

**REPORT ON VIOLATION BY THE USER AGENCY i.e., IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT
REPRESENTED BY THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, SSLC & SB CIRCLE,
NELLORE UNDER CONSTRUCTION OF SOMASILA SWARNAMUKHI LINK CANAL
FROM Km.73 TO Km.74.10 & Km. 75.40 TO Km. 76.10 (TOTAL 1.84 Kms.) IN
MANNAVARAM BEAT OF SRIKALAHASTI RANGE**



The Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF), Andhra Pradesh, Guntur vide Rc.No. 10384/2017/FCA-1, Dt.17.08.2017 has accorded permission for taking up the DGPS Survey in the proposed diversion area of Somasila Swarnamukhi Link Canal in the following location:

Sl. No.	Name of the Range	Name of the Section	Name of the Beat	Name of the RF	Compt. No.	Canal Length in Kms.		Length in Mtrs.	Area in Ha.
						From	To		
1	Srikalahasti	Pallam	Mannavaram	Venkatagiri	172	73.00	74.10	1100	5.320
2				Inagalur	196	75.40	76.14	740	2.760
				Total:				1840	8.080

In response, the Forest Range Officer, Srikalahasti Range vide Rc. No.45/2013/SKHT, Dt.04.10.2017 has submitted a report stating that during the course of inspection of Mannavaram Beat, Srikalahasti Range on 28.09.2017, it was noticed that the User Agency have already excavated and completed the Canal work eleven (11) months back. On this, the detailed report/ explanation was called for from the Executive Engineer, SSLC & SB Division No.3, Kothur, Nellore District on gross violation taken place under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide Rc.No.1445/2017/D, Dt.12.02.2018.

In reply to the above, the Executive Engineer, SSLC&SB Division No.3, Kothur, Nellore District has submitted two reports vide Lr.No. EE/SSLC&SB/Div-3/Kothur/Package No.17/ Forest/Vol.1/97M, Dt.21.2.2018 and vide Lr.No.EE/SSLC&SB/Div-3/KTR/NLR/ DB/ATO/P.17/ Forest/Vol.1/123M, Dt.07.03.2018 and on scrutiny, the following points are revealed:

- (i) This canal work was covered under package No.17 i.e., canal from km 39.900 to 100.060 including CM & CD works duly connecting to Mannasamudram Tank near Yerpedu(V). The Superintending Engineer, SSLC&SB Circle, Dargamitta, Nellore 524 003 has issued work order vide Letter No.SE/SSLC&SBC/NLR/DB/JTO.2/P.17/733-m, Dt.25.07.2007 to M/s Progressive Constructions Ltd., 7th Floor “Raghava North Block”, Raghava Ratna Towers Chirag Ali Lane, Hyderabad – 500 001 for the package No.17 duly enclosing the Agreement. Thus it reveals that the planning & alignment of canal work was done by way back 2007, but the authorities of Irrigation Department were silent without submitting any proposals to the Forest Department.
- (ii) The canal work in Compt., No.172 of Venkatagiri RF and in Compt. No.196 of Inagalur RF of Mannavaram Beat from Chainages Km. 73.00 to Km. 74.10 & Km. 75.40 to Km. 76.14 involving forest area of 8.08 Ha is also part of package no.17.
- (iii) The said canal excavation work took place during the incumbency period of Sri T.Kishore Babu, I/c Executive Engineer, Telugu Ganga Project Division, Venkatagiri i.e., from 24.11.2014 to 25.12.2017 and at present Sri T.Kishore Babu is working as Executive Engineer, WSM Division, Chodavaram post, Visakhapatnam District – 531 036.

- (iv) The said violation was also done by the agency M/s Progressive contractions Limited, D.No.24.02.1471, Military Colony, Near Water Tank, Dargamitta, Nellore – 524 002
- (v) Further, as seen from the reports it is also noticed that the following agreements are executed between the Irrigation Department Officials with the agency M/s Progressive Constructions Limited:

Sl. No.	Agreement No. & Date
1	Original Agreement 4SE/2007-08, Dt.25.07.2007 (2-Volumes).
2	1 st Supplemental Agreement 7SE/2008-09, Dt.13.08.2008.
3	2 nd Supplemental Agreement 52SE/2015-16, Dt.20.01.2016.
4	Supplemental Agreement 1SE/2015-16, Dt.30.07.2015.
5	3 rd Supplemental Agreement 37SE/2017-18, Dt.15.09.2017

My discrete enquiries revealed that the Forest Department Officials have stopped the work several times when they noticed the work of User agency on ground. But the user agency has given political pressure stating that they have already submitted proposals to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests. The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East (WL) Division, Chittoor has called for the explanations of the then Forest Range Officer, Srialahasti Range; the then Forest Section Officer, Pallam Section and the Forest Beat Officer, Mannavaram beat vide Rc.No. 1445/2017/D, Dt.12.02.2018 for initiation of disciplinary action in whose period the work was executed.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East (WL) Division, Chittoor has issued instructions to the Forest Range Officer, Srialahasti for booking case against the all violators of Forest (Conservation) Act,1980.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East (WL) Division, Chittoor has submitted a report to the Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, WLM Circle, Tirupati vide Rc.No.1445/2017/D, Dt.12.02.2018 on violation of Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 by the user agency along with DGPS Survey maps.

Finally it is submitted that the user agency has violated the provisions U/s 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 and hence it is proposed for penalization.

Sd/-Jagannath Singh.R.,
Divisional Forest Officer,
Chittoor East (WL) Division,
CHITTOOR