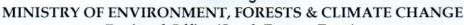


## भारतसरकार

## **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

## पर्यावरण ,वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय



Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), 1st& 2nd floor, HEPC Building, No.34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034, Tel.No.044-2822 2325

E.Mail: roefccc@gmail.com

F.No.4-APB064/2018-CHN/1114 Date 17 July, 2018

To,

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

Subject:

Diversion of 4.70 ha of forest land in Chittoor (EAST) Division for construction of New Broad Gauge Line from Tindivanam- Nagari in favour of Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), Tambaram-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No.12021/61/Section-II/2018 dated 06.07.2018 and online application No. FP/AP/RAIL/32976/2018 seeking prior approval of the Government of India for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey the in-principle (*Stage-I*) approval of the Government of India under Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.70 ha of forest land in Chittoor (EAST) Division for construction of New Broad Gauge Line from Tindivanam-Nagari in favour of the Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), Tambaram-, subject to the following conditions:-

- 1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;
- 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 user agency;
- 3. The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over 9.80 ha of degraded forest land identified in Compt. No 397 of Pullur West RF Range, at the cost of the user agency;
- 4. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring 4.70 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;

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Date: 17/07/18 PSt.

- 5. 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 user agency. The user agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- 6. The funds received from the user agency towards Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value under this project shall be deposited in the Corporation bank account of the Andhra Pradesh State CAMPA. The User Agency shall compulsorily deposit the NPV and other levies only by generating challan through the Ministry's website;
- 7. The user agency shall construct required number of water troughs at the project cost on either side of the proposed track at different locations, to provide water to the wild animals in consultation with the DFO concerned. The user agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- 8. No station or point of halt shall be commissioned in the forest area. The railways Shall look for alternative technical options in this regard;
- 9. Pre-fabricated structures should be used to the maximum possible extent to reduce the extent of disturbance in the habitat;
- 10. 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 outsides the forest area;
- 11. Disturbance shall be kept minimum by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible;
- 12. Trees/bushes standing in the diverted area shall be felled / cleared strictly as per requirement and with prior permission of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned;
- 13. Felling shall be restricted to removal of trees only where it is necessary. The user agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect. The State Forest Department shall translocate the trees, wherever feasible, instead of felling, at the cost of user agency;
- 14. Work shall be taken up only during day time;
- 15. Felling of red sanders shall be carried out as per the rules in force;
- 16. The Forest Department shall ensure to plant adequate number of Red Sanders trees to compensate the felling of the Red Sanders species involved in this project;

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- 17. The user agency shall construct enough number of bridges for connecting the wild life corridors on either side of railway track at the project cost in consultation with the Forest Department. The user agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- 18. In case of any steep slope arising out along the alignment, the slope should be reduced to facilitate movement of wild animals, especially heavy bodied and slow moving animals;
- 19. Appropriate soil conservation measures shall be taken to reduce silt load in the run-off to avoid negative impact on the water bodies;
- 20. Traffic on the proposed track shall be controlled to minimize the chances of wildlife hits. Speed limit for the train shall be decided by the railway authorities in consultation with the CWLW as per terrain and presence of wildlife etc. Moreover, railway authorities shall abide by any restrictions on speed imposed by the State Forest Department as per the orders of the Honourable Supreme Court of India;
- 21. The user agency shall arrange to obtain Environmental Clearance, if required, before starting works in the forest area proposed for diversion;
- 22. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- 23. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **4.70** 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;
- 24. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- 25. The user agency and the State Government 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;
- 26. The Progress of the Compensatory Afforestation as mentioned by the DFO, Chittoor (East) Wildlife Division in Sl No 12 (v) (a) & (b) of part II i.e 346.25 ha of forest land and 349.01 ha of non forest land shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office to upload the same in the web portal;

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- 27. Any other condition that the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), 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;
- 28. 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.

After receipt of the compliance report on above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of noncompliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully

(D.Sathiyan)

Conservator of Forests (Central)

## Copy to:

1. The Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.

2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem Guntur-522004.

- 3. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem, Guntur-522004.
- The Director, RO(HQ) Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003.
- 5. Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), III, Southern Railway, Tambaram, Tamil Nadu-600045.

6. Guard file.

(D.Sathiyan)

Conservator of Forests (Central)

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