

भारतसरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण ,वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh email: iro.vijayawada-mefcc@gov.in



F.No. 4-APC156/2022-VIJ/376 Date 31st May, 2022

То

The Spl. Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1st Floor, 4th Block, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati Guntur District-522503

Subject: Diversion of 10.18 ha (revised from 13.28 ha) of forest land in Compartment No. 741 of Pujaripakalu RF and Compartment No.263 of Maredumilli RF, Compartment No.333, 334 and 338 of Kata south-I RF and Compartment No.750 of Tadepalli PF, Kakinada Division for formation ofroad from Vetukuru road to Siripuram in favour of Executive Engineer, PR (PIU), Kakinada-Reg..

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter Nos. 188/Section,II/2022 (1659558) dated 25.03.2022 and online proposal No. FP/AP/ROAD/109163/2020 received on 29.03.2022 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and with the recommendation of the Regional Empowered Committee (REC), I am to convey the Central Government's in principle approval (**Stage-I**) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **10.18 ha** (revised from 13.28 ha) of forest land in Compartment No. 741 of Pujaripakalu RF and Compartment No.263 of Maredumilli RF, Compartment No.333, 334 and 338 of Kata south-I RF and Compartment No.750 of Tadepalli PF, Kakinada Division for formation ofroad from Vetukuru road to Siripuram in favour of Executive Engineer, PR (PIU), Kakinada, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;

Udnae

- (iii) The State Forest Department shall carryout plantation and its maintenance wherever possible and other SMC works over an extent of 12.76 ha and 0.95 ha of non forest area at Uppalanka H/o Gurajanapall, at the cost of the User Agency;
- (iv) Identified non forest land for CA purpose is already having good vegetation, hence it may not be possible to accommodate required number of plants in the area and hence required number of trees i.e. 1000 plants / ha shall be planted in the DFL area and details of such DFL area i.e. map, kml file etc shall be provided along with the compliance report;
- (v) The Non forest area identified for CA purpose and CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government. The CA land shall be demarcated properly and local villagers are adequately sensitized regarding the transfer of this parcel of land to Forest Department so as to avoid encroachments;
- (vi) Entire non-forest land identified over an extent of 12.76 ha and 0.95 ha Uppalanka H/o Gurajanapall for raising compensatory afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department and shall notified as RF/ PF before issue of the Stage-II clearance. Copy of such notification shall be submitted along with the compliance report;
- (vii) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring 10.08 ha from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos.826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 and Ministry's guideline No. 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and clarification issued vide letter dated 22.03.2022;
- (viii) Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- (ix) All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<u>https://parivesh.nic.in/</u>);

Udnae

- (x) Though the proposed forest area does not fall in any protected area or its ESZ, Schedule-I wild animals like sloth bear reported to be existing in and around the forest area and therefore a suitable wildlife mitigation plan duly approved by the CWLW required to be implemented at the cost of the User Agency;
- (xi) The area proposed for diversion involves steep slopes and hilly terrain and it is vulnerable for soil erosion, which requires proper SMC works to be done at the cost of the User Agency;
- (xii) Trees shall be felled wherever absolutely necessary under strict supervision of State Forest Department;
- (xiii) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (xiv) Construction of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals shall be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals;
- (xv) Roadside cuttings and fillings which require engineering support shall be provided as per the instructions of the DFO concerned so as to stabilize the soil;
- (xvi) The dug out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. Storage of any material shall not be done in the forest area;
- (xvii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xviii) The User Agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling and no labour camp shall be established inside the forest area;
- (xix) Disturbance shall be kept minimum by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it shall be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;

Udnae

- (xx) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed <u>10.18 ha</u> and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- (xxi) The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xxii) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- (xxiii) 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;
- (xxiv) Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Officer (Central) of Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User Agency;
- (xxv) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions under rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980;

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 5 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 5 years.

Yours faithfully

Uldrace

(N.S.Murali) Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem Guntur-522004.
- 2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem, Guntur-522004
- 3. Executive Engineer PR(PIU) Divison, ZP Compound, Kakinada, East Godavari Andhra Pradesh 530002 <u>ee_piu_kkd@ap.gov.in</u>
- 4. Guard file

(N.S.Murali) Inspector General of Forests (Central)