

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri N. Prateep Kumar, IFS.,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh,
Guntur - 522 004.

To
The Spl.Chief Secretary to the
Government,
Environment, Forests, Science &
Technology Department,
Andhra Pradesh, Velagapudi,
Amaravati - 522 503.

Ref. no. EFS02-15026/2/2018-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1,
Dated:21/06/2022.

Sir,

Sub APFD - F (C) Act, 1980 Diversion of 16.57 ha of forest land (i.e., 1.14 ha in Chittoor West division, 11.00 ha in Kadapa division & 4.43 ha in Proddatur division) for laying 16" dia petroleum product pipeline from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri in Tamilnadu passing through AP at km 0.00 to 619.00 via Chittoor & Kadapa districts in favour of General Manager, M/s. HPCL, Bangalore - In-principle/Stage-I approval accorded - Condition-wise compliance submitted - Reg.

Ref: 1. GoI, MoEF&CC, R.O, Chennai vide F.no.4-APC066/2018-CHN/1447, dt.10.09.2018.
2. Govt.Memo.no.EFS01-12021/79/Section.II/2018, EFS&T (Section.II) dept., dt.18.09.2018.
3. CCF, Ananthapuramu Circle, Ananthapuramu, Rc.no. 590/2018/TO, dt.27.11.2019.
4. CF, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool, Rc.no.3549/2017-TO, dt.10.05.2022.

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It is submitted that, the GoI, MoEF&CC, R.O, Chennai in the reference 1st cited, have accorded **(Stage-I) approval** under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 16.57 ha of forest land (i.e., 1.14 ha in Chittoor West division, 11.00 ha in Kadapa division & 4.43 ha in Proddatur division) for laying 16" dia petroleum product pipeline from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri in Tamilnadu passing through AP at km 0.00 to 619.00 via Chittoor & Kadapa districts in favour of General Manager, M/s. HPCL, Bangalore.

In the reference 2nd cited, Government while communicating the Stage-I approval conveyed by the GoI, MoEF&CC, R.O, Chennai in the reference 1st cited, has requested to furnish condition-wise compliance report.

In the reference 3rd and 4th cited, the Chief Conservators of Forests/Conservator of Forests, Ananthapuramu Circle, Ananthapuramu and Kurnool Circle, Kurnool has submitted Stage-I condition-wise compliance report

for the forest area diverted in Kadapa, Proddatur WL and Chittoor West divisions, which is as follows;

Sl. no.	Condition stipulated by GoI, MoEF&CC in the in-principle/Stage-I approval	Compliance report submitted the CCFs/CFs, Ananthapuramu and Kurnool
1.	Legal Status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;	The DFOs, Chittoor West, Kadapa and Proddatur WL has reported that the legal status of the diverted forest land will be unchanged.
2.	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;	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DFOs, Kadapa and Proddatur has reported that, the user agency demarcated the proposed forest area by erecting 4" feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbering at an interval of 20 meters with the cost of user agency. The GPS coordinates of CC pillars erected are depicted on the map is enclosed as Annexure-I. 2. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that, User Agency has erected 118 number of cement pillars on both sides of the pipeline area in Reserve Forest as per the specification during laying of pipeline.
3.	The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over i) an extent of 22.00 Ha. of degraded forest identified in Compt.No.567, Kanumalopalli Extension RF, Kanumalopalli Beat of Bhakarapeta Section of Kadapa Range, ii) an extent of 8.86 Ha. of degraded forest land identified in Compt.No.250, Kavalakuntla South RF, Siddhavaram Beat of Porumamilla Range and iii) an extent of 2.30 Ha. of degraded forest identified in Compt.No.241 of Vovilathota RF, Santhapeta Beat of	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that the user agency deposited an amount of Rs.160.830 Lakh in A.P.State CAMPA Account through e-payment mode i.e., challan generated through Ministry's website portal towards cost of raising CA over an extent of 22.00 ha in the degraded forest land identified in Kadapa Division with 1111 plants per ha in 3x3 m espacement. The advance cum raising works are proposed to be taken up in the APO of 2022-23. 2. The DFO, Proddatur (WL) has reported that the Compensatory afforestation (CA) would be taken up in 8.86 ha or 9 ha in the degraded forest area identified in Compt.No.250, Kavalakuntla South RF, Siddavaram Beat, Porumamilla Range of Proddatur (WL) Division at 1111 Nos. plants per ha with 3x3m espacement at the cost of the user agency. 3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that, the CA scheme has been prepared for treatment of 2.30 ha with an estimated cost of Rs.17.30 lakh based on FSR 2018-19 and also the amount of Rs.17.30 lakh was transferred into CAMPA account by generating e-challan in parivesh portal. The CA plantation was also raised during the year 2020 planting in Compt.no.241 of Vovilathota

	Punganur RF of Chittoor West Division, at the cost of the user agency;	RF, Santhapet beat of Chittoor West Range.
4.	A minimum of 1000 plants/Ha. of diverted forest area shall be planted in the identified CA land. In case, the required numbers could not be planted therein, the balance shall be planted in the nearby RF/PF by the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency and a map along with DGPS co-ordinates of such forest area shall be furnished along with the compliance report;	The DFOs, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West Divisions have reported that, Compensatory afforestation (CA) is prepared with 1111 Nos. plants per ha with 3x3m espacement at the cost of the user agency.
5.	The identified CA land and approved CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;	The DFOs, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West Divisions have reported that CA proposed to be taken in the identified degraded forest area will not be changed without prior approval from the Government.
6.	The user agency shall undertake afforestation along the periphery of the pipeline at the project cost in consultation with the DFO concerned	The DFOs, Kadapa and Proddatur have reported that, the user agency furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition. Undertaking is enclosed (Annexure-II) . The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that, the addl.CA Scheme has been prepared for treatment of 3.45 ha with an estimated cost of Rs.7.26 lakh based on FSR 2018-19 and the amount towards the cost of CA of degraded forest land along the pipeline in Boyakonda RF. Rs.7.26 lakh has been transferred into CAMPA account by generating e-challan in the parivesh portal.
7.	No additional or new path shall be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;	1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that the user agency had not constructed any additional or new path inside the Reserve forest for transport of construction materials for execution of the project work. 2. The DFO, Proddatur (WL) has reported that the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the conditions.Undertaking is enclosed as Annexure-III.

		3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the User agency stated that they will abide by the condition.
8.	The State Forest Department shall ensure to plant adequate number of Red Sanders trees to compensate for the felling of the species involved in the project at the project cost;	<p>1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that sufficient care would be taken to plant adequate no. of RS seedlings in the identified degraded forest area proposed in the CA scheme for implementation during 2022-23.</p> <p>2. The DFO, Proddatur has reported that adequate numbers of Red Sander seedlings are proposed to plant in the identified degraded forest area proposed for raising compensatory afforestation under this project.</p> <p>3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that, no Red sanders trees are going to be felled in Chittoor West Division for laying pipeline.</p>
9.	The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring 16.57 Ha. from the user agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Dt.28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos. 826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ petition (Civil) No.202/1995	<p>1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that the user agency deposited an amount of Rs.88.330 lakh towards Net Present Value (NPV) for the forest area diverted i.e., 11.00 ha through e-payment mode i.e., challan generated through the Ministry's website portal (i.e., www.forestclearance.nic.in) in State Adhoc CAMPA account. Copy of the e-challan is enclosed as Annexure-III for one time. Out of 11.00 ha proposed for diversion, 6.82 ha is falling in Tiger Corridor area in Kadapa Division. Hence the NPV for 6.82 Ha. @ of 8.03 lakhs per ha. for 4 times has been collected i.e., Rs.219.0584 lakhs in addition to the above Rs.88.330 lakhs through e-challan (Annexure-IV).</p> <p>2. The DFO, Proddatur (WL) has reported that the user agency deposited an amount of Rs.177.865 lakhs towards Net Present Value (NPV) of the proposed diverted forest land measuring 4.43 ha by generating e-challan through the Ministry's website into the State CAMPA account. The copy of e-challan is enclosed as Annexure-IV. The NPV amount has been collected by multiplying five times since the diversion area of 4.43 ha is falling in the Tiger Corridor area of NSTR and SVNP @ Rs.8.03 lakhs per Ha. for 4.43 Ha. i.e., $8.03 \times 5 \times 4.43 = \mathbf{177.865 \text{ lakh.}}$</p> <p>3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that, the user agency deposited Rs.7.137 lakh (1.14 ha @6.26 lakh per hectare) into State CAMPA account by generating e-challan in</p>

		the Parivesh portal.			
10.	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;	The DFOs, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West Divisions have reported that, the user agency furnished an undertaking to comply with the conditions. Undertaking is enclosed as Annexure-V.			
11.	The funds received from the user agency towards compensatory afforestation and Net Present Value under this project shall be deposited in the respective bank account of the Andhra Pradesh State CAMPA. The user agency shall compulsorily deposit the CA and other levies only by generating challan through the Ministry's website	1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that the user agency has deposited the following amounts for the following purposes through e-payment mode i.e., challan generated through the Ministry's website portal (i.e., www.forestclearance.nic.in) into the State CAMPA. The particulars of e-payment challan are herewith enclosed for perusal (Annexure-VI)			
		Item	Area in ha.	Amount (Rs in lakh)	Remarks
		CA	22.00	160.830	e-challan generated on 22.03.2019
		NPV	11.00	88.330	
		NPV	6.82	219.0584	

		ACA	11.00	81.300	
		Compensate RS trees proposed for felling	--	39.434	
		TOTAL		588.9524	
		2. The DFO, Proddatur (WL) has reported that the user agency paid an amount of Rs.261.367 lakhs by generating challan through the Ministry's website to the State Adhoc CAMPA account. The item wise payment details are mentioned hereunder.			
		Item	Area in Ha.	Amount (Rs in lakhs)	Remarks
		C.A	9.00	83.502	Challan generated on 01.11.2019
		NPV	4.43	177.865	
ACA	5.00	36.570			

		Total		297.937	
		<p>The copy of e-challan Dt.01.11.2019 is enclosed as Annexure-VI.</p> <p>3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the user agency deposited Rs.31.697 lakh into State CAMPA account duly generating e-challan from the FC portal.</p> <p>NPV - 7.137 lakh CA - 17.300 lakh ACA Gap planting - 7.26 lakh</p>			
12.	The State Government shall verify the status of the proposal area as to whether it is falling in the Tiger Corridor or not? And if so, the user agency shall obtain wildlife clearance, as required, before execution of the works;	<p>1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that, out of 11.00 ha proposed for diversion in Kadapa Division, 6.82 ha is falling in the Tiger Corridor of NSTR and SVNP, Tirupathi. The user agency has submitted Wildlife proposals along with relevant information to the Head Office basing on their proposal, the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool has issued working permission to the user agency on 18.02.2021. The work was completed within the stipulated time.</p> <p>2. The DFO, Proddatur (WL) has reported that the proposed diversion area of 4.43 ha in Compt.no.158 of Kothakota Dasaripalli RF of Porumamilla range and in compt.no.144 and 145 of Kothakota Dasaripalli RF of Onipenta Range of Proddatur WL are falling in the Tiger Corridor area of NSTR and SVNP, Tirupati. The Wildlife clearance proposal was placed before the 54th meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL held on 18.07.2019. The committee has approved the proposals by stipulating certain conditions.</p> <p>3. DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the condition is not applicable to his division.</p>			
13.	Trees standing in the diverted area shall be felled strictly as per requirement with prior permission of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned;	<p>1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that, the following trees were felled while laying the pipeline in the diverted forest area</p> <p>Outside the Tiger Corridor area: Rayachoty Range - 2406 Nos. Kadapa Range - 1303 Nos.</p>			

		<p>----- - 3709 Nos. -----</p> <p>Out of above, 1194 nos. are Red Sander trees in Rayachoty Range and 472 nos. are Red Sanders trees in Kadapa Range. The Red sanders trees were felled and transported to RS Central Depot, Kadapa. The misc. trees are kept under the custody of concerned FBOs.</p> <p>Tiger Corridor area: Kadapa Range - 5157 Nos. ----- - 5157 Nos. -----</p> <p>Out of which, Red sanders trees are 199 nos and the remaining 4958 nos. are misc. trees. The trees felled were kept under the custody of concerned FBOs. The felled trees are to be auctioned and revenue fetched would be deposited into the Government account.</p> <p>2) DFO, Proddatur has reported that, the following trees were felled while laying the pipeline in the diverted forest area.</p> <p>Porumamilla Range - 582 Nos. Onipenta Range - 2070 Nos. ----- - 2652 Nos. -----</p> <p>Out of the above, 53 nos. are Red Sanders poles in Onipenta Range. The felled trees are to be auctioned and revenue fetched will be deposited into the Government account.</p> <p>3) The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that he will abide by this condition.</p>
14.	The muck generated in the earth cutting, if any, will be disposed off at designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be disposed off in the forest area;	<p>1. The DFO, Kadapa and Proddatur have reported that the user agency complied with the conditions. The muck generated during the earth cutting was not deposited in the forest area.</p> <p>2. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the user agency stated that they will abide by the condition.</p>
15.	The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be	The DFOs, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West has reported that the user agency furnished an undertaking to this effect. Undertaking is enclosed as Annexure-VII.

	transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;	
16.	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that the user agency completed the work without changing of layout plan as proposed in the proposal (Annexure-VIII). 2. The DFO, Proddatur has reported the user agency furnished a certificate to this effect and the same is enclosed (Annexure-IX). 3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the user agency stated that they will abide by the condition.
17.	Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will 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;	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that, no labour camps were created by the user agency and the work was also completed by the user agency within the stipulated time (Annexure-IX). 2. The DFO, Proddatur has reported that the user agency complied with the condition. 3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the user agency stated that they will abide by the condition.
18.	The user agency shall erect visible signage board at specific places along the pipe line;	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that the user agency has not erected any visible signage boards at specific place along the pipe line as of now. 2. The DFO, Proddatur has reported that, the user agency erected proper signage board like direction markers, warning markers KM post etc., as per norms. List of boards erected along with photographs are enclosed for perusal. 3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the user agency stated that they will abide by the condition.
19.	The user agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage / tree felling;	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that, the labour engaged by the user agency did not use fire wood or damage trees while working in the forest area. 2. The DFO, Proddatur (WL) has reported that the user agency complied the instructions. No labourers were entertained to use fire

		<p>wood while working in forest area. Alternate fuel was provided to the labourers.</p> <p>3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the user agency stated that they will abide by the condition.</p>
20.	All efforts shall be taken to minimize the felling of trees and the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of the trees wherever feasible instead of resorting to felling, at the cost of the user agency;	<p>1. The DFO, Kadapa has reported that no trees were translocated.</p> <p>2. The DFO, Proddatur (WL) has reported that all possible efforts were taken to minimize the felling of trees during execution of work. However, no trees are translocated.</p> <p>3. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the user agency stated that they will abide by the condition.</p>
21.	The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by obtaining the prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector and the same shall be submitted along with the compliance report;	The DFO, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West have reported that the certificate was already submitted while processing Part-II.
22.	The pipeline shall be laid 1.2 meter below the ground level and after laying down of pipeline, the ground shall be leveled back;	<p>1. The DFO, Kadapa and Proddatur have reported that the laying of pipeline work is completed in forest area diverted and laid the pipeline at 1.20 m below ground level and the ground has been levelled after completion of pipeline work by the user agency (Annexure-X).</p> <p>2. The DFO, Chittoor West has reported that the user agency stated that they will abide by the condition.</p>
23.	The user agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;	The DFO, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West have reported that the user agency stated that Environmental Clearance for this project is not applicable as per the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 and the same was confirmed by the MoEF&CC.
24.	The user agency shall carry out regular monitoring of the gas pipeline to be laid and submit a monthly monitoring report to	The DFO, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West have reported that the user agency stated that they would monitor all its pipelines on daily basis and monthly report would be submitted as per the requirement on commencement of operations (Annexure-XI) .

	the concerned DFOs for record and information;	
25.	The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 16.57 Ha. and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;	The user agency has given an undertaking to comply with the condition (Annexure-XII) .
26.	The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of all the Act, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;	The user agency has furnished a certificate stating that they would ensure the compliance of the provision of all the acts, rules and regulations and guidelines of the Ministry as applicable to the project. The copy of the certificate is enclosed as Annexure- XIII .
27.	Any other conditions that the Central Government or Additional PCCF (Central) of Regional Office, Chennai 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	The DFOs, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West has reported that the user agency stated that they will abide by this condition.
28.	The progress of the Compensatory Afforestation as mentioned by the DFOs of Chittoor (West), Kadapa and Proddatur (WL) Divisions in Part II of the proposal shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the	The CCFs/CFs, Ananthapuramu and Kurnool have reported that, instructions would be followed scrupulously.

	Regional Office to upload the same in the web portal;	
29.	In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as decided by the Additional PCCF (Central) Regional Office, Chennai.	The DFOs, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West has reported that the user agency furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.

Further, it is submitted that the CCFs/CFs, Ananthapuramu Circle, Ananthapuramu and Kurnool Circle, Kurnool have reported that, the user agency published the in-principle/Stage-I approval in Telugu in Andhra Jyoti District edition and in English in Deccan Chronicle on 15.02.2019 and submitted the copies of publications.

Hence, it is requested to consider the condition-wise compliance report and forward the same to the GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada for taking necessary action.

Encl:-As above.

Yours faithfully,
N Prateep Kumar I F S
 Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests &
 Head of Forest Force

Copy to the Chief Conservators of Forests/Conservator of Forests, Ananthapuramu Circle, Ananthapuramu and Kurnool Circle, Kurnool for information.

Copy to the Divisional Forest Officers, Kadapa, Proddatur and Chittoor West Divisions for information.

Copy to the General Manager, M/s. HPCL, No 332, 2nd Floor, Darus Salam Building, Queens Road, Bangalore, Karnataka for information.