8-70/2010-FC I/94256/2025

File No.8-70/2010-FC

Government of India
Ministry Of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Ali Ganj, New Delhi - 110003 **Dated: 17-01-2025**

To

Shri A. K. Shukla, Scientist 'F' DRDO, CCE (R&D) North, Development Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg Behind Army HQ Camp, Delhi Cantt- 110010

Subject: Diversion of 676.12 hectares of forest land in Rambilli and Kalvapalli RFs of Visakhapatnam division in favour of Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)-land use change plan.

Madam/Sir,

It is to inform that the Ministry vide letter dated 14.08.2024 has allowed you to submit the change in land use proposal in the instant matter through offline mode and accordingly the State Govt. vide letter dated 25.08.204 has also allowed to submit the proposal in offline mode. However, you have submitted the instant proposal vide letter No.CCE(R&D)N/HQ/R&K/111/2024-2025 dated 19.11.2024 directly to the Ministry without any recommendations of the State Govt.

2. In view of the above, you are requested to submit the proposal through State Govt. with recommendations and necessary information and documents. The proposal submitted by you is returned herewith in original form.

Signed by

Yours faithfully,

Dheeraj Mittal

Encl: As above.

Date: 17-01-2025 18:05:48

(Dr. Dheeraj Mittal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

- 1. The PCCF (HoFF), Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Amravati.
- 2. The DDGF (Central), Regional Office (Southern Zone), Chennai.
- 3. The APCCF cum Nodal Officer, Forest Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Amravati.
- 4. The IGF (Central), Sub-Office Vijayawada.
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.

SECRET

111

Phone: 26767200

: 26767225



Lr. No. CCE(R&D)N/HQ/R&K/11//2024-2025 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, Defence Research & Development Organisation, CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER (R&D) NORTH Development Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg, Behind Army HQ Camp, Delhi Cantt -110 010.

Dated:

19 Nov 2024

To Inspector General of Forests Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Aligani, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi- 110003

SUBJECT: DIVERSION OF 676.12 HECTARES OF FOREST LAND IN RAMBILLI AND KALVAPALLI RFs OF VISAKHAPATNAM DIVISION IN FAVOUR OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION (DRDO)-LAND USE CHANGE PLAN

- 1. Please refer File No. 8-70/2010-FC dated 25th March 2021.
- 2. The offline land use change plan proposal was applied vide letter number CCE(R&D)N/HQ/R&K/101/2024-2025 dated 18th June 2024 by this office. The approval for the same got by letter number 6252/Section-II/2010/29072 dated 25th August 2024 (letter attached).
- 3. The scope of project has changed during the re-planning stage which subsequent affected the land use plan of already sanctioned RF lands. The duly filled Application Form-E, Common fields form and Justification for Land Use Plan are attached for further necessary action please.
- 4. You are requested to accord the approval for land use plan at the earliest.

one Ethure & brying

For Chief Construction Engineer

Encl: As above

Copy to:

1. Director SPIC

for information please

2. Director DCW&E -

for information please

CONFIDENTIAL

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

Letter No.6252/Section-II/2010/29072

Dated 25.08.2024

From
The Special Secretary to Government,
E.F.S&T Department,
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi,
Amaravati-522503.

The Chief Construction Engineer (R&D) North, GoI, Ministry of Defence, Defence Research & Development Organisation, Development Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg, Behind Army HQ Camp, Delhi Cantt-110010.

Sir,

Sub: E.F.S. & T. Dept. - Diversion of 676.12 Ha of forest land in Rambilli and Kalvapalli RFs of Visakhapatnam Division in favour of DRDO – Reg.

Ref: 1)From the Scientist 'F', GoI, Ministry of Defence, DR&DO, Delhi, Lr.dated 18.06.2024.

2)Govt Memo No.6252/Sec.II/2010/29072, dated 19.07.2024

3)From the PCCF & HoFF, Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-59033/2008/FCA-3, dt.09.08.2024 addressed to your Office and copy marked to EFS&T Dept., AP Secretariat, Amaravati(Copy enclosed for ready reference).

I invite your attention to the reference 1st cited and inform you that the User Agency is permitted to submit the subject proposal for change in land use through OFFLINE mode as per the provisions laid down under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Rules, 2023.

Yours faithfully,

for Special Secretary to Government

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Guntur Dist. ...for information.

Common Fields

1	Detail	s of Proje		т	
	1.1		f the Project	:	Project-R&K
	1.2		Proposal for [New/Expansion/Renewal (in case of		New
			Amendment / *Corrigendum / *Validity Extension /		
		*Transf		_	
	1.3		ID (Single Window Number)	:	8-70/2010-FC
	1.4	Brief de words)	escription on nature of the project or activity (in 200		The area comprises of two hills Kalavapalli and Rambili. Underground Structures will be developed on Kalvapalli hillocks and Overground infrastructure facility are to be developed in Rambilli hillock for Defence personnel.
:			ompany/Organization/User Agency making applica	tio	
	2.1	Name o	f the Company / Organization/User agency	;	DRDO, Ministry of
					Defence, Government of
				ļ	India
	2.2		red Address	<u> :</u>	
		2.2.1	Door/ House No.; Street Number and Name	:	Chief Construction
					Engineer(R&D) North
					DRDO, Ministry o
					Defence, Govt. of India
					Development Enclave
					Rao Tula Ram Marg
					Behind Army HQ Camp
					Delhi Cantt, New Delhi
					Deim Canti, New Beim
		2.2.2	Village /Town / City	:	New Delhi
		2.2.3	District	:	South West Delhi
		2.2.4	State	:	Delhi
		2.2.5	Pin Code	·	110010
		2.2.6	Landmarks	·	Behind Army HQ Camp
		2.2.7	e-mail address	1.	ccernd.north@gov.in
		2.2.8	Landline Number	·	011-26767200, 26767203
		2.2.9	Mobile number	† .	8826602345, 9711993345
	2.3		tatus of the Company/Organization/User Agency	<u> </u>	Central Government
			1 Govt., State Govt., Central PSU, State PSU, Joint	.	
			e (Pvt.+Govt), Joint Venture (Govt. + Govt.), Joint		
		1	e (Pvt+Pvt), Private, Limited, LLP, Individual]		
	Detail		erson making application		
	3.1		of the applicant (First Name; Middle Name; Last		Chief Construction

	Name)		7	Engineer(R&D) North
3.2	Design	nation	1:	Chief Construction
3.3				Engineer
3.3		pondence Address	↓ :	
	3.3.1	Door/ House No.; Street Number and Name	:	Chief Construction
				Engineer(R&D) North
				DRDO, Ministry o
				Defence, Govt. of India
				Development Enclave
		·		Rao Tula Ram Marg
				~
				Behind Army HQ Camp
				Delhi Cantt, New Delhi
	3.3.2	Village /Town / City	<u> </u> :	New Delhi
	3.3.3	District	<u> </u> :	South West Delhi
	3.3.4	State	<u> :</u>	Delhi
	3.3.5	Pin Code	<u> </u> :	110010
	3.3.6	Landmarks	<u> </u> :	Army HQ Camp
	3.3.7	e-mail address		ccernd.north@gov.in
	3.3.8	Landline Number	:	011-26767200, 26767251
	3.3.9	Mobile number	:	8826602345, 9711993345
		e Project or Activity		
4.1	Project	location		
	4.1.1	Upload KML	T:	GIS- CAF / Upload 🗓
		(Authentication through Bharat map)		T -
	4.1.2	Plot / Survey / Khasra No. (Once layer will be		Y-lova
	1 1	available then it'll be auto fetched		
		completely/partial intersection)		
	4.1.3	Village(s)(If layer is available then it'll be auto	:	Kalavapalli and Rambilli
		fetched)		•
	4.1.4	Sub-District(s)(If layer is available then it'll be	:	Anakapalle
		auto fetched)		
	4.1.5	District(If layer is available then it'll be auto		Anakapalle
		fetched)		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	4.1.6	State (If layer is available then it'll be auto		Andhra Pradesh
		fetched)		
	4.1.7	Pin Code	[:]	531061
	4.1.8	Bounded Latitudes (North)(If layer is available then		
		it'll be auto fetched)		
		From		-
		То	:	
	1 [Bounded Longitudes (East)(If layer is available then	Ť	····
		it'll be auto fetched)		
	ı –	From		
	· -	To		
4.2		of India Toposheet No.		
4.3		er the project/activity falling in the border states?	$\left \frac{\cdot \cdot}{\cdot} \right $	No
141		or one projectionity failing in the Doluct States!	. 1	17676

		If Yes,					Ī	
		4.3.1	Aerial	Distance f	rom the Internation	onal Border in Km	:	
	4.4	Shape	of the Pi	roject [Line	ear/Non-linear/Hy	brid]		Non-linear
5	Lan	d Requirem	ent (in I	<u> : </u>				
	5.1	In case	of New	proposals				
			Г			A . Y	т	
			├ -		Land involved	Area in I	<u>1a</u>	
			_		t Land (A)	84.00 592.12		
			-	Forest Lar Total Land		676.12		
	5.1	In cons	of owne	nsion/mod		0/0.12		
	3.1	Nature o			Area Existing	Additional	To	otal Area required after
		nature o	i Lanu i	nvorvea	in Ha (A)	Area Proposed		xpansion in Ha (A+B)
					mina (A)	in Ha (B)	0.	apanoion in ma (112)
		Non-Fores	t Land (A)		(2)		
		Forest Lan		· • j				
			- (- <i>)</i>					
		Total (A+I	3)		#sub-total#	#sub-total#	#To	otal#
6	Pro	ject/Activi	ty Cost					
	In c	case of New						
	6.1	Total (Cost of t		Rs. 8,70,000.00 Lakhs(Approx.)			
	In c	ase of expa	nsion/m	_	75 (2)			
	6.1	Cost of (A)	f the Ex					
	6.2	Cost o	f the pr	oposed ex	: :			
		current	price le	vel (in Lak	hs) (B)		_	
	6.3				Activity (in lakhs)	(A+B)	<u> </u> :	•••
7		ployment l			ted			
		ease of new						
	7.1					construction phase	-	D - 1 - 1 - 11 13
		7.1.1		ent emplo		orymant (No a) [A7	+	Project will provide employment
			7.1.1.1		d of employment	oyment (No.s) [A]	+:	opportunities to the local
			7.1.1.2		f man-days [X]=[+:	people in terms of labor
		7.1.2				nent (No. of Mar	 	during construction
		7.1.2	days) [_	macinai empioyi	none (140. of Ivial	•	phase. However, number
		7.1.3		<u>1 </u>			+-	of employments not yet
		'.1.5	10.00 [2	(r) '[1]			╝.	assessed
	7.2	Emplo	yment li	ikely to be	generated during	operational phase		
		7.2.1	Permar	nent emplo				Project will provide
			7.2.1.1			oyment (No.s) [A]	<u>:</u>	employment
			7.2.1.2		d of employment		<u> </u> :	opportunities to the
			7.2.1.3		f man-days [X]=[<u> </u> :	Service personnel (staff,
		7.2.2	Tempo days) [•	ntractual employr	nent (No. of Mai	ı :	securities, gardeners etc.) during operational
		7.2.3		X] +[Y]	,		:	phase. However,
<u></u>				-				number of employments

											not yet	assessed	<u> </u>	
	In case of expansion/modernization proposals													
	7.1 Employment likely to be generated during construction phase									┢				
		7.1.1	Perma	nent em	ınlovn	ent	ang consuu	ction p	liase	_				
		7.1.1 Permanent employment 7.1.1. No. of permanent employment (No.s) [A]								-	 			
			1	110.0	i perm	ianoni Ci	npioyment (140.8) [.	AJ	:				
		7.1.1. Period of employment (No. of days) [B]								-				
			2	101100	a or on	прюунк	mt (140. 01 u	ays) [D	j	•				
	7.1.1. No. of man-days [X]=[A]*[B] :						 -							
			3	110.0	1 1116411	uays [A	յ_քայ [ոյ							
		7.1.2	Temp	orary / (Contra	ctual er	nployment (No of	Mon	-				
			days)	FY1	Contra	Ctuar Ci.	upioyment (INO. GI	IVIAII	٠				
		7.1.3		[X]+[Y				·		_				
	7.2					rated du	ring operation	anal nh						
		Employment likely to be generated during operational phase: 7.2.1 Permanent employment (A)							ase.		Existin	D	T.4.1	
	remailent employment (A)								Propose	Total				
			7.2.1.	No of	nerm	anent er	nployment (No s) L	۲٦	_	g	d		
			1	110.01	perm	anon ci	iipioyment (NO.5) [2	` ']		·			
			7.2.1.	Period	ofen	nlovme	nt (No. of da	ave) [D]			<u> </u>		-	
	İ	İ	2	1 Crioci	or on	ipioyine	iit (140. 01 u	rys) [D]	l					
			7.2.1.	No of	man-	dave IX]=[A]*[B]			-				
			3	110.01	interi t	uays [71]	l [V] [D]							
	İ	7.2.2		 orary / (ontra	ctual en	ployment (No of	Mon					
			days)	Y1		otaar On	ipioyment ((NO. OI	iviaii	.				
		7.2.3		X] +[Y]				-		:				
8	Whether Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) involved? [Yes/No]									\exists		No	<u> </u>	
	If Yes.	please n	rovide de	tails?		ome (1100	rej mivorved:	1 05/1	10]			110		
	8.1		Villages							\neg				
	8.2		Project D	isplaced	Fami	lies				\forall				
	8.3		Project A											
	8.4						nent (Comp	leted /	In.	\vdots				
		progres	s / Yet to	start)		COSCILIO	non (comp	neicu 7	111-					
9	Wheth	er proje	et area	involves	shift	ing of	watercourse	/road/ra	ail /	_		No	-	
	Transn	ission li	ne/water	pipeline	e. etc. r	eguired'	? [Yes/No]	/10au/16				110		
•	9.1		details th		,	<u> </u>	. [103/140]			1				
10					examir	ned or n	art thereof f	or the		\dashv	No	t Applical		
	Whether any alternative site(s) examined or part thereof for the non-site-specific component? [Yes/No/ Not applicable as the project or							tor		140	r whhacat	ЛС		
	activity is site specific]													
	If No,							-+	\dashv			-		
	10.1 Reasons thereof								+					
	If Yes,							$^{+}$						
	10.1								\dashv					
	Name		pload	Villag	Dist	State	Bounded	i at mup	Bou	nde	ad Lon	gitudes		
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		g need Text# F		
		to be		
		done		
		with the		
		project		
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	10.2	Brief justification on selected site particularly highlighting		
	10.2	environmental considerations	•	
	10.3			7.7.1.1.6Th
	10.3	Upload copy of note containing justification for locating in		Upload 🗗
		the selected site		~~
11		er there is any Government Order or Policy / Court order	:	No
		t or restricting to the site? [Yes/No]		/
	If Yes,	please provide details.		
	11.1	Details of Order/Policy		
	11.2	Upload copy of Government Order or Policy / Court order		Upload 🗂
		relevant or restricting to the site		
12	W/heth/	er there is any litigation pending against the project and/or land		No
12		th the project is proposed to be set up? (Yes/No)	•	110
		please provide details.		
	12.1	Name of the Court/Tribunal[Supreme Court / High Court /	:	
		NGT / District Court/Others]		
	12.2	Name of the specific Court/Bench	:	
	12.3	Case Category [CA/SLP(Cr) / SLP (Civil) /WP (Cr) / WP	:	
		(Civil) /OA/Appeal/ Compliant Case / Others]& Number		
	12.4	Status of court case [Disposed off/ Reserved for judgment /	:	
		Pending / Interim order, if any]		
	12.5	Orders/Directions of the court, if any, and its relevance with		
	12.5	the proposed project		
	12.6	Upload Court Order if any		Upload ٌ
	12.0	Opload Court Order II any	٠	Optoad 🖸
	<u> </u>			
13	Wheth	er the proposal involves violation of Act / Rule / Regulation /		No
		ation of Central / State Government? [Yes/No]		
		please provide details	П	
	13.1	The Act / Rule / Regulation / Notification under which the		
	13.1	1	•	
		violation involved [1. EIA Notification 1994 /2006 2. CRZ		
		Notification, 2011 / 2019 3. IPZ2011/ICRZ Notification,		
		2019 4. Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 5. Indian Forest Act		•
		1927 6. Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 7. Air (Prevention		
		and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 8. Water (Prevention &		
		Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 9. Others (Pl. Specify)]		
		If option 1. EIA Notification 1994/2006 selected then		
		13.1.1 Type of Violation [1. Implemented/Started	\Box	
		construction with neither CTE/CTO nor Prior EC		
		(no Valid Permission) 2. Implemented/Started		
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
		construction with CTE/CTO but no prior EC		
		obtained 3. Earlier EC was not required but now EC		

	is required (Without CTO) 4. Earlier EC was not required but now EC is required (With CTO) 5. EC was available but level breached]		
13.2	Period of violation	:	
13.3	Directions, if any, issued by (MoEFCC/ IRO of MoEFCC / CPCB/SPCB / UTPCC /State Government/Others (pl. specify))	:	
13.4	Details of Directions issued	:	
13.5	Copy of Direction/Penalty imposed	r	Upload [
13.6	Brief summary of violation	:	· ·
13.7	Upload detailed/ action taken report on violation, if any	:	Upload [
		:	+ Add Rows

Form-E Re-Diversion i) Land Use Change ii) Laying of OFC/ UG drinking water pipeline/ slurry pipeline/ electric cable/ CNG/PNG/ Petroleum and Crude Oil within RoW

	Sl. No.	1 to 13 is c						
14	State			Andhi	ra Pradesh			
15	1	_	Land Use Change selected, then	e 2. Re-Diversio	on]		Land U	Jse Change
	15.1	drinking v	g of UG OFC 2. La water pipeline 4. U IG CNG/PNG 7. U	JG Slurry pipeli	ne 5. UG Elec			
16	Second	lary Agency	•	cy/ :	Prima	ry Agency		
17	Purpos	e of Re-div	ersion/ Change in	land use*				
	17.1		ne re-diversion/ C Right of Way of ro	_	use is propo	sed		Yes
	17.2	Justification	n*					e In Scope of fer Annexure- A)
	17.3 Division PARIVISH Division Names pdf							alle District Submission)
	17.4		ngle KML of all vision (KML of are shown)		Upload 🗓			
	17.5	Area for w	which re-diversion oppoval obtained up	led,				
			Area approved (Ea			Area Proposed for Re-diversion/ Change in land use*		
		Compone nt	Non-Forest Land (Ha)	Forest Land (Ha)	Component	Non-Forest Lan (Ha)		Forest Land (Ha)
			1.94	674.18			84	592.12
								+Add Rows from Sl. No. 17.3
18		affected tre			Yes			
	18.1	No. of tre	es proposed to be					
·	Comp onent/ patch	As per or of propos		As per changed layout plan (I		(B)	Net change (B-A)	
			318 Nos & Poles- .6586 Nos	Yet to be estimated			Yet to b	e estimated
19	accord	ed in the pa	vals under the Fo st (Auto Fetch) (n	on mandatory)				
	If Prop details	osal No. exi	ned					

			etails need to	be fed	
	19.1		sal No.		
	19.2	-	File No.		8-70/2010-FC
	19.3	Area	of forest land	diverted (ha)	676.12
	19.4	Period			
	19.5	Date of	of approval		25th March 2021
20	only)		from prima	Upload 🗅	
			condary age		
21		of com			
	21.1		sal No.		
. <u> </u>	21.2		File No.		8-70/2010-FC
	21.3			ted by the MoEF	As per Stage-II Approval (Refer Annexure-B)
	21.4	Detail	s of the com	pliance	Compliance Report submitted in Stage-I & II
				returned back to the State Forest Department	
22	or any	s of the other A gency (A			
	22.1	Wheth	No		
		agency	/ has been re Authority? [
		22.1. 1	No. of pate		
		22.1. 2	Area of the	e forest land returned/surrendered (ha)	
		22.1. 3	Patch wise	details	
			22.1.3.1	Area of patch (ha)	
			22.1.3.2	Copy of the map of the patch (KML)	Upload 🗓
			22.1.3.3	Copy of the map of the patch prepared by using GPS or Total Station	Upload 🗓
			22.1.3.4	Date of return	
			22.1.3.5	Authority to whom the forest land has been returned [State Forest Department/Other] If Other, then	
				22.1.3.5.1 Please specify	==
			22.1.3.6	Status of reclamation of land proposed to be returned /surrendered [Technical Reclamation/ Biological Reclamation]	
			22.1.3.7	Copy of documentary proof in support of the return/surrender of the forest land	Upload 🗓
					+ Add Rows

Yes 3.1	Whether Properties Are Project or a Distance from andatory) Distance from andatory) Status of a consideration If Project II mentioned of	oject or a part thereof is located within a rea / Eco sensitive zone? ea / Eco sensitive zone] part thereof is located within the Protected om the nearest Protected Area (km) (non om the nearest Eco-Sensitive Zone (km) (non approval of NBWL [Approval obtained / under / Application yet to be submitted] D / Proposal No. exists, then auto fetch below details					
Yes 3.1 Clocated in rea, 3.2 3.3	Whether Properties Are Protected Are Project or a Distance from andatory) Distance from andatory) Status of a consideration If Project II mentioned of	rea / Eco sensitive zone? part thereof is located within the Protected om the nearest Protected Area (km) (non om the nearest Eco-Sensitive Zone (km) (non approval of NBWL [Approval obtained / under / Application yet to be submitted] D / Proposal No. exists, then auto fetch below					
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26.1	Name		Anant Kumar Shukla
26.2	Designation		Scientist 'F'
26.3	Company		CCE(R&D)North, DRDO, Ministry of Defence
26.4	Address		Chief Construction Engineer(R&D) North, DRDO, Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India, Development Enclave, Rao Tula Ram Marg, Behind Army HQ Camp, Delhi Cantt, New Delhi
26.5	AADHAR Based e-Sign	nature	Damble
26.6	Date		19 NOV 2024

Note:

- In the case of primary agency all the fields are mandatory (except those where if any is mentioned), sl. no. 20 is not required.
- In the case of secondary agency Sl. No. 16, 17, 17.1, 17.2, 17.4 (Area Proposed for Rediversion/ Change in land use*), 18, 18.1, 20 is mandatory

PROJECT R&K

Justification for increase of land use for project R&K

Introduction

The project area comprises of two hills Kalavapalli and Rambili in Anakapalle district, Andhra Pradesh which shall be used for underground and overground facility for Defence purpose. The proposed project will convert forest land into built-up areas like roads, footpaths, security complex, administrative offices, In-Living accommodations, Institutional buildings, 3 layers security walls etc. for the security of the project and day to day working of entire Defence technical base.

Stage-II Forest Clearance

The Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division) vide their letter no. I/4017/2021 dated 25th March 2021, final approval/Stage-II of the Central Government was granted under section-2 of the Forest(conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 676.12 hectares of forest land in Rambilli and Kalavapalli RFs of Visakhapatnam/Anakapalle Division in favor of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) subject to fulfillment of following conditions. Out of all conditions mentioned, some of the key conditions are highlighted below: -

- a) The construction and non-forestry activities shall be restricted to minimum within demanded 1.94 ha as per the undertaking provided by the user agency (DRDO) and remaining 674.18 Ha will be maintained as forest within the administrative control of DRDO.
- b) No other activities including mining/quarrying activities or construction of commercial/residential buildings will be taken up in the area under diversion and an undertaking to this effect shall be furnished by the User agency.
- c) No residential buildings will be constructed in the diverted area.

d) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.

Allotted Land Area

The total land allotted by MoEF&CC for Project R&K was 1.94 ha (4.80 acre) for construction and non-forestry activities. During initial project planning stage, the components of the project planned are as follows: -

a) Strategic Technical Area = 3.10 acres

b) Command & Control Area = 1.10 acres

c) Strategic Institutional Area = 0.60 acres

Total = 4.80 acres (1.94 ha)

Justification for Increase of land use for Project

After in receipt of stage-II clearance from MoEF&CC numerous brainstorming on aspects/provisions/components of the project were discussed between stakeholders. Various inputs were shared by the stakeholders and project moved further towards detailed planning stage.

Indispensably during detailed planning stage, the scope of work for the project got increased. Therefore, followings components of the project are planned in two hillocks i.e., Site-K and Site-R, which are essentially required in view of the safety, security and cordoning off the area.

SITE-K: - The technical facility is planned in Site-K as a deep underground structure, for the following reasons listed below:

- Area required for technical facility is large
- Deep underground structures are safe
- In case of an event, surrounding area remains comparatively unaffected.

The Site-K area also comprises of following components as listed below: -

- a) Technical Area which is an underground facility planned for Defence purpose.
- b) Patrolling Roads which are planned for the 360° surveillance of the facility.
- c) Access roads and footpaths planned for movement of vehicle and personnel of the Base.
- d) Security Walls planned for protection of the facility

- e) Security buildings like Watch Towers, Guard Towers etc. planned around the underground facility and around hillock for day-to-day surveillance of the area.
- f) Parking Spaces created for parking of special vehicles and outsiders.

Note: - The detailed project components cannot be disclosed being classified Defence Project. However, the total land development area required in Site-K is 43.91 ha

SITE-R: - Overground Facility: - A high security zone, basically intended to be an integrated complex for the armed forces, meaning efficient integration between work, education, health and In-living for defence personnel. The Site-R area comprises of following components

- a) Command & Control Area: The area established for day-to-day administration of technical area, office spaces for officers and staff, monitoring of the technical area, training of service personnel, emergency usage, In-Living accommodation for the sailors and officers etc. are being catered under the subjected head. Some of the buildings are highlighted as below:
 - i) Administrative office Buildings: The office space will comprise of serving officers and sailors. The office will be utilized for day to administration of technical area including technical correspondence.
 - ii) Information Technology (IT) Section: It is required for management/maintenance of various IT facilities like servers, LANs and PCs of the Base.
 - iii) Mustering Area cum Drill Shed: In case of incident/accident happening inside the base, there will be requirement of an area for mustering and accountability of the personnel working inside the base.
 - iv) Helipad for Emergency Evacuation: In case of any emergency in technical area and casualty/severe illness on the base, the patient will be required to be shifted to Hospital.
 - v) Office for QRT/QRG: The office is required for Quick Reaction Team/ Group consists of specially trained DSC personnel equipped with small arms to react and take prompt action in case of any security threat emergencies.
 - vi) Medical Inspection (MI) Room: Medical Inspection (MI) Room is to be provided to cater to the medical necessities to the base personnel. The MI Room will cater for regular medical requirement as well as emergencies.

- vii) In-Living accommodations for Officers and Sailors/DSC Personnel: The accommodation will normally be provided in self-contained blocks comprising of Officers, Senior sailor's rooms and sufficient barrack rooms for Junior sailor's.
- b) **Institutional Buildings:** Institutional facilities are essential for the running of the base. These institutional facilities would be required for base personnel of the Project R&K. Some of the buildings are highlighted as below:
 - i) Sports Facilities such as Football ground, volleyball court, Basketball court, Indoor Badminton Court, Gymnasium, Swimming Pool etc.: For physical Fitness, Teamwork, Stress relief, Discipline, Resilience, Ability to overcome challenges etc.
 - ii) Shopping Complex: Shopping complexes can provide job opportunities for military personnel. It also provides Convenience for accessing essential goods and services, reducing the need for long trips to external stores. Overall shopping complex provides support to daily needs and well-being of base personnel.
 - iii) Library: Library is important for base personnel for several reasons such as Education and Training, Research, Mental Health, Skill development etc. as it supports the intellectual growth, morale and overall well-being of the personnel.
- c) Patrolling Roads which are planned for the 360° surveillance of the Command-and-Control Area.
- d) Access roads and footpaths planned for movement of vehicle and personnel of the Base.
- e) Security Walls planned for protection of the facility.
- f) Security buildings like Watch Towers, Guard Towers etc. planned around the underground facility and around hillock for day-to-day surveillance of the area.
- g) Parking Spaces created for parking of special vehicles and outsiders.

Note: - The detailed project components cannot be disclosed being classified Defence Project. However, the total land development area required in Site-K is 40.00 ha (Approx.) and out of total plot area around 50% of the land will again be developed in a green area.

The total land required for Site R&K for Non-Forestry activities is 84 ha (43.91 ha for Site-K + 40.00 ha for Site-R).

Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

Indira ParyavaranBhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,

New Delhi - 110003,

Dated: 2

25th March, 2021,

To,

The Special Chief Secretary (Forests), Department of Forest and Environment, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati.

Sub: Diversion of 676.12 hectares of forest land in Rambilli and Kalavalapalli RFS of Visakhapatnam Division in favour of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). -regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Andhra Pradesh's letter No. 6252/FOR.I (1)/ 2010 dated 16th August, 2010 on the above mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the said Act, 'in-principle' /Stage -I approval to the proposal was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 21.02.2018 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions prescribed therein. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Government of Andhra Pradesh vide their letter No.6252/Section. II/2010 dated 24th October, 2020 and letter No.6252/Section. II/2010 dated 18.02.2021 final approval/ Stage-II of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section -2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 676.12 hectares of forest land in Rambilli and Kalavalapalli RFS of Visakhapatnam Division in favour of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over the forest land to user agency by the State Govt.:

i. The State Govt. shall ensure the complete compliance on FRA, 2006; It should also be ensured that the FRA certificate issued by District collector is complete

- with letter number, date, name, signature and official seal, as required in the certificate;
- ii. The User Agency shall implement the R&R Plan as per the R&R Policy of State Government in consonance with National R&R Policy, Government of India before the commencement of the project work and implementation. The said R&R Plan will be monitored by the State Government/Regional Office of MoEF &CC along with indicators for monitoring and expected observable milestones;
- iii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates;
- iv. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986;
- v. The State Government shall upload the kml files of the area under diversion and the accepted degraded forest land for raising compensatory afforestation in the E-Green Watch portal of FSI, before handing over forest land to the user agency;

B: Conditions which need to be complied after handing over the forest land to the user agency by the State Govt.:

- Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The user agency will ensure that all the compensations, as per the norms and rules of the State Government to the affected persons shall be paid prior to handing over of forest land to the User agency;
- iii. User agency will ensure that forest area nearby shall not be encroached upon due to implementation of the project;
- iv. The State Govt. shall ensure that the construction and non-forestry activities will be restricted to minimum within demanded 1.94 ha as per the undertaking provided by the user agency and remaining 674.18 Ha (i.e. 676.12 Ha –1.94 Ha) will be maintained as forest within the administrative control of the DRDO which is required for safety, security and cordoning off the area. Large scale plantation will be undertaken by DRDO in the remaining 674.18—ha. The user agency will not undertake those activities, which may cause deleterious effect on the ground water regime of the area;
- v. The State Govt. shall ensure that the no other activities including mining/ quarrying activities or construction of commercial /residential buildings will be taken up in the area under diversion and an undertaking to this effect shall be furnished by the User Agency;
- vi. The State Government shall ensure that the minimum number of trees 53318 and 16586 poles will be removed and the trees should be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;

- vil The proposed forest land i.e. 676.12 ha shall be handed over to the User Agency only after when the User Agency has acquired the required non-forest land, if any, for the project;
- viii. The Compensatory Afforestation shall be taken up by the State Forest Department over double the degraded i.e. 1,352.24 ha. degraded forest land at the cost of the User Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.
- ix. The State Government shall ensure that the approved plan for comprehensive soil conservation measures implement in the area at the cost of user agency;
- x. No residential buildings will be constructed in the diverted area;
- xi. The User Agency shall afforest blank and degraded patches located within the forest land proposed to be diverted which are not required to be utilised for non-forest activities related to the project as per the approved land use plan;
- xii. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the user agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost;
- xili.The user agency shall take up protection and conservation measures for wildlife found in the areas in consultation with State Forest Department;
- xiv. Blasting to be restricted to minimum, to avoid impact on migratory birds;
- xv. The Divisional Forest Officer of the area will be provided controlled access to the project site for silvicultural and afforestation purposes during the constructional and post-constructional phase;
- xvi.The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- xvii.The User Agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- xviii. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall implement afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost;
- xix.The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xx. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be implement with emphasis that no labour camp be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas;
- xxi. The Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
- xxii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on

ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;

xxiii.No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;

xxiv. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less;

xxv.No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused;

xxvi. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;

XXVII.The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;

xxviii. 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;

xxix. The State Govt. shall ensure that the Compliance report of this approval is uploaded on e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/);

xxx. The Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the para 1.21 of comprehensive guidelines issued vide this Ministry F. No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28th March, 2019;

xxxi. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency; and

xxxii. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval letter dated 21.02.2018 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S), if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;

Yours faithfully,

Sd-

(Sandeep Sharma) Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

 The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Department of Forest, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati.

- ii. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Vijayawada.
- iii.The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati.
- iv. The User Agency.
- v. The Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.