

F. No. 8-87/2001-FC (Vol.I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi – 110 003
Dated: 08th January, 2019

To,

The Special Secretary to Government,
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Environment,
Government of Telangana,
Hyderabad.

Sub: Diversion of 4.828 ha of forest land in favour of M/s Singareni collieries Company Ltd. for sinking of Man Winding Shaft and essential infrastructure in Shantikhani Long Wall Project in Mandamarri area, under Forest Division Benampally and District Mancheri, State Telangana (Online Proposal No. FP/TG/MIN/27545/2017)-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Special Chief Secretary to Govt. (FAC), Govt. of Telangana's letter No. 2917/For.I (1)/2018 dated 28.08.2018 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government of Telangana and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby agrees **to accord stage-I / In-principle** approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.828 ha of forest land in favour of M/s Singareni collieries Company Ltd. for sinking of Man Winding Shaft and essential infrastructure in Shantikhani Long Wall Project in Mandamarri area, under Forest Division Benampally and District Mancheri, State Telangana, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) *The User Agency shall submit forest cover map before Stage – II approval;*
- (iii) *The User Agency shall submit Survey of India Toposheet and DGPS map of CA before Stage – II approval;*
- (iv) *The User Agency shall submit site suitability certificate before Stage – II approval.*
- (v) The Compensatory Afforestation shall be done over on double the degraded forest land to the proposed forest area to be diverted within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of Stage-II clearance. The same shall be maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency. At least 1000 saplings per hectares shall be planted over **9.828 ha**. (4.828x2 = 9.656 ha.)
- (vi) The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo sheet of 1:50,000 scale;



- (vii) The User Agency shall deposit the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in the account of Ad-hoc CAMPA of the concerned State through **online e-portal only**. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- (viii) The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009. The requisite funds shall be deposited in the consultation with the State Forest Department;
- (ix) 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;
- (x) **The user agency should ensure that the compensatory levies (CA cost, NPV, etc.) are deposited through challan generated online on web portal and shall be deposited in the consultation with the State Forest Department;**
- (xi) 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. 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;
- (xii) State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence as prescribed by this Ministry in its letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013 in support thereof;
- (xiii) The User Agency shall carry out muck disposal at pre-designated sites in such a manner so as to avoid its rolling down;
- (xiv) The dumping area for muck disposal at pre-designated shall be stabilized and reclaimed by planting suitable species by the User Agency at the cost of project under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
- (xv) The user agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Birds' nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;
- (xvi) The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- (xvii) Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- (xviii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xix) The User Agency shall provide 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;
- (xx) The State Government and the User agency shall ensure 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, whenever required preferably within five years from the date of approval of Stage-II Clearance;

- (xxi) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xxii) 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;
- (xxiii) No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- (xxiv) The User Agency shall submit the annual self - compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year;
- (xxv) 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; and
- (xxvi) The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and National Green Tribunal Order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;

3. After receipt of the report on compliance to the conditions stipulated in the paragraph-2 above, from the State Government of Telangana, final / stage-II approval for diversion of proposed forest land under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will be issued by this Ministry. Transfer of the said forest land to the user agency shall not be effected by the State Government of Telangana till final/stage-II approval for its diversion is issued by this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,


(Shrawan Kumar Verma)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The PCCF, Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad.
2. The APCCF (Central), Regional Office (SEZ), Chennai.
3. The Nodal Officer, FC Act, 1980, O/o PCCF Forest Department, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.
6. Guard File.


(Shrawan Kumar Verma)

Dy. Inspector General of Forests