## F. No. 8-30/2007 - FC Government of India Ministry of Environment & Forests (FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003 Dated: 13th April, 2011

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests) Forest and Revenue Department, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun.

Diversion of 10.00 ha. forest land in plot No. 150 in Tanda Block of Haldwani Range in Sub: Nainital District of Uttarakhand for a lease period of thirty years for construction of the Uttarakhand Open University.

Sir,

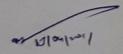
I am directed to refer to Nodal Officer (FC), Uttarakhand's letter No. 455/1G-1697 (Naini) dated 25.08.2010 on the above mentioned subject, wherein prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of 10.00 ha. forest land in plot No. 150 in Tanda Block of Haldwani Range in Nainital District of Uttarakhand for a lease period of thirty years for construction of the Uttarakhand Open University, was sought, in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the said Act, in-principle approval for the said diversion was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 03.02.2011, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter No. 2143/I G- 1697 (Naini.) dated 25.02.2011, No. 2355/1G-1697 (Naini) dated 15.03.2011 and subsequent letter No. UOU/VC/261 dated 26.03.2011, and No. UOU/ R1/ Land/ 216/11 dated 06.04.2011 of the said user agency, approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 10.00 ha. forest land in plot No. 150 in Tanda Block of Haldwani Range in Nainital District of Uttarakhand for a lease period of thirty years for construction of the Uttarakhand Open University, subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged; (i)

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- (ii) Compensatory afforestation over civil and Panchayati degraded forest double in extent to the forest land being diverted shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department from the funds provided by the user agency;
- (iii) The Civil and Panchayati degraded forest identified for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department;
- (iv) The Civil and Panchayati degraded forest land identified for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified by the State Government as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act, as the case may be. The Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, shall report compliance within six months;
- (v) The User Agency shall execute the work as per the detailed land-use plan, having provision of consolidating the location of buildings/civil structures at few compact locations, preferably at the locations having gentle slopes and requiring felling of minimum number of trees. The remaining area shall permanently be kept under green cover;
- (vi) To prevent damage to the forest and wildlife in and around the forest land being diverted, by the laborers to be engaged for execution of various civil works for setting up the proposed university, the user agency shall provide adequate boarding and lodging facilities for the labourers and their dependent family members during their stay in the University campus;
- (vii) To avoid fragmentation of the reserved forest, the 10 ha. forest land being diverted in favour of the user agency shall be carved out by excluding the land located on southern side of the 30 ha. forest land earlier diverted in favour of the said user agency for setting up of the said open University;
- (viii) The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- (ix) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (x) Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourers after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
- (xi) The User Agency shall ensure that no damage is caused to the wildlife available in the area because of this project;
- (xii) The User Agency shall ensure that minimum trees shall be felled for construction of various civil works and shall further ensure that felling of the identified trees is undertaken under direct supervision of the officials of the State Forest Department;



- (xiii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xiv) Any other condition that the Chief Conservator of Forests, Central Regional Office, Lucknow or the State Government of Uttarakhand may impose from time to time for protection and improvement of flora and fauna in the forest area;
- (xv) The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project Yours faithfully

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(H.C. Chaudhary) Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

- 7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun.
- The Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun.
- 3. The Chief Conservator of Forest, Regional Office, Lucknow.
- 4. User Agency.
- 5. Monitoring Cell, Ministry of Environment and Forests

6. Guard File.

10101 NO1 (H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

