

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

29 SEP 2019 Letter No.2924/For.I(1)/2019

Dated:08.09.2020

From
The Special Chief Secretary to Government,
ESD Department, Telangana Secretariat,
Hyderabad.

To
The Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (C),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),
1st & 2nd floor, HEPC Building, No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600 034 (w.e.)

Sir,

Sub:- F(C) Act, 1980 – Diversion of 13.9887 ha (Nirmal – 9.7887 ha and Echoda -4.20 ha (revised from 8.0972 ha)) of Forest land for Erection of 220kV DC Line from 400/200 KV SS Nirmal to the proposed 220/132KV SS Uttoor in Nirmal District under Thermal Power Transmission Scheme for Evacuation of power from 4 x 270 MW units at Nirmal and the above line route is passing through the forest in favour of Superintending Engineer, OMC Circle, TS TRANSCO, Adilabad – Submitted - Regarding.

Ref:-1.From the PCCF (HoFF), Hyd. Rc.No.9858/2017-FCA-3/PS,
Dt.17.07.2019.
2.State Govt. Lr.No.2924/For.I(1)/2019, Dt.15.10.2019.
3.From Dy. IG (Central), GoI, MoEF&CC, Chennai,
F.No.4-TSC162/ 2019-CHN/410, Dt.22.04.2020.
4.Govt. Memo No.2924/For.I(1)/2019, Dated:10.06.2020.
5. From the PCCF(HoFF), T.S. Hyd. Ref.No.9858/2017/FCA3/PS,
Dt:10.08.2020.

I, am directed to invite your attention to the reference 3rd cited and to inform that the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, (RO), Chennai have accorded approval in-principle (Stage-I) U/s 2 of Forest (C) Act, 1980, for diversion of **13.9887 ha** (Nirmal 9.7887 ha and Echoda 4.20 ha (revised from 8.0972 ha)) of Forest land for Erection of 220kV DC Line from 400/200 KV SS Nirmal to the proposed 220/132KV SS Uttoor in Nirmal District under Thermal Power Transmission Scheme for Evacuation of power from 4 x 270 MW units at Nirmal in favour of Superintending Engineer, OMC Circle, TS TRANSCO, Adilabad, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions as stipulated therein.

2. I am to further information the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, in her letter 5th cited, has submitted condition wise compliance report on the conditions stipulated in in-principle (Stage-I) approval. The details of which are as follows:-

C. No.	Condition	Compliance
(i)	The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged	The User Agency has stated that they have agreed the condition. The Legal status of Forest land remained unchanged.
(ii)	Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by	The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs. 2,12,000/- towards

	erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 mtrs by the user Agency in consultation with the DFO concerned at the project cost before stage II approval	Construction of Boundary Pillars which is a part of total amount of Rs. 2,74,000/- on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Account of FDO, Echoda. The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs. 5,68,000/- towards Construction of Boundary Pillars which is a part of total amount of Rs. 8,90,453/- vide UTR No.SBINR52020060200131329 on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Account of FDO, Nirmal. The demarcation of proposed forest area by erecting 4 feet cement concrete pillars works will be commenced, as the working permission has already been issued.
(iii)	The State Forest Department shall carryout compensatory Afforestation (CA) and its maintenance over 19.60 ha of degraded forest area in Compt No 148 of Kadamba RF of Potheppally Beat, Chedwal Section, Penchikalpet Range of Kagaznagar Division and 8.40 ha of degraded forest area in Compt No.8 of Kaddam RF of Kowta (S) Beat, Sonala Section, Boath Range of Echoda Division, at the cost of the User Agency;	Will be complied by the Forest Department and the CA will be raised over 19.60 ha of degraded forest area in Compt No 148 of Kadamba RF of Potheppally Beat, Chedwal Section, Penchikalpet Range of Kagaznagar Division and 8.40 ha of degraded forest area in Compt No.8 of Kaddam RF of Kowta (S) Beat, Sonala Section, Boath Range of Echoda Division. The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs.2,52,44,724/- towards cost of Compensatory Afforestation which is a part of total amount of Rs. 4,18,58,370/- deposited through RTGS vide UTR No. SBINR52020060200130467 on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Adhoc Telangana CAMPA account by generating the challan in the ministry's portal. Same is reflected as paid in Ministry's portal. (Copy enclosed).
(iv)	The degraded forest land identified for CA and CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;	The degraded forest land identified for CA and CA scheme will not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
(v)	The State Forest Department shall certify that no plantation / afforestation activities was taken up under any scheme, over the degraded forest area identified and accepted for raising compensatory afforestation;	Certified that no plantation / afforestation activities was taken up under any scheme, over the degraded forest area identified and accepted for raising compensatory afforestation.
(vi)	The cost of compensatory afforestation as per the CA scheme and cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years.	The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs.2,52,44,724/- towards cost of Compensatory Afforestation which is a part of total amount of Rs. 4,18,58,370/- deposited through RTGS vide UTR No. SBINR52020060200130467 on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Adhoc Telangana CAMPA account by generating the challan in the Ministry's portal. Same

		s reflected as paid in Ministry's portal. <u>(Copy enclosed)</u> .
(vii)	The State Government shall charge the Net present value of the diverted forest land measuring 13.9887 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.	The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs.95,00,326/- towards cost of Net Present Value which is a part of total amount of Rs. 4,18,58,370/- deposited through RTGS vide UTR No. SBINR52020060200130467 on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Adhoc Telangana CAMPA account by generating the challan in the ministry's portal. Same is reflected as paid in Ministry's portal. <u>(Copy enclosed)</u> .
(viii)	Additional amount of Net present value 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.	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(ix)	All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred / deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/);	The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs.4,18,58,370/- towards cost of Net Present Value, Compensatory Afforestation, raising of Dwarf Species through RTGS vide UTR No. SBINR52020060200130467 on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Adhoc Telangana CAMPA account by generating the challan in the ministry's portal. Same is reflected as paid in Ministry's portal. (Copy enclosed).
(x)	The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to the minimum in the diverted width of 35 meters of the forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;	The User Agency has paid an amount of Rs.52,000/- towards Extraction of Tree Growth which is a part of total amount of Rs. 2,74,000/- on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Account of FDO, Echoda. The User Agency has paid an amount of Rs. 3,22,453/- towards Construction of Boundary Pillars which is a part of total amount of Rs. 8,90,453/- vide UTR No.SBINR52020060200131329 on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Account of FDO, Nirmal.
(xi)	The User Agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall prepare and implement a detailed scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in the right of way under the transmission line at its cost;	The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs.71,13,320/- towards raising of Dwarf Species which is a part of total amount of Rs. 4,18,58,370/- deposited through RTGS vide UTR No. SBINR52020060200130467 on Dt: 02.06.2020 into the Adhoc Telangana CAMPA account by generating the challan in the ministry's portal. Same is reflected as paid in Ministry's portal.

		(Copy enclosed).
(xii)	The User Agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on the upper conductor of the transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xiii)	The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines issued by the Ministry for laying transmission lines through forest areas;	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xiv)	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government.	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xv)	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. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xvi)	No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for the transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xvi)	The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/);	Complied.
(xviii)	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.	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xix)	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.	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xx)	The trees on strips would have to be felled but after shinging work is completed, natural regeneration will be allowed to come up. Future pollarding/pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the local Forest Officer, wherever necessary for the maintenance of the transmission lines.	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xxi)	During construction of transmission line, pollarding/	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.

	pruning of trees located outside the 35 meters width of the strips whose branches /parts infringe with conductor stringing, shall be permitted to the extent necessary, as may be decided by the local Forest Officer;	
(xxii)	In case the portion of the transmission line to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xxiii)	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 at the cost of the User Agency;	Translocation of trees has not been proposed in this project. However, an undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xxiv)	The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 13.9887 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;	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xxv)	The approval under FCA,1980 is subject to the clearance under all other Acts, Rules, Guidelines, Regulations and Court Orders applicable to such project;	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xxvi)	Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDG(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;	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.
(xxvii)	In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action provision under FCA, 1980 and guidelines made there under.	Complied and undertaking given by the User Agency is enclosed.

3. I am to further inform that the User Agency has published the Stage-I forest clearance granted in verbatim along with the conditions and safe-guards imposed by the Central government in two widely circulated daily newspapers one in vernacular language and the other in English on 14.05.2020. Further, as per the request of the User Agency vide SE, OMC Circle, TSTRANSCO, Adilabad Lr.No.SE/OMC/ADB/AE(T)/F.No./D.No.85/20, dt.09.06.2020 and vide SE, OMC Circle, TSTRANSCO, Adilabad Lr.No.SE/OMC/ADB/AE(T)/F.No./D.No.84/20, dt.09.06.2020. working permission has been issued in PCCF Lr.dt.23.04.2020 with conditions as the User Agency has complied with necessary conditions for issual of such working permission for tree cutting and commencement of works.

4. I am also to enclose a copy of the letter 5th cited along with its enclosures of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad and to request you to obtain and communicate final (Stage.II) approval, at the earliest.

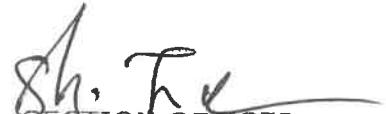
A.SANTHI KUMARI,
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State, Hyderabad.

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//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//


SECTION OFFICER.