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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
(ಅರಣ್ಯಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿOffice of
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, 18 ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ
ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 003
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E-office No.KFD/HOFF/A5-2(GFL)/62/2018-FCE-69388
Date 17-01-2025

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Forest, Environment and Ecology Department,
M.S. Building, Bengaluru - 560 001.

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 61 ha forest land in various Survey Numbers of Udugere & Honnenahalli villages in Kadur Taluk, Chikkamagaluru District and those of Bellara, Kaniverampura & Budhiguddadakavalu villages in Sira Taluk, Tumkuru District for construction of Upper Bhadra Lift Irrigation Scheme from Bhadra Reservoir to Tunnel near Ajjampura in Tungabhaba sub-basin of Krishna basin in favour of Executive Engineer, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd, Upper Bhadra Project Division No.4, Chitradurga District.

Proposal No. FP/KA/Canal/37818/2018 [FORM A].

- Ref:**
1. Online proposal [FORM-A PART-I] dated 25-07-2023 (re-submitted) of the Executive Engineer, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd, Upper Bhadra Project Division No.4, Chitradurga District.
and uploading of Acknowledgement online on 19-07-2019 by User Agency for having delivered the hard copy of proposal to jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests (s) and Deputy Commissioners.
 2. This office online communication dated 25-07-2019 to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumakuru, Chitradurga and Chikkamagaluru Divisions for further processing of proposal.
 3. Online submission of PART-II on 27-11-2021 by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chikkamagaluru Division [EDS reply on 30-11-2024].
 4. Online submission of PART-II on 23-02-2023 by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumakuru Division [EDS reply on 07-12-2024].
 5. Online submission of PART-II on 23-08-2023 by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga Division.
 6. Online submission of PART-III by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Chikkamagaluru Circle on 03-04-2024 [EDS reply submitted on 03-01-

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2025].

7. Online submission of PART-III by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ballari Circle on 03-04-2024 [EDS reply submitted on 06-01-2025].
8. Online submission of PART-III by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle on 02-08-2024 [letter No. A10/LND/FC/CR-05/2023-24 dated 02-01-2025].
1. The Executive Engineer Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd, Upper Bhadra Project Division No.4, Chitradurga District [USER AGENCY] vide Ref (1) has resubmitted an online proposal [FORM-A PART-I] through FC web portal for seeking approval under section 2 of the VSES Adhiniyam 1980 & VSES Rules 2023 for diversion of 61 ha forest land in various Survey Numbers of Udugere & Honnenahalli villages in Kadur Taluk, Chikkamagaluru District and those of Bellara, Kaniverampura & Budhiguddadakavalu villages in Sira Taluk, Tumkur District for construction of Upper Bhadra Lift Irrigation Scheme from Bhadra Reservoir to Tunnel near Ajjampura in Tungabhadra sub-basin of Krishna basin seeking approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After uploading of Acknowledgement on 19-07-2019 by User Agency for having delivered the hard copies of the proposal to jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests and Deputy Commissioners, an online communication was made by the Nodal Officer (FCA) vide Ref (2) to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga, Chikkamagaluru and Tumakuru Divisions to process the said proposal and to submit specific opinion / recommendation.
2. **Location details and component-wise breakup of forest land:** The location details of forest land required for the project are as under.

District & Division	Taluk	Village	Sy No.	Forest extent proposed for diversion (ha)	Legal status of land
Tumakuru	Chikkanayakanahalli	Bellara	31	2.655	Muthugadahalli i "B" Block Reserved Forest
			32	8.898	
			33	4.567	
			35	3.51	
			37	2.306	
			38	3.647	
		Thimmanahalli	128	0.40	Mutated to the Forest Department As per RTC
	Sira	Kaniverampura	01	17.36	Bukkapatna Reserve Forest
		Bhudigudda	19	2.60	
kaval		20	5.78		
Total				51.72	

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				ha	
Chikkamagaluru	Kadur	Udugere	117	2.46	
		Honnenahalli	118	6.82	
Total				9.28	
Chitradurga	There is no any project component passing through the Forest land. However, 166.98 ha of non-forest land falling in Chitradurga division.				
Total				-	
Grand Total				61 ha	

Component-wise breakup of the forest land requirement for the project is given below.

Sl. No.	Component	Forest Land (ha.)
1	Canal in Tumakuru	51.72
2	Canal in Chikkamagaluru	9.28
Total		61 ha

3. Report of DCF, Chikkamagaluru Division: The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chikkamagaluru Division, had inspected the project site on 30-08-2023 and vide reference (3) has submitted the Site Inspection Report along with other information on the area and recommendation in PART-II to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Chikkamagaluru Circle. Main features of the DCF report read with the reports of the CCF, Chikkamagaluru Circle and ICT Centre of the Forest Department are given below.

- The forest area proposed for diversion is in general landscape of Eco-class-IV (Open Forest) with up to 0.2 crown density.
- As per Item 4(ii) of PART-II, there are 667 trees in different girth classes. Main tree species include *Acacia auriculiformis*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Pongamia Pinnata*, *Eucalyptus* and others.
- The area is slightly prone to soil erosion.
- Major wild animals in the area include *Wild boar*, *spotted deer*, *leopard* etc.
- There are no other rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna reported in the proposed area.
- The forest area proposed for diversion does not form part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, Wildlife Migration Corridor, etc.
- The forest land proposed for diversion is not located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- There are no protected Archeological/ Heritage Sites/ Defence establishments located in the proposed area.

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ix. Requirement of forest land proposed for diversion is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project.

x. There is no violation reported under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

4. Report of DCF, Tumakuru Division: The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumakuru Division has inspected the project site on 22-12-2022 and vide reference (4) has submitted the Site Inspection Report along with other information on the area and recommendation in PART-II to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle, Hassan. Main features of the DCF report read with the reports of the CCF, Hassan Circle and ICT Centre of the Forest Department are given below.

- i. The forest area proposed for diversion is in general landscape of Eco-class-III (Open Forest) with up to 30 crown density.
- ii. As per Item 4(ii) of PART-II, there are 30107 trees in different girth classes. Main tree species include *Acacia auriculiformis*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Pongamia Pinnata*, *Eucalyptus Eucalyptus*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Butea Monosperma*, *Pongamia Pinnata* and Others.
- iii. The diverted area is prone to soil erosion.
- iv. Major wild animals in the area include *Chinkara*, *Leopard*, *Wild Boar*, *Four horned Antelope*, *Blackbuck*, *Hyena*, *Indian Wolf* etc.
- v. There are no other rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna reported in the proposed area.
- vi. The forest area proposed for diversion falls in Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary.
- vii. The forest land proposed for diversion is located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of the Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- viii. There are no protected Archeological/ Heritage Sites/ Defence establishments located in the proposed area.
- ix. Requirement of forest land proposed for diversion is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project.
- x. There is no violation reported under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

5. Report of DCF, Chitradurga Division: The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chitradurga Division, Chitradurga has inspected the project site on 10-08-2023 and vide reference (5) has submitted the Site Inspection Report and stated that 166.98 ha of land proposed for diversion by the user agency is coming under the jurisdiction of Chitradurga Division. However, this land does not fall under the category of Forest Sy No. 17 an extent of 41.23 ha of Kerehosahalli village and Sy No. 23 an extent of 65.23 ha of Kodihalli village C & D land was handed over

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to the Forest Department vide order dated 27-01-1995 of Government of Karnataka.

Further, as per the Government of Karnataka order No FEE 185 FAF 2011 dated 05-05-2022 and circular of the PCCF (HoFF) letter dated 24-11-2023 and GOK order No RD 46 LGP 2023 dated 16-02-2024 the above survey Numbers are not included in Deemed Forest list and the area of the above survey No.s does not falls under the category of "Forest".

6. **Net Present Value (NPV):** The User Agency is required to pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of forest land proposed for diversion as per para 3.1 to 3.4 of the FC guidelines communicated by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide F.No. 5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06-01-2022 and 23-03-2022. **The user agency has submitted an undertaking agreeing to pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land proposed for diversion.**
7. **Compensatory Afforestation (CA):** The User Agency being a State Government Agency is required to provide an equivalent extent of non-forest land towards Compensatory Afforestation. Further, as per Para 2.2 (i) of the latest Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, provides that primarily, the compensatory afforestation, in lieu of forest land proposed for diversion, has to be raised over equivalent non- forest land which is not under the management and administrative control of the Forest Department. The details of CA land are as follows;

TABLE-1 Non-Forest CA land (Tumakuru Division);

District, Taluk & Hobli	Village	Survey No.	Extent in A-G (ha)	Plants/ha proposed to be planted	Remarks about the adjacent of the proposed land parcel to a notified forest
1	2	3	4	5	6
Tumakuru, Chikkanayakanahalli, Kandikere	Maylukabbe	57	42.90 ha	-	Proposed non-forest forest compensatory land is adjacent to the Bukkapatna reserve Forest
Tumakuru, Sira, Bukkapatna	Janakallu	21	8.90 ha	-	
Total			51.8 ha		

The DCF Tumakuru Division has inspected the above-mentioned non-forest land on 17-07-2023 and stated that the said land parcels are adjacent to the "Bukkapatna reserve Forest" the area has natural growth and plantation has been raised by the Forest Department in the past, therefore planting is not necessary. Hence, planting is

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proposed to be done in degraded forest land in consonance with working plan prescriptions.

The above mentioned 51.80 ha of non-forest CA land cannot support the prescribed planting density of 1000 plants per hectare and it is necessary to plant the required number of plants in degraded forest land (<40% canopy density) as per working plan prescription in accordance with Government of India FC Guidelines).

TABLE-2 (Degraded Forest land proposed to be planted in consonance with the working plan prescriptions).

Forest Division	Name of Forest	District, Taluk & Hobli	Village	Survey No	Extent
Tumakuru	Ankasandra Reserve Forest	Tumakuru, Gubbi Taluk, Hagalawadi Hobli	Nayakanahalli	4,5,7,8 & 9	122 ha
			Dasappanahalli	36 & 43	
			Rangapura	16 & 17	

The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumakuru Division has submitted Topo Map, Geo-referenced Map along with GPS readings of all corners, CA Suitability Certificate & CA Scheme. The User Agency has submitted an Undertaking to pay the CA charges.

TABLE-3 non-forest land (Chikkamagaluru Division);

District, Taluk & Hobli	Village	Survey No.	Extent in A-G (ha)	Plants/ha proposed to be planted	Remarks about the adjacent of the proposed land parcel to a notified forest
1	2	3	4	5	6
Chikkamagaluru, Jagara Hobli	Inam Dattathreya Peeta	289	9.28 ha	9280 plants	Inam Dattathreya peeta Deemed Forest
Total			9.28 ha	9280 plants	

The above-mentioned proposed CA land has been mutated by the Deputy Commissioner, Chikkamagluru District for alternate land. upon verification it is found that this patch of land is ecological sensitive Bio diversity rich shola type of land which is adjacent to the forest area, and the same has been considered as an alternate land.

The above mentioned 9.28 ha of non-forest CA land cannot support the prescribed planting density of 1000 plants per hectare and it is necessary to plant the required

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number of plants in degraded forest land (<40% canopy density) as per working plan prescription in accordance with Government of India FC Guidelines).

TABLE-4 (Degraded Forest land proposed to be planted in consonance with the working plan prescriptions).

Forest Division	Name of Forest	District, Taluk & Hobli	Village	Survey No	Extent
1	2	3	4	5	6
Chikkamagaluru	Yemmedoddi sec-4 notified	Chikkamagaluru (D), Chikkamagaluru (T) Biruru Hobli	Yemmedoddi	72	20 ha (49.17 A-G)

The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Chikkamagaluru Division has submitted Topo Map, Geo-referenced Map along with GPS readings of all corners, CA Suitability Certificate dated 19-12-2023 and CA Scheme. The User Agency has submitted an Undertaking to pay the CA charges.

8. **Status of RoFR Compliance:** With regard to compliance of the provisions of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act 2006 and Rules 2008, the User Agency has not obtained and furnished the requisite **RoFR Certificate in FORM-I (for Linear projects)** issued by the jurisdictional Deputy Commissioner as per Annexure II of the FC Guidelines communicated by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide F.No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28-03-2019. **The User Agency has uploaded the Undertaking to obtain and provide such certificate.** The User Agency is being informed once again to obtain the required RoFR certificate and submit a copy.
9. **Wildlife Clearance:** As the proposal involves diversion of forest land passes through the Bukkapatna Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary. The User Agency will have to obtain the wildlife clearance for the proposal from the National/State Board for Wildlife. **The User Agency is being informed to obtain wildlife clearance for the project from National/State Board for Wildlife.**

Under the above circumstances and agreeing with recommendation of the field officers, it is requested to move the proposal with the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, for according 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval under section 2 of the VSES Adhiniyam 1980 & VSES Rules 2023 for diversion of 61 ha forest land in various Survey Numbers of Udugere & Honnenahalli villages in Kadur Taluk, Chikkamagaluru District and those of Bellara, Kaniverampura & Budhiguddadakavalu villages in Sira Taluk, Tumkuru District for construction of Upper Bhadra Lift Irrigation Scheme from Bhadra Reservoir to Tunnel near Ajjampura in Tungabhadra sub-basin of


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Krishna basin in favour of Executive Engineer, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd, Upper Bhadra Project Division No.4, Chitradurga District for a period of twenty (20) years, subject to conditions listed in Annexure 'A'.

The hard copy of the proposal along with the relevant documents in 3 sets is submitted herewith for further needful.

Yours faithfully



(Brijesh Kumar Dikshit IFS)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

Copy to the:

1. Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests (s) Hassan, Chikkamagaluru & Ballari Circles for information.
2. Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests (s), Chitradurga, Tumakuru and Chikkamagaluru Divisions for information.
3. Copy to the **Executive Engineer, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd, Upper Bhadra Project Division No.4, Chitradurga District 577 527** for information and with the request to obtain the RoFR certificate in FORM-I (for Linear projects) issued by the jurisdictional Deputy Commissioner as per Annexure II of the FC Guidelines communicated by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide F.No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28-03-2019.

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ANNEXURE 'A'

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged and it shall continue to be the forest land.
2. The User Agency shall pay the applicable Net Present Value (NPV), Compensatory Afforestation (CA) charges, cost of extraction of trees (if required in future), land lease rent and any other levies as per the conditions of approval.
3. The User Agency shall demarcate the lease area in the manner specified at the time of approval at its own cost.
4. The User Agency shall provide the signages of appropriate size and kind all along the Railway line within forest limits for creating awareness about forest, Wildlife and Environment issues among general public at project cost in consultation with the jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests/ Chief Conservator of Forests.
5. The lessee shall not sub-lease, mortgage and hypothecate the forest area.
6. The leased out area should be used for the purpose for which it is granted. In case, the land is not used for the stipulated purpose within two years or when it is no longer needed for the stipulated purpose, the area would stand resumed to the Forest Department.
7. The application for renewal of the lease in the prescribed form and manner shall be submitted at least six months prior to the expiry of forest lease. In case, no renewal is sought, the Lessee shall hand over the lease.
8. No residential or commercial buildings shall be permitted in the forest area proposed for diversion.
9. No crushing / breaking of stones or labour camp shall be allowed inside forest area and all waste / debris generated shall be scientifically disposed off outside the forest area.
10. Any damage to forest area because of implementation of the project shall be compensated by the Lessee. The extent of damage shall be assessed by the jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests/ Chief Conservator of Forests.
11. The Lessee shall ensure that no avoidable harm is caused to the fauna and flora in and around the proposed area.
12. No change in Land Use Plan shall be done unless prior approval of Government of India under FC Act is obtained.
13. In case, any violation of the provisions of the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 & Rules, 1969 or other relevant Acts/Rules is reported during the lease period, the lease will be liable for forfeiture under Section 82 of Karnataka Forest Act, 1963. The Chief Conservator of Forests and/or Deputy Conservator of Forests concerned are authorized to take necessary action in this regard.
14. The approval under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 is subject to any other clearances necessary under the prevailing statutes.
15. The User Agency shall also abide by other conditions those may be imposed by the Government of India, Government of Karnataka and Government of Karnataka (Head of Forest Force) before or after the approval.

Signed by

Brijesh Kumar Dikshit

Date: 20-01-2025 11:16:19

(Brijesh Kumar Dikshit IFS)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

PART – IV

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

<p>Detailed opinion & specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks.</p> <p><i>(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.)</i></p>	<p>Recommended to move the proposal with the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, for according 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval under section 2 of the VSES Adhiniyam 1980 & VSES Rules 2023 for diversion of 61 ha forest land in various Survey Numbers of Udugere & Honnenahalli villages in Kadur Taluk, Chikkamagaluru District and those of Bellara, Kaniverampura & Budhiguddadakavalu villages in Sira Taluk, Tumkuru District for construction of Upper Bhadra Lift Irrigation Scheme from Bhadra Reservoir to Tunnel near Ajjampura in Tungabhadra sub-basin of Krishna basin in favour of Executive Engineer, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd, Upper Bhadra Project Division No.4, Chitradurga District for a period of twenty (20) years, subject to conditions listed in Annexure 'A'.</p> <p>[Proposal No. FP/KA/Canal/37818/2018.]</p>
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Signature:

Name:

Designation:


BRIJESH KUMAR IFS

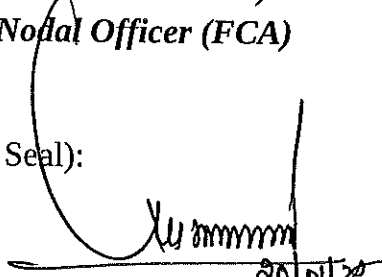
**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation) and
Nodal Officer (FCA)**

(Official Seal):

Counter signed by :

Name:

Designation:


BRIJESH KUMAR DIKSHIT IFS

**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)**

(Official Seal):

N.D.O. No: 69 /2024-25

/745822/2025 Date: 20-01-2025

