GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT

From Sri Y. Madhusudhana Reddy,IFS., Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests Head of Forest Force(FAC), Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri – 522503.

To The Spl. Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi- 522 503.

<u>Ref. No. EFS02-15029/94/2018-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-2, dated:</u> <u>26/01/2023.</u>

Sir,

Sub: APFD – F (C) Act, 1980 – Diversion of 4.23 ha forest land in
 Compartmentno.450 of Yerragonda RF, Tummagunta (V) Kanigiri (M)
 Prakasham District for excavation of Quartz in favour of M/s. Sri
 AhobilaNarasimha Minerals – Additional information submitted – Reg.

- Ref:- 1. Online Unique Proposal No. FP/AP/QRY/38806/2019, Dt.13.02.2019.
 2. PCCF (HoFF) A.P., Guntur Rc.No.EFS02-15029/94/2018/FCA-SEC/PCCF/FCA-2, Dt.08.11.2022.
 - 3. GM no. 275/Section.II/2021/1086660, EFS & T (Section.II) Dept., dated: 02.01.2023

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Kind attention is invited to the reference 3rd cited wherein the Government have requested to furnish the connected documents in respect of collection of security deposit of Rs.2.50 lakh per ha towards reclamation of mines in the forest area called for.

In this connection, it is submitted that, copy of the minutes of the meeting held by the Hon'ble Minister for EFS & T, Mines & Geology, GoAP on 05.09.2022 regarding various aspects of A.P., Forest Department is submitted herewith for favour of information and necessary action.

Encl:- As above

Yours faithfully Y Madhusudhana Reddy Ifs Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force(FAC)

Minutes of the Meeting held by the Hon'ble Minister for E,F,E,S&T, Mines & Geology, GoAP on 05.09.2022 regarding various aspects of A.P. Forest Department

The following Officers were participated in the meeting.

- 1. Sri Neerabh Kumar Prasad, I.A.S., Spl. Chief Secretary to Government, EFS&T.
- 2. Sri Y. Madhusudhana Reddy, I.F.S., Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF (FAC), A.P., Guntur.
- 3. Sri Binod Kumar Singh, I.F.S., Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (G&A YSRJHC, CAMPA & SF).
- 4. Dr.Rajendra Prasad Khajuria, I.F.S., Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (Prod.).
- 5. Sri Anand Kumar Jha, I.F.S., Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA/HRD).
- 6. Dr. K. Gopinatha, I.F.S., Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (Vigilance).
- 7. Dr. P.V. Chalapathi Rao, I.F.S., Addl. PCCF / Spl. Secretary to Government, EFS&T Department, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.
- 8. Dr.ShanthiPriya Pandey, I.F.S., Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife).
- 9. Sri Rahul Pandey, I.F.S., Addl.PCCF / Spl. Secretary to Government, Housing Department, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi.

At the outset, the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF (FAC), A.P., Guntur has extended warm welcome to the Hon'ble Minister for E,F,E,S&T, Mines &Geology, GoAP and all other officers present in meeting.

After detailed discussions and deliberations, following decisions were taken in the meeting:

1. Protection of Red Sanders:

- 1. Drone technology may be used in protection and prevention of Red sanders tree felling in co-ordination with RSASTF.
- 2. Proposal may be submitted for providing fast moving vehicles for strengthening Red sanders protection immediately.
- 3. To strengthen Red sanders protection vacancies may be filled up immediately in Forest department and RSASTF.
- 4. Co-ordination meeting between Police and Forest departments pertaining to Red sanders protection may be scheduled immediately.
- 5. Budget required for activities related to Red sanders conservation and protection may also be met from 30% sale proceeds of revenue obtained from sale of Red sanders retained with the PCCF &HoFF.

2.Red Sanders Sale:

Certification of grades of Red Sanders lots being put up for sale from a reputed 3rd party institute such as Institute of Wood Sciences and Technology, Bangalore to be done.

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3.Ecotourism:

- Assessment and evaluation of the existing facilities is to be done urgently. Inventory may be prepared. A Workshop may be proposed with all the CHs/DFOs. A presentation with photographs of all the facilities may be made for 5 minutes for each CBET.
- Further Development may be planned of the above facilities with the base line data which emerges during the workshop. A double pronged strategy has to be adopted for day facilities as well as for the facilities with night halts.
- At the entrance of every facility an arch may erected (a typed design may be finalised). A visitor centre and wash room may be constructed as visitor's amenities (semi- permanent structures) at the entrance. An interpretation centre depicting the local natural and cultural aspects may be established.
- 4. We may develop certain trails for the better appreciation of nature by the visitors. Way sides also may be erected depicting the values of the area.
- 5. A few semi-permanent structures may be constructed where the Forest communities, local tribal communities, SHGs may sell their products.
- 6. The bigger facilities may have rejuvenation facilities (semi-permanent in nature) also in collaboration with AYUSH department.
- Rasivanam, Nakhshatavanam etc. may also be developed with local indigenous species.
- In interpretation centres, Audio Video aids may be used. Interactives also may be put to the use.
- A Uniform colour code may be adopted for all the CBET facilities in consultation with stake holders for the entire state.
- We may develop and adopt an Insignia which can be displayed at all the CBET centres.
- 11.Basic Training for Community members in house-keeping may be organised. It may be done as a skill development programme.
- 12.Well demarcated trails for the tourists with proper interpretation may be developed. It may include the visits to the protection camp also which are located in eco-tourism zone.
- 13.A professional web site as state level with all the relevant information may be hosted.
- 14.Publicity Hoardings may be erected along the highways passing through these areas. Display of Hoarding and signage at nearby railway stations, airport etc. may be ensured.
- 15.A Short films on CBETs of the state may be made(may be shared on the official website)
- 16.A Short film about CBETs of AP (Duration 3 minutes) may be played in cinema hall etc. for publicity purpose.
- 17. The planning has to be site specific in consultation with the community.
- 18.Collaboration with APTDC will help to have package tours, involving these CBET centres.
- 19. The Nagarvanams, Vana- Mitramay also be developed in the same manner.

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20.A district wise action plan may be prepared for every district. It may include maintenance and further development of the existing CBETs, Nagarvanams, Vanamitras and other such facilities.

New Projects may be assessed as per existing framework of guidelines and further action may be taken after obtaining required clearances. in this regard.

4.Nagaravanam:

- 1. Present provisions for development of Nagaravanams under Nagaravanam-SDP and Nagar Van Yojana- GoIand progress of works in 28 Nagarvanams in the A.P state were explained to the Hon'ble Minister.
- 2. 28 Urban areas near Forests are selected for the program of establishing nagaravanams which provides healthy environment includes fresh air and greenery. As a first step, Rs.14.94 Crore are sanctioned to construct 14 nagaravanams in 6 districts and aimed t be complete in the current year. All the concerned DFOs to ground the works and report compliance to this Office.
- 3. Hon'ble Minster instructed to develop more Nagaravanams duly securing the proposals from Districts and Divisions.

5.Wildlife:

Animal Exchange Program in Zoos:

1. To improve animal collections in Zoos by getting in touch with other Zoos in India and abroad on exchange basis. Proposals by the Curators may be sent to this Office so as to recommend the Animal Exchange Proposals to the Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi.

Eco-Tourism Centers:

2. To promote ecotourism in the protected areas. The statement of funds allotted to each areas is enclosed herewith, the District/Divisional Forest Officers are requested to take up the grounding of works in time bound manner and to upload the bills with in the end of the third quarter.

Tram/ Ropeway:

3. Tram/ Ropeway from Kapilathirtham to Sri Venkateswara Zoological Park, Tirupati. To prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR). Chief Conservator of Forests, Tirupati with his team to prepare a rough blue print with a line estimate and we will take it forward from there based on the feasibilizity and technicality and necessary clearances.

Man- Animal Conflict:

4. To tackle conflict related to straying of Tiger, sloth bear and damage to agricultural fields, injury and death caused by wild elephants, Officers to take up proper preventive as well as permanent measures from elephants entering into the State at borders and bringing damage to agricultural fields along with wildlife and tribal people.

6.Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980:

Reclamation of Mines in Forest Areas:

On the issue of reclamation of mines, Spl. Chief Secretary, EFS&T, brought to the notice of Honourable Forest Minister that mine owners may not comply with GoI condition of reclamation of mined area once the mines are exhausted of minerals and to ensure compliance, security deposit may be collected by APFD.

PCCF(FCA) informed that in Departmental review meeting held on 01.07.2022 by Spl. C.S in CMO, emphasis was laid on the reclamation of mines in forest areas. PCCF(FCA) further informed that the security deposit presently being collected by the mining department was meagre and in case the mine owner did not carry out reclamation, the amount would not be sufficient to take up reclamation of the mined area and requested that a separate security deposit may be collected by APFD to ensure compliance of GoI condition on reclamation of mines.

Hon'ble Forest Minister suggested to recommend an amount of Rs.2.5 lakh/ha as security deposit to ensure reclamation of mines in forest areas in the state.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Sd/- Y.Madusudhana Reddy Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force (FAC)

То

All the Subject Heads in the O/o PCCF&HoFF for immediate action.

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