

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From  
Sri Chiranjiv Choudhary, IFS.,  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests &  
Head of Forest Force,  
Andhra Pradesh,  
'Aranya Bhawan',  
Mangalagiri-522503.

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

**Ref. no. EFS02-15022/8/2018-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1,**  
**Dated:25/07/2024.**

Sir,

Sub: APFD – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 – Diversion of  
- 53.07 ha. i.e, fresh forest area of 32.25 ha (revised from 29.26 ha.) and re-  
diversion of 20.82 ha. of forest land in Nandyal WL and Giddalur Divisions in  
favour of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction.IV, South Central Railway,  
Secunderabad for doubling railway line between Guntur and Guntakal  
Stations – In-principle/Stage-I approval accorded – Compliance report  
submitted – Reg.

Ref:- 1. MoEF&CC, IRO, Gol, Vijayawada, F.no.4-APC145/2022-VIJ/985,  
dt.10.06.2023 received through  
Govt.Memo.no.2533/Section.II/2021/1596914, EFS&T (Sec.II) Dept.,  
dt.15.06.2023.  
2. CF & FD, PT Circle, Nandyal, Rc.No.2052/2023/TO, dt.09.05.2024,  
22.05.2024 & 20.07.2024.

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Kind attention is invited to the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, wherein the State Government while communicating the in-principle/Stage-I approval accorded by the MoEF&CC,Gol in respect of the proposal for diversion of 53.07 ha. i.e, fresh forest area of 32.25 ha (revised from 29.26 ha.) and re-diversion of 20.82 ha. of forest land in Nandyal WL and Giddalur Divisions in favour of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction.IV, South Central Railway, Secunderabad for doubling railway line between Guntur and Guntakal Stations, has requested to furnish in-principle/Stage-I compliance report.

2. In the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, the Conservator of Forests & Field Director, Project Tiger Circle, Nandyal has submitted Stage-I compliance report, which is as follows;

S.No.	Condition stipulated in in-principle/Stage-I approval	Compliance submitted by the Conservator of Forests & Field Director, Project Tiger Circle, Nandyal
1.	The legal status of forest land shall	The Deputy Directors, PT

	remain unchanged;	divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the legal status of forest land will remain unchanged.
2.	The demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet height cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters from the amount realized from the user agency;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur Nandyal have reported that, user agency was insisted for demarcation of the project area and the user agency furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
3.	The State Forest Department shall raise the maintain plantation in degraded forest land identified over an extent of 70.00 ha. out of 79.21 ha. in Compt. No.375, 376 & 377 of Sirvel RF, Peddavangali Beat, D.V.Penta Section, Rudravaram Range, Nandyal division from the funds to be provide by the user agency;	The Deputy Director, PT division, Nandyal has reported that, degraded forest land identified over an extent of 70.00 ha. out of 79.21 ha. in Compt. No.375, 376 & 377 of Sirvel RF, Peddavangali Beat, D.V.Penta Section, Rudravaram Range, Nandyal division and the user agency has deposited an amount of Rs.1102.797 lakh towards CA into CAMPA account.
4.	The approved CA land and compensatory afforestation scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;	The Deputy Director, PT division, Nandyal has reported that, the approved CA land and compensatory afforestation scheme would not be changed without prior approval the Central Government.
5.	The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring 53.07 ha. from the user agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 29-03-2008 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-FCA(Vol-I) dated 06-01-2022 and clarification issued vide letter dated 22-03-2022. The NPV for the forest area over an extent of 2.99 ha. for tunnel portion shall be realized as per the Ministry's guidelines.	The Deputy Directors, PT division, Nandyal and Giddalur have reported that, user agency has deposited an amount of <b>Rs. 3260.05447 lakh (PT Nandyal - Rs.2374.86447 lakh an PT Giddalur - Rs.885.19)</b> towards NPV into CAMPA account.
6.	Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user

	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;	agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
7.	All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred / deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal ( <a href="https://parivesh.nic.in">https://parivesh.nic.in</a> );	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, all the funds were deposited into CAMPA fund only through e-portal by the user agency.
8.	As the proposal passing through tiger corridor, the UA shall obtain prior approval of the SC-NBWL under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that the user agency has obtained the approval of the SC-NBWL.
9.	As the project is permanent and linear in nature, the UA shall conduct study (every five years) by the reputed institution like Wildlife Institute of India (WII) to examine actual impact after execution of the project and shall submit such report to the IRO, Vijayawada and the WL division of the Ministry;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
10.	The user agency shall engage an expert in the field of wildlife to oversee the implementation of wildlife mitigation plan during project execution phase and the operational phase to ensure proper implementation of such wildlife mitigation measures;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
11.	As per the information provided by the field officials, in the past, there has been mortalities of Tigers, Panthers and other wild animals due to train accidents. Hence, more such mortalities of wildlife can be anticipated due to construction of new track. Hence, the construction of tunnels at appropriate places (based on the usual route / crossing places and other such places wherever required) shall be carried out by the UA and dimensions of such underpass / culverts shall be depend on nature of fauna existing in and around forest area proposed for diversion;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, user agency has informed that, a detailed study was done and these aspects were included in Wildlife Mitigation Plan and underpasses provision was also incorporated the plan.
12.	In parallel to the existing underpasses in the existing railway line, new underpasses / culverts shall be constructed while constructing new track to ensure easy passage of wild animals without getting struck in between the two tracks;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, those were included in the Wildlife Mitigation Plan.

13.	All other mitigation measures required as per the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) prescribed for such linear projects shall be implemented;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
14.	In specific to tunnels portion, sufficient safeguards and mitigation measures (including side ramps, fencing upto tunnel portion entry point for at least 50 mtrs length followed by the underpass / culvert) need to be taken to guide and ensure safe passage of wild animals above the tunnels and avoid entering of wild animals inside tunnel opening;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the works were included in the Wildlife Mitigation Plan.
15.	The user agency shall include wildlife mitigation measures suggested by the sub committee and specific suggestion given by the Shri A.V.Joseph, IFS (retired) former PCCF & HoFF and CWLW in the wildlife mitigation plan and the State Government shall ensure the same are also included in the proposal to be placed before the SBWL for consideration;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, all the mitigation measures suggested by sub-committee and Shri A.V.Joseph, IFS., (Retired), Former PCCF & HoFF and Chief Wildlife Warden, were included in the Wildlife Mitigation Plan.
16.	Tree felling shall be carried out wherever necessary under the strict supervision of the DFO concerned and tree felling in the upper area of 2.99 ha. proposed for tunnel portion, shall be avoided without compromising safety of the tunnel;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Nandyal have reported that, tree felling would be carried out by user agency under the supervision of the DFOs concerned and user agency has deposited an amount of <b>Rs.5.38</b> crore with Forest Department.
17.	While execution of the project, earth cutting involves excavation of huge quantity of materials, hence proper disposal plan to dispose such excavated material shall be implemented in consultation with the DFOs concerned and the UA shall not take soil from the nearby the forest areas for execution of the project and no additional path / road shall be made to execute the project.	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
18.	Proper SMC plan shall be prepared and implement to check soil erosion, at the project cost;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
19.	Wherever possible, plantation of	The Deputy Directors, PT

	indigenous trees species within forest area of 132.31 ha. diverted earlier shall be carried out by the State Forest Department at the project cost.	divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
20.	The construction work shall be taken up only during day time.	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has informed that they would follow the condition strictly.
21.	Proper labour camps shall be constructed in the non-forest area and in any case, labour camp shall not be made within the RF area;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has informed that, the labour camps would be arranged in non-forest area and comply with the condition.
22.	Speed limit of the train may be restricted as required in consultation with the CWLW and the court orders, if any specific to the speed regulation in such wildlife habitats;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has informed that, efforts would be made to regulate train speed at Wildlife habitat zones in consultation with CWLW and court orders.
23.	The DFOs shall monitor the project site regularly and submit such monitoring reports to the IRO, Vijayawada so as to take remedial measures, if required and the UA shall submit undertaking to comply with the same at the cost of the project;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
24.	RoFR certificate in the prescribed format from the competent authority shall be submitted along with the compliance report;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished RoFR certificate for an area of 32.25 ha (PT Nandyal - 23.04 ha and PT Giddalur - 9.21 ha.).
25.	Speed regulating signage will be erected along the railway line at regular intervals in the protected areas / forest areas;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
26.	User agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and

	Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;	Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
27.	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has informed that, the layout plan of the proposal would not be changed without prior approval of the central Government.
28.	Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the user agency to the labourers after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Department Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has informed that, fuel arrangements would be provided to the labourers as advised by the Forest department.
29.	No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction material for execution of the project work.	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has informed that the existing Kutcha paths with necessary dressing for movement of men and machinery would only be used and no additional / new path would be constructed.
30.	The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has informed that, forest land would not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
31.	The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has informed that, forest land would not be transferred / sub-let without the prior approval of the Govt. of India.
32.	Pre-fabricated structures should be used to the maximum possible extent to reduce the extent of disturbance in the habitat;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that,

		the user agency has informed that, efforts would be made to make use of pre-fabricated structures to the extent possible.
33.	The debris / earth excavated during the track laying work should be disposed off or reused suitably so that the natural drainage of the area is not blocked. Materials to be used for construction of new tracks should be brought from outside the forest area;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
34.	The State Forest Department shall translocate the trees, instead of felling wherever feasible, at the cost of user agency;	The DDs, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the trees existing in the proposed diversion area will be translocated instead of felling wherever feasible, at the cost of the user agency.
35.	The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 53.07 ha. 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;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
36.	The user agency and the State Forest Department shall ensure compliance to the all acts, rules, regulation and guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to the railway line projects;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
37.	Any other condition that the Regional Officer, 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 at project cost;	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.
38.	In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as per the rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980.	The Deputy Directors, PT divisions, Giddalur and Nandyal have reported that, the user agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with the condition.

3. Further, the Conservator of Forests & Field Director, PT Circle, Nandyal has submitted the copies of the in-principle/Stage-I approval published by the user agency in two widely circulated daily news papers i.e., Sakshi (Telugu) and the Deccan Chronicle dated 18.05.2024 and also to the heads of

local bodies, Panchayats and municipal bodies.

4. The in-principle/Stage-I compliance report along with necessary enclosures submitted by the Conservator of Forests & Field Director, PT Circle, Nandyal is enclosed herewith.

5. The Government is requested to consider the in-principle/Stage-I compliance report and forward the same to the GoI, MoEF&CC, R.O., Chennai sub-office at Vijaywada for according Stage-II approval for the project.

Encl:- As above.

Yours faithfully,  
**Chiranjiv Choudhary Ifs**  
Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests &  
Head of Forest Force

Copy to the Conservators of Forests & Field Director, Project Tiger Circle, Nandyal for information.

Copy to the Deputy Directors, Project Tiger divisions, Nandyal and Giddalur for information.

Copy to the Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction IV, South Central Railway, Secunderabad for information.