

I/137285/2023

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri.R.M.Dobriyal, IFS.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)(FAC)
Telangana State, “Aranya Bhavan”,
Saifabad, **Hyderabad.**

To
The Special Chief Secretary to Government,
Forest Department,
4th Floor, Aranya Bhavan
Telangana State, Saifabad, **Hyderabad.**

Ref.No.PCCF-FC3/FC15/15/2022-FCA Section, Dated:25/02/2023

Madam,

Sub:TSFD – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Diversion of forest land to an extent of **0.9934 ha** (*revised from 1.1188 ha*) from Kaghaznagar to Kouthal to Yelur passing through various RFs of Kaghaznagar forest division of Komarambheem-Asifabad district for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited (*earlier known as M/s. Telesonic Networks Limited*)” – **Submission of processed proposal for according necessary approval** – Regarding.

Ref: 1. Letter from M/s.Telesonic Networks Limited, , Hyderabad, Dt.05.02.2022
2. PCCF’s Rc.No.2471/2022/FCA-3, Dt.17.03.2022.
3. M/s Telesonic Networks Ltd, Hyderabad Letter dt.23.03.2022
4. PCCF (HoFF), TS, Hyderabad, Rc.No.PCCF-FC15/97/2022-FCA Section(i), Dt.24.04.2022.
5. CCF&FDPT, KTR Circle, Mancherla, Rc.No.480/2020/D2(FCA), Dt.13.01.2023.
6. From M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited, Ref.No.BAL/ROW/Forest/01, Dt.01.02.2023.

Kindly refer to the subject and references cited.

It is submitted that M/s.Telesonic Networks Limited, which is now merged to M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited (**User Agency**); where the User Agency vide reference 6th cited (**copy enclosed**) while enclosing the order copy of the National Company Law Tribunal, Chandigarh Bench, **No.NCLT/Reg./FO/2023/1992, Dt.25.01.2023**, has informed that the Telesonic Network Limited is now merged with "Bharti Airtel Limited." Vide reference 3rd cited, the User Agency have submitted **(8) sets of proposals in Form-A (FCA format)** for the proposal “diversion of forest land to an extent of 0.9934 ha (*revised from 1.1188 ha*) from Kaghaznagar to Kouthal to Yelur passing through various RFs of Kaghaznagar forest division of Komarambheem-Asifabad district for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited (*earlier known as M/s. Telesonic Networks Limited*).” Vide reference 4th cited, the proposal has been forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Komarambheem-Asifabad (DFO), and the CCF/Conservator of Forests, Adilabad (CCF/CF) for processing under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003/2014/2017/2022; the guidelines and clarifications and amendments issued therein by the Ministry.

I/137285/2023

Accordingly, vide reference 5th cited, the Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project Tiger, Kawal Tiger Reserve Circle circle (CCF) having jurisdiction over the forest area have submitted processed proposal with due recommendation of the FDO/DFO in **Part-II** and the CCF/CF in **Part-III**, alongwith all inspection notes and other necessary documents. **The details of proposal are as follows:**

1. **M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited (earlier known as M/s. Telesonic Networks Limited) {User Agency} has furnished the following information in Part-I and connected information/documents:**

- The User Agency has proposed for diversion of **1.1188 ha** forest land from Kaghaznagar to Kouthal to Yellur passing through various RFs in Kaghaznagar forest division of Komrambheem-Asifabad district for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Telesonic Networks Limited, Hyderabad.
- Map showing the required forest land, boundary of adjoining forest on 1:50,000 scale map with geo-coordinates recorded by using ETS & DGPS/DGNSS survey for the forest land proposed is enclosed.
- The cost of the project is estimated as **₹2.50 crores** approximately.
- The employment of about **50 man days** approximately will be generated during implementation of this project.
- The cost-benefit analysis is **not applicable** to this Project.
- The project **does not involve** displacement of people.
- The project **does not require** clearance under the Environment (P) Act, 1986.
- The User Agency has furnished the **detailed note of the project.**
- **Justification of the project in forest area and brief note submitted by the User Agency:**
 - The Optical Fiber Cable is generally laid along the admitted RoW of State/National Highway roads. Such roadside is declared as the Protected Forest under the Indian Forest Act.
 - The User Agency has stated that the area requested for the laying of the OFC is the barest minimum considering the requirements and also considering the safety of cables so laid. Since the Telecommunication cables also carry the communication from the Government offices, defence and strategic establishments, and from the differential industrial organizations apart from the general public, for the safety and confidentiality of the conversation so made it is not advisable to lay such important cables on the private land belonging to different parties.
 - The User Agency has stated that the Cable alignment will be suitable diverted to avoid any cutting of trees and laid within the road land boundary by excavating a narrow trench of 40 cm width. The same strip of trench will be reinstated to its original condition. The User Agency has also intimated that no structure will be erected on the cable route.

I/137285/2023

● **Purpose wise breakup of the total land required:**

Proposed for laying of Optical Fibre Cable line of **24864.42 meters Length X 0.45 meters width = 1.1188 ha. The details are as follows:**

S. No.	Division	Reserved Forests	Length in Meters	Width in Meters	Area in_ha	PA/ESZ
1	Kaghaznagar	Vempalli	939.37	0.45	0.0423	Kawal Tiger Corridor
2	Kaghaznagar	Vempalli, Achally	6285.15	0.45	0.2828	Kawal Tiger Corridor
3	Kaghaznagar	Kadamba Ext-II	1851.70	0.45	0.0833	Kawal Tiger Corridor
4	Kaghaznagar	Muthyampet	2271.92	0.45	0.1022	Kawal Tiger Corridor
5	Kaghaznagar	Bijjur, Bijjur Ext-VIII, Kadamba, Kadamba Ext-VI	13516.28	0.45	0.6082	Kawal Tiger Corridor
		Total:	24864.42	-	1.1188	

● **The total area of 1.1188 Ha is falling in Tiger Corridor area of Kawal Tiger Area.**

● **The User Agency has furnished the following undertakings:**

- To bear the cost of raising and maintenance of CA in any of the degraded forest land, if any, as per the scheme prepared by the Forest Department and escalation charges, if any.
- The forest land proposed for diversion is the barest minimum area for the purpose for which it is proposed.
- To pay the cost of Net Present Value / Additional Net Present Value of the Forest land to be diverted as per orders of State Government/ GoI and Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, as and when the demand raised by the Forest Department.
- To bear the cost of extraction charges of tree growth to be felled in the area proposed for diversion as and when demanded by Forest Department and escalation charges, if any.
- etc.

II. **The District Forest Officer, Komrambheem-Asifabad has furnished following information in Part-II, inspection report 13.07.2022 and connected documents:**

- The forest area proposed by the User Agency is **1.1188 ha** for laying of Optical Fiber Cable falling in various RFs of Kaghaznagar forest division, Kumrambheem – Asifabad district.
- As per the field condition, the proposed diversion is passing through various Reserved Forests is **0.9934 ha** (length is 22077.45 meters with a width of 0.45 meters); the remaining length of 2786.97 and area 0.1254 is falling outside the Reserve Forest.
- The density of vegetation is **0.2** in the proposed area of diversion.
- There is no tree growth is existing in the proposed area of diversion.
- The District Forest Officer, Komarambheem-Asifabad (FAC) has inspected the site along with the concerned staff on **13.07.2022** in the proposed area of diversion, 1.1188 ha from Kaghaznagar to Koutala to Yellur passing through various reserve forests of Kaghaznagar forest division of Kumrambheem-Asifabad district for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Telesonic Network Limited, Hyderabad. As per the field verification of the proposed area of diversion, the details of the forest area as follows:

SI NO	Range	Compt No	RF	Proposed diversion area as per DGPS Map by PCCF	Area as per field verification	RoW	PA/ESZ
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I/137285/2023

				Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (Ha)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (Ha)		
1	Kagaznagar	78	Vempally	939.37	0.45	0.0423	513.1	0.45	0.0231	Yes, road from Kagaznagar to Sirpur	Tiger Corridor
				939.37		0.0423	513.10		0.0231		
2	Kagaznagar	83	Vempally	6285.15	0.45	0.2828	3753	0.45	0.1689	Yes, road from Kagaznagar to Sirpur	Tiger Corridor
	Sirpur	92	Achelly				2532.15	0.45	0.1139	Yes, PWD road from Sirpur to Kagaznagar	Tiger Corridor
				6285.15		0.2828	6285.15		0.2828		
3	Sirpur	159	Kadamba Ext. II	4123.62	0.45	0.1855	1558	0.45	0.0701	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Sirpur	161	Muthampet				1778	0.45	0.0800	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
				4123.62		0.1855	3336		0.1501		
4	Penchikalpet	155	Kadamba	13516.28	0.45	0.6082	617.7	0.45	0.0278	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Penchikalpet	825	Kadamba Ext VI				833.7	0.45	0.0375	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Penchikalpet	236	Bejjur				2607	0.45	0.1173	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Penchikalpet	819	Bejjur Ext VII				2245	0.45	0.101	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Penchikalpet	804	Bejjur Ext VIII				898.6	0.45	0.0404	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
5	Bejjur	230	Bejjur				834.19	0.45	0.0375	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Bejjur	227	Bejjur				2753.21	0.45	0.1239	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Bejjur	228	Bejjur				776.98	0.45	0.035	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Bejjur	235	Bejjur				376.82	0.45	0.017	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
				13516.28		0.6082	11943.2		0.5374		

I/137285/2023

				24864.42		1.1188	22077.45		0.9934		

- The District Forest Officer, Komarambheem-Asifabad has reported that the total length of the proposed area of diversion comes to length of **22077.45** meters and width of **0.45** meters i.e., the total area of diversion found to be **0.9934 ha**, instead of the proposed area of diversion (1.1188 ha) in Col-2 of part-I with length of 24864.42 meters and width of 0.45 meters for laying of Optical Fiber Cable, **which is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project.**
- The details of the forest land along with the legal status of the forest for the proposed diversion is as follows:

S No.	Range	Section	Beat	Compt No	RF	Area as per field verification			Legal Status of the forest	RoW	PA/ ESZ
						Length in meters	Width in meters	Area in ha			
1	Kaghaznagar	Vempally	Kaolamguda	78	Vempally	513.1	0.45	0.0231	Notified U/s 15, vide Notification	Yes, road from Kagaznagar to Sirpur	Tiger Corridor
2	Kaghaznagar	Vempally	Vempally	83	Vempally	3753	0.45	0.1689	No.G.O.Ms.No .146, F&RD, Dt.23.03.1982.	Yes, road from Kagaznagar to Sirpur	Tiger Corridor
3	Sirpur	Sirpur	Peddabanda	92	Achelly	2532.15	0.45	0.1139	Notified U/s.15 vide Notification No.G.O.Ms.No .83, F&RD-III Department, Dt.03.02.1977, AP Gazette No.II, Dt.17.03.1977, Dist Gazette No.-Nil, Dt.17.11.1977	Yes, PWD road from Sirpur to Kagaznagar	Tiger Corridor

I/137285/2023

4	Sirpur	Muthampet	Loanvely	159	Kadamba Ext. II	1558	0.45	0.0701	Notified U/s 15 vide Notification No.G.O.Ms.No .766, F&RD For-III, Dt.06.10.1977, A.P.Gazette No.450, Dt.10.11.77, Dist Gazette No.2, Dt.17.02.78.	No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
5	Sirpur	Kouthala	Kouthala	161	Muthampe t	1778	0.45	0.08	Notified U/S 19 vide Notification HFA No.12 of 1355F, Notification No.261, Dt.08.10.1955	No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
6	Penchikalpe t	Penchikalpe t	Bomabigud a	155	Kadamba	617.7	0.45	0.0278	Notified U/s 19 vide Notification No.HFA No.2 of 1355F	No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
7	Penchikalpe t	Loadpally	Loadpally	825	Kadamba Ext VI	833.7	0.45	0.0375	Notified U/s 15 vide notification No.G.O.Ms.No .281, F&RD Dt.20.06.1982.	No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
8	Penchikalpe t	Loadpally	Loadpally	236	Bejjur	2607	0.45	0.1173	Notified U/s 18 vide notification No.50, Dt.20.12.1353F .	No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
9	Penchikalpe t	Loadpally	Kondapally South	819	Bejjur Ext VII	2245	0.45	0.101	Notified U/s.15 vide Notification No.G.O.Ms.No .419, F&RD For-III Dept., DT.09.09.1974, AP.Gazette No.488, Dt.12.12.74, Addl District Gazette No.Dt.17.01.75 .	No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
10	Penchikalpe t	Loadpally	Loadpally	804	Bejjur Ext VIII	898.6	0.45	0.0404	Notified U/s. Section 15, Vide Notification No.G.O.Ms.No .915, F&RD	No RoW	Tiger Corrido r

I/137285/2023

									Dept, Dt.15.10.1976.		
11	Bejjur	Salugupally	Marthidi	230	Bejjur	834.19	0.45	0.0375	Notified U/s 18 vide notification No.50, Dt.20.12.1353F	No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
12	Bejjur	Salugupally	Salugupally	227	Bejjur	2753.21	0.45	0.1239		No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
13	Bejjur	Salugupally	Salugupally	228	Bejjur	776.98	0.45	0.035		No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
14	Bejjur	Salugupally	Salugupally	235	Bejjur	376.82	0.45	0.017		No RoW	Tiger Corrido r
						22077.4 5		0.9934			

- **The Right of Way is admitted as per the Gazette notification is 0.3059 ha in Vempally RF and Achelly RF.**
- There are **no trees falling** in the proposed area of diversion.
- **The “Corridor area of Kawal Tiger Reserve” in Kaghaznagar Sirpur, Penchikalpet and Bejjur Ranges, which is a linking Corridor of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve and Kawal Tiger Reserve.** This area has transient tigers moving from Maharashtra state to Kaghaznagar division of Telangana State.
- There is **no protected archaeological/heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monument** in the proposed area of diversion.
- No work is carried out in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Recommendation of District Forest Officer, Komrambheem-Asifabad in Part-II:

The District Forest Officer, Komrambheem-Asifabad district has reported that the area proposed for diversion is barest minimum and unavoidable without alternatives and considering all the aspects mentioned in the proposal and field conditions has recommended the project “*diversion of 0.9934 ha (revised from 1.1188 ha) forest land passing through various RFs in Kaghaznagar forest division of Kumrambheem-Asifabad District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Telesonic Networks Limited, Hyderabad.*”

III. Recommendation of the Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project

Tigr. Kawal Tiger Reserve, Mancheria in Part-III:

Considering the “recommendation” made by the District Forest Officer, Komrambheem-Asifabad district in **Part-II**,” the Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project Tiger, Kawal Tiger Reserve, Mancheria has recommended the proposal for “*diversion of 0.9934 ha (revised from 1.1188 ha) from Kaghaznagar to Kouthal to Yellur passing through various RFs of Kaghaznagar Forest Division of Kumrambheem-Asifabad District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Telesonic Networks Limited,*

I/137285/2023

Hyderabad has recommended subject to the following conditions:

1. The work shall be completed in short period of 20 days.
2. There shall be no camping of labour and machinery in the forest area and lighting of any fire or use of firewood from forest.
3. The UA shall not litter the forest area with Oil, plastic, etc.,
4. The conditions proposed by the District Forest Officer, Komrambheem-Asifabad shall be implemented.
5. The works shall not be done during 05.00 PM to 08.00 AM
6. The wildlife mitigation plan as proposed shall be implemented.

IV. Uploading of proposal in Ministry's website:

The User Agency has also uploaded the proposal in the Ministry's website <https://parivesh.nic.in/> and a unique file number **FP/TG/OFC/154345/2022** has been generated for this proposal.

V. Proposals in Wildlife format:

The User Agency has also submitted proposals in Wildlife format, since proposed the area of diversion is falling in the **“Corridor area of Kawal Tiger Reserve.”** The proposal in Wildlife format has been forwarded to the Government along with the specific recommendation and subject to compliance of the conditions laid down in **Part-IV** by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden vide **PCCF (HoFF), Rc.no.PCCF-WL1/WL07/17/2022-Wildlife Life Section, Dt.09.02.2023**

As per the amendments issued in File No.FC-11/165/2019-FC, Dt.27.07.2020 (Para 4(e) to Para 4.2 of the hand book of F(C)Act, 1980, F(C) Rules, 2003 (amendments and clarifications) issued in F.No.5-2/2017, Dt.28.03.2019 and the subsequent amendments issued, this proposal requires permission from **State Board for Wildlife/National Board for Wildlife under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The proposals have been placed in 6th State Board for Wild Life (SBWL) meeting on 13.02.2023 and Board has recommended the proposal. The copy of the minutes of the meeting is awaited.**

VI. Applicability of the Acts and Rules:

As per the **handbook** of F(C) Act, 1980, F(C) Rules, 2003, (amendments and clarifications) **issued in F.No.5-2/2017-FC, Dt.28.03.2019** and the subsequent amendments issued therein (File No.FC-11/165/2019-FC, Dt.27.07.2020); **Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022** issued in F.No.FC-11/118/2021-FC, Dt.29.06.2022, **clarifications** issued by GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi in File No.FC-11/118/2021-FC Dt.18.07.2022, File No.FC-11/43/2022-FC, Dt.22.08.2022 and **F.No.FC-11/118/2021-FC, Dt.14.11.2022.**

a. **As per the decision taken in FAC meeting on Dt.15.07.2022 and guidelines issued in File No.FC-11/43/2022-FC, Dt.22.08.2022,** "the State Government, shall authorize Nodal Officer (FCA), to consider permissions for re-diversion for laying of OFCs falling within in the RoW of roads located outside the Protected Areas" (Para 4.2 of handbook). **However, the orders from the State Government is awaited. The District Forest Officer has reported that the alignment is not passing through the existing RoW; hence the proposal does not falls under general approval category.**

I/137285/2023

b. Further, it is submitted that in the latest guidelines by the GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide **F.No.FC-11/118/2021-FC, Dt.14.11.2022**, has issued certain guidelines on the processing of the proposals after issuing Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022. As per para 3 (i) of the said guidelines “proposals submitted in PARIVESH 1.0 after 28.06.2022 and not migrated to PARIVESH 2.0 may be processed using the FC module of PARIVESH 1.0. However, to adhere the procedures laid down in the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022, the minutes of the meeting of Project Steering Committee (PSC) may be attached with part-IV of forms and passing of proposals of less than 5 ha through Conservator of Forests may be treated inert for procedural/technical purposes.”

c. **Chapter 4.2 of the guidelines issued in F.No. 5-2/2017-FC, Dt. 28.03.2019 and amendments issued therein are applicable for subject project. The provisions contained in the Handbook are detailed below.**

- i. **Compensatory Afforestation (CA):** The most of the proposed alignment is not passing through the existing right of way for laying of Optical Fiber Cable site area. Hence, prepared the CA scheme as per the Para 4.2, 4.1 and 2.5 of Handbook for raising plantation with 10 years of maintenance @ ₹16.650 lakhs over identified degraded forest land to an extent of 2.00 ha in Compt.No.46 of Garlapet RF, Itkalphad Beat of Makidi Section of Sirpur Range of Kaghaznagar Forest Division, Komarambheem-Asifabad district. The details of the CA scheme along with the unit cost, CA area maps etc., are enclosed.
- ii. **Net Present Value (NPV):** As per para 3.5 at S.No.4 of Handbook, the proposed area of diversion for laying of Optical Fiber Cable is falling in the “Corridor area of Kawal Tiger Reserve.” Hence, the payment of NPV is not exempted.
- iii. **RoFR Certificate:** The District Forest Officer, Komarambheem-Asifabad has reported that most of the proposed alignment is not passing through the existing Right of Way. In this regard, it is requested to stipulate one of the condition in the Stage-I (in-principle) approval to furnish the RoFR Certificate at the time of submission of compliance on Stage-I condition for obtaining final (Stage-II) approval.
- iv. It is submitted that as per **Chapter 4.2 and 4.1** read with **12.5** of Handbook on Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; Forest (Conservation) Rules 2003/2014/2017; guidelines & clarifications issued by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi in **F.No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019, and amendments issued therein,** and as per the **F(C)Rules, 2022**, the clarifications issued therein on **22.08.2022**, **this proposal does not fall under general approval category and hence to be cleared by IRO, MoEF&CC, GoI, Hyderabad, subject to clearance from State Board of Wildlife/National Board for Wildlife under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.**

VII. In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures with due recommendation of the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) in Part-IV is submitted herewith in triplicate, for onward submission to the IRO, MoEF&CC, GoI, Hyderabad for

I/137285/2023

according necessary approval of the project, subject to clearance from the State Board of Wildlife/National Board of Wildlife under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Encl:As above

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Rakesh Mohan

Dobriyal

Date: 25-02-2023 17:17:02

Reason: Approved

Sd/-Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force (FAC)

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project Tiger, Kawal Tiger Reserve circle, HQ Mancherial for information.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Komarambheem-Asifabad district and the Forest Divisional Officer, Kaghaznagar for information.

Copy to the M/s. Bharti Airtel Limlited, #1-8-437, 438, 364 & 445, Splendid Towers, Opp: Begumpet Police Station, Huda road, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016 for information.

Copy to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF) and Chief Wildlife Warden(FAC), O/o Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad for information.

Copy to Stock file and Spare copy.

I/137301/2023

PART-IV

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

<p>17. Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks (While giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon).</p>	<p>The proposal for “<i>diversion of 0.9934 ha (revised from 1.1188 ha) from Kaghaznagar to Kouthal to Yellur passing through various RFs of Kaghaznagar forest division of Kumrambheem-Asifabad District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable</i> in favour of M/s.Bharti Airtel Limlited (earlier M/s.Telesonic Networks Limited)” is hereby Recommended</p> <p>The conditions proposed by the District Forest Officer, Komarambheem-Asifabad district in Part-II and the Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project Tiger, Kawal Tiger Reserve circle in Part-III are agreed to and may be stipulated in the approval.</p>
<p>Dated:25/02/2023 Place: HYDERABAD</p>	<p align="center">Signed by Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal Date: 25-02-2023 17:17:25 Reason: Approved Sd/-Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal, Signature Name & Designation (Official seal)</p>

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT

From:
Sri C.P. Vinod Kumar, I.F.S.,
Chief Conservator of Forests &
Field Director Project Tiger,
Kawal Tiger Reserve, Mancherial.

To:
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forests Force),
Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad,
Hyderabad, Telangana State.

Rc. No. 480/2020/D2(FCA), Date:13-01-2023.

Sir,

Sub:- TSFD – F(C) Act, 1980 – Diversion of forest land to an extent of **1.1188 Ha** from Kaghaznagar to Kouthal to Yellur passing through various RFs of Kaghaznagar Forest Division of Kumram Bheem-Asifabad District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of **Telesonic Networks Limited**, Hyderabad – Processed proposals in FCA formats submitted – Reg.

Ref :- 1. PCCF, TS, Hyd Rc. No. 2471/2022/FCA-3, Dt. 17.03.2022.
2. PCCF, TS, Hyd Rc. No. FC3/FC15/15/2022(i), Dt. 24.04.2022.
3. DFO, KB(A), Rc. No. 564/2022/S4, Dt. 20.12.2022.

In compliance to the instructions issued in the reference 1st and 2nd cited above, it is submitted that, the District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad vide ref. 3rd cited above has submitted the processed proposals for Diversion of forest land to an extent of **1.1188 Ha** from Kaghaznagar to Kouthal to Yellur passing through various RFs of Kaghaznagar Forest Division of Kumram Bheem-Asifabad District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of Telesonic Networks Limited, Hyderabad

It is submitted that, the District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad has processed the proposals in FCA format with recommendation in Part-II. The details of the proposals are as follows;

I. Proposals by the User Agency i.e., Telsonic Networks Limited, Hyderabad in Part-I

a) The User Agency i.e., Telsonic Networks Limited, Hyderabad has submitted proposals in Part-I, under F (C) Act, 1980 for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road from Kaghaznagar to Kouthal to Yelur and within the existing Right of Way in Forest Land through Kagaznagar Division of KB-Asifabad District. The cost of the project is Rs.2.5 Cr.

b) Justification by the U.A. for locating the project in Kaghaznagar forest area.

1. The telecom cables are always laid along the admitted Row due to easy supervision, quick maintenance, and low cost of maintenance. The Applicant does not have to acquire land for this purpose as the road side land belongs to State Govt. Telangana State (but the existing Road is passing through Forest). Laying of Cable shall be done on a 45 cm. width of surface land, & upto 1.2 metres of depth and near to the extreme road boundary (in exiting RoW) where alignment of trench will be done in such way that no tree will be required to be cut. The laying of telecom transmission cable along roadside is an agreed policy of the Applicant and Ministry of Surface Transport.

2. This Optical Fiber Cable system will fulfill the needs of Telecommunication circuits and Wireless Broadband Services and other Data for the Government, Industries, Defense and Society. This telecom Infrastructure shall lead to growth in economy and hence more employment and better living conditions of the geography/ state/ Country.

3. This new scheme of laying optical fiber Cable is most modern and state of art Technology in the field of Digital Telecommunication. Moreover the same cable will provide most of new value added services as well as it will cater forth needs of integrated Services Digital Network.

c) Purpose wise breakup of the total land required: -

The total purpose wise break-up of the land required is as follows;

Sl No.	Division	RF	Length in Mts	Width in Mts	Area in Ha
1	Kag haznagar	Vempalli	939.37	0.45	0.0423
2	Kag haznagar	Vempalli, Achally	6285.15	0.45	0.2828
3	Kag haznagar	Kadamba Ext-II	1851.70	0.45	0.0833
4	Kag haznagar	Muthyampet	2271.92	0.45	0.1022
5	Kag haznagar	Bijjir, Bjjur Ext-VIII, Kadamba, Kadamba Ext-IV	13516.28	0.45	0.6082
		Total	24864.42	-	1.1188

d) The User Agency has informed that, the displacement of people due to said project is NIL.

e) Regarding undertaking to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of **Compensatory Afforestation**, the User Agency has furnished undertaking to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of Compensatory Afforestation and/or Penal Compensatory in any of the Degraded forest land if any as per the scheme prepared by the Forest Department in connection with the Diversion of forest land to an extent of **1.1188 Ha** from Kag haznagar to Kouthal to Yellur passing through various RFs of Kag haznagar Forest Division of Kumram Bheem-Asifabad District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of Telesonic Networks Limited, Hyderabad.” The U.A. has also furnished undertaking to pay additional amount if any due to escalation or any changes at later date as per the demand raised by forest authorities.

f) The User Agency has also furnished the following certificates/documents: -

- Justification for locating the project inside the Forest Land
- Undertaking for depositing the funds towards raising and maintenance of Compensatory afforestation.
- Undertaking for depositing the funds towards payment of Net Present Value and additional NPV.
- Undertaking for depositing the funds towards payment of extraction of tree growth.
- Certificate of Area minimum use.
- Detailed statement required of forest land
- Map in SI sheet showing the proposed forest land
- Certificate for non-violation of forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 etc.,

II. The District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad has furnished information in Part-II as follows:-

- The proposed forest area of diversion for Laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road within the existing Right of way is passing through Compt. Nos. 78 & 83 of Kag haznagar Range, Compt. Nos. 92, 159 & 161 of Sirpur Range and 155, 825, 236, 819, 804 of Penchikalpet Range and 230, 227, 228, 235 of Bejjur Range of Kag haznagar Division
- The User Agency has proposed diversion area is **1.1188 Ha** (length is 24864.42 meters with a width of 0.45 meters). As per field condition, the proposed diversion is passing through various Reserve Forests is **0.9934 Ha** (length is 22077.45 meters with a width of 0.45 meters). Remaining length of 2786.97 and area 0.1254 is falling outside the Reserve Forests.
- The legal status of the Forest Block is as follows.**

Sl No	Name of the RF Block	Notified U/s	Notification details
1	Kadamba	19 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 19 vide Notification No HFA No 2 of 1355 F.
2	Kadamba Ext – VI	15 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 15 vide Notification No G.O Ms.No 281 F&RD dt. 20.06.1982.

3	Bejjur	18 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 18 vide Notification No 50, dt 20.12.1353 F.
4	Bejjur Ext – VII	15 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 15 vide Notification No GO.Ms NO 419 F&RD For III Dept. Dt.9-9-1974. AP. Gazette No 488.dt.12-12-74. Add. Dist. Gazette No dt17-1-75.
5	Bejjur Ext – VIII	15 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 15 vide Notification No GOMs No 915 F&RD Dept. Dt 15-10-1976.
6	Vempally	15 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 15 vide Notification No G.O Ms.No 146 F&RD dt. 23-03-1982
7	Achelly	15 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 15 vide Notification No G.O.Ms.No. 83 F&RD III Department dt 03-02-1977 AP. Gazette No. II dt. 17-03-1977 Dist. Gazette No-Nil dt 17-11-1977.
8	Kadamba Ext – II	15 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 15 vide Notification No GO.Ms No766 FCRD Form III dt .06-10-1977AP.Gazette No 450 dt 10-11-77 Dist. Gazette No 2 dt 17-2-78.
9	Muthampet	19 of APF Act, 1967	Notified Under Section 19 vide Notification HFA No.12 of 1355 F Notification No. 261 dt 8-10-1955

- The proposed area is having different type of vegetations, which is having 0.2 Density.
- There is no tree growth is existing in the proposed diversion area.
- There will be no noticeable erosion
- The proposed diversion forest area for Laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road within the existing Right of way is passing through Compt Nos. 78 & 83 of Kaghaznagar Range, Compt Nos. 92, 159 & 161 of Sirpur Range and 155, 825, 236, 819, 804 of Penchikalpet Range and 230, 227, 228, 235 of Bejjur Range of Kagaznagar Division.
- The proposed diversion area an extent of **0.9934 Ha** is falling in “**Corridor area of Kawal Tiger Reserve**” which is passing through various compartment numbers of Kagaznagar Division of Kumuram Bheem-Asifabad District is as follows.

Sl No.	Range	Tiger Corridor	Total (ha)
		Compartment numbers	
1	Kagaznagar	78 & 83	0.192
2	Sirpur	92, 159 & 161	0.264
3	Penchikalpet	155, 825, 236, 819, 804	0.324
4	Bejjur	230, 227, 228, 235	0.2134
		Total	0.9934

- The “Corridor area of Kawal Tiger Reserve” in Kaghaznagar Sirpur, Penchikalpet and Bejjur Ranges which is a linking Corridor of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve and Kawal Tiger Reserve. This area has transient tigers moving from Maharastra state to Kagaznagar Division of Telangana state.
- That, no protected archaeological / heritage site / defense establishment or any other important monument are located in the area.
- As per justification given by User agency and the field conditions, the barest minimum and unavoidable area for the project is 0.9934 Ha. Right of Way is admitted as per the Gazette notification is 0.3059 ha in Vempally RF and Achelly RF.
- That no work in violation of the FC Act has been carried out by the User Agency in the proposed area of diversion.
- The District Forest Officer, KB Asifabad has identified the Degraded Forest Land (DFL) for Compensatory Afforestation to an extent of for **2.00 Ha (double the area of 0.9934 Ha)** in Compartment No. 46 of Itikalpahad Beat of Makidi Section of Sirpur Range of Kaghaznagar Division of Kumuram Bheem-Asifabad and the financial outlay of the CA scheme is Rs.16.650 Lakhs

Specific recommendation of the District Forest Officer: -

The area proposed for diversion is barest minimum and unavoidable without alternatives, hence the proposed project may be approved. Thus, the diversion area of **0.9934 Ha** for Laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road within the existing Right of way with width of 0.45 meters over a length of 22077.45 meters, in Kagaznagar Forest Division, is recommended considering all the aspects mentioned in the proposal and field conditions.

Comments of the District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad in his site inspection report:-

That, on 13.07.2022, he has inspected the proposed Diversion of Forest Land to an extent 1.1188 Ha from Kagaznagar to Koutala to Yellur passing through various RFs of Kagaznagar Forest Division of Komarambheem Asifabad District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s Telesonic Network Limited, Hyderabad along with concerned staff. As per the field verification of the proposed diversion area, the details of which are as follows.

Sl NO	Range	Compt No	RF	Proposed diversion area as per DGPS Map by PCCF			Area as per field verification			RoW	PA/ESZ
				Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (Ha)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (Ha)		
1	Kagaznagar	78	Vempally	939.37	0.45	0.0423	513.1	0.45	0.0231	Yes, road from Kagaznagar to Sirpur	Tiger Corridor
			Sub-total	939.37		0.0423	513.10		0.0231		
2	Kagaznagar	83	Vempally	6285.15	0.45	0.2828	3753	0.45	0.1689	Yes, road from Kagaznagar to Sirpur	Tiger Corridor
	Sirpur	92	Achelly				2532.15	0.45	0.1139	Yes, PWD road from Sirpur to Kagaznagar	Tiger Corridor
			Sub-total	6285.15		0.2828	6285.15		0.2828		
3	Sirpur	159	Kadamba Ext. II	4123.62	0.45	0.1855	1558	0.45	0.0701	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Sirpur	161	Muthampet				1778	0.45	0.0800	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
			Sub-total	4123.62		0.1855	3336		0.1501		
4	Penchikalpet	155	Kadamba	13516.28	0.45	0.6082	617.7	0.45	0.0278	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Penchikalpet	825	Kadamba Ext VI				833.7	0.45	0.0375	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Penchikalpet	236	Bejjur				2607	0.45	0.1173	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Penchikalpet	819	Bejjur Ext VII				2245	0.45	0.101	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Penchikalpet	804	Bejjur Ext VIII				898.6	0.45	0.0404	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Bejjur	230	Bejjur				834.19	0.45	0.0375	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Bejjur	227	Bejjur				2753.21	0.45	0.1239	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Bejjur	228	Bejjur				776.98	0.45	0.035	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
	Bejjur	235	Bejjur				376.82	0.45	0.017	No RoW	Tiger Corridor
			Sub-total	13516.28		0.6082	11943.2		0.5374		
			Total	24864.42		1.1188	22077.45		0.9934		

The District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad has also reported the following;

- The proposed diversion area is passing through Reserve Forests Vempally, Achelly, Kadamba Ext. II, Muthampet, Kadamba, Kadamba Ext-VI, Bejjur, Bejjur Ext VII, Bejjur Ext VIII, the length is 22077.45 meters with a width of 0.45 meters which is amounting to the total area, required for diversion in Kagaznagar Division of KB-Asifabad District is **0.9934 Ha** and Remaining length of 2786.97 and area 0.1254 is falling outside the Reserve Forests.

- The proposed diversion forest area of Optical Fibre Cable is passing along the road side in Reserve Forest. The proposed area density of vegetation is 0.2. There is no tree growth is existing on the proposed alignment, as it is passing along the road. Right of Way is admitted as per the Gazette notification is **0.3059 Ha** in Vempally RF and Achelly RF.
- The area proposed for diversion is barest minimum and unavoidable without alternatives for the project.
- **No violation against the Forest Conservation Act, 1980** has been carried out by the User Agency.

Further, the District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad has reported that, Right of Way is admitted as per the Gazette notification is **0.3059** ha in Vempally RF and Achelly RF however the User Agency has submitted the proof having initiated FRA clearance process and also submitted the wildlife mitigation plan of Rs.37.500 Lakhs which are enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

The Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project Tiger, Kawal Tiger Reserve Circle, Mancherial further submits that, **the proposal for diversion is recommended subject to the following conditions:**

1. The work shall be completed in short period of 40 days.
2. There shall be no camping of labour and machinery in the forest area and lighting of any fire or use of firewood from forest.
3. The UA shall not litter the forest area with Oil, plastic, etc
4. The conditions proposed by the District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad shall be implemented.
5. The works shall not be done during 05.00 PM to 08.00 AM.
6. The wildlife mitigation plan shall be implemented as proposed.

Hence, the proposals duly processed by the District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad along with duly filled in Part-III by the Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project Tiger, Kawal Tiger Reserve Circle, Mancherial are submitted herewith in (04) sets.

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

Yours faithfully,

Encl: (As above)

Sd/-

Chief Conservator of Forests &
Field Director Project Tiger,
Kawal Tiger Reserve, Mancherial.


Copy submitted to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & CWLW, TS, Hyderabad for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, KB-Asifabad for information.

Sd/-

Chief Conservator of Forests &
Field Director Project Tiger,
Kawal Tiger Reserve, Mancherial.

//T.C.B.O.//


Superintendent.
13/01/23