

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

Letter No.2631/Section-II/2022/1895457

Dated:29.11.2022

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

To
The Inspector General of Forests (Central),
Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Integrated Regional Office,
Green House Complex,
Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada-520010 (w.e)

Sir,

Sub:EFS&T Dept. – Diversion of 2.99 ha of forest land in compartment No.978, Gilman field RF, Visakhapatnam for installation of desalination plant in favour of Divis Laboratories Ltd., Visakhapatnam– Forest Clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Reg.

Ref: From the PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Lr.Ref.no.EFS02- 15026/14/2020-FCA-SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated:01.11.2022.

I enclose herewith a copy of the reference 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, Guntur, for diversion of 2.99 ha of forest land in compartment No.978, Gilman field RF, Visakhapatnam for installation of desalination plant in favour of General Manager, Divis Laboratories Ltd., Visakhapatnam.

2. In this regard, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force has informed that the User Agency i.e., General Manager, Divis Laboratories Ltd., Visakhapatnam has uploaded a proposal in the PARIVISH portal (Unique No.FP/AP/Others/147251/2021) on 22.09.2021 for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 2.99 ha of forest land in compartment No.978, Gilman field RF, Visakhapatnam for installation of desalination plant in favour of General Manager, Divis Laboratories Ltd., Visakhapatnam. The User Agency has justified that the proposed project is useful to M/s Divis Laboratories Ltd., an Active Pharma Ingredients (API) manufacturer located at Chippada village, Bheemunipatnam (M), Visakhapatnam District. In manufacturing process of APIs, they consume lot of fresh water. At present, as per the permissions received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, they are utilizing fresh water from Gostani river bed near Tagarapuvalasa bridge. However, due to the increase in population around Bheemunipatnam mandal, there is ever increasing dependence on the fresh water from Gosthani river, especially during summer season resulting in scarcity of water. To overcome the water scarcity and reduce dependence on Gosthani River, propose to install few desalination plants to convert the sea water into fresh water. As per the information from the desalination plant suppliers, 70% of the sea water will be pumped back to sea after desalination. Hence, the user agency proposed to have the desalination plant nearer to the sea to reduce pumping the water back and forth. To install the desalination plant, they require 03 ha of forest land abetting the sea near Jetty at Chippada village, Bheemunipatnam (M), Visakhapatnam District. Because of the non-availability of private lands in the surrounding area, the proposed project is located in the forest area. The User Agency has furnished RoFR Certificate issued by the District Collector, Visakhapatnam in the prescribed format (Form-II and Annexure A to H) for evidences for having initiated and completed the process of settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (RoFR) Act, 2006 and also undertakings for payment of CA, NPV, Addl. NPV, tree extraction charges etc.

P.T.O

3. Further, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force has informed that in part-II, the District Forest Officer, Visakhapatnam has "Recommended the proposal subject to certain conditions in the interest of Forests and Wildlife Conservation. In Part-III, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam Circle, Visakhapatnam has agreed with the information furnished by the District Forest Officer, Visakhapatnam and Recommended the proposal for diversion of forest land. In Part-IV, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) & Nodal Officer, Andhra Pradesh has recommended the proposal for diversion of forest land.

4. I request you to obtain and communicate the approval of the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 2.99 ha of forest land in compartment No.978, Gilman field RF, Visakhapatnam for installation of desalination plant in favour of General Manager, Divis Laboratories Ltd., Visakhapatnam, at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,


for Special Chief Secretary to Government

Copy to:

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

The General Manager, Divis Laboratories Ltd., Visakhapatnam.



PART-V

Proposal for diversion of 2.99 ha of forest land in compartment No.978, Gilman field RF, Visakhapatnam for installation of desalination plant in favour of General Manager, Divis Laboratories Ltd., Visakhapatnam.

18.	Recommendation of the State Government	Recommended
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Signature

Name & Designation
D & P Secy, Govt of Andhra Pradesh, S.,
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department,
Official Seal A. P. Secretariat, Velagapudi,
Amaravati-522503

Date: 29.11.2022

Place: AMARAVATI