

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

(ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ

Office of the
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)



ಅರಣ್ಯಭವನ, 18ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ

ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560003

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Old File No. A5(2).GFL.CR-25/2016-17

E-office File No. KFD/HOFF/A5-2(GFL)/19/2019-FC

E - 71954

Date 02-07-2020

ENC - *Wildlife mitigation plan*

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Forest, Environment and Ecology Department
M.S. Building, Bengaluru - 560 001

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 14.017 hectare of forest land in Sy No.69 of Seebi village, SyNo.11 & 15 of Chikkaseebi village, SyNo.36 of SeebiAgrahara Village in Sira Taluk and Sy No.9, 27 & 28 of Thimmarajanahalli Village in Tumakuru Taluk, Tumakuru District for laying new Broad Gauge Line between Tumakuru and Davanagere via Sira, Hiriyur and Chitradurga in favour of the Deputy Chief Engineer, North II, Construction, South-Western Railway, Bengaluru

Proposal No.FP/KA/RAIL/22897/2016

- Ref:**
1. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Regional office (Southern Zone), Bengaluru letter F.No .4-KRC1209/2019-BAN/02 dated 13-04-2020 [*EDS query seeking Undertaking from User Agency and copy of approved Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Plan*]
 2. Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru letter No FEE 08 FLL 2019 dated 12-05-2020[*communication of EDS Query*]
 3. This office letter of even No. dated 20-05-2020 and 08-06-2020[*communication of EDS Query to field officers and User Agency*]
 4. Deputy Chief Engineer, North-II, Construction, South Western Railway, Bengaluru letter No. 338/TK-CTA-DVG/NL/CN/BNC/Forest dated 08-06-2020[*offline reply to EDS Query*]
 5. Online transfer of web link by Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle to this office on 23-06-2020[*in response to GOI EDS Query*]

With reference to the above subject, Government of India vide Ref (1) has sought certain clarification/ additional information on three specific points in respect

of the abovementioned proposal. The same was forwarded by the Government of Karnataka vide Ref (2) to this office, which further transmitted it vide Ref (3) to the field officers and User Agency.


In response, the User Agency vide Ref (4) has submitted the reply (in offline mode) to this office directly. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle vide Ref (5) has transferred the web portal link to this office. Based on above, the reply to the information sought by Government of India is furnished below.

Information sought by Government of India on 13-04-2020	Reply
1 An assessment of requirement of the forest land in Chitradurga and Davanagere districts	<p>User Agency has assessed the requirement of forest land for this new Broad Gauge Line in Chitradurga and Davanagere districts and has since submitted another FC Proposal No. FP/KA/RAIL/44080/2020 seeking diversion of forest land required in these two districts as shown below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chitradurga District - 3.323 ha 2. Davanagere District - 3.53 ha <p>This new proposal is under process of acceptance by Nodal Officer for further processing under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Time Line of the proposal is enclosed herewith.</p>
2 Undertaking that User Agency will be able to execute the project through alternative alignment avoiding forest land, if any proposal for diversion of forest land in these districts are declined under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980	<p>The User Agency has submitted an Undertaking with the following points.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Alignment is passing at the edge of the forest area and length of the alignment in forest area is kept very minimum at 0.637 KM in Chitradurga District and 1.001KM Davanagere District. ii. Alignment is straight at these locations. To avoid forest area, sharp curves are to be introduced which reduces the speed of trains and increase frequency of maintenance. iii. Introduction of curves will lead to the increased track length, extra acquisition of land and steep gradients. iv. At present, the land acquisition is almost completed for the entire project except forest land. The entire alignment will get changed followed by fresh land acquisition, in case the forest land is not granted for the project. This will lead to delay in project execution and increase the project cost. v. However, Railway will undertake the

		<p>possibility of shifting the alignment to avoid the forest land duly escalating the issue to appropriate authority in case the forest land is not granted for the project.</p> <p>The same may be considered for the purpose.</p>
3	Wildlife Mitigation Plan as approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden	<p>The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka, vide letter No. KFD/WL/LAND(LND)/60/2019 dated 30-05-2020 has approved the Wildlife Management Plan concerning the project alignment in Tumakuru District. Copy of the same is enclosed herewith.</p>

In view of the above, it is requested to move to Government of India seeking Stage-I approval for the above proposal under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

Yours Faithfully



(Rajiv Ranjan, IFS)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA)



Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle, Hassan for information.

Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumakuru Division, Tumakuru for information.

Copy to the Deputy Chief Engineer, North-II, Construction, South Western Railway, No.18, Millers Road, Bengaluru Cantonment, Bengaluru – 560 046 for information.

RS
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3-7-2020