

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

Letter No.5104/Section-II/2018

Dated:24-04-2019

From
The Principal Secretary to Government,
EFS&T Department,
A.P.Secretariat,
Velagapudi,
Amaravati.



To
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.
Regional Office, 1st and 2nd Floors,
Handloom Export promotion Council Building
34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034 (w.e)

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 20.72 Ha. of forest land in Venkatagiri Hill RF & Inagaluru RF in Nellore and Chittoor Districts for excavation of Somasila Swarnamukhi Link canal from Km. 56.000 to Tail End Km. 100.425 including CM & CD works in favour of Chief Engineer, NTR TGP, Tirupati - Proposal U/s 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Additional information furnished –Reg.

Ref: 1.From the PCCF (HoFF), A.P., Lr.Rc.No. 10384/2017/FCA-1, Dated: 06.11.2018.
2. State Govt.Lr.No.5104/Section-II/2018, dated.13-12-2018.
3: From GoI, MoEF& CC, Lr. No.4-APA092/2018-CHN/0104, dt.24-01-2019.
4.From the PCCF (HoFF), A.P., Lr.Rc.No.10384/2017/FCA-1, Dated: 06.03.2019.

I am to invite your attention to the reference 2nd cited, in which the State Government have forwarded a proposal to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change for according necessary approval under Section 2 Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 20.72 Ha. of forest land in Venkatagiri Hill RF & Inagaluru RF in Nellore and Chittoor Districts for excavation of Somasila Swarnamukhi Link canal from Km. 56.000 to Tail End Km. 100.425 including CM & CD works in favour of Chief Engineer, NTR TGP, Tirupati.

2. The Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Chennai in the reference 3rd cited have requested the State Government to furnish the certain additional information / documents at the earliest for further consideration of the proposal.

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh, in the reference 4th cited has submitted the following information as desired by the Government of India:-

Reply to Point (a):-As reported by the Conservator of Forests, WLM, Tirupati vide his letter dt.21.2.2018, the entire earth work for the canal in the proposed area in

(P.T.O.)

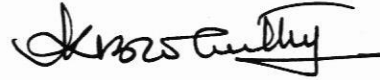
Compt. No. 172 of Venkatagiri RF and Compt. No. 196 of Inagalur of Mannavaram Beat of Palam Section have been completed in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Case has been booked vide DOR No. 71/2018-19/SKHT Range, Dt.16.11.2018 by FRO, Srikalahasti against the user agency. The details of the officer on behalf of user agency were already furnished at the time of submitting the proposals. However, the report of the Conservator of Forests, WLM, Tirupati is enclosed. Further, with regard to the officials of the forest department responsible for the violations, departmental action is being initiated against them.

Reply to Point (b):- As reported by the Conservator of Forests, Guntur vide his letter dt.18.02.2019, the Divisional Forest Officer, Nellore reported that the Forest Range Officer, Venkatagiri Range has conducted Joint Inspection in the proposed canal area in RF from Station No.253 to 258 of Venkatagiri Hill RF near Chilikampadu Village of Kurjagunta Beat of Venkatagiri Range on 01.02.2019 along with Dy. Executive Engineer, SSLC & SB Sub Division No.3, JKR Dam and concerned Assistant Engineer of User Agency. Further, the Divisional Forest Officer, Nellore reported that during the Joint Inspection, the boundary of Venkatagiri Hill RF from Station No.253 to 258 were fixed as per Gazette notification, it was observed that, the Somasila Swarnamukhi Link Canal work executed upto Forest Boundary and no canal work was taken up in Venkatagiri Hill RF area for which the forest diversion proposals were given in 11.52 ha. The Joint Inspection team also noticed that there is no violation of the provisions of the F(C) Act, 1980 by the User Agency. The Joint Inspection report drafted by the above Joint Inspection Team and Google earth maps, super imposed on the SI sheet showing the location of canal and RF boundary and a sketch showing the existing canal and proposed canal prepared by the Joint Inspection team in 2 sets are submitted for kind perusal.

4. I am to enclose herewith a copy of the letter of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh together with its enclosures.

5. I request you to consider the above information and obtain and communicate the approval of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the matter at an early date.

Yours faithfully,



for Principal Secretary to Government

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force),
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

The Chief Engineer, NTR TGP, Tirupati.