



भारत सरकार
Government of India
पर्यावरण वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय/Integrated Regional Office
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F.No. 4-TSB281/2022-HYD/730

Date 27th September 2022

To

The Special Chief Secretary to the Government,
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department,
Telangana State Secretariat, Hyderabad.

Subject: F(C) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 1.3105 Ha of forest land in Nagarjunasagar division for Laying of OFC along the road within the existing RoW for execution of T-Fiber Project in Nalgonda District in favour of TELANGANA FIBER GRID CORPORATION LIMITED - Reg

Madam,

Please refer to the State Government letter No. 1774/For.I(1)/2022 dated 24.05.2022 and online proposal No. FP/TG/OFC/142849/2021 seeking prior approval of the Government of India in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above-mentioned project. The state government submitted that the proposed alignment does not fall within the RoW and the alignment is passing through the Protected Area.

After careful consideration of the proposal submitted by the State Government, I am directed to convey the Central Government's *In-principle* approval (**Stage-I**) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Diversion of 1.3105 Ha of forest land in Nagarjunasagar division for Laying of OFC for execution of T-Fiber Project in Nalgonda District in favour of TELANGANA FIBER GRID CORPORATION LIMITED, subject to the following conditions: -

1. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. Demarcation of the proposed forest area to be diverted shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters by the User Agency prior to execution of work in consultation with the DFO/DCF concerned.
3. **As the forest area proposed for diversion falls in Protected Area/Tiger Reserve, clearance under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 from the competent authority/ SC-NBWL shall be obtained for the proposal. Working permission may not be given by the State Government until the approval from SC-NBWL is obtained for the project.**
4. Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over by the user agency.
5. **Compensatory afforestation**
 - a) Compensatory afforestation may be taken up by the Forest Department over 2.621 ha degraded forest land identified in Compartment No72, RF-Nellikal, Range- Nagarjunasagar, Division- Nagarjunasagar, at the cost of the user agency. A

mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.

- b) Further, CA is proposed within the Tiger Reserve area, this area is acceptable only if there is a provision for raising plantation within the TR as per the approved Management Plan of the TR. If not, the state government shall identify another location for raising CA and the scheme shall be accordingly modified.
- c) The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.

6. NPV:

- a) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value(NPV) for the 1.3105 ha forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002, 01/08/2003, 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA No. 566in WP (C) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No. 5-1/1998-FC (Pt.II) dated 18/09/2003, as well as letter No. 5-2/2006- FC dated 03/10/2006; 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009 and 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 6th Jan 2022 in this regard.
 - b) Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
 - c) Full exemption of NPV in case of laying of underground OFC cable provided no felling of trees is involved and area proposed for diversion is outside of Protected Area as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009 & 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 6th Jan 2022.
7. User agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department, if any trees are to be felled in the proposed area of diversion.
8. The user agency and the state government shall comply with all the terms & conditions as per the recommendations of SC-NBWL.
9. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to designated CAMPA account of the State only through e-portal.
10. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.



11. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
12. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
13. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
14. As the proposed area falls within PA/TR, the field work shall be done after the sun rise and shall be closed before sun set every day.
15. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
16. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
17. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.
18. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC prevalent guideline and as per Guideline F. No. 11- 42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018.
19. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
20. The compliance report shall be uploaded on *e-portal* (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

After receipt of the compliance report on above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This *in-principle* approval shall be valid for a period of 2 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this *in-principle* approval shall automatically stand revoked after 2 years without any further notice.

Yours faithfully,



(Shri. Kailash Bhimrao Bhawar IFS)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Telangana Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN- 500 004.
2. IGF (ROHQ), MoEF&CC, New Delhi for information please.
3. Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Telangana, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN- 500 004.
4. Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited, 7th Floor, Splendid Towers, S.P.Road, Begumpet, Hyderabad- Telangana -500003 jarunkumar@tfiber.in
5. Guard file.