

## **JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN KONDAVEEDU FOREST AREA AND DETAILS OF ALTERNATIVES EXAMINED**

**Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014** for bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh received the Hon'ble President of India's assent on 01<sup>st</sup> March 2014. The "appointed day" for the new States' formation was 02<sup>nd</sup> June 2014. As per the section 94(1) of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, the Central Government shall take appropriate measures to promote industrialisation and economic growth in the newly formed state. The Andhra Pradesh government has decided to build the state's capital at Amaravati in an area of 217.23 SqKm in Thullur, Tadepalli and Mangalagiri mandals of Guntur district. The Capital Region is proposed in an area of 8680 SqKm around the Capital city. For promoting and securing the planned development of the Capital Region and to create future economic drivers for the Capital Region, the projects proposed to be located in the degraded forest lands available within the Capital Region area, since the area is strategically located in the identified growth corridors of the Capital Region.

There is no land bank available with the District Administration and as the Land acquisition process of alternative rytwari/private patta lands requires considerable time for examining the aspects of food security and the same involves huge burden on the exchequer of the State. Further taking up rehabilitation & resettlement activities not only to the project displaced families but also to project affected families (land owners/tenants/agricultural labourers) losing livelihood by virtue of acquisition of land is highly time consuming and laborious task as per the norms and guidelines of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

The APCRDA pooled up an area of 34,500 acres from the farmers of near by Capital city. All these lands are black cotton soils with rich population density of 479 per Sq Km. The APCRDA examined the possibility of establishing Forest Academy, IIF&CC, AFFD, APFDC, Bio-diversity board and NGC in this pooled area. In view of giving the clean environment the possibility of locating the Forest Academy, IIF&CC, AFFD, APFDC, Bio-diversity board and NGC in such high populated areas is not considered.

In addition to the new capital city, the APCRDA got jurisdiction over an area of 8680 SqKm with an existing population density of 703 per SqKm and it is expected to increase to 2000 per SqKm in the next 10 years. The newly formed state of Andhra Pradesh wants to build up the new capital city in iconic nature and we are planning to bring the world famous practices in the capital.

The APCRDA has examined **Peddakakani & Perecherla hillocks** for establishment of Forest Academy, IIF&CC, AFFD, APFDC, Bio-diversity board and NGC. But these areas are not suitable and consist of lot of encroachments and Mining activities. Hence these hillocks were rejected. Hence there is no alternative except to procure the Kondaveedu forest land, which is nearer to Guntur City and adjoining to national highway.

After exhausting all alternative lands mentioned above in the unavoidable circumstances, the degraded forest land in Kondaveedu forest block is identified for the purpose of the project for creating economic growth in the Capital City, which is barest minimum for the project.

  
11/11/19

  
Commissioner,  
APCRDA, Vijayawada.