

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From  
Sri N. Prateep Kumar, IFS.,  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests &  
Head of Forest Force,  
Andhra Pradesh,  
Guntur - 522 004.

To  
The Spl.Chief Secretary to the Government,  
Environment, Forests, Science &  
Technology Department,  
Andhra Pradesh, Velagapudi,  
Amaravati - 522 503.

**Ref. no. EFS02-15035/2/2019-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1, dt.07/04/2022.**

Sir,

Sub:-APFD - F (C) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 2.63 ha of forest land in Compartment no.313 of Gulamaliabad South RF (0.87 ha), Dhone Range and in Compartment no.334, Rangapuram RF (1.76 ha), Dhone Range, Kurnool division for erection of 220 KV DC line from 400/2020 KV SS Jammalamadugu to the proposed 220/132/33 KV SS Bethamacherla in Kurnool District - Proposal submitted - Reg.

Ref: 1. Proposal no. no.FP/AP/TRANS/150705/2021, dt.31.12.2021.  
2. CF, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool, Rc.no.1949/2019-TO, dt.24.03.2022.

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It is submitted that, in the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, the Executive Engineer, A.P Transco, Kurnool has initiated a proposal in the Ministry's web portal for diversion of 2.63 ha of forest land in Compartment no.313 of Gulamaliabad South RF (0.87 ha), Dhone Range and in Compartment no.334, Rangapuram RF (1.76 ha), Dhone Range, Kurnool division for erection of 220 KV DC line from 400/2020 KV SS Jammalamadugu to the proposed 220/132/33 KV SS Bethamacherla in Kurnool District.

The proposal was forwarded to DFO, Kurnool in the Ministry's web portal on 27.01.2022 for processing the proposal as per the guidelines issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The Conservator of Forests, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool in the reference cited, has submitted the proposal processing under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The details of the proposal are as follows.

**The User Agency has furnished the following information in Part-I:**

- For locating the project in forest area, the User Agency has justified that, Transmission Corporation of Andhra Pradesh was entrusted to take up erection of 220 KV DC line from 400/220 KV SS Jammalamadugu to the proposed 220/132/33 KV SS at Bethamcherla in Kurnool District as a part of re-routing of the line from AP 15 to AP 25 and AP 26/7 to AP 57. The proposed transmission line from AP 15 to AP 25 is falling in Compartment no.313 of Gulamaliabad South RF, Gulamaliabad Beat of Banaganipalli

Section and from AP 26/7 to AP 57 in Compartment no.334 of Rangapuram RF, Rangapuram Beat, Dhone Range, Kurnool Division. All efforts were put to avoid forest land but forest land could not be avoided totally and hence it is proposed to divert 2.63 ha of forest land for erection of 220 KV DC line from 400/220 KV SS Jammalamadugu to the proposed 220/132/33 KV SS at Bethamcherla in Kurnool District as a part of the re-routing of the line from AP 15 to AP 25 and AP 26/7 to AP 57 in the interest of public.

- Cost of the project Rs.4783.082 lakh.
- There will be no displacement of people due to this project.
- No employment is likely to be generated.
- The User Agency has submitted undertakings to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation in the identified degraded forest land, payment of N.P.V, cost of tree extraction charges as decided by the Forest Department.
- RoFR certificate in Form-I issued by the District Collector, Kurnool.

**The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool has furnished the following information in part-II:**

- Site was inspected on 12.02.2022 along with FRO, Dhone Range and Officials of A.P Transco.
- Forest land proposed for diversion for the project is 2.63 ha (Stretch-I – 0.87 ha and Stretch-II – 1.76 ha (Bit-1 – 0.55 ha + Bit-2 – 0.71 ha + Bit-3 – 0.50 ha). Stretch-1 requires an area of 0.87 ha falling in Compartment no.313 of Gulamaliabad South RF, Banganapalli Section, Dhone Range and Stretch-2 an area of 1.76 ha in Compartment no.334 of Rangapuram RF, Dhone Section, Dhone Range, Kurnool Division.
- The Gulamaliabad South RF was notified under Section 15 of Madras Forest Act vide notification. no.2062, dt.23.10.1970 and the Rangapuram RF under Section 16 of Madras Forest Act vide notification no.504, dt.13.11.1906.
- Density of vegetation is 0.2 to 0.3 (Eco-Class-III).
- 18 nos. trees are to be felled in the proposed diversion area.
- The flora existing in the proposed area are *Prosopis juliflora* and Vepa.
- The fauna in the proposed area for diversion is Wild boar and Hare etc.
- The RFs proposed for diversion is not vulnerable to erosion.
- The proposed project is passing through the Gulamaliabad South RF and Rangapuram RF respectively.
- The proposed area for diversion does not form part of National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve and Elephant corridor etc.,
- There are no rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the proposed diversion area.
- There are no protected archaeological/heritage site/defense establishments or any other important monuments are located in the area.
- The forest land required for diversion is the barest minimum.
- **Out of 6.28 ha of degraded forest land identified in Compartment no.49 & 50 of Gundlakonda RF, 5.26 ha is proposed for raising compensatory afforestation. Compensatory Scheme has been prepared for Rs.45.758 lakh with (10) years maintenance from 2023-24 to 2034-35.**
- The areas proposed for raising additional compensatory afforestation scheme with dwarf species under the proposed transmission line in two stretches are not suitable for raising plantation as both the locations i.e., Compartment no.313 Gulamaliabad South RF and Compartment no.334 of

Rangapuram have rocky patch. **Hence, an extent of 2.63 ha of degraded forest land has been identified in Compartment no.316, Gulamaliabad South RF, Dhone Range for raising additional compensatory afforestation and this site is suitable for raising additional compensatory afforestation with artificial regeneration under semi mechanical method with forestry species. Additional CA Scheme has been prepared for Rs.18.500 lakh from 2023-24 to 2034-35.**

- Statement showing the calculation of Net Present Value in the proposed area for diversion is detailed below.

Sl.no.	Eco-Value Class	Description	Total area proposed (ha.)	Net Present Value (Rate/ha.) (Rs. in Lakh)	Total cost of NPV (Rs. in Lakh)
1	Eco-Class-III (open forest)	Consisting of Tropical dry deciduous forests	2.63	9.57780	25.18961

**The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool Division has reported that the user agency had carried out work in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The details of violation is as follows.**

**Stretch-I - 0.87 ha:-**

The user agency has dug up pits in the earth to an extent of 518.4 cmt in the proposed diversion of forest land in Compartment no.313, GA Bad Beat, Dhone Range. Quantity of work done is 70.56 Sq.m. Area under violation is 0.007 ha. Period of work done (2) years (5) months (5) days. The work was stopped and the Flying Squad Party, Kurnool had booked an O.R case vide O.R.no.44/2019-20, dt.16.10.2019 and the case is compounded for Rs.2,61,554/-.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool has also reported that, in Rc.no.999/2019/H5, dt. 03.08.2021 explanation memo has been issued to the FRO, Dhone, Dy.R.O, Dhone and FBO, GA Bad Beat, Dhone range for not preventing the user agency from carrying out the work in Stretch-I i.e., in Compartment no.313, GA Bad Beat, Dhone Range, Kurnool Division.

**Stretch-2- 1.76 ha:-**

The user agency had erected (3) towers in Compartment no.334, Rangapuram RF, Dhone Range, by violating the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Quantity of work done is 202.50 Sq.m and area under violation is 0.02 ha. The Period of work done (1) year (4) months (21) days. The work was stopped and the Forest Staff had booked an O.R case vide O.R.no.42/2020-21 on 16.11.2020 and the case is compounded for Rs.3,16,552/-. The user agency preferred an appeal and the same was finalized by the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool in Proceeding no.4397/2021/M6, dt.27.09.2021.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool has also reported that in Rc.no.3762/2020-H6, dt.16.11.2020, explanations memo has been issued to the FRO, Dhone, Dy.R.O, Dhone, FBO, Rangapuram Beat and ABO, Rangapuram Beat for not preventing the violations done by the user agency in Stretch-2 i.e., in Compartment no.334, Rangapuram RF, Dhone Section, Dhone Range, Kurnool

Division.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool has recommended the proposal in part-II. The Conservator of Forests, Kurnool has agreed with the information given in part-II by the Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool and recommended the proposal in part-III. The nodal officer (FCA) has agreed with the recommendation of the DFO, Kurnool and recommended the proposal for forwarding and consideration in part IV.

In view of the above, the proposal for diversion of 2.63 ha of forest land in Compartment no.313 of Gulamaliabad South RF (0.87 ha), Dhone Range and in Compartment no.334, Rangapuram RF (1.76 ha), Dhone Range, Kurnool division for erection of 220 KV DC line from 400/2020 KV SS Jammalamadugu to the proposed 220/132/33 KV SS Bethamacherla in Kurnool District in (5) sets is submitted herewith for consideration and taking necessary action under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Encl:- As above.

Yours faithfully,  
**N Prateep Kumar Ifs**  
Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests &  
Head of Forest Force

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool for information.  
Copy to the Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool Division for information.  
Copy to the Executive Engineer, Construction Division, A.P Transco, 32/33 KV Sub Station Compound, A.P TRANSCO Near Bellary Chowrasta, Kurnool, Kurnool District for information.

**PART-IV**

Diversion of 2.63 ha of forest land in Compartment no.313 of Gulamaliabad South RF (0.87 ha), Dhone Range and in Compartment no.334, Rangapuram RF (1.76 ha), Dhone Range, Kurnool division for erection of 220 KV DC line from 400/2020 KV SS Jammalamadugu to the proposed 220/132/33 KV SS Bethamacherla in Kurnool District.

17	Detailed opinion and specific recommendations of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks (while giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon)	Recommended.
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Date:07/04/2022. Signature

Place : Guntur. Name:Anand Kumar Jha.

Office Seal:Addittional Principal Chief Conservator Of Forests.

