

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

Letter No.3733/Section-II /2016

Dated:22-6-2017.

From
The Principal Secretary to Government ,
EFS & T Department,
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat,
Velagapudi, Amaravathi, -522503

To
The Secretary
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
Government of India,
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Aliganj,
Jorbagh Road, New Delhi -110 003 (w.e.)

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 469.18 ha. of forest land in (12) R.Fs. of Eluru Forest Division for Chintalapudi Lift Irrigation Scheme Package-I & II, in favour of Chief Engineer, Godavari Delta System, Dowleswaram – Furnishing of additional information - Reg.

Ref: 1. From PCCF & HoFF, AP, Lr.Rc.No.36710/2013-FCA-1,dt.24-6-2016
2. State Govt. letter No.3733/Section-II/2016, Dt.9-8-2016.
3. From GoI,MoEf&C.C, Lr F No.8-38/2016-FC, Dated.16-12-2016
4. From PCCF & HoFF, Lr Rc.No.36710/2013/FCA-1, Dt.14-6-2017

I invite your attention to the reference 2nd cited, wherein the State Government have forwarded a proposal to accord necessary approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of diversion of 469.18 ha. of forest land in (12) R.Fs. of Eluru Forest Division for Chintalapudi Lift Irrigation Scheme Package-I & II, in favour of Chief Engineer, Godavari Delta System, Dowleswaram.

2. The Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi in the reference 3rd cited, have requested the State Government to furnish certain additional information on four points as mentioned therein for further consideration of the proposal.

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh in his letter 4th cited, has reported that the demand of the project is increased by the Government of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O.Ms.No.94, Water Resources Department, Dt.03.09.2016 and accordingly the requirement of forest land also increased from 2704 ha to 3642 ha in which the Jalleru reservoir component of forest land also increases from 1938 ha to 2875 ha as the capacity of the reservoir is increased from 8 TMC to 20 TMC extending the irrigation facilities to Krishna District also. In the process of phasing out the project the Water Resource Department Authorities i.e. the user agency proposed to obtain the Forest Clearances phase wise as noted below:-

Sl.No.	Category	Forest land required in (Ha)	Remarks
1	First Phase	347.64	Jalleru Reservoir Component is withdrawn in this phase
2	Second Phase	3294.36	The Jalleru Reservoir component will be included in this phase.
	Total	3642.00	

5. The Water Resources Department has come up with proposal for diversion of 347.64 Ha (i.e 469.18 Ha - 121.54 of Forest land in First Phase duly deleting the Jalleru Bund - 56.02+ Spill way-60.74 + Saddle bund -4.78 which will be executed in second phase. With the above change, the requirement of forest land in 1st phase is only 347.64 Ha as it is the linear stretch for canal and pressure mains. Hence, as reported by the User Agency, impounding of water and submergence of forest area in Jalleru reservoir does not arise in first phase.

6. The details of the information as desired by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change and the replies furnished by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Information as desired by GoI, MoEF&C.C	Reply furnished by PCCF & HoFF
1	The catchment area treatment plan with cost projections as due be provided.	The user agency has submitted that in the 1 st phase the revised requirement of Forest land is limited to canals and pressure main works duly deleting Jalleru bund, spill channel and saddle bund portion. As such there will not be any submergence of Forest area in Jalleru Reservoir system in the 1 st phase. Hence, the CAT plan does not arise in the 1 st Phase. However, CAT plan will be submitted during the 2 nd phase proposals.
2	The duly approved R&R Plan be provided	The user agency has submitted that in the 1 st Phase, the revised requirement of Forest land is limited to canals & pressure main works. As such the rehabilitation and resettlement plans does not arise in the 1 st phase. However, R&R plan will be submitted during the 2 nd phase proposals, as there will not be any submergence in the 1 st phase.
3	The complete details of having followed mandated procedure as per Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. Including copies of Grama Sabha Resolutions (vernacular and translated) be provided.	The user agency has submitted necessary documents under Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 including Grama Sabha Resolutions duly signed by the Collector & District Magistrate, West Godavari.
4	Only 250 ha of the 508.39 ha of non-forest land provided is suitable for Compensatory Afforestation (CA). Alternate compensatory afforestation land be provided in lieu, of the remaining area proposed to be diverted along with site suitability certificate for the entire CA land. The CA scheme to be revised accordingly.	The Chief Conservator of Forests, Rajahmundry vide letter dt.09.06.2017 has submitted the revised CA scheme for 519.88 Ha for Rs.924.59 Lakhs as per the revised requirement of forest land in the 1st phase submitted by the Divisional Forest Officer, Visakhapatnam and CCF/CF, Visakhapatnam for the non-forest CA land identified for 519.88 Ha and handed over in Vishakhapatnam. The excess land of 519.88-347.64=172.24 Ha may be adjusted in the next phase of the project.

7. The User Agency has submitted the statements showing the area details of forest land required in phase-I and phase-II with reference to RF wise, Compartment wise, Component wise, and the revised CA scheme together with the following 3 types of maps for ready reference:-.

- i. Map showing the revised requirement of forest land (347.64 ha) in first phase.
- ii. Map showing the balance requirement of forest land (3294.36 ha) in second phase.
- iii. The map showing the requirement of total forest land of 3642 ha and other lands.

8. A copy of the letter of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh together with the enclosures is enclosed. I request to obtain and communicate the approval of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the matter at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

R. Venkateswara Rao

for Principal Secretary to Government

gq

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

The Chief Engineer,
Godavari Delta System, Dowleswaram, East Godavari District.

