GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT

From Sri B.SAIDULU, I.F.S., Conservator of Forests, Karimnagar Circle, Karimnagar.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force),
Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad,
Hyderabad,
TELANGANA STATE.

Rc.No. 167/2022/M2, Dated: - 06-05-2022.

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Sub:- TSFD - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Handing over of Rehabilitated Overburden dumps (in non-forest land) of mines as Compensatory land towards new proposals of SCCL for diversion of forest land for coal mining, request to accept these lands as CA -Report submitted - Reg.

Ref:-

- 1) Prl CCF (HoFF) TS Hyd Rc No 10088/2021/FCA-4, dt 10.01,2022.
- 2) C.F., Karimnagar Rc.No. 167/2022/M2, dt. 24-01-2022.
 - 3) D.F.O., Peddapally Rc.No. 94/S4/2022, dt. 12-02-2022.
 - 4) General Manager, Ramagundam Area-I The SCCL Ref. RG.I/EST/CA/K-474/2022/189, dt. 14-02-2022.
 - 5) Director (Operations) The SCCL., Kothagudem Ref.CRP/EST/C-005/257, dt. 14-02-2022.
 - 6) C.F., Karimnagar Rc.No. 167/2022/M2, dt. 19-02-2022.
 - 7) D.F.O., Peddapally Rc.No. 94/S4/2022, dt. 21-02-2022.
 - 8) C.F., Karimnagar Rc.No. 167/2022/M2, dt. 23-02-2022.
 - 9) D.F.O., Peddapally Rc.No. 94/S4/2022, dt. 05-05-2022.

With reference to the subject cited above, it is submitted that the District Forest Officer, Peddapally vide reference 9th cited, has submitted a report that the General Manager, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, RG-I, Ramagundam vide Ref. RG.I/EST/CA/K- 474/2022/189, dt. 14-02-2022 has submitted a report that as per the guidelines issued by the MoEF& CC, Government of India, the Singareni Collieries Company Limited has identified the non-forest land to the extent of 650.59 Ha. available in the form of settled rehabilitated dumps of the closed mines at Medipally in Ramagundam to provide C.A. land for the Venkatesh Khani OCP project at Kothagudem. The details of proposed non-forest land of 650.59 Ha. are as follows.

Sl.	Details of the Land Parameter	Extent (Ha.)	Extent (Ha.) (Area
No.	<u> </u>	(Plan area)	including slopes)
I.	Status of land proposed for CA (Area in Ha.)		·
1.	Plantation completed as per norms (1000 plants/Ha.)	495.51	521.19
	in External Dump - I, II, III, internal roads, earthern		
	bund against Godavari river along mine barrier, base		
	workshop and site office.	,	
	(Shown in plan – from S.No. 1 to 6)		
2.	Plantation completed 1000 plants / Ha. (less than 2	90.00	164.33
	years of age and less than 10cm girth) in internal dump		
	phase I & II (Shown in plan – from S.No. 7 to 8)		·
3.	Plantation yet to be taken up (Internal dump phase I &	65.08	
	II) (Shown in plan from S.No. 7 to 8)		
	Total area in Ha.	650.59	685.52
4.	Perimeter of the land proposed for CA (in KM)		23.15

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The District Forest Officer, Peddapally has submitted that the General Manager, SCCL, Ramagundam-I has submitted that these areas were planted with native species namely bamboo, Ficus benghalensis, Ficus religiosa, Terminalia billarica, T.arjuna, Tamarindus indica, Emblica officinalis, Madhuca latifolia, Inga dulci, Pterocarpus marsupium etc., from 2004 to 2021. The details of saplings planted and their survival is as follows.

Sl.No.	Parameter	Number	
1.	Saplings planted	1067828	
2.	Survival .	817952	
3.	Survival percentage	76%	

The District Forest Officer, Peddapally has submitted that the General Manager, SCCL, Ramagundam-I has requested to recommend to the MoEF& CC, GoI to accept these lands as C.A. towards diversion of forest land for Venkatesh Khani Coal Mine by taking 649.3014 Ha. of area. Out of which 495.51 Ha. of area having trees more than 1000/Ha. and in 90.00 Ha. of area, more than 1000 trees/ Ha. but less than 2 years of age and less than 10 cm dia. In the remaining area of 65.08 Ha. plantation is yet to be taken up as these dumps are reclaimed recently and SCCL wants to complete the planting during 2022 planting season.

The District Forest Officer, Peddapally has submitted that, while communicating the list of sample plots to the General Manager, SCCL, Ramagundam-I it was requested to enumerate and submit the enumeration data. The General Manager, SCCL, Ramagundam-I has submitted abstract details of the enumeration data of the sample plots of each 0.1 Ha for (37) plots, spread across OB dump area of 495.51 Ha. The details of enumeration data of sample plots submitted by the SCCL is shown in Annexure–I(enclosed).

The District Forest Officer, Peddapally has submitted that the plot wise details of no.of plants, no.of native species and no.of exotic species are shown in Annexure-II (enclosed). The analysis of enumeration data is as below.

No. of Sample	No. of plants with above 10 cmsdia				
plots of 0.1 Ha	Total No. of plants in 37 plots	No. of Native species plants	Percentage of Native Species plants	No. of Exotic species plants	Percentage of exotic species plants
37	4114	1061	26 %	3053	74 %

Further the District Forest Officer, Peddapally has submitted that, he alongwith Conservator of Forests, Karimnagar Circle, Karimnagar and SCCL Officials have inspected the above OB dump area on 09.02.2022 and also inspected the said area

on 05.04.2022 along with Forest Range Officer, Peddapally and with SCCL officials and observed that the vegetation covered with nativé & exotic species and it is mostly with exotic species like *Leuacaena leucocaphala* and *Prosopis juliflora*.

The District Forest Officer, Peddapally has submitted that, as per the MoEF& CC, GoI guidelines "Non forest land reclaimed by any User Agency by planting native species of a minimum of 1000 trees per Ha and of minimum 10 Cms diameter at breast height can be considered as CA in lieu of Forest land to be diverted without levying planting cost". As per enumeration data of sample plots it is observed that on average there are 1111 number of plants with above 10 Cms dia per Ha., are present in the OB dump areas but the native species are around 26% only, remaining are exotic species like Leuacaena leucocaphala, Prosopis juliflora.

The District Forest Officer, Peddapally has submitted that, due to availability of large extant of the area at a single location, having good growth, the above OB dumped areas may be considered as CA lands subject to the following conditions.

- 1) As most of the species are exotic in the OB dumped area, some of these species to be removed wherever feasible and native species to be planted.
- 2) As per MoEF & CC guidelines there should be native species of minimum 1000 trees per Ha, but as per sample plot data there is less than 1000 trees of native species. Hence after replacing some of the native species in feasible areas, the balance plants to be planted in DFL areas.
- 3) Pathways to be formed to approach the higher slopes of the OB dump areas.
- 4) The entire area shall be fenced with Chain link fencing/See through wall by the User Agency before handing over of the area.
- 5) Apart from the above CA costs, for taking up Boundary pillars around the proposed CA area, the cost shall be borne by the User Agency.
- 6) All roads passing through the proposed CA area to be closed before handing over the areas.
- 7) If any boundary disputes are exists, they should be settled before handing over the areas to the Forest Department.
- 8) The maintenance cost of the recently raised plantations and to be raised plantations in the proposed CA areas, shall be borne by the User Agency.
- 9) Habitat improvement activities like SMC works, Check walls, RFDs and Solar bore wells and other works shall be taken up in the proposed CA areas with the cost of User Agency.

In view of the above, it is submitted that I have inspected the above OB dump area on 09.02.2022 alongwith District Forest Officer, Peddapally and SCCL Officials and observed that the area is having good vegetation growth covered with native and exotic

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species. But it is observed that majority of the plants are exotic species like *Leuacaena* leucocaphala and *Prosopis juliflora*. Further I submit that I agree with the proposals of the District Forest Officer, Peddapally and it is recommended for acceptance of non-forest land proposed to an extent of 650.59 Ha. over the rehabilitated overburden dump areas falling in Peddapally forest division, in lieu of diversion of RF areas for proposed for mining at Venkatesh Khani OCP project in Kothagudem Circle, subject to the conditions as mentioned by the District Forest Officer, Peddapally.

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

Encl:- 1) Ref. 9th cited,

2) Annexure-I & II,

3) Map & KML file.

Yours faithfully,

Conservator of Forests,

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