



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-APA144/2022-VIJ/161

Date 30th March, 2022

To,

The Addl 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 44.52 ha of forest land in Vizianagaram for Development of Economic Corridors, Inter Corridors and feeder routes and coastal road primarily to improve the efficiency of freight movement in India (Lot-3/ Odisha & Jharkhand / Package-2) Raipur-Visakhapatnam in the State of Andhra Pradesh under Bharatmala Pariyojana in favour of Project Director, NHAI, PIU, Vizianagaram-reg

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter Nos. 178/Section.II/2022(1629500) dated 08.02.2022 and online proposal No. FP/AP/ROAD/151048/2022 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.

After careful consideration of the proposal submitted by the State Government, and with the recommendation of the REC, I am to convey the Central Government's in principle approval (**Stage-I**) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **44.52 ha** of forest land in Vizianagaram for Development of Economic Corridors, Inter Corridors and feeder routes and coastal road primarily to improve the efficiency of freight movement in India (Lot-3/ Odisha & Jharkhand / Package-2) Raipur-Visakhapatnam in the State of Andhra Pradesh under Bharatmala Pariyojana in favour of Project Director, NHAI, PIU, Vizianagaram, 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. **Certain patches of the forest area proposed for diversion is abutting to non-forest area. Hence, the State Forest Department shall ensure demarcation of forest area to be diverted properly to avoid encroachments;**

- (iii) The State Forest Department shall carry out compensatory afforestation in identified degraded forest land over an extent of **90.22 ha in the below mentioned compartments** , at the cost of the User Agency;

Sl No	Range	Name of the RF	Compartment No	Area in (ha)
01	Vizianagaram	Damarasingi	249	20.36
02	Vizianagaram	Poolbaugh	254	25.02
03	Parvathipuram	Shikaruganj	169	10.50
04	Parvathipuram	Shikaruganj	171	10.00
05	Parvathipuram	Sangamvalsa	201	14.79
06	Saluru	Thaduru (Part-A)	388	3.18
07	Saluru	Thaduru (Part-B)		6.37
Total				90.22

- (iv) The State Forest Department shall ensure required number of plants to be raised in the degraded forest area as per the MoEF&CC guidelines & keeping in view prescriptions in the working plan and may include activities like fencing, if required in the CA scheme to avoid biotic pressure;
- (v) The State Forest Department shall demarcate CA land suitably for the purpose of identification of the plots for future monitoring purpose by the IRO, Vijayawada and the State Forest Department shall ensure regular monitoring of the CA planation to achieve successful plantation;
- (vi) Degraded forest land identified for CA purpose and CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (vii) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **44.52 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 **shall realize revised NPV as per the Ministry's guideline No. 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and clarification issued vide letter dated 19.01.2022;**
- (viii) 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;

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- (ix) Considering presence of Schedule I wild animals in and around the forest area proposed for diversion, Wildlife Mitigation plan (which includes Wildlife protection (underpasses, fencing etc), habitat improvement, monitoring of wildlife, forest fire management etc) shall be prepared and such plan shall be examined and approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden. Such approved wildlife mitigation plan shall be implemented by the User Agency at the cost of the project. **Copy of the approved wildlife mitigation plan shall be submitted to IRO Vijayawada along with the compliance report;**
- (x) **The User Agency shall raise and maintain avenue plantation on both sides of the road in consultation with DFO concerned;**
- (xi) 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/>) ;
- (xii) **The State Government shall upload all such missing documents like CA scheme, enumeration list of trees, and site inspection report of CCF. Visakhapatnam etc in the online application and status report on uploading of such documents shall be informed along with the compliance report without fail;**
- (xiii) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (xiv) 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;
- (xv) 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;
- (xvi) Tree felling shall be carried out wherever necessary under strict supervision of DFO concerned and the UA may carryout translocation of trees wherever feasible at the project cost;
- (xvii) The dug out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. Storage of any material shall not be done in the forest area;
- (xviii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;



- (xix) 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;
- (xx) 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;
- (xxi) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **44.52 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;
- (xxii) 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;
- (xxiii) 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;
- (xxiv) Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Officer (Central) of 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;
- (xxv) 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;
- (xxvi) 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,



(N.S.Murali)

Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to;

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, AranyaBhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem Guntur-522004
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, AranyaBhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem, Guntur-522004
3. National Highways Authority of India, PIU-Vizianagaram, Plot No 149/150 KVR Estate ,Koradepeta, near Chelluru Junction,Vizianagaram- Andhra Pradesh 535004 saurabhchaurasiya@nhai.org
4. Guard file



(N.S.Murali)

Inspector General of Forests (Central)