

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Sec.II) DEPARTMENT

Letter No.735/Section.II/2022/(1688330)

Dated:09.05.2022

From
The Special Chief Secretary to Government
EFS&T Department,
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi,
Amaravati-522503.

To
The Inspector General of Forests (Central)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada,
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road,
Vijayawada-520010 (w.e)

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 10.72 ha of forest land in compartment No.120, Turimerla RF, Venkatagiri Range, Nellore Division for grant of Quarry lease for Mica, Quartz & Feldspar in favour of M/s Mica Zone, Mg. partner: Sri G.Krishnam Raju, SPSR Nellore District - Proposal submitted under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Reg.

Ref: From the PCCF&HoFF, A.P.,Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15029/15/2021-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated:28.03.2022.

I enclose herewith a copy of the letter cited along with statutory proforma proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh for diversion of 10.72 ha of forest land in compartment No.120, Turimerla RF, Venkatagiri Range, Nellore Division for grant of Quarry lease for Mica, Quartz & Feldspar in favour of M/s Mica Zone, Mg. partner: Sri G.Krishnam Raju, SPSR Nellore District.

2. I am to inform that the User Agency i.e. M/s Mica Zone, Mg. partner: Sri G.Krishnam Raju, has furnished justification stating that the application is filed primarily for grant of quarry lease for Mica, Quartz and Feldspar as the three minerals are associated minerals. In India, Mica is a rare mineral available only in three states i.e. Rajasthan, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. Even in Andhra Pradesh good quality and size of Mica is very scarcely available in the Mica belt i.e. in Podalakur and Sydapuram Zone of Andhra Pradesh. The applied area falls within the pegmatite vein consisting of Mica, Quartz and Feldspar in Sydapuram Zone. The other alternative prospecting areas of Mica, Quartz and Feldspar in and around Podalakur and Sydapuram Zones were examined extensively. However, good quality pegmatite vein for Mica, Quartz and Feldspar mining in this area / sector is more than a century old. Even the number of mining leases in Revenue and Reserved forest land for Mica has come down over a period due to limitations in mining after a certain depth and other challenges associated with mining. Consequently, the production of Mica has also come down considerably as fresh / new pegmatite vein areas are not available. In the light of the above, it is very much essential for grant of mining lease for Mica, Quartz and Feldspar in the interest of Mineral development and industrial requirements and there is no other alternative except to locate the project in the Forest area.

3. The User Agency has identified non-forest land over an extent of 9.42 ha in Survey No.206 & 222 of Thummagunta village and Survey No.11 of Ekunampuram village, C.S.Puram Mandal, Prakasham District for compensatory Afforestation purpose. The User Agency has furnished undertakings to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation in identified CA land, payment of NPV, Additional NPV, Environment Clearance, Reclamation and Afforestation, cost of fencing and regeneration of

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safety zone area, cost of afforestation over one and half time of the safety zone area in degraded forest elsewhere. The Divisional Forest Officer, Giddalur has prepared CA Scheme to an extent of 9.42 ha with a financial outlay for an amount of Rs.107.00 lakh for a period of 12 years which includes 10 years maintenance commencement from 2022-23 to 2033-34. The District Collector, SPSR Nellore District has issued necessary certificates under Scheduled Tribes & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. The proposal has been uploaded in the Ministry's website and unique file No.FP/AP/QRY/146833/2021 has been generated for this proposal. The concerned District Forest Officer, the Chief Conservator of Forests and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, have recommended the proforma proposal in Part-II, III and IV respectively. The recommendation of the State Government in proforma proposal in Part-V is enclosed herewith.

4. I request you to obtain and communicate the approval of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 10.72 ha of forest land in compartment No.120, Turimerla RF, Venkatagiri Range, Nellore Division for grant of Quarry lease for Mica, Quartz & Feldspar in favour of M/s Mica Zone, Mg. partner: Sri G. Krishnam Raju, SPSR Nellore District, at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

N. Jagadeeswari
for Special Chief Secretary to Government

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

The M/s Mica Zone, Mg. partner: Sri G.Krishnam Raju, SPSR Nellore District.

PART-V

(To be filled in by the Secretary in charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

18. Recommendation of the State Government:-

(Adverse comments made by any officer or authority in Part-B or Part-C or Part-D above should be specifically commented upon)

(Letter No.735/Section.II/2022, Dated.09.05.2022 for diversion of 10.72 ha of forest land in compartment No.120, Turimerla RF, Venkatagiri Range, Nellore Division for grant of Quarry lease for Mica, Quartz & Feldspar in favour of M/s Mica Zone, Mg. partner: Sri G. Krishnam Raju, SPSR Nellore District)

“Recommended to consider the proposal for diversion of 10.72 ha of forest land in compartment No.120, Turimerla RF, Venkatagiri Range, Nellore Division for grant of Quarry lease for Mica, Quartz & Feldspar in favour of M/s Mica Zone, Mg. partner: Sri G. Krishnam Raju, SPSR Nellore District.”


Signature

Name & Designation

Dr. P.V. (Official Seal), I.F.S.,
Special Secretary to Government
Environment, Forests, Science
and Technology Department
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi - 522238.

Date: 09-05-2022

Place: AMARAVATI