

ANNEXURE-II

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN PEDAMADDUR 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 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 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 Eco-Tourist Village in this pooled area. But the efforts are gone in vain. The state is newly created and there are no Eco-Tourist Villages near to the Capital area.

Hence the APCRDA examined revenue hillocks of **Vaikuntapuram & Ananthavaram**, but due to steep hills & inundation problem during rainy season, failed to identify any areas, which is more than 100 acres. Hence the forest block Pedamaddur is identified for Establishment of Eco-Tourist Village, which is nearer to the Amaravati Capital City, 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 Pedamaddur forest block is identified for the purpose of the project for creating economic growth in the Capital Region.


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