

**F. No. 8-07/2015-FC**  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change  
(FC Section)

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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road  
New Delhi 110003  
**Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2015**

To

The Principal Secretary (Forest)  
Government of Telangana,  
Hyderabad.

**Sub: Diversion of 1,892.35 ha (4334.01 ha proposed originally) of forest land in favour of TSGENCO for the establishment of Coal Based Thermal Power Station of capacity 4400 MW at Veerlapalem (V) and 2400 MW at Dilawarpur (V) of Dameracherla (M), in Nalgonda District in the State of Telangana.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Telangana's 0063/FOR.I (1)/2014-1 dated 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and letter no. 0063/FOR.I (1)/2014-2 dated 16.04.2015 forwarding information as sought by the Ministry vide its letter of even number dated 9.04.2015. The proposal of the State Government has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the said Act.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, on the basis of the recommendation of the FAC and after examination of additional information furnished by the State Government vide their letter dated 16.04.2015 in response to MoEF&CC's letter dated 9.04.2015, the Central Government hereby conveys the 'in-principle' approval for diversion of 1,892.35 ha (4334.01 ha proposed originally) of forest land in favour of TSGENCO for the establishment of Coal Based Thermal Power Station of capacity 4400 MW at Veerlapalem (V) and 2400 MW at Dilawarpur (V) of Dameracherla (M), in Nalgonda District in the State of Telangana subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) To avoid fragmentation of the Reserve Forests, the 1,892.35 hectares of forest land proposed to be diverted will be selected on one side of the RF leaving the balance area of the RF in a single compact block
- (iii) Compensatory afforestation over the non-forest land, equal in extent to the forest land being diverted, shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency;
- (iv) The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India toposheet of 1:50,000 scale;



- (v) The non-forest land identified for raising compensatory afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department before issue of the Stage-II clearance;
- (vi) The non-forest land transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act, 1927 latest within a period of six months from the date of issue of Stage--II approval. The Nodal Officer shall report compliance in this regard along with a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, as the case may be, within the stipulated period to the Central Government for information and record;
- (vii) The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation, at the current wage rate, to the State Forest Department. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- (viii) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 in this regard;
- (ix) At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- (x) All the funds received from the user agency under the project, except the funds realized for regeneration/ demarcation of safety zone, shall be transferred to Ad-hoc CAMPA in the Saving Bank Account pertaining to the State concerned;
- (xi) The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- (xii) The User Agency shall ensure that ash disposal is carried out as per the detailed plan prepared for the purpose, and is in accordance with all environmental safeguards.
- (xiii) Following activities shall be undertaken by the user agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department at the project cost:
  - a. Proper mitigative measures to minimize the soil erosion and choking of streams shall be prepared and implemented.
  - b. Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds to arrest soil erosion.
  - c. Construction of check dams, retention/toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour.



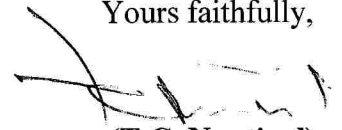
- (xiv) Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake by involving local community, the afforestation measures in the blanks within the project area being diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
- (xv) The user agency should give an undertaking that it shall take all measures to prevent pollution by effluents, particulate matters etc at the project cost.
- (xvi) The user agency will develop a green belt along the power station and also along the water pipe line/channel.
- (xvii) The State Government will submit the proposal for water supply to the plant at the earliest.
- (xviii) The forest clearance to the project is accorded without any guarantee on coal linkages.
- (xix) No residential area shall be built on forest land diverted.
- (xx) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (xxi) The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
- (xxii) The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;
- (xxiii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xxiv) The forest area to be diverted may not be used for any other purpose than the power plant proposed;
- (xxv) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xxvi) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xxvii) No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- (xxviii) Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- (xxix) The user agency in consultation with the State Government shall create and maintain alternate habitat/home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird's nests artificially made out of eco-friendly material shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;



- (xxx) The user agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government and to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry regularly.
- (xxxi) Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and
- (xxxii) The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

After receipt of the compliance report on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The transfer of forest land to the User Agency shall not be effected by the State Government till formal orders approving the diversion of forest land are issued by the Central Government.

Yours faithfully,



**(T.C. Nautiyal)**

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forest (FC)

**Copy to:**

1. The principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Chennai.
4. User Agency for Information.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MOEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File



**(T.C. Nautiyal)**

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forest (FC)