

F. No. 8-55/2014-FC  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road  
New Delhi – 110 003.  
Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2019

To,

**The Special Secretary to Government (Forests)**  
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department,  
Government of Telengana,  
Hyderabad.

**Sub: Diversion of 285.44 hectares of forest land in Lankapalli R.F. of Khammam Division in favour of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for their Kistaram OCP.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Andhra Pradesh's Letter No.2373/ FOR.I (1)/2014 dated 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014 on the above mentioned subject, wherein prior approval of the Central Government for the diversion of 285.44 hectares of forest land in Lankapalli R.F. of Khammam Division in favour of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for their Kistaram OCP project was sought, in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under Section-3 of the said Act, **In-principle/Stage-I** approval for diversion of the said forest land was accorded vide Ministry its letter of even number dated **11.09.2018** subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

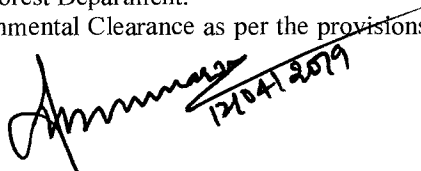
In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government of Telangana vide letter No.2373/ For. I(1)/2014 dated 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2019, **Final /Stage-II approval** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 285.44 hectares of forest land in Lankapalli R.F. of Khammam Division in favour of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for their Kistaram OCP, subject to the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over to the user agency.
3. The State Govt. shall ensure that the Forest area 71.71 Ha. required for dumping should be rehabilitated and returned to the Forest Dept. within a maximum period of 10 years from its date of handing over to the User Agency;
4. **Compensatory afforestation:** Compensatory Afforestation and Soil & Moisture Conservation activities shall be taken up by the Forest Department over the following identified forest land at the cost of the user agency:

S. N.	Name of RF& Division	Name of the Beat	Compartment No.	Extent proposed for CA (In Ha.)
1	Gubbagurthi (Khammam Division)	Mallupalli	51,52& 53	227.00
2	Annapureddy palli (Kothagudem Division)	Namavaram	148&149	282.00
3	Lankapalli (Sathupalli Division)	Lankapalli	175	62.00
<b>Total:</b>				<b>571.00</b>

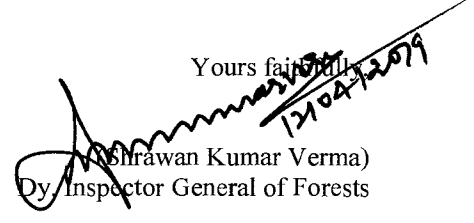
As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.

5. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
6. State Government shall ensure that Wildlife Management Plan as approved shall be implemented by State Forest Department from the funds deposited in Adhoc CAMPA Account.
7. User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
8. User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986.

  
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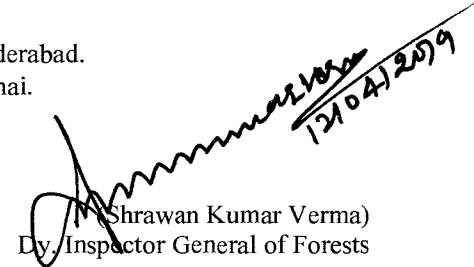
9. The User Agency either itself or through the State Forest Department shall undertake fencing, protection and afforestation of the safety zone area (7.5-meter strip shall be kept within the mining lease or mining cluster, as applicable and such other areas as specified in the approved mining plan) at the project cost. Area of safety zone of a mining lease shall be a part of the total area of the mining lease.
10. The State Govt. ensure that the User agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall implement the plan to create and maintain alternate habitat/ home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird nests artificially made out of eco-friendly materials shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;
11. The State Govt. ensure that the User Agency shall implement the R&R Plan as per the R&R Policy of State Government in consonance with National R&R Policy, Government of India before the commencement of the project work and the said R&R Plan will be monitored by the State Government/Regional Office of MoEF & CC along with indicators for monitoring and expected observable milestones. **The State Govt. shall ensure rehabilitation of 12 families before execution of work.**
12. The period of diversion of the said forest land shall be co-terminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulating) Act, 1957 or Rules framed thereunder.
13. The user agency shall undertake mining and reclamation of the mined out area as per the approved mining plan and the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
14. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
15. The User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on forest areas.
16. The boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease area and safety zone shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
17. The State Govt. ensure that the State Forest Department shall carry out gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.4, from the funds deposited in CAMPA Account.
18. The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall carry out de-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies at their cost in consultation with State Forest Department.
19. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
20. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Central Government.
21. The change in the layout plan of the mining lease, if required, shall be done as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
22. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures as per approved schemes/plan and to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area.
23. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance of all the Court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force as applicable to the project.
24. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
25. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife. The State Government shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions.

Yours faithfully,

  
Dy. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.
2. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.
3. The Addl. Director General (Central), Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), Chennai.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.

  
Dy. Inspector General of Forests