दक्षिण मध्य रेलवे South Central Railway



सं.No.GTL/CN/W.185/GNT-GTL/DL/Forest Land

From S. Varun Babu, IRSE Deputy Chief Engineer (Con) S.C. Railway, Guntakal उप मुइंजी(नि)/ गुंतकल का कार्यालय O/o Dy.CE/C/GTL दिनांक Date:20.01.2023

To The District Forest Officer Nandyal Division

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 3.21 Ha. forest land in Panyam RF, Kurnool Division (Rly.Km.275-Km.281 & Km.285-Km.288) between Dhone & Nandyal stations for construction of new double line with electrification between Guntur and Guntakal stations – Online proposal No.FP/AP/RAIL/154617/2022 – Reg.

- Ref: 1. Your office Rc.No.3699/2019/A4, dt.09.01.2023
 - 2. GoAP's G.O.Ms.No.174, dt.24.08.1994
 - 3. This office Lr.No.GTL/CN/W.185/GNT-GTL/DL/Forest Land, dt.10.01.23

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With reference to no.1 above, it is hereby submitted that the Forest land between Rly.Km.275-281 & Rly.Km.285-288 in Panyam Reserved Forest is required to be diverted for ongoing construction of Guntur-Guntakal doubling with electrification. The existing single line section is already situated in the said stretches and the new double line is proposed to run parallel to it.

In this regard, the permission to conduct DGPS survey was obtained, survey carried out and initial proposal for diversion of 3.21 Ha. forest land was submitted along with raw data. Subsequently, PCCF, Guntur has authenticated the proposal. Thereafter, the Stage-I proposal was uploaded in Parivesh portal along with the authenticated maps. Further, raw data, KML files, requisite undertakings, etc. were uploaded as well.

Subsequently, as advised by Forest Dept., DGPS survey was conducted once again to ascertain degraded forest land for Compensatory Afforestation. The proposal for Compensatory Afforestation of 10.02 Ha. of degraded forest land was submitted and got authenticated from PCCF, Guntur.

However, Inspector General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada, during scrutiny of other similar diversion proposals has asked the report on the existing vacant land under Railway occupation in order to ascertain applicability of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980. Since, the currently occupied forest land for housing existing single line was diverted during gauge conversion work from Meter Gauge to Broad Gauge, vide ref.2, DFO, Kurnool had advised to survey the area currently under Railway occupation for housing the existing single line and submit report. Hence, once more DGPS survey was undertaken and report was submitted for 20.13 Ha. forest land (diverted during the time of Gauge Conversion from Meter Gauge to Broad Gauge).

Yet the proposal was returned by DFO, Kurnool and Railway has been pursuing the matter for early clearance since. After multiple discussions, meetings and due deliberation, it has been decided by Forest Dept. that since the currently occupied forest land was originally diverted for the purpose of gauge conversion and the same needs to be retained under Railway occupation for

construction of new double line, the purpose of diversion of forest land has changed. Thus, the forest land currently under Railway occupation has to be re-diverted in favour of Railways and accordingly, PCCF has instructed to upload the map & raw data pertaining to the same.

In compliance to PCCF, Guntur's instructions, the details were once more submitted vide ref.3 above. Further, the documents that have been uploaded in Parivesh portal till date are submitted via email herewith.

It is further undertaken that requisite cost of re-diversion will be deposited in favour of Forest Dept. as and when required.

Yours faithfully,

(S.Varun Babu)

Dy. Chief Engineer (Con.),

S.C. Railway, Guntakal