

B PART-II

CHECK LIST SERIAL NUMBER: (2)

SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PROJECT TIGER DIVISION, GIDDALUR

(For the Forest land to be diverted under FCA)

A Proposal has been received by this office from the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoFF), Andhra Pradesh, Guntur vide Rc.No.EFD02-15022/8/2018-FCA SEC/FCA-1, Dt.03.10.2021 and Conservator of Forests, Guntur Rc.No.2052/2019/TO, Dt.09.11.2021 for diversion of **9.21 Ha** of Forest Land for Non-forestry purpose under F(C) Act, 1980. The subject envisages the use of forest land between Diguvametta and Chelama stations for Doubling and Electrification of track between Guntur – Guntakal stations is passing through Compt. No.676, 680 and 681 of Uyyalawada RF of Gundlakamma Range of Giddalur Division which is falling in Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Gundlabrahmeswarm (GBM) Wildlife Sanctuary area and also Tiger Corridor between Nallamalai and Seshachalam. The Site inspection of the land involved in the proposal has been done by the then DFO on dated 30.11.2021 and the proposed additional area of 1.48 Ha. inspected by me on dated 20-01-2023. On inspection of the site, it is found that the land required by the user agency from Reserved Forest measuring 9.21 Ha. The quality of forest is good with natural growth which consists of shrubs, bushes and trees. The flora observed in the proposed area for diversion like Devadaru (*Erythroxylon monogynum*), Jana (*Hrewia flava*), Korinda (*Solanum nigrum*), Danthe (*Celartrus emerginatus*), Teak (*Tectona grandis*), Pariki (*Ziziphus oenoplia*), Somi (*Soymida febrifuga*) etc.,. The ground flora consists of grasses which is beneficial to the wild animals. The fauna existing in the area are Tiger, Panther, Sambar, Spotted deer etc. Further, the class of the forest is Tropical dry deciduous Forest with Eco Value –III. The requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in Col.2 of Part-I is unavoidable and is barest minimum required for the project. And there is no significant of rare / endangered / unique species of flora are found and the fauna i.e., Tiger and Panther are found in the proposed area for diversion and also there are no protected archaeological / heritage site / defense establishment in the proposed area.


(a) The user agency has not violated the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and no work has been started without proper sanction.

Specific recommendation for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal.

As stated by the user agency the proposed Railway Doubling line with Electrification between Guntur & Guntakal Stations is vital rail to connect the Coastal Region with Rayalaseema, Karnataka and Tamilnadu. The Government of India has granted this line to provide seamless transportation and ease the congestion on the existing single track. It caters the traffic potential arised due to new Capital City on Visakhapatnam/ Vijayawada side to the people of Rayalaseema for passenger and transportation of Goods traffic i.e., Cement, Coal & Paddy. In addition to that it improves connectivity from Eastern India to Bangalore, the Silicon Valley of India. The Doubling works between Guntur – Guntakal proposed to be taken up in Forest area between Giddalur and Nandyal which is passing through Nallamala Forest. A proposed railway doubling line along with two Tunnels of length 1550m and 320m (Bogada and Chelama Tunnels) shall also be constructed which requires permission for carrying out Construction activities under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Commissioning of this doubling line would result in decongestion of traffic with seamless transportation and ease the congestion on single line track. The proposed doubling line will also reduce the speed of trains (due to decongestion) and thus it may reduce mortality cases of wild animals due to accidents by trains caused due to high speed movement. The proposed doubling line has aligned along the existing railway track within available railway land boundaries as far as possible to minimize the extent of forest land diversion/ acquisition. Hence, the user agency stated that there is no other alternate route to this alignment and hence the doubling line is proposed parallel to the existing railway track passing through this Forest Corridor.

Hence, the above project is recommended, subject to fulfillment of the various mitigation measures proposed in the mitigation plan at the cost of the user agency.

Place :Giddalur
Date: -01-2023.

(Signature) 
Name. (Y.V.Narasimha Rao)
Designation. Deputy Director, Project Tiger
Office Seal.