

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri A. Chandra Sekhar, SFS,
District Forest Officer
SPSR Nellore.

To
The Chief Conservator of Forests,
Guntur circle, Guntur

Rc.No. 1795/2018/F11, Dt. 14-08-2024

Sir,

Sub. APFD Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Ahiniyam 1980 and rules 2023 - Diversion of 1.27 Ha. of forest land in Nellore, Venkatagiri, udayagiri, Kavali and Atmakur Ranges of Nellore Division for laying optical fibre cable along the road within the Right of Way (RoW) in favour of M/s Reliance Jio infocomm. Ltd. For providing 4G communication in State of AP - Additional information submission of - Reg.

- Ref.
1. MoEF&CC, Sub office Vij. Lr. F.No. APB227/2024-VIJ/214 dt. 19-2-2024 communicated through PCCF, AP, Mangalagiri Rc. No. KEFS02-15026/5/2019-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3 dt. 22-3-2024 and CCF, Guntur Rc.No. 558/2019-20 dt. 2-4-2024.
 2. R/o of Authorised signatory, M/s Jio Digital Fibre Pvt. Ltd. Lr. No. DFPL/AP/ROW/OFC/NLD/DFO-NELLORE/1.27 Ha./2024-25/061, dt. 6-6-2024 received by this office on 14-8-2024.
 3. DFO Nellore Rc. No. 1631/2018F11dt. 6-7-2024 addressed to EE, R&B, Gudur
 4. EE, R&B, Gudur Rc. No.903/JTO/Road cutting/2019-20dt. 8-7-2024.
 5. DFO Nellore Rc.No. 1631/2018F11dt. 19-7-2024 addressed to ENC (Admn) R&B, Vijayawada
 6. DFO Nellore Rc. No. 1631/2024F9 dt. 5-7-2024

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It is submitted that, in the reference cited, the Govt. of India have instructed to submit the information on two points. The information for each point as called for in the reference cited are submitted herewith with for favour of kind information.

1) Whether any proposal was processed for the works carried out by the previous agency (M/s Vindhya Telelinks Ltd., mentioned in reference), If so the status of it?

Reply: It is submitted that, there is a proposals of Vindhya tele links Ltd., for "Diversion of 0.52 Ha. of forest land in Kanupuru East RF, Surveypalli RF, Surveypalli Extn RF of Nellore Range of Nellore Division, Puduru & Yellasiri RFs of Venkatagiri Range of Tirupathi Division for laying of Optical Fiber Cable by M/s Vindhya Tele Links Ltd,Secunderabad". The proposals number in PARIVESH 1.0 is FP/AP/OFC/37050/2018.

It is submitted that, the diversion proposals were submitted to the Govt. through proper channel. The Govt. of India in MoEF &CC Vijayawada Lr. F.No. 4-APB 200/2023-VIJK/165dt. 19-11-2024 communicated through PCCF(HoFF), AP, Gnt. Ref.no.EFS02-15026/17/2018- FCA - SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, Dated: 06-02-2024 has instructed to furnish the name of the persons responsible for violation. A detailed report was submitted to Chief Conservator of Forests, Guntur vide DFO Nellore Rc.No.1631/2018F11 dt. 25-07-2024.

2) Whether the instant proposals was examined in view of the recent guidelines w.r.t. violation provision:

Reply: It is submitted that, in the ref 2nd cited, the authorized signatory, M/s Jio Digital Bibre Pvt. Ltd. has submitted a representation stating that, M/s Jio Digital Bibre Pvt. Ltd carried out the OFC work without knowing that the area falls under Reserve Forest. The work was executed during 20th to 31-6-2018. It is submitted that, the Executive Engineer, R&B, Gudur accorded permission to M/s Jio Digital Fibre Pvt. Ltd. To lay OFC from KM 14/0 to 29/0 KM vide Lr. No. EE-GUDUR/APRCRP001619/GUDURU/D.No. 001145 dt. 5-7-2019. In the letter dt. 5-7-2019, the Executive Engineer has issued the following permission.

"with reference to your online application letter cited, you are requested to furnish a Bank Guarantee of Rs. 14,62,500/- to department for according permission to lay OFC cable along the naidupet to Sriharikota (via) Duggarajapatnam road from km 14/0 to 29/0 on right side in SPSR Nellore Nellore district through HDD method. The bank guarantee shall be valid for a period of one year in terms of GO Ms. No. 12 dt. 28-7-2014 of ITE&CD (Communication wing)".

As per the above letter of Executive Engineer, R&B Gudur, the permission was accorded to M/s Jio Digital Fibre Pvt. Ltd., for laying of OFC along Naidupet to Sriharikota (Via) Duggarajapatnam Road in SPSR Nellore on obtaining Bank guarantee from the said user agency. In the above reach, some of the portion falls in Puduru RF, Chillamur beat of erst while Venkatagiri Range now under the jurisdiction of Tirupathi Division.

It is submitted that, M/s Jio Digital Bire Pvt. Ltd. In their representation further stated that, the date of commencement of work was during 20th to 31-6-2018. In the ref 2nd cited, the authorized signatory, M/s Jio Digital Bibre Pvt. Ltd. In his representation stated that, M/s Jio Digital Bibre Pvt. Ltd carried out the OFC work without knowing that the area falls under Reserve Forest. Copy of the ref 2nd cited and permission letter to EE, R&B dt. 5-7-2019 are enclosed herewith for favour of kind perusal.

It is submitted that, in the ref 3rd cited, the Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Gudur has been requested to submit the name and address of the Executive Engineer, R&B Gudur who issued the permission for laying of OFC in RF area. In the ref 4th cited, the Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Gudur has informed that, Sri B. Vivekanana was the Executive Engineer who issued the working order for laying of OFC and informed that, the EE is retired from Service and his residential address is not known.

In the ref 5th cited, a letter has been addressed by this to the Engineer-in-chief (Admn), Vijayawada requesting to inform the address of the Retd. Engineer. The Office of Engineer-in- Chief informed that, the said Sri B. Vivekanand was retired a Dy. Chief Engineer (R&B) and the residential address of the above retired officer is informed as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Executive Engineer	Present working Place	Residential address if he retired from service.
1	2	3	4
1	B.Vivekanand	Retired from the service as Dy. Chief Engineer (R&B)	D.No. 8-247/B, Lawyer pet extension, Sujathanagar, 4 th line, Near VIP road, Ongole-523 002, Prakasam District

As regards the Forest officials who involved in violation, it is submitted that, on verification of Service registers in this office, it is noticed that, the following Forest Beat Officer who working in Chillamur beat of erst while Venkatagiri is noticed.

Sl. No.	Name of the Executive Engineer	Designation	Period of working in Chllamur beat of erst while Venkatagiri Range	Present place of working
1	2	3	4	5
1	R. Suman	Forest Beat officer	25-11-2014 to 18-7-2019.	Forest Section officer, Kavali Range.

As it is the primary responsibility of the Forest Beat office to protect the Forest areas under his jurisdiction, the said Forest Beat officer has neither objected the laying of OFC in RF area nor booked any forest cases against the culprits. He has not reported the facts to higher authorities. Hence, he is responsible for the violations.

In this regard, in the ref 6th cited an Article of Charges was framed against Sri R. Suman, FSO, Kavali range for the violations during his tenure in Chillamur beat. On receipt of the defense statement from the said Forest Section officer, further disciplinary proceedings will be initiated as per procedure.

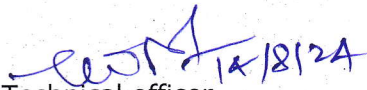
This submitted for favour of kind information.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-A. Chandra Sekhar,
District Forest Officer,
SPSR Nellore.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Tirupathi for information.

//tcbo//


Technical officer

Copy off : —

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ROADS AND BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT

FROM:
SRI B. VIVEKANAND, M.E., M.I.E
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B),
GUDUR.

TO
M/s. JIO DIGITAL FIBRE Pvt.Ltd.
40-1-72D, 5th Floor, K.K.Towers, Opp:HDFC
Bank, M.G.Road, Vijayawada-520010, Andhra
Pradesh. Tel: 0866-6793226.

Lr.No.EE-GUDURU/APRCRP001619/GUDURU/D. No:001145, DT:05.07.2019

Gentleman,

Sub: (R&B) Dept. - GUDURU Division, Road cutting Permission for laying of OFC CABLES along and/or across Naidupet to Sriharikota (Via) Duggarajapatnam road from Km. 14/0 to 29/0 on right side in SPSR Nellore District – Furnishing of Bank Guarantee for according Permission for road cutting and restoration by the RELIANCE JIO INFOCOMM – Demand Note issued – Regarding.

Ref: 1. Usser application No. APRCRP001619.
2. Letter No.DEE/(R&B) Kota/ Road cutting/2019, dt: 24.04.2019 of the Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Kota.

With reference to your online application letter cited, you are requested to furnish a Bank Guarantee of Rs.14,62,500/- to the department for according permission to lay OFC cable along the Naidupet to Sriharikota (Via) Duggarajapatnam road from Km.14/0 to 29/0 on right side in SPSR Nellore District through HDD method. The bank guarantee shall be valid for a period of one year in terms of G.O. Ms. No.12, dt:28.07.2014 of ITE & CD (Communication wing).

Sd/-XXXXXXX
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B)
GUDUR

Copy to the Deputy Executive Engineer (R&B) Kota for Information.

S. M. Pandey
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
(R&B) DIVISION: GUDUR

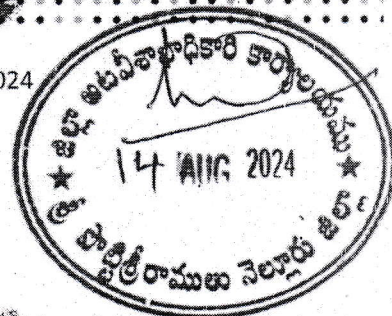
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DIGITAL
LIFE

JDFPL/AP/ROW/OFC/NLD/DFO-NELLORE/1.27 Ha/ 2024-25/061, dated 6th July 2024



To
The District Forest Officer,
Sri Potti Sri Ramulu Nellore District,
Nellore, Andhra Pradesh.

Sub: Diversion of 1.27 Ha of forest land in Nellore & Tirupati (Venkatagiri Range) Divisions for laying of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) along the existing road – clarification wrt work carried out prior to Application- Reg.

F11

Ref.: Online proposal No. FP/AP/OFC/38865/2019

Dear Sir,

Kindly refer to the cited proposal seeking forest clearance for 1.27 Ha. of Forest land in Nellore & Tirupati (Venkatagiri Range) Divisions for laying of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) along the existing roads.

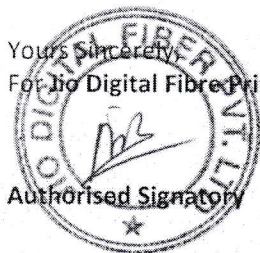
In this regard, we wish to inform you that we were laying Optical Fibre Cable between Naidupeta to Sriharikota via Duggarajapatnam road along the existing R&B Road without knowing that the area falls under Reserve Forest during 20th to 31st July 2018. We have stopped the work immediately upon knowing that the land falls under Reserve Forest (where OFC ducts were being laid) and did not blow the OFC in the laid ducts too. Subsequently, we sought for forest clearance vide cited proposal.

Further, we would like to submit that the above work carried out in Puduru RF was purely unintentional and shall pay the penalty if any as per the guidelines, abide by the Forest Act.

In view of the above, we kindly request you to further process our proposal for forest clearance at the earliest.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,
For Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited



Authorised Signatory

Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited CIN U64200GJ2018PTC105652

Registered Office: Office - 101, Saffron, Nr. Centre Point, Panchwati 5 Rasta, Ambawadi, Ahmedabad-380 006, Gujarat, India

Local Office: 2nd Floor, KBR Heights, 40-1-116 & 117, M.G. Road, Vijayawada-520 010, Andhra Pradesh. Tel: 0866-3541190