

भारत सरकार **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA** पर्यावरण ,वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), 1st & 2nd floor, HEPC Building, No.34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600034, Tel. 044-28222041, e-mail: ro.moefccc@gov.in /roefccc@gmail.com



F.No.4-APA077/2018-CHN/0/90 Date 04 February, 2020

To,

The Principal Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1st Floor, 4th Block, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati Guntur District-522503

Diversion of 414.96 ha + re-diversion of 18.92 ha (total 433.88 ha) of forest Subject: land in Ganganapalli & Palakonda RF of Kadapa Division for excavation of GNSS Phase-II Main Canal from KM 96.50 to KM 119.00 under Package No. 03/06 in favour of Executive Engineer, SKD GNSS (Sri Krishna Deveraya Galeru, Nagari Sujala Sravanthi) Division, Prodattur- reg

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No.EFS01-12021/88/Section-II/2018 dated 14.09.2018, 10.01.2019, 08.02.2019 and 17.12.2019 and online application No FP/AP/IRRIG/31863/2018 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and the recommendation of the Regional Empowered Committee (REC), I am directed to convey hereby the Central Government's approval in-principle (Stage-I) under Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 414.96 ha + re-diversion of 18.92 ha (total 433.88 ha) of forest land in Ganganapalli & Palakonda RF of Kadapa Division for excavation of GNSS Phase-II Main Canal from KM 96.50 to KM 119.00 under Package No. 03/06 in favour of Executive Engineer, SKD GNSS (Sri Krishna Deveraya Galeru, Nagari Sujala Sravanthi) Division, Prodattur, subject to the following conditions:-

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

Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 (ii) feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;



- (iii) Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over an extent of 435.68 of non forest land identified in Sy Nos 1914 of Chinna Yerasala (V), 548 of Sancherla (V) and 578 & 583 of M.Kambaladinne (V) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency;
- (iv) The identified CA land and approved CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (v) A minimum of 1000 plants / ha of diverted forest area shall be planted in the identified CA land. In case, the required numbers could not be planted therein, the balance shall be planted in the nearby RF/PF by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency;
- (vi) The entire non-forest land identified for raising compensatory afforestation i.e. 435.68 in Sy Nos 1914 of Chinna Yerasala (V), 548 of Sancherla (V) and 578 & 583 of M.Kambaladinne (V) shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department and notified as RF/PF prior to Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act, may be submitted by the State Government prior to Stage-II approval;
- (vii) The PCCF, Andhra Pradesh shall ensure that the CA plantation is maintained for a period of 10 years and issue suitable instruction to the field officers in this regard and to suitably revise the FSR, if required;
- (viii) The CA scheme shall be uploaded in the web portal;
- (ix) The Forest Department shall ensure to plant adequate numbers of red sanders trees to compensate the felling of red sanders species under the project;
- (x) Wherever possible, sowing of seed balls shall also be practiced by the Department to encourage growth of vegetation in the CA area;
- (xi) The spoil banks shall be stabilized by giving adequate slope and by undertaking planting with trees / shrubs / grasses at the project cost;
- (xii) The Forest Department shall undertake canal bank plantation covering the entire length of the canal, at the cost of the User Agency;
- (xiii) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **433.88 ha** from the User Agency as per the orders of



the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos.826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995;

- (xiv) Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- (xv) All levies under the project shall be deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<u>https://parivesh.nic.in/</u>);
- (xvi) The compliance report shall be uploaded on *e-portal* (<u>https://parivesh.nic.in/</u>);
- (xvii) The User Agency shall take measures to protect flora and fauna in and around the project area;
- (xviii) Avenue planation and its maintenance on both sides of the approach road shall be carried out by the User Agency at the project cost';
- (xix) To facilitate the movement of wildlife, the User Agency in consultation with the Forest Department shall modify the proposed CM & CD structures as ECO Bridges in term of their dimensions and location, at the project cost;
- (xx) Planting of native tree species shall be undertaken on vacant land along the canals;
- (xxi) The User Agency shall obtain Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986;
- (xxii) Tree felling in the proposed forest area shall be carried out wherever necessary, with the prior permission of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned;
- (xxiii) The State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of trees wherever feasible at the cost of the User Agency;
- (xxiv) The excavated material under the project shall not be used for commercial benefits and shall not be dumped in the nearby forest areas other than the area proposed for diversion;

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- (xxv) The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xxvi) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xxvii) Disturbance shall be kept minimum by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it shall be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- (xxviii) A State Level monitoring Committee shall be constituted for the entire GNSS project under the Chairmanship of APCCF rank Officer including DFOs of the concerned Divisions, to monitor the compliance to the conditions imposed in the Forest Clearance;
- (xxix) The total forest area to be utilized for the project shall not exceed 433.88 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- (xxx) 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;
- (xxxi) The Government of Andhra Pradesh and the User Agency shall provide all necessary assistance to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change including its Regional Office, Chennai to monitor compliance to the aforesaid conditions;
- (xxxii) Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDGF(Central) of Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User Agency;
- (xxxiii)In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the Rules and guidelines issued by MoEF&CC, in this regard.



After receipt of the compliance report on above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years. In the event of non- compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval may be revoked as per the rules.

Yours faithfully,

E. E. (Dr.K.Ganesh Kumar)

Copy to:-

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem Guntur-522004.
- 2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem, Guntur-522004.
- 3. The Executive Engineer, SKD GNSS Proddatur, Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh-516630.
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(Dr.K.Ganesh Kumar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)