



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

Sub Office of Regional Office, Chennai
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road
Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh
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F.No. 4-APA207/2023-VIJ/1300

Date : 25th September, 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 45.19 ha of forest land in Compartment nos.45 & 46 of Bhakrapet Beat, Bhakrapet RF and Compartment nos. 49, 50, 52 & 53 of Nagapatla West Beat, Nagapatla RF and Compartment no.54 of Nagapatla East Beat, Nagapatla RF, SVNP Chalama Range, Tirupati WL Division for construction of four laning Pileru-Kalur road from km 55+900 to km 95+717 of NH-71 in Tirupati District in Andhra Pradesh-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 560/Section .II/2023/2028807 dated 17.04.2023 and 23.06.2023 and online application No. FP/AP/ROAD/155825/2022, seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

As recommended by the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) and after careful consideration of the proposal submitted by the State Government, I am to convey the Central Government's in-principle approval (*Stage-I*) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **45.19 ha** of forest land in Compartment nos.45 & 46 of Bhakrapet Beat, Bhakrapet RF and Compartment nos. 49, 50, 52 & 53 of Nagapatla West Beat, Nagapatla RF and Compartment no.54 of Nagapatla East Beat, Nagapatla RF, SVNP Chalama Range, Tirupati WL Division for construction of four laning Pileru-Kalur road from km 55+900 to km 95+717 of NH-71 in Tirupati District in Andhra Pradesh, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) 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 the User Agency;

Amint

- (iii) The State Forest Department shall carry out compensatory afforestation over an extent of **90.38 ha** of degraded forest area identified in (2) bits i.e., **1) 50 ha** in Inagalur RF, Compartment no.196 of Manavaram Beat, Pallam Section, Srialahasti Range and **2) 40.38 ha** in Yerpedu RF, Compartment no.188 & 189 of Chinthalapalem Beat, Chinthalapalem Section, Srialahasti Range of in field No 147 Aram Village of Dumbriguda (M), Paderu Division, at the cost of the User Agency;
- (iv) Identified CA area and CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- (v) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **45.19 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 19.01.2022 and 22.03.2022
- (vi) 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;
- (vii) 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/>);
- (viii) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (ix) Tree felling shall be carried out wherever necessary under strict supervision of DFO concerned;
- (x) No additional / new path shall be made during execution of the project;
- (xi) The following specific conditions proposed by the sub-committee of the REC in its site inspection report shall be complied with;
 - (a) There shall be a minimum elevated structure (animal underpass) length of 800m or more, out of 1100m of the proposed alignment section from Km.85+700 to Km 86+800;




- (b) Chain link fencing shall be erected along the outer periphery of the road for the remaining 300m length to mitigate Human-Wildlife Conflict and to restrict the wildlife movement towards the road and regulate their movement towards the animal underpass for smooth passage of wild animals;
- (c) The existing road from Police Training Centre to the take-off point of alignment (i.e. Km 85+700) shall be closed for traffic and handed over to Forest Department, after completion of the proposed 4-lane highway. Further, the cost for raising plantation shall also be borne by User Agency for which District Forest officer shall include said cost in the demand note of Compensatory Levies.
- (d) Necessary signages for attention of road commuters regarding the movement of wildlife will be placed on roadside at regular intervals.
- (xii) **Map of the elevated structure (proposed over a length of 800 m) shall be submitted to the RO Chennai / sub office Vijayawada for record purpose;**
- (xiii) The height of the elevated structure shall be as per the height prescribed by the WII;
- (xiv) **The UA shall obtain prior approval of SC NBWL and the competent authority for the area falling in ESZ area;**
- (xv) **The UA / State Government shall apprise the recommendation of the REC to the SC NBWL so as to finalize the mitigation measures as required for the field condition;**
- (xvi) Construction of culverts / bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals shall be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals;
- (xvii) Roadside cuttings and fillings which require engineering support shall be provided as per the instructions of the DFO concerned so as to stabilize the soil;
- (xviii) The dug out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. Storage of any material shall not be done in the forest area;
- (xix) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;



- (xx) The User Agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling and no labour camp shall be established inside the forest area;
- (xxi) Disturbance shall be kept minimum by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it shall 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;
- (xxii) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 45.19ha 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;**
- (xxiii) 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;
- (xxiv) The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
- (xxv) Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDG, RO, 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;
- (xxvi) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as provisions of rules /guidelines made under FCA, 1980.
- (xxvii) 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. 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 non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years

Yours faithfully,


(Balaji Kari)

Assistant 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. Project Director NHAI PIU Tirupati, D.No.23/3/39/501, 5th Floor, Dhanalakshmi Nagar Vykuntapuram Road, MRPalli Tirupati, Chittoor District Andhra Pradesh-517501 nhaitirupati@gmail.com
5. Guard file.


(Balaji Kari)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)