub : Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project by M/s Pancheshwar Development Authority -
for consideration of ToR - portion of the project falling in India.**

Sir,

This is with reference to your letter No. Z-14012/3/2013-Ganga/1799 dated 31.03.2015 and D.O. No. S(WR, RD&GR)/ Misc-016 dated 21.03.2016 on the above mentioned subject.

2. The said proposal was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for River Valley and Hydroelectric Projects in its meeting held on 2nd May, 2016. The comments and observations of EAC may be seen in the Minutes of the meeting available on the Ministry's website.

3. It is noted that the proposed Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project (PMP) is envisaged on river Mahakali (known as Sarada in India) where the river forms the international boundary between India and Nepal, diving the Far Western Development Region of Nepal from the Uttarakhand State in India. It is a bi-national scheme, primarily aimed at energy production. In addition, project aims at to enhance food grain production in both the countries by providing additional irrigation resulting from augmentation of dry season flows. Due to moderation of flood peak at reservoir(s), incidental flood control benefits for both the countries are also envisaged from the project. The project would comprise of a rock-fill dam with central clay core of 315 m height from the deepest foundation level. It shall have two underground powerhouses, one on each bank of Mahakali River with the total installed capacity of nearly 5600 MW. The power plant at main dam will be operated as the peaking station to meet energy demand in India and Nepal. A re-regulating dam at Rupaligad, 25 km downstream, is proposed to even out powerhouse releases into continuous river flows and irrigation demands in the downstream. The total submergence area of the main dam is 11,600 ha. The submergence in India and Nepal is 7,600 ha and 4,000 ha, respectively. Forest area will be submerged due to reservoir of main dam and regulating dam. No ecological sensitive area is coming in the area.

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4. Based on recommendations of the EAC, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords a fresh clearance for the portion of Pancheshwar Multipurpose project failing in India for pre-construction activities at the proposed site as per the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendment in 2009 along with following Terms of Reference (ToR) for preparation of EIA/EMP report. The EIA/EMP report should contain the information in accordance with provisions and stipulations as given in **Annexure-I**.

5. The PP has to adhere to the following conditions as recommended by the EAC:

- i. A joint mechanism be set-up for considering the assessment of environmental impact of the full project. While considering the full project by the proposed joint mechanism, the ToR shall be modified for the full project and shall be accordingly appraised before the EAC for approval.
- ii. The EIA/EMP prepared for the full project by the Project Proponent should be placed before the entity established through the joint mechanism for examination and its recommendations to be submitted to the Ministries of Environment in both countries for acceptance.

6. The consultant engaged for preparation of EIA/EMP report has to be registered with Quality Council of India/ NABET under the scheme of Accreditation and Registration of MoEF. This is a per-requisite.

7. Consultants shall include a "Certificate" in EIA/EMP report regarding portion of EIA/EMP prepared by them and data provided by other organization(s)/ laboratories including states of approval of such laboratories.

8. The draft EIA/EMP report prepared as per the Terms of References should be submitted to the State Pollution Control Board/ Committee concerned for conducting Public Hearing/ Consultation as per the provisions stipulated in EIA Notification of 2006. The draft EIA/EMP report is to be submitted to SPCB etc. sufficiently before the expiry of the ToR validity so that necessary amendments in EIA/EMP can be undertaken based on Public Hearing and the same is to be submitted to MoEFCC before expiry of validity.

9. All issues discussed in the Public Hearing/ Consultations should be addressed and incorporated in the EIA/EMP report. Final EIA/EMP report should be submitted to the Ministry for Environmental Clearance only after incorporating these issues before the expiry of validity of ToR.

10. The ToR will remain valid for a period of 4 years from the date of issue of this letter. The ToR will stand lapsed on completion of 4 years time in case final EIA/EMP is not submitted and the validity is not renewed.

11. In case of any change in the scope of the project such as capacity enhancement, shifting of dam site/ powerhouse and change in submergence, etc., fresh scoping clearance has to be obtained by the project proponent.

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12. Information pertaining to Corporate Environmental Responsibility and Environmental Policy shall be provided in the EIA/EMP Report as per this Ministry's OM No.J-11013/25/2014-IA-I dated 11.8.2014.

13. The EIA/EMP report must contain an Index showing details of compliance of all ToR conditions. The Index will comprise of page No. etc., vide which compliance of a specific ToR is available. It may be noted that without this index, EIA/EMP report will not be accepted.

14. The scoping/ToR clearance is being considered by MoEF&CC subject to the outcome of the court order and the project proponent shall bound by the decision of the MoEF&CC arising out of such outcome of court order.

15. In case the validity is to be extended, necessary application is to be submitted at least 3 months before expiry of validity of ToR.

16. This has approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. S. Kerketta)

Director (IA-I)

Telefax # 24695314

encl : As above

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi - 1.
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, RD&GR, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.
3. The Addl. Chief Secretary, Department of Forest & Environment, government of Uttarakhand, Uttarakhand Secretariat, 4, Subhash Road, Dehradun - 248001.
4. The Principal Secretary, Department of Energy, Government of Uttarakhand, Uttarakhand Secretariat, 4, Subhash Road, Dehradun - 248001.
5. The Chief Engineer, Project Appraisal Directorate, Central Electricity Authority, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi - 110066.
6. The Additional Principal Conservator of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Regional Office FRI Campus, Pearson Road, P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248006.
7. The Member Secretary, Uttarakhand Environment Protection & Pollution Control Board, Government of Uttarakhand, 29/20, Nemi Road, Dehradun - 248001.
8. EI Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi.
9. PPS to JS(GB)
10. NIC Cell -for uploading in MoEF&CC's website.
11. Guard File.