

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN MOTHADAKA 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 01st March 2014. The "appointed day" for the new States' formation was 02nd 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 Sq Km in Thullur, Tadepalli and Mangalagiri mandals of Guntur district. The Capital Region is proposed in an area of 8680 Sq Km 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 project is 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 Science City in this pooled area. All the major institutes and research centres of both central and state government are allotted to the bifurcated state of Telangana. There is urgent need to establish the Science City. Hence the APCRDA examined revenue hillocks of **Rajupalem, Hasanbanda and Peddapalem**, but due to encroachments and steep hills failed to identify any areas, which is more than 100 acres. Hence the forest block Mothadaka is identified for Establishment of Science City, which is adjacent to Amaravati in Guntur district, located in the north western zone development corridor and

adjacent to inner ring road & suburban rail, as there is no alternative left to the APCRDA.

After exhausting all alternative lands mentioned above in the unavoidable circumstances, the degraded forest land in Mothadaka forest block is identified for the purpose of the project for creating economic growth in the Capital Region.


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