



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE
Sub Office of the Regional Office, Vijayawada
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road
Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh
email: iro.vijayawada-mefcc@gov.in



F.No. 4-APA184/2022-VIJ/1275

Date : 18th 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 61.73 ha of forest land falling in Compartment Nos.308 & 309 of Palamaner RF and Compartment No.384 of Tekumanda Extn. RF, Palamaner Beat & Range of Chittoor West Division for construction of Green field 4 lane Bangalore-Chennai Expressway Phase-II from km 71.000 to km 156.00 under Bharatmala on Hybrid Annuity Mode in favour of Project Director, NHAI, PIU, Chittoor-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 1894/Section.II/2022/(1811378) Dated: 29.08.2022 and online application No. FP/ AP/ROAD/154254/2022 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. The project was accorded in-principle approval (Stage-I) by the Central Government vide letter dated 23.09.2022. The State Government letter No.1894/Section.II/2022/1811378 dated 03.08.2023 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval;

After careful consideration of the compliance report submitted by the State Government, I am directed to convey the Central Government's approval (*Stage-II*) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 61.73 ha of forest land falling in Compartment Nos.308 & 309 of Palamaner RF and Compartment No.384 of Tekumanda Extn. RF, Palamaner Beat & Range of Chittoor West Division for construction of Green field 4 lane Bangalore-Chennai Expressway Phase-II from km 71.000 to km 156.00 under Bharatmala on Hybrid Annuity Mode in favour of Project Director, NHAI, PIU, Chittoor, 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;
- (iii) The State Forest Department shall carry out compensatory afforestation over an extent of **142.41 ha** of degraded forest area identified in (3) patches (1) in Compartment nos.272 & 274 of Pathikonda RF, Plamaner Range (**51.98 ha**), in Compartment no.241, Vavilithota RF of Santhapeta Beat (**48.33 ha**) and (3) in Compartment no.229 of KeenatampalleExtn. RF, Keenatampalle Beat, Chittoor West Range (**42.10 ha**), from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;
- (iv) Identified CA area and CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- (v) 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;
- (vi) The User Agency / State Government shall ensure to comply with all the conditions as recommended by the SC-NBWL;
- (vii) The Wildlife mitigation approved by the chief wildlife warden and the SC NBWL shall be implemented in the forest area and the road stretch passing in non-forest area in the Rayala Elephant Reserve and such mitigation plan shall be implemented at the cost of the User Agency;
- (viii) Trees shall be felled wherever necessary under the strict supervision of the DFO concerned. As the 11 number of trees / poles of Red Sanders are to be felled under the project and the adjacent identified CA area is having red sanders plantation, the State Forest Department shall ensure plantation of sufficient red sanders samplings in the DFL area ;
- (ix) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (x) The User Agency shall carryout avenue plantation and its maintenance on sides of the road at the cost of the project;
- (xi) 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;

- (xii) 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;
- (xiii) The dug out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. Storage of any material shall not be done in the forest area;
- (xiv) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xv) 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;
- (xvi) 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;
- (xvii) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 61.73 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- (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;
- (xix) 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;
- (xx) 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;



- (xxi) 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;

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, National Highway Authority of India, PIU-Chittoor, Door No. 2-1273/1F, BV Reddy Colony, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh- 517001
prasanth.ragimanu@ap.gov.in
5. Guard file.


(Balaji Kari)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)