## GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

Letter No.3510/Section.II/2019

Dated: 08-01-2020

From
The Special Chief Secretary to Government,
EFS&T Department,
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi,
Amaravati-522503.

To
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.
Regional Office, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Floors,
Handloom Export promotion Council Building
34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034 (w.e)

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 2.18 ha. of forest land (1.25 ha. within the existing RoW in 6 stretches & 0.93 ha. not covered in RoW in 3 stretches) for laying underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road passing through forests of Narsipatnam Division in favour of M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm. Ltd., Visakhapatnam for providing 4G Communication in the State of Andhra Pradesh - Proposal U/s 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- Reg.

Ref: From the PCCF(HoFF), Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-15026/15/2018/FCA-SEC/PCCF/FCA-1, Dated: 28.10.2019.

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I enclose herewith a copy of the letter cited along with statutory proforma proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh for diversion of 2.18 ha. of forest land (1.25 ha. within the existing RoW in 6 stretches & 0.93 ha. not covered in RoW in 3 stretches) for laying underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road passing through forests of Narsipatnam Division in favour of M/s.Reliance Jio Infocomm. Ltd., Visakhapatnam for providing 4G Communication in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

- 2. I wish to inform that the User Agency i.e. M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm. Ltd., Visakhapatnam has submitted justification stating that the Optical Fiber Cable is generally laid along the admitted RoW of State / National Highway roads and such road side area is declared as the Protected Forest under the Indian Forest Act and the forest land proposed for diversion for the proposed project is the barest minimum area for the purpose for which it is proposed. The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation in any of the degraded forest land, payment of Net Present Value (NPV), additional NPV and tree Extraction charges, if any, as per the scheme prepared by the State Government.
- 3. Further, it is to inform that with regard to the certificate under RoFR Act-2006, the User Agency has submitted an undertaking for submission of Gram Sabha(s) consent. The field officers concerned and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), have recommended the proforma proposal in Part-II, III and IV respectively. The recommendation of the State Government in the proforma proposal in Part-V is enclosed herewith.

4. I request you to obtain and communicate the approval of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 2.18 ha. of forest land (1.25 ha. within the existing RoW in 6 stretches & 0.93 ha. not covered in RoW in 3 stretches) for laying underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road passing through forests of Narsipatnam Division in favour of M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm. Ltd., Visakhapatnam for providing 4G Communication in the State of Andhra Pradesh, at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

for Special Chief Secretary to Government

of the Cutty

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

The Authorized Signatory, M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm. Limited., Visakhapatnam-530003.



## **PART-V**

(To be filled in by the Secretary in charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

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## 18. Recommendation of the State Government:-

(Adverse comments made by any officer or authority in Part-B or Part-C or Part-D above should be specifically commented upon)

(Letter No.3510/Section.II/2019, Dated.08-01-2020 for diversion of 2.18 ha. of forest land (1.25 ha. within the existing RoW in 6 stretches & 0.93 ha. not covered in RoW in 3 stretches) for laying underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road passing through forests of Narsipatnam Division in favour of M/s.Reliance Jio Infocomm. Ltd., Visakhapatnam for providing 4G Communication in the State of Andhra Pradesh).

"Recommended to consider the proposal for diversion of 2.18 ha. of forest land for laying underground Optical Fiber Cable along the road passing through forests of Narsipatnam Division in favour of M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm. Ltd., Visakhapatnam for providing 4G Communication in the State of Andhra Pradesh".

Signature

Name & Designation

Date: 21-01-2020

Place: Amaravati

(Official Seal)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD, I.A.S. Special Chief Secretary to Government Environment, Forests, Science and Technology Department A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi - 522238.