

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri .Vignesh Appavu G, I.F.S.,
Deputy Director,
Project Tiger, Markapur

To
The Chief Conservator of Forests &
Field Director & Project Tiger Circle,
Nandyala

Rc. No.2430/2019/DM, Dated: 28.06.2023

Sir,

Sub:- APFD- PT, Markapur - F (C) Act, 1980 – Diversion of 19.13 ha of forest land falling in Compartment No.67 & 68 of Gangalakunta RF, VP South Range, Markapur WL Division (part of Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary) in favour of Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division, Guntur for construction of pump house, pressure Main, Break Pressure Tank, Certain portion of Gravity Main & Inspection path for Varikapudisela Lift Irrigation Scheme on Varikapudisela foreshore of Nagarjunasagar reservoir near Gangalakunta village, Veldurthi Mandal, Guntur District – Additional Information Called for – Report Submission of - Regarding.

Ref:- 1) DFO (WL) Markapur Rc.No.2430/2019/DM Dated:05.07.2021.
2) CCF & FDPT, Srisailam Rc.No.1243/2019/TO, Dated:28.12.2022.
3) DD, PT, Markapur Rc.No.2430/2019/DM Dated:30.12.2022.
4) GOI, MoEF&CC, (WLD) F.No.6-29/2022 WL, Dated:19.05.2023.
5) PCCF (WL) & CWLW, AP, Mangalgiri Rc.No.21024/48/2020/WL-2, Dated:31.05.2023.

It is to submit that vide reference 2nd cited, the Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director, Project Tiger, Srisailam has instructed to submit the additional information on the following points.

1. Approval of SC-NBWL for the project.
2. Wildlife Mitigation Plan.

Accordingly vide reference 3rd cited, a letter was addressed to the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division, Guntur and requested to submit above points immediately.

With respect to Sl.No.1, it is to submit that, vide reference 4th cited, the Scientist E, Wildlife Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi, Government of India has communicated the minutes of 72nd SC-NBWL Meeting which was held on 25.04.2023 and the same was communicated by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden, AP, Mangalgiri vide reference 5th cited. Copies of the references 4th & 5th are enclosed for kind perusal. Wherein, the Wildlife clearance has been accorded for the said project with certain conditions.

With respect to Sl.No.2, it is to submit that, the information on Wildlife Mitigation Plan was already submitted to the Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director, Project Tiger, Srisailam vide reference 1st cited.

This is submitted for favour of information.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,
Sd Vignesh Appavu G
Deputy Director,
Project Tiger, Markapur.

Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden, AP, Guntur for favour of information.

Sd/- Vignesh Appavu G
Deputy Director,
Project Tiger, Markapur.

// T.C.B.O //

N. Venkata Sai
Administrative Officer
28/06/2023

30.06.2023

1:50 PM

F.No.6-29/2022 WL
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Wildlife Division)

2nd Floor, Vayu Wing,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi 110003
Date: 19th May, 2023

To,

The Special Chief Secretary,
Department of Environment, Science and Technology,
Aranya Bhavan, Sankurathri Residency,
Agathavarappadu, Mahatma Gandhi Inner Ring Road,
Peda Kakani Mandal,
Guntur-522509.

Sub: Proposal for use of 19.13 ha of forest land from Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary (part of Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve) for construction of Varikapudisela foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir in Veldurthi Mandal of Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh in favour of Superintendent Engineer, Irrigation Circle Office-FP/AP/Pipeline/144181/2021.

Sir,

Reference is invited to the subject mentioned above. The above proposal was discussed in the 72nd Meeting of Standing Committee of National Board for Wild Life held on 25th April, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

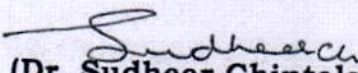
2. After discussion, the Standing Committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the following conditions:

- i. The User Agency should strictly follow the conditions while executing the work.
- ii. The status of the area shall remain as RF/PF.
- iii. The proposed area will be utilized only for the purpose for which the User Agency has sought, but not for any other commercial purpose.
- iv. The User Agency should inform the commencement of the work. The diversion work will be executed under the supervision of the Forest Department
- v. The User Agency should invariably demarcate the proposed land for diversion with any suitable permanent stones / pillars. After File No. EFS02-21024/48/2020-WILD LIFE SEC-PCCF demarcation only the works should be commenced.

- vi. The User Agency should not resort to excavation of the surrounding forest land for collection of earth to be used. If such excavation is found during work period or later, the User Agency will be charged under suitable provisions of relevant acts.
- vii. The User Agency shall obey to any other conditions stipulated by the Forest Department as per Acts and Rules.
- viii. The User Agency will be solely responsible for every violation which attracts the provisions of A.P. Forest Act, 1967, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.
- ix. The User Agency shall give an undertaking in accordance with the conditions stipulated.
- x. Wildlife Mitigation Plan for Rs.235.50 lakh to be deposited Wildlife Conservation Projects & CSR (WLC & CSR).
- xi. Wildlife signage boards to be erected in and around the entire project.
- xii. Work shall be carried out only from 6 a.m to 6 p.m.
- xiii. No labour camps to be established in the protected area.
- xiv. Explosives shall not be used inside the TR and ESZ.
- xv. The pumps and motors shall be operational only from July to December as and when required.
- xvi. Pipelines shall be laid underground and alignment will be done in such a manner to avoid tree felling in the core area of the Tiger Reserve.
- xvii. A patrolling post/Forest Guard Post shall be constructed along with the pump house & sub-station on the bank of Varakapudisela stream at the cost of user agency.
- xviii. No labour camps shall be allowed inside the core area of the Tiger Reserve.
- xix. Construction works shall be allowed only between sunrise and sunset.
- xx. The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wild Life Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wild Life Warden to Government of India.

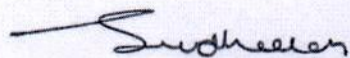
3. The minutes of the meeting have been posted online in the "PARIVESH" portal of this Ministry.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati)
Scientist 'E'
Email: sudheer.ch@gov.in

Copy to:

1. Chief Wild Life Warden, Department of Environment, Science and Technology, Aranya Bhavan, Sankurathri Residency, Agathavarappadu, Mahatma Gandhi Inner Ring Road, Peda Kakani Mandal, Guntur 522509.
2. Deputy Director General of Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Ist and IInd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-34 **for monitoring the compliance of the conditions.**
3. The Inspector General of Forests, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
4. The Joint Secretary, IA Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.



(Dr. Sudheer Chintalapati)

Scientist 'E'

Email: sudheer.ch@gov.in

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

Rc.No.21024/48/2020/WL-2 Dated:31/05/2023	Office of the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri
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Sri Y. Madhusudhana Reddy, I.F.S.,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) &
Chief Wildlife Warden, A.P

Sub: Andhra Pradesh - Forest Department - Construction of Varikapudisela LIS on Varikapudisela Foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir near Gangulakunta Village in Veldurthi Mandal of Guntur District - Wildlife clearance - Accorded by SC-NBWL - Minutes communicated - Instructions issued - Reg.
Ref: Scientist "E", MoEF & CC, WL Division, Gol, New Delhi F.No.6-29/2022 WL Dated 19.05.2023

Copy of the reference is enclosed herewith.

In the reference cited, the Scientist "E", MoEF & CC, WL Division, Gol, New Delhi has communicated the Minutes of the 72nd SC-NBWL Meeting which was held on 25.04.2023.

Among others, the following proposal is listed pertaining to the State of Andhra Pradesh. The details are as follows:

AGENDA NO.	NAME OF AGENDA
72.4.1	Proposal for use of 19.13 ha of forest land from Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary (Part of Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve) for construction of Varikapudisela Foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir in Veldurthi Mandal of Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh in favour of Superintendent Engineer, Irrigation Circle Office. FP/AP/Pipeline/144181/2021

After discussions, the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL) recommended the above proposal with the following conditions:

1. The User Agency should strictly follow the conditions while executing the work.
2. The status of the area shall remain as RF/PF.
3. The proposed area will be utilized only for the purpose for which the User Agency has sought, but not for any other commercial purpose.
4. The User Agency should inform the commencement of the work. The diversion work will be executed under the supervision of the Forest Department.
5. The User Agency should invariably demarcate the proposed land for diversion with any suitable permanent stones / pillars. After File No.EFS02-21024/48/2020-WILD LIFE SEC-PCCF demarcation only the works should be commenced.
6. The User Agency should not resort to excavation of the surrounding forest

- land for collection of earth to be used. If such excavation is found during work period or later, the User Agency will be charged under suitable provisions of relevant acts.
7. The User Agency shall obey to any other conditions stipulated by the Forest Department as per Acts and Rules.
 8. The User Agency will be solely responsible for every violation which attracts the provisions of A.P. Forest Act, 1967, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.
 9. The User Agency shall give an undertaking in accordance with the conditions stipulated.
 10. Wildlife Mitigation Plan for Rs.235.50 lakh to be deposited Wildlife Conservation Projects & CSR (WLC & CSR).
 11. Wildlife signage boards to be erected in and around the entire project
 12. Work shall be carried out only from 6 a.m to 6 p.m.
 13. No labour camps to be established in the protected area.
 14. Explosives shall not be used inside the TR and ESZ.
 15. The pumps and motors shall be operational only from July to December as and when required.
 16. Pipelines shall be laid underground and alignment will be done in such a manner to avoid tree felling in the core area of the Tiger Reserve.
 17. A patrolling post/Forest Guard Post shall be constructed along with the pump house & sub-station on the bank of Varakapudisela stream at the cost of user agency.
 18. No labour camps shall be allowed inside the core area of the Tiger Reserve.
 19. Construction works shall be allowed only between sunrise and sunset.
 20. The annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Gol.

Further, the Dy. Director, Project Tiger Division, Markapur is requested to obtain Condition-Wise compliance of the conditions stipulated by the SC-NBWL as well as the Committee from the User Agency, so as to submit the same to the competent authority at the earliest.

Encl: As above

Y Madhusudhana Reddy Ifs
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) &
Chief Wildlife Warden, AP.

To

The Dy. Director, Project Tiger Division, Markpaur.

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, & FD, Project Tiger Circle, Srisailam for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department, Guntur for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Integrated Regional Officer, South Region, MoEF & CC, Gol, Vijayawada for information.

Copy to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA), Office of the PCCF & HoFF, AP, Mangalagiri for information and necessary action.

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

Rc.No.21024/48/2020/WL-2

Dated:08/06/2023

Office of the Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests
& HoFF, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri

Sri Y. Madhusudhana Reddy, I.F.S.,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) &
Chief Wildlife Warden, A.P

Sub Andhra Pradesh - Forest Department - Construction of Vaikapudisela LIS on
:Varikapudisela Foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir near Gangulakunta
Village in Veldurthi Mandal of Guntur District - Wildlife Clearance accorded
by SC-NBWL - Further Instructions issued - Reg.

Ref: 1. Scientist "E", MoEF & CC, WL Division, GoI, New Delhi F.No.6-29/2022
WL Dated 19.05.2023.
2. PCCF (WL) & CWLW Rc.No.21024/48/2020/WL-2

Attention is invited to the subject matter and references cited.

In continuation to the reference 2nd cited, it is to inform that an amount of Rs.235.50 lakh to be deposited in Wildlife Conservation Projects & CSR (WLC & CSR) regarding Wildlife Mitigation Plan as per the condition stipulated by the SC-National Board for Wildlife (SC-NBWL). The Account details is as follows:

Name of the Account:	Wildlife Conservation Projects & CSR (WLC & CSR)
Name of the Bank	Union Bank of India, Kannavarithota Branch, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh
Account No.	024210100114054
IFSC code:	UBIN0802425

Y Madhusudhana Reddy Ifs
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) &
Chief Wildlife Warden, AP.

To

The Dy. Director, Project Tiger Division, Markpaur.

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, & FD, Project Tiger Circle, Srisailam for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department, Guntur for information and necessary action.

**Mitigation Plan for the project 'Construction of Varikapudisela LIS on
Varikapudisela foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir near Gangulakunta
Village in Veldurthy Mandal of Guntur District'**


Introduction:

Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve (NSTR) located in the Nallamalai hill ranges (off shoot of Eastern Ghats) of Andhra Pradesh is a repository of biological diversity with tiger as the flagship species. Two Wildlife Sanctuaries namely Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and Gundlabrahmeswaram Sanctuary constitute the tiger reserve area. The total area of the Tiger Reserve is 2545.9659 Sq.Kms. NSTR attained the status of Project Tiger Area during 1983.

There are around 80 species of mammals, 303 species of birds, 54 species of reptiles, 20 amphibians, 55 fishes, 101 species of butterflies, 57 species of moths, 45 species of Coleopterans, 30 species of Odonata and numerous other forms of insects found in this area. The fauna existing in the area are *Tiger, Panther, Nilgai, Chowsinga, Sambar deer, Spotted deer, Wild dog, Sloth bear, Honey badger, Porcupine, Civet cat, Palm civet cat, Crocodile, Water dogs, Python, Peacock, Jungle cat, Mouse deer, birds* and insects and diverse avifauna as well. The flora observed in the area proposed for diversion are *Jana, Billudu, Narepi, Sandra, Palabariki, Oddi, Yegisa, Nemalinara, Gotti, Rela, Mushti, Taluku, Chilla, Poliki, Anduga, Vepa, Thaadi, Aare, Muriki Nimma, Nemaliadugu, Velthuru, Chirumanu, Gumpena, Lokki, Narlinga, Kale, Kommi* etc., The ground flora consists of grasses which are beneficial to the wild animals.

Brief description of the project:-

The project 'Construction of Varikapudisela LIS on Varikapudisela foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir near Gangulakunta Village in Veldurthy Mandal of Guntur District' involves detailed investigation, engineering, estimation, design and construction of lift scheme for lifting of water from varikapudivagu near Gangulakunta village to irrigate an ayacut of 24,900 acres under Veldurthy, Uppalapadu, Gangulakunta, Gottipala, Sirigiripadu, Bodhiledu and Loyapalli Villages in single phase pumping and conveying with components such as construction of jackwell cum pump houses, associated civil hydro-mechanical works, electro-mechanical works, construction of transformer yards, laying of M.S pressure main, combined gravity main, gravity main construction of delivery cistern and other appurtenant works, Operation and Maintenance of entire system for 10 years etc. complete under EPC Turn-Key system. The User Agency for this project is M/s Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Circle, Guntur.



The proposed pump house, pressure main, break pressure tank, certain portion of gravity main & inspection path of Varikapudisela lift irrigation scheme pass through Comp No. 67 Gangalakunta RF and beat and Comp No. 68 Gangalakunta RF Gottipalla beat of Sirigiripadu Section which is in the core area of Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve V.P. South Range of Markapur (WL), Division and falls in the core area of Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve.

As per the justification furnished by the User Agency, several alternatives were studied and the present proposal was found to be the best out of the various proposals studied. It was stated by the User Agency that the water course of the river is at 10 mts to the proposed pump house and location is on Varikapudivagu which is located on the foreshore of Nagarjunasagar Reservoir, which is an advantageous feature for the scheme and due to which sufficient water will be available throughout the crop period. Hence the User Agency stated that there is no other alternative except proposing the diversion of 19.13 Ha of forest land and hence proposal for diversion of 19.13 Ha of forest land is submitted.

Around 3,104 trees are proposed to be felled due to this project. Deforestation can lead to a direct loss of wildlife habitat as well as a general degradation of their habitat and negative impacts viz., habitat fragmentation, scarcity of water resources, obstruction to the free movement of wildlife and fire hazards are perceived, to combat which, the following mitigation measures are proposed at the cost of the User agency:

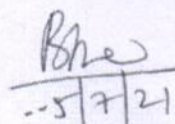
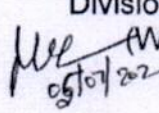
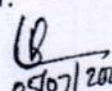
- The User Agency may be instructed to take up barbed wire fencing around the pump houses so as to avoid danger to the wild animals which venture into the area. As it is a technical work, the User Agency may be advised to include this component of work in their project proposal and execute the work on their own.
- Varikipudisela vagu, the location at which Pump house 1 is proposed to be constructed under this project is located in Comp 67, Gangalakunta RF and beat, Sirigiripadu section of V.P South Range, Markapur (WL), Division. Three other streams viz., Kanuthulakuppa, Cheekatisela and Yerrabondalapenta vagu, which are located in the same compartment also join Varikipudisela vagu. Wild animals mostly frequent Varikipudisela vagu for drinking water. As pump house 1 of the proposed project will be constructed near varikipudisela vagu, there will be an obstruction for drinking water for the wild animals due to this project. Hence, to overcome this obstacle and to restrict the movement of wild animals, it is proposed to construct new check dams at 3 locations viz., Yerrabondala PIP 4, Cheekatisela and Yerrapenta vagu.

- It is also proposed to take up repairs and maintenance of the 2 existing old check dams located at Yerrabondalapenta and Cheekatisela.
- It is also proposed to take up other water harvesting structures viz., Mini percolation tanks (Cheekatisela, Yerrabondalapenta, Mukkooti sela) and RFDs along Vankasela stream to cater to the ground water table improvement as well as drinking water needs of the wild animals.
- Around 20 Nos saucer pits are proposed to be constructed at Varikipudisela rastha, Vankasela and Mukkooti sela areas to provide drinking water to the wild animals during the pinch period, when all the natural water sources dry up. A tractor along with tanker, maintenance charges for driver, POL charges is proposed at the cost of the user agency. It is also proposed to draw water from river Krishna through a solar pump and store the water in sump, which will be used for watering of saucer pits. Necessary proposals have been made at the cost of the user agency. .
- During the initial 5 years of the project (which includes construction period of around 3 years), it is very essential to regulate the entry and exit of the persons entering the sanctuary area. There is a likely chance of poachers entering the sanctuary in the guise of project workers. Hence, it is proposed to establish a check post at Katuva location, which is the entry point. This check post will be manned by 5 protection watchers 24x7. A wireless repeater station is proposed to be established at this checkpost so as to enable communication with the range headquarter at Sirigiripadu as well as with the protection watchers of Sirigiripadu basecamp.
- A Wildlife Protection and Rescue Party (WPRP), comprising of 5 protection watchers headed by field staff is proposed to patrol the entire sanctuary area so as to avoid harm to wild animals. To facilitate effective patrolling, the user agency may be requested to provide a Mahindra Bolero Camper vehicle at their own cost.
- Repairs and maintenance of the road from Katuva to Cheekatisela is proposed to be taken up, which will facilitate effective patrolling and wildlife monitoring by the wildlife protection and rescue party.
- Monitoring of the on-going activities along river Krishna is equally important, to accomplish which a floating checkpost consisting of 5 PWs is proposed at Kayya location. A new basecamp structure is proposed at Kayya location to facilitate their stay. The User agency may be requested to provide one speed boat apart from providing driver, bearing POL and maintenance charges for 5 years at their own costs.

Mitigation Plan proposals:-

Sl. No	Item of work	Phy	Unit cost (Rs. In lakhs)	Fin (Rs. In lakhs)
(I) Wildlife Monitoring				
(i)	Establishing Floating basecamp at Kayya (including wages to 5 persons including boat driver and helper) for 5 years	LS	LS	25.00
(ii)	Establishing new basecamp shelter for protection watchers at Kayya	LS	LS	2.00
(iii)	Repairs and maintenance of the road from Katuva to Cheekatisela	8Km	LS	10.00
(iv)	Providing new wireless repeater station at Katuva locality (including walky talky sets and other accessories)	LS	LS	6.00
(V)	Providing Yamaha Diesel Engine 40 HP patrolling boat (including fuel and maintenance charges for 5 years)	LS	LS	35.00
(vi)	Engaging Wildlife Protection and Rescue Party for wildlife monitoring for 5 years (including wages to 5 persons)	LS	LS	25.00
(vii)	Providing new Mahindra Camper vehicle for wildlife monitoring (including repairs, maintenance and diesel charges for 5 years)	LS	LS	26.00
(viii)	Providing solar lights at strategic locations in the project area	10	0.25	2.5
		Sub-Total >>		131.5
(II) Wildlife Protection				
(i)	Establishing Checkpost at Katuva location to regulate the entry of persons entering the sanctuary	LS	LS	10.00
(ii)	Providing rescue and tranquilizing material for rescue of wild animals	LS	LS	5.00
		Sub-Total >>		15.00
(III) Habitat Improvement				
(A) Water Source Development				
(i)	Construction of new Check Dams	3	5.00	15.00
(ii)	Repairs to old check dams	2	LS	4.00
(iii)	Construction of Saucer pits	20	0.20	4.00
(iv)	Providing RFDs	50	0.10	5.00
(v)	Providing tractor with tanker. (including POL and maintenance charges for 5 years)	1No.	LS	10.00

(vi)	Engaging driver for tanker for 5 years	1No.	As per actuals	10.00
(vii)	Providing Mini Percolation Tanks	6	0.50	3.00
(viii)	Providing solar pump to draw water from river Krishna through pipeline to a sump (5000 lts) at Varikipuduisela basecamp for watering of saucer pits	1 No.	LS	13.00
		Sub-Total >>		64.00
(B) Fire Protection				
(i)	Creation and maintenance of firelines and viewlines	LS	LS	5.00
(ii)	Providing fire fighting equipment	LS	LS	5.00
		Sub-Total >>		10.00
(IV) Publicity and Extension				
(i)	Providing publicity boards and interpretation signages inside the sanctuary area	LS	LS	10.00
		Sub-Total >>		10.00
(V) Misc. Expenditure and Over heads:				
(i)	Office expenditure			5.00
		Sub-Total >>		5.00
		Grand Total >>>		235.50


 --5/7/21
 Divisional Forest Officer,
 (AWL), Markapur.

 05/07/2021

 05/07/2021