

I/166359/2023

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From:

Sri R M Dobriyal, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
&
Head of Forest Force (FAC),
Telangana, "Aranya Bhavan",
Saifabad, Hyderabad.

To:

**The Special Chief Secretary to the
Government,**
Forest Department,
Telangana, Secretariat,
Hyderabad.

Ref.No.FC2/FC09/8/2022 (4244/2019), Dated:20/07/2023.

Madam,

Sub:TSFD – F(C) Act, 1980 – diversion of **27.678 Ha** of Forest Land for improvements and widening of roads i) **Thaliperu Dam to Rallapuram** (ii) **Rallapuram to Battigudem** (iii) **Uyyalamadugu to Thippapuram** (iv) **Thippapuram to Battigudem** (v) **Errampadu to Battigudem** (vi) **Thippapuram to Bathinapally via chennapuram** in Cherla (Mandal), Bhadradri-Kothagudem District in favour of R&B Circle, Khammam – **revised proposal submitted - Reg.**

- Ref:**
1. PCCF's Rc. No. 6753/2014/FCA3, dt.24-08-2020.
 2. Gol, MoEF & CC, RO(SEZ), Chennai F.No.4-TSC169/2020-CHN/714, dt.04-9-2020.
 3. PCCF's Rc. No. 4244/2019/FCA2, dt.14-9-2020.
 4. State Govt. Lr.No.4414/For.I(91)/2020, dt.18.09.2021.
 5. Gol, MoEF & CC, RO, Hyderabad dt.14.02.2022.
 6. 3rd REC meeting held on 21.03.2022.
 7. CF, Kothagudem Lr.No. 146/2019/M3, dt.23.03.2022.
 8. DFO, Kothagudem Lr.No.125/2019/D1, dt.21.03.2022.
 9. PCCF, TS, Hyderabad Lr.No 4244/2019/FCA2, dt.04.04.2022.
 - 10.Govt. Lr.No. 4414/For.I(1)/2020, dt.23.04.2022.
 - 11.4th REC meeting held on 25.04.2022.
 - 12.Gol, MoEF & CC, RO, Hyderabad F.No.4-TSC169/2020-CHN/515, dt.20.05.2022.
 - 13.CCF, Kothagudem Lr.No. 146/2019/M3, dt.29.08.2022.
 - 14.CCF, Bhadradri Circle, Lr.No. 146/2019/M3, dt.14.03.2023.

Kind attention of the Government is invited to the references cited.

The subject proposal was discussed in the 3rd Regional Empowered Committee meeting held on 21.03.2022. In the said REC meeting the inspection notes of the subject project done by the sub-committee of REC on 19.02.2022 was also discussed. The REC in the said meeting, has requested to submit revised proposals duly incorporating suggestions made during the field visit.

Accordingly, revised proposal for diversion of 26.2299 Ha of FL (revised from 31.084 Ha) is submitted to the IRO, MoEF&CC, Gol, Hyderabad by State Govt. vide reference

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10th cited.

Again the subject proposal was discussed in the 4th Regional Empowered Committee meeting held on 25.04.2022. In the said meeting, the committee opined that the information sought in earlier meeting dated.21.03.2022 is not furnished fully by the State Govt. and the User Agency. Therefore, it is decided to **defer** the proposal till the requisite information is provided. Accordingly, the IRO, MoEF&CC, Gol, Hyderabad vide ref 12th cited has called for information on two points as mentioned therein.

1. The State Govt. shall inform any department of Govt., HoD or authority issued an order to carryout works in Forest area, if so copy of such order along with detailed note on the above matter shall be submitted to the IRO, Hyderabad alongwith documents.
2. Detailed action taken report by the State Forest Department alongwith case booked, if any, and other relevant documents.

In the reference 14th cited, the CCF, Kothagudem has submitted revised proposals duly obtaining Part-II and Site Inspection report by the District Forest Officer.

Details of the revised proposal are as follows:

I - Information furnished by the DFO in revised Part-II

- Initially proposal for diversion for a total forest area of **31.084 Ha** with width of **12.5 M and 15 M** was submitted to the IRO, MoEF&CC, Gol.
- The sub-committee of REC has inspected the proposed road on 19.02.2022 and the User Agency was asked to submit a revised proposal duly incorporating suggestion made during the field visited.
- Accordingly, forest area proposed for diversion after incorporating the suggestion subcommittee of REC during the inspection is arrived at **26.2299 Ha, duly withdrawing the stretch-2 i.e., Uyyalamadugu to Thippapuram.**
- The Superintendent of Police, Bhadradri-Kothagudem vide Ir.dt.15.06.2022 has informed that proposed road from Uyyalamadugu to Thippapuram is very important for curbing LW activities and the proposed road is alternate route for Chelamala and Chennapuram CRPF Camps and this route is useful for dropping and pick up of Special Forces for extremist operations. Hence, the SP, Bhadradri-Kothagudem requested to process and to approve these road proposals also instead of withdrawing.
- In view of the justification given by the SP, Kothagudem, the road stretch-2 i.e., Uyyalamadugu to Thippapuram to an extent of 1.449 Ha was included in the proposal and accordingly Part-II proposals for the total area to be diverted

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for 27.6789 Ha is prepared.

- The details of the forest area proposed for diversion for each road with width is as follows:

Sl. No.	Range	R.F. Block	Compt. No.	Length in Kms proposed by the User Agency in Kms	Proposed road width in Mtrs	Extent of the Area in ha. Proposed by the User Agency in Ha.	Remarks
1	2	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Charla	Pedamidisileru	70A	4.830	7.50	4.238	Thaliperu Dam to Rallapuram, Rallapuram to Battigudem
2	Charla	Pedamidisileru	70B	0.821			
3	Charla	Pedamidisileru	72	1.932	7.50	1.449	Uyyalamadugu to Thippapuram Instead of withdrawing, the User Agency has informed on 15.06.2022 to process and to approve this road proposal also.
4	Charla	Pedamidisileru	71B	3.254	7.50	2.440	Thippapuram to Battigudem
5	Charla	Pedamidisileru	71C	1.663	7.50	1.2474	Yerrampadu to Battigudem
6	Charla	Pedamidisileru	71B & 71C	8	20	16	Thippapuram to Bathinapally (via Chennapuram) Total width of 20 mtrs violated is considered for diversion in 8 Km.
				2.3045	10	2.3045	
			Total:	22.805 Kms		27.6789	-1.449 =26.2299 Ha.

- The forest area proposed for diversion passing through Pedamidisileru is notified U/s. 16 M.F.Act, 1882 Part-I Gazette Page No.1271, dt. 04-11-1919.
- Density of vegetation, **(a) Forest Type** : Tropical dry deciduous forest and

(b)Average crown density of Vegetation: The density

Ranging from 0.4 to 0.6 (Boxes).

- Species-wise and diameter class wise abstract of trees to be felled in the area proposed for diversion is enclosed with the proposal. As per the enumeration list a total of 1195 trees/poles are to be felled in the area in question.
- All most all the proposed forest areas are plain lands with gentle slope and does not falling in steep slopes, hence the problem of erosion doesn't arise.
- There is no Protected Archaeological/Heritage Site/Defense Establishment or any Other Important Monument is located in the forest area proposed to be diverted.
- The area proposed for diversion is not falling in National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor etc.

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- There are no rare/endangered unique species of flora and fauna are found in the forest area proposed for diversion.
- The forest land proposed for diversion by User Agency is unavoidable and barest minimum, to an extent of **27.6789 ha**.
- Site Inspection notes of District Forest Officer., Kothagudem is enclosed.

II- Information on violation of Forest (Conservation) Act:

Out of (5) stretches, violation was observed in stretch No.5 Thippapuram to Bathinapally Via chennapuram. B.T. Road was laid by R&B Department in the year **2016** for a total length of 8 Kms with 20 Mtrs width. The total area of violation is calculated as 16.00 Ha. A show-cause notice has been issued by the Forest Divisional Officer, Bhadrachalam vide reference No.230/2020-21/B4,dt.25.02.2021.

III- Comments of the DFO, Bhadradri - Kothagudem District in his field inspection report; Dt.27.01.2022.

The User Agency initially proposed for a total forest area diversion of 31.085 Ha with width 12.5 Mtrs and 15 Mtrs. Further, user agency has reduced the width of proposed roads to 7.5 Mtrs and 10 Mtrs (only for stretch 5) and also proposed to include road proposed on stretch 2 (Uyyalamadugu to Thippapuram) accordingly the land required for this road is included in total requirement of diversion and the forest area required for diversion comes to 27.6789 ha.

Further, it was observed that violation was done by R&B department in the year 2016 on Thippapuram to Bathinapally via Chennapuram (stretch 5) along 8 km with a width of 20 Mtrs out of total proposed length of 10.3045 KM. Accordingly the required area for diversion in this stretch is considered as 18.3045 Ha (16 ha violation area and 2.3045 Ha non violation area).

All the sites are falling in the forest type Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests (5A) as per Champion and Seth classification. The vegetation is of miscellaneous type with predominant species of Tectona Grandis, Chloroxylon swietenia, Morinda Clrifolia, Madhuka Indica, Diospyros melanoxylon, Adiana cardifolia, Pterocarpus marsupium etc., The proposed forest land for diversion for the proposed project is bearest minimum and unavoidable. The type of soil is Red soil. The average crown density is 0.40 in all the sites. All the sites are plain lands and non-vulnerable to erosion. These villages are being connected strategically to counter LWE activities as these locations are bordering Chattishgarh state, movement of forces in these areas should be unpredictable. Hence, multiple outward roads are being proposed, which is justifiable. These projects will also improve movement of forest staff and will also help in forest protection.

IV- Recommendations of the DFO, Bhadradri Kothagudem in Part-II:

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The DFO, Bhadradi Kothagudem in part-II has recommended the proposal for diversion of 27.6789 Ha forest land for improvement of roads in favour of R&B Department and necessary clearance may be given as these villages are being connected strategically to counter LWE activities as these locations are bordering Chattishgarh state, movement of forces in these areas should be unpredictable. Hence, multiple outward roads are being proposed, which is justifiable. These projects will also improve movement of forest staff and will also help in forest protection.

V. Recommendations of the Conservator of Forests, Kothagudem in Part- III:

The CCF, Bhadradi has recommended the project for diversion of 27.6789 Ha, duly agreeing with the remarks of the District Forest Officer., Kothagudem.

VI- Compensatory Afforestation on degraded forest land over the double the extent of forest land utilized in violation.

- Work in violation of Act is carried out in the forest area proposed for diversion to an extent of **16.00 Ha**.
- Penal Compensatory Afforestation in double the extent of forest land utilized in violation in degraded forest land is proposed.
- Hence, the Forest Divisional Officer, Bhadrachalam has prepared penal CA over 2*16.00 ha = **32.00 ha** in Compt.No.72 in Peddamidisileru RF of Charla Range degraded forest land under SMM i.e., 1111 plants/ha.
- The financial outlay of the CA scheme is **Rs. 221.351 lakhs** with 10 years maintenance, with starting the nursery raising from 2021-22.
- PCA scheme is enclosed.
- Map of the degraded forest land identified for CA is enclosed.

VI- Details of Non-forest land identified for CA and RoFR Act certificate obtained from the District Collector was already submitted to the IRO, Hyderabad by State Govt. vide Lr.No.4414/For.I(1)/2020, dt.18.09.2021.

The CCF, Bhadradi Circle vide refernece 14th cited has submitted point-wise replies to the EDS raised by the IRO vide Ir.dt.20.05.2022.

	EDS raised by IRO	Replies furnished by the District Forest Officer / Conservator of Forests/ User Agency
1	The State Government shall inform any department of Govt., HoD or Authority issued an order to carryout works in Forest area if so copy of such order along with detailed note on the above matter shall be submitted to the IRO, Hyderabad along with documents.	A detailed report is submitted by the Chief Engineer(R&B) Administration & Quality Control, Errum Manzil, Hyderabad vide Lr. No. 0624/VC.2/2022-1 dt.08.02.2023. Further, the officers responsible for execution of the work in R&B Dept were issued explanation memos. Based on the explanation of the officers, the Roads were laid for conduction of the elections as the

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		area is under LWE threat. Hence it is informed that the warning is issued to the concerned officilas and charges closed (copies enclosed).
2	Detailed action taken report by the State Forest Department along with case booked, if any, and other relevant documents	A show-cause notice was issued to the User Agency vide Forest Divisional Officer, Bhadrachalam Rc.No.230/2020-21/B4, dt. 25.02.2021 & 06.12.2021 (copies enclosed)

The proposal as submitted by the CF, Kothagudem alongwith revised Part-II & III / cross section of the roads are enclosed herewith alongwith Part-IV with due recommendations of the undersigned.

Further, it is submitted that this proposal is being closely monitored by the MoHA, Gol and State Govt., as the subject project is being taken up in LWE Affected District. Further, out of the 6 roads proposed for diversion, violation is carried out in violation certain stretch of road in one road project.

The Government is therefore requested to forward the same along with Part-V to the Gol, MoEF&CC, IRO, Hyderabad for according necessary approval of the project at the earliest, with imposition of Penalty for carrying out work in violation in the forest area in question without obtaining prior clearance or working permission, as per para 1.21 (ii) of Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Rakesh Mohan
Dobriyal
Date: 20-07-2023 15:41:57
Reason: Approved

Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force

Copy to the Regional Officer, Gol, MoEF&CC, Integrated Regional Office, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad for favour of information and necessary action.

Copy to the Principal Secretary to Government, TR&B Department, Govt. of Telangana for favour of information and necessary action.

Copy to the Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle, Khammam & District R&B Officer, Kothagudem / Chief Engineer (R&B), D&P, RSW, LWE & RR, Errum Manzil, Hyderabad.

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PART - IV

(to be filled by the Nodal officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest department)

17	Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks (While giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon).	<p>Proposal for diversion of 27.678 Ha of Forest Land for improvements and widening of roads i) Thaliperu Dam to Rallapuram (ii) Rallapuram to Battigudem (iii) Uyyalamadugu to Thippapuram (iv) Thippapuram to Battigudem (v) Errampadu to Battigudem (vi) Thippapuram to Bathinapally via chennapuram in Cherla (Mandal), Bhadradri-Kothagudem District in favour of R&B Circle, Khammam is hereby Recommended.</p> <p>The conditions proposed by the DFO, Kothagudem in Part-II and CF, Bhadradri in Part-III are agreed to and may be stipulated in the approval.</p>
	<p>Date: 20/07/2023</p> <p>Place: Hyderabad.</p>	<p align="right">Signed by Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal Date: 20-07-2023 15:42:30 Reason: Approved</p> <p align="right">Signature</p> <p align="right">Name & Designation</p> <p align="right">(Official seal)</p>