GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Sri R.M.Dobrival IFS.,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests EFS & T Department, & Head of Forest Force,

Telangana State, "Aranya Bhavan",

Saifabad, Hyderabad.

To

The Principal Secretary to Government,

Telangana State,

Hyderabad.

Ref.No. FC4/FC29/6/2022 , Dated:23/02/2024.

Madam.

Sub:TSFD - F(C) Act, 1980 -Diversion of 649.3014 ha forest land in Ramavaram RF of Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem forest division for grant of mining lease for proposed VenkateshKhani OCP from Underground rights to Surface rights in Kothagudem Area in Bhadradri Kothagudem District in favour of M/s.SCCL -Additional Information Sought by Gol, MoEF& CC, New Delhi-Information Furnished - Regarding.

Ref:

- 1. Gol, MoEF & CC, New Delhi F.No.8-05/2021-FC Dt.21.11.2023.
- 2. Gol, MoEF & CC, Hyderabad F.No.4-TSA284/2022-HYD/675 Dt.20.09.2023.
- 3. General Manager, Kothagudem area, SCCL, Kothagudem District Ref No.KGM/EST/F/33/601 dt:20.12.2023.
- 4. PCCFs Rc.No. FC4/FC29/6/2022 dt.03.01.2024.
- 5. Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhadradri Rc.No.501/2023/DM dt.31.01.2024.

Vide ref 1st cited, the Gol, MoEF & CC (FC Divn), New Delhi has sought for additional information on the subject proposal.

Accordingly, vide ref 3rd and 5th cited, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhadradri and General Manager, Kothagudem area, SCCL, Kothagudem District has furnished information as desired by the Gol, MoEF & CC, New Delhi which are furnished as follows, with remarks:

Point No.1: - it was noted that different User Agencies whose proposals are processed under FCA,1980, are depositing amounts related wildlife conservation plan w.r.t. their respective proposals in the Biodiversity Conservation Society of Telangana (BIOSOT) account of Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana. AC decided that State Govt. shall deposit such entire amount in CAMPA immediately as the process adopted by State Government is not as per rules.

Reply:- The Wild life Conservation plan was prepared for the overall landscape of the area including core & buffer zone after due studies of flora and fauna in the area and was approved by the Chief Wild Warden & Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, TS, vide

Ref No. 5694/2021/WL-1, Dt.12.10.2021 for Rs.4.78 Crores and the SCCL has deposited the amount vide challan dated.20.03.2022 into BIOSAT account.

Now, the DFO, Bhadradri Kothagudem has revised the Wild life Conservation plan for an amount of Rs.731.60 Lakhs and the plan has been scrutinized and re-casted and approved by the Chief Wild Warden & Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, TS, vide Ref No. 5694/2021/WL-1, Dt.14.02.2024 for Rs.7.31 Crores.

As desired by the MoEF&CC, GoI, the amount will be transferred to the CAMPA Account after the issual of Stage-I approval.

Point No.2:- AC also decided that the State Govt. shall comply with all the condition and submit the report to this Ministry w.r.t. the four proposals (linked with the instant proposal) as per observations noted in the report submitted (enclosed for reference) by the IGF(C) Sub-office Hyderabad within a period of two months.

Reply:- The reply to the points raised by the Inspector General of Forests (C) and Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C), Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad are as follows:

a. Cost Benefit Ratio Study Report:

As per the condition imposed by the MoEF&CC, GoI, the Cost Benefit analysis was conducted by the IIFM, Bhopal, and arrived the Cost – Benefit ratio as 12:53. However, the IIFM, Bhopal considered the NPV as Rs.8.03 lakhs (Class-III, Dense Forest) for the calculation as per the old NPV rates.

Further, by considering the revised NPV rates issued by the MoEF&CC, GoI, vide guidelines dated 06.01.2022, the revised Cost –Benefit analysis ratio is arrived as 10:95 (by considering the Rs.12:28 Lakhs per ha for Class-III, Dense Forest). As coal is to be produced to supply to mainly thermal power plant, the SCCL is willing to work the mine with this C: B ratio.

The loss of public utilities was considered for an amount of Rs.2000 Lakhs due to diversion of NH-30 and some power transmission lines. However, SCCL has diverted the NH-30 and Power lines with a cost of about Rs.25 crores. Further, an amount of Rs.2000 Lakhs was considered due to rehabilitation and resettlement of habitations existed in the Non forest land of Vanama nagar and Maya Bazaar, which is essential and mentioned as R&R required in Non RF land.

Further, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has informed that the SCCL has given willingness to work with the revised Cost Benefit Analysis ratio of 10:95.

b. Biodiversity report:

The District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the Biodiversity study was conducted by the Environment Protection Training and Research Institute, Hyderabad (EPTRI) for the Core area comprising of 2403.17 Ha. of project area of VK Coal Mines as well as Buffer area which includes the area of within 10 kms zone from the boundary of the core zone. In both the areas, i.e., Core & Buffer, extensive study was conducted on Flora and Fauna and they were listed. Even Fauna which were not observed during the study were also included in the study report basing on the secondary data, i.e. working plan

of the Forest Division.

The study was conducted on all the Flora and Fauna found in the area and was not a species specific study. Now, rapid assessment survey was again carried out during the month of November 2023, and all the important/ endangered Fauna & Flora found in the area were listed.

As mentioned earlier 19 different Mammal species were observed during study and on page 60 as pointed out the number of animals mentioned as 26, are Herpetofauna and not Mammal. Now, nine more wild animals such as Panther, Wild dog, Jungle Cat, Sloth bear, Indian Palm Civet Cat and Tiger are also recorded basing on the record of the working plan. A Tiger is said to be an occasional visitor to this area. The last it was reported during November, 2022 in the areas adjacent to Buffer zone at a distance of more than 25 kms from the Core Zone. The degraded and fragmented landscape and absence of prey base is not allowing this tiger to become resident.

Now, the wild life conservation plan is proposed for development of general landscape for all the important wild animals and accordingly mitigation plan was proposed duly incorporating measures like Soil Moisture Conservation works, fire control and water conservation etc., The wildlife Conservation plan is now proposed for the period co-terminus to the life of the project duly incorporating activities like monitoring of the change in landscape/fauna & flora by engaging wildlife expert. The mitigate measures proposed in the wildlife conservation plan have been now included in to the Bio-diversity study report. These details of these measures were also discussed with the SCCL authorities and accordingly revisions have been made.

Now, the Wildlife Conservation & Mitigation plan has been prepared for the proposed Venkatesh Khani coal mine, Gautham Khani Opencast, Venkatesh Khani No.7 and Padmavathi Khani No.5 incline for **Rs.731.60 Lakhs.**

The plan has been scrutinized and re-casted and approved by the Chief Wild Warden & Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, TS, vide Ref No. 5694/2021/WL-1, Dt.14.02.2024 for Rs.731.60 Lakhs.

Reply to the brief note of DGF(C) on Non compliance of FC conditions for the associated (4) diverted forest lands with the proposed diversion of 649.3014 Ha of VKOCP.

- 1. Diversion of 124.00 ha of Forest land for OCP GKOC Phase-II, Kothagudem in Ramavaram RF, Kothagudem Division of Bhadradri Kothagudem District. Stage-II clearance letter & date: No. 8-17/1998-FC, dated 08.02.99. Proposal No.: FP/TG/MIN139311998.
- (i) The User agency had handed over 124.00 ha of non-forest land in Sy.No. 116 of Rasannagudem village, Paloncha Forest Division during 1990 and also

paid Rs. 49,60,000/- lakhs towards Compensatory Afforestation charges. The State Forest Department informed that an area of 61.66 ha out of this NFL is overlapping with the CA land given for diversion of forest land for SRLIP (Irrigation project). Further, 81.04 ha of this NFL land is under encroachment. DIGF (Central) during inspection of this area noticed that the encroachments are mainly by way of cultivation of Eucalyptus by the locals. The area is also not demarcated and there are no display board indicating that this is a CA-NFL Land. It appears that the State Forest Department had not raised any CA plantation in this area. The State Forest Department could not furnish any details on the action taken on the encroachments. It appears that the already encroached forest land has been accepted while considering SRLIP project by the State Forest Department. NFL land handed over to the Forest department is not notified as RF/PF by the State Government.

a. M/s.SCCL has agreed to handover 142.07 Ha. of Non forest land in Rajupet Block, in Chunchupally, Wadaguda and Ramachandrunipeta villages (i.e Rajupeta CA Block) of Mangapet Mandal in lieu of 81.04 Ha. of encroachment in CA land and 61.66 Ha. overlapped CA land of SRLIP. Further, it is to submit that this land was handed over to the forest department as land bank vide Charge Certificate dt.07.09.2007 and mutated vide Lr No. B/1452/2007, Dt.07.09.2007 by Tahsildar.

b. As the area was having good growth & subsequently encroached, the Forest Department has raised CA in equivalent RF land at the following places :

S. No	Range	Year	I	Comp. No.	Area in Ha.	Amount Spent (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Aswapuram	2001- 02	Kondapur	7	60.00	F
2	Aswapuram	2002- 03	Kondapur(Bit- A)	7	22.50	39.392
3	Aswapuram	2002- 03	Kondapur(Bit- B)	7	22.50	
4	Aswapuram	2002- 03	Nellipaka	4	19.00	,
		3				

c. These plantations were also inspected by the Dy. Inspector General (O/o IRO) Hyderabad on 11.09.2023.

- d. The CA land was handed over to forest department on 06.03.1990 and the encroachment was happened in the subsequent years under influence of Naxals. During the period from 1988 to 2005, Naxal activities were on peak and moreover most of the employees retired long back, who were responsible for encroachment and action could not been taken against them.
- (ii) The boundary demarcation pillars in the mine area are not intact and contiguous. 14 nos.of pillars are found to be constructed freshly by the User agency on the OB Dump area
- a. Initially, M/s.SCCL constructed all the pillars and due to Mining operations all the pillars were disturbed. Out of total excavated area of 124 Ha. at present void is 63 Ha. and in 61 Ha. refilling of overburden has been carried as part of Mine Closure plan of GKOC. After refilling of overburden, SCCL constructed 14 pillars and the balance pillars will be constructed after reclamation. As the area is quarry/voids of other two diversions, boundary pillars were not possible till working of mine. Further, it is to inform that if proposals of VKOC are agreed then in entire area of 124 Ha. (void as well as refill dump area), OB from VKOC will be dumped upto maximum height of 70 Mts from ground level. After finishing of dumping, the total area will be reclaimed and demarcated as per the approved Mine Closure Plan of VKCM.
- (iii)The User agency had transferred Rs. 3.66 Lakhs towards plantation in the safety zone area and afforestation on one and half times of safety zone area. During monitoring, it was noticed that there is no safety zone maintained and the DFO could not show the one and half times of DFL on which Safety Zone Afforestation was carried out.
- a. Initially, SCCL deposited an amount of 3.66 Lakhs towards plantation in degraded forest land for $1 \frac{1}{2}$ times of safety zone area on 2.11.1998. The plantation was taken up by the Forest Department in this area of 9.31 Ha . Due to the proposed diversion area, the plantation is lost and SCCL shall pay the amount for raising plantation in alternate DFL site of 9.31 ha as proposed by the Forest department and the same has been agreed by SCCL.
- b.Regarding Safety zone of 7.5 Mtrs the area of 124.00 Ha. is mainly diverted for Quarry purpose. Hence, safety zone is not maintainable in the quarry area as the area is presently at a depth of 70 mtrs from the ground level. However, in lieu of this plantation was raised along the boundary of GKOC in 26 Ha.
- (iv) Reclamation of mined out area is not done and informed that the reclamation will be done as per the revised plan of the VKOC project. However, OB dump and mined out area of Phase-I is reclaimed partially and plantation raised.
- a. The proposal of 124 Ha of forest land has been diverted vide MoEF Letter No 8-17/98-FC, dtd 08.02.1999 for Quarrying purpose. Presently, out of total excavated area of 124 Ha, an area of 63 Ha is void and 61 Ha was back filled with overburden material as part of mine closure plan of GKOC. Plantation was also done in the refilled area of 61 ha as per the approved Environment Management Plan and Mine

closure Plan of GKOCP.

- b. As per the approved Mine closure Plan of VKCM, the entire area of 124 Ha. will be back filled upto a height of 70 mtrs from the ground level. After, back filling with OB material, the Plantation will be taken up with local species.
- 2. Diversion of 154.96 ha of Forest land in Kothagudem Forest Division (Ramavaram RF Compt.11,12&13) for Gauthami Khani OCP, Phase-III in Kothagudem District in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited. Stage-11 clearance letter & date: No.8-62/2005-FC, dated 15.07.2008. Proposal No.: FP/TG/MIN/970/2005
- (i) CA land is reported to be given in Mulapet village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh. The status of CA plantation is not available. The User agency had transferred Rs. 2.89 Lakhs towards one and half time safety zone area afforestation in DFL, Rs. 7.690 Lakhs towards fencing of safety zone and 0.220 Lakhs towards regeneration of safety zone area. However, there is no safety zone of 7.5m width noticed in the field during monitoring. The details of one and half times safety zone area afforestation carried out on DFL was not shown during monitoring.
- a. M/s.SCCL handed over and mutated the Non forest land of 154.96 Ha. towards CA in Mulapet Village, Ranasthalam Mandal, Srikakulam District of Andhra Pradesh vide Mandal Revenue Officer, Santhabommali Mandal letter Rc.No. 95/91, dated 30.09.2001.
- b. SCCL has deposited Rs. 2.890 lakhs towards $1\frac{1}{2}$ times safety zone, Rs.7.690 lakhs towards fencing of safety zone area and Rs.0.220 lakhs towards regeneration of safety zone area with the District Forest Officer, Kothagudem on Dt.14-09-2006 vide Cheque No.239739 of SBH, Rudrampur.
- c. An area of 3.18 Ha of area has been raised in compt no.11 of Ramavaram RF, Gareebpeta beat, Ramavaram section and range of kothagudem division towards $1\frac{1}{2}$ times safety zone.
- d. Regarding Safety zone of 7.5 Mtrs the area of 154.96 Ha. is mainly diverted for Quarry purpose. Hence, safety zone is not maintainable in the quarry area as the area is presently at a depth of 240 mtrs from the ground level. However, in lieu of this plantation was raised along the boundary of GKOC in 26 Ha.
- (ii) Information regarding notification of NFL as RF/PF is not available as the NFL land falls in Andhra Pradesh.
- a. The District Forest Officer, Srikakulam, vide reference number 1822/2018/A4, dated 17.11.2023 has informed that the process of notification is being perused with the District Administration for notification of CA land. (Copy of the DFO letter enclosed). It is expected that the notification process may be completed within 3 months time.
- (iii) Out of 42 boundary pillars reported to be fixed, only 26 pillars are existing in the

field.

a. Initially, SCCL constructed 42 numbers boundary pillars around the diverted forest land and subsequently pillars were gone in quarry area due to mining operations. At present 26 Pillars are intact. Out of total excavated area of 154.96 Ha. at present void is 79 Ha. and in 55 Ha. back filling of overburden has been carried as part of Mine Closure Plan of GKOC. After refilling of overburden, SCCL constructed 26 pillars and the balance pillars will be constructed after reclamation. It is brought to kind notice that as area is quarry/voids of other two diversions adjoining, boundary pillars were not possible till working of mine is completed. Further, it is to inform that if proposals of VKOC are agreed then in entire area of 79 Ha. (void), OB from VKOC will be dumped up to maximum height of 70 Mts from ground level. After finishing of dumping, the total area will be reclaimed and demarcated as per the approved Mine closure plan of VKCM.

b.There pillars were inspected and reported by the District Forest officer, Kothagudem, vide Rc.No. 52/2016/D1, dated 17.06.2023. While mining of VKCM, the OB material will be back filled in to the void of 154.96 Ha. as per approved Mine Closure Plan. After completion of back filling the boundary pillars will be constructed all around the 154.96 Ha. area.

(iv) Detailed reclamation plan and annual report about the progress of reclamation is not furnished to the R.O. by the User agency. as per the Stage-II conditions.

The reclamation as per the approved Environmental Management Plan was carried out. As against the target of 432 Ha. an area of 538 Ha. was planted and it is coming up well.

- 3. Diversion of 261.31 ha of forest land for renewal of Gauthami Khani Opencast Mining Project (Phase-I) for surface use in Bhadradri Kothagudem District- Kothagudem Division in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited. Stage-II clearance letter & date: No.8-117/2002-FC, dated 01/02/2010 Proposal No.: FP/TG/MIN/49212002.
- (i) Only 14 demarcation pillars are available in the field, out of the 35 pillars reported to be fixed.
- a. Initially, SCCL constructed 35 numbers boundary pillars around the diverted forest land and subsequently pillars were disturbed due to mining operations. In the area diverted for 261.31 Ha. area of 140 Ha. has been back filled and remaining area of 120.31 Ha. is void. 100 Ha. of diverted forest land was back filled and surrender to Forest Department 07.07.2010. The area is being maintained by the SCCL under the guidance of forest department.
- b. Out of 35 pillars, 27 pillars are intact and balance pillars are disturbed in void / dump. These pillars were inspected and reported by the District Forest officer, Kothagudem, vide Rc.No. 62/2023/D1, dated 17.06.2023. As these all 3 diverted areas of GK OC are part of project area of VKOC, soon after receipt of Stage-I for VK

OC, pillars will be completed along the Project boundary.

- (ii) CA land is given in two patches at Rasannagudem (V), Paloncha Forest Division, Kothagudem District. Part of the CA-NFL land is under encroachment (exact extent can be known after detailed survey only) by way of cultivation of agricultural crops, Eucalyptus. Cashew nuts etc. The hilly portion of the CA-NFL is devoid of encroachment and is having natural forestry vegetation. It appears that the State Forest Department had not raised any plantation in this area except some plantations on the bund of the trenches dug.
- a. M/s. SCCL handed over an extent of 261.31 Ha. non forest land in Sy.No 116 of Rasannagudem Village of Mulakalapally Mandal, in erst while Khammam District towards CA to the Forest Department in two patches for this project and land was mutated in favour of to Forest Department vide M.R.O Lr B/912/98 dated 07.07.1991. One part of the non forest land of 261.31 Ha. was notified under Section 4 of the Indian Forest Act,1927 vide GO.RT No. 935 (For.VI-2) Dept dated 05.12.1992 and the other patch has not been notified due to encroachment.
- b. The CA Land handed over is having good forest growth and the plantation has been raised in the degraded forest land.
- (iii) Reclamation of the mined out area will be carried out as per the revised Mine Closure Plan/EMP for the VKOC project as per the information given by the User agency during the monitoring.
- a. Out of 261.31 Ha. of forest land an extent of 140 Ha. has been back filled with Over burden and plantation was taken up. The balance area of 121 Ha. is having structures (4 Ha.) and void and over burden (65.13Ha.). Out of the reclaimed area of 140 Ha. an extent of 100 Ha. was handed over back to the Forest Department vide Charge Certificate dated 07.07.2010. However, the area is being maintained by the SCCL on the request of Forest Department.
- b. However, final reclamation will be taken up as per the approved Mining Plan of VKCM.
- 4. Renewal of Mining Lease of 1174.18 Ha of Forest Land in Kothagudem Forest Division of Khammam Circle for Underground mining in favour of SCCL Stage-II clearance letter & date: F.No.8-277185-FC, dated 17/02/2009 Proposal No.: FP/TG1MIN/1948112007
- (i) The Underground mining is completed and the diverted land was not handed over to the State Forest Department.
- a. Underground Mining operations (extraction of coal) of VK 7 Incline Mine was completed in the year 2022 and other mine named as PVK 5 Incline Mine in the same lease area will be working up to 2030. However, the Mine closure activities, i.e. extraction of material, sealing of working places are going on as per the approved Mine closure plan of VK 7 Incline Mine.

b. Further, the VKCM mining plan (conversion of VK 7 Incline UG mine to OCP) was approved in the year 2020 by the Ministry of Coal. The SCCL is having only UG rights for these lands and surface rights is with the Forest Dept.

(ii) Reclamation of the mined out area will be carried out as per the revised Mine Closure Plan/EMP for the VKOC project as per the information given by the User agency during the monitoring.

a. The reclamation of Mined out area in VKOC and leftover UG mine of PVK No. 5 Incline will be carried out as per the approved Mine Closure Plan of VKCM.

The above information is submitted as per the observations pointed out by the DIGF(C), IRO, Hyderabad during the monitoring of the diversion proposals and the the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has also requested to consider the facts submitted by the SCCL and recommended the proposal to forward the same to the GoI, MoEF& CC, New Delhi for consideration of this proposal.

In view of the above, stating all the above facts the State Government are requested to forward the information to GoI, MoEF& CC, New Delhi with recommendation for consideration of this proposal.

Encl: As above.

Signed by Rakeshowthsafaithfully,
Dobriyal
Date: 23-02-2024 16:19:37
Reason: Approved
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
Head of Forest Force(HoFF)

Advance Copy submitted to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to the Govt, MoEF& CC, Gol, Indira Paryawarana Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi – 110003 for information and necessary action.

Advance copy submitted to the Inspector General of Forests (FC), MoEF& CC, Gol, Indira Paryawarana Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi – 110003 for information.

Copy to

The Conservator of Forests, Bhadradri Circle and the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem for information

The General Manager, M/s Singareni Collieries Corporation Limited, Kothagudem Area, Bhadradri Kothagudem District, PO: Venkatesh Khani – 507103 for information.

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for Principal Chief Conservator of Forest

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GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT

From: To:
Sri. D. Bheema Naik., IFS.,.. The Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Chief Conservator of Forests, H Y D E R A B A D
Bhadradri Circle, Warangal.

Rc:No:501/2023/DM, Dated: 31.01.2024

Sir,

Sub: TSFD — Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 - Diversion of **649.3014 Ha** of Forest land in Ramavaram RF, Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem Forest Division for grant of Mining lease for proposed Venkatesh Khani OCP from Underground rights to Surface rights in Kothagudem area in favour of M/s. SCCL Kothagudem — Submission of EDS information as desire by the GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi — Further information — Submitted - Reg.

Ref:

- 1. Prl.GCF, TS, Hyderabad Rc.No. FCA/FC29/6/2022, Dt, 03.01.2024
- 2. The IGF(C), Hyd Lr.No. 4-TSA284/2022-HYD/675, Dt.20.09.2023
- 3. DFO, Bhadradri Kothagudem Rc.No.241/2020/D1, Dt.19.01.2024

Adverting to the reference 1st cited above, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem vide reference 3rd cited above has submitted that, as per the instructions issued by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), T.S. Hyderabad vide reference 1st cited, the following specific remarks on the (2) point furnished by the General Manager, S.C.Co.Ltd., Kothagudem area vide reference 2nd cited regarding the proposals for diversion of 649.3014 Ha of Forest land in Ramavaram RF, Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem Forest Division for grant of Mining lease for proposed Venkatesh Khani OCP from Underground rights to Surface rights in Kothagudem area in favour of M/s. SCCL Kothagudem are submitted herewith as follows.

Point No.1: - it was noted that different User Agencies whose proposals are processed under FCA,1980, are depositing amounts related wildlife conservation plan w.r.t. their respective proposals in the Biodiversity Conservation Society of Telangana (BIOSOT) account of Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana. AC decided that State Govt. shall deposit such entire amount in CAMPA immediately as the process adopted by State Government is not as per rules.

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The District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the SCCL authorities submitted that, the Wild life plan was prepared for the overall landscape of the area including core & buffer zone after due studies of flora and fauna in the area. This Plan was approved by the Chief Wild Warden & Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, TS, vide Ref No. 5694/2021/WL-1, Dt.12.10.2021 for Rs. 4.78 Crores and the SCCL has deposited the amount vide challan dated 20.03.2022 into BIOSAT account

Less (N)

and now, as desired by the MoEF&CC, GoI, this amount is to be ordered to be transferred to the CAMPA Account.

Point No.2:- AC also decided that the State Govt, shall comply with all the condition and submit the report to this Ministry w.r.t. the four proposals (linked with the instant proposal) as per observations noted in the report submitted (enclosed for reference) by the IGF(C) Sub-office Hyderabad within a period of two months.

In this regard, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the SCCL authorities submitted that, The Inspector General of Forests (C), Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Hyderabad vide reference 2nd cited has submitted remarks on 649.3014 Ha. of proposed forest land for diversion and monitoring report on the compliances for the diverted forest lands linked in the proposed VK Coal Mines. The reply to the points raised by the Inspector General of Forests (C) and Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C), Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad furnished by the SCCL authorities are submitted hereunder.

a. Cost Benefit Ratio Study Report

The District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that as per the condition imposed by the MoEF&CC, GoI, the Cost Benefit analysis was conducted by the IIFM, Bhopal, and arrived the Cost — Benefit ratio as 12:53. However, the IIFM, Bhopal considered the NPV as Rs.8.03 Lakhs/Ha (for Class-III, Dense Forest) for the calculation as per the old NPV rates.

Further, by considering the revised NPV rates issued by the MoEF&CC, GoI, vide guidelines dated 06.01.2022, the revised Cost –Benefit analysis ratio is arrived as 10:95 (by considering the Rs.12:28 Lakhs/ Ha (for Class-III, Dense Forest). The revised calculation sheet is enclosed herewith for kind perusal. As coal is to be produced to supply to mainly thermal power plant, the SCCL is willing to work the mine with this C: B ratio.

The loss of public utilities was considered for an amount of Rs.2000 Lakhs due to diversion of NH-30 and some power transmission lines. However, SCCL has diverted the NH-30 and Power lines with a cost of about Rs.25 crores. Further, an amount of Rs.2000 Lakhs was considered due to rehabilitation and resettlement of habitations existed in the Non forest land of Vanama nagar and Maya Bazaar, which is essential and mentioned as R&R required in Non RF land.

The District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the proposal submitted by SCCL along with revised Cost Benefit Analysis was examined and concluded that earlier IIFM Bhopal was conducted the Cost Benefit Analysis and considered the old NPV rates i.e, 8.03 Lakhs /Ha for class-III dense forest. Now, the SCCL submitted the revised Cost Benefit Analysis as per the guidelines dated 06.01.2022 issued by MoEF&CC, GoI regarding revised NPV rates by considering 12.28 Lakhs/ Ha. The SCCL also given willingness to work with the revised Cost Benefit Analysis ratio10:95.

ab: Biodiversity report a

The District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the Biodiversity study was conducted by the Environment Protection Training and Research Institute, Hyderabad (EPTRI) for the Core area comprising of 2403.17 Ha. of project area of VK Coal Mines as well as Buffer area which includes the area of within 10 kms zone from the boundary of the core zone. In both the areas, i.e., Core & Buffer, extensive study was conducted on Flora and Fauna and they were listed. Even Fauna which were not observed during the study were also included in to the study report basing on the secondary data, i.e. working plan of the Forest Division.

Further, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the study was conducted on all the Flora and Fauna found in the area and was not a species specific study. Now, a rapid assessment survey was again carried out during the month of November 2023, and all the important/ endangered Fauna & Flora found in the area were listed.

And the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has further submitted that, as mentioned earlier 19 different Mammal species were observed, but during recent study report on page 60 as pointed out the number of animals mentioned as 26, are Herpetofauna and not Mammal. Now, nine more wild animals such as Panther, Wild dog, Jungle Cat, Sloth bear, Indian Palm Civet Cat and Tiger are also recorded basing on the record of the working plan. A Tiger is said to be an occasional visitor to this area. The last it was reported during November, 2022 in the areas adjacent to Buffer zone at a distance of more than 25 kms from the Core Zone. The degraded and fragmented landscape and absence of prey base is not allowing this tiger to become resident.

Now, the wild life conservation plan is proposed for development of general landscape for all the important wild animals and accordingly mitigation plan was proposed duly incorporating measures like Soil Moisture Conservation works, fire control and water conservation etc.,

The wildlife Conservation plan is now proposed for the period co-terminus to the life of the project duly incorporating activities like monitoring of the change in landscape/fauna & flora by engaging wildlife expert. The mitigative measures proposed in the wildlife conservation plan have been now included in to the Bio-diversity study report. These details of these measures were also discussed with the SCCL authorities and accordingly revisious have been made.

The District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the SCCL authorities have prepared the Wildlife Conservation & Mitigation plan for the proposed Venkatesh Khani coal mine, Gautham Khani Opencast, Venkatesh Khani No.7 and Padmavathi Khani No.5 incline for Rs.731.60 Lakhs.

In this regard, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has requested that, the above said Wildlife Conservation & Mitigation plan may kindly be forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), T.S., Hyderabad with a request to approve the said Wildlife Conservation & Mitigation plan for Rs. 731.60 Lakhs.

Further, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the above said reply submitted by the SCCL authorities to the points raised by the Inspector General of Forests (C) and Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C), Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad may be considered and same may be forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), T.S., Hyderabad for further necessary action in the matter.

Therefore, based on the report of the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem the Wildlife Conservation & Mitigation plan for Rs.731.60 Lakhs and the above said reply submitted by the SCCL authorities to the points raised by the Inspector General of Forests (C) and Dy. Inspector General of Forests (C), Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad are submitted to the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad with a request to approve the Wildlife Conservation & Mitigation plan and taking further necessary action in the matter.

This is submitted for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Daravath Bheema Reason de Proved rangal.

Copy submitted to the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA), Telangana, Hyderabad for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem for information.

Superintendent 31/01/2014

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT PCCF & HoFF T.S. PESHI

0 1 FEB 2024

From: Sri. D. Bheema Naik., IFS., Chief Conservator of Forests,

Bhadradri Circle, Warangal.

To:
The Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana State,
H Y D E R A B A D

Rc.No.501/2023/DM, Dated: 31.01.2024

Sir,

Sub: TSFD – Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 - Diversion of **649.3014** Ha of Forest land in Ramavaram RF, Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem Forest Division for grant of Mining lease for proposed Venkatesh Khani OCP from Underground rights to Surface rights in Kothagudem area in favour of M/s. SCCL: Kothagudem – Submission of EDS information as desire by the GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi – Further Report – Submitted - Reg

Ref:

- 1. GoI, MoEF&CC, F.No. 8-05/2021/FC, Dt, 21.11.2023
- 2. IGF (C), Hyderabad Ltr. No. 4-TSA284/2022-HYD/675, Dt. 20.09.2023
- 3. DFO, Bhadradri Kothagudem Rc.No.241/2020/D1, Dt.29.01.2024

Adverting to the reference 1st cited above, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem vide reference 3rd cited above has submitted that, the Forest Divisional Officer, Kothagudem has submitted a report stating that, the Dy. Inspector General, IRO, Hyderabad, MoEF&CC has raised the EDS objection that, "the User Agency had transferred Rs.3.66 Lakhs towards plantation in the safety zone area and Afforestation on one and half times of safety zone area. During monitoring, it was noticed that there is no safety zone maintained and the DFO could not show the one and half times of DFL on which Safety Zone Afforestation was carried out."

In this regard, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the Forest Divisional Officer, Kothagudem has reported that, he has verified the records and found that the 1½ times of safety zone area in degraded forest land for the proposal of 124 Ha of GKOC Phase-II, for an extent of 9.311 Ha was raised in Compt., No. 3, Ramavaram Beat, Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem Division.

Further, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted that, the Forest Divisional Officer, Kothagudem has reported that, as per his instructions, the Forest Range Officer, Ramavaram has submitted a detailed report that, she was inspected the plantation area on 25.01.2024 and found that an extent of 9.311 Ha have been raised in

Compt., No. 3, Ramavaram Beat of Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem Division and reported that, the said plantation area was not falling in the proposed diversion of 649.3014 Ha of Forest land in Ramavaram RF of Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem Forest Division for grant of mining lease for proposed Venkatesh Khani OCP from Underground rights to Surface rights in Kothagudem area in Bhadradri Kothagudem District in favour of M/s. SCCL.

In view of the above, the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem has submitted the TOPO Graphical map, Photographs and Plantation Journal of above said 9.311 Ha of safety zone area received from the Forest Divisional Officer, Kothagudem and requested to forward to the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad for further action.

Therefore, based on the report of the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem The TOPO Graphical map, Photographs and Plantation Journal of above said 9.311 Ha of safety zone area received from the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem are submitted herewith in (3) sets for favour of kind further necessary action.

This is submitted for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Daravath Bheema
Date: 31-01-2024 12:22:26
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Reason: Approved
Bhadradri Circle, Warangal.

Copy submitted to the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA), Telangana, Hyderabad for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Bhadradri Kothagudem for information.

//t.c.b.o.//

Superintendent

31/01/2020

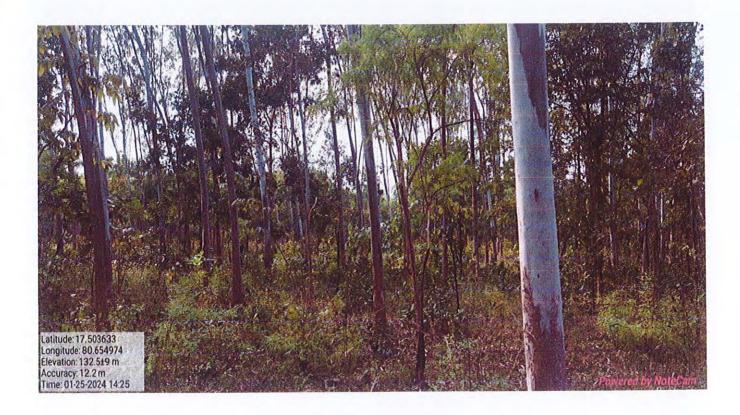
2386193/2024/FCA SECTION-PCCF
1½ times of safety zone area in degraded forest land for the proposal of 124 Ha of GKOC Phase-II, for an extent of 9.311 Ha was raised in Compt., No. 3, Ramavaram Beat, Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem Division













CTION-PCCF

CA. PLANTATION

BEAT: RAMAVARAM

AREA:

YEAR: 2001



GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT

KHAMMAM GIRGLE

FOREST WEALTH



SOURCE FOR HEALTH

PLANTATION JOURNAL

OF

YEAR 2 001

1. Division: KOTHAGUDEN

Territorial Division

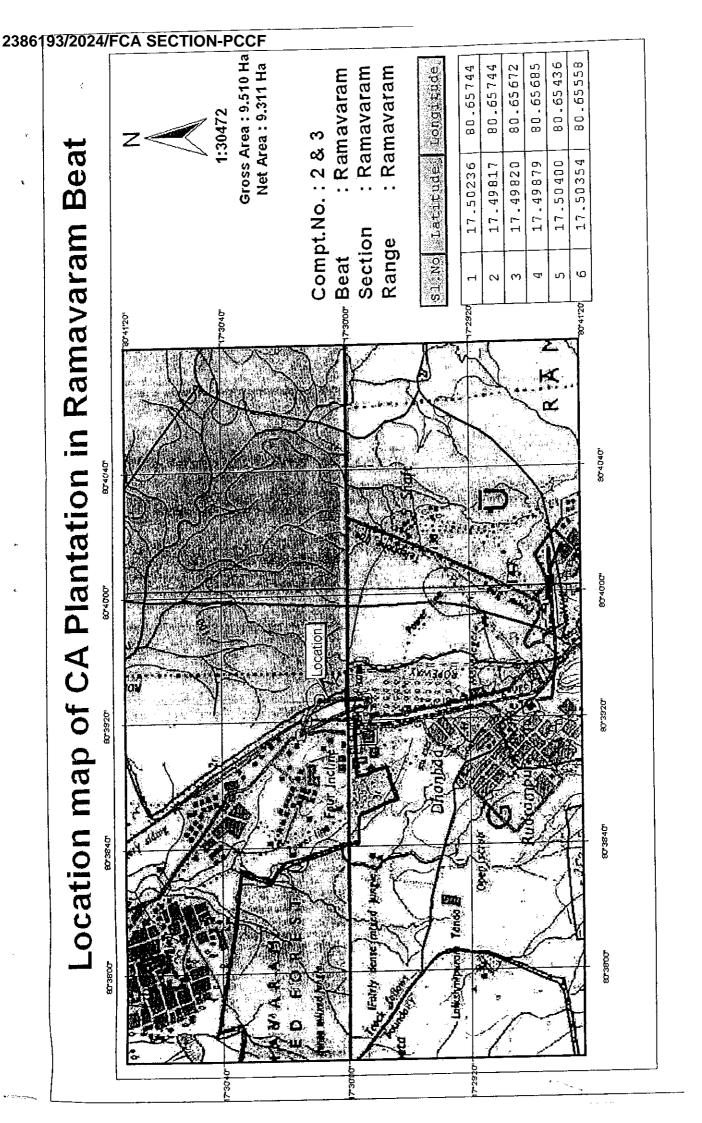
- 2. Range: RAMAUARAH
- ii) Functional Division
- i) Territoriai
- ii) Functional
- 3. District: KHANHAM.
- 4. Taluk: ROTHAGUDEN
- 5. Panchayat Samithi: KOTHAGODEN
- 6. Panchayat: 3 incline.
- 7. Sy. No. R. f. couft NO. 3.

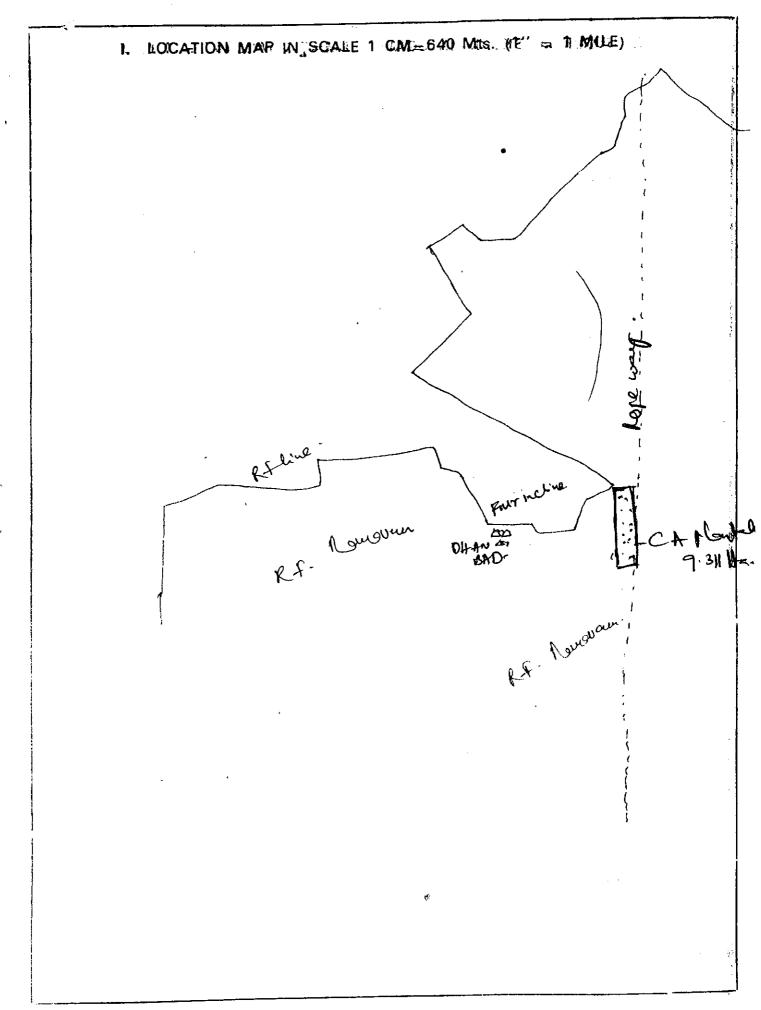
Name of Plantation: C.A.

Year of Plantation: 2001

Area: ; 9.311 HR.

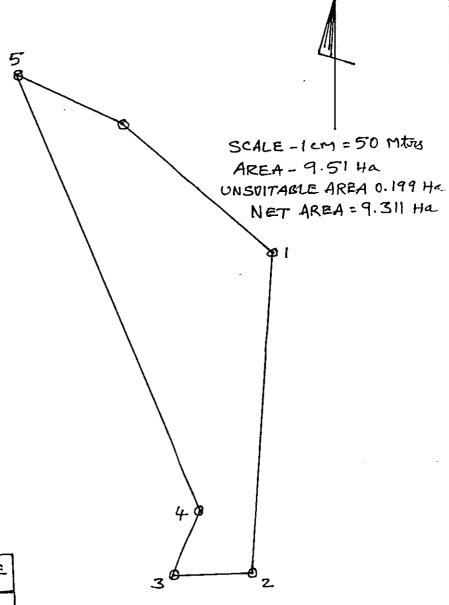
No. of Sectors: 4



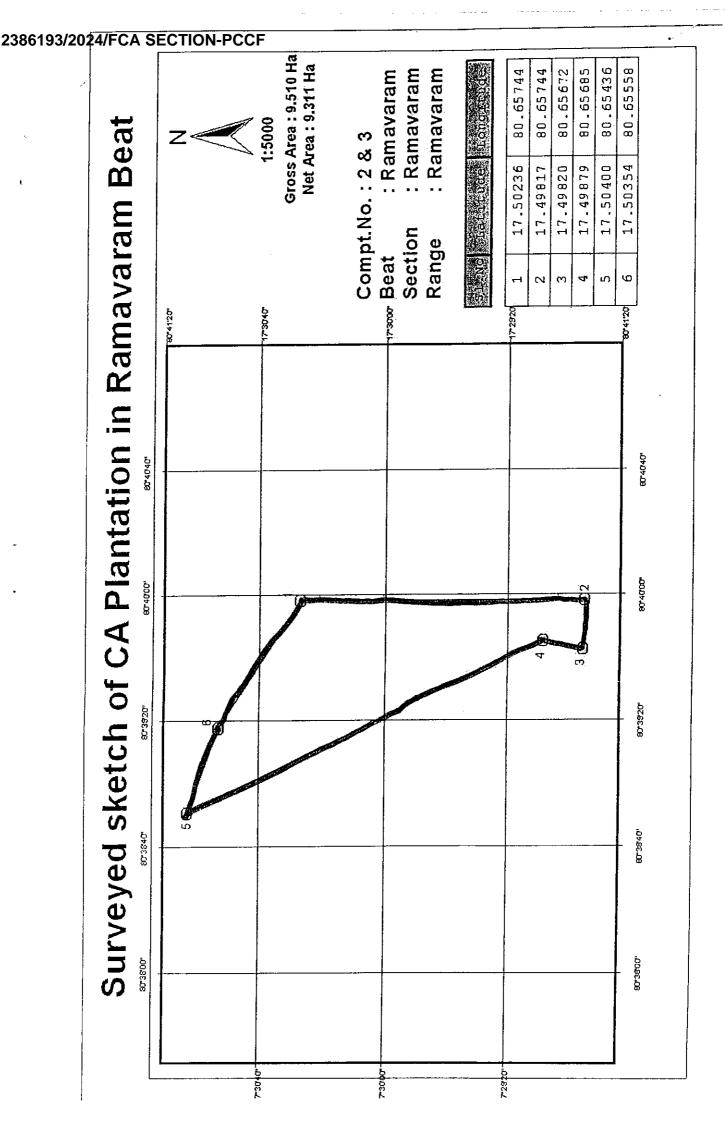


II. SURVEYED SKETCH IN SCALE 1 CM=160 Mts. (4" = 1 MILE)

SURVEYED SH	ETCH OF	C.A PLANTATION	IN
RAMAVARAM		COMPT. NO: 3	



	_	
STATION	BEARING	DISTANCE
1 702	185	425.8
2\$ 3	270°	103
364	220	90.8
455	339°	633.
566	1160	157.4
6to 1	132	263.6



III. TREATMENT MAP

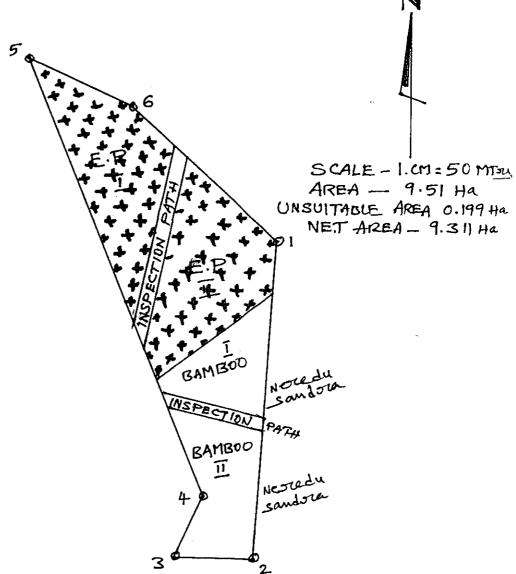
(Scale: 1 CM = 80 Mts. (8" - 1 MILE)

(Stocking, Soil Type, Location of Soil pits, Natural features)

NOTE:— A minmum of 1 Soil pit for every 10 hects, area is to be dug where there is no change in soil texture.

TREATMENT MAP OF C.A PLANTATION IN RAMAVARAM BEAT

COMPT. NO. 3



	STA-	BEARING	DISTANCE
:	152	185	425.8
	253	270	103
	344	22°	90.8
	455	339°	633
	526	116	157.4
	6 61	132	263.6
1		l i	l

E.P 5 Ha - 5555 Nos	
<u>I</u> — 2960	
11- 2595	
* 5555	
BAM1300 - 4.311 Ha - 1725 Nos	
<u>I</u> — 1059	
<u>T</u> - 666	_
1725	

, IV. DETAILS OF PLANTATION

Name of the Reserved Forest/block

RAHAVARAH.

ii) Compartment No.:

iii) Name of the series: CA. PLANTATION.

iv) Name of the plantation:

E. P Clones and Baulon.

Species planted:

2 001

Year of plantation:

9-311 #4.

Area in hectares: vii)

viii) Espacement:

Total No. of planting points:

Bamboo -5x5 whi-4:311tha. E.P. Claver - 5555

No. of Sectors:

Bautro - 1725, Nesedu-800. Sandra - '50 4

e. Pclares - 3x3. 45 = 5 #9

xi) Area/planting points of each sector.

Sector No.	Area ·	Planting points
I EP 2960	- 2.67HH	2960
11 " 2595	2.330H1+ 5.00	2 595 5555
III I Bambão	Д. 650 на -	1059
IV ZŽ	1.661 Ha -	
V	4.311	1725

۷ì

VI. (1) HISTORY IN NARRATIVE FORM

I. SITUATION

Location, Means of approach, Nearby Roads, Rivers, Water-facilities, Villages and labour available, previous experience gained and Techniques adopted, Plantations Altitude, Aspect, slopes etc., Geography, Topography etc., to be given in as much detail as possible.

Localin - This plot is localed it Compt NO. 3 of Rometing Block in Rango aan Red.

Mean of affrace - Teap and notor cycle.

Near by loads - Aerial Rope way load and KTG & Tiruvury Road.

villager - 3 wichine, 4 inches and 5 inches

obour available - 3 inchie, 4 Michie and & Malue.

wer to south East.

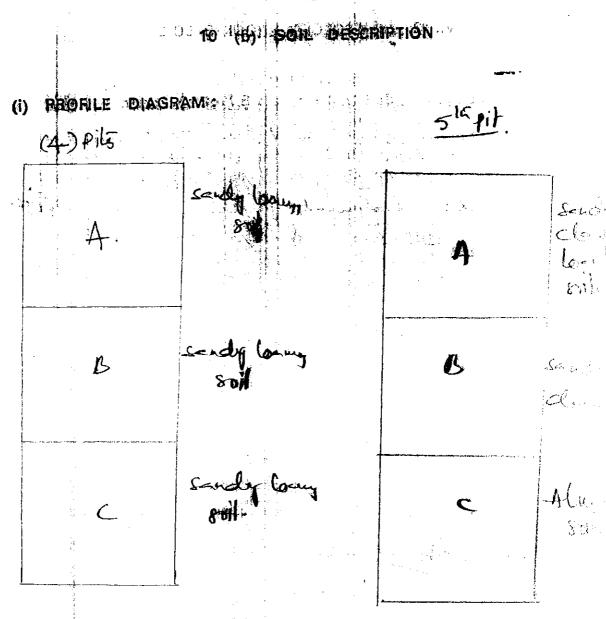
9

VI. 2. (a) GEOLOGY, ROCK & SOIL

*(Type, Depth Drainage, Laterrite or Rocky out - crops)
Soil profile, Soil Analysis Date & ProfileAdiagram

GEOLOGY & ROCK: Je dimentry Jeslain having mostly sand states
with some clay and shale largers.

DRAINAGE: will drainge.



10 (c) SOIL DESCRIPTION

	;	Hoer (09,31	1)15091
 వ్యవస	ಾಯ ಕಾಖ - ನಾಂ	ωల్ హెల్త్ కార్డ్ $^{\mathcal{H}}$	sclam Clample
భూసార పరీకా ఫలితాల భూసార పరీకా శ్రీలయము కొత్తగూడెండి రైతు పేరు మండ్రామ్ కొత్తగూడెండి	ు (సూక్ష్మపోషక పదార్ధములు భాగా సంఖ	కో సహా) మరియు ఎరువు - 2418–2629	و من المالية
ठ्या పేరు () कि	All Tomas	amayour and c	layer soils
మండలం	(5) <u> </u>	మధ్యరకపు నేలలు	<u> කුරාන බීපපා</u>
. 2. ఉదజని సూచిక (పి.హెచ్.) .3. లవణ సూచిక (ఇ.సి.)	(<i>j</i> . [9]) à మాన్యం 🗸	<u>త్తట్రము</u> 🗸 ములకెత్తుట కష్టం	పంటలకు హానీకరం
4. సేంద్రియ కర్భనము (ఓ.సి.) /5. లభ్య భాస్వరము(పి) కి.గ్రా/ఎ.	(/^/)ĕss;⊃	మధ్యస్థము మధ్యస్థము మధ్యస్థము మధ్యస్థము	ఎక్కువ ఎక్కువ
/ 6. లభ్య పొటాష్ (కె) కె.గ్రా/ఎ. / 7. లభ్య జింకు (పి.పి.యం.)	(167) 650,5 (167) 650,5 (==) 650,5	ఎక్కువ ఎక్కువ	(4 rea) DAP 1 (MO)
8. లభ్య మాంగనీసు (పి.పి.యం.) 9. లభ్య ఇనుము (పి.పి.యం.)	() ess) a	ఎక్కువ 	N- P-R
9. లభ్య రాగి (పి.పి.యం.) వేయవలసిన పైరు II. పైరుకు అవసరమైన	ED CLOSOFTON	\$ - (3 <u>లా</u> -కివ) చెందిపు/ స్టానికంగా లభ	(a) (b) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c
ఫ్లాషక పదార్థములు		Yard Mann	AS
2. నుతజని కి.గ్రా/ఎ 3. భాస్వరము (పి) కి.గ్రా/ఎ,	イーベズ チャン	ร ลงอาเกล	" 2.0.631 acade
🗸 4. పొటాష్ (కె) కి.గ్రా/ఎ		ないいい ごほうぶいひ	ామ్లాక్స్ ఎరువులు ంచవలసిన సమీకరణ. $I = \mathcal{Q}$
లభ్య పైన సూచించిన వాటికి బదులుగా	సూచించిన పోషక పదార్ధము	మోతాదు కి.గ్రా ఎకరాకు	
వాడవలసిన ఎరువు మోతాదు కి./ఎ. =	ఎరువు సంచి మీద సూచించి	న పోషక విలువ	A.M.C. Sould relieve to the A.

VII (a) ARSTRAGT ESTIMATE

S. No. :- 673 | 2000-2001. -Name of the Estimate: - Advance gregation in C-A

_ Name of Division :-

rottaguacu.

Commandan proceeded avac.

Amount sanctioned Bs. := 115 100-0

Budget Head :- 1406-01 - 1-1-05

Name 6	of Range	- Lamaranan		Budget Hea	u .=	CA.
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8	Jan.	Watch and would on pergu	-	53	lay.	M 211-00
6	NEW	Digging & Cattle proof trul	. Z.Z	76	1274-	5040-0
					not of.	112,100-00
					Fore	st Range Offica

34

VII (a) ABSTRACT ESTIMATE

Name of the Estimate :-

Amount sanctioned Rs. :- / ...

Name of Range :-

Name of Division :-

Budget Head :- C.A.

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5.	78 day	watch and ward one person	*	5326	ida	4,137 -
6.	rgolus	- Bissip of cattle proof (manually)	<u>e</u> ·13	36/-	Ruil-	5040 5
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Name of Division: - Kehi-puden

Name of Range: - Laurananan.

S. No. :- 85 | 2001-200

Amount sanctioned Rs.:

Budget Head |- C

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do, solut 4	# 6.7 A

VII Expenditure Statement

Name of the Estimate:

(a) Pre-Planting Year

Name of the Scheme under which the work is being executed:

Date	Vr. No.	Date of Execution			cla M	are of	Dropoy lo				
			From To				au	04	•		
					Qty.	Ехр.	Qty.	Exp.	Qty.	Ехр	
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Head of Account

S.O.No.:

6 33 /2000-2001

Amount Sanctioned Rs.

(2) In the body the items of works executed Voucher wise, date wise, and amount Charge Should

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(b) Pre-Planting Year

Name of the Estimate:

A lang of Porang Numery

Name of the Scheme under which the work is being executed:

CA.

Note: (1) In the Vacant colums of the heading, the items of works with Quantities and amount

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Head of Account

S.O.No.: 635/2000-2001 & 28-2-200)

Amount Sanctioned Rs. 2590 20

(2) In the body the items of works executed Voucher wise, date wise, and amount Charge Should

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WII Expenditure Statement

(c) Year of Planting Name of the Estimate:

Name of the Scheme under which the work is being executed:

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(FXTRACT OF WORKS REGISTER)

Head of Account

S.O.No.:

684/2000.

Amount Sanctioned Rs. 2 849

(2) In the body the items of works executed Voucher wise, date wise, and amount Charge Should be filled in BLUE INK

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VII Expenditure Statement

(d) 2nd Year of Planting

Name of the Estimate:

Name of the Scheme under which the work is being executed:

Note: (1) In the Vacant column of the heading, the items of works with Quantities and amount

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(FXTRACTIOE WORKS REGISTER)

Head of Account

S.O.No. :

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Amount Sanctioned Rs.

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VII Expenditure Statement

(e) 3rd Year of Planting Name of the Estimate: Manden &

Name of the Scheme under which the work is being executed:

Note: (1) In the Vacant colums of the heading, the items of works with Quantities and amount

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Head of Account

S.O.No.: 5/2001-002

Amount Sanctioned Rs.

(2) In the body the items of works executed Voucher wise, date wise, and amount Charge Should

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vid Experiditure Statement

(f) 4th Year of Planting

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Name of the Estimate:

Name of the Scheme under which the work is being executed:

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eria. La la companya di santa di sa	No.		From	То	ļ-	lbo	7	2~\$ Ne_ 6-715		. A
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(EXTRACT OF WORKS REGISTER)

Head of Account CB

S.O.No. :

85/201

Amount Sanctioned Rs. 46 940]

(2) In the body the items of works executed Voucher wise, date wise, and amount Charge Should be filled in BLUE INK

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vn Expenditure Statement (g) 5th Year of Planting

Name of the Estimate:

Name of the Scheme under which the work is being executed:

Note: (1) In the Vacant colums of the heading; the items of works with Quantities and amount

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(EXTRACT OF WORKS REGISTER)

S.O.No.: Solution (S.O.No.: Solution)

(2) In the body the items of works executed Voucher wise, date wise, and amount Charge Should be filled in BLUE INK

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VII Expenditure Statement

(g) Subsquent Year Maintenance

Name of the Estimate:

Name of the Scheme under which the work is being executed:

Note: (1) In the Vacant colums of the heading, the items of works with Quantifies and amount

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(EXTRACT OF WORKS REGISTER)

Head of Account

,S.O.No.:

Amount Sanctioned Rs.

(2) In the body the items of works executed Voucher wise, date wise, and amount Charge Should

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X. ORSERMATIONO OF BINGE RIFE IGERS

3-2-2001 + Today Macles Chaunaf 9:811 He, in Randers Beat i compartuent NO 3 of Block Romovonous. Advance works, are under propress, te cleane of those hus grewth is almost confloates and dragging worker is under progren. ilropheles to Fordis to composer to belone worse inmeditly and fort to up worre.

13/2 lug Forest Days Miles

27-3-2001; Today inspectes ct area of 9:311 that in Romotoner Nent li compertuer NO:3 & Bloca Quadrien. shorted work is compared neather, induction to Advance worker are 'fuelé à leay le oprooted mohal in stating.

Today inspected C-A. Plantelin alla Romoverson.

9:311 Hz. Pland ~ 9311 He. Ploughing in E.P cloud area of 5 Ha. Met is under players 4th. Plausting is completed. balonce 1 the area Ploughing is lis le confloded tournosson. In structed the forester to call the such tril bidder to lift to balance upperchalmate hund sely and keep to see class twoken in sheled to Firela to Start to Brigh wood tencing immediately and keep to plantalin watcher strictly to avoid to cate pressor and higher the first to complete all of the North of the North and staf to North the ball he pontate the point of the pontate the point of the pontate the point of the point

X. OBSERVATION OF RANGE OFFICERS

5-7.2001: Today impected CA. Plantelli see 9.311 #2.

Alignment and Stately in 5 Ha see at expectence in the 3x3 mt is compleated. The Uptrooled material which is toying on to Plot has already little. Which is toying on to Plot has already little. What scale a proof has been some high strungs froken in to Plantelli also some high strungs are appearing they shall be cut y to to grant level and drapped out orde to Plantelli also seed work thereof is under progress in shall be forested to conflect at balonce wo seed to forested to conflect at balonce wo seed in the strungs in a chart to plante water.

11-4-2001 - 12 day hypeclas CA plantelin 9 311 Hr. The The Clares of planting is under progress. 4000 1 clares were Nonted at an espacement of before 1555 Nois of E. P. Clares one of 5 Hr. Mented in to bushance area of 5 Hr. Mented in to bushance area of 5 Hr. Instructed to start to start to should and start and start and start of Samers planting and one order Brush work fit. Isamers planting and one order Brush work fit.

X. OBSECVARIOUS OF PACIFICATE

Plantip of Bends in 4:311th is under progress plantip of Bends in 4:311th is under progress Introduce in forther is complete to thatip well involved tely. The further should teles case with involved to pit and plantip light scard hap to soil about to pit and plantip light to mad packing - in the further is inshelist to and packing - in the further is inshelist to and packing - in the further is inshelist to and packing - in the further is inshelist to any passe even from the foundation a chance to grass even from the foundation

Forst Pork this

20-7-200]: orday worked cat. Nortals 9.81 th. are., Nowly to Bento 1725 his is 4.31 the is compledie. Institled to fruite to forther watcher strictly in Montelle onto, Bento group should not be in Montelle onto, Board immediately. Ilevand. Keep to Nortalia Board immediately. It footal to correct to blein solution whele to the footal to correct to blein operate weeds, or warris as pen to operate the weeds, or warris as pen to colonder of operation.

Fr. Nouseum

X. OBSERVATION OF RANGE OFFICERS

F-8-2001: Today inductor CA flontalis q. 311 the of in home of some some some well established a conserved increment in grants. Bender also well established and tend new horts coming from grand level. I britisher applies in the and gring good sents. Inspector to trushe to very to coming the stands. Inspector to trush the very to coming the it. I then the sent to beep to that the stroke in the stands of the threatest of beep to that in the stands we take the stands.

Fro Nomovona

7-7-2001. Podorf ni speeles CA. Plantale 9-311 Ha

Best 2. I cloud grown is very will

4 & Er Clouds are 40 cm to good heist

5 Ha mes. Remark 4.311 Ha ever box to

Abo well est libra. It is observed the

all sees fore cattle grown to 18

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The Frehen is histolisto to educate

Seco to bound to plantaling to

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the win funds to the plantaling to the winds.

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X. OBSERVATION OF RANGE OFFICERS.

23-11-2001 = Today inspectos CA. Montalis 9.311 Hais in Romanay Beal of compt NO.3. inspected to E.P. Claves and found in good candition. The in 5th area. They inspelled the Barulno pated in 4:311 Ha, onea, The Needly seedlings were planted in Male & danaged Bounton Monts and in the ones careins by hard rol. some sender Monts about Monte die 15 (800) No's of Neredy Montes were Montes during he secondweak of the blook. The watering is every done manually for survival of Neverly plants. The 80% shown of plants are noticed. The Bruch wood fencing is toller down aged due to heavy cattle presont to secon labour. The the proof truch was dig up tur lett side of the plantaling, due los houp 801) oher orde toerch work us not corredon The Frieder is impleted to face up the cattle proof trues work 1916 top priority es project to plantalin. Fisher to Fulle har len instructe has to corrupt the soil 23/11/my working for plants.

51-12-2001 2

Today proceeded & CA. Marteli 9-311Hz. K. Nomain Beat is coupt No. 3. Repeates to E.P. Claras is 8 Ha area is growns of his flooder is good. Was Inspeller to Boulon postelin 4.311 Ha onea. where to soil worker was campache, to Neverly Morts are also is good cardshir, and dois. Merede seather one daying up, The watering is correspond and highlandy, inspelled to Anondo to carme to soil works the p 5the area every the Dembro is bourse, the Misney are in Living condition, if it protects to Benen las comes up 19th good cleuts. fresh shirts engue the protection to Howali.

+701

66 Date of inspection Observation of the Range Officer ruday injectés to ca enveluel padie 2-2002 9:311 Ha. in Coup wo-3. 2-1 Clones are true Le le very good cardition. Some Marte A Megori. scollys is 4-811 Ha. are also survived Widows of Bencho also wassed cardini without the Dyto Namarun I protect to Hard ch for glassip. E. P. strings us hard of 16. 13 q. 311 Ha. 1- Coupt No. 3. E. P. Claws Ja 28.8- WL. is of stary concellent. it attains his him & the hours of houging is complaint. and circular weedings are under plays Almost Sambon is graged by cattle - ". Cattle presone is more to Meredy security ave plandes in place of Bamero, his of to weardy is grown. CCT has been has taken up alend to Natali ? protection for cathe and sowell est to waterholvedge. In Shelo to fixedis offy to festicides to E.P Plants, leaves are charges in the char

al .

/2024/FCA SECTION-	-PCCF 67
Date of inspection	Observation of the Range Officer
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Instructions!

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Inspected the area. The survival of Eucaly Plus Plants is very good. Height-more Than 4 M. Survival & 15.11.02: is more thou 90%. Be la comente ware done in July,02. Nevedu seedlings (1000 nos), tall seedlings ave Plouled during July, 02. Stell, the survival is not good. 9t is be called and Condition of the soil and due to lock of rain Trench is dug all avoiend the plantation. Still Cattle are entering Iron one-two sites and grazing is not Checked totally. The congerned watcher to be warmed to (i) Ploughing and Circular weeding are done in Eucoly Plus protect the plantalion. 1. Unless, theaven is ploughed and planted, we commutex fect Emstructions:

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FIELD INSPECTION NOTE OF SRI S.K.CHHOTTRAY, IFS., CONSERVATOR OF O FORETS, KHAMMIAM IN KOTHAGUDEM DIVISION ON 9-8-2001

1. Compensatory Afforestation enrichment plantation.

This compensatory afforestation plantation over 9.311 Ha., has been taken up in the degraded reserve forest. It is located in Compt. No. 3 of Ramavaram Beat of Ramavaram Block. The area is found to be of site quality IV. Before the plantation it appears that there were only bush growth which have been cleared and plantation has been taken up. One small patch is found to be satine and highly degraded. Out of the whole area 5 Ha., have been planted with Eucolyptus clones in between 10-7-2001 to 16-7-2001. The balance area of 4.311 Ha., Bamboo has been planted at a spacement of 5 M X 5 M in between 17-7-2001 to 18-7-2001. The servival rate is quite high and is about 90 to 95 %. The entire area has been fenced with brushwood. The works have been neatly completed. However in the highly degraded small patch with one cornor it may be considered to plan hardy species like Sundra which may give better results. The growth is not very encouraging due lack of sufficient rains this year after planting. Protection of the area is required continuously since there is heavy Biotic pressure in the area. All the observations may be entered in the journal in detail.

IN CORES WAR CARGE ASSESSED.

As per the plantation journal an area of 9.311 ha., was taken up for CA plantation in 2001. (5)ha., area has been planted with planted with Eucalyptus Clones, at 3M x 3M 4.311 ha., with Bamboo at 5M x 5M spacement. Some plants of Neredu and Sundra were also planted. Eucalyptus plants have grown up to 35 feet and the girth measurement of some of the plants in a single row is 23, 31, 37, 28, 29, 29, 33, 29, 29, 29 Cms., Thus average girth is around 30 Cms.. The area seems to be devoid of much moisture and the plants have become very brittle as is seen from the fact that about 20 to 25 plants are broken in the middle because of wind. The floor of the plantation is having heavy misc., growth. No SMC works were carried out in this plantation. In the Bamboo block almost 99.9% of the plants have died and there is hardly any survival except one or two plants here and there, which are also very weak. The area is covered with heavy misc., growth. The Divisional Forest Officer is requested to attend the following works:

- 1. Get the area surveyed with the GPS;
- 2. Carry out 100% enumeration of the plantation and fix 10th line stone and enter the line-wise planting points and survival into the plantation journal;
- 3. As this area I was told falls in Garimalapadu VSS the Eucalyptus should be cut to the base and the poles may be taken by the VSS for their domestic use after duly entering into the VSS register and passing a resolution.

RANWAYIT SINGH CF Khommer WILDLIFE CONSERVATION & MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED VENKATESH KHANI COAL MINE, GAUTHAM KHANI OPENCAST, VENKATESH KHANI NO.7 INCLINE AND PADMAVATHI KHANI NO. 5 INCLINE



Revised during November/December – 2023

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Index

Background	1-23
Environmental Details of the Proposed Project Area	24-38
Species Evaluation	39-43
Species Compositions	44-77
Wildlife Conservation Plan (WLCP) of the Proposed Project	78-90
Budget for Action Plan	91-93
Conclusion	94
References	95_98

Summary

This Wildlife Conservation Plan is complimentary to the Wildlife Plan of the Forest Department. This will be implemented in the Core and Buffer zones of project area. Due biodiversity study has been taken up. The list of species observed and subsequently added from the working plan of the Forest Department is include.

Initially the mining by underground method started in Kothagudem Area during 1937. In the early 70s, underground mines in the name of 8, 9, 10, 11 incline in an area of 408 Hectares were operational in the proposed study area, which were subsequently closed in 1992. From these underground mines, 5.56 million tons of coal have already been extracted. Subsequently, one opencast mine by the name of Goutham Khani (GKOC) started in the year 1993 in a total area of 902 Ha, which has been closed during March 2022. This opencast was the conversion of the four underground mines, where the 74.29 million tons of Coal was left over from earlier underground operation. In total, 76.91 million tons (underground -5.56 + OC - 71.35) of coal has already been removed from this area.

On average manpower used in these underground mines was around 7000 and in the GK Opencast it was 1611. Besides that, many coal loaded lorries/ vehicles move from mines to different places on daily basis (300 to 400 lorries per day). Also, a National Highway (NH 30) connecting Kothagudem to Vijayawada passes through the forest and mine area, connected with many small public roads which is used by people actively. So, this also shows that there is not any fresh intrusion to the biodiversity/ wildlife by this proposed mine. Since, last 50 years of mine operations in this area, already movement of vehicles, people, constructions

have started and as such hardly any area left undisturbed. The impact of the mining on the flora was observed as minimal, as no felling of trees were there in UG surface areas except areas of the Gautham Khani OC project. It was observed during the mining process that the fauna has moved away from this area to the nearby adjacent forest areas. Plantation raised by SCCL and Forest department within Core and Buffer areas are also serving as refuge to the wildlife. The SCCL and Forest department has taken many individual initiatives and joint actions in protecting, enhancing, and sustaining the biodiversity in the habitats in adjoining forest areas of the buffer areas.

The method of mining will use controlled blasting techniques using milli-second delay, detonators & relays will be adopted which will reduce noise disturbances. Creation of green belts of dense foliage between mine and buffer area will act as noise attenuator. Anti-vibration paddings for all machines in CHP and rubber or any other wear resistant material liners for all transfer chutes and hoppers will be provided. All these measures will reduce the impact on wild animals in buffer area. The flora existing in the core zone will be harvested with the progress of mine. However, more number of trees will be planted in the area after mine closure.

In the quarried area of GK OC, the SCCL has now proposed to dump the overburden material going to be excavated from the proposed VKOC, which will diversion of fresh forest land. All the Overburden areas of the proposed VKOC will be rehabilitated as per approved mine closure plan and voids will be maintained to serve as big water body suitable for wild animals.

Background

As demand for energy increases, in absence of sufficient alternative energy source, Coal mining will remain an important part of global, national, and local economies in the foreseeable future. To meet the ever-increasing demand for Coal and to achieve the targets fixed by the Government of India from time to time, SCCL has embarked upon expansion of coal mining to increase coal production. Venkatesh Khani Coal Mine is one of the new Project identified in Ramavaram RF, Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem Forest Division.

Rapid increase in human population and its need and use of natural resources like land, soil, water, wood biomass and energy have impinged heavily on earth's biodiversity (Mooney et al. 1995). In the past decade or more, in the face of climate change and allied threats to human welfare, loss of earth's biological diversity has become one of the major concern. In addition to direct loss of forests, incompatible resource use by human had resulted in depletion of biotic wealth and degraded the forest lands, as a consequence of agricultural expansion and urban development (Puri et al. 1983). Further development of network of roads and railways, urban and other energy related development projects have fragmented forests with long-term consequences (Turner et al.1996, Rajvanshi et al.2001). The combination of loss of natural habitat, reduction in habitat size and isolation of habitat patches are the results of forest fragmentation. All this led to decline in biological diversity within the original habitat and even the entire ecosystem as well (Wilcox 1980, Wilcox, and Murphy 1985). For economic growth and human development to be sustainable, the environmental costs associated with growth and development must be identified, understood, and mitigated without forgoing those benefits (Gubbi et al.2012). In India, the demand for energy is ever increasing with growing economy and population (Chabukdhara and singh 2016).

Mining apart from meeting the energy demands of the industry, also play a vital role in the economic growth of the nation (Chaulya and Chakraborty 1995). Globally, coal is one of the important fossil fuels found in abundance, meeting the energy requirements. After China and USA, India is the third largest producer of coal in the World. In India, coal is the most abundant fossil fuel available and more than 70% of power is produced by coal based thermal power plants (Mishra 2004, WII 2021). In 2021-22 and 2022-23, all India coal production stands at 778.21 MT and 893.08 MT respectively, with a positive growth of 14.76% (https://coal.gov.in/en/major-statistics/production-and-supplies). As per Coal Inventory published by GSI, cumulative total estimated coal reserve (resource) for the country is 361411.46 million tones as on 01.04.2022. (https://coal.gov.in/en/major-statistics/coal-reserves).

In both developed and developing countries, natural resources are extracted to attain economic growth and development. Tropical forests are one of the most threatened ecosystems, rapidly undergoing enormous land use changes (Hill et al.2011, Ramachandran et al. 2018, Nayak et al.2020) due to various developments. This has led to habitat fragmentation resulting in area reduction, eventually affecting the biodiversity and wildlife movement of small and isolated populations. Connectivity is an important parameter in determining the dispersal ability of a species in a landscape (Tischendorf and Faheig 2000, Neldner et al.2017). Landscape connectivity refers to a species ability to move between suitable habitat parcels throughout a landscape and has significant consequences on the

survival of the species (With 2004). In low-connectivity landscapes, populations become isolated and are susceptible to genetic suppression and local extinction (Bennet et al.2000). Among the developmental activities, mining has major environmental impacts such as soil erosion, reduction in forest cover, loss of biodiversity and wildlife, pollution of air, water, and land. Some of the direct effects of mining on wildlife includes disturbance and displacement of the populations from the mine site and long-term changes in the land use pattern (Buehler and Percy 2012). Habitat loss and landscape modification are considered as severe threat to global biodiversity (Fischer and Lindenmayer 2007.) Mining activities, especially open cast mining has a wide range of environmental consequences. At landscape level, activities such as clearing of forests, alteration of the habitat results in movement of wildlife from areas of operation to adjacent forest areas if available otherwise to open agricultural landscape leading to increased men-animal conflicts. The fragmentation, degradation poses serious threat to biological diversity. New sources of funding and new forms of partnership in wildlife conservation are critically required.

Need for preparation of Wildlife Conservation Plan:

As per the standard ToR condition "A detailed biological study of the study area (core zone and buffer zone, 10 km radius of the periphery of the mine lease) shall be carried out. Details of flora and fauna, Rare, Endangered, Extinct and Threatened (REET) Species duly authenticated, separately for core and buffer zone should be furnished based on such primary field survey, clearly indicating the Schedule of the fauna present. In case of any scheduled I fauna found in the study area, the necessary plan along with budgetary provisions for their conservation should be prepared in consultation with State Forest and Wildlife Department and details furnished. Necessary allocation of funds for implementing the same should be made as part of the project cost."

About the Industry

The SCCL (Singareni Collieries Company Limited) is a Government coal mining company jointly owned by the Government of Telangana and Government of India on a 51:49 equity basis. The SCCL is the largest public sector undertaking in the State with manpower of 46,021 as on 31.03.2023. It is the only coal mining company in the State, catering to the needs of coal-based industries mainly thermal power plants. The company was initially incorporated as "Hyderabad (Deccan) Company Limited" in England and acquired mining rights in 1886 to exploit coal found in Yellandu area. The present Company was incorporated on 23rd December 1920 under the Hyderabad Companies Act as a public limited company with the name 'The Singareni Collieries Company Limited' (SCCL). In the year 1945, the State of Hyderabad, the Nizam"s Dominion, took over Singareni Collieries Company Limited by acquiring all the stocks in the company, thereby continuing the mandate to mine coal from entire Godavari Valley Coal Field. IIn 1948, with annexation of Nizam's Dominion into Union of India, SCCL became a Government Company. From 1960, Government of India participated in Equity with 49% shares. In 1972-73, all coking coal mines of private operators (except the captive mines of IISCO, TISCO, and dvc) were nationalized and brought under coal India Limited with a view of centralized the Coal mining operation in all Coal fields, other than Godavari Valley Coal Field. Since then, Ministry of Coal has been referring to Godavari Valley Coal Field as command are for SCCL. The mining rights of SCCL cover a stretch of 350 km in Godavari Valley with proved coal reserves of about 10,474.90 million Tons as on 01.04.2018 as per SCCL estimation. SCCL currently operates 29 underground mines and 19 opencast mines located in 6 districts of Telangana State.

Type of the Project:

The proposed Venkatesh Khani Coal Mine (VK Coal Mine) Project (opencast cum underground) is classified as category "A" under Mining of Minerals sector as per the MoEF &CC, GOI, notification, SO 1533, dated 14th September 2006, and subsequent amendments.

The present proposal involves diversion of 649. 3014 Ha of Forest Land from Underground rights to Open Cast (surface use) purpose. This area is part of the total project area of 2403.17 ha (1568.22 ha is Forest Land and 834.95 ha is Non-Forest Land) located near Rudrampur village, Chunchupalli Mandal, Bhadradri Kothagudem District (Telangana State).

Need of the Project

SCCL is the major coal mining company in Southern India supplying coal to the major power utilities like NTPC, TSGENCO, APGENCO, KPCL and Maha GENCO.

Presently in Kothagudem Area, PVK No. 5 incline (0.825 MTPA production) underground (UG) mine is in operation. Coal mining operations in Gautham Khani Open Cast Mine (GK OC 4.00 MTPA) and Venkatesh Khani No-7 (VK No.7 incline 0.843 MTPA) underground mine were closed in March 2023. The Coal reserves in UG mines beyond 300m depth were completely extracted and the reserves up to 300 m depth which were developed and standing on pillars will be extracted by opencast in the present proposal.

Coal extracted from the GK OC and PVK No.5 mines were supplied to Kothagudem Thermal Power Station (KTPS) of TS GENCO (1800 MW), Nava Bharath ventures (264 MW), etc., in Bhadradri Kothagudem District, Telangana State situated within 20 km under Fuel Supply Agreement.

Hence, the proposed project is formulated:

- In order to sustain the coal supplies to KTPS of TSGENCO, Nava Bharath Ventures, etc.,
- To extract the coal left in the standing pillars in underground mine (VK-7 & PVK-5) thus
 conserving the coal reserves.
- Re-deployment of manpower of GK OC and VK No.7 Incline.

Location of the Project

VK Coal Mine falls in Chunchupalli Mandal of Bhadradri Kothagudem district of Telangana State and located between latitude of N 17° 26′ 14.52″ to N 17° 31′ 32.95″ and longitude of E 80° 37′ 50.80″ to E 80° 41′ 31.08″ and falls in Survey of India Topo sheet 65C/10, 65C/11. The project covers an area of 2403.17 ha.

Details of Environmental Setting

S.No.	Particulars	Details
1 2	Location Elevation	Rudrampur (V) 160m above MSL in southern part to 100m above MSL in the northern part and average elevation is 138 above MSL.

3	Land use of the project area	Туре	Land use (proposed) in ha
		Excavation area (Including road diversion of 5.05 ha)	1344.580
		External dump	349.110
		Safety Zone/Rationalization area	160.800
		Road diversion	0.850
		Stowing arrangements & diverted portion of the nallah	6.571
		Infrastructure area	65.080
		Green belt	6.480
		Undisturbed (mining rights for UG)	469.699
		Total	2403.170
4	Nearest tourist place	No tourist place	
5	Defense installation	Nil	
6	Archeologically listed important places	Nil	
7	Ecologically sensitive	There are no wetlands, coastal zone,	and bioenharae in the
•	zones	study area. However, the project I distance of 6.33 km away from boundary of Kinnerasani Wildlife San has been obtained from the PCCF (H Telangana stating that the project are Eco-sensitive Zone of Kinnerasani wany other corridor of Elephants & Tiger	boundary falls at a Eco-Sensitive Zone ctuary. A certification oFF), Government of ea doesn't fall under aldlife Sanctuary and
8	Reserved / Protected Forest		Chatakonda RF,
9	Roads and other infrastructure	National highway (NH-30) road from Vijayawada connecting Bhadrachalan across the project area. The road will diversion length of this road is about 5.	n, Manuguru passes be diverted, and the
		The existing 33/3.3KV VK & AK transmission lines, Telephone communication Lines of SCCL are proposed VK Coal mine quarry area diverted around for about 5 km length.	lines and other passing over the
10	Nearest streams/Rivers	No diversion or shifting of Rivers /Strea	ams is involved
11	Other Industries/ Mines	At present, 1 underground mine and (closed), and two major Industries, nan Navabharath Ventures Ltd., fall in the s	nely KTPS (part),
12	Coal user locations	Kothagudem Thermal Power Station (I (1800 MW), Nava Bharath ventur Bhadradri Kothagudem District, Telang Supply Agreement.	KTPS) of TS GENCO es (264 MW) etc.
13	Socio-economic factors	 Social infrastructure already available the needs of working employees 	
14	Seismic zone	 As the project is an amalgamation of VK-7, further development of the are The mine falls under Zone – II (Least a 	a will take place
		zone.	,

Proposed schedule for approval and implementation

The proposed project activities will be commenced after obtaining Forest Diversion Permission and Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change, GOI. The details of statutory obligations as specified by MoC / MoEF&CC / DGMS etc. are given below:

Subject SI. No. Mining Lease: 1. to 18.09.2034. Mining Plan 2. Consent For Operation 3. (CFO)

Status

The total project area of 2403.17 ha is covered under two mining leases.

- 1. Kothagudem Mining Lease (KGML): 2241.86 ha covered in the 2nd Renewal of KGML (5158 ha) granted vide G.O.Ms. No.324, dated 12.12.2008, valid up to
- 2. Goutham Khani Opencast Mining Lease (GKOC ML): 161.31 ha, 1stRenewal of GKOC ML (261.31 ha) granted vide G.O.Ms.No.211, dated: 08.08.2008, valid up
 - Mining Plan and Mine Closure Plan (2nd Revision) was approved by MoC, GOI, Vide Lr. No. 38011/12/2017-PCA dated 27th January,2020.
 - CFOs of VK-7, PVK-5, GK OC Incline were obtained from TSPCB.
 - 1. VK No.7 Incline vide consent order no. 17082598755, valid up to 31.03.2022 (Mine closed in 2020-21).
 - 2. PVK No. 5 Incline vide consent order No. 220523337889, valid up to 30.09.2026. and
 - 3. GK OC vide consent order no. 220523336893, valid up to 30.09.2026.
- 4. Ground Clearance

Water Ground water clearance was obtained for existing mines in this expansion project. Application for Ground water clearance for the proposed VK Coal Mine was submitted on 12.07.2021.

5. Forest Clearance Total forest land involved in the project area is 1568.22 ha of which 449.22 ha is with Surface rights and remaining 1119.00 ha with UG rights is in possession of SCCL.

Surface rights available with SCCL: 449.22 ha

449.22 ha FL was diverted of which 287.91 ha of Forest land is covered under Kothagudem Mining lease and 161.31 ha covered in the Goutham Khani Opencast Mining Lease. Major area of this area of 449.22 Ha forms part of GKOC (Closed mine) and proposed to be utilized for dumping of over burden in existing voids to a height of 120.00 M.

Area in ha.	Stage-II FC issued vide letter no. & date	Validity period of FC
154.96	8-62/2005-FC 09 th /15 th July 2008.	20 years.
124.00	8-17/98-FC 8 th February 1999.	20 years. Applied for Renewal on 05.04.2017.
0.90	8-227/1985 FC (Vol. I) Dated 12 th May 2021.	Co-terminus with mining lease up to

		2029.
2.85	Stage-1 8-277/1985-FC (Vol) dated 22 nd June 2018.	Co-terminus with mining lease up to 2029.
161.31	8-117/2002-FC 1 st February 2010.	20 years.
5.20	Memo No.1435/For. I(1)/2022, dated:24.02.2023	Co-terminus with mining lease up to 2029.

449.22

Underground rights:

1119.00 ha Forest land is covered under Kothagudem Mining lease (1174.18 ha FL) with UG rights diverted vide Lr. No.8- 277/85-FC, dated:17.02.2009 and valid for a period of 20 years up to 16.02.2029.

Out of 1119.00 ha of forest land with UG rights, the proposal was submitted for diversion and conversion to surface rights to an extent of 649.3014 ha to facilitate OC operations. The balance forest land (469.699 ha) will be continued with UG rights.

Physiographic Features

Buffer zone: The buffer zone comprises the area within 10 Km from the boundary of the project area. The buffer area is a plain terrain with relief of 160m in the south and 80m in the north and sloping towards north and northeast. Few hillocks located Kanigiri gutta (432m) and an unnamed hillock (360m) in the northeast, Balusu gutta (328m) in the southeast, and Bolli gutta (340m) at the periphery of the project are existing in the buffer area.

Core zone: The core zone includes the area proposed for diversion and the remaining project area. The VK Coal Mine project area is of flat topography, Bolligutta hill stands out as a prominent landmark of this area along the northern boundary. The general topographic elevation of the project area varies from 160m above MSL to 100m above MSL. In the south part of the project is covered by existing GKOC project area.

Drainage

Buffer zone: The buffer zone is drained by Murredu stream, Edula vagu(stream) flowing in the western half and joins to Murredu river near Gollagudem village in the northern part of the buffer area. Tellavagu flowing in the eastern part and joins to Edulavagu near Penuballi village. The drainage of the area is dentritic to parallel type with a density of about 1.80 km/sq.km. Singabhupalam Cheruvu (Tank) a major irrigation tank is located in the western part about 7 km away from the proposed VK Coal Mine project.

Core zone: Tellavagu, an ephemeral stream, which is a tributary of Edula vagu and flowing in the northern part of the project area. Drainage is moderately developed, and few ephemeral streams are flowing and joins the Tellavagu. The drainage density of the block area is about 1.65 km/ sq.km.

Geology and Coal Reserves

The Kothagudem Coal Belt is located to the South of Kothagudem Township up to Penagadapa village. This coal belt is bound by North Latitude 17o25'30" and 17o32'30" and East Longitude 80o37'30" and 80o42'0" enclosed with an area of 284.00 km2.

Geology of VK Coal Mine Block: Stratigraphic Sequence: The block area is covered with Barakar, Barren measure and Lower Kamthi formations; western part of the block is abutted with basements. The coal bearing Barakar Formation consists of Predominantly Grey white sandstone with subordinate shales and coal seams. Geological reserves of VK Coal Mine are calculated with the help Carlson Mine Planning Software. Percent of extraction is 70.79%.

Technology and Process Description

Venkatesh Khani Coal Mine (VK Coal Mine) (OC cum UG Mine) with a production capacity of 6.30 MTPA in an area of 2403.17 ha is proposed by amalgamation of existing Goutham Khani opencast mine, PVK No.5 Incline and closed VK No.7 Incline.

As such, the two mines, PVK-5 Incline and VK-7 Incline Underground Mines are proposed to be converted into Opencast. With earlier experiences of GK OC Mine workings (which is also conversion of Underground Mines to Opencast mine), it is proposed to continue with the shovel dumper technology for extraction of coal in VK Coal Mine also.

In the amalgamation project:

- The coal reserves of GK OC (4.00 MTPA) exhausted.
- In order to sustain the coal supplies to KTPS of TSGENCO, Nava Bharath ventures, etc., initially VK No.7 incline underground mine up to a depth of 300 m will be converted into opencast mine by utilizing the voids of GK OC for dumping of OB.
- For conservation of coal reserves and manpower re-deployment, underground mining
 will be continued in PVK No.5 Incline between 300 & 450 m depth with existing
 continuous miner technology and LHDs and these operations will be closed by the
 year 2029-30. Subsequently, the balance reserves of PVK No.5 incline up to 300m
 depth will also be extracted through opencast method of mining merging with the
 existing opencast operations.
- With the above sequence of mining operations, the proposed VK Coal Mine will continue as OC cum UG mine up to 2029-30, later on only OC operations will be continued.

The mining sequence has been planned in such a way as to permit mining the coal reserves in a more effective manner and at the same time allow backfilling of considerable quantity of overburden.

This aspect considerably mitigates the adverse environmental impact generally associated with opencast mining. Sequence of mining is also planned considering the lay and disposition of the deposit.

Pre-mining Land Use Pattern

Total land within the project boundary of VK Coal Mine is 2403.17 ha. The pre-mining land use pattern in the proposed project area is as furnished below.

	Pre-mining Land Use (ha)	
Tenancy/Private	Agricultural	- -
,	Grazing	
	Water Bodies	
	Road	
	Other (Patta Land)	10.99
	Sub Total	10.99

Govt (Non-Forest)	Agricultural	
,	Grazing /other	
	Road	
	Water body	
	Others (SCCL Land)	823.96
	Sub total	823.96
Forest	Reserve (including 12.03 ha of Tella vagu stream)	1568.22
	Protected	
	Sub Total	1568.22
	Total	2403.17

Proposed Land Use Pattern (Land Use During Mining)

The proposed land use of the forest land to be diverted during mining in the VK Coal Mine is furnished below.

Propsed land use of the forest land to be diverted (during Mining (ha))

Туре	Land use (ha)
Excavation Area	573.4251
(Including 5.05 ha of road diversion area)	
Safe distance, Berm/Toe Wall, Inspection Road,	75.8763
Drains and Transmission Lines Etc.	
Total	649.3014

Land Use Pattern (End of Life)

The proposed land use during post closure in the proposed VK Coal Mine is furnished as follows:

Post Closure Land Use Plan (ha)						
Туре	Plantation	Water Body	Public/ Company Use	Undisturbed	Total	
Excavation Area		•	, ,			
1) Backfilled Area	947.876	0.850 (GD)	9.520		958.246	
a. Road Diversion		, ,	5.050			
 b. Power lines and Toe walls 			4.470			
Excavated Void		386.334			386.334	
Sub Total	947.876	387.184	9.520		1344.580	
External Dump	349.110				349.110	
Green belt / Safety Zone //Rationalization area	152.740	5.140 (GD)	9.400 (R)		167.280	
Roads		(GD)	0.85		0.850	
Sand stowing arrangements etc.	6.571				6.571	
Infrastructure area	65.080				65.080	
Undisturbed FL with UG rights				469.699	469.699	
Total	1521.377	392.324	19.77	469.699	2403.170	

^{*}Note: GD- Garland Drains, R- Roads

Coal Transportation System

Coal will be transported from face to in-pit crushers by dumpers. Then coal will be elevated by

belt conveyors up to CHP / Railway siding by series of belt conveyors. Transport from main CHP to end users will be by rail mode. This will even reduce the environmental load in the area and even wildlife will not be disturbed as in case of road transport system.

Meteorology and Climatology of this area as per IMD

A comparative analysis was taken up for the Meteorological data of the study area collected by the project team in 2021. Secondary data used for the purpose i.e. more than 20 years average IMD data from 1999-2021 is taken from Kothagudem IMD station. Kothagudem area experiences typical tropical climate of a distinct hot summer from March to May with occasional dust storms, a good monsoon between middle of June and September and a pleasant winter from December to February. The temperature varies between 9.10 C and 48.60 C.

Rainfall: The nearest rain gauge station is located at Kothagudem. The rainfall data from 1999 to 2021 indicates that, the annual rain fall is widely varied from 777.4 mm (2009-2010) to 1876.3 mm (2020-2021) with a mean rainfall of 1198.7 mm. The maximum monthly rainfall is 660.2 mm August 2008. The data indicates that, the maximum daily rainfall was 220.6 mm (3rd November 2012). The average number of rainy days in a year is 70 days. The southwest monsoon contributes 80% of total rainfall. The year wise status of rainfall conditions (i.e., Normal, Excess and Deficient) of this area is furnished below.

Annua	ıfall			
RF	Annual Rainfall	Mean Rainfall	Deviation %	Status
Year	(mm)	(mm)	from Mean RF	
1999-2000	1092.7	1198.7	-8.8	Normal
2000-2001	1075.0	1198.7	-10.3	Normal
2001-2002	1050.2	1198.7	-12.4	Normal
2002-2003	8.808	1198.7	-32.5	Deficient
2003-2004	1393.8	1198.7	16.3	Normal
2004-2005	1528.4	1198.7	27.5	Excess
2005-2006	1438.0	1198.7	20.0	Normal
2006-2007	963.4	1198.7	-19.6	Normal
2007-2008	1195.2	1198.7	-0.3	Normal
2008-2009	1548.4	1198.7	29.2	Excess
2009-2010	774.4	1198.7	-35.4	Deficient
2010-2011	1398.4	1198.7	16.7	Normal
2011-2012	827.0	1198.7	-31.0	Deficient
2012-2013	1425.2	1198.7	18.9	Normal
2013-2014	1305.2	1198.7	8.9	Normal
2014-2015	898.6	1198.7	-25.0	Deficient
2015-2016	1200.8	1198.7	0.2	Normal
2016-2017	1206.8	1198.7	0.7	Normal
2017-2018	1059.6	1198.7	-11.6	Normal
2018-2019	1211.4	1198.7	1.1	Normal
2019-2020	1094.0	1198.7	-8.7	Normal
2020-2021	1876.3	1198.7	56.5	Excess

As per Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), the annual rainfall is considered to be "normal", if the deviation % from Mean Rainfall ranges from 19% to -19%, "excess" if the annual rainfall is in between 20% to 59% and "large excess" if it is 60 percent and above. While the annual rainfall is considered to be "deficient", if it ranges from -20% to -59% and "large deficient" if it is between -60 to -99 percent. As a part of micro-meteorological study, micrometeorological and microclimatic parameters were recorded by installing an auto

weather monitoring station within the core zone. Data on wind speed, wind direction, ambient temperature, relative humidity, and rainfall was recorded on hourly basis.

Summary of Ambient Air Quality

Core Zone:

PM10 concentration in core zone range from 52.0 to 196.0 μ g/m3, minimum concentration was observed at Padmavathi Khani-5 UG Mine (CA-2) and maximum concentration was observed at Rudrampur-CHP (CA-3) and PM2.5 concentration was in the range of 21.2 to 81.6 μ g/m3, minimum concentration was observed at Gowtham khani OC PO Office (CA-1) and maximum concentration was observed at Rudrampur-CHP (CA-3).

SO2 concentration in core zone ranges from 11.4 to 15.5 μ g/m3. The minimum concentration was observed at Padmavathi Khani-5 UG Mine (CA-2) and maximum concentration was observed at Rudrampur-CHP (CA-3). NO2 concentrations are in the range of 16.6 to 23.3 μ g/m3 with minimum concentration was observed at Padmavathi Khani-5 UG Mine (CA-2) and maximum concentration was observed at Rudrampur-CHP (CA-3). The study indicates that the observed concentrations in core zone are within the Coal mine standards (commenced prior to 25.09.2000), GSR 742 (E), dated 25.09.2000.

Buffer Zone:

PM10 concentration in Buffer zone ranges from 43.0 to 70.0 μ g/m3. Minimum concentration was observed at Gareebpeta (BA-10), and maximum concentration was observed at Penagadapa village (BA-1) & 3 Incline (BA-7). PM2.5 concentrations were in the range from 17.2 to 29.4 μ g/m3 and minimum concentration was observed at Gareebpeta (BA-10) whereas maximum value was observed at Rudrampur (BA-6).

SO2 concentration in buffer zone ranges from 10.2 to $15.0 \mu g/m3$ the minimum concentration was observed at Sitampet Village (BA-4) and maximum was observed at 3 Incline (BA-7). NO2 concentration is in the range from 14.7 to 22.5 $\mu g/m3$, the minimum concentration was observed at Sitampet Village (BA-4) and maximum was observed at 3 Incline (BA-7). Carbon monoxide levels are Below Detection Limit (BDL) at all the locations. The AAQ study indicates that the observed concentrations in Buffer zone are well within the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as notified on 18.11.2009 by CPCB.

Noise Environment

A detailed survey on noise environment was carried in and around the project area to study the hourly equivalent noise levels as per IS: 4594-1968. This study was necessary as the high noise levels may cause adverse effect on human beings and associated environment, including structures, domestic & wild animals, and natural ecological systems. Spot noise levels were measured for 24 hours on hourly basis by using a high precision Sound Level Meter at thirteen locations within the study area.

Summary of Noise level data: Out of 13 locations, three locations fall in core zone and 10 are in buffer zone. In core zone, maximum Day Leq value is 69.5 dB (A) at Rudrampur CHP (CN-3) and minimum is 56.5 dB (A) at Padmavathi Khani-5 UG Mine (CN-2). Maximum value of Night Leq is 52.7 dB (A) at Rudrampur CHP (CN-3), and minimum value is 46.9 dB (A) at Padmavathi Khani-5 UG Mine (CN-2).

The results shows that the noise levels in terms of Leq (day) and Leq (night) are well within the standards stipulated at all the locations as applicable to Industrial area. In buffer zone, maximum value of Day Leq is 51.8 dB(A) observed at Ramavaram (BN-8), and minimum is 48.3 dB(A) at Rampur Village (BN-2) and maximum value of Night Leq observed is 41.5dB(A) at Rudrampur (BN-6), and minimum is 38.5 dB(A) observed at Chandrukunta (BN-5). The results show that high noise levels at few locations is due to vehicular movement and local

activities. However, the noise levels in terms of Leq (day) and Leq (night) are well within the standards stipulated at all the locations as per the residential area.

Details of Environmental Impacts

Environmental impacts both direct and indirect on various environmental attributes due to proposed mining activity in the surrounding environment, during pre-operational, operational, and post-operational phases are discussed in this chapter. The impacts due to mining operations commence from the exploration activities, extend through extraction and processing of minerals, may continue up to post-closure of the operation, with the nature and extent of impacts varying throughout the stages of project development. The following are the main environmental impacts due to the location of the project.

Impacts during project construction

The proposed Venkatesh Khani Coal mine (VK Coal mine) project is an open cast cum underground mine involving both opencast and underground method of mining. In this project, initially VK No.7 Incline underground mine will be converted into opencast mine by utilizing the voids of existing GK OC mine and underground operations will be continued in the PVK No. 5 Incline utilizing the existing infrastructure later on after 10 years PVK No.5 Incline will also be converted into opencast mine.

Since, initially VK 7 Incline will be converted into OC the infrastructure like service buildings, workshop, pit magazine etc. pertaining to this UG mine will be demolished and project/site office, unit workshops, Pit head CHP, stores, magazine, lamp cabin, sub-station etc. will be constructed for the opencast operations. The various activities involved in the construction stage, which have impact on the environment and the potential environmental impact of the same are given in below.

The major environmental parameters affected during construction stage are noise and dust pollution. Continuous water spraying arrangements will be made to minimize dust level to a large extent. However, the effects due to construction activities are of temporary nature and will have no permanent impact on environment.

	Impact during Construction Stage						
Construction Stage	Activity	Potential Environment Impact					
a) Pre-	i. Soil investigation	Negligible					
construction Activities		Negligible					
b) Site work /	Clearing and grading	Negligible					
other facilities	Temporary facilities, such as, sheds, approach roads, sanitary facilities Earth work comprising of excavation, garlanding and trenches Foundation work, piling and drainage system or construction of check dams Construction of roads,	Dust emission and change in traffic intensity Soil erosion, run off, increase in traffic, Dust emission Dust, visual and noise pollution Dust and noise pollution					
	Equipment erection and utility systems.	Dust, noise and visual impact					

Impacts during regular project operations

In the VK Coal Mine project, PVK No.5 Incline underground mine is in operation and VK No.7 Incline mine is closed which will initially be converted into opencast by utilizing the void area of GK OC for dumping of OB. The underground and opencast operations will be continued up to 2029-30, later only OC operations will be carried out. Hence, the environmental impacts due

to both underground and opencast mining operations on various environmental attributes are described hereunder:

The impacts during Construction, Operation and Decommissioning stage are not widespread and are limited to the area of mining operations. The impacts of opencast and underground mining on various environmental parameters are discussed in detail and efforts will be made to assess the degree of impact on the basis of past experience.

It is necessary to analyze the nature of the impact on these environmental parameters in detail, in order to formulate an effective Environment Management Plan (EMP) for Venkatesh Khani Coal Mine Project (VK Coal mine) (Amalgamation of Venkatesh Khani No. 7 Incline, Padmavathi Khani – 5 Incline & Gautham Khani OC mine).

The activities in the regular operations stage for underground mining identified to have impact on the environment can be broadly classified into surface coal handling arrangements and transportation of coal.

The impacts due to opencast mining can be classified into drilling, blasting, excavation, dozing, transportation, dumping and wind erosion of dumps. Environmental impacts associated in operations stage include dust, noise, visual, water pollution, etc.

The various activities involved in the operations stage, which have impact on the environment and the potential environmental impact of the same, are given below.

i. Under ground operations Stage

Regular Operations Stage		Activity	Potential Environmental Impact
Solid waste during Shaft		i) Coal Extraction	Dust, wastewater generation and noise
sinking, Tunnelling, Co extraction and		ii) Coal handling arrangements (Including crushing, loading & unloading operations)	Dust, noise and visual
transportation	-	iii)Transportation	Dust, noise and visual
ii. Openca Regular	ist o	perations	Detential Environmental
Operations Stage		Activity	Potential Environmental Impact
OB Excavation and	i)	Excavation	Dust, soil erosion, wastewater generation and noise
Coal	ii)	Drilling and blasting in OB & Coal	Dust, noise, and vibrations
Extraction	iii)	Dumping of OB & coal	Dust, noise and visual
	iv)	Coal handling arrangements (Including crushing, loading & unloading operations)	Dust, noise and visual

Impact on Land Environment

V)

The total land requirement for the project is 2403.17 ha. The detailed breakup of the existing mines and the proposed mine is shown in the Table. Existing area of three mines i.e., VK No.7, PVK No.5 & GK OC is 2398.68 ha and an area of 119.92 ha from the existing mines has

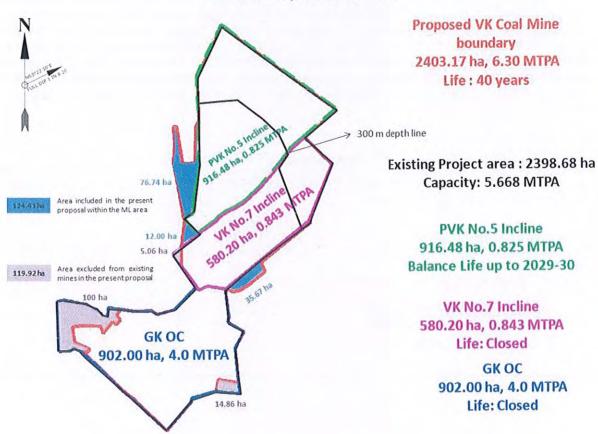
Transportation

Dust, noise and visual

been excluded in the present proposal (100 ha forest land was returned to Forest Department, 5.06 ha is forest land non coal bearing area and 14.86 ha private land non coal bearing area) and an additional area of 124.41 ha is included in the present proposal for the quarry operation and infrastructure facilities (CHP, Railway siding, work shop and office buildings).

A plan showing the area excluded and included in the present proposal is shown in the Figure. All the infrastructure like office buildings, CHP, ETP and coal yard are proposed in the non-coal bearing non forest area only.

Present Proposed Mine Area



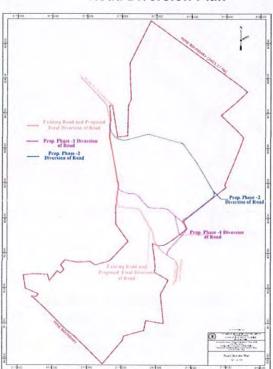
Existing vs Present proposal

S.No.	Mine	Existing Area (ha)	Area considered in VK coal mine (ha)	Existing EC Capacity (MTPA)	Proposed Capacity (MTPA)	Remarks
1	VK No.7 Inc	580.20	575.14	0.843 (Closed)	6.3 (OC: 5.3 UG:1.0)	5.06 ha of Non-Coal Bearing Area (NCBA) is not considered in the present proposal.
2	PVK No.5 Inc	916.48	916.48 (No Change)	0.825 (Proposed for 1.00 MTPA)		No change in land extent
3	GK OC	902.00	787.14	4.00 (Closed)	0.00	100 ha of Forest land (Reclaimed OB dump was surrendered to Forest department during the year 2010.

4	Additional Non-Coal bearing area within the lease	-	124.41			Additional land of 124.41 ha within the ML is considered for quarry operations and infrastructure facilities (CHP, Railway siding, workshop and office buildings)
	Total	2398.68	2403.17	5.668	6.30	

The major diversions or shifting of surface features over the project area of the proposed project are as follows: A 2 km length of National highway (NH-30) (from Kothagudem towards Vijayawada) is passing over the project area. It is proposed to divert the road in phases to facilitate OC operations. In 1st phase road diversion will be taken up for a length of 3.3 km before the start of OC operation in VK No.7 area. 2nd phase road diversion will be taken up for a length of 5 km after 5th year and final phase diversion will be taken up and the road will be re-stored back to its original position After 15th years. NOC for diversion of the road obtained from the R&B department vide Lr. No. 3773/DCE/NH/DEEII/AEF/2019, dated 06.04.2021 (Annexure 4A). Plan showing the different phases of road diversion is shown in `ure.

Road Diversion Plan



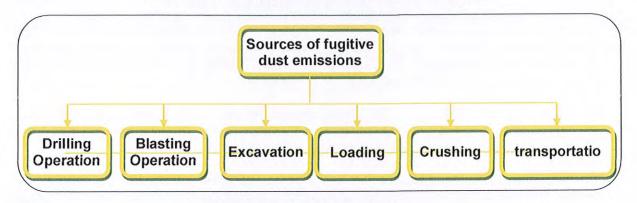
Power lines:

Shifting of existing 33/3.3KV Venkatesh Khani & Anada Khani Sub-stations of SCCL, Power transmission lines, Telephone lines and communication Lines of SCCL which area passing over the proposed VK coal mine quarry area will be diverted along the diverted road.

Impact on Air Quality

Mining operation and associated activities are potentially air polluting and major air pollution is the Particulate Matter (PM10). Most of the air pollution problems are due to fugitive dust emissions which is more prominent in opencast mines in comparison to underground mines. The flow chart showing air pollution at various stages are furnished in Figure and sources of air pollutants in Table.

Flow Chart showing Air Pollution at various stages



Source of Air Pollution in Mines

SI. No.	Sources of Air pollution	Air pollutants
1.	Drilling	PM
2.	Blasting	PM, SO _x , NO ₂
3.	Loading & unloading	PM
4.	Crushing & Screening	PM
5.	Transportation	PM, SO _x , NO ₂

The likely sources of air pollution will be:

- a) Generation of dust during mining operation viz. drilling, blasting, excavation, dozing, loading, mine exhaust air, transportation of coal & material
- b) Generation of dust from coal handling operation like screening, crushing, etc.

The impacts of the various pollutants in the underground mining area are given below: Particulate Matter (PM10): Since the mining activities are primarily restricted to underground only in PVK No.5 Incline, there will not be any significant impact on air quality. However, the mine exhaust air contains minor percentage of methane and CO2, which are easily diffused in the ambient atmosphere and does not have any effect on the quality of ambient air.

The return air analysis, in general is as follows:

O2 : 20.20% CO2 : 0.20% N2 by difference : 79.60%

It is harmless when diffused into the atmosphere. The only effect on air quality is a marginal increase over the baseline PM10 due to vehicular traffic deployed for coal transport and other allied activities.

Sulphur dioxide (SO2): In case of sulphur dioxide, it is observed that the concentrations of SO2 in ambient air are very low and there appears to be no impact on the ambient air quality. Moreover, there is no significant source of sulphur dioxide in the mine area.

Oxide of Nitrogen (NOx): The main sources of oxides of nitrogen in the area are the exhaust gases due to the movement vehicles. The observations of nitrogen oxides indicated that there is no significant impact of this pollutant in the area.

Carbon monoxide (CO): The sources of carbon monoxide in the area are identical to those of NOx. The concentrations observed are below the threshold values and there is no impact in the area due to carbon monoxide.

The impacts of the various pollutants in the opencast mining area are given below: Considerable amount of air pollution will be generated from Opencast mine at various stages of mining operations such as drilling, blasting, excavation, dozing, loading, crushing, transportation of material and wind erosion of dumps. Particulate Matter less than 10 microns (PM10) and less than 2.5 microns (PM2.5) size are the main source of pollution due to the mining activities / operations. Large quantity of dust becomes air borne and is carried away from coal stocks and overburden dumps due to winds.

The fugitive dust released from the mining operations may cause immediate effect on the mining workmen who are directly exposed to it. Simultaneously, the dust may travel to longer distances and cause some impact on the neighboring villages.

As the existing background level of dust and gaseous pollutants indicated by the baseline data is less and well within the permissible standards, the estimated dust level rise and gaseous concentration will not cause any significant impact on the surrounding environment.

The ambient air quality data monitored at 13 locations during October – December 2021 in the proposed VK Coal Mine shows that concentration of PM10, PM2.5, SO2, NOx and CO in core zone is within the Coal Mine Standards GSR 742 (E), dated 25.09.2000 (for the mines commenced prior to 25.09.2000) and in the buffer zone are within the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as notified in 18.11.2009 by CPCB.

Impact on Flora & Fauna

The project involves 1568.22 ha of forest land which fall in Ramavaram RF. The forest land in the buffer zone falls in 5 RFs namely Ramavaram RF, Chatakonda RF, Penagadapa RF, Mulakalapalli RF and Paloncha East RF of Kothagudem and Paloncha divisions.

In the core zone, there are species like *Tectona grandis, Cleistanthus collinus Xylia xylocarpa, Boswellia serrata.* Most of the species are of coppice in nature. As, the mining operations in the GK OCP and PVK No.5 Incline were carried out since long and due to the mitigative measures already in position the flora and fauna of the buffer zone may not be affected due to further mining operations. In the core zone the existing trees have to be extracted during life of the project. However, the existing fauna will move to buffer area and take refuge. Their habitat and landscape in the buffer zone will be improved by taking suitable measures like adding water points like percolation tanks and check dams, grass plots, fire lines. These changes will be monitored duly employing a wildlife expert for the project, camera traps and other methods.

Overall brief of the proposal:

Initially permission for Forest diversion was obtained for underground rights for 1174.18 Ha vide MoEF, Government of India, vide Lr.No.8-277/85-FC, dated 17.02.2009 with validity for 20 years i.e., till 16.02.2029. In this area of UG there are two Underground mines viz., Venkatesh Khani No.7 Incline (VK 7) (384.40 Ha. R.F) and PVK No.5 Incline (789.78 Ha. R.F).

SI. No.	Purpose of RF diverted	Extent (in Ha.)	MoEF&CC Letter No.	Validity till
1	VK No.7 In- UG	384.40	Lr.No.8-277/85-FC, Dt 17.02.2009	16.02.2029
2	PVK. No.5-UG	789.78	-Do-	-Do-
	Total	1174.18		

Similarly, permission under F (C) Act-1980, was also obtained for doing Opencast Mining on the name of Goutham Khani Opencast project (GKOCP), details of which are as follows:

SI. No.	Purpose of RF diverted	Extent (in Ha.)	MoEF&CC Letter No.	Validitytill
1	1 st Renewal of GKOCP (Phase-I)	161.31	MoEF&CC Letter No.8- 117/2002 – FC, Dated: 01-02-2010.	31.01.2030
2	GK OCP (Phase-III)	154.96	MoEF&CC Letter No.8- 62/2005 – FC, Dated: 09/15-07-2008.	14.07.2028
3	1 st Renewal of GK OCP (Phase- II)	124.00	MoEF&CC Lr. No.8-17/98- FC, Dated: 08-02-1999	Renewal orders pending with MOEF &CC,GOI
	Total	440.27	- -	

In the present proposal, it is proposed to utilize parts of the existing forest area of the underground (UG) Mines of VK-7 incline and PVK-5 Incline by converting parts of underground mining into open cast and continuing part of UG Mining in 469.6336 Ha. This amalgamated mine will be called Venkatesh Khani coal mine. The details of area proposed for utilization in the new project from underground mines is as follows:

SI. No	Name of the UG Mine	Total	RF Area proposed forcontinuation under UG	RF land proposedfor conversion (in Ha.)
1	VK 7 In.	384,40	146.5431	237.8569
2	PVK 5-In	789.78	378,3355	411.4445
۷.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	1174.18	524.8786	649.3014

The total project area of Venkatesh Khani Coal Mine is 2403.17 Ha. This area is covered in 2 existing Mining Leases granted under MM (D&R) Act, 1957.The details of Mining Leases as per MMDR Act 1957 are as follows:

			riy iii ⊓a.		
Name of Mining	Lease Area	NFL	FL		
Lease	5158.00	3692.00	Surface rights 291.82	UG rights 1174.18	
Kothagudem Mining Lease (2 nd Renewal)	5156.00	3002.00	201.02	• • •	
GK OC Mining lease(1st renewal)	261.31	0.00	261.31	0.00	

The balance extractable coal reserves of PVK No.5 & VK No.7 Inc is 190.11 million Tons of which about 64.18 million Tons is in Forest Land in Compartment Nos.2, 3, 4, 5 & 11 of Ramavaram RF, and the balance of 125.93 million Tons is in non-Forest land. However, mining in VK OC will simultaneously start both in forest and non-Forest land as per the approved Mining Plan.

The proposed fresh diversion of forest land for surface use from underground to opencast is 649.3014 Ha for which proposal has been submitted. However, this area will be mainly used for quarrying and excavated material will be taken into the left-over quarry as well over burden dumps of the GKOCP for which already permissions are available. The FC diversion

permission will be co-terminus with the mining leases and accordingly at appropriate time (before two years after expiry of permission) proposal will be submitted for continuation of mining activities.

The present proposed area for diversion for VKOC is falling in Compartment Nos.2, 3, 4, 5 & 11 of RF in Ramavaram R.F. of Kothagudem Division. In the process the National Highway-30, passing through the non-forest land to the extent of 3.20 Kms will be diverted as per norms of the NHAI after obtaining suitable no objection certificate. Further, most of the forest area proposed for diversion either falls in to open forest, scrub forest or having grasses and degraded, wherever, better density is there it is because of plantations raised by the SCCL over the surface of the ongoing UG Mines.

Venkatesh Khani Coal Mine is planned to produce 6.3 (OC 5.3 + UG 1.0) million Tons of coal per annum (peak production) with a net capital out lay off about Rs.480.00 Crores and has a life of 40 years including pre-mining and post mining activities. The Mining plan including Mine closure plan has been approved by Ministry of Coal, Govt. of India vide Lr. No. 38011/12/2017-PCA, dated 27.01.2020.

The Nation will benefit by achieving increased coal production by exploiting coal reserves of the project and gets benefited financially by way of Royalty, excise Duty, Sales tax, and electricity supply continuously. Further, this project will also contribute benefit to the society by way of increased direct and indirect employment resources resultant improvement in standard of living and rise in per capital income of the population of surrounding villages of this area.

Generally, mining activities could potentially pose some threats to biodiversity. A mining company must have a better understanding to appreciate the value of biodiversity in its long-term operations under its sustainable mining practice. It should consider all environmental impacts. Habitat clearing during mining is generally unavoidable. However, impacts on fauna, including rare or threatened species, can be reduced through careful planning. Progressive clearing allows time for the animals to move into adjoining unmined/forest habitats. Despite the significant potential for negative impacts on biodiversity from mining operations, there are many opportunities for a mining company to enhance biodiversity conservation within their areas of operations. Being proactive in the assessment, monitoring, and management of biodiversity is important not only for new mine operations but also for those that have been operating for many years.

Density enrichment by Forest Department & SCCL within Buffer Zone:

Density enrichment by Forest Department:

The proposed core zone of the project falls in Ramavaram RF and Buffer zone is occupied by 5 RFs namely Ramavaram RF, Chatakonda RF, Penagadapa RF, Mulakalapalli RF and Paloncha East RF of Kothagudem and Paloncha Divisions. The forest department has raised density enrichment plantations in a total of 234 Ha, in 5 forest Beats within the radius of 10 Kms.

	ea of Beat wise plantations by Forest depa Plantation in Ha				artment Grass land	
	На	Latitude	Long.	Ha	Latitude	Long.
aram	30	17.44781	80.61903	0		
	20	17.4386	80.61918			
	20	17.43909	80.62068			
	10	17.4454	80.62151			
	5	17.44800	80.61940			
	Total area Beat aram	Ha aram 30 20 20 10	Beat Plantat Ha Latitude aram 30 17.44781 20 17.4386 20 17.43909 10 17.4454	Beat Plantation in Ha Ha Latitude Long. aram 30 17.44781 80.61903 20 17.4386 80.61918 20 17.43909 80.62068 10 17.4454 80.62151	Plantation in Ha Ha Latitude Long. Ha aram 30 17.44781 80.61903 0 20 17.4386 80.61918 80.62068 20 17.43909 80.62068 80.62151	Ha Latitude Long. Ha Latitude aram 30 17.44781 80.61903 0 20 17.4386 80.61918 20 17.43909 80.62068 10 17.4454 80.62151

		14	17.43915	80.62355			
	Sub-Total:	99			0		
2	Tippanapalli	20	17.4364	80.62889	15	17.43769	80.64544
		25	17.4296	80.62501			
		25	17.4287	80.61866			
		20	17.42656	80.63245			
	•	25	17.42041	80.62945			
	Sub-Total:	115			15		
3	Penagadapa	20	17.42395	80.68048	. 0		
	Grand Total:	234			15		

There are no National Parks, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserves and Elephant Reserve/Corridor in the study area.

Density enrichment by SCCL within the 10 Kms radius:

A total of 1056 Hectares of (Block, OB, and Avenue) plantations have been raised by SCCL since 1984 in this area towards ecological restoration processes. These restoration practices are highly upsurging in reversing the habitat degradation happened in and around the mine areas. These plantations have provided pasture and shelter to various wildlife. However, out of these plantation about 300 Ha of plantations have been felled for various land use. Still these plantation are existing in 816 Ha and will serve the purpose of the ecological restoration practices of the mines, which focusses on the processes such as perseverance of species through natural recruitment and survival, functioning food webs, system-wide nutrient conservation via relationships among plants, and animals.

List of plantation of Kothagudem area (10 Km radius from GKOC mines) as on 13.12.23 (from 1999-2023) by SCCL

(A) OB Plantations

S.No	Year of raising	Location	Name of the Species planted	Area in Ha	No. of seedling s planted	Survival in Nos.	Survival %	Legal status (RF/ SCCL)	Lat & Long.
1	1999	GKOCP, OB	M	2	2500	2125	85.00	RF	N 17.4457 E 80.6456
2	2001	GKOCP, OB	M	10	11500	10062	87.50	SCCL	N 17.4495 E 80.6441
3	2002	GKOCP, ОВ	M	23	57119	48893	85.60	SCCL	N 17.4578 E 80.6285
4	2003	GKOCP, OB	M	52	65000	55250	85.00	SCCL	N 17.4558 E 80.6329
5	2004	GKOCP , OB	M	65	167400	147312	88.00	RF	N 17.4585 E 80.6294
6	2005	GKOCP, ОВ	M	48	120000	104280	86.90	RF	N 17.4640 E 80.6298
7	2006	GKOCP, ОВ	M	31	71198	61230	86.00	RF	N 17.4618 E 80.6328

8	2007	GKOCP, ОВ	M	7	21977	18900	86.00	RF	N 17.4600 E 80.6368
9	2008	GKOCP, OB	M	8	19761	16006	81.00	RF	N 17.2086 E 80.8122
10	2009	GKOCP- West Dump- RF, OB	М	44	109000	89380	82.00	RF	N 17.4618 E 80.6328
11	2010	GKOCP-OB	М	28	35922	28738	80.00	RF	N 17.4466 E 80.6591
12	2011	GKOCP, OB	M	19	47119	40357	85.65	SCCL	N17.44881 E80.65703
13	2012	GKOCP OB dumps	· M	25	61023	51870	85.00	16Ha RF and 9Ha SCCL	N17.44663 E80.65681
14	2013	GKOCP, OB	M	33	80000	57650	72.06		N17.2643 E80.3919
15	2014	GKOCP, OB	M	12	29120	26980	92.65	SCCL	N17.2871 E80.3949
16	2015	GKOCP, OB	· M	12	30000	25000	83.33	SCCL	N17.2718 E80.3815
17	2016	GKOCP, OB	М .	24	59120	53790	90.98	SCCL	N17.2871 E80.3949
18	2017	GKOCP, OB	M :	12	30000	27785	92.62	RF	N17.45198 E80.64663
19	2018	GKOCP, OB	EC & M	46	115598	96405	83.40	SCCL	N17.45115 E80.64784
20	2023	GKOCP, OB	М	6	16340	15035	92.01	SCCL	N 17.45930 E 80.64234
		Total OB		507	1149697	977048	84.98		
(B) Bloc	k planta	tions							
1	2000	7 Shaft dispensary, Block	EC	5	14196	5983	42.15	SCCL	N 17.4725 E 80.6656
2	2004	St. Josephs, Block	EC&M	7	6825	2164	31.71	SCCL	N 17.4983 E 80.6510
3	2005	GKOCP Block	M	10	11110	9998	89.99	SCCL	N 17.5345 E 80.6315
4	2005	5 & 7 Shaft, Block	EC,M& B	35	27614	16157	58.51	SCCL	N 17.4830 E 80.6647
5	2005	VK compound wall, Block	EC&M	7	7800	1545	19.81	SCCL	N 17.4783 E 80.6729
6	2006	Vanama nagar, Block	EC&M	2	4439	3245	73.10	SCCL	N 17.4702 E 80.6682

7	2006	Goutampur, Błock	М	4	1764	1073	60.83	SCCL	N 17.4815 E 80.6446
8	2006	5Shaft, Block	M	10	7223	5876	81.35	SCCL	N 17.4968 E 80.6692
9	2006	GKOCP Block	M	10	9143	8120	88.81	RF	N 17.5423 E 80.5563
10	2007	Goutampur, Block	EC&M	1	3461	1612	46.58	SCCL	N 17.4828 E 80.6463
11	2007	7 Incline, Block	EC&M	2	4616	2318	50.22	SCCL	N 17.4748 E 80.6678
12	2007	7 Incline (S), Block	EC&M	8	3862	2840	73.54	SCCL	N 17.4838 E 80.6719
13	2007	Tellavagu, Block	M	6	2339	2094	89.53	RF	N 17.4931 E 80.6850
14	2008	Subsidence panel 1 & 1A, Block	M	3	6212	4848	78.04	RF	N 17.4922 E 80.6625
15	2009	Behind VK-7 Incline Mine-	EC	9	7160	2026	28.30	RF	N17.5770 E 80.6379
16	2009	RF, Block Evacuated Colony of VK-7 Incline,	EC	3 :	10782	9345	86.67	SCCL	N 17.4761 E 80.6680
17	2010	Block GKOCP- Block	EC&M	8	7494	6739	89.93	RF	N 17.4466 E 80.6609
18	2011	RF area in KGM near Deport., Block	М	15	10718	9110	85.00	RF	N17.57247 E80.63274
19	2012	GKOCP Vacant patches, Block	M ·	4	3426	3200	93.40	SCCL	N17.46223 E80.65163
20	2012	VK-7 Incline Vacant patches, Block	M	4	6159	5704	92.61	SCCL	N17.48161 E80.67233
21	2014	VK-7 Incline	EU	10	13465	7452	55.34	SCCL	N17.2848 E80.4014
22	2016	RF plantation near Gaddalamad	Μ	22	24650	19960	80.97	RF	N17.3301 E80.3830
23	2016	ugu RF plantation near 5B shaft	М	42	47020	38560	82.01	RF	N17.3012 E80.4018

24	2017	RF plantation at Gaddalamad	EC & M	50	53938	48790	90.46	SCCL	N17.49473 E80.65745
25	2019	ugu Garimellapa du, Block	М	2	2220	2015	90.77	SCCL	N17.52723E .80.64835
		Total Block		279	297636	220774	74.18		
(C) Ave	nue pla	ntations							
1	2001	Goutampur, Avenue	М	2	400	360	90.00	SCCL	N 17.4809 E 80.6478
2	2002	Rudrampur, Avenue	M	5	1000	905	90.50	SCCL	N 17.4984 E 80.6527
3	2004	Rudrampur, 5shaft, Avenue	M	5	1924	1781	92.57	SCCL	N 17.4984 E 80.6527
4	2005	5&7 shaft, Avenue	М	5	1400	1208	86.29	SCCL	N 17.4842 E 80.6679
5	2008	Kothagudem area, Avenue	M :	2	773	217	28.07	SCCL	N 17.4988 E 80.6530
6	2010	GKOCP- Avenue	M	2	184	184	100.00	RF	N 17.4466 E 80.6591
7	2014	PVK-Guest House A v enue	M	1	960	768	80.00	SCCL	N17.2911 E80.3929
8	2022	Avenue Plantation near penagadapa vilage & newly diverted highway Road	M	8	4500	4500	100.00	SCCL	N17.2337 E80.7775
		Total Avenue		30	11141	9923	89.07		

^{*(}EC- Eucalyptus; B – Bamboo; M – Mixed/Miscellaneous)

Description	Area in Ha	No. of seedlings planted	Survival in Nos.	Survival percentage
OB (A)	507	1149697	977048	84.98
Block (B)	279	297636	220774	74.18
Avenue (C)	30	11141	9923	89.07
Grand Total (A+B+C)	816	1458474	1207745	82.81

Planting suitable vegetation can help to re-establish habitats rapidly after mining disturbance. This may benefit varied biodiversity/wildlife of the area.

List of mixed/miscellaneous sp 1. Hardwikia binata	pecies planted by SCCL: 22. Millingtonia harrtensis
2. Dendrocalamus strictus	23. Madhuka indica
3. Ficus religiosa	24. Ficus carica
4. Azadirachta indica	25. Tamarindus indica
5. Limonia acidissima	26. Cassia fistula
6. Ficus bengalensis	27. Anthocephalus kadamba
7. Aegle marmelos	28. Pithecelobium dulci
8. Mitragyna parvifolia	29. Sterculia urens
9. Dalbergia latifolia	30. Tectonia grandis
10. Pterocarpus marsupium	31. Dalbergia sissoo
11. Emblica officinalis	32. Cassia siamea
12. Syzygium cumini	33. Adina cordifolia
13. Alstonia scholaris	34. Putranjeeva raxuburgi
14. Albizzia procera	35. Bombax ceiba
15. Annona squamosa	36. Mimusops elangii
16. Terminalia bellarica	37. Terminalia chebula
17. Spathodea campanulata	38. Peltophorum ferruginum
18. Pongamia pinnata	39. Albizzia lebbek
19. Ficus mollis	40. Couravpita guinensis
20. Lagerstroemia parviflora	41. Holoptelea integrifolia

In the proposed project of VKOC, extraction of tree growth will be taken up progressively as the mining process progresses.

21. Bauhinia purpurea

Environmental Details of the Proposed Project Area

State : Telangana

District : Bhadradri – Kothagudem

Forest Division : Kothagudem Forest Range : Ramavaram

Forest Section (s) : Ramavaram & Penagadapa

Total study area : 2403.17 Ha as Core Zone and area within 10 Km from the

boundary of the Core Zone as Buffer Zone.

Forest Type : Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest – Mainly Coppice growth
Habitat Type : Mixed-dry-deciduous forest type with wide variety of

microhabitats, ranging from open grasslands, water bodies and

hillocks, plantations, and woodlands to scrub lands.

The study area does not form a part of any National Park or Sanctuary or Critical Wildlife habitat. No protected area is situated in the vicinity or within the Impact area of 10 Kms radius. The proposed study area in Core zone is existing mine. No important wild major animals like Panther, Tiger, Sloth Bear, Indian Bison, Nilgai & Mouse deer were noticed in the area during the study. However, secondary data were relied. Even Tiger has not been reported in the Buffer area or even within 20 Km from the mine boundary. In the Wildlife Plan of Kinnersani Wildlife Sanctuary (which is about 17 Km from the Project area) during the wildlife census of 2022 only one Panther was reported in the Buffer area, important Schedule-I fauna found are Sloth Bear, Indian Bison, Mouse deer, Asian Palm Civet Cat, Small Indian Civet Cat, Panther, Indian Monitor Lizard, Sand Boa and Indian Peafowl.

Physiographic Features of the study area:

The core zone in this case covers project area while the buffer area covers the area within 10 Kms area around the core area.

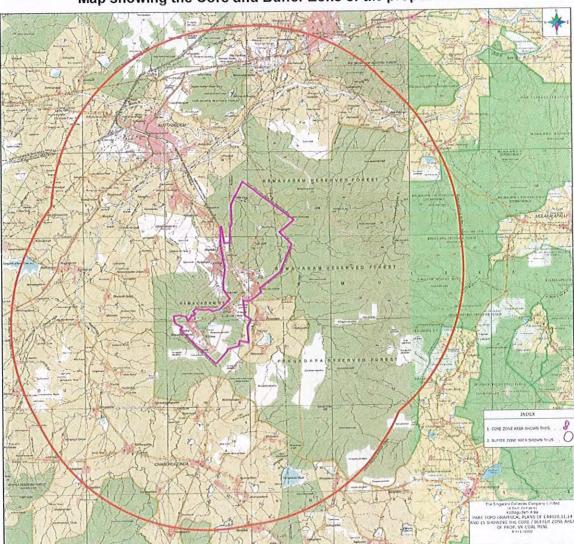
Core zone: VK Coal Mine project area is of flat topography, Bolligutta hill stands out as a prominent landmark of this area along the northern boundary. The general topographic elevation of the project area varies from 160m above MSL to 100m above MSL. The south part of the project is covered by the existing GKOC project area.

Buffer zone: The buffer area is a plain terrain with relief of 160m in the south and 80m in the north and sloping towards north and northeast. A few hillocks located are Kanigiri gutta (432m) & an unnamed hillock (360m) in the northeast, Balusu gutta (328m) in the southeast, and Bolli gutta (340m) at the periphery of the project are existing in the buffer area.

Drainage:

Core zone: Tellavagu, an ephemeral stream is a tributary of Edula vagu and flowing in the northern part of the project area. Drainage is moderately developed, and a few ephemeral streams are flowing and join the Tellavagu. The drainage density of the block area is about 1.65 Kms/ sq.Kms.

Buffer zone: The buffer zone area drainage is drained by Murredu stream, Edula vagu flowing in the western half and joins to Murredu river near Gollagudem village in the northern part of the buffer area. Tellavagu flows in the eastern part and joins Edulavagu near Penuballi village. The drainage of the area is dentritic to parallel type with a density of about 1.80 Kms/ Sq.Kms. Singabhupalam Cheruvu a major irrigation tank is in the western part about 7 Kms away from the proposed VK Coal Mine project.



Map showing the Core and Buffer Zone of the proposed Area

Establishments/structures already existing in the Core and Buffer Zones of the proposed area:

The core and buffer zones are highly fragmented and developed with established buildings, roads in connection to the mine operations since the past 70 years of time in this area.

A total of 2403.17 ha in the core zone established mine operational structures, voids and overburden dumps are there. Hence, there may be less chance of impact of the proposed new mine operation on the wildlife presence and abundance in this area.

Establishments/structures already existing in the Core Zone of the proposed area

Sl.no.	Name of structure	Area		
		Sq. mtrs.	Ha.	
1	PVK shaft and buildings	5,864	0.586	
2	No.5 shaft & agent office	21,306	2.131	
3	No.7 shaft& buildings	44,994	4.499	
4	Magzine	9,464	0.946	
5	Mayabazar, private houses	69,431	6.943	

6	PVK no.5 incline and buildings		63,257		6.326
7	S & pc office		8,845		0.885
8	5 incline, civil office & MVTC		40,474		4.047
9	Cone		589		0.059
10	VK7 top seam air shaft		7,142		0.714
11	GM office		13,088		1.309
12	Sub-station	·	2,096		0.210
13	VK7 incline & buildings		16,316		1.632
14	Area workshop		17,583		1.758
15	Abandoned stores & LW shed		9,464		0.946
16	RCHP and buildings		40,210		4.021
17	Temple at RCHP		138		0.014
18	GL bunker & weighbridge of RCHP		4,533		0.453
19	Venkateswara temple		6,710		0.671
20	Filter bed		1,111		0.111
21	Pumps		1,200		0.120
22	Pumps		1,130		0.113
23	Diesel bunk at GKOC		1,601		0.160
24	GKOC site office		14,973		1.497
25	GKOC base workshop		49,099		4.910
26	GKOC CHP belts & bunkers	÷	7,224		0.722
27	GKOC belts control room		134		0.013
28	Sub-station at GKOC CHP		421		0.042
29	GGKOC CHP office & buildings		205		0.021
30	GKOC project office		3,888		0.389
31	GKOC void area		2,100,881		210.088
32	GKOC internal & external dump with plantation		5, 001,360	:	500.136
33	GKOC internal dump		385,325		38.532
		Total	7,950,056	:	795.005

Establishments/structures already existing in the Buffer Zone of the proposed area

	Builet Zone of the proposed area		
S.no.	Name of structure	Area	1
		sq. Mtrs	Hectares
1	Hemachandrapuram anadha saranalayam	1100.162	0.11
2	Hemachandrapuram amma anadha saranalayam	4882.104	0.488
3	Hemachandrapuram-1	38166.98	3.817
4	Hemachandrapuram-2	256500.389	25.65
5	Hemachandrapuram-3	1349.256	0.135
6	Hemachandrapuram sccl filter bed	6574.661	0.657
7	Hemachandrapuram crp camp	103814.593	10.381
8	Hemachandrapuram crp fire shooting training site	9577.962	0.958
9	Hemachandrapuram jangili rajeswar rao poultry	4741.094	0.474
10	Laxmidevipalli-6	193960.092	19.396
11	Kothagudem-6	1581971.045	158.197
12	Madigaprolu-1	27267.525	2.727
13	Madigaprolu-2	62009.38	6.201
14	Yellandu x road lenin nagar	2526.664	0.253
15	Palvoncha-38	36273.279	3.627
16	Palvoncha-40	1509.448	0.151
17	Palvoncha-39	5591.867	0.559
18	Laxmidevipalli-1	57899.449	5.79

2386193/2024/FCA SECTION-PCCF

19	Laxmidevipalli-2	485468.975	48.547
20	Laxmidevipalli-3	291167.261	29.117
21	Yellandu bunglows	276143.708	27.614
22	SccI nursery	31432.817	3.143
23	Haritha convention hall, yld x road	25830.976	2.583
24	· ·	21566.25	2.157
	Vanvihar kothagudem to palvoncha road		
25	Sccl filter bed kothagudem to palvoncha road	7819.298	0.782
26	Govt.medical college palvoncha road	10010.383	1.001
27	Ksm office palvoncha road	8109.683	0.811
28	Boys hostel palvoncha road	18323.082	1.832
29	Palvoncha-31	5566.368	0.557
30	Palvoncha-32	31594.191	3.159
	Palvoncha-28	1470652.07	147.065
32	Annapurna gosumrakshana, palvoncha	17857.057	1.786
	Palvoncha-29	11211.603	1,121
34	Palvoncha-27	2052.896	0.205
		70695.609	7.07
	Palvoncha-26		
	Nmdc-palvoncha	576938.44	57.694
37	Palvoncha-24	26965.131	2.697
	Genco colony	98031.348	9.803
39	Palvoncha-25	112625.243	11.263
40	Atmalingeswara temple, palvoncha	12167.903	1,217
41	Palvoncha-23	529298.872	52.93
42	Palvoncha-22	2659826.477	265.983
43	Palvoncha-21	267649.986	26.765
	Palvoncha920	47855.853	4.786
	Palvoncha hill samakka sarakka temple	952.694	0.095
	Srinu family dhaba, palvoncha	881.41	0.088
47		6553.63	0.655
48	Palvoncha-18	20034.982	2.003
		92181.529	9.218
49	Palvoncha-17		
50	Palvoncha-16	10193.444	1.019
51	Palvoncha-8	9681.578	0.968
52	Palvoncha-7	6016.97	0.602
53	Palvoncha-3	40657.213	4.066
54	Palvoncha-2	110087.148	11.009
55	Palvoncha-4	33057.281	3.306
56	Palvoncha-6	37076.667	3.708
57	Palvoncha-5	5782.424	0.578
58	Palvoncha-9	13827.127	1.383
59	Palvoncha-10	24888.125	2.489
60	Palvoncha-11	15418.975	1.542
61	Palvoncha-19	20762.377	2.076
		71132.534	7.113
62	Ngo tribal school		3.541
63	Palvoncha-12	35408.645	
64	Palvoncha-13	41538.035	4.154
65	Paivoncha-14	71196.362	7.12
66	Palvoncha-15	52577.553	5.258
67	Palvoncha-35	6237.956	0.624
68	Palvoncha-36	2801.854	0.28
69	Palvoncha-37	29866.827	2.987
70	Navabharat-1	1397434.449	139.743
71	Lv prasad eye hospital,palvoncha	2694.843	0.269
72	Venkateswara temple,palvoncha	4581.325	0.458
	Tolliacondia tolliplo(parrollolla		-

2386193/2024/FCA SECTION-PCCF

		4740407	0.475
	Palvoncha-30	1746.197	0.175
74	Pipeline atvenkateswara temple,palvoncha	404.04	0.04
	Collector office,palvoncha	79189.117	7.919
76	Engineer college,palvoncha	34191.838	3.419
77	Palvoncha-1	81386.721	8.139
78	Chathakonda-14	35130.725	3.513
79	Chatakonda-13	12093.612	1.209
80	Chatakonda-12	14400.906	1.44
81	Rajugari kalyana mandapam,chatakonda	2792.671	0.279
82	Chatakonda-11	2914.968	0.291
83	Chatakonda-15	3664.097	0.366
84	Chatakonda-9	27563.658	2.756
85	Chatakonda-8	14441.158	1.444
86	6th (ir)bn tssp-1, chathakonda	25042.056	2.504
87	6th (ir)bn tssp-2, chathakonda	24472.942	2.447
	Chathakonda-1	197401.914	19.74
	Chathakonda-2	4838.284	0.484
	Chathakonda-3	3589.914	0.359
	Chathakonda-4	1885.437	0.189
	Chathakonda-6	51330.085	5.133
		32111.581	3.133
	Chathakonda-5		5.689
	Chathakonda-7	56886.6	
	Scci solar power plant,penuballi	131114.041	13.111
96		105027.673	10.503
	Mallesh farm house	2407.886	0.241
98	ltda garimallapadu	5433.172	0.543
	Garimaliapadu	24651.11	2.465
	Kothagudem-7	2537295.971	253.73
	Kothagudem-5	519284.634	51.928
	Sccl solar power plant,penuballi	362118.776	36.212
	Ramavaram-1	532825.039	53.283
104	Sccl solar power plant-3,kothagudem	109686.847	10.969
105	Ramavaram-3	58445.643	5.845
106	Sccl mines rescue station,kothagudem	48817.102	4.882
107	Sccl proposed area work shop & coal testing lab	18551.257	1.855
108	Kothagudem iti	38283.106	3.828
109	Sccl solar power plant-4, kothagudem	247014.461	24.701
110	Ramavaram-2	218271.262	21.827
111	Ramavaram-4	1515535.417	151.554
112	Kothagudem-3	1186097.441	118.61
113	Kothagudem-4	466416.169	46.642
114	Kothagudem-1	2998732.942	299.873
115	Kothagudem byepass-1	13379.916	1.338
116	Venkateswara temple on hill,kothagudem byepass	14721.724	1.472
117	Kothagudem byepass-2	1872.304	0.187
118	Saravaram-2	71444.842	7.144
119	Saravaram-1	16996.093	1.7
120	Gopithanda-1	279826.778	27.983
121	Laxmidevipalli-4	391933.705	39.193
122	Kothagudem-2	14498.92	1.45
123	Chunchupalli-1	223419.827	22.342
124	Chunchupalli-2	94961.541	9.496
125	Chitti ramavaram	16380.536	1.638
126	Samakka sarakka gaddelu, garibpet	3112.655	0.311
120	oamanna saranna yauuciu, yaribhet	0112.000	0.011

127	Govt.hospital,ramavaram	9763.677	0.976
128	Emrs ramavaram	56596.8	5.66
129	Krushi vigyan kendram,ramavaram	4471.129	0.447
130	Sccl 3 incline bunglows	169697.436	16.97
131	Sccl 3 incline & 4 incline area	201460.533	20.146
132	Kothagudem, mission bageeradha	8200.806	0.82
133	St.joseph school,dhanbad,kothagudem	34947.784	3.495
134	Dhanbad,kothagudem	50449.829	5.045
135	Dhanbad-1,kothagudem	1404.061	0.14
136	Dhanbad-2,kothagudem	1741.367	0.174
137	Rudrampur thanda	20825.07	2.083
138	Sccl rudrampur & gowthumpur colony	1145048.139	114.505
139	Garibpet-1	26788.022	2.679
140	Near vk7 incline tellavagu	38650.936	3.865
141	Sandrukunta-2	11196.224	1.12
	Sandrukunta-1	1041.31	0.104
143	Mulugudem	34106.03	3.411
	Penagadapa-6	22633.882	2.263
	, • •	7888.848	0.789
	Penagadapa-7	891.785	0.089
	Knr ghat,penagadapa	104437.722	10.444
	Penagadapa-5	42094.678	4.209
	Penagadapa-4	377.599	0.038
149	Penagadapa-3	41427.549	4.143
150	Penagadapa-2	21980.173	2.198
151	Penagadapa-1	113695.834	11.37
152	Rampuram	· ·	4.826
	Chunchupalli-5	48258.503	20.902
	Chunchupalli-3	209020.287	9.23
155		92303.528	
	Laxmidevipalli-5	46463.287	4.646
157	Vepalagadda-19	1868.82	0.187
158	Vepalagadda-18	7041.67	
159	Vepalagadda-17	4559.342	0.456
160	Vepalagadda-16	1078.054	0.108
161	Hanuman nursery & garden	5402.071	0.54
162	Vepalagadda-15	2216.308	0.222
163	Vepalagadda-14	1114.967	0.111
164		1765.655	0.177
165	Vepalagadda-13	52489.594	5.249
166	Iti, vepalagadda	5649.57	0.565
167	Gayathri nagar	12889.047	1.289
168	Sujathanagar-15	8476.671	
169	Thatipalli,sujathanagar-11	7386.237	0.739
170	Bharat petroleum,sujathanagar-10	2122.723	0.212
171	Sujathanagar-16	333.432	0.033
172	Vepalagadda-1	154409.469	15.441
173	Sai durga para boiled rice mill	14033.591	1.403
174		126185.76	12.619
175	Anjanapuram-1	79415.151	7.942
	Vepalagadda-3	9132.171	0.913
177	Vepalagadda-5 Vepalagadda-5	4485.05	0.449
178	Vepalagadda-4	5222.493	0.522
	•	504.511	0.05
179	Vepalagadda-7	593.538	0.059
180	Vepalagadda-7	333.000	

181	Vepalagadda-8	1265.073	0.127
182		6125.321	0.613
183		1163.851	0.116
184		359.113	0.036
185		488.897	0.049
186			
	· •	4848.103	0.485
187		32164.515	3.216
188	, ,	2337.049	0.234
189	Sujathanagr-2	3994.977	0.399
190	Sujathanagar-3	470.522	0.047
191	Sujathanagar-4	1010.292	0.101
192	Sujathanagar-5	371275.325	37.128
193		127983.827	12.798
194	, .	15353.923	1.535
195	Konda krishna farm house,sujathanar-7	2865.617	
196	Rk abhishek brick industry,sujathanagar-8		
197	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	8705.178	0.871
	Komatipalli-2	21356.596	2.136
198	Komatipalli-3	5360.731	0.536
199	Komatipalli-4	7803.283	0.78
200	Komatipalli	50300.508	5.03
201	Seethampet banjara-1	165915.43	16.592
202	Siva tekple,sujathanagar-9	2973.193	0.297
203	Sujathanagar-14	1840.938	0.184
204	Gollagudem	28606.612	2.861
205	Sujathanagar-19	157257.853	15.726
206			
207	,	15737.432	1.574
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	2525.768	0.253
208	, , ,	2128.016	0.213
	Rathan naik thanda	122334.939	12.233
210	Degalamadugu	36830.665	3.683
211	Manjeet cotton	24236.432	2.424
212	Sujathanagar-20	10897.17	1.09
213	Seethampet banjara-3	141151.405	14.115
214	Seethampet banjara-4	42547.259	4.255
215	Seethampet banjara-2	8027.116	0.803
216	Ramji thanda-1	13851.881	1.385
217	Reddy palem	26804.987	2.68
218	Jarpurla thanda	11434.792	1.143
219	Mohammed nagar	56874.14	5.687
220	Seethaigudem	235821.194	23.582
221	Abbugudem-1		
222	-	293151.218	29.315
	Maddukuru-4	7991.295	0.799
223	Maddukuru-3	2450.428	0.245
224		5936.132	0.594
	Maddukuru-1	44294.711	4.429
226	Sr gardens, chndrugonda	10471.818	1.047
227	Chandrugonda-2	1336411.07	133.641
228	Chandrugonda-1	74277.55	7.428
229	Chandrugonda sub-station	15897.214	1.59
230	Chandrugonda-3	6352.998	0.635
231	Chandrugonda-4	12215.506	1.222
232	Chandrugonda-5	3240.419	0.324
233	Hp petrol bunk,chandrugonda		
234		2187.099	0.219
204	Chandrugonda-6	17610.569	1.761

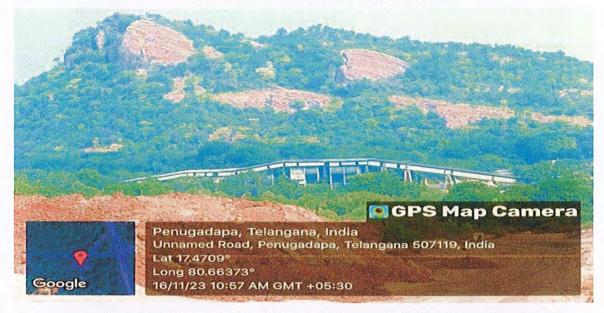
235	Chandrugonda-7	6358.654	0.636
236	Penagadapa-8	7216.651	0.722
237	Thipanapalli-1	399437.794	39.944
238	Thipanapalli-2	21642.483	2.164
239	Guruvaigudem-2	2158.574	0.216
240	Guruvaigudem-4	55307.73	5.531
241	Guruvaigudem-1	90656.901	9.066
242		4155.999	0.416
	Pokalagudem-4	1804.292	0.18
243	Pokalagudem-3	10900.181	1.09
244	Pokalagudem-2	172018.503	17.202
245	Pokalagudem-1	2969.067	0.297
246	Pokalagudem-8	6415.963	0.642
247	. · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	28075.003	2.808
248	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		26.793
	Pokalagudem-7	267931.031	5.004
250		50044.634	
	Repallevada	143235.668	14.324
	Ganugapadu	196611.463	19.661
	Managaiah banjara-1	45061.142	4.506
	Managaiah banjara-2	16045.606	1.605
255	Santhanavenugopala swamy temple	1525.575	0.153
256	Annaram thanda-1	54856.485	5,486
257	Thungaram-1	193199.354	19.32
258	Thungaram-3	34702.619	3.47
259	Thungaram-2	5207.06	0.521
260	Baranbhapuram	29681.2	2.968
261	Machinenipeta	34925.969	3.493
262	Guruvaguthanda	25963.751	2.596
263	Sujathanagar-22	1512.576	0.151
264	Sujathanagar-23	47256.116	4.726
265	Vaguvoduvthanda	35464.72	3.546
266	Sujathanagar-21	11657.751	1.166
267		19438.272	1.944
268		17190.922	1.719
269	Bhadrachalam road railway cabin	2699.651	0.27
	Bhadrachalam road railway station area	43036.719	4.304
	Tsnpdcl circle office,kothagudem	2601.715	0.26
272	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1244.546	0.124
	Gpstw,satvarigudem	16362.826	1.636
274	Kothagudem 132kv rtss tstransco	10801.902	1.08
275		8292.296	0.829
276	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	5393.558	0.539
	Burugudem-1	1735.249	0.174
277	Burugudem-2	3879.451	0.388
278	Health sub-centre, chathakonda-1	938.743	0.094
279	Health sub-centre, chathakonda-2	12226.043	1.223
280	Palvoncha-41	6100.631	0.61
281	Maddukuru-5		3.766
282	Palvoncha road side	37656.665	0.107
283	Ramalyam,pathacheruvu	1066.019	
284	Repallevada-2	3635.602	0.364
285	Repallevada-2	2821.65	0.282
286	Thipanapalli doubble bed room	12907.859	1.291
287	Ukkenagaram	11017.554	1.102
288	Dhammapet road	22832.86	2.283

	Total	33662883.25	3366.288
292	Laxmidevipalli-10	1800.06	0.18
291	Laxmidevipalli-9	23639.597	2.364
290	Laxmidevipalli-8	13744.723	1.374
289	Laxmidevipalli-7	41922.253	4.192

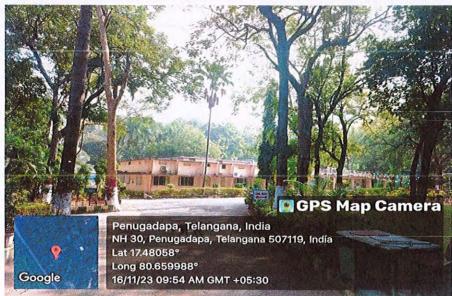
This is the evidence to say that the wildlife in the area has adjusted to these changes.

Already existing Mine Operational structures in the Core and Buffer Zones of the proposed area

CHP structures in the Core and Buffer Zone



GM Office and other offices in the Core and Buffer Zone



Land Use and Land Cover (LULC) Analysis in the Core and Buffer Zones of the

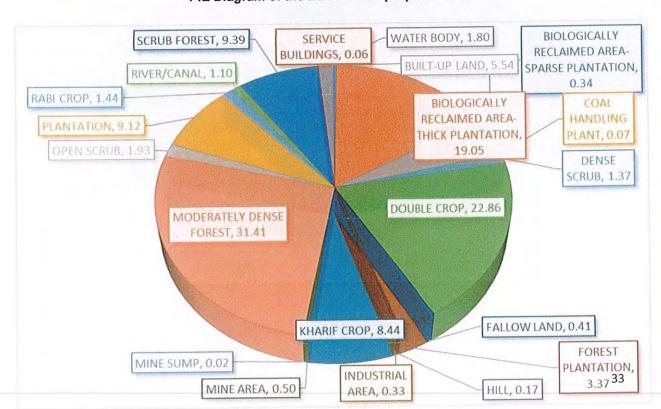
proposed area:

0

LULC of the proposed area

Land use	10 km r	adius	5 km ra	dius	3 km rad	lius
	Area (ha)	% of area	Area (ha)	% of area	Area (ha)	% of area
Biologically reclaimed area-sparse plantation	200.3	0.34	200.3	0.86	200.30	1.52
Biologically reclaimed area-thick plantation	201.7	0.34	201.7	0.87	201.70	1.53
Built-up land	3266.4	5.54	934.1	4.02	423.58	3.21
Coal handling plant	40.8	0.07	40.8	0.18	40.77	0.31
Dense scrub	804.9	1.37	462.9	1.99	269.41	2.04
Double crop	13477.3	22.86	4022.9	17.30	1447.72	10.96
Fallow land	239.5	0.41	50.6	0.22	10.48	0.08
Forest plantation	1989.0	3.37	743.0	3.19	153.98	1.17
Hilly area	99.0	0.17	99.0	0.43	99.00	0.75
Industrial area	197.4	0.33	46.3	0.20	0	0
Kharif crop	4974.1	8.44	1438.2	6.18	598.65	4.53
Mine area	292.0	0.50	292.0	1.26	292.00	2.21
Mine sump	9.5	0.02	9.5	0.04	9.54	0.07
Moderately dense forest	18514.0	31.41	8913.0	38.32	6326.14	47.91
Open scrub	1138.1	1.93	379.4	1.63	188.32	1.43
Plantation	5373.8	9.12	1912.5	8.22	751.64	5.69
Rabi crop	847.6	1.44	188.2	0.81	92.86	0.70
River/canal	650.7	1.10	273.6	1.18	121.29	0.92
Scrub forest	5538.0	9.39	2802.5	12.05	1809.73	13.70
Service buildings	37.0	0.06	37.0	0.16	37.00	0.28
Water body	1058.9	1.80	209.1	0.90	131.07	0.99
Total	58949.8	100.0	23256.4	100	13205.18	100

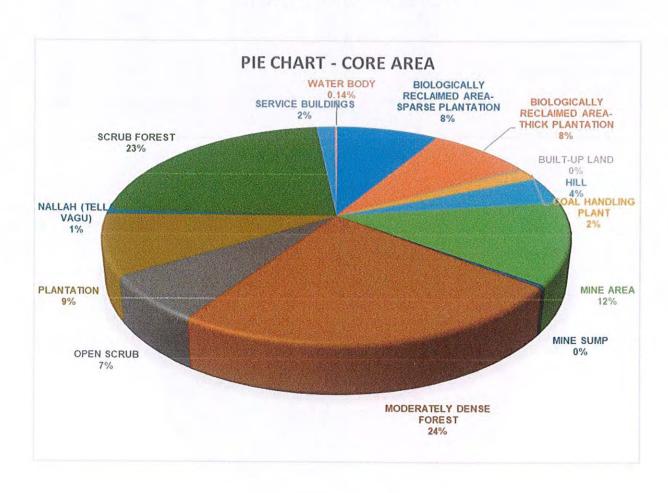
PIE Diagram of the LULC of the proposed area



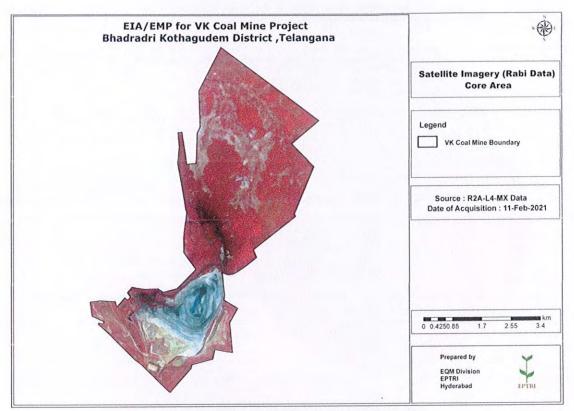
Land use of Core Zone

Sr. No.	Land use	Area (Ha)	%
1.	Biologically reclaimed area-thick plantation	201.70	8.39
2.	Biologically reclaimed area-sparse plantation	200.30	8.33
3.	Block Plantation in VK-7, PVK-5 and GK OC	215.35	8.96
4.	Mine area (GK OC Quarry)	292.00	12.15
5.	Mine sump (GK OC Sump)	9.54	0.40
6.	Coal handling plant	40.77	1.70
7.	Built-up land	6.70	0.28
8.	Service buildings	37.00	1.54
9.	Hill	99.00	4.12
10.	Open scrub	168.21	7.00
11.	Moderately dense forest	573.21	23.85
12.	Scrub forest	544.04	22.64
13.	Nallah (Tella vagu)	12.03	0.50
14.	Water body	3.32	0.14
	Total	2403.17	100

PIE Diagram of Land Use of Core Area



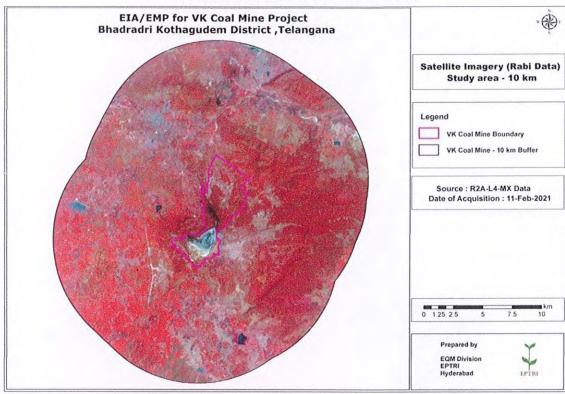
Satellite imagery of the Core area (Rabi)



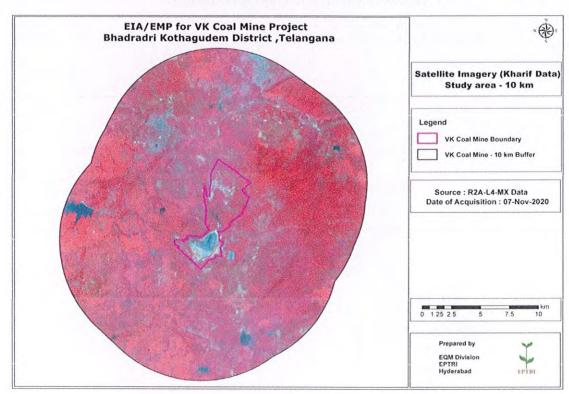
Satellite imagery of the Core area (Kharif)



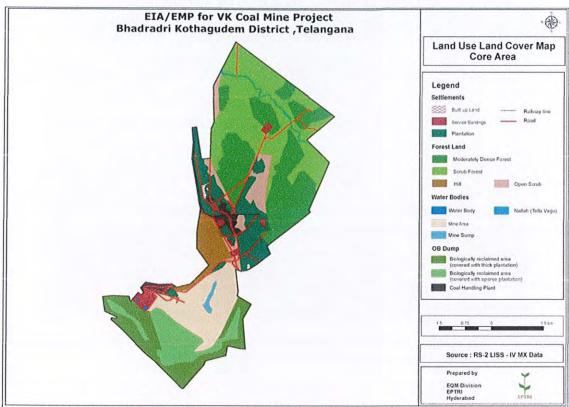
Satellite imagery of the Buffer area (Rabi)



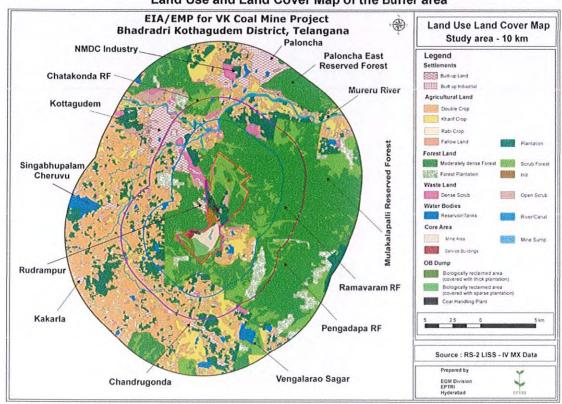
Satellite imagery of the Buffer area (Kharif)



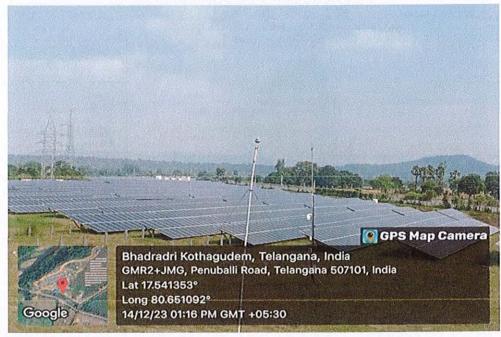
Land Use and Land Cover Map of the Core area



Land Use and Land Cover Map of the Buffer area



37 MW Solar Plant in Buffer area



Presence of these structure shows that the disturbances are already available to the wildlife and area is fragmented. However, it has stabilized in this landscape.

Species Evaluation

The varying habitats in these areas give rise to diverse ecosystems providing nesting and roosting site for birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and butterflies.

Due biodiversity study has been taken up. The list of species observed and subsequently added from the working plan of the Forest Department is include.

The procedure therefore involved field surveys of selected components of biodiversity such as plants, butterflies, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Intensive survey methods (including night trails in the proposed area) were used involving Forest Beat Officers. The team walked the pre-identified nature trails in the study area extensively to enumerate different species as and when they were encountered or sighted. For faunal diversity, both diurnal and nocturnal timings were used. Point counts on the nature trials were performed to document the bird species, Opportunistic surveys and listing encounters in random trails were also performed. All observations were aided by 80x40 binoculars. Photo records were obtained with the help of Nikon 24-3000 mm camera with 125x wide optical zoom lens.

Species were identified using

- "A pictorial guide to the mammals of the India". Avifauna species were identified using "A pictorial guide to the birds of the Indian Sub-Continent".
- Reptiles and amphibians were identified with the available identification keys include Fauna of British India.
- Filed guides and published literature were used for the identification of Odonates, butterflies, arachnids, fishes, and other invertebrates.

Geographic coordinates of the nature trails

	Star	ting	End	ing	Distance
Trail	Lat	Long	Lat	Long	in M
1.	N17°30'14.598"	E80°39'29.022"	N17°30'38.128"	E80°39'51.403"	1100
2.	N17°28'59.555"	E80°40'20.490"	N17°29'28.267"	E80°40'40.853"	1100
3.	N17°28'58.613"	E80°40'20.907"	N17°29'12.146"	E80°40'55.242"	1100
4.	N17°28'39.982"	E80°39'38.146"	N17°28'23.562"	E80°39'41.339"	1100
5.	N17°29'38.4"	E80°39'32.526"	N17°30'11.703"	E80°39'39.723"	1100
6.	N17°30'10.379"	E80°40'22.720"	N17°30'31.013"	E80°40'31.786"	1100
7.	N17°29'41.580"	E80°40'25.348"	N17°29'41.328"	E80°40'48.795"	1100
8.	N17°30'8.180"	E80°40'18.141"	N17°30'34.688"	E80°40'0.076"	1100
9.	N17°29'29.789"	E80°39'37.310"	N17°29'47.372"	E80°40'4.776"	1100
10.	N17°29'55.422"	E80°40'7.0173"	N17°29'55.960"	E80°39'37.669"	1100
11.	N17°28'37.455"	E80°40'17.723"	N17°28'53.052"	E80°40'48.081"	1100

Line Transect Method:

The line transect method of Gaston (1975) is adopted in most of the population estimation studies.

Procedure: At the start of the transect, the transect name, transect bearing, locality, date, starting time and other details were noted in proforma, especially designed for the purpose. Then the team walked along the transect carefully and silently looking for animals on both sides of the transect. On sighting an animal or group of animals, the number is counted, and their position is noted. Then, their angular distance i.e., the distance from the observer to the animal was measured visually. The sighting angle was derived from the compass bearing of

the animal's location and the transect compass bearing. The perpendicular distance of the animal from the transect was estimated by multiplying the angular distance with Sin of the sighting angle. The data obtained from different nature trails were pooled and mean perpendicular distance was estimated. The density of the animal was calculated using the following formula, Density= n / 2l* r Where, n= number of animals sighted l= total length of the transect r= Angular distance.

Mammalian herbivore presence was assessed through direct sighting only along the trails, and around watering points.

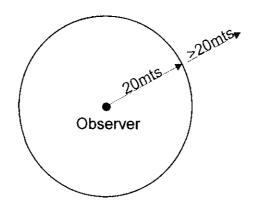
Carnivore presences were also studied through direct sighting only. However, secondary data of the Forest Department like Working Plan and Compartment history were also relied upon to list the wild animals.

Direct sighting and vocalizations were recorded to study bird presence and validate existing data on birds of the all the Parts in the study area. Early morning and evening studies were carried out when bird activity is at its peak. The point- count method was used on the nature trails by marking each point at 200mts interval along each trail and the bird count was performed within a radius of 25mts at each point.

Bird Point-count Method:

Procedure: A point count consists of standing in a specific location and counting birds. One counted the number of individual birds (of each species) within a circle of 20mts radius. When gathering data to compare one point count to the next, radius size was kept consistent. The radius of 20mts was as large as possible kept in the study area based on the vegetation type (mostly open forest) to maximize information gathering, and the birds could not be seen are heard and recorded throughout the nature trails in the study area. The 20mts radius point count at each point was performed to record all the birds seen or heard within a 5-minute period. We have recorded all birds that are seen or heard within the normal 20mts radius. At the same time, we have also recorded the birds that are heard or seen within a selected distance outside this 20mts radius. The birds counted within the 20mts radius were marked in the "Number of Birds" column of the data sheet and the birds seen or heard outside the 20mts radius (within a specified distance) are marked in the "Outside" column of the data sheet. Counting the same bird twice during the survey was avoided. A bird that moves from the 0 - 20mts area was not counted twice. Birds were counted where it first appeared or sighted. The purpose of surveying birds in this manner is that it allows one to compare across sites. A total of 5 points were marked and used for the bird point- count at each trail. We collected the data from 55 points established systematically and have been marked in all 11 nature trails of 1100mts each in the study area.

Diagrammatic representation of bird point-count design



The following details provide the protocol adopted for bird count:

Selection of points: The study are satellite images were captured, and the bird points at 200mts distance each was fixed on the image having the pre-existing nature trails covering the vegetation sampling grids. The center point of each point has been chosen based using GPS and systematic sampling was followed.

Duration and time of counts: Counts were done within three hours after sunrise. This is when birds are most active. Also done night-time surveys to count nocturnal species (done within three hours after sunset). During point counts, recorded all birds seen and heard within the survey area. The team initially stood for two minutes to allow some settling time for the birds that were disturbed. Observations were recorded for five minutes.

Recording method: For each sighting, the number of individuals, and the sighting distance was recorded. Flying birds and calls of the birds were recorded separately.

Counting FO (Flyovers): All higher-flying birds (above the tallest structure in the study area) were also noted if they are within the boundaries of the point count area.

Counting Birds Outside of Survey Area: Only birds seen or heard within the point count area were recorded.

Estimating Abundance: When multiple sightings of a species occurred within a point count, we have included only multiple entries for a species of sure that they are different individuals.

Avoided Artificial Densities: No sounds used that can attract birds to our trail or in the study are. No recorded calls, or any other methods that encourage birds to show themselves was used.

Set-up: Before conducting the point count, the boundaries of the area marked visually by using some identifiable object (e.g., a large tree). Also, marked the center spot where we stood and observed the birds with GPS. The exact place was used each time for the survey.

Distance estimation: Ocular estimates of the distance were taken.

Weather: While conducting the point count, the general climatic conditions were recorded; Wind intensity (calm, slight, gusty, strong) and sky condition (clear, cloudy). This is important because climatic variables are known to affect bird activity. Bird point count studies were avoided on rainy days or extremely windy days because birds don't produce calls during that time, hence affecting the detectability.

	Geog	raphic coord	linates o	f the Bird	Point-count	
	Latitud	le	•	Longite	ude	Trail No.
Dea.	Min.	Sec.	Deg.	Min.	Sec.	
17	30	18.85598	80	39	34.08737	Trail-1
17	30	24.67052	80	39	36.66052	
17	30	30.91033	80	39	38.53268	
17	30	33.07393	80	39	44.58386	
17	30	35.00443	80	39	50.55766	
17	29	5.08251	80	40	23.53231	Trail-2
17	29	10.25375	80	40	27.62735	
17	29	15.67464	80	40	31.34328	
17	29	21.37146	80	40	34.45858	
	17 17 17 17 17 17	Deg. Min. 17 30 17 30 17 30 17 30 17 30 17 30 17 29 17 29 17 29	Latitude Deg. Min. Sec. 17 30 18.85598 17 30 24.67052 17 30 30.91033 17 30 33.07393 17 30 35.00443 17 29 5.08251 17 29 10.25375 17 29 15.67464	LatitudeDeg.Min.Sec.Deg.173018.8559880173024.6705280173030.9103380173033.0739380173035.004438017295.0825180172910.2537580172915.6746480	Latitude Longitude Deg. Min. Sec. Deg. Min. 17 30 18.85598 80 39 17 30 24.67052 80 39 17 30 30.91033 80 39 17 30 33.07393 80 39 17 30 35.00443 80 39 17 29 5.08251 80 40 17 29 10.25375 80 40 17 29 15.67464 80 40 17 29 15.67464 80 40	Deg. Min. Sec. Deg. Min. Sec. 17 30 18.85598 80 39 34.08737 17 30 24.67052 80 39 36.66052 17 30 30.91033 80 39 38.53268 17 30 33.07393 80 39 44.58386 17 30 35.00443 80 39 50.55766 17 29 5.08251 80 40 23.53231 17 29 10.25375 80 40 27.62735 17 29 15.67464 80 40 31.34328

10 11 12 13 14	17 17 17 17 17	29 29 29 29 29	26.24166 1.19389 3.57506 6.04545 8.59187	80 80 80 80		40 40 40 40 40		38.56585 27.01192 33.31775 39.59193 45.83286	Trail-3
15 16 17 18	17 17 17 17 17	29 28 28 28 28	11.1573 34.17069 28.39292 22.61514 18.32158	80 80 80 80	:	40 39 39 39 39	٠	52.06552 41.11204 44.23322 47.35436 47.712	Trail-4
20 21 22 23 24	17 17 17 17 17	28 29 29 29 30	21.37383 44.00492 50.47755 56.85014 3.02317	80 80 80 80		39 39 39 39 39		43.75726 32.96772 32.36692 33.10816 35.25616	Trail-5
25 26 27 28	17 17 17 17	30 30 30 30	8.97316 11.83627 16.12002 19.33687	80 80 80 80	:	39 40 40 40	•	37.93188 29.0699 34.13094 39.49441	Trail-6
29 30 31 32 33	17 17 17 17 17	30 30 29 29 29	23.89631 28.66663 42.04538 43.25359 42.75506	80 80 80 80		40 40 40 40 40	:	38.67032 34.05654 31.44358 37.26235 43.93841	Trail-7
34 35 36 37	17 17 17 17	29 29 30 30	42.3786 47.57437 12.89298 18.38437	80 80 80 80		40 40 40 40 40		49.78611 53.87023 14.26144 12.59121	Trail-8
38 39 40 41 42	17 17 17 17 17	30 30 30 29 29	23.12239 26.85979 33.02159 34.25556 36.4816	80 80 80 80 80		40 40 40 39 39		8.92722 3.71859 2.18556 42.03252 47.27233	Trail-9
43 44 45 46	17 17 17 17	29 29 29 29 29	37.6769 40.31582 44.22869 56.47055	80 80 80 80		39 40 40 40	ī	53.8697 0.05682 3.9016 0.40638	Trail-10
47 48 49 50	17 17 17 17	29 29 30 29	58.69132 59.93205 1.8855 59.19858	80 80 80 80		39 39 39 39		54.07332 47.43811 41.05976 37.43828	
51 52 53 54 55	17 17 17 17 17	28 28 28 28 28	41.15651 42.92922 45.98556 48.81467 50.98344	80 80 80 80 80		40 40 40 40 40	ē	22.38711 28.6734 34.26492 40.07795 45.74362	Trail-11

Herpetofauna Estimation:

Reptiles and amphibians were recorded in through incidence rate along nature trails as well as occurrence and interception rates along water holes. Other than the day counts, sampling was also conducted during the early evening and night, when incidence rates are expected to be highest.

Invertebrates Estimation:

Invertebrates were estimated through incidence rates and direct sighting. Butterflies, ants, spiders, dragonflies, scorpions, bees, wasps, beetles, grasshoppers, and other prominent invertebrates were check-listed. Where identification is not possible in the field, photographs were taken for taxonomical purpose.

Special habitats and eco-tones, especially fields and grasslands were surveyed for estimating the presence of grassland birds, rodents, and small mammals.

Source of secondary information on wildlife:

- Secondary information on flora, fauna and their distribution were collected from the bio diversity studies carried out during EIA/EMP preparartion and Forest Department, Kothagudem (Working Plan/Management Plan of Kothagudem) Division, 2014-2024 of Bhadradri Kothagudem district. Data were also collected on wildlife census conducted, incidents of forest fires, man-animal conflicts, compensation cases/details, water sources, Pisces, (natural and man-made structures), density enrichment plantations by Forest Department and SCCL, grassplots developed.
- Faunal availability was also verified from the local people and staff working in the forest department.
- Conservation status of the flora and fauna were cross checked under IUCN Red list through published literature and online as well as Indian Wildlife Protection Act (IWPA), 1972 and further Amendments.

Species Compositions

Floral Diversity:

A total of 313 plant species belonging to 241 genera and 83 families were documented in the study area (Core and Buffer zone) (shown in below Table). These are found inter-mixed, and occurrence is less in Core zone compared to buffer zone. Among 313 species listed, 89 species are trees, 41 shrubs, 14 lianas, 22 climbers, 117 herbs, 29 aquatic herbs and one is epiphyte. As the vegetation analysis suggests there are more herbaceous species (117 species) in comparison to tree species or other life forms as shown in figures.

List of floral species documented in Core & Buffer Zone

SI. No	Scientific Name	ral species documen Family	Habit		Study Zone	IUCN Status
1	Abildgaardia ovata	Cyperaceae	Н	-	В	LC
2	Abrus precatorius	Fabaceae	С	Guruginja	C&B	NA
3	Abutilon hirtum	Malvaceae	S	Palabenda	C&B	NA
4	Abutilon indicum	Malvaceae	S	Thuttutubenda	В	NA
5	Acalypha capitata	Euphorbiaceae	S	Kuppinta	С	NA
6	Acalypha indica	Euphorbiaceae	Н	Muripinda	C&B	NA
7	Achyranthes aspera	Amaranthaceae	Н	Uttareni	В	NA
8	Acmella paniculata	Asteraceae	Н	Maratimoggal	C&B	LC
9	Actinoscirpus grossus	Cyperaceae	AH	-	В	NA
10	Adina cordifolia	Rubiaceae	Т	Rudraganapa, Patchabotruka	C&B	NA
11	Aegle marmelos	Rutaceae	T	Maredu,	C&B	NA
12	Afrohybanthus enneaspermus	Violaceae	Н	Ratna purusha	С	NA
13	Agave americana	Asparagaceae	S	Kathaichettu	В	NA
	Ageratum conyzoides	Asteraceae	Н	Adavipudeena	C&B	NA
	Ailanthus excelsa	Simaroubaceae	Т	Pedda manu	C&B	NA
16	Alangium salviifolium	Cornaceae	T	Nallaoodaga	C&B	LC
17	Albizia amara	Leguminosae	Т	Narlingi, Chigara	C&B	LC
18	Albizia odoratissima	Leguminosae	Т	Chinduga	C&B	LC
19	Albizia thompsonii	Leguminosae	Т	-	C&B	NT
20	Alternanthera pungens	Amaranthaceae	Н	Mulla Ponnaganti	C&B	NA
21	Alternanthera sessilis	Amaranthaceae	Н	Ponnaganti	C&B	LC
22	Alysicarpus hamosus	Leguminosae	Н		С	NA
23	Alysicarpus monilifer	Leguminosae	Н	Poosalamokka	В	NA
24	Amaranthus spinosus	Amaranthaceae	Н	Mundla	C&B	NA
25	Amaranthus viridis	Amaranthaceae	Н	Chilaka thotakura	В	NA
26	Ammannia baccifera	Lythraceae		Nela Citramulam,	В	LC
	Ammannia multiflora	Lythraceae	АН	-	В	LC
	Andrographis echioides	Acanthaceae	Н	-	C&B	NA
	Andrographis paniculata	Acanthaceae		Belavemu	C&B	NA
	Annona squamosa	Annonaceae	Т	Seetaphalam	C&B	LC
	Aponogeton crispus	Aponogetonaceae	AH	Nammapuvvu	В	LC
32	Aristida adscensionis	Poaceae		Cheepuru	C&B	NA

SI. No	Scientific Name	Family	Habit	Vernacular Name	Study Zone	IUCN Status
	Aristida hystrix	Poaceae	Н	Chinnameesala gaddi	C&B	NA
34	Aristida setacea	Poaceae	Н	Chipurugaddi	C&B	NA
-	Aristolochia indica	Aristolochiaceae	С	Iswaraveru	C&B	NA
	Asparagus racemosus	Asparagaceae	С	Sathavari	C&B	NA
	Ayenia herbacea	Malvaceae	H	Magasirigadda	C&B	NA
	Azadirachta indica	Meliaceae	T	Vepa chettu	C&B	LC
	Bacopa monnieri	Plantaginaceae	ΑH	Brahmmi	В	LC
		Zygophyllaceae	T	Garachettu	С	LC
41	Bambusa bambos	Poaceae	: T	Veduru	C&B	. NA
		Acanthaceae	H	Mullagorinta	В	NA
	Bauhinia racemosa	Leguminosae	. T	Arichettu	C&B	NA
	Bergia capensis	Elatinaceae	AH	Neerupavila	В	LC
	Blepharis integrifolia	Acanthaceae	: H	Chatuspathri	C&B	NA
	Blepharis maderaspatensis	Acanthaceae	: Н	Anthritapoolu	C&B	NA
	Blumea axillaris	Compositae	H	Kukkapogaku	С	NA
	Blumea lacera	Compositae	Н	;-	В	NA
	Boerhavia diffusa	Nyctaginaceae	Н	Punarnava, Atikimamidi	: B	: NA
50	Boerhavia erecta	Nyctaginaceae	, Н	Punarnava	В	NA
51	Bombax ceiba	Malvaceae	T	Buruga	В	LC
52	Bonnaya ciliata	Linderniaceae	: AH	-	В	LC
	Boswellia serrata	Burseraceae	Т	Anduga	В	NA
	Brachypterum scandens	Leguminosae	L	Nallateega	C&B	- NA
	Bridelia montana	Phyllanthaceae	· S	Adavi jama	C&B	: NA
	Bridelia retusa	Phyllanthaceae	Т	Mullumaddi	C&B	LC
	Buchanania cochinchinensis	Anacardiaceae	т Т	Chinna morli	C&B	NA NA
58	Butea monosperma	Leguminosae	Т	Moduga	C&B	LC
	Butea superba	Leguminosae	L	Teega modiga	C&B	. NA
60	Cajanus scarabaeoides	Leguminosae	· C	-	C&B	LC
	Calotropis gigantea	Apocynaceae	· S	Tella Jilledu	: В	ΝA
	Calotropis procera	Apocynaceae	S	Erra jilledu	В	. NA
	Canavalia gladiata	Leguminosae	L	Thammakaya	В	NA
	Canscora heteroclita	Gentianaceae	AH	Thambakaya	В	NA
	Canthium coromandelicum		S	Sinnabalusu,	C&B	NA
	Capparis sepiaria	Capparaceae	S	Nallauppi	В	LC
	Capparis spinosa	Capparaceae	L	· -	C&B	LC
	Careya arborea	Lecythidaceae	Т	Budadarmi	C&B	NÀ
	Carissa carandas	Apocynaceae	S	Kalivi	В	NA
70		Leguminosae	T	Rela chettu	C&B	LC
71		Lauraceae	C	Pasuputivva	C&B	NA
	Catunaregam spinosa	Rubiaceae	S	Manga	C&B	NA
	Celastrus paniculatus	Celastraceae	L	Jyothismathi, Teegapalleru	C&B	NA
74	Ceratopteris thalictroides	Pteridaceae	AH	-	В	LC
	Chara globularis	Characeae	AH	Chara	В	LC
	Chloris barbata	Poaceae	Н	Jada kunchula gaddi	C&B	NA
77	Chloroxylon swietenia	Rutaceae	Т	Billudu	C&B	VU

SI. No	Scientific Name	Family		Habit	Vernacular Name	Study Zone	IUCN Status
78	Chromolaena odorata	Compositae		S	Porangi	C&B	NA
79	Chrozophora rottleri	Euphorbiaceae		Н	Lingamirapa	В	NA
80	Chrysopogon fulvus	Poaceae		Н	-	С	NA
81	Cleistanthus collinus	Phyllanthaceae		Т	Kodise	C&B	VU
82	Cleome viscosa	Cleomaceae		H	Kukka vominta	C&B	NA
83	Clitoria tematea	Leguminosae		С	Dintena teega	В	NA
84	Coccinia grandis	Cucurbitaceae		С	Donda	В	NA
	Cocculus hirsutus	Menispermaceae		С	Chinnadusar teega	C&B	NA
86	Coldenia procumbens	Boraginaceae		Н	Bukkinaaku	C&B	LC
	Colocasia esculenta	Araceae		Н	Chemadumpa	В	LC
	Combretum albidum	Combretaceae		L	Yadateega	В	NA
	Commelina benghalensis	Commelinaceae		ΑH	Vennadevikura	C&B	LC
	Commelina imberbis	Commelinaceae		Н	-	C&B	LC
91	Cordia dichotoma	Boraginaceae		Т	iriki	В	LC
	Crateva adansonii	Capparaceae		T	Uskimanu,	В :	LC
	Crotalaria hebecarpa	Fabaceae		H		C&B	NA
	Croton bonplandianus	Euphorbiaceae		H	Vanamokka	В	NA
	Cryptolepis buchananii	Apocynaceae	;	C	Adavipalateeg	Č	NA
	Curculigo orchioides	Hypoxidaceae		H	Nelathadi	C&B	NA
	Curcuma pseudomontana	Zingiberaceae		Н	Adavipasupu	C&B	VÜ
	Cyanotis axillaris	Commelinaceae		AΗ	Neelavanthi	C&B	ĹĊ
	Cyanthillium albicans	Compositae		H	Garitakamma	C&B	NA
	Cyanthillium cinereum	Compositae		H	Sahadevi	В	NA
	Cycas rumphii	Cycadaceae		Ť	Ranhaguvva	Č	VU
	Cymbopogon coloratus	Poaceae		H	Bodagaddi	C&B	NA
	Cymbopogon martini	Poaceae	٠	Н	Kamaanchi kasuvu	C&B	NA
104	Cynodon dactylon	Poaceae		H	Garika	C&B	NA
	Cyperus corymbosus	Cyperaceae		AH	- Curina	В	NA
	Cyperus difformis	Cyperaceae		AΗ		В	LC
	Cyperus exaltatus	Cyperaceae		AH	•	B	LC
	Cyperus michelianus	Cyperaceae		AH		В	LC
	Cyperus mindorensis	Cyperaceae		AH	Gandala	C&B	NA
	Cyperus pangorei	Cyperaceae		AH	Garidala	В	LC
	Cyperus rotundus	Cyperaceae		Н	Thunga	В	LC
112	Dalbergia lanceolaria	Leguminosae		T	Patchari	C&B	NA
113	Dendrocalamus strictus	Poaceae		Т	Sadanam	C&B	NA
114	Dendrophthoe falcata	Loranthaceae		S	Jiddu, Yolinga	C&B	NA
115	Dentella repens	Rubiaceae		Н	Katakura	В	LC
116	Dentella repens var. serpyllifolia	Rubiaceae		Н	-	В	NA
117	Dichanthium annulatum	Poaceae		Н	Errasangali gaddi	В	NA
118	Dichrostachys cinerea	Leguminosae		S	Velthuruchettu	C&B	LC
	Dioscorea pentaphylla	Dioscoreaceae		Ċ	Adaviginasu	C&B	NA
120	Diospyros chloroxylon	Ebenaceae		Т	Ullinda	C&B	NA
	Diospyros melanoxylon	Ebenaceae		T	Beediakulu,	C&B	NA

SI. Scientific Name No	Family	Habit	Vernacular Name Thuniki	Study Zone	IUCN Status
122 Diospyros montana	Ebenaceae	Т	Muchhathuniki	В	NA
123 Dodonaea viscosa	Sapindaceae	s	Bandari	C&B	LC
124 Drimia indica	Asparagaceae	Н	Adavi ulli	С	NA
125 Drypetes sepiaria	Putranjivaceae	S	Putrajivika, Kuduru	В	NA
126 Eclipta prostrata	Asteraceae	Н	Guntagalagara	C&B	LC
127 Ehretia aspera	Boraginaceae	Т	Paldattam	C&B	DD
128 Eleocharis geniculata	Cyperaceae	AH	<u>:</u> -	В	LC
129 Elytraria acaulis	Acanthaceae	Н	Nela marri	В	NA
130 Eragrostiella bifaria	Poaceae	Н	Noolugaddi	В	NA
131 Eragrostis tenella	Poaceae	Н	Chinna garikagaddi	C&B	NA
132 Eragrostis viscosa	Poaceae	Н	-	C&B	NA
133 Eriocaulon quinquangulare	Eriocaulaceae	Н	-	С	NA
134 Erythroxylum monogynur		S	Gatiri, Adavi gongura	C&B	NA
135 Euphorbia hirta	Euphorbiaceae	Н	Nanubalu	C&B	NA
136 Euphorbia nivulia	Euphorbiaceae	Т	Aakujemudu	В	NA
137 Euphorbia thymifolia	Euphorbiaceae	. Н	Reddivaari	В	NA
138 Evolvulus alsinoides	Convolvulaceae	Н	Vishnukrantha	В	NA
139 Evolvulus nummularius	Convolvulaceae	Н	•	C&B	NA NA
140 Ficus benghalensis	Могасеае	T	Marri	C&B	NA
141 Ficus hispida	Moraceae	S	Bemmeduakulu	C&B	LC
142 Ficus mollis	Moraceae	Т	Konda kalijuvvi	C&B	NA
143 Ficus racemosa	Moraceae	Т	Medi	C&B	LC
144 Ficus religiosa	Moraceae	Τ	Ravi chettu	В	NA
145 Fimbristylis aestivalis	Сурегасеае	AH	: <u>-</u>	В	. NA
146 Fimbristylis argentea	Cyperaceae	AH	-	В	LC
147 Fimbristylis quinquangularis	Cyperaceae	AH	•	В	LC
148 Flacourtia indica	Salicaceae	S	Nakka neredu	C&B	LC
149 Galactia striata	Leguminosae	С	•	В	NA
150 Gardenia gummifera	Rubiaceae	Т	Bikki	C&B	LC
151 Gardenia latifolia	Rubiaceae	Т	Peddabikki	C&B	NA
152 Garuga pinnata	Burseraceae	Ť	Garuga, Kondavepa	В	NA
153 Getonia floribunda	Combretaceae	L	Pootangiteega	C&B	NA
	Gisekiaceae	H	Isukadantikura	В	NA
154 Gisekia pharnaceoides 155 Givotia moluccana	Euphorbiaceae	Ť	Tella Poliki	C&B	NA
	Moliuginaceae	н	Tellaporaku	В	LC
156 Glinus lotoides	•	H	Chayunta	В	LC
157 Glinus oppositifolius	Molluginaceae		rashiaku		LC
158 Gloriosa superba	Colchicaceae	Н	Naabhi,	С	
159 Gmelina arborea	Lamiaceae	. T	Gummadi teku	С	LC

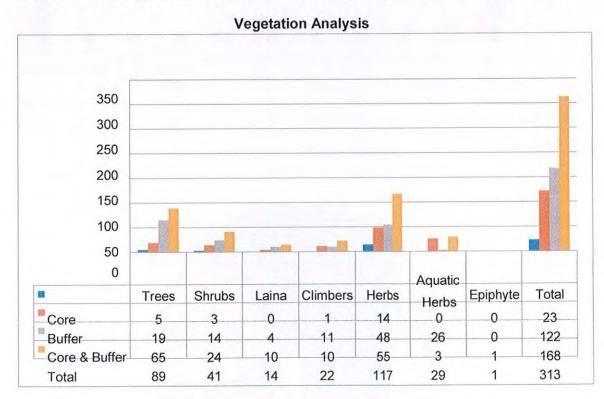
SI. Scientific Name No	Family	Habit	Vernacular Name	Study Zone	IUCN Status
160 Gmelina asiatica	Lamiaceae	L	Chinna adavigummadi	В	LC
161 Gomphrena serrata	Amaranthaceae	Н	Bendumalli	В	NA
162 Grangea maderaspatana	Compositae	H	Mastaru	C&B	LC
163 Grewia flavescens	Malvaceae	. T	Bankajaana	C&B	ĹĊ
164 Grewia hirsuta	Malvaceae	s	Nalla Kattelu	C&B	NA
165 Grewia tiliifolia	Malvaceae	Ť	Budamara	C&B	NA
166 Grewia villosa	Malvaceae	S	Banta, Chenula	C&B	LC
167 Gymnosporia emarginata	Celastraceae	S	Danthi	C&B	NA
168 Habenaria panigrahiana	Orchidaceae	Н		C	NA
169 Hackelochloa granularis	Poaceae	H	- Naalipunuku	C	NA
170 Hardwickia binata	Leguminosae	T	a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a	C&B	LC
171 Helicteres isora	Malvaceae	S	Naarepi Gooba thada	C&B	NA
172 Heliotropium indicum	Boraginaceae	э Н		В	NA NA
173 Heliotropium marifolium		Н	Nagadanti	C	NA NA
174 Hemidesmus indicus	Boraginaceae	C	Cusandhanala	C&B	NA NA
175 Heteropogon contortus	Apocynaceae Poaceae	: H	Sugandhapala	C&B	NA NA
113 Heleropogon comonas	ruaceae	. П	Yeddigaddi/Kes aragaddi	Corb	INA
176 Hibiscus micranthus	Malvaceae	S	Nityamalle	В	NA
177 Holarrhena pubescens	Apocynaceae	Š	Kolamukhi	C&B	LC
178 Holoptelea integrifolia	Ulmaceae	Ť	Nemalinaara	C&B	NA
179 Huberantha cerasoides	Annonaceae	Ť	Chilakaduddu	В	NA
180 Hydrilla verticillata	Hydrocharitacee	AH	Poonaachu	В	LC
181 Hygrophila auriculata	Acanthaceae	AH	Mulla gobbi	В	LC
182 Indigofera linnaei	Leguminosae	H	Yerrapalleru	C&B	NA NA
183 Ipomoea aquatica	Convolvulaceae	Ċ	Thootiloora	В	LC
184 Ipomoea carnea	Convolvulaceae	Č	Pandiri thooti	В	NA
185 Ipomoea nil	Convolvulaceae	Č	Kolivitthulu	В	NA
186 Ipomoea obscura	Convolvulaceae	Č	Nallateega	C&B	NA
187 Ipomoea pes-tigridis	Convolvulaceae	č	Mekamadugu	В	NA
188 Ipomoea sagittifolia	Convolvulaceae	Č	Purititeega	В	NA
189 İxora pavetta	Rubiaceae	Š	Koravi	C&B	NA
190 Jasminum auriculatum	Oleaceae	Ĺ	Adavi teega malli	C&B	NA
191 Jatropha gossypiifolia	Euphorbiaceae	S	Nela amudam	В	LC
192 Justicia glauca	Acanthaceae	. H	4	C&B	NA
193 Justicia vahliana	Acanthaceae	Н	-	C&B	NA
194 Knoxia sumatrensis	Rubiaceae	Н	Kampurodda	C&B	NA
195 Lagerstroemia parviflora	Lythraceae	Τ	Chennangi	C&B	NA
196 Lannea coromandelica	Anacardiaceae	Т	Gumpena	C&B	LC
197 Lantana camara	Verbenaceae	S	Seesa kammari	C&B	NA
198 Lepidagathis cristata	Acanthaceae	Н	Nakka pintuka	В	NA
199 Leptopetalum biflorum	Rubiaceae	Н	-	C&B	NA
200 Leucaena leucocephala	Leguminosae	T	Subabulu	C&B	NA
201 Limonia acidissima	Rutaceae	T	Velaga	C&B	NA
202 Madhuca longifolia	Sapotaceae	T	Ippa	C&B	NA
203 Maerua apetala	Capparaceae	Т	Pilli Adugu	В	NA
204 Malvastrum	Malvaceae	Н	-	В	NA
coromandelianum 205 Mangifera indica	Anacardiaceae	Т	Mamidi	В	DD

SI. No	Scientific Name	Family	Habit	Vernacular Name	Study Zone	IUCN Status
206	Manilkara hexandra	Sapotaceae	T	Pala chettu	C&B	NA
207	Marsilea quadrifolia	Marsileaceae	AH	Chandamama kura	В	LC
208	Memecylon umbellatum	Melastomataceae	Т	Alli, Peddalli	В	NA
209	Merremia gangetica	Convolvulaceae	Н	Elukagemudu	В	LC
210	Mesosphaerum suaveolens	Lamiaceae	Н	Danthitulasi	C&B	NA
	Miliusa tomentosa	Annonaceae	Т	Barredudduga	C&B	NA
212	Mimosa pudica	Leguminosae	Н	Attipatti,	В	LC
213	Mitragyna parvifolia	Rubiaceae	· T	Kadamba	C&B	NA
214	Morinda coreia	Rubiaceae	T	Togaru	C&B	NA
215	Naringi crenulata	Rutaceae	T	Kukka velaga	В	NA
216	Nelumbo nucifera	Nelumbonaceae	AH	Kamalam	В	NA
217	Nyctanthes arbor-tristis	Oleaceae	Т	Parijatham	В	NA
218	Nymphaea nouchali	Nymphaeaceae	AH	Thamara	В	LC
219	Ochna obtusata	Ochnaceae	T .	Raktha sirishamu	C&B	NA
220	Ocimum basilicum	Lamiaceae	. Н	Kammagaggiri	В	NA
221	Ocimum tenuiflorum	Lamiaceae	, H	Thulasi	В	NA
222	Olax scandens	Olacaceae	L	Yelaka Nakkera	C&B	NA
223	Oldenlandia umbellata	Rubiaceae	H	Chiriveru	В	NA
224	Opuntia stricta	Cactaceae	S	Jemudu	C&B	LÇ
225	Orthosiphon rubicundus	Lamiaceae	Н	Podathulasi	C&B	NA
226	Osbeckia zeylanica	Melastomataceae	H	Burada alli	C	NA
227	Ouret lanata	Amaranthaceae	: H	Kondapindi	В	NA
228	Parthenium hysterophorus	Compositae	. Н	Vayyaribhama	C&B	NA
229	Pavonia zeylanica	Malvaceae	: H	Karubenda	В	NA
230	Pergularia daemia	Apocynaceae	С	Dustapa teega	C&B	LC
	Persicaria glabra	Polygonaceae	AH	Neetiganneru,	В	LC
	Phoenix loureiroi	Arecaceae	S	Konda itha	C&B	LC
	Phoenix sylvestris	Arecaceae	T	Itha chettu	C&B	NA
	Phyllanthus amarus	Phyllanthaceae	, H	Nelausiri	В	. NA
	Phyllanthus emblica	Phyllanthaceae	Т	Usirikaya	C&B	LC
	Phyllanthus maderaspatensis	Phyllanthaceae	Н	NelaUsiri	C&B	LC
	Phyllanthus reticulatus	Phyllanthaceae	S	Purugudu	В	LC
238	Phyllanthus virgatus	Phyllanthaceae	Н	Gadhausiri	C&B	NA
239	Pleurolobus gangeticus	Leguminosae	, Н	Kolakuponna	C&B	NA
240	Pongamia pinnata	Leguminosae	T	Kanuga	В	LC
241	Portulaca oleracea	Portulacaceae	Н	Payalaku	В	LC
242	Premna mollissima	Lamiaceae	Т	Kondamanga	C&B	NA
243	Prosopis juliflora	Leguminosae	T	Sarkar tumma	C&B	NA
	Pseudarthria viscida	Fabaceae	С	Adavi chikkudu	В	NA
	Pteris argyraea	Pteridaceae	ΑH	-	В	NA
	Pterolobium hexapetalum	Leguminosae	<u>L</u>	Korintha	C&B	NA
	Pterospermum xylocarpum	Malvaceae	Т	Loluguchettu,	C&B	NA
248	Pulicana wightiana	Asteraceae	Н	Adavipoddutir ugudu	C&B	NA

SI. Scientific Name	Family	Habit	Vernacular Name	Study Zone	IUCN Status
249 Pupalia lappacea	Amaranthaceae	Н	Yerra utthareni	C&B	LC
250 Rhynchosia rufescens	Leguminosa e	С	_	В	NA
251 Rivea hypocrateriformis	Convolvulaceae	L	Bodditeega	C&B	NA
252 Ruellia tuberosa	Acanthaceae	Н	Chitapatakayal	C&B	NA
253 Saccharum spontaneum	Poaceae	Н	Naagaswaram, Adavicheruku	В	LC
254 Santalum album	Santalaceae	T	Swethagandha	С	VU
255 Sapindus emarginatus	Sapindaceae	T	Kunkudu	В	NA
256 Schleichera oleosa	Sapindaceae	Т	Poosuga	C&B	LC
257 Schoenoplectiella articulata		Н	~	C&B	LC
258 Schrebera swietenioides	Oleaceae	Т	Magalinga	C&B	NA
259 Scleria lithosperma	Cyperaceae	· H	: . •	C&B	NA
260 Scoparia dulcis	Plantaginaceae	Н	Godathulasi	C&B	NA
261 Senegalia chundra	Leguminosae	Т	Sandra	C&B	NA
262 Senegalia torta	Leguminosae	S	Korinta teega	В	NA
263 Senna auriculata	Leguminosae	S	Thangedi	В	. NA
264 Senna occidentalis	Leguminosae	H	Kasinda	В	LC
265 Senna tora	Leguminosae	Н	Thantepu	В	NA
266 Sida acuta	Malvaceae	Н	Katari	В	NA
267 Sida cordifolia	Malvaceae	Н	Badiyalaku	В	NA
268 Solanum virginianum	Solanaceae	Н	Nela vaakudu	В	NA
269 Soymida febrifuga	Meliaceae	T	Somi	В	NA
270 Spermacoce articularis	Rubiaceae	Н	Madanaku	В	NA
271 Spermacoce pusilla	Rubiaceae	Н	Chukkakaada	В	NA
272 Sphaeranthus indicus	Compositae	Н	Bodasaramu	В	: LC
273 Stemodia viscosa	Plantaginaceae	Н	Bodasaramam	C&B	NA
274 Sterculia urens	Malvaceae	Т	Thapassi	C&B	NA
275 Stereospermum tetragonum	Bignoniaceae	Т	Ummrttha	С	NA
276 Streblus asper	Moraceae	T	Barraniki	В	LC
277 Striga angustifolia	Orobanchaceae	Н	Jonnamalle	C&B	NA
278 Striga asiatica	Orobanchaceae	Н	Raathibadanik	C&B	NA
279 Strobilanthes pavala	Acanthaceae	H		С	NA NA
280 Strychnos nux-vomica	Loganiaceae	Ţ	Mustichettu	C&B	NA
281 Strychnos potatorum	Loganiaceae	Τ	Chillanginja chettu	C&B	. NA
282 Tacca leontopetaloides	Dioscoreaceae	H	Ritthakanda	С	LC
283 Tamarindus indica	Leguminosae	Ţ	Chinta	C&B	LC
284 Tarenna asiatica	Rubiaceae	S	Konda Papidi	C&B	NA
285 Tectona grandis	Lamiaceae	T	Teku	C&B	NA
286 Tephrosia purpurea	Leguminosae	Н	Vempali	C&B	NA
287 Tephrosia villosa	Leguminosae	Н	Noogu vempalli	В	LC
288 Terminalia anogeissiana	Combretaceae	Т	Sirimanu	С&В	NA
289 Terminalia arjuna	Combretaceae	Т	Tellamaddhi	C&B	NA
290 Terminalia bellirica	Combretaceae	Т	Thani	C&B	LC
291 Terminalia elliptica	Combretaceae	Т	Nallamaddi	В	NA
292 Trianthema portulacastrum		Н	Galíjeru	C&B	NA
293 Tridax procumbens	Compositae	Н	Gaddichamant	В	NA

SI. No	Scientific Name	Family	Habit	Vernacular Name	Study Zone	IUCN Status
294	Trigastrotheca pentaphylla	Molluginaceae	Н	Pichichatraku	C	NA
	Triumfetta rotundifolia	Malvaceae	S	-	C	NA
296	Typha angustifolia	Typhaceae	S	Jammu	В	LC
	Urochloa ramosa	Poaceae	Н	-	В	LC
298	Vachellia leucophloea	Leguminosae	T	Tella thumma	C&B	LC
299	Vachellia nilotica	Leguminosae	Т	Nalla thumma	C&B	LC
300	Vanda tessellata	Orchidaceae	ES	Badanika	C&B	LC
301	Ventilago denticulata	Rhamnaceae	L	Erra sanguru	В	NA
	Viscum articulatum	Santalaceae	S	Jilledu badanika	С	NA
303	Vitex negundo	Lamiaceae	S	Nalla vavilli	C&B	LC
304	Waltheria indica	Malvaceae	S	Nallabenda	C&B	LC
305	Woodfordia fruticosa	Lythraceae	S	Jargi seringi	C&B	LC
306	Wrightia tinctoria	Apocynaceae	Т	Palamaneru	C&B	NA
	Xanthium strumarium	Compositae	S	Marulamathangi	В	NA
308	Xenostegia tridentata	Convolvulaceae	С	Mududantla	В	NA
	Xylia xylocarpa	Leguminosae	Т	Bojja	C&B	LC
	Ziziphus jujuba	Rhamnaceae	T	Regu	C&B	LC
	Ziziphus oenopolia	Rhamnaceae	L	Pariki kampa	C&B	LC
	Ziziphus xylopyrus	Rhamnaceae	T	Gotti	C&B	NA
	Zornia gibbosa	Fabaceae	Н	Nelabariki	C&B	NA

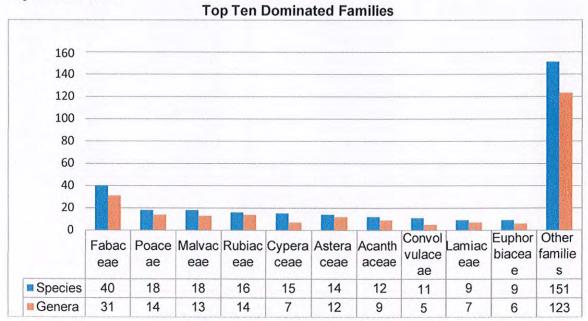
*Note: T-Trees; S-Shrubs; H-Herbs; C-Climbers; L-Lianas; AH-Aquatic herb; EP-Epiphyte; C-Core zone; B-Buffer zone; LC-Least Concern; NA-Not Assessed; VU-Vulnerable; NT-Near Threatened



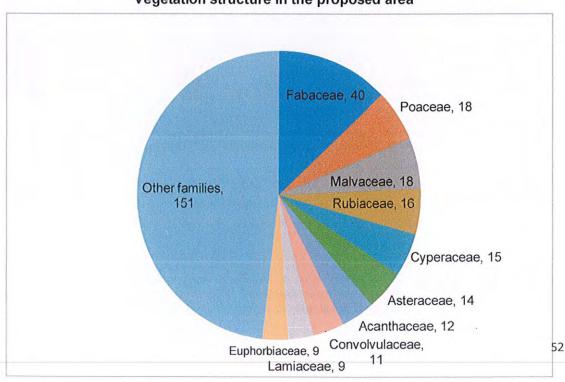
Twenty-nine Aquatic species were observed in the study area of which, 19 are Angiospems (Actinoscirpus grossus, Ammannia baccifera, A. multiflora, Aponogeton crispus, Bacopa monnieri, Bergia capensis, Bonnaya ciliate, Canscora heteroclite, Commelina benghalensis, Cyanotis axillaris, Cyperus corymbosus, C. difformis, C. exaltatus, C. mindorensissubsp. pygmaeus, C. mindorensis, C.

pangorei, Eleocharis geniculate, Fimbristylis aestivalis, F. argentea, F. quinquangularis, Hydrilla verticillata, Hygrophila auriculata, Nelumbo nucifera, Nymphaea nouchali and Persicaria glabra), three are Pteridophytes (Ceratopteris thalictroides, Marsilea quadrifolia and Pteris argyraea) and Chara globularis is Algae. The most dominant families are Fabaceae represented by 40 species of 31 genera followed by Poaceae 18/14, Malvaceae 18/13, Rubiaceae 16/14, Cyperaceae 15/7, Asteraceae 14/12, Acanthaceae 12/9, Convolvulaceae 11/5, Lamiaceae 9/7, Euphorbiaceae 9/6, Apocyanaceae 8/7, Amaranthaceae 8/6, Phyllanthaceae 8/3, Combretaceae 6/3, Moraceae 6/2, Boraginaceae 5/4, Rutaceae 4/4, Capparaceae & Lythraceae each with 4/3, Rhamnaceae 4/2, Anacardiaceae, Annonaceae, Asparagaceae, Oleaceae, Plantaginaceae and Sapindaceae each with 3/3, Commelinaceae & Molluginaceae eachwith 3/2, Ebenaceae 3/1, Burseraceae, Celastraceae, Dioscoreaceae, Melastomataceae, Meliaceae, Orchidaceae, Pteridaceae, Santalaceae & Sapotaceae each with 2/2, Arecaceae, Loganiaceae, Nyctaginaceae & Orobanchaceae each with 2 species in 1 generaand 41 families are represented each with one species of one genera.

Top ten families are Fabaceae, Poaceae, Malvaceae, Rubiaceae, Cyperaceae, Asteraceae, Acanthaceae, Convolvulaceae, Lamiaceae and Euphorbiaceae are occupied 52% of the total vegetation structure.



Vegetation structure in the proposed area



Phyto-sociological features of trees, shrubs and herbs in core & buffer zones:

Core Zone

- A. Trees From Importance Value Index (IVI), it is inferred that for trees the dominant species is Tectona grandis is with 34.71 of Importance Value Index followed by Cleistanthus collinus (22.97), Xylia xylocarpa (20.24) and Boswellia serrata (18.73). Simpson's Index value (0.07) and Shannon Wiener Index value (1.24) for trees shows that diversity is more in comparison to species dominance.
- B. Shrubs Butea superba is identified as the most dominant species with 51.6 of Importance Value Index followed by Helicteres isora (42.07), Waltheria indica (37.56), Dioscorea pentaphylla and Derris scandens each with 33.98. Simpson's Index value is 0.13 and the Shannon Wiener Index value is 0.93, which shows that diversity is more.
- C. Herbs Drimia indica is identified as the most dominant species with 43.85 of Importance Value Index followed by Andrographis paniculata and Cyanthillium albicans each with 39.21 and Gloriosa superba (37.89). Simpson's Index value is 0.13 and the Shannon Wiener Index value is 0.92, which shows that diversity is more.

Phyto-sociological features in core zone Core zone

31	62	$\times 31$	1.62	m f	OF	Trees

	31.62 m for frees	IVI	Simpson	Shanna
S.No.	Name	101	Simpson	n
1	Tectona grandis	34.71	0.028	-0.13
2	Cleistanthus collinus	22.97	0.009	-0.1
3 :	Xylia xylocarpa	20.24	0.005	-0.08
4	Boswellia serrata	18.73	0.005	-0.08
5	Acacia chundra	17.9	0.004	-0.08
6	Diospyros melanoxylon	17.88	0.004	-0.08
7	Chloroxylon swietenia	15.56	0.003	-0.07
8	Lagerstroemia parviflora	15.33	0.002	-0.06
9 -	Dalbergia lanceolaria subsp.paniculata	13.42	0.002	-0.06
10	Grewia flavescens	13.22	0.002	-0.06
11	Aegle marmelos	13.22	0.002	
12	Firmiana simplex	12.82		-0.05
13	Acacia leucophloea	11.51	0.001	-0.05
14	Givotia moluccana	10.87		-0.05
15	Hardwickia binata	10.87		-0.05
16	Hardwickia binata	9.7		-0.04
17	Ochna obtusata	9.19		-0.04
18	Albizia odoratissima	8.53	0	-0.04
19	Stereospermum tetragonum	8.53	0	-0.04
20	Wrightia tinctoria	7.37	0	-0.03
21	Lannea coromandelica	3.74	0	-0.01
22	Ficus mollis	3.74		-0.01
			0.07	-1.24
5 x 5 m	for Shrubs			
1	Butea superba	51.6		-0.14
2	Helicteres isora	42.07		-0.13
3	Waltheria indica	37.56		-0.12
4	Dioscorea pentaphylla	33.98	0.014	-0.11

5	Derris scandens	33.98	0.014	-0.11
6	Cajanus scarabaeoides	25.89	0.006	-0.09
7	Tarenna asiatica	24.63	0.003	-0.07
8	Phoenix loureiroi	21.5	0.003	-0.07
9	Catunaregam spinosa	17.81	0.002	-0.06
10	Grewia hirsuta	10.99	0 .	-0.03
	• •		0.13	-0.93
1 x 1 n	n for Herbs			
1	Drimia indica	43.85	0.026	-0.13
2	Orthosiphon rubicundus	41.51	0.026	-0.13
3	Cyanthillium albicans	39.21	0.02	-0.12
4	Andrographis paniculata	39.21	0.02	-0.12
5	Byttneria herbacea	29.55	0.006	-0.09
6	Evolvulus nummularius	26.09	0.006	-0.09
7	Scleria lithosperma	24.8	0.004	-0.07
8	Phyllanthus virgatus	17.92	0.002	-0.06
		•	0.13	-0.92

Buffer Zone

- A. Trees From Importance Value Index (IVI), it is inferred that, for trees Xylia xylocarpa is the most dominant species with 21.00 of Importance Value Index followed by Tectona grandis (16.27), Lannea coromandelica (15.85), Anogeissus latifolia (14.76), Schleichera oleosa and Cleistanthus collinus each with (10.3) and Cleistanthus collinus (10.36). Simpson's Index value is 0.042 and the Shannon Wiener Index value is 1.47, which shows that diversity is more.
- B. Shrubs Woodfordia fruticosa is identified as the most dominant species with 35.44 of Importance Value Index followed by Canthium coromandelicum (22.86), Chromolaena odorata (21.26), Helicteres isora (20.55) and Getonia floribunda (20.2). Simpson's Index value is 0.07and the Shannon Wiener Index value is 1.19, which shows that diversity is more.
- C. Herbs Hybanthus enneaspermus is identified as the most dominant species with 25.95 of importance Value Index followed by Orthosiphon rubicundus (25.18), Oldenlandia umbellate and Scleria terrestris each with 23.84, Byttneria herbacea (22.88) and Lepidagathis cristata (21.02). Simpson's Index value is 0.07 and the Shannon Wiener Index value is 1.18, which shows that diversity is more.

This infers the buffer zone of woody species has more diversity when compared to other life forms of plants. Most of the natural growth recorded is of coppice in nature.

Phyto-sociological features in buffer zone Buffer zone

31.6	2 x 31.62 m for Trees			
1	Xylia xylocarpa	21	0.01	-0.1
2	Tectona grandis	16.27	0.005	-0.08
3	Lannea coromandelica	15.85	0.005	-0.08
4	Anogeissus latifolia	14.76	0.004	-0.07
5	Schleichera oleosa	10.37	0.001	-0.05
6	Cleistanthus collinus	10.36	0.001	-0.05
7	Miliusa tomentosa	10.08	0.001	-0.05
8	Wrightia tinctoria	9.75	0.001	-0.04
9	Madhuca longifolia var. latifolia	9.62	0.001	-0.05
10	Bombax ceiba	9.17	0.001	-0.05

2386193/2024/FCA SECTION-PCCF

11	Terminalia alata	9.17	0.001	-0.05
12	Lagerstroemia parviflora	9.02	0.001	-0.05
13	Dalbergia lanceolaria subsp.paniculata	9.02	0.001	-0.05
14	Hardwickia binata	8.71	0.001	-0.04
15	Albizia odoratissima	8.51	0.001	-0.04
16	Buchanania cochinchinensis	8.26	0.001	-0.04
17	Givotia moluccana	8.09	0.001	-0.04
18	Boswellia serrata	8.01	0.001	-0.04
19	Careya arborea	7.5	0.001	-0.04
	Ochna obtusata	7.49	0	-0.03
21 :		7	0	-0.03
	Diospyros melanoxylon	7	0:	-0.03
23	Mitragyna parvifolia	7	0	-0.03
24		6.92	0	-0.03
	Bridelia retusa	6.33	0 .	-0.03
	Pterospermum xylocarpum	6.33	0 :	-0.03
	Gardenia latifolia	6.33	0	-0.03
	Albizia amara	5.99	Ŏ Ì	-0.03
		5.99	0	-0.03
29	Bauhinia racemosa	4.49	0	-0.03
	Terminalia bellirica	4.49	0	-0.02
31	Butea monosperma		0	-0.02
	Chloroxylon swietenia	4.49 4.48	0	-0.02
	Aegle marmelos			
	Acacia leucophloea	4.48	0	-0.02
	Euphorbia nivulia	4.48	0 .	-0.02
36	Naringi crenulata	3.23	0 '	-0.01
			0.042	-1.47
5 x 5	m for Shrubs		0.005	0.40
1	Woodfordia fruticosa	35.44	0.025	-0.13
	Chromolaena odorata	21.26	0.007	-0.09
3 :	Canthium coromandelicum	; 22.86 ;	0.005	-0.08
4 :	Helicteres isora	20.55	0.005	-0.08
5	Getonia floribunda	20.2	0.006	-0.09
6	Catunaregam spinosa	19.14	0.005	-0.08
7 :	Tarenna asiatica	18.09	0.004	-0.08
8	Erythroxylum monogynum	18.09	0.004	-0.08
9	Triumfetta rotundifolia	16.16	0.001	-0.05
10	lxora pavetta	15.97	0.003	- 0.07
11	Ziziphus oenopolia	15.72	0.003	-0.07
12	Grewia hirsuta	12.3	0.001	-0.05
13 -	Carissa carandas	12.3	0.001	-0.05
14	Butea superba	12.3	0.001	-0.05
15	Olax scandens	11.31	0.001	-0.04
16	Dichrostachys cinerea	8.89	0	-0.03
	Acalypha alnifolia	6.46	0	-0.02
18		0.40	۸	-0.02
_	Flacourtia indica	6.46	0	-0.02
19	Flacourtia Indica Phoenix loureiroi	6.46	0	-0.02
19				

1 x 1	m for Herbs			
1	Byttneria herbacea	22.88	0.008	-0.09
2	Hybanthus enneaspermus	25.95	0.011	-0.1
3	Orthosiphon rubicundus	25.18	0.01	-0.1
4	Scleria lithosperma	23.84	0.008	-0.09
5	Oldenlandia umbellata	23.84	0.008	-0.09
6	Lepidagathis cristata	21.02	0.006	-0.09
7	Fimbristylis ovata	20.91	0.003	-0.07
8	Spermacoce articularis	18.51	0.004	-0.08
9	Phyllanthus virgatus	17.74	0.004	-0.08
10	Sida cordifolia	17.06	0.003	-0.07
11	Desmodium gangeticum	16.26	0.003	-0.07
12	Andrographis paniculata	15.6	0.002	-0.06
13	Evolvulus nummularius	11.5	0.001	-0.04
14	Alysicarpus monilifer	11.5	0.001	-0.04
15	Elytraria acaulis	11.5	0.001	-0.04
16	Eragrostis viscosa	8.36	0	-0.03
17	Cyanthillium albicans	8.36	0	-0.03
			0.07	-1.18

IUCN Red list species

During primary data collection, *Chloroxylon swietenia*, *Cleistanthus collinus*, *Curcuma pseudomontana*, were found in good number, these are under Vulnerable (VU) category as per IUCN Red list. However, these species are in abundance in the study area as well as Telangana State and there is profuse regeneration. Most of these are coppice in nature.

Faunal Diversity:

Mammals:

Mining and associated infrastructure developmental activities in forested habitats could potentially affect a variety of taxonomic groups (Laurance 2010, Laurance et al. 2011). Large mammals serve as important "functional groups" in a biological community. They also help in exciting public interest, attention, support, and involvement in conservation. Large mammals also play critical ecological roles such as seed dispersal, pollination, nutrient cycling, regulation of zoonotic diseases and maintaining habitats (Sinclair 2003, Jones and Safi 2011, Ripple et al. 2014) in the ecosystem thereby maintaining the biodiversity of the area. Large mammals can be highly vulnerable to habitat-related threats like roads and mines as they can disrupt animal home ranges with long-term demographic, behavioral, and genetic consequences (Madhusudan and Mishra 2003, Ripple et al. 2015). Small mammals act as a main food resource for the predators and thus act as a link between primary and secondary producers (Sainz-Elipe et al. 2012), and aid in the process of seed dispersal and forest regeneration (Hollander and Vander Wall 2004, Ordonez and Retana 2004). Further, these mammals act as pollinators, maintain forest health, aerate soil, increase plant diversity, control insects, and also have an aesthetic value. Thus, small mammals are fundamental tools for the faunal rejuvenation, as they indicate the gradual recovery of the invertebrates, as in the case of insectivores, changes in vegetation structure and composition and soil conditions (Sainz-Elipe et al. 2012). Hence among mammals, small mammals are considered to be as an indicator of the health of any ecosystem. Hence, extraction of any mineral in the forested habitats has a significant influence on both small and larger mammals through large scale landscape modification, mainly in the form of loss of vegetation and habitat and hydrological regimes.

In addition, removal of vegetation, that is used as shelter, food, and cover from predators,

has a profound impact on their richness, density, and distribution. Therefore, in forested habitats, monitoring large mammals like carnivores (Panthera cats, sloth bear and large canids), their prey animals (large herbivores and primates), and meso-carnivores (viverrids, lesser cats and mustelids) can be useful for management to understand habitat status in general. Hence, the present wildlife status assessment study focused on assessing and monitoring of mammalian fauna which serve as an ideal option for monitoring the proposed area for mining.

In the proposed area, covering the core and buffer zones, a total of 26 species of mammals distributed in 15 families were recorded. The species include Wild Boar, Common Mongoose, Greater Indian fruit bat, Rhesus Macaque, Bonnet Macaque, Indian Palm Squirrel, Little Indian Field Mouse, Indian hare are common in their occurrence. (Table).

Field Methods: The mammalian status was evaluated in different habitats/land uses of the core zone (CZ) and buffer zone (BZ) using standard ecological methods to record both direct and indirect evidence.

Direct count: Direct count involved line transect/road count (Burnham et al. 1980, Sale and Berkmueller 1988, Rodgers 1991) along the route of movement inside the mine and respective land use/ habitats. Whenever, a species or species group was sighted while walking between the sample points (line transect) and travelling between the sampling location (road count), their numbers was counted and habitats it was seen were recorded.

Indirect evidence counts: The mammals are one of the most difficult groups to assess, as it includes animals that are very shy, elusive, and cryptic, which are rarely seen. However, most of these animals leave some signs like tracks (footprints /pugmarks), droppings (excreta), digging, scrap, scratch, rubbing or wallowing and dead remains, ecologically know as indirect evidence, that can be associated with their identity and presence. Hence this study included indirect evidence count method for quantifying mammals, mainly to know their relative occurrence.

- Intensive search was carried out for quantifying indirect evidence (pellets, dung, droppings, scats and other tracks and signs) along the transect (Thompson et al. 1989, Rodgers 1991, Henke and Knowlton 1995, Allen et al. 1996) in every sample plot laid at every 500 m intervals using 25 m radius plots.
- Opportunistic observations or encounters, while in the field outside sampling area, of both direct and indirect evidence were also recorded.

Interaction with the locals: Further presence of different mammal species was also ascertained and substantiated by interviewing the local people (villagers) with the pictorial representation and discussion with local experts.

Threatened species and other parameters studied: Threatened mammals in list prepared through field data collection and collation from the secondary source, were categorized referring to the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022 and IUCN Red List of Mammals (IUCN 2023).

- A comprehensive list of mammals for the regions was prepared by combining the list of mammals reported from this study survey of the overall study area and the data available in the form of secondary information collected from different sources like concerned Forest Department Working Plans, from the bio diversity studies carried out during EIA/EMP preparartion of the VK OC project and published information from field guides on mammals.
- All the nomenclature, scientific names and their ecological status have been referred from standard pictorial guides for mammals (Menon 2014 and Prater 2005).

Estimation of abundance rate: Abundance rate was assessed based on mean number of animals counted (A) and indirect evidence (IE) recorded per species. Further, the overall

abundance rate was assessed across different study zones by assigning subjective value of low, medium, and high across different study zones considering the mean range of minimum and maximum number of animals and indirect evidence recorded. The details of subjective values assigned are given below.

Details of subjective rating of number of animals sighted and indirect evidence recorded per species

Mean range of Animals Sighted/species	Minimum o	of 2.6 A to maximum of 2	6.4 A/Species
Assigned Subjective values	Low 1-10 A/species	Medium >10-20 A/species	High > 20 A/species
Mean range of Indirect Evidence/species	Minimum	of 3.31 to maximum 9.8	4 IE/Species
Assigned Subjective values	Low 1-4 IE/	Medium >4-8 IE/Species	High > 8 IE/Species

A-Animals Sighted, IE- Indirect Evidence

S.No.	Overall Species and Common Name			d area CL P SpL			Conservation status			
				(CZ+BZ)	EIA/ EMP	WKPL			IUCN	WPA 2022
1	BOVIDAE									
1	Boselaphus tragocamelus-Nilg a i				✓ :	✓	**	?		
2					X	✓	**	?	VU	1
3	Tetracerus quadricornis- Four horned antelope	:			Х	✓	**	Р	VU	. [
2	CANIDAE							_		
4	Canis aureus - Golden Jackal				Χ	✓	**	?	LC	l
5	<i>Vulpes bengalensis-</i> Indian Fox				✓	✓	**	?	LC	I
3	CERCOPITHECIDAE									
6	<i>Macaca mulatta-</i> Rhesus Macaque	A-34	A-34	A-34	✓	✓	***	Р	LC	II.
7	<i>Macaca radiata-</i> Bonnet Macaque	A-22	A-22	A-22	✓	√	***	Р		
. 8	Semnopithecus entellus-Hanuman Langur	A-16	A-16	A-16	√	✓	***	Р	LC	· II
4	CERVIDAE						***	_		
9	Axis axis-Indian Spotted Deer	IE-7	IE-5, A-2	IE-5, A-2	✓	√	ниц	Р	LC	II
10	Rusa unicolor-Indian Sambar				X	√	**	?	VU	II
5	FELIDAE									
11	<i>Felis chaus</i> -Jungle C a t	IE-2	IE-2	IE-2	✓	✓	***	Р	LC	I
12 6	Panthera pardus- Common Leopard HERPESTIDAE				Х	✓	**	?	VU	I
9	HEIRE ESTIDAE									

13	Urva edwardsii-		A-4	A-4	~	/		√	***	Р	LC	i
	Common Grey Mongoose											
7	HYSTRICIDAE								**	_	1.0	1
14	Hystrix indica-Indian Crested Porcupine		IE-1	IE-1	V	/	:	√	. ""	Р	LC	I
8	LEPORIDAE								***	_	1.0	11
15	Lupus nigricollis- Indian Hare	IE- 16,	IE-5, A-2	IE-21, A- 9	٧	/		✓	***	Р	LC	H
9	MURIDAE	A-7										
16	Bandicota		A-5	A-5		/		\checkmark	***	Р	LC	IV
	<i>bengalensis</i> -Lesser Bandicoot Rat											
17	Bandicott Nat Bandicota indica-		A-1	A-1		/		✓	***	Ρ	LC	IV
40	Greater Bandicoot Rat		A-1	A-1		/		√	***	Р	LC	IV
18	Mus booduga-Little Indian Field Mouse		A-1	Α-1	`	/		V				
19	Mus musculus-House		A-1	A-1	`	/		\checkmark	***	Р	LC	IV
10	Mouse SCIURIDAE											
20	Funambulus	A-6	A-11	A-17	,	/		\checkmark	***	Р	LC	IV
	<i>palmarum</i> -Indian Palm Squirrel											
11	PTEROPODIDAE									_		
21	Pteropus medius-	A-23	A-50	A-73	,	✓		\checkmark	***	Р	LC	II
12	Indian Flying Fox SUIDAE						٠					
22	Sus scrofa-Wild Boar	IE-9	IE-15, A-1	IE-24, A- 1	•	✓		✓	***	Р	LC	H
13	TRAGULIDAE		15.0	IE 0		,		,	***	Р	LC	i
23	<i>Moschiola indica-</i> Indian Spotted		IE-2	IE-2	•	√	i	V		•	20	·
14	Chevrotain URSIDAE											
24						X		✓	黄长 -	?	VU	1
45	Sloth Bear											
15 25	VIVERRIDAE Viverricula indica-		IE-2	IE-2		X		✓	***	Ρ	LC	I
	Small Indian Civet			A 4				,	***	Р	LC	1
26	Paradoxurus hermaphroditus-		A-1	A-1		X		V				•
	Asian Palm Civet											
	Total Species	9	18F	18								
	A-Animal Counted	108	151	170								
	Indirect Evidence	34	32	57 Vorking Plan Ko	albace	uden	. Fo	est Div	ision CL -	- Cumu	lative List: *	*

*IE-Indirect evidence, A- Animals Sighted, WKPL – Working Plan, Kothagudem Forest Division, CL – Cumulative List: ** reported only in the secondary source, *** common to both Present Study & Secondary Sources; P SpL – P = Possible Species List, ?-Presence of Species uncertain in OSA; IUCN Red List: EN- Endangered, VU-vulnerable, LC-Least concern, WPA - Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022) Sch- I – Schedule I; II – Schedule II; IV – Schedule IV.

Species of Conservation Significance (SCS): A total of 12 species belonging to 8 families recorded from the study area are categorized under IUCN as Least Concern (LC), Vulnerable (VU) and Endangered (EN) and in Schedule I Wildlife Protection Act (Amended

2022) respectively. Direct/indirect evidence for presence of Tiger, Leopard, Sloth Bear, Nilgai, Gaur, Golden Jackal, Wild Dog, Indian Fox, and Four-horned Antelope were not observed in the study area. However, Tiger has been reported as an occasional visitor in forest areas at a distance of 20-25 Km.

List of Species of Conservation Significance (SCS) of Mammals in the proposed area:

S.No.	Species and Common Name	Conservation status			
	·	IUCN			
1	BOVIDAE	IUCIN	WPA 2022		
1	Bos gaurus- Indian gaur	VU	ı		
2	Tetracerus quadricomis- Four homed antelope	. VU			
2	CANIDAE		•		
3	Canis aureus – Golden Jackal	LC			
4	Vulpes bengalensis- Indian Fox	LC	i I		
3	FELIDAE		•		
5	Felis chaus-Jungle Cat	LC	1		
6	Panthera pardus- Common Leopard	VU	1		
4	HERPESTIDAE				
7	Urva edwardsii- Common Grey Mongoose	LC	Ī		
5	HYSTRICIDAE				
8	Hystrix indica-Indian Crested Porcupine	LC	ı		
6	TRAGULIDAE				
9	Moschiola indica-Indian Spotted Chevrotain	LC	1		
7	URSIDAE				
10	Melursus ursinus-Sloth Bear	VU	1		
8	VIVERRIDAE				
11	Viverricula indica-Small Indian Civet	LC	1		
12	Paradoxurus hermaphroditus- Asian Palm Civet	LC	I		

^{*} IUCN Red List: VU-vulnerable, LC-Least concern, WPA – Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022) Sch- I – Schedule I.

Herpetofauna:

Herpetofauna assessment involves sampling of amphibians and reptiles. Reptiles and amphibians are not only important to food webs, but they commonly link aquatic and terrestrial systems (Urbina-Cardona 2008). Several herpetofauna species are in decline and at risk of extinction due to the changes in how the land is used, which affect the environment (Steihnke 2016). Further, habitat loss and climate change, can also result in changes in growth rate of individuals, as well as changes in activity pattern and microhabitat use (Urbina-Cardona 2008), leading to herpetofauna decline. Edge effects resulting from deforestation may impact wind speed, moisture levels, temperature regimes, solar penetration, and vapor pressure near forest edges, which may adversely impact herpetofauna (Lehtinen et al. 2003).

Amphibians are likely to have the largest contribution to aquatic ecosystem services, and their supporting services have structural (e.g., habitat) and functional (e.g., ecosystem functions and processes) components (Hocking and Babbitt 2014). In addition, their declines may be an early indicator of loss of freshwater aquatic ecosystem services (Collins et al. 2009) and help in predicting the biotic and abiotic changes, and loss of species (Sekercioglu

et al. 2004).

Reptiles which are predators of some animals, serve in keeping the pest species and rodents under control, and prey for fishes, some reptiles themselves, birds, and mammals, make them a very important component in the food webs in most ecosystems. All these show the sensitive nature of this group, and they are being an ideal ecological indicator of any development that involves vegetation and habitat loss. Though, all the above are clear evidence of this group's role as efficient and potential ecological indicators, in this study it was qualitatively assessed due to seasonal, and time constrains.

Field Methods: The systematic and quantitative survey of amphibians and reptiles was not possible due to the unfavorable season and time constraint. Therefore, only check list of herpetofauna (amphibian and reptile groups) was prepared based on the secondary information in the Working Plan/Management Plan of Kothagudem Division, 2014-2024 of Bhadradri Kothagudem district and from the bio diversity studies carried out during EIA/EMP preparartion. In the absence of systematic survey, opportunistic records of herpetofauna were made during the assessment of vegetation, using Ad libitum sampling, in which no systematic constraints are placed on what is recorded or when (Martin and Bateson 2007), but is informal, non-systematic survey, and often used in field notes.

The opportunistic field observation inventorized a total of 26 species belonging to 23 genera, 3 orders and 13 families; it includes reptiles and amphibians consisting of two major classes namely Squamata and Anura, of which 20 species of reptiles belonging to orders Squamata and Testudines and 6 species of amphibians belonging to order Anura.

Taxonomical status and species richness of herpetofauna in the proposed area

iii tile proposed area											
Parameters	Present Study (PS) 2023	EIA/EMP M/s EPTRI	Working Plan _ Forest Department 2022	Total Species							
Families	13	13	11	13							
Genera	23	23	15	23							
Species	26	26	17	26							

A total of 26 species can possibly be present in the overall proposed project area of 10 km radius (shown in below Tables). A noteworthy mention to the reptile species is the record of fan throated lizards (*Sitana sp.*) that requires further investigation.

	Overall list of herpetofauna species recorded in the proposed area Present Secondary CL Conservation										
S.No.	Group/Family/Species and Common Name	Study		urce WK PL		Sta	atus WPA 2022				
1	Dicroglossidae										
1	Asian Grass Frog Fejervarya limnocharis		✓		**	LC					
2	Indian Skipper Frog Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis	✓	✓	✓	***	LC	Sch - II				
3	Green Pond Frog Euphlyctis hexadactylus		✓	✓	**	LC	Sch - II				
4	Indian Bullfrog Hoplobatrachus tigerinus	✓	✓	✓	***	LC					
2	Rhacophoridae										

5	Common Tree Frog Polypedates		✓	✓	**	LC	
3	leucomystax Bufonidae						
6	Asian Common Toad Duttaphrynus melanostictus	√	· 🗸	✓	***	LC	
4	Agamidae	,			***		
7	Common Garden Lizard Calotes versicolor	✓	, √	. 🗸		LC	
8	Forest Blood Sucker		✓		**	LC	
9	Monilesaurus rouxii Pondichéry Fan-	✓	✓	:	***	LC	
	throated Lizard	v	v	. •			
5	Sitana ponticeriana Boldae						
10	Red sand boa	✓	✓	./	***	NT	Sch - I
	Eryx johnii	V	v	V			0011 1
11	Rough-scaled Sand Boa Gongylophis conicus		✓		, **	NT	Sch - II
6 12	Chamaeleonidae Indian Chameleon			. ,	: **	LC	Sch - I
7	Chamaeleo zeylanicus Colubridae		· •	. 🗸		LO	Sul -1
13	Bronze-backed Tree		1	1	**	LC	
	Snake Dendrelaphis tristis		·				
14	Checkered Keelback Fowlea piscator	✓	√	· 🗸	· ***	LC	Sch - I
15	Indian Wolf Snake Lycodon aulicus		✓		**	LC	
16	Common Kukri Snake Oligodon arnensis		✓		**	LC	
17	Green Vine Snake Oxybelis fulgidus	✓	✓	: 🗸	***	LC	
18	Indian Rat Snake Ptyas mucosa	✓	✓	✓	***	LC	
8	Elapidae						
19	Indian Cobra <i>Naja naja</i>	✓	✓	✓	***	LC	Sch - I
9	Gekkonidae						
20	Brooke's House Gecko Hemidactylus brookii		✓			LC	
21	Common House Gecko Hemidactylus frenatus		✓			LC	
22	Termite Hill Gecko Hemiductylus triedrus	✓	✓		**	LC	
10	Scincidae						
23	Keeled Indian Mabuya Eutropis carinata		✓			LC	
11	Varanidae	ż	غ. غ	_	***	k 1 	0 - 1- 1
24	Common Indian Monitor Varanus bengalensis	✓	✓	✓	n # #	NT	Sch - I

12	Viperidae						
25	Russell's Viper	✓	✓	✓	***	LC	Sch - I
	Daboia russelii						
13	Trionychidae						
26	Indian Flapshell Turtle Lissemys punctata	✓	· √	. 🗸	***	VU	Sch - I

^{*}EIA/EMP Report, WKPt. – Working Plan of the Kothagudem Forest Division; CL – Cumulative Species List: ** reported only from the Secondary Sources, *** Common to both Present Study & Secondary Source, IUCN Red List: VU-vulnerable, NT-Near Threatened, LC-Least Concern, WPA - Wildlife Protection Act-Amendment 2022: Sch- I Schedule I, Sch- II Schedule II

Species of Conservation Significance (SCS): All possible list of amphibian and reptile species reported in VK Opencast Coal Mining Project were categorized based on the IUCN conservation status and protection status based on the recently updated The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022. This revealed that none of the six species of amphibians listed were of conservation importance. Out of 20 reptile species listed, 7 were listed as Schedule I species and 3 as Schedule II species in WPA Amended Act 2022. Among 7, only 3 species among them were listed as threatened (NT and VU) in IUCN Red List. These three IUCN threatened species are Common Indian Monitor Varanus bengalensis - NT, Red sand boa (Eryx johnii), and Indian flapshell turtle (Lissemys punctata) — VU. The 7 (The Wildlife (Protection) Amended Act 2022), listed schedule I species, include four snake species, one species of varanus, one species of turtles, and one species of chameleon (shown in below Tables). Considering all the above, a dedicated study of amphibians and reptiles with specific survey methods would yield more species of all groups in the proposed area under research and monitoring component of wildlife management plan.

List of Species of Conservation Significance (SCS) of reptiles in the proposed area:

S.No.	Group/Family/Species and Common Name	Present Study	Secondary Source EIA/E WK PL MP		CL	Conservation Status WPA 2022		
1	Boidae							
1	Red sand boa <i>Eryx johnii</i>	✓	✓	✓	***	NT	Sch - I	
2	Chamaeleonidae							
2	Indian Chameleon Chamaeleo zeylanicus		✓	✓	**	LC	Sch - I	
3	Colubridae							
3	Checkered Keelback Fowlea piscator	✓	✓	✓	***	LC	Sch - I	
4	Elapidae							
4	Indian Cobra <i>Naja naja</i>	✓	✓	✓	***	LC	Sch - I	
5	Varanidae							
5	Common Indian Monitor Varanus bengalensis	✓	✓	✓	***	NT	Sch - I	
6	Viperidae							
6	Russell's Viper Daboia russelii	✓	✓	✓	***	LC	Sch - I	
7	Trionychidae							
7	Indian Flapshell Turtle Lissemys punctata	✓	✓	✓	***	VU	Sch - I	

*EIA/EMP Report, WKPL - Working Plan of the Kothagudem Forest Division; CL - Cumulative Species List: ** reported only from the Secondary Sources, *** Common to both Present Study & Secondary Source, IUCN Red List: VU-vulnerable, NT-Near Threatened, LC-Least Concern, WPA - Wildlife Protection Act-Amendment 2022: Sch- I Schedule I

Avifauna:

Birds are considered good indicators, due to their widespread presence and diversity in most habitats (Bibby 2002) relative to other taxa, as they can be readily sampled, and their taxonomy is well known. Further, as they are sensitive to natural and anthropogenic environmental alterations (Fleishman and Mac Nally 2006), birds are highly potential ecological indicators.

Bird community composition reflects inter specific dynamics and population trends (Cody 1981) that reveal about the habitat quality and state of ecosystem functions. Birds exhibit numerous characteristics that suggest their potential as ecological indicators at a comparatively large scale. They form an essential part of the processes involved in ecosystem functioning.

Birds provide many direct and indirect ecosystem services, like several ecologically important plants require pollination by birds, to successfully reproduce; fruit-eating birds likewise aid the germination and spread of hundreds of species of plants and trees; hawks and owls are great consumers of pests such as rodents, while flycatchers and their allies consume lots of insects. Presently, changes in bird populations can tell us a great deal about the impacts of climate change, drought, weather, and habitat around the world.

Hence birds being one of the most important components of any study on wildlife assessment, were assessed as one of the main study components as part of this study. Birds in this study were broadly segregated into terrestrial/land, and aquatic/wetland birds. The birds that use terrestrial habitats for most of its activities were terrestrial birds, while birds that use aquatic ecosystem and its associated habitats for most of its activities were considered as aquatic birds.

A total of 86 bird species belongs to 70 genera, 18 orders and 42 families were recorded in core and buffer zone areas.

Among them, order Passeriformes represented with high number of species (37 species distributed in 28 genera of 19 families), followed by Pelecaniformes (8/7/3), Columbiformes & Gruiformes each with 5/4/1, Accipitriformes (4/4/1), Coraciiformes (4/3/3), Galliformes (4/3/1), Apodiformes (3/2/1), Bucerotiformes & Charadriiformes each with 2/2/2, Anseriformes, Ciconiiformes & Cuculiformes each with 2/2/1, Psittaciformes (2/1/1), Falconiformes, Piciformes, Podicipediformes and Strigiformes are represented with 1 species belong to 1 genera of 1 family respectively.

	List of Terrestrial Birds observed in the proposed area										
S.No.	Scientific Name	Common Name	FG	M/R	Core Zone (CZ)	Buffer Zone (BZ)	CS IUCN/ WLPA				
1	Phasianidae										
1	Coturnix coromandelica	Rain Quail	G	R		√	II				
2	Coturnix cotumix	Common Quail	G	R		V	11				
3	Ortygomis pondicerianus	Grey Francolin	G	R	V	√	11				
4	Pavo cristatus	Indian Peafowl	0	R	V	\checkmark	LC/I				
2	Accipitridae										
5	Accipiter badius	Shikr a	С	R	V	\checkmark	LC/I				
6	Butastur teesa	White-eyed	С	R		V	LC/I				

7 Elanus caeruleus Black-winged Kite C R V V II			Buzzard								
3	7	Elanus caeruleus	Black-winged Kite		С		R		V	V	
9 Columba livia	8	Milvus migrans	Black Kite	:	С		R		V	V	H
10	3	Columbidae									
11 Spilopelia Laughing Dove G R V V II	9	Columba livia	Rock Pigeon	i	G		R		V	V	11
Senegalensis Streptopella	10	Spilopelia chinensis	Spotted Dove	:	G	-	R		V	V	1
13 Treron Yellow-footed G R V V II	11	senegalensis	Laughing Dove		G					·	
phoenicoptera Green Pigeon	12								·		
4 Cuculidae	13				G		R		٧	V	11
Cuckoo	4		Green Pigeon							,	
Scolopaceus Strigidae 16 Athene brama Spotted Owlet C R V II 6 Caprimulgidae 17 Caprimulgusasiaticus Indian Nightjar I R V V II 7 Apodidae 18 Apus apus Common Swift I R V V II 19 Apus nipalesis House Swift I R V II 20 Cypsiurus Asian Palm Swift I R V II 20 Cypsiurus Asian Palm Swift I R V II 20 Lypupidae 21 Upupa epops Eurasian Hoopoe I MV V V II 9 Bucerotidae 22 Ocyceros birostris Indian Grey F R V V II 10 Meropidae 23 Merops orientalis Little Green Bee- I R V V II 14 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Bee- I R V V II 15 Coraciidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R V V II 17 Psittaculidae 27 Psittaculidae 28 Psittacula Plum-headed F R V V III 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R V V III	14	Clamator jacobinus	Cuckoo	٠	•						
16		scolopaceus	Asian Koel		F	ŧ	R		٧	٧	
6			Constitut Outlat		^		ь			J	H
17 Caprimulgusasiaticus Indian Nightjar I R √ √ II 7 Apodidae 18 Apus apus Common Swift I R √ √ II 19 Apus nipalesis House Swift I R √ √ II 20 Cypsiurus Asian Palm Swift I R √ √ II 20 Cypsiurus Asian Palm Swift I R √ ✓ II 20 Lypupidae 21 Upupa epops Eurasian Hoopoe I MV √ ✓ II 21 Upupa epops Eurasian Hoopoe I MV √ ✓ II 22 Ocyceros birostris Indian Grey F R √ √ II 23 Merops orientalis Little Green Beedeater 24 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Beedeater 11 Coraciidae 25 Coracias Indian Roller I R √ √ II 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R √ √ II 27 Psittacullae 28 Psittaculla Plum-headed F R N √ ✓ II 28 Psittaculla Krameri Rose-ringed F R √ ✓ II 28 Psittaculla Krameri Rose-ringed F R √ ✓ II 28 Psittaculla Krameri Rose-ringed F R N √ ✓ II 28 Psittaculla Krameri Rose-ringed F R N √ ✓ III			Spotted Owlet		C		ĸ			V	П
18 Apus apus Common Swift I R		· ·	Indian Nightian				D		٦	J	п
18		=	indian Nignijar		'		К		٧	ν.	U
19 Apus nipalesis House Swift I R V II 20 Cypsiurus Asian Palm Swift I R V III 20 Cypsiurus Asian Palm Swift I R V III 21 Upupa epops Eurasian Hoopoe I MV V III 22 Ocyceros birostris Indian Grey F R V V III 23 Meropidae 24 Merops orientalis Little Green Bee-eater 24 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Bee-eater 25 Coracias Indian Roller I R V III 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R V V III 27 Psittaculidae 28 Psittacula Plum-headed F R V V III 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R V V III			Common Swift	:	1	:	R		J	J	11
20 Cypsiurus balasiensis 8 Upupidae 21 Upupa epops Eurasian Hoopoe I MV V V II 9 Bucerotidae 22 Ocyceros birostris Indian Grey F R V V II 10 Meropidae 23 Merops orientalis Little Green Beegeter 24 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Beegeter 11 Coraciidae 25 Coracias Indian Roller I R V V II 10 Megalaimidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R V V II 11 R V V II 12 Megalaimidae 26 Psitaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R V V II 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R V V II		•			i	:					
balasiensis 8		•			ì				•	Ì	
21 Upupa epops Eurasian Hoopoe I MV √ √ II 9 Bucerotidae 22 Ocyceros birostris Indian Grey F R √ √ II 10 Meropidae 23 Merops orientalis Little Green Bee-eater 24 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Bee-eater 11 Coraciidae 25 Coracias Indian Roller I R √ √ II 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R √ √ II 27 Psittaculidae 28 Psittacula Plum-headed F R √ √ II 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R √ √ II		balasiensis	/tolairi aiii owiii		•		, ,			·	•-
22 Ocyceros birostris Indian Grey Hornbill 10 Meropidae 23 Merops orientalis Little Green Beeeeater 24 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Beeeater 11 Coraciidae 25 Coracias Indian Roller I R V V II Benghalensis 12 Megalaimidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R V V II Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R V V II Cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R V V II	21	• •	Eurasian Hoopoe		1		ΜV		V	V	11
Hombill 10 Meropidae 23 Merops orientalis Little Green Bee-eater 24 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Bee-eater 11 Coraciidae 25 Coracias Indian Roller I R V V II Benghalensis 12 Megalaimidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R V V II Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R V V II Cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R V V II	9										
10 Meropidae 23 Merops orientalis Little Green Bee-eater 24 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Bee-eater 11 Coraciidae 25 Coracias Indian Roller benghalensis 12 Megalaimidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R N N N II haemacephalus Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R N N II cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R N N II	22	Ocyceros birostris			F		R	,	٧	٧	11
eater 24 Merops philippinus Blue-tailed Bee-eater 11 Coraciidae 25 Coracias Indian Roller I R V II Benghalensis 12 Megalaimidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R V II Haemacephalus Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R V II Cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R V V II	10	Meropidae									
eater 11 Coraciidae 25 Coracias Indian Roller I R V II Benghalensis 12 Megalaimidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R V II Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R V II Cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R V V II	23	Merops orientalis			1		R		٧	٧	II
25 Coracias Indian Roller I R √ √ II benghalensis 12 Megalaimidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R √ √ II haemacephalus Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R √ √ II cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R √ √ II	24	Merops philippinus			I		R		٧	٧	11
benghalensis 12 Megalaimidae 26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R √ √ Ⅱ haemacephalus Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R √ √ Ⅱ cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R √ √ Ⅱ	11	Coraciidae								,	
26 Psilopogon Coppersmith F R √ √ Ⅱ haemacephalus Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R √ √ Ⅲ cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R √ √ Ⅲ		benghalensis	Indian Roller		l		R		V	٧	II.
haemacephalus Barbet 13 Psittaculidae 27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R √ √ Ⅱ cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R √ √ Ⅱ		•			_		_			,	
27 Psittacula Plum-headed F R √ √ Ⅱ cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R √ √ Ⅱ	26				F		R		٧	٧	H
cyanocephala Parakeet 28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R √ √ Ⅱ	13	Psittaculidae									
28 Psittacula krameri Rose-ringed F R √ √ Ⅱ	27				F		R		٧	V	li
	28		Rose-ringed		F		R		٧	٧	11

14	Aegithinidae						
29	Aegithina tiphia	Common Iora	l	R	V	V	H
15	Campephagidae						
30	Pericrocotus cinnamomeus	Small Minivet	1	R		√	LC/I
16	Laniidae						
31	Lanius schach	Long-tailed Shrike	1	R	. 1	1	11
17	Dicruridae						
32	Dicrurus caerulesceris	White-bellied Drongo	I	R		√	11
33	Dicrurus macrocercus	Black Drongo	1	R	. 1	√ .	II
18	Monarchidae						
34	Terpsiphone paradisi	Indian Paradise flycatcher	. !	SV		٧	II
19	Corvidae	t a constitution of Constitution	_	Б		V	11
35	macrorhynchos	Large-billed Crow	0	R			11
36	Corvus splendens	House Crow	0	R	1	. 1	
37	Dendrocitta vagabunda	Rufous Treepie	· O	R	√ .	. V	11
20	Alaudidae			-		. 🗸	ы
38	Eremopterix griseus	Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark	I	R		V	II
21	Hirundinidae		_	_		1	.,
39	Cecropis daurica	Red-rumped Swallow	: }	R		V	· II
40	Hirundo smithii	Wire-tailed swallow	ı	R		٧,	l1
41	Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow	I	R		٧	II
22	Pycnonotidae					í	
42	Pycnonotus cafer	Red-vented Bulbul	0	R	٧.	V	II
43	Pycnonotus jocosus	Red-whiskered Bulbul	0	R	V	√ .	II
44	Pycnonotus luteolus	White-browed Bulbul	0	R		V	II
23	Cisticolidae						
45	Orthotomus sutorius	Common Tailorbird	l	R		V	H
46	Prinia inornata	Plain Prinia	I	R	V		II
47	Prinia socialis	Ashy Prinia	I	R	V	√.	II
48	Prinia sylvatica	Jungle Prinia	ļ	R	V	V	II
24	Leiothrichidae						
49	Argya caudata	Common Babbler	0	R	V	V	11
50	Argya malcolmi	Large Grey Babbler	0	R	٧	V	11
25	Sturnidae						
51	Acridotheres tristis	Common Myna	0	R	V	V	II
52	Sturnia pagodarum	Brahminy Myna	0	R		1	II

26	Dicaeidae							
53	Dicaeum erythrorhynchos	Tickell's Flowerpecker		N	R		V	11
27	Nectariniidae							
54	Cinnyris asiaticus	Purple Sunbird		Ν	R	1	V	IJ
55	Leptocoma zeylonica	Purple-rumped Sunbird		N	R	√	V	II
28	Motacillidae							
56	Anthus rufulus	Paddyfield Pipit		!	R		V	II
57	Motacilla alba	White Wagtail		1	R		V	11
58	Motacilla	White-browed	:	I	: R	√		11
29	maderaspatensis Passeridae	Wagtail						
59	Passer domesticus	House Sparrow		G	: R		V	II
60	Gymnoris xanthocollis	Yellow-throated Sparrow		G	R		1	II.
30	Estrildidae							
61	Lonchura punctulata	Scaly-breasted Munia		G	R		1	II
62	Euodice malabarica	Indian Silverbill		G	R		V	- !!
31	Falconidae							
63	Falco tinnunculus	Common Kestrel		С	R		√ .	#1
32	Acrocephalidae							
64	Acrocephalus agricola	Paddy field Warbler		i	R		٧	II
65	lduna caligata	Booted Warbler		j	: R		\checkmark	il.

*FG- Foraging Guild: C – Carnivore, F – Frugivore, G-Granivore, I – Insectivore, I/N-Insectivore/Nectarivore, O – Omnivore; M/R-Migrant/Resident: R – Resident; SV – Summer Visitor, MV- Monsoon Visitor; CS – Conservation Significance; IUCN Red List of Birds: NT – Near Threatened, LC – Least Concern; WPA – Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022 – Sch-I Schedule I, Sch-II Schedule -II

List of Waterbirds	observed	in the	proposea	area

		aterbirus observeu	1111	•				
S. No.	Scientific Name	Common Name		FG	• M/R =	Core Zone (CZ)	Buffer Zone (BZ)	CS WLPA
1	Anatidae							
1	Dendrocygna javanica	Lesser Whistling Duck		Н	R		1	II
2	Nettapus coromandelianus	Cotton Teal		H	R		1	· II
2	Podicipedidae							
3	Tachybaptus ruficollis Ciconiidae	Little Grebe		Н	R		V	!!
3							1	
4	Anastomus oscitans	Asian Openbill		М	R		٧	li
5	Mycteria leucocephala	Painted Stork					√	
4	Phalacrocoracida e							

67

6	Microcarbo niger	Little Cormorant	Р		R				1	11
7	Phalacrocorax fuscicollis	Indian Cormorant	Р		R				1	II
5	Ardeidae									
8	Ardea cinerea	Grey Heron	Р		R				\checkmark	
9	Ardea purpurea	Purple Heron	Р		R				V	11
10	Ardeola grayii	Indian Pond Heron	· P		R		V		V	11
11	Bubulcus ibis	Cattle Egret	Р		R		V		V	11
12	Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	Р		R		V		V	II
6	Threskiornithidae							,		
13	Pseudibis papillosa	Red-naped Ibis	0		R				V	NT/II
7	Rallidae									
14	Amaurornis phoenicurus	White-breasted Waterhen	1		R	•	1		√	H
15	Fulica atra	Common Coot	Р	:	R				\checkmark	#1
16	Gallicrex cinerea	Watercock	Р		R				$\sqrt{}$	П
17.	Gallinula chloropus	Common Moorhen	Р	:	R				\checkmark	П
18	Porphyrio porphyrio	Purple Swamphen	P	:	R				\checkmark	Ш
8	Charadriidae									
19	Vanellus indicus	Red-wattled Lapwing	1		R		1	:	1	II
9	Jacanidae	. •								
20	Metopidius indicus	Bronze-winged Jacana	1		R				√	II
10	Alcedinidae									
21	Halcyon smyrnensis	White-throated Kingfisher	Р		R		1		√	. 11

^{*}FG- Foraging Guild: C -- Carnivore, F -- Frugivore, G-Granivore, I -- Insectivore, I/N-Insectivore/Nectarivore, P -- Piscivore; O -- Omnivore; M/R-Migrant/Resident: R -- Resident; CS -- Conservation Significance; IUCN Red List of Birds: NT -- Near Threatened; WPA -- Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022 -- Sch-II Schedule -II

Overall Species richness and density of bird population: The total numbers of individuals recorded in all the points are analyzed and tabulated. The highest number of (20max & 5 min) individuals was recorded in the buffer zone. The overall density of birds in this point is 49.2 hac. The reason behind the highest record of the individuals in the buffer zone, comparing to the core may be due to the habitat type. The buffer zone has shrub forest lands with thick canopies, plantations water sources and cattle movements.

Compa	arative	Species	richness of the	core and bu	iffer zones
Study Area	Min.	Max.	Mean (n=2)	SD	Cum Richness
Core	6	8	7.00	0.63	25
Buffer	4	10	7.17	2.56	25
Com	oarativ	e Bird de	ensities of the co	re and buffe	er zones
Study Area	Min.	Max.	Mean (n=2)	SD	Cum Richness
Core	6	12	8	2.2	40.7
Buffer	5	20	9.7	5.5	49.2

Species of Conservation Significance (SCS): A total of 5 species belonging to 4 families recorded from the proposed area are categorized under IUCN as Least Concern (LC), Near

Threatened (NT) and in Schedules I&II Wildlife Protection Act (Amended 2022) respectively.

List of Species of Conservation Significance (SCS) of birds in the proposed area:

		in the propos	sea ar	ea:			
S.No.	Scientific Name	Common Name	FG !	M/R	Core Zone (CZ)	Buffer Zone (BZ)	CS IUCN/WLPA
1	Phasianidae						
1	Pavo cristatus	Indian Peafowl	0	R	1	٧	LC/I
2	Accipitridae						
2	Accipiter badius	Shikra	C	R	٧	1	LC/I
3	Butastur teesa	White-eyed Buzzard	C	R		1	LC/I
3	Campephagidae						
4	Pericrocotus cinnamomeus Threskiornithidae	Small Minivet	1	R		√ .	LC/I
		Dad sanad Ihia	. 0	R		√ ·	NT/II
5	Pseudibis papillosa	Red-naped Ibis	0	П		4	141/16

^{*}FG- Foraging Guild: C – Carnivore, F – Frugivore, G-Granivore, I – Insectivore, O – Omnivore; M/R-Migrant/Resident: R – Resident; CS – Conservation Significance; IUCN Red List of Birds: NT – Near Threatened; WPA - Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act 2022 – Sch-II Schedule -II

Bees, Dragonflies, Spiders and Butterflies (Invertebrates):

A total of 46 species of Invertebrates, of which Butterflies under the order Lepidoptera represented with 31 species belong to 26 genera of 5 families. Dragonflies under the order Odonata (9 species belong to 7 genera of 4 families). Hymenoptera is with 4 species belongs to 2 genera of one family. Spiders under the order Araneae represented with 1 species belong to 1 genus of Lycosidae family.

List of Invertebrates recorded from the proposed area

	Elat of lifetion					
SI. No	CommonName	ScientificName	Family	IUCN Status	IWPA Schedule	
1 :	Common Funnel Web Spider	Hippasa agelenoides	Lycosidae	NA	NL	
2	Indian Honeybee	Apis cerana subsp.indica	Apid a e	NA	NL	
3	Honeybee	Apis mellifera	Apidae	NA NA	NL	
4	Violet CarpenterBee	Xylocopa violacea	Apidae	NA	NL	
5	CarpenterBee	Xylocopa tenuiscapa	Apidae	NA	NL	
6	PaperWasp	Ropalidia marginata	Vespidae	NA	NL	
7	CommonBush Hopper	Ampittia dioscorides	Hesperiidae	NA	NL	
8	CommonAwl	Hasora badra	Hesperiidae	NA	NL	
9	Indian Grizzled Skipper	Spialia galba	Hesperiidae	NA	NL	
10	Dark PalmDart	Telicota ancilla	Hesperiidae	NA	NL	

11	AngledPierrot	Caleta decidia	Lycaenidae	NA	NL
12	CommonPierrot	Castalius rosimon	Lycaenidae	NA	NL
13	Lime Blue	Chilades lajus	Lycaenidae	NA	NL
14	GrassJewel	Freyeria trochylus	Lycaenidae	NA	NL
15	Pale GrassBlue	Pseudozizeeria maha	Lycaenidae	NA	NL
16	Dark GrassBlue	Zizeeria karsandra	Lycaenidae	NA	NL
17	Blue Grass	Zizina labradus	Lycaenidae	NA	NL
18	Tiny GrassBlue	Zizula hylax	Lycaenidae	NA	NL
19	TawnyCoster	Acraea terpsicore	Nymphalidae	NA :	NL
20	CommonCastor	Ariadne merione	Nymphalidae	NA :	NL
21	Plain Tiger	Danaus	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
	, ,, , g .	chrysippus	11ymphallado	14/ \	111
22	CommonTiger	Danaus genutia	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
23	Commoncrow	Euploea core	Nymphalidae	LÇ	NL
24	DanaidEggfly	Hypolimnas	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
		misippus	·	14/ \	.,_
25	PeacockPansy	Junonia almana	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
26	YellowPansy	Junonia hierta	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
27	LemonPansy	Junonia lemonias	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
28	Blue Pancy	Junonia orithya	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
29	Common Bushbrown	Mycalesis	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
	John Basillian	perseus	Trymphanaac	14/~	141
30	Dark Tiger	Tirumala hamata	Nymphalidae	NA	NL
31	CommonBanded Peacock	Papilio crino	Papilionidae	NA	NL
32	CommonMormon	•	·		
33		Papilio polytes	Papilionidae	NA	NL
	Mottled Emigrant	Catopsilia pyranthe	Pieridae	NA :	NL
34	Plain Orange Tip	Colotis aurora	Pieridae	NA	NL
35	CommonJezebel	Delias eucharis	Pieridae	NA	NL
36	Common	Eurema hecabe	Pieridae	NA	NL
27	Grass Yellow				
37	Yellow Orange Tip	lxias pyrene	Pieridae	NA	NL
38	Pale- spotted Emperor	Anax guttatus	Aeshnidae	LC	NL
39	GoldenDartlet	Ischnura aurora	Coenagrionidae	NA	NL
40	Indian	Ictinogomphus	Gomphidae	LC	NL
	CommonClubtail	rapax			
41	Commonscarlet- darter	Crocothemis	Libellulidae	LC	NL
	_	erythraea			
42	Ground Skimmer	Diplacodes	Libellulidae	NA	NL
		trivialis			
43	Blue MarshHawk	Orthetrum	Libellulidae	NA	NL
		glaucum			
44	GreenMarsh	Orthetrum	Libellulidae	NA	NL
	Hawk	sabina			
45	WanderingGlider	Pantala	Libellulidae	NA	NL
		flavescens			
46	Crimson	Trithemis	Libellulidae	NA	NL
•	MarshGlider	aurora			

^{*}NA - Not Applicable; LC - Least Concern under IUCN Conservation Status; NL - Not Listed under the Wildlife Protection Act

Pisces:

A total of 14 species of fish belong to 5 orders and 5 families were recorded. The order Cypriniformes and Siluriformes each with 5 species in 3 genera of 1 family followed Synbranchiformes (2/1/1), Anabantiformes & Mugiliformes are represented with one species in one genus.

List of Pisces recorded from the proposed area

SI. No.	Common/ LocalName	Scientific Name	Family	IUCN Status	IWPA Schedule
1	Climbing Perch/Goraka	Anabas testudineus	Anabantidae	LC	NL
2	Catla	Labeo catla	Cyprinidae	LC	NL
3	Rohu/Seelavathi	Labeo rohita	Cyprinidae	- LC	NL
4	Buradamatta	Channa punctata	Cyprinidae	LC	NL
5	Korrameenu	Channa striata	Cyprinidae	LC	NL
6	Chittrai	Cirrhinus reba	Cyprinidae	LC	NL
7	Corsula	Rhinomugil corsula	Mugilidae	LC	NL
8	Long Whiskers Catfish/Jella	Mystus gulio	Bagridae	LC	NL
9	Errajella	Mystus vittatus	Bagridae	LC	NL
10	Golden Barb/Perka	Puntius gelius	Bagridae	LC	NL
11	Buddajella	Rita chrysea	Bagridae	LC	NL
12	Bondu	Rita kuturnee	Bagridae	LC	NL
13	Bommidai	Macrognathus guentheri	Mastacembelidae	NA	NL
14	Indian Spiny Eel/Kontemukku	Macrognathus pacalus	Mastacembelidae	LC	NL

^{*}NA - Not Applicable; LC - Least Concern under IUCN Conservation Status; NL - Not Listed under the Wildlife Protection Act

Overall Faunal Composition in the proposed Area:

Faunal composition in the proposed area						
Component	Mammals	Herpetofauna	Birds	Invertebrates	Pisce s	Total
Family	15	13	42	5	5	80
No. of species	28	26	86	46	14	200

Floral and Faunal species documentation by the Forest Division of Kothagudem in the Buffer Zone:

A total of 118 species of flora comprising 73 trees, 12 shrubs, 6 climbers, 15 herbs and 12 grass species including bamboo were recorded by the forest department. Likewise, a total of 17 faunal (only mammals) species were listed by the forest department in the buffer area of the study area. However, no record on number of these animals is available with the forest department. No study was carried out to enumerate these species. Under the Wildlife Conservation Plan (now revised) one Wildlife Expert is proposed for the life of the project (though initially for 10 years), who will help in monitoring, training, conducting availability

survey etc. in the Buffer area.

List of floral species documented by the forest department in the adjacent areas including Buffer area Trees

	Trees					
SI. No.	Species	Common Name				
1	Acacia chundra	Sundra				
2	Acacia leucophloea	Tella Thumma				
3	Aegle marmelos	Maredu				
4	Alangium salvifolium	Uduga				
5	Albizia amara	Nalla regu				
6	Albizia lebbeck	Dirishanam				
7	Albizia odoratissima	Chinduga				
8	Andina cordifolia	Bandaru				
9	Anogeissus latifolia	Chirumanu Yelama				
10	Azadirachta indica	Vepa				
11	Bauhinia racemosa	Ari				
12	Bombax ceiba	Buruga				
13	Boswellia serrata	Andugu				
14	Buchanania lanzan	Sarapapu, Mori				
15	Cassia fistula	Rela				
16	Cassine glauca	Bhutangi				
17	Chloroxylon swietenia	Billudu				
18	Cleistanthus collinus	Bankanakkiri, Kodisa				
19	Cochlospermum religiosum	Kondagogu				
20	Cordia dichotoma	Iriki/BankaNakkera				
21	Dalbergia latifolia	Jetregi				
22	Dalbergia paniculata	Soppera/Pachari				
23	Dichrostachys cinerea					
24	Diospyros chloroxylon	: Illintha				
25	Diospyros melanoxylon	Tuniki				
26	Erythroxylum monogynum	Devadaru				
27	Eucalyptus tereticornis	Nilagiri				
28	Feronia elephantum	Velaga				
29	Ficus mollis	Juvvi				
30	Ficus racemosa	Medi				
31	Gardenia lucida	Yerra bikki, Karinga				
32	Garuga pinnata	Garga - Garugu				
33	Givotia rottleriformis	Tella poliki				
34	Gmelina arborea	Gummadi Teak				
35	Grewia tiliaefolia	Jana/Thada				
36	Hardwickia binata	Yepa				
37	Holarrhena pubescens	Kodisepala				
38	Holoptelea integrifolia	Nauli				
39	lxora pavetta	Koravi				
40	Lagerstroemia parviflora	Chennangi				
41	Lannea coromandeliana	Gumpena				
42	Madhuca longifolia	lppa				
43	Mangifera indica	Mango				
44	Manilkara hexandra	Pala/Pedda pala				
45	Miliusa tomentosa	Nuluya/ Barre duddi				
46	Mitragyna parviflora	Batta ganapa				
47	Morinda pubescens	Thogarmogali				
	•	- J				

2386193/2024/FCA SECTION-PCCF

48	Naringi crenulata	Torrivelaga
49	Nyctanthes arbor-tristis	Parijatham
50	Paasi nermis	Pasi
51	Phyllanthus emblica	Usiri
52	Polyalthia cerasoides	Chilakaduddi
53	Pongamia pinnata	Kanuga
54	Premna tomentosa	Nagur
55	Pterocarpus marsupium	Yegisa
56	Pterospermum xylocarpum	L.oluga
57	Schleichera oleosa	Rakot/Pusugu
58	Schrebera swietenioides	Mokkep, Makkam
59	Semecarpus anacardium	Jeedi
60	Soymida febrifuga	Somi
61	Sterculia urens	Thapsi chettu
62	Strychnos nux-vomica	Visha Mushti
63	Strychnos potatorum	Chilla
64	Tamarindus indica	Chintha
65	Tectona grandis	Teak
66	Terminalia alata	Nalla maddi
67	Terminalia arjuna	Tella/Veru maddi
68	Terminalia bellirica	Thani - Thandra
69	Terminalia chebula	Karaka
70	Viscum heyneanum	Karisha
71	Ximenia americana	Udutanakkera
72	Xylia xylocarpa	Bojja/Konda tangedu
73	Ziziphus xylopyrus	Gotti - Gotiki
. 0	Shrubs	
1	Canthium parviflorum	Balusu
2	Cissus vitiginea	Gummadi Podha
3	Dodonaea viscosa	Bandaru
4	Grewia hirsuta	Bontha
5	Helicteres isora	Nulithada
6	Jasminum arborescens	Adavi malli
7	Lawsonia inermis	Kommi
8	Maytenus emarginata	Danthi
9	Phyllanthus reticulatus	Sunnambatti
10	Randia spinosa	Manga chettu
11	Woodfordia fruticosa	Jaji
12	Ziziphus oenoplia	Parikatheega
12	Climbers	i annameoga
1	Acacia pinnata	Chenchu campa
2	Aganasoma caryophyllata	Gudapala
3	——————————————————————————————————————	Pilli bitiri
	Asparagus racemosus	i e
4	Cocculus hirsutus	Dusari teega
5	Mucuna pruriens	Adavi ulava
6	Tylophora indica	Teega Gaddi
	Herbs	
1	Acalypha indica	Muripindi teega
2	Achyranthes aspera	Uttareni/Antisa
3	Aerva lanata	Konda pindi
4	Ageratum conyzoides	Goat weed
	<u>-</u>	

5	Andrographis paniculata	Nelavemu
6	Atylosia scarabaeoides	Showy pigeonpea
7	Combretum decandrum	Yedagaddi
8	Curculigo orchioides	Eethakula Gaddi
9	Hemidesmus indicus	Sugandipala
10	Hybanthus enneaspermus	Ratnapurusa
11	Hyptis suaveolens	Sima tulasi/ Mahaveera
12	Ocimum americanum	Kukka tulasi
13	Ocimum sanctum	Adavi tulasi
14	Phyllanthus niruri	Nela usiri
15	Sida acuta	Chittemu
	Grasse	es ·
1	Aristida setacea	Cheepuru gaddi
2	Cymbopogon martinii	Kasha gaddi
3	Cynodon dactylon	Garika gaddi
4	Cyperus pertenius	Nalla Tunga
5	Cyperus rotundus	Tunga
6	Dioscorea bulbifera	Adavi gaddu
7	Echinochloa colona	Kaproda gaddi
8	Eclipta alba	Gutta gaddi
9	Eragistielia bifarice	•
10	Eragrostis tenella	Chinna Garika Gaddi
	Bambo	0
1	Bambusa arundinacea	Mullam Bongu
2	Dendrocalamus strictus	Sadanam

List of faunal species documented by the forest department in the adjacent areas including Buffer area

SI. No.	Scientific Name	Common Name
1	Boselaphus tragocamelus	Nilgai
2	Tetracerus qudricornis	Four horned antelope
3	Antilope cervicarpa	Black buck
4	Cervus unicolor	S a mbar
5	Axis axis	Spotted deer
6	Sus scrofa	Wild boar
7	Bos gaurus	Indian bison
8	Melurus ursinus	Sloth bear
9	Herpestes edw ardej	Common mongoose
10	Canis aureus	Jackal
11	Vulpes bengalensis	Indian fox
12	Macaca mulatt	Rhesus monkey
13	Presbytis entellus	Common langur
14	Panthera pardus	Leopard
15	Felis chaus	Jungle cat

0

Ecological parameters available in the adjoining forests in 10 Kms:

List of natural streams in the forest beats providing water to the wildlife in the 10 Kms radius

SI. No	Beat Name	Streams		
		Nos	Names	
1	Tungaram	1	Isuka Vagu	
2	Tippanapalli	1	Edumelikala Vagu	
3	Penagadapa	1	Tella Vagu	
4	Ramavaram	1	Tella Vagu	
5	Gareebpeta	3	Marri Vagu	
	Total	7		

Conservative measures taken by the forest department for the wildlife in the Buzzer area of 10 Kms radius:

Fire-line developed by the Forest Department to avoid/control forest fires within 10 Kms radius

SI. No.	Beat Name	Forest Fire Points
1	Tippanapalli	2
2	Penagadapa	1
3	Ramavaram	0
4	Gareebpeta	5
	Total	8

Water management initiatives developed by the forest department for wildlife in the buffer area of 10 Kms radius

		Percolation Tank (PTs)			
SI. No.	Beat Name	Nos	Latitude	Longitude	
1	Tungaram	1	17.44470	80.62874	
2	Tippanapalli	1	17.43644	80.64424	
3	Tippanapalli	1	17.43769	80.64544	
	Total	3			

Water management initiatives developed by SCCL for Wildlife

22.00		Percolation Tank (PTs)		
SI. No.	Location	Nos	Amount in Lakhs	
1	Tella Vagu	2	5 lakhs per PT x 4 nos.	
2	Pengadappa	2		
	Total	5	20 Lakhs	



Already existing Biotic pressure in the proposed area, causing damage and impact to forests, wildlife other than the expecting impact of the new proposed mine activity:

As per 2011 census, the total population in Kothagudem area is about 2,89,491 persons. In which around 9300 were inhabiting in the fringe villages of 5 forest beats in the buffer area. The existence of so many villages in the buffer area is the evidence of fragmentation and degradation of the natural landscape. Also, an estimated total of 7540 cattle existing in these villages, were already being a massive biotic pressure to the forests, while comparing to the impact caused by the new proposed mine operation to the buffer area.

List of forest fringe villages within Buffer Zone with people depending on the forest for livelihoods and livestock rearing

			No of Villages	J	No. of
SI. No.	Beat Name	Nos	Names	Population	Cattles
1	Tungaram	6	Tungaram Sunkara Banjara Tekula Banjara Jarpula Thanda Seemla Thanda Mala Banjara	3900	2000
	Sub-Total:	6		3900	2000
2	Tippanapalli	5	Tippanapalli Ahmednagar Venkata Puram Satyanarayana Puram Repallewada	4400	3200
	Sub-Total:	5	•	4400	3200
3	Penagadapa	3	Penagadapa Rampuram Ambedkarnagar	3000	1500
	Sub-Total:	3	· ·	3000	1500
4	Ramavaram	8	Garimellapadu Ramavaram 3 Incline 2 Incline 4 Incline 5 Incline Dhanbad Barium Thanda	4300	280

			No of Villages		No. of
SI. No.	Beat Name Sub-Total:	Nos 8	Names	Population 4300	Cattles 280
5	Gareebpeta	15	Gareebpeta Laxmipuram Thanda Rudrampur Laxmidevipalli Nimmalagudem Nimmalagudem Colony Marrithanda Chintal Thanda Komatpalli Seethampeta Seethampeta Banjara Reddipalem Ramji Thanda Sujathanagar Mangapeta	9375	560
	Sub-Total: Grand Total	15 37		9375 24975	560 7540
	Ciana iotal	VI			

Wildlife Conservation Plan (WLCP) of the proposed project

As per the standard ToR condition "A detailed biological study of the study area (core zone and buffer zone, 10 km radius of the periphery of the mine lease) shall be carried out. Details of flora and fauna, Rare, Endangered, Extinct and Threatened (REET) Species duly authenticated, separately for core and buffer zone should be furnished based on such primary field survey, clearly indicating the Schedule of the fauna present. In case of any scheduled I fauna found in the study area, the necessary plan along with budgetary provisions for their conservation should be prepared in consultation with State Forest and Wildlife Department and details furnished. Necessary allocation of funds for implementing the same should be made as part of the project cost."

A Wildlife conservation plan was prepared for conservation of the schedule-I species, and this was approved for an amount of Rs. 478.6 lakhs by the PCCF (HoFF) & CWLW, Telangana State Forest Department, vide reference No. 5694/2021/WI-1 dated: 12.10.2021. This plan has been now revised to include activities which are going to be co-terminus with the life of the project as advised by the MOEF &CC,GOI. While preparing this plan presence of various water bodies, villages were considered.

This Wildlife Conservation Plan is complimentary to the Wildlife Plan of the Forest Department. This will be implemented in the Core and Buffer zones of project area.

Conservation Plans:

The suggested conservation plans to address the impacts of habitat loss, degradation (pollution) on wildlife values is to be implemented in specific locations within Core & Buffer zones. This plan shall be Co-terminus with the life of the project. However, as Soil Moisture Conservation Works are concerned, they will be completed within 3 years period and their impact will be there on the forest growth and wildlife for the period even beyond life of the project.

Even though the soil conservation activities around the over burden dump will be continued by the SCCL as the mining progress throughout the life of the project. Accordingly, a revised Wildlife Conservation Plan is drafted with suitable recommendations to improve the status of flora and fauna in the area particularly Buffer zone which will also help in improving landscape in adjacent forest areas.

The following conservative measures will be adapted into the Wildlife Conservation Plan. These measures will in two parts. PART – A will be carried out by SCCL and PART – B by the Forest Department.

PART - A of the conservative measures to be carried out by SCCL as follows:

PART – A (1). Soil Moisture Conservation Plan:

The main objective of the plan is to take up measures in order to mitigate the issues likely to be raised due to removal & dumping of OB and subsequent soil erosion from dumps. It envisages undertaking soil & moisture conservation activities to reduce the impact of soil erosion on flora and fauna in the adjacent forest area and taking up gap plantation. The entire procedure is taken up in three steps which is furnished hereunder:

- 1. Structural Measures
- 2. Biological Measures
- 3. General Measures

1. Structural Measures:

Structural measures are required to be taken before vegetative measures are adopted in order to control the soil erosion from the OB dumps. The objective behind building mechanical structures is to reduce the degree, length of slope and thereby run-off.

1.1 Terracing of OB Dump Slope:

The slope of individual dump shall be within the permissible range considering the angle of repose of the soil and space available, thereby maintaining the angle of repose at less than 280. Terracing will be done through the internal resources by deploying the operating mining equipment.



OB Management - Making garland drain to bring down run off in controlled manner

1.2 Dump Management:

A total quantity of 1508.55 M.Cu.m of hard OB will be removed during life of the project. Out of this, 40.31 M.Cu.m (2.6%) will be dumped externally and 1468.24 M.Cu.m (97.4%) will be backfilled. Total topsoil to be removed is 9.81 M.Cu.M. About 23.44 % of Topsoil i.e., 2.30 M.Cu.m is proposed to be spread externally and 76.55% of topsoil i.e., 7.51 M.Cu.m is proposed to be spread internally. Topsoil will be stored temporarily over backfilled area and later will be spread onto the finished decks

Design of dumps:

The design of overburden dump should be safe and economic in its purpose. The primary aim of proper designing an overburden dump is to ensure dump slope stability as well as optimum land usage considering favorable slope for growth of plants. A good design of overburden dump not only prevents accidents but also gives an aesthetic look. The maximum height of external dump will be 80m and internal dump will be 120m with each deck of 30m height considering the Factor of Safety as per the CMR 2017, Regulation NO 106. The overall slope angle will be maintained at less than 280. VK Coal mine project has been planned for drains on the berms of over burden dumps for safe disposal of Rainwater. To make appropriate grading/benching and dump stabilization, dozing, leveling& compaction of dump material is necessary. These works will be carried out by a Dozer, Water Sprinkler, Motor Grader, Shovel and other auxiliary equipment.

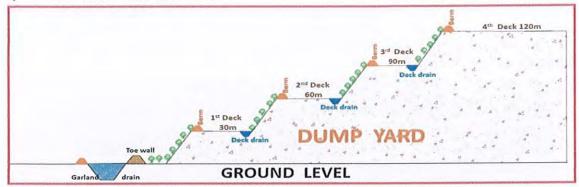
Dump Parameters:

Parameters	External Dump Yard	Internal Dump Yard	
Max. Dump Height (m)	80	120	
Deck Height (m)	30	30	
Berm Width (m)	30	30	
Deck Slope (deg)	37.5	37.5	
Overall Slope (deg)	25.58	23.13	

Each deck will be formed in stages so that proper compaction of dump will take place. Further the dump deck will be designed with sloping inwards so that the water flows in to

garland drain constructed to prevent soil erosion.

- III. Water management:
- a) Rainfall over the mine area:



(Plan showing - Decks of OB & planting patterns) 120m dump height

The rainfall received in mine area will be accumulated in the mine pit instead of joining the natural drainage as runoff. The accumulated water will be pumped out to the surface to protect mine workings.



In the proposed project the length of the garland drain will be about 13.81 km which will be constructed with a cost of Rs.64.89 Lakhs.

b. Settling Tank:

The water during rainy season and during the course of its flow will pick of soil material along with it and same will be carried into streams. Hence, to prevent the same, the decks drains will be channeled into the settling tanks which are constructed at strategic locations.

The water from deck drains flowing at greater velocity will pick up soil with it and same will be carried into the garland drains and thereby into the streams. In order to prevent this, settling tanks are proposed at various locations where remaining suspended solids will be allowed to settle by sedimentation process as a residue. The sediments settled at the bottom of the tank will be cleaned at regular intervals before onset of monsoon.

The total land requirement of the VK Coal mine Project is 2403.17 Ha, out of which Afforestation will be done in phased manner in an area of 1521.377 Ha which includes plantation over the finished decks of dump yards, block plantation and avenue plantation etc. The cost of Plantation would be Rs 836.76 Lakhs for the proposed progressive plantation including Post Closure stage plantation.

SCCL Experience:

The Singareni Collieries Company is having its own Engineering wing which is having highly qualified engineers and experts who can take up Soil Moisture conservation works and formation of toe walls, garland drains as and when formation of overburden dumps

proceeds. Singareni Collieries Company itself could take up these works and monitoring can be done by the Forest Department and also raising nurseries, plantations and maintaining.

Benefits of Soil Moisture Conservation:

The following benefits will be achieved by implementing the above-mentioned soil moisture conservation measures in the project:

- Ecological Benefits: Preserving soil moisture helps maintain the local ecosystem supporting diverse flora and fauna and promoting biodiversity in the surrounding area.
- Vegetation Growth: Adequate soil moisture supports the growth of vegetation, leading to the re-establishment of vegetation cover in mined areas. This helps in reclaiming the land and restoring its ecological balance
- Soil Stability: Conserving soil moisture prevents erosion and helps maintain soil structure, reducing the risk of landslides and soil degradation.
- Water Management: Soil moisture conservation can contribute to better water management by reducing runoff and facilitating groundwater recharge. It may also help in mitigating potential water pollution issues
- Climate Regulation: Healthy soil with sufficient moisture help in increase the plant growth which in turn act as a carbon sink, contributing to climate change mitigation by sequestering carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- Dust Suppression: Adequate soil moisture can minimize dust generation in the mining area, leading to improved air quality and reduced health hazards for workers and nearby communities.

Conservation Plan for Threatened Birds, conservation in OB Plantations as part of the SMC plan:

Terrestrial Birds

Daton on terrestrial birds resulted in six threatened species in the core zone that includes Crested Serpent-Eagle, Tawny Eagle, White-eyed Buzzard, Shikra of Accipitridae family, and Indian Peafowl and Small Minivet that were widely distributed in the proposed area. Other than small minivet, the Indian peafowl, and the raptors, use different habitats like, forest, open scrub land, grassland, agriculture and urban areas and feed on diverse food, hence it is not necessary to suggest any species-specific conservation plan. However, the following mitigation and management plans are suggested specifically to mitigate the habitat loss and pollution impact and increase the vegetation cover to provide habitat for terrestrial avifauna.

- 1. Eco-restoration of Mine site development of 150 ha of Forest Habitat within reclaimed mine pit area.
- 2. Development of Riparian Habitat Corridor along the natural stream
- 3. Strengthen the Riparian habitat along boundary of OB dumps.
- 4. Biofilter greenbelt- along the safe zone of mine lease boundary.
- 5. Biofilter greenbelt (3 tires planting) along the permanent mine roads.

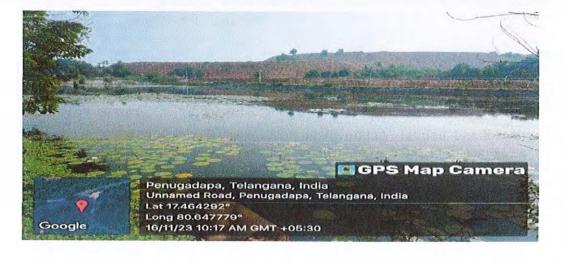
Aquatic Birds

To enhance the biodiversity attributes of aquatic fauna like; aquatic invertebrates, fishes, amphibians, aquatic birds and possibly some reptile fauna, it is suggested to develop "Mine --Pit Wetlands" within the Core Area i.e., Void area of the VKOC.

Mine —Pit wetland habitat- Action plan: Post mining land use of the mine lease area shows that, out of 912.799 ha, 762.414 ha will be excavated of that, 479.546 ha will be backfilled and remaining 282.868 ha will remain as mine pit or void. This mine pit and siltation tanks already available will store rainwater and act as mine pit reservoirs and help in improving the ground water recharge. The approach to this void will be made in such way that shallow approach is available for wild animals.

Action plans-proposed mine pit wetland habitat development Wetland – within the project site – aquatic biodiversity conserva

Wetland	d – within the project site – aquatic biodiversity conservation
Management Themes	Action Plans
Creating new wetland habitats	 It is suggested to develop Mine Void as wetland habitats of 387.184 ha within the refilled mine pit area
Habitat-Aquatic faunal diversity-	 The engineered and structured mine pit wetland should have a maximum depth of 6m at one end. Siltation ponds in the Core zone will be converted to wetlands with a well- defined, shallow (grading from 0 – 1m) water littoral zone (edge).
fish, amphibian, aquatic birds Waterhole for	3. Along the banks/ embankment and outer edge of the wetland habitats, medium to large size common tree species like (Albizia ledbeck, Syzygium cumini, Azadirachta indica, Ficus benghalensis, Ficus religiosa, Mangifera indica, Madhuca longifolia, Babool, Terminalia, should be planted. These trees can provide perching, roosting and possibly nesting sites for the aquatic birds.
Wildlife Improve-Ground	4. The second or inner middle layer needs to be developed with woody shrubs while the inner most layer and close to water edges should be grown with the locally available sedges and aquatic plants such as water lily, Indian lotus, Colocasia and Ipomoea aquatic.
Water Resources	The basic concept to develop vegetation profile in different zones of wetland habitat (bank to submergence), is to provide niche for the birds to perch and rest.
Additional fish resource for locals	 Bank stability, strategic access for wildlife/livestock, gradual sloping- depth profiles, enhanced water circulation, would provide habitable conditions for targeted aquatic species (plants, amphibians, turtles, fish and or invertebrates) and waterfowls.
	7. Create small island structures in the middle of the wetlands, to the extent of surfacing above the water as a mound, using boulders generated from the pit excavation and cover them with earthen materials to facilitate aquatic species.
	It is also suggested to incorporate dead tree like structures and snags in few locations in the middle and periphery of the wetland for the birds to perch.
	 Releasing of fingerlings of local fish species into these wetlands is an option to provide additional fish resource for the aquatic birds and locals.
	 Construct small watchtowers at strategic locations to facilitate bird watching and photography.



Overall, the recommended mine pit wetland and suggested check dams across local streams are expected to provide habitat for diverse aquatic waterfowls and enhance the species richness and abundance of aquatic avifauna of the project study area.

It may be concluded that the proposed soil moisture conservations measures will prevent erosion of the soil in to surrounding Nallahs, enrich the biodiversity & greenery in and around the project and the mine site can have better prospects for post-mining land use, such as agriculture or reforestation, ensuring the site's long- term viability beyond mining activities.

PART – A (2). Monitoring of impact on the wildlife movements in the core and buffer areas:

Restoration and reclamation process during and after mining in the proposed area and compensatory measures of SCCL and the forest department in the adjoining forests will provide alternate habitats for these species without much competition in resource partition with other existing species around the proposed area.

These processes should be monitored by a Wildlife Expert from the beginning of the mining operations, in a long-term period (till life of the project) continuously. The long-term monitoring will provide inputs and advisories to maintain and sustain the ecological balance of the proposed area.

This monitoring will help in creating a database by conducting the research covering all seasons as these may also lead to the management of the proposed area and the adjoining forest areas.

PART - B of the conservation measures to carried out by the Forest Department as follows:

The following measures specific to threatened biota are suggested to be implemented by the Forest Department with the funds provided under the approved Wildlife Conservation Plan for VKOC Coal mine, Kothagudem.

Conservation Plan for Scheduled-I Species (Mammals): Species and Common Name

Conservation status

IUCN WPA 2022

VU

Bos gaurus-Indian gaur

Indian Gaur mostly occurs in dry deciduous forests, especially in areas that support short grasses with stunted and sparse tree growth. They prefer 'open' habitats, found using closed canopy thickets, with dense undergrowth or grass cover for resting. They occur at low densities across its distributional range and are predominantly solitary in nature, occasionally forming loosely associated groups of three to 10 animals and shows preference for browsing over grazing.

Gaur occurring in low density are vulnerable to human disturbance and might suffer local extinction too. Livestock grazing, illicit felling of trees is major and of high concern, when the population of a species is considered to be low and fragmented. The major diet of this Gaur is grass, followed by browse biomass of herbs and shrubs, leaves and fruits of few trees and in addition to dry and fleshly fruits, buds, flowers, and twigs.

Indian Gaur is vulnerable and schedule I species as per the Red List of IUCN and WPA (1972 amended 2022) respectively, and presence of this species was reported in the study zones. Therefore, with the understanding of the basic information on habitat preference, feeding, social organization and common threats, the following food plants

are suggested to enhance the food resource in the project area under habitat development plan. Overall, 26 food plants have been selected based on the literature and also cross checked with the list of plants recorded in the proposed area.

Food plant species recommended for restoration and development of habitat for Indian Gaur habitat:

- 1. Acacia catechu
- 2. Acacia leucophloea
- 3. Asparagus racemosus
- 4. Bauhinia malabarica
- 5. Bauhinia racemosa
- 6. Bauhinia retusa
- 7. Bauhinia vahlii
- 8. Butea monosperma
- 9. Bombax ceiba
- 10. Bridelia retusa
- 11. Buchanania lanzan
- 12. Dendrocalamus strictus
- 13. Dichrostachys cinerea
- 14. Emblica officinails
- 15. Grewia hirsute
- 16. Helicteres isora
- 17. Hymenodictyon
- 18. Lannea coromandelica
- 19. Mallotus philippensis
- 20. Mitragyna parvifolia
- 21. Nyctanthes arbortristis
- 22. Phyllanthus emblica
- 23. Schleichera oleosa
- 24. Ziziphus mauritiana
- 25. Zizyphus xylopyrus
- 26. Acacia nilotica

Action Plan:

- 1. Awareness generation among local communities, media, and officials of various
- 2. The species is vulnerable to diseases that infect domestic dogs and other carnivores. Appropriate interventions aimed at minimizing the likelihood of disease events occurring should be adopted to ensure a healthy population
- 3. Stopping poaching & controlling poachers by regular patrolling and anti-poaching awareness creation to locals and fringe village communities in the buffer areas.

- 4. Habitat Improvement, gap plantation can be done in the degraded reserved forest areas, mainly in the patches that are heavily degraded and lack natural regeneration. And the habitat improvement should involve developing grass patches in the area that are open
- 5. Control Foot and Mouth and rinderpest Disease. The disease usually spread from domestic cattle that graze inside the forest.

Tetracerus quadricornis- Four horned antelope

VU

- 1

Four horned antelopes mostly occur in dry deciduous forests, especially in areas that support short grasses with stunted and sparse tree growth (Baskaran et al. 2011). Some studies suggest that they prefer 'open' habitats (Sankhala, 1977, Chundawat et al. 1999), while Sharma et al. (2009) reported that this species was found using closed canopy thickets, with dense undergrowth or grass cover for resting.

They occur at low densities across its distributional range and are predominantly solitary in nature, occasionally forming loosely associated groups of three to five animals and shows preference for browsing over grazing (Rice 1991 and Sharma et al.2009). Four-horned antelope occurring in low density are vulnerable to human disturbance and might suffer local extinction too (Baskaran and Desai 1999, Krishna 2006, Baskaran et al. 2009, Krishna et al. 2008). Hunting, livestock grazing, illicit felling of trees is major and of high concern, when the population of a species is considered to be low and fragmented.

The major diet of this antelope is grass, followed by browse biomass of herbs and shrubs, leaves and fruits of few trees (Baskaran et al. 2011) and in addition to dry and fleshly fruits, buds, flowers, and twigs (Krishna et al.2009, and Meghwal et al.2020). Four horned antelope is vulnerable and schedule I species as per the Red List of IUCN and WPA (1972 amended 2022) respectively, and presence of this species was reported in the study zones. Therefore, with the understanding of the basic information on habitat preference, feeding, social organization and common threats, the following food plants are suggested to enhance the food resource in the project area under habitat development plan. Overall, 26 food plants have been selected based on the literature (Kunwar et al.2016) and also cross checked with the list of plants recorded in the prosed area.

Food plant species recommended for restoration and development of habitat for Four-horned Antelope habitat:

- 1. Acacia catechu
- 2. Acacia leucophloea
- 3. Asparagus racemosus
- 4. Bauhinia malabarica
- 5. Bauhinia racemosa
- 6. Bauhinia retusa
- 7. Bauhinia vahlii
- 8. Butea monosperma
- 9 Bombax ceiba
- 10. Bridelia retusa

- 11. Buchanania lanzan
- 12. Dendrocalamus strictus
- 13. Dichrostachys cinerea
- 14. Emblica officinails
- 15. Grewia hirsute
- 16. Helicteres isora
- 17. Hymenodictyon
- 18. Lannea coromandelica
- 19. Mallotus philippensis
- 20. Mitragyna parvifolia
- 21. Nyctanthes arbortristis
- 22. Phyllanthus emblica
- 23. Schleichera oleosa
- 24. Ziziphus mauritiana
- 25. Zizyphus xylopyrus
- 26. Acacia nilotica

Action Plan:

- Immediate need to initiate discussions with the local villagers to address the issues threatening the survival of this species and also undertake conservation awareness programs
- 2. Habitat Improvement, gap plantation can be done in the degraded reserved forest areas, mainly in the patches that are heavily degraded and lack natural regeneration. And the habitat improvement should involve developing grass patches in the area that are open.
- 3. Discussions with communities need to be undertaken immediately to address the issues of hunting and brewing.
- 4. Undertake detailed study on the feeding and breeding biology of the Four-horned Antelope in select habitats from the study area

Canis aureus - Golden Jackal LC ! Vulpes bengalensis- Indian Fox LC !

- 1. Habitat development plan types of denning niches are proposed to be developed for the small mammalian fauna occurring in the proposed area, which includes development of rocky/boulder and earthen dens.
- 2. Rock/Boulders Den: This is similar kind of management plan like development of reptile habitat niche, the only change needed is, the size of rock/boulder should be 1 m3 and the heap dimension should be of 1.5m height covering 4-5 m radius, provide larger gaps and space between the rocks so that, small mammals can freely move in and out and occupy the niche as natural den.
- 3. Earthen Dens: it is also recommended to use mixture of local earthen materials with screen rejects to develop earthen denning sites for Jackals, and Indian fox. Develop earthen heaps of 1m height mixed with the ratio of 2:1 screen rejects and normal mud respectively, spreading over 3m radius. Cover both the rocky boulders and earthen heaps with topsoil to allow native grass and herbs to regenerate on it naturally.
- 4. Initially it is suggested to develop 10 such niches (5 rock and 5 earthen dens

within the Mine Lease area.

5. The areas selected should be free from human disturbance and that can be frequently monitored by the forest department and wildlife expert.

Felis chaus-Jungle Cat

LC

1

 Habitat development plan - types of denning niches are proposed to be developed for the Jungle Cat occurring in the proposed area, which includes development of rocky/boulder and earthen dens.

Panthera pardus- Common Leopard

VU

- 1

To increase the prey base, it is important to increase the moisture regime for prolong period in the ground for development of pasture, which may allow grazing animals to proliferate. It is also important to create awareness among the villagers against the poaching.

Accordingly, 20 comparatively bigger percolation tanks at the cost of 10 Lakhs each is proposed in this area and suitable budgetary provision is made for creation of awareness among the people.

Action Plan:

- 1. Improve protection in the forest for tigers and other wildlife by building a strong network of trained and empowered frontline forest staff.
- 2. Monitor the movement of leopard and other wildlife in key wildlife corridors using state-of-the-art technology.
- 3. Reduce forest dependence of local communities, encourage them to support conservation initiatives like increasing green cover.
- 4. Garner political support and promote policy interventions.
- 5. Control of prey poaching
- 6. Creation of an inviolate area
- 7. Enlisting the support of the people
- 8. Control of Invasive species, especially the Hyptis suaveolens
- 9. Increase of prey base by translocation and soft releases.

Urva edwardsii- Common Grey Mongoose

LC

- 1

1. Habitat development plan - types of denning niches are proposed to be developed for the Grey Mongoose occurring in the proposed area, which includes development of rocky/boulder and earthen dens.

Hystrix indica-Indian Crested Porcupine

LC

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1. Habitat development plan - types of denning niches are proposed to be developed for the Porcupine occurring in the proposed area, which includes development of rocky/boulder and earthen dens.

Moschiola indica-Indian Spotted Chevrotain

LC

1

In the forest division of Kothagudem, no study was carried out to arrive the number of Mouse Deer.

However, in the proposed area, their number is estimated between 10 to 15.

Accordingly, a rehabilitation centre is proposed at Kinnerasani WLS at the cost of 35 Lakhs, where injured/rescued animals will be taken for further care and release.



Action Plan:

- Specific sites for the mouse deer should be identified based on the presence of dense vegetation thickets (tree and undergrowth density) that can serve as hideouts and planting of high number of fruiting trees will enhance its population.
- 2. Controlling Cattle infestations: Overgrazing might lead to several unproductive barren patches in the landscape that could wipe out dense forest dwelling small mammals like the mouse deer. Controlled livestock grazing can be used to enhance foraging conditions for wild ungulates by modifying plant communities that are preferred by wild ungulates and increase structural diversity in the landscape.
- 3. Planting fruit trees, maintenance of swamps, riparian vegetation, planting bamboo seedlings, and maintenance of saltlicks and water holes are likely to increase protection for mouse deer populations. Also, translocation of grasses species and food plants can be practiced to full-fill their habitat requirement.
- 4. Establishing the network of moist bamboo vegetation and maintenance of narrow trails with dense vegetation cover may be considered explicitly in management decisions for conservation of mouse deer.
- 5. Awareness to village fringe communities of the importance of the species.
- 6. Developing Ant-poaching intelligence network with village youths to monitor and control illegal activities causing damage and destruction to the habitat and as well as to the animal.

Melursus ursinus-Sloth Bear

VU

1

Sloth bears (Melursus ursinus) are omnivorous with adaptation of myrmecophagy, and their diet composition varies according to season and habitat (Garshelis et al. 2014). It is endemic to Indian subcontinent and in contrast to its former distribution range, now is confined to some isolated patches, mostly in forested habitats outside protected areas (Sathyakumar et al. 2012; Dharaiya et al. 2016). It is listed as Vulnerable (VU) in the

IUCN Red List of Mammals and as Schedule-I species in the Indian Wildlife Protection Act (1972 & Amended 2022).

Human population growth, deforestation and land conversion for agriculture and other development, throughout its distribution range are resulting in ever-shrinking habitat, forming islands interspersed within human-dominated landscape (Dharaiya et al.2016).

Their principal diet is fruits (Baskaran et al. 1997), social insects (mainly ground living ants and termites) and sugar rich fruits (Garshelis et al. 1999), in addition to honey. They climb on the tree and feed on fruit and honey, picking fruits fallen on the ground and digging for the termites and ants. Sloth bears play a very vital ecological role in the form of seed dispersal (Willson 1993, Sreekumar and Balakrishnan 2002), that aid in improving the diversity of floral species in the forest.

With the available information on the food plants of the sloth bear, the action plan has suggested to focus on the habitat development to improve the food resources in the overall project area.

Food plant species recommended for habitat improvement and food resource enhancement for sloth bear:

- 1. Aegle marmelos
- 2. Cassia fistula
- 3. Cordia macleodii
- Cordia myxa
 Diospyros melanoxylon
- 6. Emblica officinalis
- 7. Ficus benghalensis
- 8. Ficus glomerata
- 9. Ficus infectoria
- 10. Ficus racemosa
- 11. Ficus religiosa
- 12. Flacourtia indica
- 13. Madhuca longifolia
- 14. Mangifera indica
- 15. Syzygium cumini
- 16. Zizyphus mauritiana

Action Plan:

- 1. Education will help to reduce bear-human conflicts and enhance a conservation ethic among locals.
- 2. Habitat improvements would be helpful in alleviating conflicts and enhance its population in the buffer areas.
- 3. Planting of fruit trees more particularly the species of Ficus which form an important diet to the animal.
- 4. Not allowing honey hives removals from forest beat areas in the buffer/ where sloth bear movements will serve as food.
- 5. A good source of water should be developed for drinking.

Viverricula indica-Small Indian Civet LC | Paradoxurus hermaphroditus- Asian Palm Civet LC |

- Habitat development plan types of denning niches are proposed to be developed for the Civet cats occurring in the proposed area, which includes development of rocky/boulder and earthen dens.
- 2. Plantation of fruit yielding plants for food and shelter.

Conservation Plan for Threatened Herpetofauna:

Management Themes

Action Plans

1. Development of Reptile Habitat Niche is proposed on OB plantation areas of the SCCL

Creation of additional Habitat

- 2. As Phase I, 5 such reptile niches are proposed to be developed.
- 3. This can be initiated from the fourth year after start of the mine operation and once enough waste rock and boulders are generated from the mine excavation.
- 4. After three years monitoring of the management plan, it is suggested to develop another 5 such niches in forests areas.

Reptile Species Diversity Enhancement

- 5. Multiple 10 sq m asphalt surfaces may be created within each reptile niches which can provide hot surfaces for thermoregulation, an important requirement for reptiles especially snakes and lizards
- Availability of rocky boulders and earthen materials in the mining site is common and using these waste materials to develop this kind of experimental reptile habitat is easy and economically viable.

Possibly habitat for threatened species

- 7. Availability of rocky boulders and earthen materials in the mining site is common using these waste materials to develop this kind of experimental reptile habitat is easy and economically viable.
- 8. Each reptile niches should be demarcated with signages not to trespass the area. This habitat development plan is expected to provide habitat for the reptiles in the study area.
- 9. This reptile niche plot should be monitored for efficacy.
- Possibly identify python den/nest sites for protection under in-situ and ex-situ conservation with the help of the forest department.

Budget for the Action Plan

Because of diversion of forest land for increasing level ofcoal mining, there is likely impact on the wildlife and wildlife landscape of this area. The wildlife is forced to move to adjoining areas. All the adjoining forest areas are already under degraded categories & under tremendous biotic pressure beyond their carrying capacity. The nearby wildlife pool area is Kanakagiri Hills with a mixed-dry deciduous forest habitat, home range for wide species of wildlife. Suitable Mitigative and rehabilitative measures can compensate the impact. These works will help in restoration and amelioration of land scape for wildlife in general and Schedule-I animals in particular. To fulfill the requirements for conservation measures the various activities are proposed as mentioned in chapters 5.2. and 5.3. As per stipulations under the F (C) Act approval, the user agency need to do gap planting in 100 Meter areas around the boundaryif it isForest land. Accordingly, the SCCL willbe taking up gap planting in the periphery of about 32.70 Km at its cost. The area comes about 110Ha. However, actual; area will be arrived after taking up gap identification etc. and as proposed by the Forest Department.

SI.No.	Component with Justification	Unit cost	Physical	Financia (Rs in lakhs)
PART-A (1)	Soil Moisture Conservation Plan: Soil moisture conservation measures to enrich the biodiversity & greenery in and around the project and the Mine site can have better prospects for post-mining land use.			
1	SoilErosionTrench	1.00	22.00km	22.00
2	Plantation	0.55	1521.38ha	836.76
3	GrassSeeding	0.60	85.00ha	51.00
4	Toewall	20.00	8.87 km	177.30
5	GarlandDrains	4.70	13.81km	64.89
6	SettlingPonds/Tanks	0.11	11no.s	1.21
7	CheckDams	1.90	2no.s	3.80
8	Rainwaterharvestingstructure	1.50	16no.s	24.00
	TotalA(1)			1180.96
PART-A (2)	Monitoring of impact on the wildlife movements in the core and buffer areas:			
i	Engaging a Wildlife Expert initially for 10 years and to be continued till life of the project.	Rs.85000/mont h X 10 years initially + 10%annual increase	1 Wildlife Expert	163.00
ii	Purchase of Camera Traps for wildlife monitoring in both core and buffer areas.	Rs.25,000per camera trap	5	1.25
iii	Purchase of 1 Binoculars and 1 Digital Camera for documentation	Rs. 15,000 per binocular +Rs.85,000 per Digital Camera	1+1	1.00

	Total A(2)	165.25
_	PART – A Total: A(1) + A(2)	 1346.21

These works will be carried out by SCCL on their own and approval of the work will be taken from Singareni authorities at appropriate time.

11.0	from Singareni authorities at appropriate time. PART-B: Wildlife Measures to be implemented by the Forest Department			
SI. No.	Component with justification	Unit cost	Physical	Fin.
1	Water Management	•	,	<u> </u>
i	Creation of percolation tanks at natural depressions in forest areas (28172ha) within the buffer zone at 15 places for providing water to various wild animals (both pray base like Sambar, Chital and Chowsingha and	10.00	15 No.	150.00
	predators including Leopard) moving in the buffer zones.			
ii	Drilling of bore-wells and fixing of solar pumps of 2HP in the forest for providing drinking water for wild animals continuously during the peak summers also.	6.00	4 Nos.	24.00
2	Providing and Monitoring	<u> </u>		
i	Fire control measures along with periphery (113 km) and within forest (28127 ha) in buffer zone to control / avoid accidental incidents of forest fire, threatening the wildlife and their movements.	LS	1000 Ha	20.00
ii 	Construction of watchtower for the surveillance of fire and biotic interference in the forest area.	5.00	. 2 No.	10.00
iii	Creation of earthen mounds in the periphery of the water bodies for resting and basking of wildlife.	0.10	20 No.	2.00
i۷	Construction of Anti-Poaching hut for protection team to regularly monitor wildlife movements in the buffer forest areas.	8.00	1 No.	8.00
V	Engaging Anti-Poaching team of 5 Members for protection of wildlife by networking and intelligence gathering on poaching.	9 lakh / Yr x 3 yrs	1	27.00
3	Capacity Building and Awareness Generation			
i	Technical training to the Frontline staff regarding Wildlife census, rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife	LS	10 Nos.	2.00
ii	Awareness programme in the villages in the buffer zone (25) regarding importance and safety of wildlife to improve its protection and conservation of wildlife through multi-stakeholders participatory approach	LS	LS	5.00
4	Infrastructure and Equipment	-		_
İ	Purchase and installation of cameras – traps and water holes to monitor the movement of wild animals and for the surveillance of any illegal felling of trees, hunting, etc., in WLM Kinnerasani.	0.25	20 No.	5.00
ii	Purchase of binoculars for monitoring wildlife movements in the forest beats in WLM Kinnerasani.	0.15	4 No.	0.60
iii	Mobile animal cages to rescue the wild animals strayed into the villagers and for shifting the injured animals in WLM Kinnerasani.	5.00	3 No.	15.00

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A Wildlife conservation plan was prepared for conservation of the schedule-I species, and this was approved for an amount of Rs.478.6 lakhs by the PCCF (HoFF) & CWLW, Telangana State Forest Department, vide reference No.5694/2021/WI-1 dated: 12.10.2021 and the amount was already deposited by SCCL. This plan has been revised by including activities which are going to be co-terminus with the life of the project as advised by the MOEF &CC, GOI. While preparing this plan presence of various water bodies, villages were considered.

The additional amount proposed will be deposited with forest department after getting approval of the revised mitigation plan for conservation of Scheduled-I Species.

Conclusion

It is presumed thatno significant impact may be there on the wildlife as it maymove to buffer area. It is important to maintain and conserve the buffer areas duly with increase in moisture regime. The rehabilitation of about 1521.37 Ha on OBwill definitelyhelp inimproving the landscape in general. As these areas are to be re-grassed, these may help in pastureland to the wild animal. Since, no migratory route / corridors found in the core area, there may not be likely effect on wildlife migration due to mining.

The revised Wildlife Conservation Plan prepared for **Rs.731.60 Lakhs** and accordingly it may be got approved.

**R. Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana

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GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT

Rc. No.: 5694/2021/WL-1

Date: 14.02.2024

Office of Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad

Sri. M.C.Pargaien , I.F.S., Prl Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden

Sub:

TSFD – WL – Proposal for diversion of 649.3014 ha. of forest land in Ramavaram RF of Ramavaram Range of Kothagudem forest division for grant of mining lease for proposed Venkatesh Khani OCP from Underground rights to Surface rights in Kothagudem Area in Bhadradri Kothagudem District in favour of M/s.SCCL, Kothagudem – Wildlife Conservation Plan – Approved – Regarding.

Ref:

CCF, Bhadradri Circle, Warangal Rc.No.501/2023/DM, dt.31.01.2024.

Vide reference cited the CCF, Bhadradri Circle has furnished a Wildlife mitigation plan for an amount of Rs.731.60 Lakhs with a request to approve the plan. In this regard, it is to inform that, the Wildlife mitigation Plan has been scrutinized and re-casted as under:

Sl. No.	Component with justification	Unit cost	Phy.	Fin.
1	Water Management			
i	Creation of percolation tanks at natural depressions in the forest areas (28172ha) within the buffer zone at 15 places for providing water to	10.00	15 No.	150.00
	various wild animals (both prey base like Sambar, Chital and Chowsingha and predators including Leopard) moving in the buffer zones.			
ii	Drilling of bore-wells and fixing of solar pumps of 2HP in the forest for providing drinking water for wild animals continuously during the peak summers also.	6.00	4 No.	24.00
2-	Protection and Monitoring			
i	Fire control measures along the periphery (113 km) and within forest (28127 ha) in buffer zone to control / avoid accidental incidents of forest fire, threatening the wildlife and their movements.	LS	1000 Ha	20.00
ii	Construction of watchtower for the surveillance of fire and biotic interference in the forest area.	5.00	2 No.	10.00
iii	Creation of earthen mounds in the periphery of the water bodies for resting and basking of wildlife.	0.10	20 No.	2.00
iv	Construction of Anti-Poaching hut for protection team to regularly monitor wildlife movements in the buffer forest areas.	8.00	1 No.	8.00
V	Engaging Anti-Poaching team of 5 Members for protection of wildlife by networking and intelligence gathering on poaching.	9 lakh / Yr x 3 yrs	1	27.00
3	Capacity Building and Awareness Generation		1.0	2.00
i	Technical training to the Frontline staff regarding Wildlife census, rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife	LS	10 No.	2.00
ii	Awareness programmes in the villages in the buffer zone (25) regarding importance and safety of wildlife to improve its protection and conservation of wildlife through multi-stakeholders participatory approach	LS	LS	5.00
4	Infrastructure and Equipment	1000	T 00	5.00
i	Purchase and installation of camera –traps near water holes to monitor the movement of wild animals and for the surveillance of any illegal felling of trees, hunting, etc., in WLM Kinnerasani.	0.25	20 No.	5.00

COX

11	9/2024/FCA SECTION-PCCF Purchase of binoculars for monitoring wildlife movements in the	0.15	4 No.	0.60
	forest beats in WLM Kinnerasani.		3	
iii	Mobile animal cages to rescue the wild animals strayed into the	5.00	3 No.	15.00
	villages and for shifting the injured animals in WLM Kinnerasani.			Maria.
iv	Creation / upgrading of infrastructure for conducting awareness	5.00	1 No.	5.00
	meeting in WLM Kinnerasani.			
v	Creating advanced wildlife rehabilitation centre in Nehru Zoological	90.00	1No.	90.00
	Park, Hyderabad for post trauma care			
vi	Kakatiya Zoological Park, Warangal			
a.	Construction and improvement of internal roads	LS	LS	8.00
b.	Procurement of battery operated vehicles	7.5	2 No.	15.00
c.	Construction of Tiger enclosures	LS	1 No.	35.00
d.	Procurement of Rescue mobile vehicles	LS	1 No.	10.00
e.	Improvement of visitor amenities	LS	1 No.	10.00
f.	Staff mobility and rescue operations	LS	LS	10.00
g.	Veterinary facilities including man power requires infrastructure and	LS	LS	10.00
	medical facilities.	CALL COMMO		
_5	Research			
i	Study and documentation on corridors connecting Kinnerasani	20.00	1 No.	20.00
	Wildlife Sanctuary and mining areas along with wildlife occupancy			
	survey by taking technical guidance from expert for future			
	management of the forest and wildlife of this areas.			
6	Mitigation of Man-Animal conflict in Bhadradri Circle.	LS	LS	30.00
7	Procurement of Safari vehicles (5) Nos for developing Eco-	20.00	5 No.	100.0
	tourism			
8	Procurement of Boats for developing Tourism in Kinnerasani	20.00	2 No.	40.00
	lake			
9	Renovation of Environmental Education Center (EEC) at	LS	1 No.	50.00
	Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary			20.00
10	Office and Miscellaneous Expenses in Bhadradri Circle.	LS	LS	20.00
a		_	-	20.00
b	Monitoring cell in Head office Aranya Bhavan	LS	LS	10.00

The revised Wildlife mitigation plan for an amount of Rs.731.60 Lakhs has been approved and the DFO, Bhadradri is requested to raise a demand notice with a User Agency to deposit the said amount into Adhoc CAMPA account, after the receipt of stage-I approval. The DFO is also requested to furnish year wise APO along with geo-coordinates for taking further necessary action in the matter before implementing the plan.

Sd/- M.C.Pargaien,

Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden

To

The DFO, Bhadradri Kothagudem.

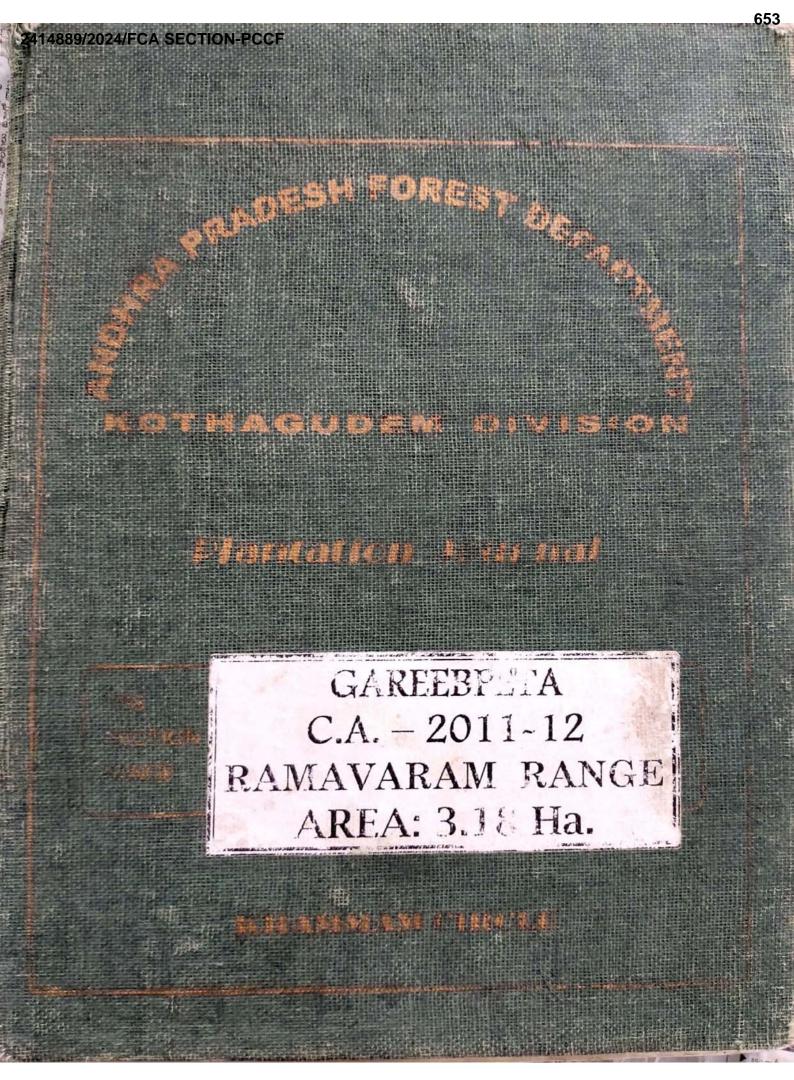
Copy to the CCF, Bhadradri Circle for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) & Nodal Officer for FCA, O/o the PCCF(HoFF), Aranya Bhavan, Hyderabad for information.

Copy to the General Manager, Environment, SCCL Limited, Bhadrachalam Road Rly. Station. Kothagudem – 507 101 for information and necessary action.

// True Copy //

for Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests





GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT

Khammam Circle



PLANTATION JOURNAL

OF

2006 -

1. Division

: Koltragodens : Ramavarans : Ramavarans : Goreebpeta

i) Territorial Division

2. Range

ii) Functional Division

3. Section

i) Territorial

ii) Functional

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5. Panchayat Samithi:

6. Panchayat

7. Compartment No. :

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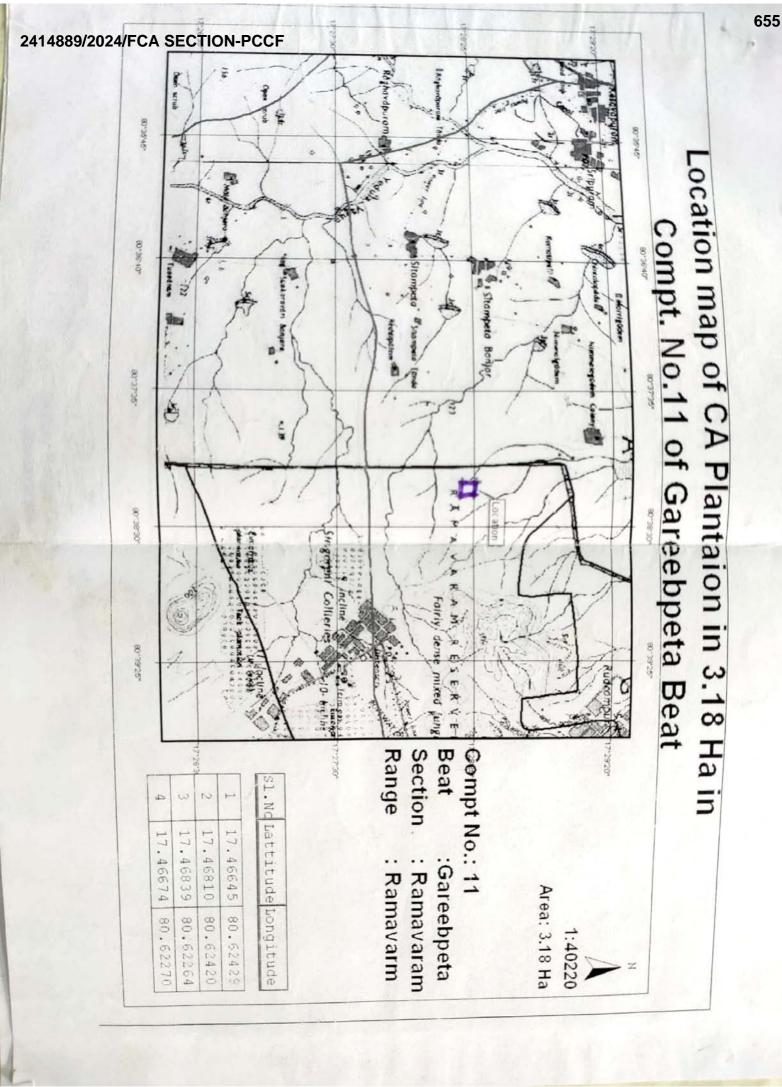
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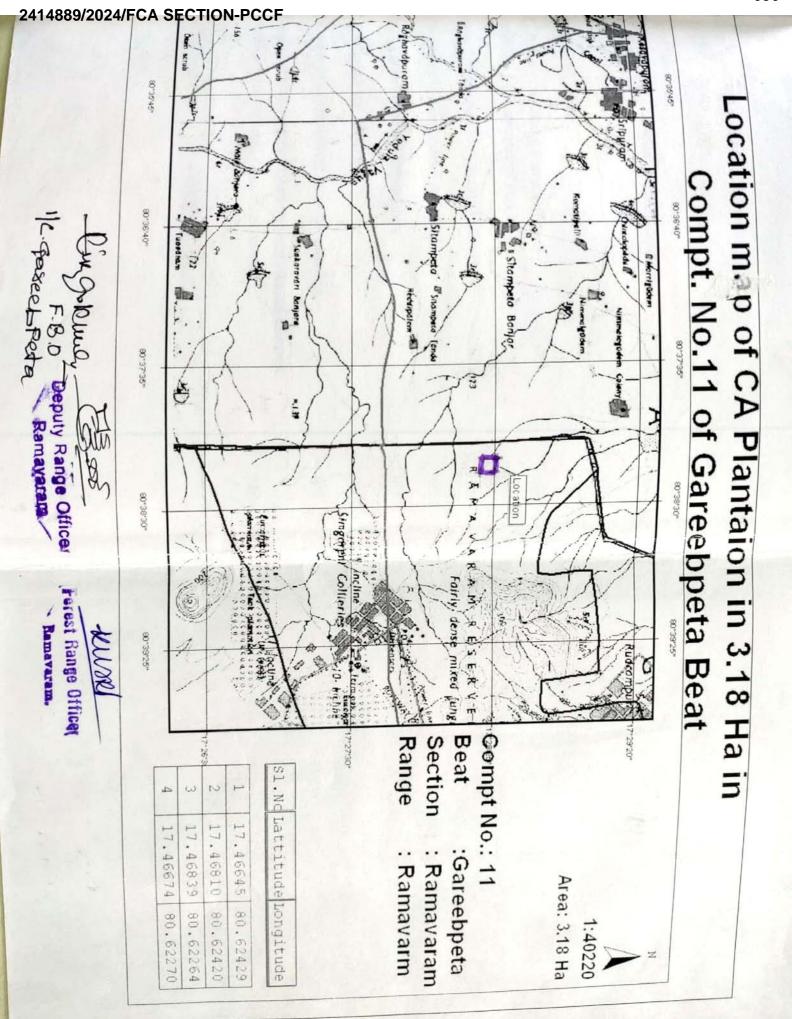
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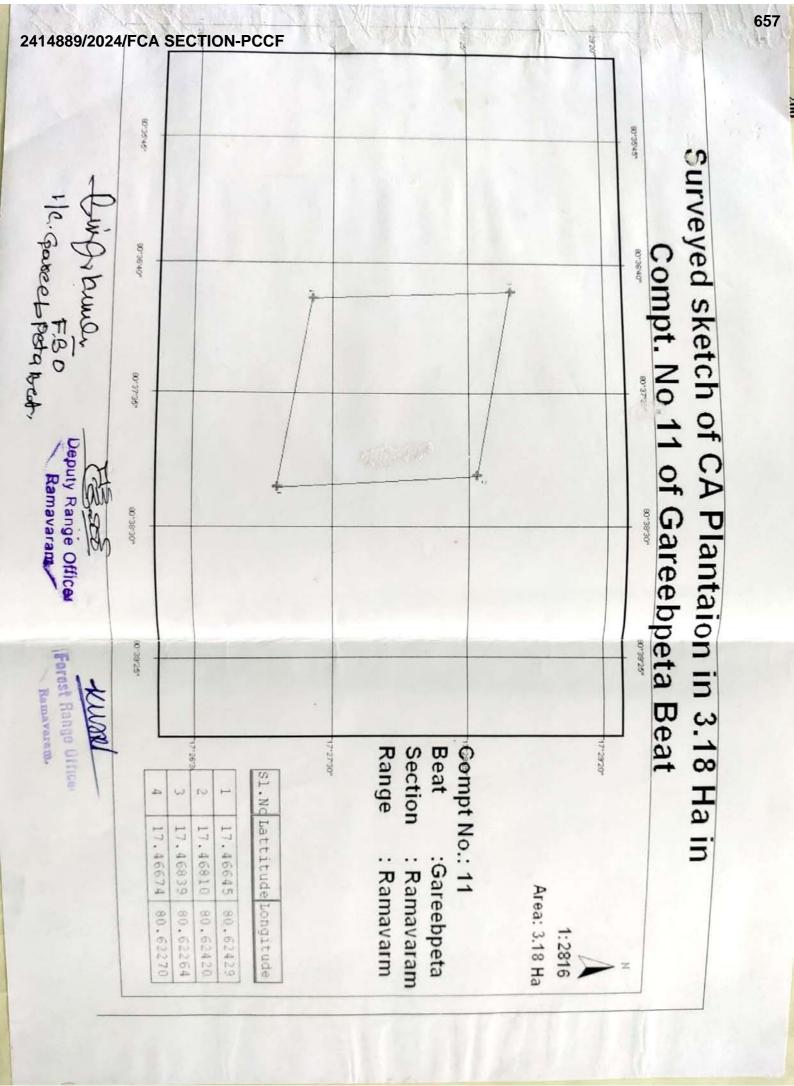
Area

: 3.18 Ha.

No. of Sectors







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V. (a) SCHEME AND AUTHORITY

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 Scheme under which the plantation raised. 	GO Ms. No.
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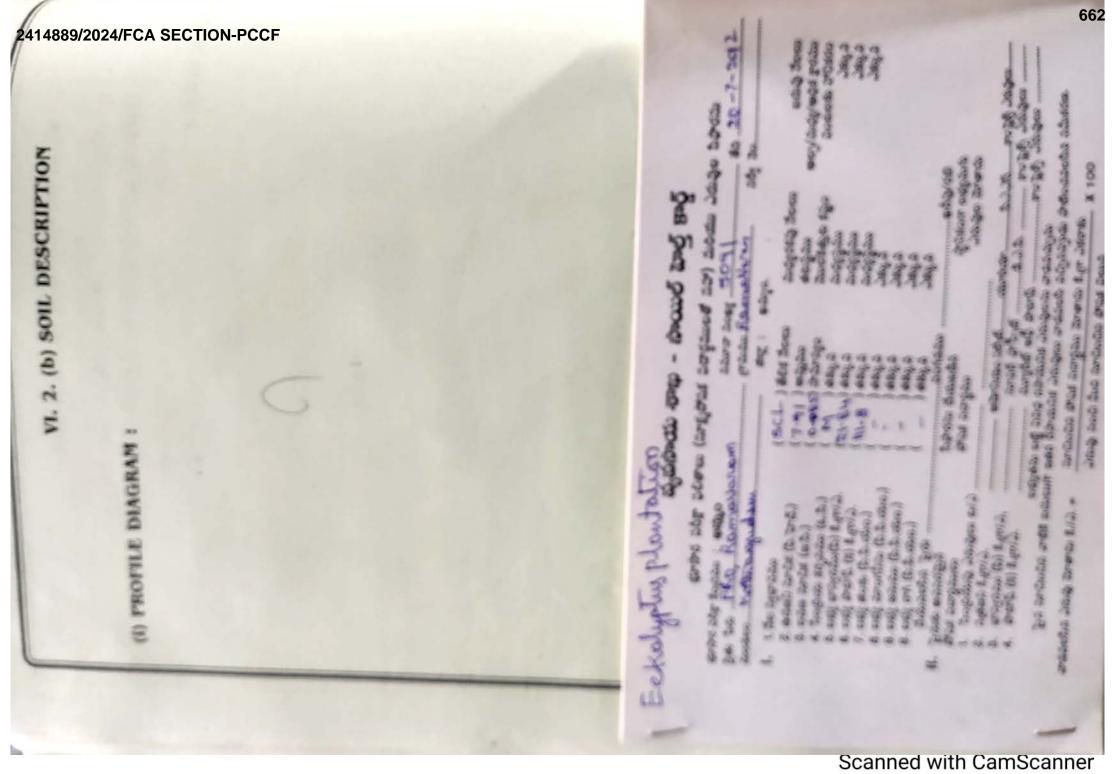
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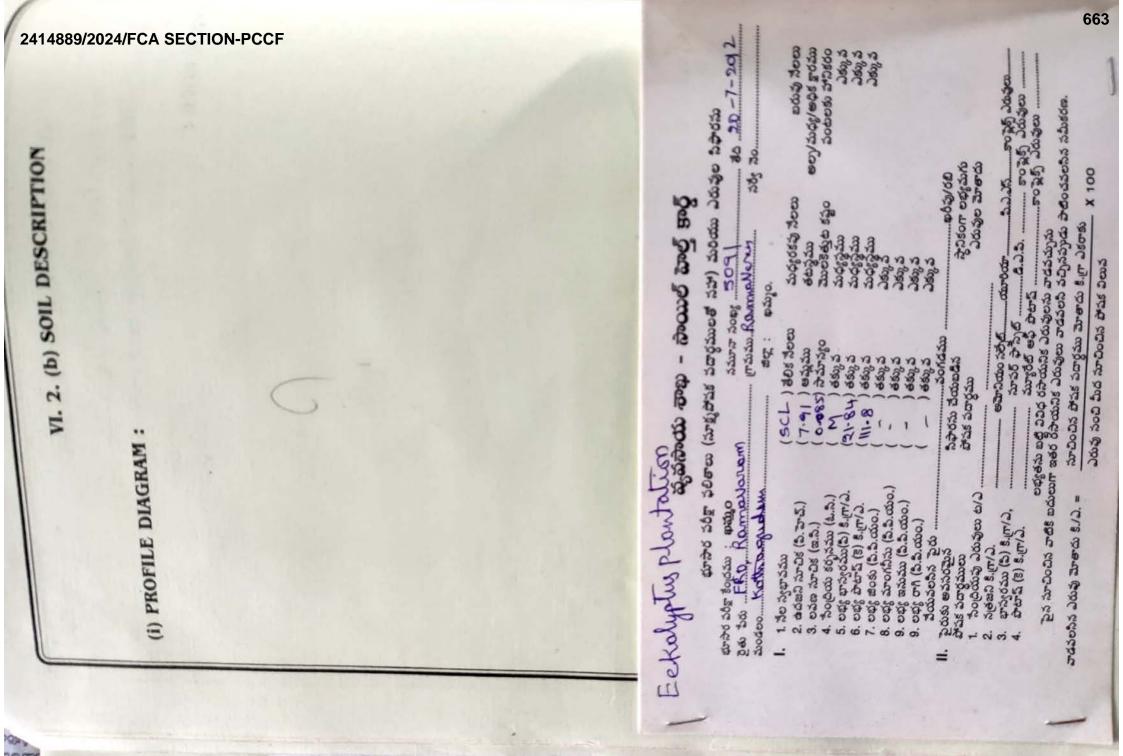
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(b) AUTHORITY FOR SELECTION OF SITE: K. M. S. Roghowa Rod Site selected by: Ramavaram.	Site approved by : SOIL SUITABILITY CERTIFICATE	CERTIFIED that I have inspected and selected the site for raising plantation of and selected the site for raising soil and rainfall requirements. I am satisfied that the site selected is suitable and fit for raising plantation of spieces.	DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER Forest Range Office of Rame varian.
v. (b)	ii. Site	CE soil and	DIV





E.P. Plantation in CA-Gareebpeta during 2012-13

Beat & Section : Gareebpeta & Ramavaram

Range & Division : Ramavaram & Kothagudem

VSS Formation

Compt No. : 11

Reserve Forest : Ramavaram

Area of Plantation : 3.18 Ha.

Year of the Plantation : 2012-13

Scheme : CA (SZA)

Species Planted : Eucalyptus (Clone-7)

Period of Planting : 14-07-2012 to 16-07-2012

Model : Semi Mechanical Method

Espacement : 2M X 3M

No. of Planting Points : 5247 Nos

S.O.No. & Date : DSO No.6/2012-13, dt: 22-06-2012

Estimated Cost : 65,000/-

Expenditure up to 7/2012 : 26,704/-

Name of the Chair person : ---

Name of the Vice Chair person : ---

Forest Range Officer, Ramavaram