

**JOINT SITE INSPECTION REPORT FOR LAYING 20" PIPELINE OF ABOUT 31 KM LENGTH FROM OFFSHORE PLATFORM, THROUGH MOUTH OF THE GOUTAMIRIVER TO ONGC ONSHORE PLANT AT MALLAVARAM VILLAGE, THALLAREVU MANDAL, EAST GODAVARI DISTRICT INFAVOUR OF ONGC, KAKINADA BY THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT, RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM AND DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER, KAKINADA ON 19.10.2020.**

In compliance to the instructions of the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur and instructions of the Conservator of Forests, Rajahmundry a joint site inspection was conducted on 19.10.2020 by Divisional Forest Officer (WL), Rajahmundry and the District Forest Officer, Kakinada along with Concerned FROs and staff for the proposed site for laying 20" Pipeline of about 31 km length from Offshore Platform, through Mouth of the Goutami river to ONGC Onshore Plant at Mallavaram village, Thallarevu Mandal, East Godavari district in favour of the ONGC, Kakinada.

The proposed pipeline starts from offshore platform located around 10km off the East coast, passes through mouth of the Goutami river and finally ends at the onshore Gas Platform at Mallavaram as shown in the DGPS Survey map. It is passing through various land uses such as sea bed, salt pans, river, private lands, forest lands, revenue lands and aquaculture lands. Certain portion of the area also comes under the purview of Coastal Regulatory Zone.

As per the information and Map submitted by the User agency following are details of land status stretch wise for laying underground pipeline.

**Details of the type of land in the corridor along the entire length of pipeline corridor**

S. No	Reference points in the Map	Length of pipe line zone	Description of the Area in DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA IN CORRIDOR		
1	A to B	8.85 Km	8.85	CRZ Area	Sea
2	B to C	6.69 Km		Irrigation/WRD	Guatami Godavari River
3	C to D	1.17 Km	1.17	Reserve Forest	<b>Matlatippa Reserve Forest/ Masanitippa Reserve Forest.Also, part of Gautami Godavari River.</b>
4	D to E	1.82 Km	1.82	Irrigation/WRD	Guatami Godavari River
5	E to F	0.94 Km	0.94	Revenue lands	Aqua culture/Fish ponds
6	F to G	0.92 Km	0.92	Irrigation/WRD	Guatami Godavari River
7	G to H	0.34 Km	0.34	Revenue lands	Paddy Fields



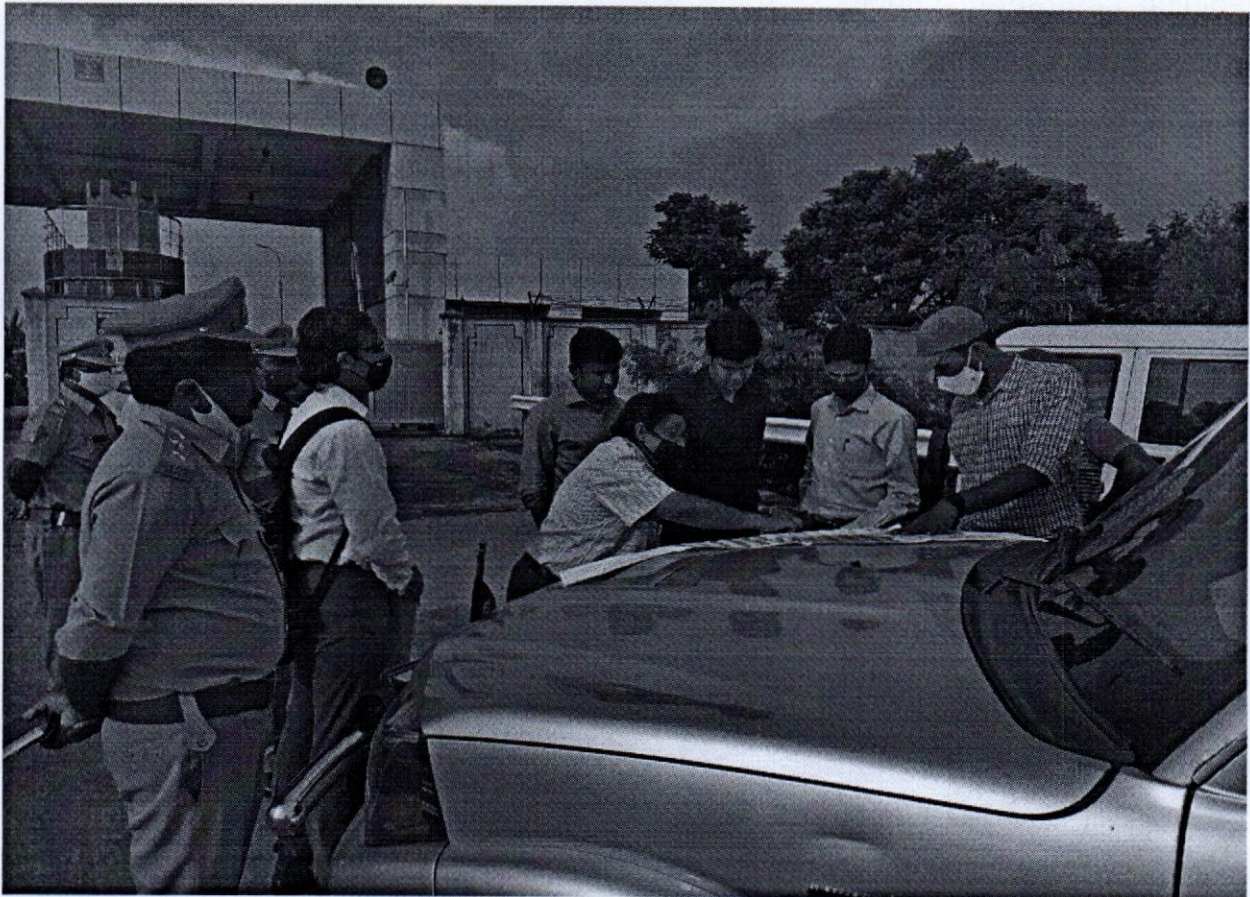
8	H to I	5.69 KM	0.85	Revenue lands	Paddy Fields/Coconut tress
			0.83	Revenue lands	Aqua culture/Fish ponds
			0.015	Revenue Lands	Mangroves
			0.05	Revenue Lands	Nala
			0.015	Revenue Lands	Mangroves
			3.93	Revenue Lands	Fields/Aqua culture (Fish ponds)
Note: 5.96 km Falls in the 10 km buffer zone from the boundary of CWLS					
9	I to J	1.38	1.38	Irrigation / WRD lands	Gautami Godavari River
	Note: 1.38 Km Falls in the 10 Km buffer zone from the boundary of CWLS				
10	J to K	2.51	0.80	Government Lands	Paddy Fields
			0.16	Government lands	Nala and Mangroves
			0.8	Reliance Land	Industry
			0.6	GSPC land	Industry
			0.15	Government lands	Roads/Nala
<b>Note:</b> 1) 2.51 Km Falls in the 10 Km buffer zone from the boundary of CWLS 2) The entire 2.51 km length falls in the existing ONGC Pipeline corridor which is in YanamArea (Puducherry). 0.16 Km of Nala and Mangroves will be crossed through Horizontal Directional Drilling.					
9	K to L	0.50	0.50	Industry	ONGC Plant
	<b>Note:</b> 1. 0.50 Km Falls in the 10 Km buffer zone from the boundary of CWLS 2. Existing ONGC Pipeline corridor. This falls in Yanam Area (Puducherry)				
All the Nalas are crossed by HDD below 15m from river bed depth and no roots zone are disturbed for the fauna					

As per the information provided in the table above following observations are made.

1. Total length of proposed ONGC pipeline is 30.82 km.
2. The nearest distance of proposed pipeline to the boundary of the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary is 2.35 km.
3. Length of proposed pipeline passes through default Eco Sensitive Zone i.e., 10Kms radius of Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary is 10.08 kms over an area of 18.96 ha.
4. Length of 1.17 km of pipeline passing through the water body in compartment no. 666 of Matlatippa RF of Kakinada Territorial Range of Kakinada Division over an area of 2.67 ha.
5. Between station C to D the length of the pipeline is 1.17 km and the status of the land is Reserve Forest for which forest clearance is required.



6. Between Station H to I the length of the pipeline is 5.69 km. Out of which 0.03km in Revenue lands mangroves are present on both sides of the Nala (0.05 km). Hence, the length of 0.08 km (0.03 km Mangroves+ 0.05 km Nala) also attracts the provisions of Forest Conservation Act, 1980. The Nodal officer may advise the user agency to apply for Forest clearance for this stretch also as per the existing guidelines.
7. Between Station J to K the length of the pipeline is 2.51 km which is in Yanam Area (Puducherry Administrative control). Out of which 0.16 km contains Nala and Mangroves in Government land for which necessary approvals may be obtained from competent authority.



Further, Forest Range officer Kakinada verified the Survey number wise land classification as per Revenue records and submitted report stating that the lands are classified in the project area as G. Dry, G.P, D Patta and Govt land and not recorded as Forest as per revenue records submitted by user agency.

The proposed project may cause disturbance to the local surroundings including the marine and estuarine ecosystem and the sensitive mangroves as it is not far from the biodiversity rich areas of the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary. Not far



from the site are the habitats for the migratory birds which visit the coastal areas and the adjoining mud flats in tens of thousands number. This apart, there are marine turtles visiting the coastal sites across the Kakinada coast for laying the eggs. These areas are most rich zones in terms of availability of zoo planktons and other nutrients brought by the various distributaries of Godavari river which meet the Bay of Bengal. Marine faunal species like dolphins, whales, whale sharks, sharks, molluscs, crabs, oysters, snakes etc. are found in good numbers in these coastal waters.

The establishment of the proposed facility by digging the tunnels through boring machines and other related activities in this project will have impact on the adjoining natural surroundings. There will be disturbance caused to river and sea bed while laying of pipeline. The mud dwelling fauna and river bed flora will be impacted in negative ways. There may be some damage in case of any accident or leakage from the pipeline which will have some adverse impacts to the local environment and its dwellers.

Since, it is a developmental project for the newly formed state of Andhra Pradesh which requires financial investment and employment creation. The proposed project can provide a clean fuel in the form of LNG which will reduce air pollution. It is a project of national significance as it reduces the dependency of the nation on the foreign imports. The proposed conservation measures will go a long way in compensating and mitigating the ill effects of the proposed project. Hence, the proposed project may be considered for according wildlife clearance.

The following compensatory measures at the cost of the user agency are thus proposed:

1. All safety measures shall be taken up to avoid any type of possible accidents and structural failures.
2. Periodical review of the activities of the project shall be undertaken by the officials of the APFD on ground as well as aerial review through ONGC sponsored choppers.
3. Use/Production of any hazardous materials, discharge of effluents in natural waters shall be avoided.
4. The user agency shall deposit @Rs.2 per metric tonne of transfer of LNG from off shore unit to on-shore receiving unit or Rs.20 lakhs every year whichever is higher to the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department for biodiversity conservation.



5. Apart from the above, the following conservation activities are proposed at the cost of user agency for a period of 5 years to a tune of Rs. 2 crores.

**Table:**

**Activities proposed for biodiversity conservation at the cost of user agency**

Sl. No.	Description of Activity	2021-22 to 2025-26	
		Phy.	Fin. (in lakhs)
1	Weed removal in Mangroves	LS	2.50
2	Enrichment planting in Mangroves	LS	5.00
3	Marine turtle conservation programme	LS	25.00
4	Conservation of Major Bird Congregation sites	LS	5.00
5	Development of Interpretation in Interpretation Centre of International Standard at Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary	LS	20.00
6	Establishment of floating jetty	LS	10.00
7	Monitoring of mammals in mangroves (Camera traps and other items procurement, maintenance, conducting monitoring exercise etc.)	LS	15.00
8	Development of Eco tourism infrastructure at Coringa WLS	LS	20.00
9	Installation of Sewage Treatment Plants in habitations around Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary	LS	20.00
10	Office Support including wages for Computer Operator	LS	10.00
11	Alternate Livelihood Generation Activities in Villages around Coringa WLS	LS	50.00
12	Administrative charges	LS	17.50
	<b>Total:</b>		<b>200.00</b>

Divisional Forest Officer,  
Wildlife Management,  
Rajamahendravaram.

District Forest Officer,  
Kakinada Division,  
Kakinada.