F. No. 8-43/2017-FC

Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

Indira ParyavaranBhawan,

JorBagh Road, Aliganj New Delhi - 110 003 Dated: 25th January, 2019

To

The Special Secretary to Government,

Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Secretariat, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.

Sub: Diversion of 205.4811 ha of forest land in Achampet Division of Nagarkurnool District for works of Lift – I Pump house (Package-1) and formation of Anjanagiri Reservoir (Package - 2), Earth work Excavation & Construction of Tunnel in between Anjanagiri Reservoir at Narlapur (V) and Veerajaneya Reservoir at Yedula (V) (Package 4) of Palamuru Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme (PRLIS) Project in favour of Chief Engineer, PRLIS, Hyderabad.-regarding.,

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Telangana's letter No. 1999/For.I (1)/2017 dated 26th May, 2017 on the above mentioned subject, wherein prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 205.4811 ha of forest land in Achampet Division of Nagarkurnool District for works of Lift – I Pump house (Package-1) and formation of Anjanagiri Reservoir (Package - 2), Earth work Excavation & Construction of Tunnel in between Anjanagiri Reservoir at Narlapur (V) and Veerajaneya Reservoir at Yedula (V) (Package 4) of Palamuru Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme Project in favour of Chief Engineer, PRLIS, Hyderabad, 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 under Section-3 of the said Act, *In-principle/ Stage-I* approval for diversion of the said forest land was accorded by the Ministry vide its letter even number dated 03.04.2018 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 Stage-II / final approval.

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- 2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government of Telangana's letter No. 1999/For.I (1)/2017 dated 10th January, 2018 *Final approval/Stage-II clearance* of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 205.4811 ha of forest land in Achampet Division of Nagarkurnool District for works of Lift I Pump house (Package-1) and formation of Anjanagiri Reservoir (Package 2), Earth work Excavation & Construction of Tunnel in between Anjanagiri Reservoir at Narlapur (V) and Veerajaneya Reservoir at Yedula (V) (Package 4) of Palamuru Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme Project in favour of Chief Engineer, PRLIS, Hyderabad, subject to the following conditions:-
 - (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
 - (ii) The Compensatory afforestation over the non-forest /degraded forest land, equal in extent to the 205.4811 ha. of forest land being diverted shall be raised on identified non-forest land within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved CA Scheme/Plan by the State Forest Department from the funds already provided by the user agency;
- (iii) The State Government shall ensure that the State Forest Department shall implement the approved soil and moisture conservation (SMC) activities on the CA land from the funds already provided by the User Agency;
- (iv) The State Government shall ensure that the penal compensatory afforestation shall also be raised on identified degraded forest land equal to extent in double the broken up area within three years from the date of Stage –II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department from the funds already provided by the user agency;
- (v) The State Government shall ensure that the non-forest land to be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified as reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act;
- (vi) The State Government shall ensure that the civil structures recommended in the project shall be designed in such a way to allow smooth passage of the wild animals and the user. The Forest Department shall prepare a Plan of Action to utilize the water potential available nearby for the benefit of forest crop and also to the wild animals at the cost of user agency;
- (vii) The user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the ad-hoc CAMPA under intimation to this Ministry;

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- (viii) The State Government / User Agency shall ensure to obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- (ix) The State Government / User Agency shall ensure to raise afforestation alongwith the periphery of the reservoirs and canals;
- (x) The State Government / User Agency shall ensure that the trees available between full reservoir level (FRL) and FRL—4 meters are not felled;
- (xi) The State Government / User Agency shall ensure to provide free water for the forestry related projects;
- (xii) The State Government / User Agency shall obtain clearance from the Standing Committee of NBWL for areas falling in the protected area and its Eco-Sensitive Zone before commencement of work;
- (xiii) The State Government shall take appropriate measures in the project area to increase the fodder availability in the forest for wildlife, desilting of tanks and water holes in the forest areas to increase the water availability for wildlife, anti-poaching strategy and Anti-encroachment strategy, provision of salt licks and launching of public awareness programmes.
- (xiv) The State Govt. shall follow the regulations on eco-sensitive zone, if applicable.
- (xv) The order of the NGT and other courts, which may be pending against this proposal, may be complied by the state government and the user agency;
- (xvi) The State Government shall ensure that the approved Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) plan is implemented by the State Forest Department from the funds already provided by the user agency;
- (xvii) The State Government shall ensure that the Wildlife Conservation Plan duly approved by PCCF (Wildlife) is implemented by the State Forest Department from the funds already provided by the user agency;
- (xviii) The State Government shall ensure to prevent illegal occupation/encroachment of forest land by the families to be displaced from the project site, the user agency shall ensure that each family being displaced from the project site actually acquires and settles on non-forest land. Apart from taking other measures to achieve the said objective, as a measure to discourage the project affected families from encroaching into the forest land, payment of annuity for a period of at-least five years at the rate of the minimum wage payable to the unskilled person for 200 person-days per annum to each adult member of the project affected families, on receipt of a certificate signed by a forest officer not below the rank of a Range Officer having jurisdiction over the area where such person has settled after displacement from the project site, should be incorporated in the R & R plan. Payment of the said annuity should be an additionally and not in replacement of any of the benefits to be accrued to the project affected persons, as per the present R&R Plan;

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- (xix) The State Government shall ensure that the User agency will track location of each displaced family and ensure that none of them encroach/occupy forest land. In support of compliance to this condition at least for five years from the date of taking possession of the forest land, the user agency shall submit an annual certificate to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana that none of the persons displaced from the project land has encroached/ settled on the forest land during the year;
- The State Government and the user agency shall implement the approved 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. The said R&R Plan will be monitored by the State Government/concerned Regional Office of MoEF& CC, GoI along with indicators for monitoring and expected observable milestones;
- (xxi) The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency provides fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
- (xxii) The State Government shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land has been demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates of each pillar;
- (xxiii) The State Government shall ensure that the layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xxiv) The State Government shall ensure that the forest land is not used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xxv) The State Government shall ensure that the forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xxvi) The State Government shall ensure that the water is provided from the reservoir and canals to the Forest Department for raising and maintenance of plantations and nurseries around the site whenever required, free of charge. The quantity and time of supply of water shall be as decided by the Forest Department;
- (xxvii) The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency carries out muck disposal at pre-designated sites in such a manner so as to avoid its rolling down and the dumping area for muck disposal shall be stabilized and reclaimed by planting suitable species by the User Agency at the cost of project under the supervision of State Forest Department. Retaining walls and terracing shall be carried out to hold the dumping material in place. Stabilization and reclamation of such dumping sites shall be completed before handing over the same to the State Forest Department in a time bound manner as per Plan;

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- (xxviii) The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency submits the annual selfcompliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government and to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry regularly:
- (xxix) Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;
- (xxx) The State Government and the User Agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, and relevant Hon'ble Court Order (s), if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
- (xxxi) As per para 3.4 (iii) of Ministry's Guidelines issued under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, a Monitoring Committee shall be constituted with a nominee of the Central Government to monitor the conditions being stipulated, including those pertaining to CA are carried out;

Yours faithfully

(Strawan Kumar Verma)

Dy Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.
- 2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the PCCF, Government of Telengana, Hyderabad.
- 3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office (Southern Eastern Zone), Chennai.
- 4. User Agency.
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

6. Guard File.

hrawan Kumar Verma)

L'Inspector General of Forests