

F. No. 8-65/2017-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi: 1100 03,
Dated: March, 2018

To,

The Special Secretary to Government (Forests),
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department,
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat,
Hyderabad,

Sub: Diversion of 890.43 hectares of forest land in Kondapalli Block, in favour of APCRDA for development of Centers for Sports, Physical Trainings and Agri-tourism under Capital City Infrastructure Development Projects, Andhra Pradesh.-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh's letter No. 4962/Section. II/2017 dated 05.12.2017 furnishing the above subject proposal for seeking prior approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. After examining the proposal it is found that the proposed forest land was earlier included in the proposal of establishment of Andhra Pradesh Capital. It is further mentioned that an expert committee under the chairmanship of Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional office, Dehradun was constituted to examine the proposal for establishment of Capital of Andhra Pradesh. As per their report for the said area, the Bit 1 & 2 of the Kondapalli block are particularly dense forests with Bit 1 having good plantations especially of Jamun. The Bit 2 has very good forests which are largely undisturbed. During the site visit it was also informed that presence of large carnivores including leopard is reported from this area. The Kondapalli Block was not to be considered as per the remarks of the RO, Chennai in their Site Inspection Report, however the same has been included for the above mentioned activities.

After due consideration of the said report in consultation with FAC and recommendation of the competent authority, the proposed area was not agreed to.

3. The above subject is non-site specific and as per the provisions of Para 2.1 (vii) 3 of the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 & Guidelines, normally there should not be any justification for locating non-site specific projects on forest land.

In view of above the State Government is requested to provide a justification as to why the non-site specific proposal is again forwarded for approval under forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully

(Nisheeth Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
2. The Nodal Officer, under FCA, 1980 O/o PCCF, Forest Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
3. The Addl. PCCF, Regional Office, Chennai (SEZ).
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.

(Nisheeth Saxena)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)