

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



F.No. 4-APA207/2023-VIJ/491 Date : 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2024

То

The Special Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 4<sup>th</sup> 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 ofNagapatla 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 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(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the above mentioned project. The project was accorded in-principle approval by the Central Government vide letter F.No. 4-APA207/2023-VIJ /1300 dated 25.09.2023. The State Government vide letter No. 560/Section.II/2023/2028807 Dated: 25.09.2024 has reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey the Central Government's final approval under Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 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 ofNagapatla 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;
- 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 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, Srikalahasti Range and 2) 40.38 ha in Yerpedu RF, Compartment no.188 & 189 of Chinthalapalem Beat, Chinthalapalem Section, Srikalahasti 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;
- 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;
- (vi) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (vii) Tree felling shall be carried out wherever necessary under strict supervision of DFO concerned;
- (viii) No additional / new path shall be made during execution of the project;
- (ix) 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 the Police Training Centre to the take-off point of alignment (i.e. Km 85+700) shall be closed for traffic and handed over to the Forest Department, after completion of the proposed 4-lane highway. Further, the cost for raising plantation shall also be borne by the User Agency for which the District Forest officer shall include said cost in the demand note of Compensatory Levies.
- (d) Necessary signages for the attention of road commuters regarding the movement of wildlife will be placed on the roadside at regular intervals.
- (x) 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;
- (xi) The height of the elevated structure shall be as per the height prescribed by the WII;
- (xii) The UA shall obtain prior approval of SC NBWL and the competent authority for the area falling in ESZ area;
- (xiii) 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;
- (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 waterlogging, 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) The dug-out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. Storage of any material shall not be done in the forest area;
- (xvii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;

- (xviii) The User Agency shall provide firewood, 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;
- (xix) 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;
- (xx) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed <u>45.19ha</u> and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal.
- (xxi) 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;
- (xxii) The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
- (xxiii) Any other conditions that the Central Government 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;
- (xxiv) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

Yours faithfully,

-Sd-(Balaji Kari) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

- The Inspector General of Forests, ROHQ Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003 for information.
- 2. The Joint CEO CAMPA, 4th Floor, Old CBI Building, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,

New Delhi.

- 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
- 4. 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
- 5. The Project Director NHAI PIU Tirupati, D.No.23/3/39/501, 5th Floor, Dhanalakshmi Nagar Vykuntapuram Road, MR Palli Tirupati, Chittoor District Andhra Pradesh-517501 <u>nhaitirupati@gmail.com</u>
- 6. Guard file.

## Signed by Balaji Kari Date: 15-10-2024 15:03:31

(Balaji Kari) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)