

**Government of Andhra Pradesh
Forest Department**

From

S. Srisaravanan, I.F.S.,
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Wildlife Management Circle,
Tirupati - 517 501.

To

The Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road,
Opp. Zilla Parishad Office,
A.P. State, Guntur - 522 004.

Rc.No. 326/2018/M1, Dt: 21.02.2019

Sir,

Sub:- APFD - Forest (C) Act, 1980 - Proposal for diversion of 20.72 Ha. of forest land for construction of Somasila Swarnamukhi Link canal from Km. 56.000 to Km. 100.425 in Chittoor District - Additional information submitted - Reg.

- Ref:-**
- 1) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Guntur Rc.No. 10384/2017/FAC-1, dt: 17.08.2017, 18.04.2018, 05.06.2018 & 18.09.2018.
 - 2) This office Rc.No.326/2018/M1, dt: 24.04.2018, 13.06.2018, 30.07.2018 & 22.09.2018
 - 3) Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East WL Division, Chittoor Rc.No. 1445/2017/D, dt: 12.10.2018. (received on 15.10.2018).
 - 4) This office Rc.No. 326/2018/M1, dt: 27.10.2018.
 - 5) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Guntur Rc.No. 10384/2017/FAC-1, dt: 29.01.2019 & 06.02.2019.
 - 6) Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East WL Division, Chittoor Rc.No. 1445/2017/D, dt: 18.02.2019.
 - 7) This office Rc.No. 326/2018/M1, dt:21.02.2019.

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It is submitted that, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Guntur has communicated the GOI/ GOAP references and requested to submit additional information on violation and action taken on the individuals / Officials responsible for violation under the provisions of State Forest Act/ FC Act 1980 vide reference 5th cited.

In this connection, it is submitted that, during the course of field inspection of the under signed on 26.10.2018, it is observed that, the entire Earth work for the canal in the proposed area in Compt. No. 172 of Venkatagiri RF and Compt. No. 196 of Inagalur of Mannavaram Beat of Palam Section have been completed, the User Agency has violated the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 guidelines immediately instructed the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East to book a case against the violators under Forest Conservation Act, 1980, the facts was also submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Guntur in part-III proforma of the proposals vide reference 4th cited.

Further, the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East has reported that, the then Forest Range Officer, Srikalahasthi has not booked any case against the violators. After receipt of the instructions by this office, case was booked vide DOR No.71/2018-19, Dt.16.11.2018 by the Forest Range Officer, Srikalahasthi. The case records along with relevant documents received from Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East is enclosed herewith.


The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East has informed that, Disciplinary action against the Forest Officials who allowed for execution of work has been initiated and also informed that, ~~caused for delayed action and~~ explanations have been called for delayed action and charge memos are under preparation. A copy of the report of the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East along with enclosures are sent herewith for perusal.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East has been reminded once again vide reference 7th cited to take necessary action and submit report urgently.

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

Encl:- As above

Yours faithfully,


Chief Conservator of Forests,
Wildlife Management Circle,
Tirupati.

Copy to the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East for information.

DESPATCHER

DATE : 22-02-19



Government of Andhra Pradesh
Forest Department

From
Sri Jagannath Singh.R., IFS.,
Divisional Forest Officer,
Chittoor East (WL) Division,
CHITTOOR.

To
The Chief Conservator of Forests,
Wildlife Management Circle,
TIRUPATI.

Re.No:1445/2017D, Dt:25.02.2019

Sir,

Sub:- APFD - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Proposal for diversion of 20.72 Ha. of Forest land for construction of Somasila Swarnamukhi Link Canal from Km.56.00 to Km.100.425 in Chittoor District - Action taken report on violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Called for - Report submitted - Reg.

- Ref:-**
1. Prl. CCF., A.P., Guntur Rc. No. 10384/2017/FCA-1, Dt : 17.08.2017
 2. FRO, Srikalahasthi Rc. No.45/2013/SKHT, Dt: 04.10.2017.
 3. DFO, Chittoor East Rc. No.1445/2017/D, Dt.12.02.2018.
 4. Prl. CCF, A.P., Guntur Rc. No. 10384/2017/FCA-1(i), Dt: 18.04.2018.
 5. APCCF, WLM Circle, Tirupati Rc. No. 326/2018/M1, Dt: 24.04.2018.
 6. Prl. CCF., A.P., Guntur Rc. No. 10384/2017/FCA-1(i), Dt :13.06.2018
 7. APCCF., WLM Circle, Tirupati Rc. No.326/2018/M1, Dt:30.07.2018
 8. Prl. CCF., A.P., Guntur Rc. No. 10384/2017/FCA-1(i), Dt :12.09.2018
 9. APCCF., WLM Circle, Tirupati, Rc. No. 326/2018/M1, Dt: 24.04.2018, 13.06.2018,30.07.2018 & 22.09.2018
 10. DFO, Chittoor East Rc.No: 1445/2017/D, Dt: 12.10.2018
 11. CCF., WLM Circle, Tirupati, Rc.No: 326/2018/M1, Dt: 27.10.2018
 12. DFO, Chittoor East Rc.No: 1445/2017/D, Dt: 18.02.2019.
 13. CCF., WLM Circle, Tirupati, Rc.No: 326/2018/M1, Dt: 21.02.2019.



I submit that basing on the proposal for diversion of 19.96 Ha. Forest land towards construction of Somasila Swarnamukhi Link Canal from Km. 56.00 to Km. 100.425 submitted by the Superintending Engineer, SSLC And SB Circle, Nellore Lr.No: SE/SSLC/SBC/NLR/TW/AEE2/F.18/Vol.1/935, Dt: 31.07.2017, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur has accorded permission for conducting DGPS survey of the proposed diversion area vide ref 1st cited.

In view of the above directions, the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor East (WL) Division, Chittoor has issued instructions to the Forest Range Officer, Srikalahasthi to allow the user agency and for accompany with the DGPS survey party for conducting the DGPS survey. Acting to the said instructions the Forest Range Officer, Srikalahasthi has

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inspected the Mannavaram Beat along with the concerned Beat and Section staff on 28.09.2017 and noticed that the User agency has already excavated and completed the Canal work prior to 11 months i.e., before October'2016 itself.

On further enquiry with the field staff it is revealed that due to the local prevailing factors of Forest Minister's Constituency this work was completed even though the then Forest Department Officers have tried to stop the excavation of Canal work. However, after completion of DGPS survey a detailed report has been submitted to the Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, WLM Circle, Tirupati vide ref.3rd cited duly enclosing the DGPS Survey report.

Meanwhile a letter has been addressed to the Executive Engineer, Somasila Swarnamukhi Link Canal at S.B.Division No: 03, Kothur calling explanation on violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide Divisional Forest Office, CTR/E, Rc.No: 1445/2017/D, Dt: 12.02.2018 and also called the explanations from the following Forest Department Officers in whose period the User Agency entered into the RF and executed the work vide DFO, CTR/E Rc.No: 1445/2017/D, Dt: 12.02.2018. The copies of the explanations called are submitted herewith for favour of kind information and necessary action.

1. Sri K.Venkatasubbaiah, the then FRO, Srikalahasthi and presently working in SF Division, Chittoor.
2. Sri G.Vijaya Kumar, the then Forest Section Officer, Pallam Section, Srikalahasthi Range, presently working as Dy. Range Officer, Wildlife Management Division, Tirupati.
3. Sri P.Chengalraya Naidu, the then Assistant Beat Officer / I/c Forest Beat Officer, Mannavaram Beat, Srikalahasthi Range presently working in Devarakonda Beat, S.V.N.P Chamala Range, Wildlife Management Division, Tirupati.

Further on enquiry into the whole episode it is revealed that the User Agency has prepared the proposals U/s 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 but those are not submitted to the Nodal Officer, Office of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

Meanwhile they have called for the tenders for excavation of Somasila Swarnamukhi Link Canal work and executed without obtaining prior permission from the Govt. of India.

However, the violation is reported in the proposals itself and meanwhile instructions have been issued to the Forest Range Officer, Srikalahasthi to register the offence case against the User Agency. Accordingly, the Forest Range Officer, Srikalahasthi has registered the case as DOR No: 71/2018-19, Dt: 16.11.2018 and reported the same vide his Rc.No: 45/2018/SKHT, Dt: 30.11.2018(copy enclosed).

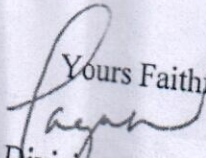
In this connection it is submitted that the Forest Department officers have several times pressurized the User agency on good faith to submit proposal U/s 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as it is a Govt. irrigation project and at last the User Agency have submitted the proposals to the Forest Department in the month of August'2017.

The reply to explanation memos have been received from (1) the Executive Engineer, Somasila Swarnamukhi Link Canal & S.B. Division, Kothur, (2) Sri G.Vijaya Kumar, Dy. Range Officer & (3) Sri P.Chengalraya Naidu, Forest Beat Officer and all these letters are incorporated in the project proposals along with violation report and the same may be perused. The then Forest Range Officer, Srikalahasthi Range i.e., Sri K.Venkata Subbaiah, presently working in Social Forestry Division, Chittoor has not submitted the explanation and the matter is under examination and persuasion.

As regards to the penal actions against the persons / employees responsible for violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 the same will be initiated as it is linked with different capacities of the officers.

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

Encls: As above.

Yours Faithfully

Divisional Forest Officer,
Chittoor East (WL) Division,
CHITTOOR.