

### **PART - IV**

(To be filled in by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of the Forest Department)

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17. **Detailed opinion and specific recommendation 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)

*Pre considered*

Date:

*11/11/17*

Place:

*Guntur*

*M. S. S. S. S.*

Signature  
Name & Designation  
(Official Seal)

*C. P. R. SAMANTY*

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)  
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**  
**FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From:  
Sri P. K. Sarangi, IFS.,  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force), Andhra  
Pradesh, "Sankurathri Residency",  
EVR Gardens, M. G. Inner Ring Road,  
Agathavarappadu, Guntur - 522509.

To,  
The Prl. Secretary to Government,  
Environment, Forests, Science &  
Technology Department,  
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat,  
Velagapudi, Amaravathi.

**Rc.No. 4899/2017/FCA-1, Dated: 11.10.2017**

Sir,

Sub: - APFD - F(C)Act, 1980 - Diversion of 0.12 Ha. offorest land for laying of Optical fiber cable along the road within in the existing right of way passing through forests in Dhone Range of under Kakinada Division - Proposal submitted - Reg.

Ref: - 1. Proposal No.FP/AP/Others/25669/2017, Dt. 14.04.2017.  
2. PCCF's Rc.No. 4899/2017/FCA-1, Dt. 14.06.2017.  
3. CF, Kurnool Rc.No. 1504/2017/TO, Dt.18.09.2017.

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It is to submit that vide reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited M/s.Reliance JioInfocom Ltd., Visakhapatnam has submitted the proposal through online (i.e. www.forestclearance.nic.in) for Diversion of 0.12 Ha. of forest land for laying of Optical fiber cable along the road within in the existing right of way passing through forests in Dhone Range of under Kakinada Division.

The proposal was sent to the Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool and Conservator of Forests, Kurnool vide this office reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited for processing as per guidelines envisaged under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and amendments thereon. Accordingly, the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool vide reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited has submitted the proposal duly processed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 guidelines and amendment thereon for diversion of 0.12 Ha. of forest land as per the field inspection.

**The details of proposal are as follows:-**

**The user agency has furnished the following information in Part-I:**

- This proposal is for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the Road within in the existing Right of Way passing through forests in Dhone Range of Kurnool Division for providing LTE Voice & Data Services in the State of Andhra Pradesh as per the license granted by Government of India.
- The main aim for setting up this Optical Fiber Cable system will fulfill the needs of Telecommunication circuits and Wireless Broadband Services and other Data for the Government, Industries, Defence and Society. This telecom Infrastructure shall lead to growth in economy and hence more employment and better living conditions of the geography/state/Country.
- This new scheme of laying optical Fiber Cable is most modern and state of art Technology in the field of Digital Telecommunication. Moreover the same cable will provide most of new value added services as well as it will cater for the needs of Integrated Services Digital Network.

- The cost of the project is Rs.15.00Lakhs approximately.
- The User Agency has justified that the Optical Fiber Cable is generally laid along the admitted RoW of State / National Highway roads. Such road side area is declared as the Protected Forest under the Indian Forest Act.
- The area requested for the laying of the Optical Fiber Cable is the bare minimum considering the requirements and also considering the safety of the cables so laid. Since the telecommunication cables also carry the communication from the Government offices, Defence & Strategic establishments, and from the different industrial organizations apart from the general public, for the safety and confidentiality of the conversation so made it is not advisable to lay such important cables on the private land belonging to different parties.
- The Cable alignment will be suitably diverted to avoid any cutting of trees and laid within the road land boundary by excavating a narrow trench of 40cms width. The same strip of trench will be reinstated to its original condition. It is also intimated that no structure will be erected on the cable route.
- The User agency has submitted that the Employment likely to be generated is 3000 man days approx.
- Purpose-wise break-up of the total land required is an extent of 0.12 Ha.is3000mts. length x 0.40 mts.width.
- The forest land required for diversion is located in Compt. Nos. 219, 220 & 226 of Jaladurgam R.F., Peapully Mandal, Jaladurgam Beat, Dhone Range, Kurnool Division.
- The User agency has submitted undertaking to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation, NPV, Additional NPV, tree Extraction charges and escalation charges, if any, as per the scheme prepared by the State Government.
- In regarding the certificate under RoFR Act-2006, the user agency has submitted that as per the GOI Lr.No. F.PNo. 11-9/98-FC (pt) dt.5.2.2013, proposals like construction of roads, canals, laying of pipe lines / Optical fiber and transmission lines etc., where linear diversion of use of forest land in several villages are involved the GramaSabha resolution may not be required until unless recognized rights of PTG/PAC are being affected. The user agency has given an undertaking that the consent of GramaSabha will be submitted.
- The user agency has submitted the authenticated DGPS surveyed map for the area proposed for diversion.

**The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool has furnished the information in Part-II as follows:**

- This proposal is for Diversion of 0.12 Ha. of forest land for laying of Optical fiber cable along the road within the existing Right of Way passing through forest land in Dhone Range of Kurnool Division in favor of Reliance JioInfocomm Limited, Visakhapatnam.
- Diversion of 0.12 Ha.of forest land is in Compt. No. 226 (Length 0.72 Km-0.03 Ha.) 219 (Length 1.57 Km-0.06 Ha.) & 220 (Length 0.64 Km, area-0.027 Ha.), Jaladurgam RF, Jaladurgam Beat, Racherla section, Dhone Range of Kurnool Division, Kurnool District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) along the road within the existing right of way.
- The JaladurgamRFis notified under Section - 16 of A.P.Forest Act, 1967vide G.O.No. 575, Dt.29.11.1897.
- The density of the vegetation is 0.01Ha. (eco-class-III).
- There is 1.00 Cum. of fuel wood (Misc. species) with value of Rs. 1,123/- is falling in the forest land proposed for diversion.

- The Divisional Forest Officer has certified that the proposed RF is not vulnerable for erosion.
- It is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project to that extent and user agency has also submitted certificate.
- There are no rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found available in the proposed area.
- The proposed area does not form part of any protected archeological / heritage site, deference establishment or any other important monument.
- As per the guidelines issued by the GOI, MoEF (FC Division) F.no.11-9/98-FC, dt:10-12-2012 mentioned in the compendium in Chapter-3 (3.2),(viii) (b) for diversion of Forest land for creation of public utility infrastructure Govt. departments involving not more than 5 ha of Forest land in each case by the State Government for the LWE effected districts No Compensatory Afforestation shall be insisted up on the proposals involving for Diversion of forest land up to 1Ha.The CA land is exempted.
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnoolon 21.07.2017has inspected the proposed land for laying of Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) along the existing right of way passing through forest land under Kurnool Division alongwith Forest Range Officer and concerned staff.
- During his inspection he has submitted that the proposed OFC path is passing through Jaladurgamreserve forest in Compartment Nos. 219,220 and 226 over an area of 0.12 Ha.
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnoolhas stated that no violations to the provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 were occurred within the forest areas, asthe work is yet not started.
- No impact on flora and fauna due to the project.
- The proposed OFC line as per the proposals submitted, is passing along the road side in different locations, and the trench will be closed after laying of the OFC line, hence there may not be any negative impact on forest.
- There is no negative impact of the project on the adjoining flora and fauna, soil erosion etc. Further, the proposed OFC area is not falling National Park / Wildlife Sanctuary or within the Eco-sensitive zone.
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool has certified that the proposal for the diversion of forest land was put forth before the Grama Sabha of Kommemarri village on 08.07.2017 with full details and its implications for discussion. The Grama Sabha has given written consent stating that there are no forest dwellers eligible under FRA in the locality of Jaladurgam RF and no objection.
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool has recommended the proposal in Part-II.

**The Conservator of Forests, Kurnoolhas furnished the information in Part-III as follows:-**

The Conservator of Forests, Kurnoolhas agreed with the information furnished by the Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnoolin Part-II and also recommended the proposal in Part-III.

**Both, the Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnooland Conservator of Forests, Kurnoolhave recommended the proposal.**

The proposal has been uploaded in the Ministry's website and unique proposalNo. FP/AP/Others/25669/2017, Dt. 14.04.2017generated and the acknowledgement slip generated on the web portal is enclosed herewith.

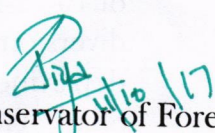


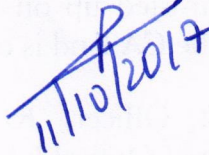
As per the guidelines issued by the GOI, MoEF& CC, New Delhi F.No. 11-09/98-FC, Dt. 16.10.2000 & 07.11.2014, proposal for Diversion of 0.12 Ha. of forest land for laying of Optical fiber cable along the road within the existing right of way passing through forests in Dhone Range of under Kakinada Division in favor of M/s Reliance JIO Infocomm Ltd. duly recommended in Part-IV, is submitted herewith in duplicate for consideration of the proposal and accord stage-I approval as deemed fit.

Yours faithfully,  
Sd/- P.K. Sarangi  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)

Encl: - As above.

//True copy//

  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)

  
11/10/2019