

780365/2022/IRO-H



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/ 768

Date 25th October 2022

To

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

Subject: F(C) Act, 1980 - Proposal for diversion of Forest land to an extent of 1.0935 Ha passing through various RFs of Nalgonda Forest Division of Nalgonda District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road for execution of T-Fiber Project in favour of M/S Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited, Hyderabad- Reg

Madam,

Please refer to the State Government letter No. 885/For.I(1)/2022 dated 13.05.2022 and online proposal No. FP/TG/OFC/142041/2021 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 part of the alignment is passing through the ESZ of 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 diversion of Forest land to an extent of 1.0935 Ha passing through various RFs of Nalgonda Forest Division of Nalgonda District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road for execution of T-Fiber Project in favour of M/S Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, 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 part of the forest area proposed for diversion falls in ESZ, approval under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 from the Competent Authority, as applicable in ESZ notification/ SC-NBWL shall be obtained by the user agency. Working permission may not be given by the State Government for the stretches falling in the ESZ until the approval from Competent Authority/SC-NBWL is obtained.
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 2.1084 ha degraded forest land identified in Compartment No71, RF-Nellikal, Range-Nagarjunasagar, Division- Nagarjunasagar, at the cost of the user agency. A mixture of local indigenous forestry tree species shall be planted and mono culture of any species shall 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. Net Present Value:

- a. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value(NPV) for the 1.0935 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.
7. **State Government shall intimate to IRO, Hyderabad, the action taken by the State Government/State Forest Department on the past violations of formation of road as reported in Mulkacherla RF & Oshaipalem RF after due verification by the DFO, Nalgonda.**
 8. Forest Department shall not allow felling in the diverted forest land by the User Agency.
 9. The User Agency and the State Government shall comply with all the terms & conditions as per the recommendations of Competent Authority as applicable in ESZ notification/SC-NBWL.

10. 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.
11. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
12. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
13. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
14. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
15. As the proposed area falls within the ESZ, the field work shall be carried out only after the sun rise and shall be closed before sun set every day.
16. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
17. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
18. 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.
19. 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.
20. 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.
21. 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. IGF (ROHQ), MoEF&CC, New Delhi for information please.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Telangana Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN- 500 004.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (CEO, CAMPA), Forests Department, Govt. of Telangana Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN- 500 004.
4. Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Telangana, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN- 500 004.
5. Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited, 7th Floor, Splendid Towers, S.P.Road, Begumpet, Hyderabad- Telangana -500003 jarunkumar@tfiber.in
6. Guard file.

