F.No.6-138/2022 WL

Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Wildlife Division)

> 2nd Floor, Vayu Wing, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi 110003.

> > Date: 27th September, 2023

To,

The Special Secretary,

Forest Department, Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Telangana-500022

Sub: Proposal for use of 1.278 ha of land falling in buffer area of Kawal Tiger Reserve for formation of BT Road from ZP road 27/9 to Gundala via Doddiguda of Tiryani Mandal in Asifabad division in KB Asifabad district, Telangana in favour of district Panchayat Raj Engineer, PIU, KB Asifabad under PMGSY-FP/TG/ROAD/124336/2021.

Sir,

Reference is invited to the subject mentioned above. The above proposal was discussed in the 74th meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 29th August, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

- 2. After discussions, the Standing Committee decided to approve the proposal subject to the following conditions:
 - I. The User Agency as a part of the wild animal passage plan shall construct 5 animal passages, each of length of 30 m along the stretch of the road passing through the forest for which upgradation has been proposed and since the landscape has presence of tiger and gaur, the minimum height for proposed animal underpasses shall be made 4-5 m at the locations indicated in the Animal Passage Plan prepared by the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer concerned following the specifications issued by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.

II. The underpasses shall have bell-mouth opening with splayed wing walls at both ends with grasses, herbs and shrubs to attract movement of wild animals.

III. The User Agency shall install speed control devices with proper sign boards at animal crossing points identified by the FDO.

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IV. The following mitigation plan as recommended by CCF/FDPT, Adilabad is approved for Rs.38.00 lakhs:

(Rs.in lakh)

| S1. No | Name of the Item | Unit Cost | Qty | Amt. |
|-----------|--|-------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Integrated camping site-Creation of water sources by constructing major percolation tank (cost Rs.5.00 lakh) along with drilling and installation of two solar powered borewells (Cost Rs. 3.50 lakh each) to fill the pumps along with a watch tower cum camping site | 20.00 | 1 No | 20.00 |
| 2 | Management of Grasslands by uprooting obnoxious weeds and sowing locally collected grass seeds (including maintenance for 3 years) | | 10 | 4.00 |
| 3 | Procurement of camera traps | 0.25 | 2 Nos | 0.50 |
| 4 | Development of approach path to the Integrated camping facility | LS | LS | 0.50 |
| 5 | Engaging a team of two trackers at each major PT site for monitoring wildlife movement, collection of data from camera traps fixing and safeguarding camera traps for 3 years | per | 2 trackers per site | 7.20 |
| 5 | Procurement of fire-fighting equipment | As per actuals | LS | 0.80 |
| 7 | Installation of large hoarding and sign boards for creation of publicity and awareness. | 1.00 | 1 No | 1.00 |
| 3 | Conducting of Awareness programmes | LS | LS | 0.80 |
| 9 | Erection of check gates to control wildlife entering on to the roads | 0.12 | 10 No | 1.20 |
| 10 | Administrative cost & unforeseen expenditure | As per actuals | LS | 2.00 |
| 3 - 1917 | Total | | | 38.00 |

V. The work shall be carried out only between 8.00 AM to 4.00 PM without disturbing/damaging the flora and fauna of the area.

VI. No labour camp shall be set up during the execution of work.



- VII. All the debris at the site of construction of under passes shall be removed after construction.
- VIII. Care shall be taken to ensure no incidents of fire occur in the forest area. No explosives to be used.
- IX. There shall be no violation of Forest Act, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 during the execution of work.
- X. Any other condition specified by the circle head/DFO/FDO shall be complied with.
- XI. The mitigation amount of Rs.38.00 lakh shall be deposited in the BIOSOT account of Chief Wildlife Warden in Union Bank, Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad bearing A/C No.110310100030284, IFSC Code UBIN0811033.
- XII. Chain link fencing shall be done by the User Agency for 100 m on either side of the animal passages on both sides of the road for funnelling wildlife through the animal passages.
- XIII. The animal passages shall be concrete (RCC) structures so as to enhance their longevity and minimize disturbances caused during annual repair / maintenance of otherwise bitumen structures. The bottom of structures shall, as far as possible, have similar substrates to that which would occur naturally in the absence of the structure. The approach to an animal crossing is a crucial factor in determining its use. Appropriate use of vegetation (trees, shrubs and grasses) can play a significant role in enhancing the naturalness of an engineered structure.
- XIV. User Agency shall ensure that no drainage is blocked by desilting the existing water passageways and additional culvert(s) for passage of water may be provided wherever applicable. Box and pipe culverts shall be placed at additional places (wherever possible) permitting unhindered movement of smaller mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Details of these structures may be adopted from WII guidelines on linear infrastructures and placement of these structures shall be decided in consultation with forest department.
- XV. The User Agency shall ensure that the animal passages are not inundated with water during rains. Regular removal of debris and silts at the passage structures should be done by the User Agency.
- XVI. The remaining portion of the road shall be provided with speed breakers and rumble strips at every interval of 400-500 meters. Speed breakers and rumble strips shall be appropriately marked to make them visible to the drivers (both during day and night) so as to avoid vehicular accidents. Sign posts warning about movements of wild animals should also be placed by the User Agency at regular intervals along the widened road. These shall be placed where wildlife crossings are maximum and should be determined in consultation with forest department.
- XVII. Use of heavy earth moving vehicles shall be made as minimum as possible since they are likely to create substantial noise pollution in the area.

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- XVIII. Construction materials (including top soil) should be procured from outside the forest area. The debris should be appropriately dumped outside the forest by User Agency taking due care of air/dust pollution.
 - XIX. User Agency should ensure that the construction period is kept minimal inside the Tiger Reserve since construction work continued for a longer duration might completely decimate the wildlife populations in the area beyond recovery.
 - XX. Attempt should be made to keep tree felling minimal inside the Tiger Reserve.
 - XXI. CWLW, Telangana should have appropriate mechanism in place for compliance of the conditions laid in this report during various phases of project implementation.
- XXII. An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions shall be submitted by the User Agency to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.
 - 3. The minutes of the meeting have been posted online in the "PARIVESH" portal of this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati)

Scientist 'E'

Email: sudheer.ch@gov.in

Copy to:

- 1. Chief Wild Life Warden, Forest Department, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad 50004.
- 2. Deputy Director General of Forests, Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ist and IInd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-34.
- 3. Inspector General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Aranya Bhavan, 3rd Floor, Saifabad, Hyderabad-500004, Telangana.
- 4. Inspector General of Forests, FC Division, MoEF&CC.
- 5. Joint Secretary, IA Division, MoEF&CC.

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