



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada

Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road

Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh

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F.No. 4-APB167/2022-VIJ/1005

Date 21st June, 2023

To

The Special Chief 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 2.21 ha (revised from 1.36 ha) of Forest land in Compartment No. 238 & 239 of North Dhone RF, Dhone Range, Kurnool Division for construction of new double Line and electrification track between Guntur and Guntakal stations at Dhone (Rly km 325/4 to 329/2) in favour of Deputy Chief Engineer, construction, Guntakal Division, South Central Railway-Reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No 891/Section.II/2022(1699526) dated 27.04.2022, 981/Section.II/2022/1699526 dated 13.06.2023 and online application No. FP/AP/RAIL/149334/2021 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, I am to convey the in-principle (*Stage-I*) approval of the Government of India under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 diversion of **2.21 ha (revised from 1.36 ha)** of Forest land in Compartment No. 238 & 239 of North Dhone RF, Dhone Range, Kurnool Division for construction of new double Line and electrification track between Guntur and Guntakal stations at Dhone (Rly km 325/4 to 329/2) in favour of Deputy Chief Engineer, construction, Guntakal Division, South Central Railway, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. The 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 from the amount realized from the User Agency;

3. The State Forest Department shall raise and maintain plantation in degraded forest land identified over an extent of **4.42 ha of DFL area has been identified for CA purpose in Compt No 237 & 238 of North Dhone RF, Dhone Beat, Section & Range** from the funds to be provided by the User Agency;
4. The approved CA land and compensatory afforestation scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
5. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **2.21 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 and Ministry's guideline No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and clarification issued vide letter dated 22.03.2022;
6. 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;
7. 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/>);
8. **Considering the presence of fauna like Black Bucks, the User Agency shall construct underpass / culverts at appropriate places (based on the usual route / crossing places and other such places wherever required) and dimensions of such underpass / culverts shall depend on nature of fauna existing in and around forest area proposed for diversion;**
9. **All other mitigation measures required as per the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) prescribed for such linear projects shall be implemented, if necessary, at the cost of the User Agency;**
10. Tree felling shall be carried out wherever necessary under the strict supervision of the DFO concerned;



11. While execution of the project, earth cutting involving 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
12. Proper SMC plan shall be prepared and implement to check soil erosion, at the project cost;
13. 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;
14. 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;
15. **RoFR certificate in the prescribed format from the competent authority for an area of 0.85 ha shall be submitted along with the compliance report;**
16. Speed regulating signage will be erected along the railway line at regular intervals in the Protected Areas/ Forest Areas;
17. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
18. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
19. 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 Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
20. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;



21. 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;
22. Pre-fabricated structures should be used to the maximum possible extent to reduce the extent of disturbance in the habitat;
23. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **2.21 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 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;
25. 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;
26. 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.
27. The State Government shall process and submit compliance report on the above conditions through online (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

After receipt of the compliance report on above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. The in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of the same. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval may be revoked as per the rules.

Yours faithfully,



(N.S.Murali)

Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department & HoFF, AP Forest Department, Aranya Bhavan, P.V.S. Land Mark, Ground Floor, Opposite to IHC Corporate, Industrial Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522503
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Aranya Bhavan, P.V.S. Land Mark, Ground Floor, Opposite to IHC Corporate, Industrial Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522503
3. The IGF, RO(HQ) Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003 for information
4. Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction, Guntakal Division, South Central Railway, Anantapur District, Andhra Pradesh- 515801 dycecnegt1@gmail.com
5. Guard file



(N.S.Murali)

Inspector General of Forests (Central)