

I/141563/2023

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

Rc.No.FC2/FC09/43/2022
(1574/2018-FCA2)
Dated:21/03/2023

Office of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests,
Telangana,
Aranya Bhavan,
Saifabad, Hyderabad.

**Sri R M Dobriyal, IFS,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force (FCA)**

Sub: TSFD-F(C) Act,1980 - diversion of **4.2339 Ha** of forest land for widening of single lane road to double lane road from Khammampally to Bhupalapally from Km 12/2 to 19/6 in Bhupalapally Division in favour of District R&B Officer, Jayashankar-Bhupalapally, District - discussed in REC meeting - additional information - Reg.

Ref: 1. PCCF, TS, Hyderabad Lr.No.FC2/FC09/43/2022 (1574/2018/FCA2), dt.04.01.2023.
2. Govt. Lr.No.2541/For.I(1)/2022, dt.01.02.2023.
3. Minutes of 14th REC meeting held on 27.02.2023 communicated vide PCCF Lr.No.FC5/FC49/8/2022, dt.14.03.2023.

Attention of the District Forest Officer, Bhupalapalli and District R&B Officer, Jayashankar-Bhupalapally, District is invited to the subject and references cited.

The subject proposal was discussed in the 14th REC meeting held on 27.02.2023 as agenda 5. Minutes of the meeting was communicated to the concerned vide ref 3rd cited .

The committee has called for the following information:

1. Alternative routes examined along with details.
2. WL Mitigation measures submitted with the proposal is given in a tabular form indicating certain works or engagement of people for protection etc. The REC has opined that the WL Mitigation plan shall include details of flora and fauna presence in and around the forest area proposed for diversion and mitigation measures shall be prepared according to the requirement as per the species present and their habitat requirement and also include suitable animal passage plan.
3. Revised .kml as per the revised area to be uploaded online.
4. Components like construction of a meeting hall for Zonal office and the promotion of eco-tourism activities as a forest protection component in the CA scheme can't be allowed in the CA scheme as per the CAF Rules/ Act.

In view of the above District Forest Officer, Bhupalapalli and District R&B Officer, Jayashankar-Bhupalapally, District are requested to attend to the above observations at the earliest for further consideration of the proposal by the IRO, MoEF&CC, Gol, Hyderabad.

I/141563/2023

Signed by Mohan Chandra

Pargaien

Date: 21-03-2023 13:34:47

Reason: Approved

For Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests

To,

The District Forest Officer, Bhupalapalli and District R&B Officer, Jayashankar-Bhupalapally, District.

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Kaleshwaram Circle, Hyderabad for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Superintending Engineer (R&B) Regional Office, Warangal Urban and Chief Engineer, R&B (LWE & Rural Roads), RSW, Errummanzil, Hyderabad for information and necessary action.

Copy submitted to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & CWLW, O/o the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, TS, Hyderabad for information and necessary action in revision of WL Mitigation measures as suggested by REC and for its approval.

//L.C.B.O.//D. Subbarao 21/3/23
SuperintendentVmy
21/3.

No.

Minutes of the 14th meeting of Regional Empowered Committee (REC) of Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Hyderabad held on 27.02.2023 at 11:00 AM

The 14th meeting of the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) of Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Hyderabad was held on 27.02.2023 at the Mini-conference Hall of PCCF (HoFF), Telangana, Aranya Bhawan.

The following members / special invitees were present during the meeting.

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Dr G. Trinadh Kumar, IFS
Regional Officer (Central),
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad | ... Chairman |
| 2. | Shri. K. Jude Sekar, IFS (Retired) | ... Member |
| 3. | Dr C.N. Rao, IFS (Retired) | ... Member |
| 4. | Shri. BSS Reddy, IFS (Retired) | ... Member |
| 5. | Dr. D. Manjunatha, IFS
Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad | ... Member Secretary for
the agenda 03 & 04 and
Member for agenda No 05 |
| 6. | Shri. Kailash Bhimrao Bhawar, IFS
AIGF (Central), MoEF&CC IRO, Hyderabad | Member Secretary for
agenda No 05 |

Representation from the State Government

1. Shri. Sri Lakshmi IFS, DCF, (FCA), Telangana State Forest Department- **Special invitee**
2. Shri D Kishan, Asst. Secretary to Govt. of Telangana, EF&ST.

At the outset, Chairperson of REC extended a warm welcome to all the members of REC and other participants. The proposals placed in the meeting were briefly explained to all the participants. Later, agenda wise the proposals were deliberated.

Agenda No.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting of 13th REC meeting

The Chairman, REC, informed that there were no comments received on the Minutes of the Meeting for the 13th REC held on 24.01.2023 and hence placed before the Committee for confirmation. REC confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting of 13th REC meeting.

Agenda No.2 Action Taken Report on Minutes of 13th REC:

The Committee was apprised of the action taken by the IRO Hyderabad on proposals dealt with during the 13th REC meeting. Letters were issued to the State government on the proposals involving violations to take up the matter with the Ministry.

Thereafter, Committee deliberated on proposals as per the finalized agenda for the 14th REC meeting. The detailed discussion/recommendation of the Committee are as follows

Agenda No 03: Diversion of 13.195 Ha of forest land in Nalgonda division for Construction of Railway line from Vishnupuram Railway Station to (5x800MW) Yadadri Thermal Power Station and laying of raw water pipeline from river Krishna to YTPS at Veerlapalem(V), Dameracherla (M), Nalgonda District in favour of M/s TSGENCO

- i. The State Government of Telangana vide proposal No FP/TG/RAIL/148038/2021 processed and forwarded the proposal to the IRO online on 10.02.2023 seeking approval under FCA, 1980 for diversion of **13.195 Ha** of forest land in Nalgonda division for Construction of Railway line from Vishnupuram Railway Station to (5x800MW) Yadadri Thermal Power Station and laying of raw water pipeline from river Krishna to YTPS at Veerlapalem(V), Dameracherla (M), Nalgonda District in favour of M/s TSGENCO.
- ii. Purpose-wise breakup of the forest area required for diversion:
 - a. **Railway line: 12.6203 ha** for Railway line from Vishnupuram Railway Station to (5x800MW) Yadadri Thermal Power Station, Veerlapalem(V), Dameracherla (M), Nalgonda, District
 - b. **Raw water Pipeline: 0.5747 ha** for Raw water intake structure on U/s of Nagarjuna Sagar Tail Pond dam including laying of raw water pipeline from river Krishna to YTPS
- iii. Legal Status of Forest land: Reserved Forest.
- iv. Legal Status of user Agency: State Government.
- v. Density of Vegetation: **12.6203 ha:** 0.2 density, Eco class 3 and **0.5747 ha:** 0.3 density, Eco Class 3.
- vi. Cost of the project: **Rs. 78388 lakhs.**
- vii. UA reported that 0 permanent and 14000 person-days of temporary employment are likely to be generated due to the project.
- viii. The FDO & District Forest Officer, Nalgonda Forest Division reported that there is no vulnerability for soil erosion;
- ix. The FDO & District Forest Officer, Nalgonda Forest Division has reported that the forest area proposed for diversion does not fall under Wildlife Sanctuary / National Park, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc. and reported that **the proposed area of the pipeline of 0.5741 Ha is falling in the Eco-Sensitive Zone area of Amrabad Tiger Reserve (ATR) which is at a distance of 4.20 km from the boundary and reported that ESZ notification not yet finalized.**
- x. The FDO & District Forest Officer, Nalgonda Forest Division have reported that no rare/endangered/unique species of flora are found in the area.

- xi. The FDO & District Forest Officer, Nalgonda Forest Division have reported that no protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area
- xii. The FDO & District Forest Officer Nalgonda Forest Division have reported that the requirement of forest land for diversion as proposed by the UA is unavoidable and the barest minimum for the project.
- xiii. The FDO & District Forest Officer Nalgonda Forest Division have reported that the User Agency did not carry out any work in violation of FCA, 1980.
- xiv. FDO & District Forest Officer, Nalgonda Forest Division reported that no tree/pole felling was involved.
- xv. The PCCF reported that M/s.TSGENCO has identified the non-Forest CA lands to an extent of 13.2653 Ha. in Sy. No. 229, Yellapuram village, Tirumalagiri Sagar mandal, Nagarjunasagar WLM division. The area is having tree growth/ scrub growth having a density of 0.4 to 0.5 and intermittent rocky boulders are present and hence only gap plantation is possible to an extent of 4.00 Ha. Balance 9.2653 ha is being compensated by planting in degraded forest lands.
- xvi. The PCCF referred the Para 2.4(v)(vi)(vii) of Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest (Conservation) Rules, 203|2014|2017, guidelines and clarifications issued by in Gol. MoEF&CC New Delhi F.No.5-2/2017-FC, Dt: 28.03.2019 and reported that 9.6657 Ha of degraded forest land has been identified for meeting the requirement of raising 1000 plants per ha of forest land proposed for diversion. as the required number of plants in CA NFL cannot be taken up and the details of the degraded forest land are as follows.

“9.6657 Ha in Compt.No. 72 of Nellikal RF of Nagarjunasagar Beat and Section of Nagarjunasagar Range”;

- xvii. CA scheme for the NFL area with a financial outlay of Rs. 388.83711 lakhs and the CA scheme for the DFL area with a financial outlay of Rs. 150.05368 lakhs have been submitted;
- xviii. Project Screening Committee (PSC): The Project Screening Committee Recommended the proposal. MoM has been submitted;
- xix. RoFR certificate (Form I) has been furnished;
- xx. Site Inspection reports of the FDO & District Forest Officer Nalgonda Forest Division have been submitted and uploaded in the portal.
- xxi. DFO in his site inspection report, stated that “during the inspection an Alternate route of short distance than the proposed route is verified, but the user agency has informed that the alternate alignments are not suitable for the movement of wagons towards the YTPS site and all the possible routes are already verified but this is the route possible for the movement of the wagons. As per the User agency, this is the barest minimum area and is unavoidable for the proposed project and the Coal Storage Reservoir if this alignment is not there and avoided the forest area would cause many bends in the track line which is not suitable as the proposed Line needs 14 incoming and 14 outgoing wagons per day. The proposed route would be suitable as it is connecting the Storage directly for the coal storage reservoir inside the YTPS Power plant. Further, the UA has informed that they are planning to make 7 lines for halting the wagons for which 100 mtrs width is required;

- xxii. Regarding the Pipeline area, the DFO reported that the storage of water is before the Tail Pond Dam. It is unavoidable and the path selected is the barest minimum path to supply raw water to the YTPS power plant. To maintain the flow and to maintain the pipes without damage due to high flow volume the said alignment cannot be changed hence the justification is satisfactory;
- xxiii. The subject proposal has been processed through the DSS cell and found to be not inviolate;

Deliberation: The Representatives from the User Agency made a PowerPoint presentation on the project. During the presentation it was informed by the agency that TSGENCO has proposed for establishment of (5x800 MW) Yadadri Thermal Power Station at Veerlapalem (V), Dameracherla (M) Nalgonda Dist., to meet the power demand of Industrial, Domestic and Agricultural Sectors of Telangana State. MoEF&CC has issued Environmental Clearance for the above project. This thermal power plant requires about 14.00 Million Tonnes Coal per Annum (MTPA). The Ministry of Coal accorded coal linkage of M/s SCCL coal mines for the YTPS. The railway line of about 10.69 km for the transportation of coal from SCCL mines to the above project is essentially required for the synchronization of this project.

For the coal linkage, DPR was prepared and it was approved by M/s South Central Railways. As per DPR 31.07 Gts land is required for the construction of the railway line. The alignment of the railway line passes partly through the Rajagattu Reserve Forest Block for a length of 1.30 km out of the total length of 10.69km.

While justifying the requirement of forest land for laying railway siding which is having 7 tracks informed that the transportation of the required quantity of coal can be met through the Railway Corridor only which will also minimize the adverse effect on the environment and Eco-system. A detailed survey on route finalization was carried out by M/s. RITES Ltd. Mrs D.L. Sudha, GM, RITES explained that the route proposed is as per the Rail Traffic Safety Norms. It was stated that this railway siding will be served as an intermediate crossing station between M/s SCCL and YTPS to hold coal traffic to regulate uninterrupted, continuous coal rakes movement. This railway siding with 7 tracks serving as an intermediate crossing station is required as per the railway norms.

Further, it was informed to the Committee that the other two alternate routes studied were not having a straight stretch of 1000mts with a minimum width of 100 m, height of bank less than 6.0 m and curvature of fewer than 30 degrees which is a mandatory requirement as per the safety norm of the Railway

for the railway siding. Considering the above, the proposed alignment is the only one to fulfil all the criteria which are most suitable and justified.

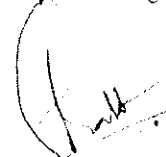
After a brief presentation on the railway siding, the User Agency informed that YTPS require 120 Cusecs water from the Krishna River through a pipeline of 20 km. Part of the land required for the raw water pipeline is falling in the forest land under Adavidevulapally Reserve Forest Block to an extent of 0.645 ha for the length of 0.43 km. After the joint survey by Forest Department, Revenue Department and TSGENCO revised area required for the water pipeline was worked out to 0.5747 ha in forest land.

Further, it was informed by the UA that an equivalent non-forest land (Govt land) of 13.2653 ha for compensatory Afforestation was identified in Sy. No. 229 under Yellapuram Village of Tirumalgiri Sagar (M) of Nalgonda District.

After hearing the User Agency, the Committee members inquired the User Agency regarding alternatives examined, the reason for submission of the pipeline proposal along with the railway line proposal, the reason for not including the current proposal in the diversion proposal submitted for the YTPS power plant project etc.

Chairperson of the Committee observed that the proposal is likely to bifurcate the existing RF into two parts leading to fragmentation in the habitat area for wild animals. Hence, there should be a proper Wildlife Mitigation plan with suitable animal passage for seamless movement of wild animals and the plan should be duly approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden. Similarly, it was noticed that alternative routes were not discussed at the higher level in the TSFD.

In the case of the proposed water pipeline, it was noticed that the proposed pipeline is falling outside RF as per the SOI Topo-map. To this DFO clarified that the pipeline falls inside the RF only. The Committee requested Forest Department to provide a clear map depicting the actual forest area and the proposed diversion. It is further observed that the proposed pipeline is located on boundary of forest. If the same is moved slightly away, it will fall outside the forest land. The Committee requested the user agency and the state forest department to explore possible alternate alignment for water pipeline outside the forest land. It is also requested to verify if the proposed alignment is falling in any of the ESZ.



As the instant proposal is an ancillary project to the Thermal Power plant approved by the Ministry, question was raised about the competency of REC to consider the proposal. Technical Officer (Forestry) informed that Ministry vide guideline dated 23rd August 2021 clarified that the REC is competent to decide on the supplementary proposals to the main proposal approved by the Ministry.

It was pointed out by the Chairman that the proposal concerning the Railway line submitted by the user agency is misleading. Nowhere in the proposal, title or description, it is mentioned that the proposal is for Intermediate Crossing Station/ Railway siding. To which all the members of the Committee agreed.

Shri BSS Reddy, Member pointed out that the estimated amount for raising plantation in NFL area is exorbitant compared to the estimated amount for DFL. The DFO clarified that the amount is high as the entire NFL is to be demarcated with chain link fencing for effective protection of the CA land.

Recommendation: After examination and deliberation on the proposal, the REC decided to seek the above-mentioned additional information/clarification from the State Government.

Agenda No 04: Diversion of 7.19508 Ha of forest land in Armoor Division for the widening / Four Laning of Road from Km 4/8 to Km 24/6 of Nizamabad to Armoor of Nizamabad to Jagadalspur Section of NH - 63 in Armoor Division of Nizamabad District in favour of MoRTH, GoI, Hyderabad

The State Government vide letter No. 467/For.I(1)/2023 dated 09.02.2023 forwarded the proposal for the Diversion of 7.19508 Ha of forest land in Armoor Division for the widening/ Four Laning of Road from Km 4/8 to Km 24/6 of Nizamabad to Armoor of Nizamabad to Jagadalspur Section of NH - 63 in Armoor Division of Nizamabad District in favour of MoRTH, GoI, Hyderabad and requested to accord approval under FCA, 1980. The State Government has processed and forwarded the Subject proposal online vide proposal No. FP/TG/ROAD/38426/2019.

1	Name of the Proposal	Diversion of 7.19508 Ha of forest land in Armoor Division for the widening/ Four Laning of Road from Km 4/8 to Km 24/6 of Nizamabad to Armoor of Nizamabad to Jagadalspur Section of NH - 63 in Armoor Division of Nizamabad District in favour of MoRTH, GoI, Hyderabad
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2	Location:	
	i. State	Telangana
	ii. District	Nizamabad
3	The purpose-wise breakup of the forest area required for the diversion	7.19508 Ha for road.
4	Particular of Forests	
	(i) Name of Forest Division	Armoor Forest Division
	(ii) Area of Forest land proposed for Diversion	The user agency has proposed for diversion of 4.9559 ha of forest land for widening and new alignment of the existing road. After the field survey, the actual area that arrived for diversion is 7.19508 which is unavoidable and the barest minimum for the project.
	(iii) Legal Status of Forest land	Reserved Forest
	(iv) Status of the User Agency	Central Government
	(v) Density of Vegetation	Ranging from 0.1 to 0.4
	(vi) Cost of the project	Rs. 11670 lakhs
	(vii) Employment likely to be generated	UA reported that 1000 person-days of temporary employment are likely to be created due to the project
	(viii) Vulnerability of the forest area to erosion	The area proposed for diversion has got moderate slope, hence less vulnerable to soil erosion. further few SMC interventions are proposed for mitigation.
5	Whether forms part of a National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc. (if so, the details of the area and the comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden are to be annexed)	No

6	Whether any rare/ endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna were found in the area if so, details thereof.	No
7	Whether any protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area. If so, the details thereof with NOC from the competent authority, if required.	No
8	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency in col.2 of Part-I is the unavoidable and bare minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.	The user agency has proposed for diversion of 4.9559 ha of forest land for widening and new alignment of the existing road. After the field survey, the actual area that arrived for diversion is 7.19508 which is unavoidable and the barest minimum for the project.
9	Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out (Yes/ No). If yes, details of the same including the period of work done, and action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still under progress.	Yes, DFO reported that the violation report is sent.
10	Enumeration list of trees	DFO reported that 956 trees were to be felled. An enumeration list of trees has been submitted.
11	Compensatory Afforestation	DFO prepared a detailed CA scheme for the afforestation in 15 ha in Compt. No.96 of Kupgal RF and 11 ha in Compt. No.68 and 69 of Bheemgal RF
12	Recommendation	
	DFO, Nizamabad	Recommended
	CCF Nizamabad Circle	Recommended with the following conditions.

		<p>a. The work shall be completed in the shortest period</p> <p>b. There shall be no camping of labour and machinery in the forest area and lightening of any fire or use of firewood from the forest.</p> <p>c. The UA shall not litter the forest with oil, plastic, etc.</p> <p>d. The condition proposed by the District Forest Officer, Nizamabad shall be implemented.</p> <p>e. The work shall not be done from 05.00 to 08.00 AM</p> <p>f. All the debris at the site of construction shall be removed immediately after construction.</p> <p>g. The culverts/ bridges shall be maintained and desilting shall be done once in 03 months to prevent sand/silt or other debris deposition for easy wildlife movement.</p> <p>h. Signages on the speed limit, not to litter with plastic items and wildlife movement/protection shall be placed at every Kilometre on both sides.</p> <p>i. Speed breaker shall be placed at every 500 Mts.</p> <p>j. The UA agency shall make necessary payments under the penal clause for the violations</p>
	PCCF (HoFF), Telangana	Recommended
	Telangana State Government	Recommended 7.19508 ha
13	District profile/ Division	Nizamabad
	Geographical area of the Division	423562 ha
	Forest area of the Division	85762.04 ha
	Total forest area diverted since 1980 with several cases	21.984ha, 06 cases
	Total CA stipulated in the District / Division since 1980:	

a. Forest land including penal compensatory afforestation	2 ha
b. Non-forest area	16.856 ha
Progress of compensatory afforestation:	
a. Forest land	2 ha
b. Non-forest land	16.856 ha

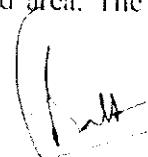
1. Upon preliminary scrutiny, it is noted that the State government reported work in violation of FCA, 1980 by the User Agency over an extent of 5.546 ha.
2. As per the FC Rules, 2022, under rule 9 (5) a (iv), the proposal involving the violation of FCA, 1980 shall be submitted to Ministry by the State Govt. directly for consideration.
3. The proposal flow for the proposals (submitted/under consideration in PARIVESH 1.0) has not been updated as per the provisions of FC rules 2022, hence, as the instant proposal is linear in nature, though the project involves violation, the State Government is not able to forward the proposal to the Ministry through online under PARIVESH 1.0.

Deliberations: Representative from the MoRTH did not attend the meeting and hence the proposal was deliberated by the Committee members.

The Committed discussed the proposal and noted that the User Agency had carried out work in violation of FCA, 1980. Hence, the committee opined that as per the FC Rules, 2022, under rule 9 (5) a (iv), the proposal involving the violation of FCA, 1980 shall be submitted to Ministry by the State Govt. directly for consideration;

The Committee noted that the UA reported no violation on Parivesh in Part-I. However, DFO reported the violation in Part II. Committee inquired about the action taken on violations. It was reported by the DFO that no POR or FIR was filed against the user agency nor any disciplinary proceeding has been initiated against Officer/Staff involved.

It was reported by DFO that the then FDO has given the tree felling permission to the User Agency in the proposed area. The committee inquired



about action taken by the DFO. It was informed by the DFO that an explanation has been called from the concerned FDO in September 2022

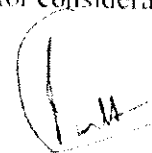
Recommendation: The Committee after deliberations noted violation of FCA, 1980 by the User Agency and there is no action taken by the State Forest Department on the violators. Further, as the competent authority to decide such proposals involving violation of the provisions of FCA, 1980 is the Ministry, the state government may be requested to take up the matter with the MoEF&CC directly.

Agenda No 05: Diversion of 4.2339 ha (revised from 8.50 ha) of forest land for widening the single-lane road to a double-lane road from Khammampally to Bhupalpally from km 12/2 to 19/6 in Bhupalpally Division in favour of District R&B Officer, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, District

- i. The State Government of Telangana vide letter No 2541/For.I(1)/2019 dated 26.07.2019 has forwarded the hard copy of the proposal to this office for the diversion of 8.50 ha of forest land for widening of single lane road to double lane road from Khammampally to Bhupalpally from km 12/2 to 19/6 in Bhupalpally Division in favour of District R&B Officer, Jayashankar Bhupalpally District and requested to communicate GoI's approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
- ii. Purpose-wise breakup of the forest area required for diversion: **construction of road over 4.2339 ha (6mtrs X 7056.56 mtrs)**
- iii. Legal Status of Forest land: Reserved Forest
- iv. Legal Status of user Agency: State Government
- v. Density of Vegetation: **0.6-0.7, Eco Class 3**
- vi. Cost of the project: **Rs.2900 lakhs**
- vii. As reported, 365 person-days of temporary employment will be generated from the project
- viii. FDO, Bhupalpally Forest Division has reported that no scope for soil erosion in the area proposed for diversion
- ix. FDO, Bhupalpally Forest Division has reported that the forest area proposed for diversion does not fall under Sanctuary / National Park, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc
- x. FDO, Bhupalpally Forest Division has reported that no rare/endangered/unique species of flora are found in the area
- xi. FDO, Bhupalpally Forest Division has reported that no protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area
- xii. FDO, Bhupalpally Forest Division has reported that the requirement of forest land for diversion as proposed by the UA is unavoidable and the barest minimum for the project
- xiii. FDO, Bhupalpally Forest Division has reported that the User Agency did not carry out our work in violation of FCA, 1980.
- xiv. As per the revised area, 5724 trees /poles are to be felled;



- xv. The UA proposed 4.2339 ha of non-forest area in Sy No 1196/1 in Bhupalpally & Kothapally (SM)
- xvi. The Compensatory Afforestation scheme for Rs. 99.75137 Lakhs over an extent of 4.2339 Ha in NFL area with 10 years maintenance including the raising of the plantation as per the rates of the current FSR 2022-23;
- xvii. RoFR certificate (Form I) has been furnished;
- xviii. Site Inspection report of the FDO, Bhupalpally Forest Division has been uploaded and furnished along with the proposal.
- xix. The subject proposal has been processed through the DSS cell and found to be not inviolate.
- xx. The subject proposal has been uploaded to the web portal vide proposal number FP/TG/ROAD/32933/2018
- xxi. The Regional Office, Chennai vide letter dated 14.08.2019 has requested the State Government to furnish the following documents/ information/ clarification on or before 20th August 2019 to place the subject proposal before Regional Empowered Committee (REC) meeting to be held on 21.08.2019;
 - a. The State Government shall update the proposal and shall forward the same to this office online;
 - b. Enumeration list of trees shall be updated in the online application and tree-wise details shall be furnished to this office;
 - c. UA proposed widening of single lane road to a double lane, hence, whether any clearance was obtained under FCA, 1980 for the construction of the existing road or is a notified RoW need to be elucidated and may also provide details as to the length and width of existing road and also its present-day condition (whether blacktopped or not);
 - d. As per the kml file uploaded in the online application, the proposed road alignment is deviating from the existing road portion in several stretches. Hence, justification for the same needs to be provided;
 - e. Justification for widening the road based on the traffic pattern in the existing road needs to be furnished;
 - f. Nature, type and population of wildlife present in and around forest area proposed for diversion needs to be furnished;
 - g. The DFO, CCF & PCCF Telangana have recommended for diversion of 6.3504 ha or 6.35 ha against 8.50 ha, however, the State Government has recommended for diversion of 8.50 ha. Hence, 12857 numbers of trees/poles proposed to be felled is in 6.35 ha or 8.50 ha needs to be clarified;
 - h. The financial outlay of the proposed CA scheme appears to be more, hence, the CA scheme may be reconsidered and may furnish a revised CA scheme accordingly;
- xxii. The PCCF, Telangana vide letter No 1574/2018/FCA-2 dated 20.08.2019 has furnished additional information as sought by the Regional Office, Chennai vide letter dated 14.08.2019. The Committee examined the proposal and additional information furnished by the PCCF, Telangana and noted that, since the proposed road bifurcates the Tadicherla RF, the Committee has suggested the State Government / User Agency to examine the alternatives for the proposed road connecting the Mandal HQ of Tadicherla with Bhupalpally and present the same before the Committee for consideration;



- xxiii. The PCCF, Telangana vide letter No.1574-2018/FCA-2 dated 04.10.2019 has reported that, as per the recommendation of the REC, **an alternative proposal are thoroughly studied and found no alternative is feasible given the following reasons:**
- a. Work is completed for a length of 10.00 km in non-forest areas. The alternative proposal will increase the length of the road as it has to go around the forest, which escalates the project cost abnormally;
 - b. As length is being increased the area of forest to be diverted will also be increased;
 - c. As the alternative road is lengthy, the public prefers the existing cart track only to reach Bhupalpally, the District Headquarters as it is the shortest route and the alternate road if formed will not serve the purpose;
 - d. Further it is submitted that the proposed alignment is only feasible as it is the shortest route to the villages of old Karimnagar District to reach District Headquarters Bhupalapally and it almost reduces about 35 km distance from Manthini, Ramagundam, Godavarikhani of Peddapally District to Bhupalapally. Further, the road also connects Kakathiya Thermal Power Plant at Chelpur in Jayashankar District. Development of this road helps farmers in carrying agricultural goods to the nearby marketing centres with lesser cost and helps such as education, medicine, shopping etc., with lesser expenses. Thus, the road contributes to the socio-economic development of backward areas. Further, this road is located in the Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) affected area and helps for the free and brisk movement of police forces from one place to another place, due to the shorter distance.
- xix. As requested by the PCCF, Telangana the subject proposal was deferred in the 38th REC meeting held on 22.10.2019.
- xx. The Regional Empowered Committee (REC) RO Chennai (SEZ) in its 39th meeting held on 26.11.2019 considered the subject proposal and after deliberation, it was decided that the REC sub-committee will carry out a site inspection of the forest area proposed for diversion:
- xxi. As decided by the REC, a sub-committee comprising of Shri L. Chandrasekar, DIGF(Central) and Dr C.N Rao, Member, REC, RO (SEZ) Chennai carried out a site inspection on 12.12.2019.
- xxii. The Regional Empowered Committee (REC) RO Chennai (SEZ) in its 40th meeting held on 22.01.2020 considered the subject proposal and after deliberation, the REC **recommend the project for clearance for an area of 4.2339 ha (6mtrs X 7056.56 mtrs) with general conditions applicable to road projects in addition to the following conditions;**
- A. The total diverted area shall not exceed 4.2339 ha.
 - B. The trees falling in the 4.2339 ha shall only be removed if necessary and a revised enumeration list and a revised CA scheme shall be submitted accordingly.
 - C. The width of the carriageway shall be 3.75 mtrs with 2.25 mtrs of berm width (1.125 X2).
 - D. The road shall be used only for public utility purposes.
 - E. The road shall be closed for traffic from 18.00 hrs to 06.00 hrs (except for emergencies).
 - F. Tonnage restrictions shall be to a maximum of 4 tons only.
 - G. No further proposal from the User Agency/State Government shall be considered for the expansion of the same road in future.



- H. The Villagers concerned shall assist the Forest Department in preventing the plying of heavy vehicles on the proposed road.
 - I. The User agency shall endeavor to avoid the felling of trees existing on the Forest land proposed to be utilized. Wherever necessary, the trees should be felled under the strict supervision of the DFO/FDO concerned.
 - J. Wherever feasible the trees shall be translocated instead of felling and the State Government shall ensure that a minimum of 500 trees shall be translocated successfully at the cost of the User Agency.
 - K. There shall be a check post at the entry and exit points of the proposed road along with provisions for protection watchers at the cost of the User Agency.
 - L. A wildlife mitigation plan shall be got prepared in consultation with the DFO concerned, to be implemented at the cost of the User Agency
 - M. Wherever necessary the User Agency in consultation with the DFO concerned shall construct wildlife passage structures at suitable places
 - N. No labour camp shall be established inside the forest area and the dugout material/overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area and no fresh earth shall be dug out from the forest area for laying of the road from outside the proposed diversion area.
 - O. No storage of any material shall be done in the forest area proposed.
 - P. The State government shall revise the area, KML file, recommendations etc. suitably and update the same in the portal.
 - Q. **After receipt of the revised details the Regional Office may issue in-principle approval.**
- xxiii. As recommended by the REC, the RO Chennai vide letter 30.01.2020 requested the State Government to submit the following to issue Stage I approval
- a. The revised enumeration list for an area of 4.2339 ha;
 - b. Revised CA area details like a map with DGPS co-ordinates etc and CA scheme as per the revised forest area to be diverted;
 - c. A wildlife mitigation plan shall be got prepared in consultation with the DFO concerned to be implemented at the cost of the User Agency;
- xxiv. As requested, the State Government vide letter No 2541/For.I(1)/2022 dated 01.02.2023 submitted the additional information.
- xxv. **Considering the change in the CA area and the justification provided to include components like the construction of a meeting hall for the zonal office and the promotion of eco-tourism activities as a Forest Protection component in the CA scheme, the proposal is once again placed before REC for deliberation and recommendation.**

Deliberation: The Committed examined all facts reported in the fact sheet and deliberated on the fact of the proposal. The Committee noted that as per the revised area i.e., 4.2339 ha (6 meters X 7056.56 meters), 5724 trees /poles are to be felled against the 12847 proposed earlier under 8.5 ha.



The committee inquired about the alternate route availability. The User Agency reported that no alternate route has been examined. Chairman informed the Committee that the alternate route examination is mandatory as per FC Rules and Guidelines.

The Committee examined the Wildlife mitigation Plan submitted by the State Government and opined that the Wildlife mitigation plan shall include details of floral and faunal presence in and around the forest area proposed for diversion. The mitigation measures shall be prepared according to the requirement as per the species present and their habitat requirements. Further, a suitable animal passage plan should be included in the Wildlife Mitigation Plan. The Wildlife mitigation plan enclosed with the proposal does not include all these aspects and is just given in a tabular form indicating certain works or engagement of people for protection etc.

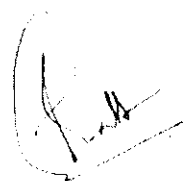
The Committee noted that the revised kml file as per the revised area of 4.2339 ha (6 mtrs X 7056.56 mtrs) has not been uploaded online.

The Committee discussed the proposed components in CA scheme like the construction of a meeting hall for the zonal office and the promotion of eco-tourism activities as a Forest Protection component in the CA scheme. After deliberation, the Committee opined that such activities cannot be allowed in the CA scheme as per the CAF Act/Rules.

Recommendation: Committee after detailed deliberation and recommendation made by the Committee earlier, decided to request the state government to comply with the observations communicated earlier in full and also the above observations for further consideration of the proposal.

Additional Agenda: The Chairman of the Committee informed the Committee that in the past several proposals examined by the REC and certain additional inputs/ clarifications/ documents were sought from the state government through EDS. However, the reply in many of such cases are not yet received by the Regional Office till date. Hence the Committee is requested to take a view on the same and propose future course of action.

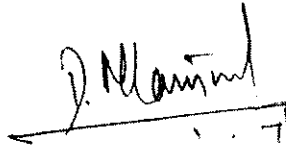
Members of the Committee proposed that a reminder may be issued on all such pending cases with the request to furnish the reply within 15-25 days' time period. If there is no response received from the state government, such proposals may be taken up for either rejection or refer them to the Ministry for further action as per the requirement.

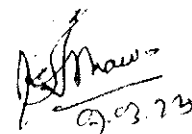


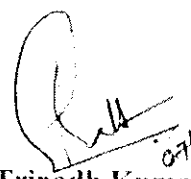
(Approved through e-mail)
(Shri. K. Jude Sekar)
Member

(Approved through e-mail)
(Shri. C.N.Rao)
Member

(Approved through e-mail)
(Shri. BSS Reddy)
Member


(Shri.D. Manjunatha)
DIGF(C) & Member/ Member Secretary


(Shri. Kailash Bhimrao Bhawar)
AIGF (Central) & Member/ Member Secretary


(Shri. G. Trinadh Kumar)
Regional Officer & Chairman

Email

vishnukaran

Fw: The draft MoM of 14th REC meeting of IRO, Hyderabad

From : manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in

Wed, Mar 08, 2023 03:56 PM

Subject : Fw: The draft MoM of 14th REC meeting of IRO,
Hyderabad

To : vishnukaran <vishnu.karan@govcontractor.in>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Somasekhar Reddy Bhimavarapu <bhimsoma@gmail.com>

To: C N Rao <challagalla38@gmail.com>

Cc: manjunatha donappa <manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in>; Jude Sekar <judsek@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 6 March, 2023 at 06:17:49 pm IST

Subject: Re: The draft MoM of 14th REC meeting of IRO, Hyderabad

Draft minutes approved.

BSS reddy

Sent from my iPhone

On 06-Mar-2023, at 5:54 PM, C N Rao <challagalla38@gmail.com> wrote:

Approved.
Dr.C.N RAO
Member.

On Mon, 6 Mar 2023, 17:27 manjunatha donappa,
<manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in> wrote:

Sir,

Please find here with draft MoM of 14th REC meeting for consideration and approval.

With regards,

Dr D Manjunatha

DIGF

From : manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in

Wed, Mar 08, 2023 03:55 PM

Subject : Fw: The draft MoM of 14th REC meeting of IRO,
Hyderabad

To : vishnukaran <vishnu.karan@govcontractor.in>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: C N Rao <challagalla38@gmail.com>

To: manjunatha donappa <manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in>

Cc: Jude Sekar <judsek@gmail.com>; Somasekhar Reddy Bhimavarapu <bhimsoma@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 6 March, 2023 at 05:54:16 pm IST

Subject: Re: The draft MoM of 14th REC meeting of IRO, Hyderabad

Approved.
Dr.C.N RAO
Member.

On Mon, 6 Mar 2023, 17:27 manjunatha donappa, <manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in> wrote:

Sir,
Please find here with draft MoM of 14th REC meeting for consideration and approval.
With regards,
Dr D Manjunatha
DIGF

From : manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in

Wed, Mar 08, 2023 03:54 PM

Subject : Fw: The draft MoM of 14th REC meeting of IRO,
Hyderabad

To : vishnukaran <vishnu.karan@govcontractor.in>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jude Sekar <judsek@gmail.com>

To: manjunatha donappa <manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in>

Sent: Tuesday, 7 March, 2023 at 03:22:32 pm IST

Subject: Re: The draft MoM of 14th REC meeting of IRO, Hyderabad

Draft minutes approved. Apologies for the delay. God bless you.

On Mon, 6 Mar 2023, 17:27 manjunatha donappa, <manjunatha502@yahoo.co.in> wrote:

Sir,
Please find here with draft MoM of 14th REC meeting for consideration and approval.
With regards,
Dr D Manjunatha
DIGF