File No.PCCF-FC5/FC44/1/2022-FCA SECTION

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Rc.No.**FC5/FC44/1/2022**,
Dated: 08/02/2025.

Office of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force), Telangana,
"Aranya Bhavan", Saifabad, Hyderabad.

Sri R.M Dobriyal, IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force
***

CIRCULAR No. 1 /2025

Sub: TGFD – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 **-Monitoring of - Stage-II accorded proposals under the** Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 **- Circular instructions issued** – Regarding.
*****

The Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, mandates prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes. The conditions stipulated in Stage-II approvals are integral for ensuring that such diversion occurs in a regulated and sustainable manner. Regular and systematic monitoring of these approved cases is essential to ensure strict compliance with the conditions, including Compensatory Afforestation, Soil Moisture Conservation, and Ecological safeguards.

Instances have been brought to the notice where Stage-II approvals are accorded and lapses identified in complying with the conditions imposed, delay in implementing Compensatory Afforestation and other prescribed measures. These lapses not only contravene the provisions of the Act but also adversely affect Forest Conservation efforts. The Field Officers of various levels are also required to inspect the Stage-II approval accorded projects regularly to ensure that the diverted forest area is utilized for the said purpose only in accordance with the conditions stipulated by GoTG/ GoI at the time of according Stage-II approval.

In this regard, it is essential to standardize and strengthen Monitoring procedures at all levels across all Districts and Circles in the State to address these concerns and ensure adherence to the Act and its guidelines.

Since the formation of Telangana State (TG) (till 30.09.2024), a total of 285 projects have been accorded Stage-II (final) approval by the Competent Authority under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for various categories of projects. List of the Stage-II (final) approval accorded projects category and Circle-wise is attached herewith as **Annexure-I**. An abstract of the projects circle wise is tabulated as under:

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Sl. No	Circle	Stage II accorded Projects									
		Irrigation	Roads	Mining	OFC	Drinking Water	Others	Railway	SCCL	Transmission	TOTAL
1	ATR	2	5	0	5	1	0	0	0	1	**14**
2	Basara	2	6	0	8	10	2	0	0	3	**31**
3	Bhadradri	3	15	1	16	9	5	3	9	3	**64**
4	Charminar	0	12	1	13	2	6	0	0	5	**39**
5	Jogulamba	0	1	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	**7**
6	Kaleshwaram	6	11	4	15	2	1	0	0	0	**39**
7	KTR	7	12	0	7	5	3	2	1	2	**39**
8	Rajanna	1	8	0	8	5	0	2	0	2	**26**
9	Yadadri	1	3	0	3	0	2	2	0	0	**11**
	Mutiple Circles	1	1	0	5	1	1	0	1	5	**15**
	Total	**23**	**74**	**6**	**84**	**36**	**21**	**9**	**11**	**21**	285
	** Others - Cases - Rehabilitation - 1, School-2, Pipeline - 5, Police CRPF CAMP - 2, Gas pipeline - 6, Defence -1, Market-1, Conveyer belt etc.- 2, Canal -1.										

To ensure proper monitoring of all the Stage-II accorded projects, all the Forest Divisional Officers (FDOs) / District Forest Officers (DFOs)/ Chief Conservators of Forests/ Conservators of Forests (CCFs/CFs) are hereby instructed as follows:

1. All the Stage-II accorded projects are to be inspected by the concerned field Officers within a period of one year from the date of issue of this order.
2. Each **Forest Divisional Officer (FDO)** shall inspect all the Stage-II accorded projects in their jurisdiction and submit monitoring report in the **enclosed proforma** for all the projects within a period of one year

   To ensure inspection and submission of monitoring reports for all the Stage II accorded projects within a period of one year; all the projects shall be **prioritized** and categorized for inspection on quarterly basis as detailed below:

25 % of the Stage II accorded projects	Feb to April
25 % of the Stage II accorded projects	May to July
25 % of the Stage II accorded projects	August to October

25 % of the Stage II accorded projects	Nov to Jan

The FDOs shall ensure that the projects are inspected and monitoring report on the conditions stipulated in Stage II approval submitted **on quarterly basis without any deviation.**

The Stage-II accorded projects to be inspected **shall include both ongoing and completed ones to ensure a comprehensive review.**

The FDOs shall submit the monitoring report to the DFO every quarter without fail along with remarks, duly marking a copy to the PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, TG, Hyderabad.

3. Each **District Forest Officer (DFO)** shall inspect 50% of all the Stage-II accorded projects in their jurisdiction.

   The DFO shall ensure that the FDOs shall submit compliance reports as detailed above in all the Stage II accorded projects and the DFO shall inspect 50% of the projects in which monitoring report has been furnished by the concerned FDOs and submit a comprehensive monitoring report in the **enclosed proforma** on all the conditions imposed in the Stage II approval along with remarks.

   In the districts where there is no FDO post, then the DFO shall inspect all the Stage II accorded projects and submit Monitoring reports.

   The DFOs shall submit the monitoring report of the projects inspected to the Circle Head every quarter without fail along with remarks, duly marking a copy to the PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, TG, Hyderabad.

   The remaining 50 % of the projects which are inspected by the FDOs shall be submitted along with the remarks of the DFOs to the CCF/ CFs.

4. Each **Circle Head** shall inspect 25% of all the Stage-II accorded projects in their jurisdiction.

   The CCF/CF shall ensure that the FDOs and DFOs shall submit compliance reports as detailed above in all the Stage II accorded projects and the CCF/CFs shall inspect 25% of the projects **(should ensure all the category of projects)** in which monitoring report has been furnished by the concerned DFOs and submit a comprehensive monitoring report in the **enclosed proforma** on all the conditions imposed in the Stage II approval along with remarks.

   The CCF/CFs shall submit the monitoring report to the PCCF and Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, TG, Hyderabad every quarter without fail along with remarks.

The CCF/CFs shall submit the monitoring report of the projects inspected to the O/o PCCF, TG, Hyderabad every quarter without fail along with remarks. The remaining projects which are inspected by the FDOs / DFOs shall be submitted along with the remarks of the CCF/ CFs to the O/o the PCCF, TG, Hyderabad.

The Circle Head shall ensure that the all the Stage-II accorded projects are inspected and monitored by the DFOs / FDOs and a quarterly report on the inspection shall be obtained and a consolidated report from the Circle head duly covering all the Districts shall be submitted without any deviation.

5. **Priority shall be given to high-impact projects such as Irrigation, Mining, Roads, Railways, Power transmission lines, or those flagged for non-compliance in earlier inspections by the IRO, MoEF&CC, GoI, Chennai / GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.**
6. The CCF / CFs should take necessary action as per the tentative schedule of inspection finalized for each Circle as tabulated below.

S.No	Circle	Feb-Apr	May- July	Aug – Oct	Nov - Jan
1	ATR	Irrigation -1 Roads- 2 OFC – 2	Irrigation -1 Road-2 OFC-2	Road-1 OFC-1 DW-1 Transmission line -1	
2	Basara	Irrigation -1 Roads- 2 OFC – 2 Transmission line -1	Irrigation -1 Road-2 OFC-2 Transmission line -1	Road-2 OFC-2 DW-5 Transmission line -1	OFC-2 DW-5 Others -2
3	Bhadradri	Irrigation -1 Roads- 4 OFC – 4 SCCL-3 Railway-1	Irrigation -1 Road-4 Mining -1 OFC-4 SCCL-1 Transmission line -1	Irrigation -1 Road-4 OFC-4 DW-4 SCCL-3 Railway-2 Transmission line -1	Road -3 OFC-4 DW-5 Others -5 SCCL-2 Transmission line -1
4	Charminar	Roads- 3 Mining -1 OFC – 4 Transmission line -1	Road-3 OFC-4 Others -3 Transmission line -2	Road-3 OFC-4 Transmission line -2	Road -3 OFC-1 DW-2 Others -3
5	Jogulamba	Roads- 1 OFC – 4	DW-1 Others -1	-	-

6	Kaleshwaram	Irrigation -2 Roads- 3 Mining -2 OFC – 4	Irrigation -2 Road-3 Mining -2 OFC-4	Irrigation -2 Road-3 OFC-4 Other-1	Road -2 OFC-3 DW-2
7	KTR	Irrigation -2 Roads- 2 OFC – 2 Railways -2 SCCL -1	Irrigation -2 Road-3 OFC-3 Transmission line -1	Irrigation -3 Road-3 OFC-2 Other-3 Transmission line -1	Road -4 DW-5
8	Rajanna	Irrigation -1 Roads- 2 OFC – 2 Railways -1	Road-2 OFC-2 Railways-1 Transmission line -1	Road-2 OFC-2 Transmission line -1	Road -2 OFC-2 DW-5
9	Yadadri	Irrigation -1 Roads- 2 OFC – 1 Railways -2	Road-1 OFC-2 Others-2	-	-
	Mutiple Circles	Irrigation -1 Roads- 1 Transmission line -2	OFC-2 SCCL-1	OFC-3 DW-1 Others-1 Transmission line -3	-

7. **During inspections, the following shall be reviewed:**

i. Condition-wise compliance to the conditions stipulated in the Stage-II approval issued by the competent authority.

ii. Compliance with demarcation and fencing of the diverted forest land.

iii. Google earth / time line view and spatial data should be utilized for analysis while monitoring the conditions during field inspection and any deviation should be reported.

iv. Details of the NFL taken over viz., mutation details / notification details and reasons for not notifying the NFL taken over as Forest under relevant section should be covered in the notes.

v. Verify the forest land diverted w.r.t the .kml uploaded on Ministry's portal and confirm whether any deviation / violation from the actual alignment is noticed.

vi. Status of muck disposal in the diverted area.

vii. Status on implementation of compensatory afforestation as per approved schemes (DFL and NFL).

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viii. Status on implementation of CAT plan/ soil and moisture conservation measures /wildlife mitigation measures.

ix. Identification of any encroachments or land-use change of the diverted land.

x. Any additional area is being utilized other than diverted forest area, in violation of the Act.

xi. Whether the area falls within any protected area (e.g., National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Eco-sensitive Zone, etc.).

xii. Compliance with conditions stipulated in approvals from the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) and Wildlife (WL) clearance, if applicable.

xiii. The DFOs concerned shall issue necessary suggestion / instructions to the UA, if any, after carrying out the inspection and monitoring review.

8. Inspection reports must be prepared in the prescribed format attached hereunder as **PROFORMA**, highlighting observations, compliance status, and recommendations for corrective action. All reports must include **NoteCam** photographs and other supporting evidences.
9. The above instructions are to be followed and the quarterly & annual reports shall be submitted as detailed above every year.
10. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA) shall conduct Quarterly review of compliance of these instructions issued and review the reports submitted by the concerned CCFs/ CFs.
11. All CCFs, DFOs, FDOs are directed to strictly adhere to these instructions. Non-compliance with this circular will be viewed seriously, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against the responsible Officers.

These instructions are issued to strengthen accountability and ensure the objectives of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, are upheld across Telangana.

Encl: (As above)

Signed by Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal
Date: 08-02-2025 16:39:50
Reason: Approved

Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force.

To,

All the CCFs/CFs & DFOs.

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Copy submitted to the Prl. Secretary to Govt. (EFS&T), GoTG, Hyderaabad for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Copy to the RO, MoEF&CC, GoI, Hyderabad for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Prl. CCF (WL) & Chief-Wildlife Warden, Telangana, Hyderabad for information & necessary action.

Copy to the Prl.CCF (P&V) O/o.PCCF (HoFF), TG, Hyderabad for information & necessary action.

Copy to the APCCF-Admin & I/c WLR Wing, / CCF (Prod) & I/c IT Wing, O/o the PCCF, TG, Hyderabad for information and necessary action.

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//t.c.b.o.//

Administrative Officer

Jaya. 10/02/2025

PROFORMA FOR INSPECTION REPORTS

Part A: Project Information

1. **Project Title**:
2. **Name of User Agency**:
3. **Division**:
4. **District:**
5. **Circle:**
6. **Category of proposal**:
7. **Date of inspection:**
8. **Officials accompanied during the course of inspection:**
9. **Whether any representative from UA has attended the inspection / details to be provided:**
10. **Forest area approved for Diversion** (in hectares):
    - Total forest area (in hectares):
    - Extent of area falling in protected area (in hectares):
    - Name of Protected Area:
11. **Approval Details**:
    - MoEF&CC Stage-II Approval Letter No (copy to be enclosed):
    - Date of Approval:
    - Validity of approval:
    - NBWL / SBWL clearance Letter No (copy to be enclosed):
    - Date of Approval:
12. **Compensatory Afforestation Details**:

Non-forest land (NFL)

- Area identified with details

1. Extent of area in Ha.
2. Whether .kml is available or not:
3. Google earth / time line view and spatial data should be utilized for analysis:
4. Any change in the land handedover (whether the land is encroached)?
5. Sy.No. / Village / Mandal:
6. Division:
7. District:
    - Whether notified as RF:

1. Mutation done (Y/N): (copy to be enclosed)
2. Notification details (copy to be enclosed):

- Whether notified U/s-4 of TG Forest Act, 1967 (Y/N) (copy to be enclosed)
  If not notified, details with reasons thereof to be furnished:
- Whether notified U/s-15 of TG Forest Act, 1967 (Y/N) (copy to be enclosed)
  If not notified, details with reasons thereof to be furnished:

  - If not notified, the steps taken to declare it as RF:

1. Details to be furnished(copy to be enclosed):
   - Progress Made (as of date):

1. Amount deposited by UA for CA (NFL):
2. Details of Plantation raised:

a. Species planted / area in Ha.
b. If CA plantation is not raised, reasons for the lapse.
c. Survival percentage of the plantation raised.

Degraded forest land (DFL)

- Area identified with details

1. Extent of area in Ha.
2. Whether .kml is available or not:
3. Compt.No. / RF name
4. Beat and Range:
5. Division:
6. District:
   - Progress Made (as of date):

1. Amount deposited by UA for CA (DFL):
2. Details of Plantation raised:

a. Species planted / area in Ha.
b. If CA plantation is not raised, reasons for the lapse.
c. Survival percentage of the plantation raised.

- Whether any change in location of Degraded Forest Land?
- If so whether permission from the GoI is sought for (copy to be enclosed)?

Name, Signature, **and Date with designation** **(FDO)**	**Name, Signature,** **and Date with designation** **(DFO)**
Name, Signature, **and Date with designation** **(CCFs/ CF)**	

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Part B: Compliance Monitoring

1. **Site Inspection Checklist**
   - Whether demarcation and fencing of diverted forest land completed? (Yes/No)

     If, no please furnish details and reasons thereof.
   - Is the diverted area being used exclusively for the approved purpose? (Yes/No)

     If, no please furnish details.
   - Has compensatory Afforestation been implemented as per the approved scheme? (Yes/No)
   - Are CAT / soil and moisture conservation / Wildlife mitigation measures implemented? (Yes/No)
   - Are conditions stipulated in NBWL and Wildlife Clearance approvals complied with? (Yes/No)

2. **Compliance with Stage-II Approval Conditions**

   Provide details of compliance with each condition listed in the Stage-II approval:

Sl.No.	Conditions stipulated by the competent authority in Stage-II approval.	Compliance.
	Condition no 1	
	Condition no 2	
	Condition no 3	

	-----	

3. **Compliance with NBWL and SBWL Clearance Conditions**

   Provide details of compliance with each condition listed in the NBWL and SBWL Clearance approval:

Sl.No.	Conditions stipulated by the NBWL and SBWL.	Compliance.
	Condition no 1	
	Condition no 2	
	Condition no 3	

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4. **<u>Information on violation, if any:</u>**
   - Whether any work in violation is carried out in the forest area in question:

1. **Type of violation:**
2. **Period of violation:**

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3. **Status of work in violation:**
4. **Forest Area involved in violation:**
5. **Action Taken report on violation** (copy to be enclosed)**:**
6. **Whether any report is submitted to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests office on violation** (copy to be enclosed)**:**
7. **Any encroachments / change of land use / whether any additional forest area is utilized, is noticed during the course of inspection, if so, provide details:**

Part C: Reporting and Recommendations

1. **Summary of Observations**:
2. **Compliance Status**: (Fully complied/Partially complied /Non- complied)
3. **Recommendations for Improvement**:
4. **Photographic Evidence (Attach)**:
5. **Name, Signature, and Date with designation**:

Name, Signature, **and Date with designation** **(FDO)**	**Name, Signature,** **and Date with designation** **(DFO)**
Name, Signature, **and Date with designation** **(CCFs/ CF)**	

Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF)

Signed by Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal
Date: 08-02-2025 16:38:54
Reason: Approved

//t.c.b.o.//

Administrative Officer

10/02/2025

File No.PCCF-FC5/FC44/1/2022-FCA SECTION

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Rc.No.FC5/FC44/1/2022,
Dated: 17/07/2025

Office of the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force), Telangana,
"Aranya Bhavan", Saifabad, Hyderabad

Dr. C.SUVARNA IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
(Head of Forest Force)

***

CIRCULAR No. 1A/2025

Sub: TGFD – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 -Monitoring of - Stage-II accorded proposals under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 - Circular instructions issued – Regarding

Ref:- PCCF's Rc. No. FC5/FC44/1/2022-FCA Section dated 08.02.2025 **(Circular No. 1/2025)**

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In continuation to the Circular instructions issued in the reference cited, the following item is included after Sl.No.8 in the Circular instructions, i.e., regarding monitoring of total Transit permits issued and revenue generated.

8(a) Total No. of Form-I transit permits issued.

8(b) Total Amount collected as per G.O. (Rs.in lakhs)

Whereas the same shall also be inserted at Sl. No.13 in the Proforma for Inspection report (Part A - Project Information). These instructions are issued to strengthen accountability and ensure the objectives of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, are upheld across Telangana.

All CCFs, DFOs, FDOs are directed to strictly adhere to these instructions. Non-compliance with this Circular will be viewed seriously, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against the responsible Officers.

Signed by Suvarna C
Date: 17-07-2025 07:20:12
Reason: Approved
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force

To,
All the CCFs/CFs, DFOs / FDOs

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Administrative Officer

17/07/2025

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GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Ref.No.FC5/FC44/1/2022
Dated:18/04/2025

O/o the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Telangana State, "Aranya Bhavan",
Saifabad, Hyderabad – 500 004.

Sri R.M.Dobriyal, IFS.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

* * *

Circular No.02/2025

Sub: TGFD – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 / Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 – Diversion of Forest Lands for non-forestry works in favour of various User Agencies – Demarcation of forest land proposed for diversion – **Construction of Boundary Pillars** - Instructions – Issued - Regarding.

Ref:
1. PCCF's Circular No.1/2011 [Ref.No.111187/2011/CAMPA] dt.02.05.2011.
2. PCCF's Circular No.3/2017 [Ref.No.3/2015/FCA1] dated 23.06.2017.
3. PCCF's Circular No.5/2017 [Ref.No.3/2015/FCA1] dated 13.09.2017.

* * *

In-principle (Stage-I) approvals under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 / Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 have been issued by the competent authority for many developmental projects with several conditions stipulated therein to be complied by the User Agencies concerned and the Telangana Forest Department.

One of the conditions in the In-principle (Stage-I) approvals is ***"Construction of Boundary Pillars for the forest land proposed to be diverted shall be demarcated on the ground at the project cost, by erecting reinforced cement concrete pillars".***

In practice, District Forest Officers (DFOs) and Conservators of Forests have been submitting compliance reports stating that the User Agency has deposited the required funds for the construction of boundary pillars as per the demand raised by the District Forest Officer. However, these reports often mention that the construction will be undertaken only after working permission or Stage-II approval is granted. This is being objected by the

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Regional Office (RO), GoI, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Chennai.

During the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) meeting held on 28.03.2025, the RO, MoEF&CC, Chennai, emphasized that the Telangana Forest Department must submit compliance reports for Stage-I approval conditions, ensuring that the construction of boundary pillars is completed. Documentary evidence, including photographs of the constructed pillars, must be provided, as the funds for this purpose have already been deposited into the (PD) Account of the concerned District Forest Officers.

Recently, the Regional Officer, GoI, MoEF&CC, Chennai have returned the compliance reports submitted without accepting the undertakings given by the department/User Agency, for construction of boundary pillars at a later date i.e., after issue of Final (Stage-II) approval. Simultaneously, an EDS (Essential Details Sought) against the respective projects have been raised on PARIVESH Portal.

To ensure compliance with the instructions of the RO, MoEF&CC, Chennai, the following instructions are issued:

1. Upon deposition of funds by the User Agency into the PD Account of the Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer for the construction of boundary pillars, as per the demand raised by the DFO, the DFO shall promptly initiate the construction of boundary pillars within 15 days (after receipt of funds) in accordance with the specifications and Circular instructions issued by this office from time to time.
2. The DFO shall submit a compliance report on the aforementioned condition **only after the construction of boundary pillars is completed**, **enclosing details of the pillars constructed (number of pillars constructed) and photographs as evidence.** This should be completed within 3 weeks after receipt of the funds for the purpose.
3. Demarcation of boundary pillars shall be carried out along the entire alignment of the forest land for which Stage-I approval has been accorded by the competent authority, **without any deviation.**
4. The DFO shall submit a Monthly Progress Report (MPR) providing details of the funds deposited and funds utilized for the construction of boundary pillars.
5. The **above instructions shall be strictly followed for all proposals** where In-principle (Stage-I) approvals have been accorded and compliance reports are being

submitted, without any deviation.

All the Conservators of Forests / District Forest Officers / Forest Divisional Officers are hereby requested to strictly comply with the condition of demarcating and constructing boundary pillars for the forest area proposed for diversion. The condition-wise compliance report for In-principle (Stage-I) approvals must include two sets of photographs of the boundary pillars constructed at the proposed site, without fail.

Signed by Rakesh Mohan Dobriyal
Date: 18-04-2025 13:23:51
Reason: Approved

Dobriyal **Rakesh Mohan**
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force

To
All the Conservators of Forests / District Forest Officers / Forest Divisional Officers.

Copy submitted to the Principal Secretary to Government, EFS&T Department, Dr.B.R. Ambedkhar Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad for favour of information.

Copy to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden O/o.PCCF (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Executive Officer (CAMPA) O/o.PCCF (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Additional Principal Chief Conservators of Forests (WLR) and (Admn) O/o.PCCF (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad.

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//t.c.b.o.//

Administrative Officer

Jaya. 18/04/2025

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Ref.No.FC5/FC44/1/2022
Dated:18/06/2025

O/o the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Telangana State, "Aranya Bhavan",
Saifabad, Hyderabad – 500 004.

Dr.C.Suvarna, IFS.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force) (FAC)

* * *

Circular No. 03 **/2025**

Sub: TGFD – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 / Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 – Diversion of Forest Lands for non-forestry works in favour of various User Agencies – **Conduct of DGPS Survey of forest areas by the User Agency in Reserve Forest** - Instructions – Issued - Regarding.

Ref:
1. PCCF's Circular No.10/2013 [Ref.No.28026/2013/F1] dt.02.08.2013.
2. PCCF's Circular No.01/2018 [Ref.No.22857/2013/FCA-3] dt.08.11.2018

* * *

In order to streamline the procedure for Survey of forest land required for diversion for non-forestry works under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 / Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, the following instructions are issued:

a) The User Agencies (UA) shall submit a request letter addressed to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), TG, Hyderabad indicating broad details (non-forestry work proposed to be performed on forest land, area proposed for diversion, Name of the Village/Mandal/District, etc).

b) After receipt of the permission from the PCCF office, the UA shall contact the District Forest Officer (DFO) concerned and take written formal permission from the DFO for entering into forest areas and conducting survey. The DFO will also intimate the UA the names of officials from Forest Department who will be accompanying the UA and team in conducting survey.

c) Survey shall be carried out only in the presence of officials of Forest Department representatives.

d) The survey shall not involve any clearing of forest or cutting of trees

e) Compliance to the guidelines of Eco-sensitive zone & Wildlife Corridors should also be observed.

f) The User Agency shall not cause any violation to the provision of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and Telangana Forest Act, 1967/ Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and any other Act Rules and guidelines. **The UA is solely responsible for any violation.**

g) Permission for DGPS Survey of the forest land proposed shall not confer any right to the user Agency; for diversion of the said forest land for any purpose.

h) The ETS & DGPS / DGNSS Survey methodology prescribed in Annexure-I enclosed to the Circular instructions 2nd cited shall be followed in DGPS Survey process.

i) After completion of the survey, the User Agency shall submit the raw survey data in RINEX format to the PCCF office accompanied with a certificate obtained from the DFO on completion of the survey w.r.t the block notification etc.

j) The User Agency shall submit soft copy of the data (in pen drive) along with printed map of the proposed area in this office with covering letter requesting for verification & authentication of data by GIS Cell of this office

Suvarna C
Signed by Suvarna C
Date: 18-06-2025 07:11:54
Reason: Approved
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force

To
All the Conservators of Forests / District Forest Officers / Forest Divisional Officers

Copy submitted to the Prl.Secretary to Government, Environment, Forest, Science & Technology Department, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad for favour of information.

Copy submitted to the Prl.Secretary to Govt, Panchayat Raj & Rural Development Department (PR-Roads), D-Block, 2nd Floor, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad for favour of information.

Copy submitted to the Prl.Secretary to Govt. Tribal Welfare Department, D- Block, Ground Floor, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad for favour of information.

Copy submitted to the Regional Officer, Ministry of Road Transport & Highway (MORTH) R&B Office Complex, Errum Manzil Hyderabad – 500082 for information.

Copy submitted to the Regional Officer, GoI, MoEF&CC, Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad 6th floor, Aranya Bhawan, Saifabad Hyderabad for information.

Copy to the South Central Railway O/o Chief Administrative Officer, Construction, SC Railway, Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad.

Copy to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden O/o.PCCF (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Additional Principal Chief Conservators of Forests (WLR) O/o.PCCF (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Additional Principal Chief Conservators of Forests (Admn) O/o.PCCF (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Additional Principal Chief Conservators of Forests (IT) and (Dev) O/o.PCCF (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad with a request to publish the Circular on the official website of the Department.

Copy to the Director of Mines & Geology, My Home Sarovar Plaza, H.No. 5-922, Flat No. 203 & 204, 2nd Floor, Shahpur Wadi, Adarsh Nagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500063.

Copy to the Chairman, TG Minerals Development Corporation (TSMDC), # 6-2-915, 4th Floor, (HMWS&SB) Premises, Rare Block, Kairthabad, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Chairman & Managing Director, M/s SCCL Limited, Singareni Bhavan, Niloufer Road, Red Hills, near LakdiKapul Bridge, PO, Khairtabad, Hyderabad, Telangana 500004.

Copy to the Chairman & Managing Director, TG TRANSCO, Vidyut Soudha, Khairthabad, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Chairman & Managing Director, TG GENCO, Vidyut Soudha, Khairthabad Hyderabad.

Copy to the Chairman & Managing Director, Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited, Corporate office; #6-1-50, Mint Compound, Hyderabad – 500 063.

Copy to the Chairman & Managing Director, Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited, H.No:2-5-31/2, Corporate Office, Vidyut Bhavan, Nakkagutta, Hanamkonda, Warangal – 506001

Copy to the Chairman-Cum-Managing Director, NMDC Limited, Khanij Bhavan, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Director, Atomic Mineral Division, Begumpet, Hyderabad

Copy to the Engineer-in-Chief State Roads & CRN, # 5th floor, O/o the Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) Erramunzil,Hyderabad-500082 for information.

Copy to the Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj Department, Erramunzil, Hyderabad-500082.

Copy to the Engineer–in-Chief, Irrigation & Command Area Development (I&CAD), Jalasoudha Building, Errum Manzil, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Engineer–in- Chief, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation (RWS&S), SRTGN Bhavan, Errummanzil Colony, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Engineer-in-Chief, Mission Bhagiratha Department, SRTGN Bhavan, Erramanzil colony, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Engineer–in-Chief, R&B, Administration & Quality Control Wing, Errum Manzil, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Engineer–in-Chief, R&B National Highway, 5th Floor, Erram Manzil, Hyderabad, Telangana 500082

Copy to the Chief Engineer, Civil, Thermal, TSGENCO, Vidyut Soudha, Hyderabad-500082

Copy to the Principal General Manager (NW-CW), BSNL, Telangana Telecom Circle,

Room No.310, Door Sanchar Bhavan, Nampally, Hyderabad-500001.

Copy to the Vice Chairman & Managing Director, TG Industrial Infrastructure, Corporation (TGIIC), Parisram Bhavan, Hyderabad.

Copy to the Metropolitan Commissioner, Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) head office is located at Swarna Jayanti Complex, Sanjeeva Reddy Nagar, Srinivasa Nagar, Ameerpet, Hyderabad – 500038.

Copy to the Chief General Manager, NHAI, H.No.8-2-334/18, Road No.3, Banjara Hills, Telangana.Hyderabad. 500034.

Copy to the Chief Engineer Administration & QC, # 7th floor, O/o the Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) Erramunzil, Hyderabad-500082 for information.

Copy to the Chief Engineer Designs & Planing, LWE and RSW, # 2nd floor, O/o the Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) Erramunzil, Hyderabad-500082 for information.

Copy to the Chief Administrative Officer (Constructions), South Central Railway, Rail Nirman Bhavan,Secunderabad.

Copy to the Deputy General Manager, Hyderabad Growth Corridor Limited, HGCL, 2nd floor, Khajaguda road, Nanakram Guda, Hyderabad-500104.

Copy to the Executive Director, Power Grid Corporation of India, Old Pragatools, Kawadiguda,Hyderabad.

Copy to the M/s Telangana Fiber Grid Corporation Limited, 7th Floor, Splendid towers Near Rasoolpura Metrorail Station, S.P. Road, Begumpet, Hyderabad- 500003.

Copy to M/s Bharti Airtel limited, #1-8-437, 438, 364 "& 445, Splendid Towers., Opp Begumpet Police Station, Huda Road,Begumpet, Hyderabad – 500016.

Copy to the Jio Digitial Fibre Private Limited, #204, Lake Shore Towers. Raj Bhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad – 500082.

Copy to the Director Technical, M/s My Home Industries Limited, My Home Hub, 9th Floor, 3rd Block, Hitech City Rd, HITEC City, Hyderabad, Telangana 500081.

Copy to M/s Deccan Cements Ltd., Regd Office: 6-3-666/B, "Deccan CHAMBERS", Somajiguda, Hyderabad – 500 082.

Copy to M/s Penna Cements, Plot No. 705, Banjara Hills Rd Number 3, Sagar Society, Sri Nagar Colony, Aurora Colony, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana 500034.

Copy to M/s NCL Industries Limited, NCL PEARL, 6th & 7th Floor, Near Rail Nilayam SD Road, Secunderabad, Telangana 500026.

Copy to M/s Orient Cements, 5-9-22/57/D, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Floor G P Birla Centre, Adarsh Nagar, Hyderabad, Telangana 500063

Copy to M/s Associated Cement Companies Ltd,, 1-1-163, 2nd Floor, Old Axlender Road, R P Road, Secunderabad, Telangana 500003.

Copy to the M/s Mancherial Cements, H.No:6-3-655/2/4, Somajiguda, Hyderabad, Telangana 500082.

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//t.c.b.o.//

Administrative Officer

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Ref.No.22857/2013/FCA-3
Dated:08-11-2018

O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force
Telangana, "Aranya Bhavan",
Saifabad, Hyderabad – 500 004.

Circular No.01/2018

Sri P.K.Jha, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force

Sub: TSFD – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Conditions imposed in Stage II (final) approval of diversion of forest lands for non-forestry purposes under F(C)Act,1980 - Notification of non-forest CA lands received in lieu of forest lands diverted - Survey of non-forest CA lands – **Instructions issued** - Regarding.

Ref: 1. Instructions issued in various communications of final approvals for forest lands diverted for various non-forestry purposes under F(C)Act,1980 (like G.O.Ms.No.133, EFS&T (FOR) Dept, Dt.12.12.2005 communicated in PCCF's Rc.No.68918/1988-F1, Dt.22.12.2005; G.O.Rt. No.26 EFS&T (FOR.I) Dept., Dt.10.07.2017 communicated in PCCF's Rc.No.17172/2016/FCA-1, Dt.15.07.2017; G.O.Ms.No.38 EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dt.26.10.2017 communicated in PCCF's PCCF's Rc.No.1200/2014/FCA-1, Dt.07.11.2017; G.O.Ms.No.38 EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dt.03.11.2017 communicated in PCCF's Rc.No.3912/2014/FCA-1, Dt.16.11.2017; G.O.Ms.No.40 EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dt.27.11.2017 communicated in PCCF's Rc.No.2514/2017/FCA-1, Dt.27.11.2017; G.O.Ms.No.5 EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dt.17.01.2018 communicated in PCCF's Rc.No.47635/2009/FCA-1, Dt.27.01.2018; G.O.Ms.No.39 EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dt.15.09.2018 communicated in PCCF's Rc.No.5264/2015/FCA-2, Dt.25.09.2018; G.O.Ms.No.33, EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dt.19.09.2017 communicated in PCCF's Rc.No.28290/2012/FCA-2, Dt.25.09.2017; G.O.Ms.No.24, EFS&T (For.I) Dept., Dt.23.07.2018 communicated in PCCF's Rc.No.39918/2006/FCA-2, Dt.30.07.2018 etc. about 200 more letters)

2. Series of letters, instructions and reminders issued from FCA, WLR and IT wings (like PCCF's Rc.No. 38165/2007/J1, Dt.01.11.2007 etc.; Series of letters in PCCF's Rc.No.16876/2009/IT-1, 25398/2011/IT, 15242/2016/IT, 16578/2011/FCA-3, 28851/2010/IT, 22857/2013/FCA-3, 44798/2013/FM-1, 21052/2013/FM-1, 22947/2013-J2; PCCF's Rc.No. 1839-A/2016/TS/WLR-1, Dt.20.08.2018 & 25.10.2018; PCCF's Rc.No. 22818/2010/IT, Dt.25.03.2011 & reminders; etc.)

3. Instructions issued during review meetings and video conferences.

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Attention of the officers in the address entry is invited to the subject and references cited.

While communicating the Stage I (in-principle) and Stage II (final) approvals of diversion of forest land for various non-forestry purposes under Forest (Conservation) Act,1980, they have been requested to furnish the compliance reports on conditions stipulated.

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One of the most important conditions imposed while according approvals is **stipulation of compensatory afforestation**, which is a measure to minimize the negative impact of forest loss in the form of diversion. As per the condition stipulated, **Non-forest land taken over for compensatory afforestation shall be notified by the State Government as RF/PF** under Indian Forest Act, 1927 or the State Forest Act **within a period of six months** of issual of Stage II clearance and Nodal officer (FCA) shall submit the compliance within six months. This is even mentioned in the Stage I (in-principle) approval.

As seen from the records and as informed by the APCCF(P&V), **there is lot of pendency in the notification of CA lands**. One of the reasons of pendency is found to be **non-availability of DGPS equipment** with the field officers **for carrying out survey of the non-forest CA lands**. All the CA lands received since 2013-14 are DGPS surveyed as DGPS survey was made mandatory as per the guidelines issued in F.No.11-9/98-FC, Dt.08.07.2011. All the DFOs/ FDOs are requested to furnish notification proposals for all the CA lands for which DGPS Survey particulars are available and lands mutated, to WLR Wing, immediately. For all those CA lands for which DGPS Survey maps are not available, they are requested to speed up the process of survey of CA lands for notification, if required by outsourcing the work of Survey.

DGPS/ GNSS equipment would be procured for carrying out survey of non-forest CA lands from out of funds deposited by the User Agency towards CA. Meanwhile, it has been decided to fix the rate and formulate the procedure involved for survey of non-forest CA lands using ETS & DGPS/ GNSS equipment, in case the survey is outsourced in view of urgency

Regarding rate for survey, Vide G.O.Ms.No.108, EFS&T (FOR.II) Dept. Dt 05.09.2006, the Government had fixed certain rates for IT & Geomatics Services and authorized the PCCF to levy & collect user charges for the services like DGPS survey, authentication etc., being provided by the department; and also permitted PCCF to revise the User charges from time to time depending on the necessity. Accordingly, the User Charges for certain items were amended twice, first time on 31.08.2013 and latest vide PCCFs Rc.No.24529/2006/IT-1, Dt.22.01.2016. A detailed procedure involved in ETS & DGPS/ GNSS survey has been formulated and amended from time-to-time (Annexure I).

As per the latest amendment, an amount of Rs.2000/ per point has been fixed for conducting ETS & DGPS Survey by the Forest Department, duly following the procedure annexed to the amendment, subject to minimum 20 points per day. In case of linear surveys, an amount of Rs.20,000/ per km has been fixed, subject to maximum of 10 points/ km and minimum of 2 km/day. The rates are including manpower, processing and exporting of data into e00/ shape file format; along with supply of 8 Sets of maps.

The rates adopted by various agencies for carrying out the DGPS survey through outsourcing have been obtained. An amount of Rs.2000/ per point has been paid by various departments towards ETS&GDPS/DGNSS survey to various user agencies. In case of Survey of lines, an amount of Rs.18000/ per km has been paid. The cost towards map making, authentication, printing etc., is extra over the above charges. Taxes as applicable are additional.

Hence, after perusal of rates received from the other agencies as well as the user charges fixed by the forest department, **the maximum rates of Rs.2000 per point** towards ETS&GDPS/DGNSS survey (including manpower, processing and exporting of data into e00/ shapefile format; along with 8 Sets of maps) may be adopted with taxes

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as applicable in addition to the above rate, while following the ETS & DGPS/ DGNSS survey methodology prescribed as per **Annexure I** (enclosed), duly including the responsibilities of the forest department and consultant firm. Readings shall be recorded at each corner and the distance between two consecutive points shall be less than 100 m, if the boundary line is straight. The above rate per point is negotiable with the firms who offer their services and shall not exceed Rs.2000/- per point.

The DFOs/ FDOs shall take up survey of CA lands pending for notification immediately following the above rate and procedure and ensure that all the CA lands for which DGPS Survey is not available are surveyed and notification proposals submitted to WLR Wing O/o PCCF within 3 months. The expenditure for survey shall be met from funds available under respective approved CA schemes.

Encl: a/a

Sd/- P.K.Jha
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests

To,

All the Conservator of Forests / District Forest Officers / Forest Divisional Officers.

Copy to all the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests / Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) for information.

Copy to Deputy Conservator of Forests (IT)/ Assistant Conservator of Forests (HRD) & Forest Range Officer (GIS), O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) for information and necessary action.

Copy to the table of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) for favor of information.

//t.c.b.o//

Superintendent

13/11/2018

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Annexure- I

ETS &DGPS/DGNSS SURVEY

I. Scope of the Work

a. Responsibility of the consultant

i. Survey of the boundaries of the notified Forest Blocks/Forest Lands/ F(C) Act,1980 areas.

ii. Prepare & Supply geo-referenced maps along with report consisting of all the readings and photograph at each BP (Boundary Pillars) as evidence for notified forest blocks/ forest areas diverted/ CA lands received/ activities taken up in LPS/GIS usable format (e00 format) in Geographic Coordinate System - WGS84 datum.

iii. Submission of data as mentioned below at Para II A.

iv. Survey to be carried out as mentioned below at Para II B.

v. Field training about the procedure of ETS &DGPS/ DGNSS survey to all the FBO/DyRO/FSO/FRO/FDO/DFO of the concerned division.

b. **Responsibility of the Forest Department**:

i. Scanning of all documents including Gazette Notifications and forest block records & F(C) Act,1980 records; FMBs, maps, village cadastral records etc.

ii. Relocation of the boundaries as per the records. The procedure described in Annexure III may be used for relocation of boundaries.

iii. The instructions and guidelines issued from-time-time by PCCF(HoFF) can be used as a reference to locate the boundaries in the field, if applicable.

iv. Others mentioned at Para III.

II. Detailed Procedure for Work:

A. **Survey:**

i. The Survey shall be carried **along the notified forest block boundary/ F(C) Act,1980 areas** which is invariably **shown by the concerned local Forest Officers/Staff** with reference to the connected records duly making reference to FMBs, maps, village cadastral maps and other connected records etc.; preferably starting from one corner of boundary and continued in anti-clock-wise or clock-wise direction.

ii. The survey shall be carried out in the presence of the concerned DyRO/FSO/FBO. FRO shall be present for atleast 10% of the points/ length.

iii. Reading shall be recorded at each corner and the distance between two consecutive points shall be less than 100 m, if the boundary line is straight.

01. DGPS Survey in post-processing mode (20 cm accuracy):

a. Establishment of Base stations (Control Points):

- **Base Stations to be fixed by Multi/Dual frequency DGPS receivers** with **SOI Control Point as reference** (reference point will be supplied by FD) in such way that it shall meet the criteria given in 01(c & d).
- The minimum **observation time** for base station **shall be 6 hours** from nearest SOI control point.
- Alternately, the static observation with a multi/ dual frequency receivers in carrier mode for 72 hours observation is also accepted.

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b. Recording with Rovers:

- **DGPS readings** at each **station** along the periphery shall be taken by a **Rover** with a **minimum observation period of 15 minutes.** Subsequently, the DGPS Rover data need to be **differentially corrected** with reference to the **Base station / Control Point** data.

c. Dual/Multiple frequency DGPS receivers (Rovers)can be used within a **radius of 50 km** from the **Base**.

d. Single frequency DGPS receivers(Rovers) can be used **within** a **radius of 10 km** from the **Base**.

02. <u>DGPS Survey in real-time mode:</u>

a) The Dual Frequency DGPS with **OMNISTAR XP/HP connection or equivalent** shall be used and reading shall be taken when **accuracy is within 20 cm** (Photograph of Controller must be taken as proof).

b) In case of DGPS/ DGNSS receivers with Radio modems or GSM/ TCP/IP connection,

- Minimum observation time of 20-25 minutes for initial points and minimum 2 minutes observation time at each subsequent points; and instrument should be in switch-on mode for entire survey.
- In case instrument is switched-off during survey, the above procedure is to be repeated.
- Proof of achieving < 20 cm accuracy shall be established.

03. <u>Total Station Survey:</u>

i. **Continue Survey with more control points.** Proper care should be taken, if the extent of areas to be covered is larger. **Geo-reference the data** using GCPs. (GCPs shall be collected as per procedure detailed in (01)

ii. The accuracy desired is 5 mm/km, and angles to 1°/3600°. **The distance** between the Total Station and the target **shall not be more than 300 m.** A single stretch should not be more than 3 km.

iii. For linear surveys, divide the alignment into segments of 3 km each. DGPS/GNSS reading has to be given as initial reading of ETS of a segment and continue the Survey for that segment. Then, all the segments have to be combined.

04. <u>Conditions to be observed for Survey:</u>

i. The survey shall be conducted with same set of instruments as far as possible for a given area to be notified.

ii. DGPS/GNSS instruments used for survey must be set to **Geographic Coordinate System – WGS84 Datum**. Instruments shall be properly calibrated at each location.

iii. **Properly setting the ETS. (a)** Enter the appropriate prism constant, which is noted on the prism body, if not stored in the permanent memory of the instrument. (b) Apply the atmospheric correction manually, if instrument doesn't have automatic correction facility. (c) Select appropriate measurement mode, fine is desirable. Single or Repeat measurements. (d) Apply the earth curvature and refraction correction. Set the constant based on the topography.

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(e) Ensure that the centre of the target is correctly sighting the reflecting prism. (f) Calibrate the Total Station.

iv. The panoramic view surrounding the Base Station as well as antenna location showing the terrain in near proximity should be **digitally photographed** (should be taken in three or four different directions) and monumented. The cost for monumentation shall be borne by the forest department.

v. For bigger areas, variations in magnetic bearings over a period of time must be taken into account.

vi. Raw and post-processed DGPS readings along with original source file for each location shall be submitted every week or as soon as the work is completed, whichever is earlier, to the Geomatics Centre, Hyderabad.

vii. For each forest block or feature a unique ID shall be given. All the features shall be recorded in this ID. All the features will be extracted from this data.

viii. The attributes shall be collected as specified by SFD and shall be linked to the corresponding features.

B. <u>Submission of data and maps:</u>

For DGPS/GNSS Survey:

a. **Raw** (for Rover and Base) **as well as Post-Processed/ real-time differentially corrected** (for Rover) **DGPS/GNSS readings** at each BP along the periphery, in RINEX and native formats.

b. **Each BP wise readings in MS Excel** (8 decimal places in degrees for Latitude and Longitude including height in cm)

c. All BPs as single file in **e00 format** as well as in **Shape file** in **Geographic Coordinate System - WGS84 datum.**

d. If **real-time DGPS/ DGNSS** is used,
   - The OMNISTAR license or equivalent must be produced.
   - If radio-modems are employed, the license for radio-modems alongwith the specifications must be produced.
   - If GSM/GPRS/CDPD technology used, the source of base corrections must be produced.
   - Snapshot of the controller.

For Electronic Total Stations (ETS) Survey:

Unregistered data in .dwg format & **geo-referenced data** in .dwg & .e00 format along with GCPs collected using DGPS/GNSS (Raw & differentially corrected DGPS/ GNSS readings in RINEX and native formats).

a. The ETS data in its native format like code ASCII, IDX, GSI etc.

b. **Each BP wise readings in MS Excel** (3 decimal places for X and Y; height in cm)

For Both Surveys:

a. One set of hard copy of maps and readings of each location in MS-Excel (latitude and longitude in WGS84 datum and height above MSL and HAE in cm) certified bythe respective FBO, FSO, FRO, FDO& DFO, CCFs/CFs of Circles in 1:10000 Scale, **subject to maximum A0 size**.

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b. Name of the Agency, who carried out the DGPS Survey along with the names and designations of the persons.
c. Period of conduct of Survey.
d. Make & Model of the instruments used for Survey.
e. Names of the departmental officers accompanied Survey of the CA lands along with designations. The readings appearing on the screen shall be shown to the concerned FBO/ FSO/ FRO and signatures shall be obtained on recording sheet.

N.B.: The need for submission of Raw & Differentially corrected DGPS/GNSS data:

- To verify the time of observation at each station.
- To ascertain whether the readings are recorded with handheld GPS or DGPS/GNSS.
- To ascertain the accuracy of the readings.

III. **Responsibilities of SFD officers**

- SFD shall provide details of Forest Blocks/ F(C) Act,1980 areas to be surveyed & mapped with all attribute data. **Ensure availability of all the data/records viz.,** Gazette notification/ Stage II approval (Forest lands diverted/ non-forest CA lands received); Maps, Area Statement (village & Sy. No. wise); Cadastral maps of concerned revenue villages; Copy of Pahani and Sethwar/ Adangal.
- Scanning of all documents of Notifications/ Stage II approvals including maps.

a) SFD shall coordinate the work with the consultant's team.
   - The Field Officers (FRO/DyRO/FSO/FBO) shall locate and demarcate notified forest blocks boundaries /CA lands / diverted lands w.r.to connected records.
   - The DyRO/FSO/FBO shall be present during the complete survey. Forest Range Officer shall be present for atleast 10% of the points / length.

b) The boundaries located by field officers shall be authenticated by the respective DFOs/ FDOs.
c) Respective DFOs/ FDOs shall provide the revenue maps and facilitate interaction/coordination with the revenue officials.
d) Respective DFOs/ FDOs shall construct the Pillar at each BP, if not constructed.

Sd/-P.Raghuveer,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (IT&P)

//t.c.b.o.//

Superintendent

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D.F.A.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Rc. No.28026/2013/F4,
Dated:02.08.2013.

O/o the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests,
"Aranya Bhavan", Saifabad, Hyderabad.

Sri B. Somasekhar Reddy, I.F.S.,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force

***

CIRCULAR No.10/2013

Sub: APFD FCA **New online system of forest clearances** of the MoEF, Govt. Of India and **Streamlining of the procedure** for submission and processing of proposals for diversion of forest areas under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 – Circular instructions issued -Reg.

Ref : 1. SAIG, MoEF, GOI, New Delhi Lr.F.No.16-13/2011-FC (II), Dt.20.11.2012
2. I.G.F. MoEF, GOI, New Delhi Lr.F.No.16-13/2011-FC (II), Dt.08.02.2013

*****

1. It is to inform that the Sr. Inspector General of Forests, MoEF, New Delhi vide reference 1st cited (Copy enclosed as **Annexure-I**) has informed that in view of the decision taken by the Central Information Commissioner (CIC) in the complaint filed by Ms. Shibani Ghosh under RTI Act, 2005 seeking display of Form A/ Form B of proposals for diversion of forests land for non forestry purposes, the CIC has directed that Ministry will display above forms within 10 days of placing the project on the Agenda of the FAC and information related to additional documents/reports/studies within 10 days of receipt of information.

2. Sr. Inspector General of Forests has further informed that for the above purpose, suitable arrangement **to upload and display the information** appropriately **on the website of the Environment & Forest Ministry** have been made by the Ministry and requested all the PCCFs of the States to regular upload the information on the website of the Ministry in the **new Web-based Proposal Monitoring System** along with scanned copy of Form A/B before the proposals are considered by the **State Advisory Group (SAG).**

3. The I.G.F. (FC) vide letter 2nd cited (Copy enclosed as **Annexure-II**) has reiterated the same and requested for uploading of the information pertaining to all the FCA proposals on the website of the MoEF. NIC has generated **User IDS and Passwords** for all the Circle and Division level Officers for entering of data in the above mentioned **new Web-based Proposal Monitoring System** of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The same are appended herewith as **Annexure III & IV** respectively. You are requested to enter the basic information and the information up to Part II & III of the Form A/B at your office level. This has become necessary in view of the decision of the GOI that the proposals will not be put up to the SAG & FAC unless these are uploaded in to the above mentioned **new Web-based Proposal Monitoring System** of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

4. Further it is to inform that most of the proposals received from the various **User Agencies** are not found to be in a complete shape. The most **common shortcomings** noticed are as follows:-

- **Full Justification for locating the project in the forest area**, giving details of the alternatives examined and reasons for their rejection, against item no. I (iv) of Part-I of

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Form "A" in each of the proposal, needs to be furnished in detailed, as the projects in forest lands are to be taken up only in extremely un-avoidable circumstances.

- **Digital maps** with Geo-coordinates recorded using WGS 84 Datum and UTM Projection in Degree, decimal degrees format (dd.dddddddd^0) using Total Station or DGPS equipment along with **soft and hard copy** needs to be furnished along with each of the proposal (As per GoI letter F. No. 11-9/98-FC, Dt.08.07.2011). The methodology for conduct of DGPS survey is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-V**. It is advisable to conduct the survey in the first place and get the data authenticated from a recognized agency and then only prepare the required maps. In this connection it is to inform that **the Geomatics Centre** of this office has got the necessary hardware, software and technical personnel to authenticate the digital data and maps and the User Agencies can avail of the services of the Centre on payment of **User Charges**. It will be prudent on the part of the User Agencies to get their data verified before hand in the **Geomatics Cell** of this office and then go ahead with the printing of maps. In this connection if any assistance regarding technical details for DGPS survey is required from this office, the User Agencies may be advised to approach this office and the Addl. PCCF (IT) in particular.
- **Soft copy** of the entire proposal in **Pdf format.** This is required in view of making the entire process of forest clearances online, by the GoI as informed in the ref 1st and 2nd cited. The first page of this portal is also appended herewith as **Annexure-VI**. You are requested to furnish the relevant information so as to enable this office in uploading the same on the portal, after due scrutiny.
- **Original map on SoI (Survey of India) Topo-sheet on 1:50,000 scale**, of the project, showing the location of the area proposed for diversion passing through Forest Area duly indexed.
- **Index map** of the project with cross sections wherever required.

In case of **Roads proposals** following shortfalls / lacunae were noticed:

- The proposals are not as per ~~against~~ the decision taken in the **State Level Committee** meeting held on **18.04.2013** by the Chief Secretary, Govt. of AP on finalization of Master Plan for Road Connectivity in IAP & ITDA areas, wherein it was decided to include those works where Forest Clearances etc. are not required and which can be easily implemented in the 1st year programme i.e., 2013-14."
- The proposals are not in conformity with the other decisions wherein it was required that all road proposals need to be formulated by the Mandal Level Committee & scrutinized by and approved by the District & State Level Committees. It is not known whether the above procedure has been followed.
- The **width of roads** proposed for formation / improvement of roads ~~is~~ are found to be varying for different lengths for different roads, which is contrary to the decision taken in the meeting cited above.
- Clearly mention whether the existing road proposed for up-gradation **existed prior to 1980 or formed subsequently**. If subsequent to 1980, furnish details of the sanction obtained under the FC Act.
- If improvement to BT roads includes construction of **Culverts/ Bridges**, the details like number and location of culverts/ bridges also needs to be furnished.

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In case of **Mining proposals** following shortfalls / lacunae were noticed:

- Certificate from the District Mining Officers or the Director of Mines & Geology stating that the mineral for which Mining Leases have been applied for is not available outside the forests, is not furnished.
- Details of all the Mining Leases for the mineral applied for, both outside and inside the forest areas, estimated reserves, production, demand and supply etc. have also not been furnished in each case.

5. Further it is noticed that the Divisional Forest Officers and the Conservators of Forests are not carrying out **field inspection** of the proposed area for diversion in consonance with the GOI instructions at point No. 4.10 at Item no. 7 & 10 of the Part-II of the proposal respectively. Their reports are not covering all the details with photographs; which is leading to delay in further processing of the proposals.

6. It is also noticed in most of the proposals that the User Agencies are not arriving at the **Valuation of loss of forests** as detailed in Annexure-VI (b) and **Evaluation of benefits** as detailed in Annexure-VI (c) correctly. However neither the DFOs nor the CFs are checking the values arrived at and commenting about the same in their reports. It will be advisable if DFOs find that the values adopted are not correct, the UAs are called to their offices, discrepancies pointed out and rectified before onward submission to CFs.

7. It is further observed that the field officers are not sticking to the time frame prescribed under the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Rules, 2004 for processing the proposals. This is leading to adverse comments from the UAs as well as the State and Central Governments. Therefore they are requested to strictly adhere to the time frame, without giving any scope for adverse comments from any corner. The following time frame is suggested to expedite the processing the proposals, especially in view of the online systems of monitoring of forests clearances by the MoEF, GOI:

Cause of Action	Officer responsible for taking action	Action to be taken	Time frame
Receipt of proposal in a complete shape from the PCCF/Nodal Officer	Divisional Forest Officer concerned	Submission of proposal in complete shape, including field inspection and Part-II duly filled in to the CF concerned	**30 days**
Receipt of proposal in a complete shape from the Divisional Forest Officer, Part-II duly filled in.	Conservator of Forests concerned	Submission of proposal in complete shape, including field inspection (wherever required) and Part-III duly filled in to the PCCF/Nodal Officer	**15 days**

8. It is further observed that due diligence is not being observed by the DFOs while submitting the "**No-Violation Certificate**" along with FCA Proposals at point No. 9 of the Part II of Form A (6 of Form B). When the provisions of FCA 1980 are violated, mere registration of POR / UDOR is not sufficient. In such cases, action against the guilty officers has to be initiated and pursued along with the submission of "**Violation Report**". A detailed report clearly mentioning the nature of offences, the persons responsible; both in the Forest Department as well as of the User Agency & others, if any, for allowing the offence with all relevant details, need to be submitted along with violation report so that appropriate action can be taken against the officials responsible for violation of the Act.

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9. Further, it is to inform that all projects proposed to be located **inside Protected Areas** require clearance from State- and/or National Board of Wildlife (**SBWL / NBWL) & Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.** For this User Agency needs to submit proposal under **WL Formats.**

10. Further, all the projects which are falling within **Eco-sensitive zones**/ proposed **Eco-sensitive zones** (tentatively with in 10 km radius from the outer boundary of each Protected Area) UA needs to submit Environmental Management Plan (EMP) along with FC Act proposals, wherever required.

11. It is also noticed that the instructions issued by PCCF vide **Rc.No.32100/2007-F3; Dt.17.04.2013** regarding transfer of funds through RTGS/ NEFT mode are not being followed scrupulously. They are requested to do so scrupulously and obtain & submit proof of deposition of funds by the User Agency (UA) through RTGS/ NEFT to this office **within 15 days** of the receipt of the same, along with component-wise breakup of funds deposited to this office for reconciliation purpose, in the following proforma:

1	Name of the Bank & Branch through which RTGS transfer made	
2	Name of the Bank, Branch & Account Number in which amount is transferred	
3	Amount transferred (in Rupees.)	
4	UTR No. and Date of transfer	
5	Acknowledgment copy of the Bank at S. No. 1	
6	Component wise break-up of the funds transferred:	
	a. NPV	
	b. Addl. NPV	
	c. CA	
	d. Penal CA	
	e. CAT	
	f. Safety Zone	
	g. Wildlife component	
	h. Survey & Investigation	
	i. Others (Please specify)	
	TOTAL	

12. In view of the above shortcomings and with a view to ensure submission of information and documents in a complete shape by the User Agencies and also for proper processing of the Proposals sent to the Field Officers, **General & specific Check Lists** (5 in No.) are sent here with. All the field Officers are requested to process the proposals of the User Agencies keeping in view the items mentioned in the Check lists and submit the proposals duly processed in a complete shape to this office for taking further necessary action.

It is requested to acknowledge the receipt of this Circular by return e-mail at fcafca-apfd@ap.gov.in.

DESPATCHED
Encl: as above
- 7 AUG 2013
To, dae
Signature of Clerk

Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force.

To,

All the APCCFs/CCFs/CFs in charge of Territorial & WL Circles.

All the Divisional Forest Officers (T&WL).

Copy to all the APCCFs in-charges of the T & WL Circles for information & necessary action.

Copy submitted to APCCF Central GoI, Bangalore.
Copy submitted to PCCF(WL) & CWLW for inf & n/a.
E-copy to all the officers in the APFD for inf & n/a.
Copy to FA-1, FA-2, FA-3 & FA-4 sections Assistants for inf & n/a.
Copy to Stock File.

Copy to APCCF (Admn) for info.
APCCF (Admn)

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GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Rc.No. FC5/FC44/1/2022,
Dated: 11-01-2026

O/o the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force), Telangana,
"Aranya Bhavan", Saifabad, Hyderabad.

Dr. C. Suvarna, IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force
***

CIRCULAR No. 01/2026

Sub:- TGFD – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 - Project Screening Committee–I (PSC-I) – Strengthening preliminary scrutiny and verification of Forest diversion proposals in strict adherence to Rule 9 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 – Instructions issued – Reg.

Ref:-
1. Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980
2. Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023 - came into effect from 01.12.2023.
3. Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 - 29.11.2023.
4. Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Amendment Rules, 2024 -20.09.2024.
5. Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Amendment Rules, 2025 -31.08.2025.
6. Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Second Amendment Rules, 2025 -29.11.2025.

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Immediate attention is invited to the subject and references cited.

- The Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 came into effect from 01.12.2023 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 and subsequent amendments were issued by GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide references 3rd to 6th cited.
- Rule 9 (4) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 states that **upon online submission of a proposal on the PARIVESH portal, a unique proposal identity number is automatically generated,** and the proposal is simultaneously forwarded to the concerned District Forest Officer, Conservator of Forests and District Collector for the purpose of independent preliminary examination.
- Accordingly, each of these authorities is statutorily required to undertake **independent verification of completeness and correctness of the proposal at the initial stage itself**, without awaiting scrutiny at any later level ***[Rule 9(4)].***

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- Further, soon after receipt of proposals on the **PARIVESH portal,** the Member-Secretary of the Project Screening Committee-I shall convene PSC-I meetings under the Chairmanship of Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, TG, Hyderabad, and the concerned District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests shall attend the PSC-I meeting with full preparedness and complete factual details of the proposal ***[Rule 9(5)].***
- Further, Rule 9(5) to Rule 9(9) assign responsibility to the Project Screening Committee **to ensure that only proposals which are complete and correct are allowed to proceed for further processing.**
- Proposals involving forest land **of more than five hectares** are subject to scrutiny at the Project Screening Committee, as part of the statutory process of preliminary examination. Accordingly, identification of shortcomings, verification of correctness and confirmation of completeness for such proposals are required to be undertaken at the PSC-I stage itself.
- It has been observed that **non-verification and non-highlighting of shortcomings during PSC-I meetings are resulting in proposals being forwarded for further processing with unresolved issues**. Consequently, Essential Details Sought (EDS) information is being requested like **changes in forest area required for diversion, entry and exit points etc.,** leading to avoidable delays in processing of proposals.

- It is therefore reiterated that once a proposal is examined and recommended through the Project Screening Committee-I, the District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests can't raise any fresh Essential Details Sought or propose changes in forest area, alignment or extent at subsequent stages. Any EDS or modification, if required, shall be raised only on the User Agency and only after placing the proposal before PSC-I, as part of the statutory scrutiny process. *[Rule 9(5), Rule 9(7), Rule 9(8)].* **Failure to identify and place such deficiencies before PSC-I defeats the very purpose of the Project Screening Committee mechanism** and leads to avoidable delays, which shall be consciously avoided. *[Rule 9(7)].*

- Such practices are also adversely impacting the image and credibility of the Forest Department.
- The Project Screening Committee-I is envisaged as a control mechanism to ensure early identification and rectification of shortcomings, thereby reducing pendency and ensuring timely processing of proposals.
- In view of the above and to ensure that the proposals are examined thoroughly by the Project Screening Committee, the following instructions are issued:

1. The District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests concerned shall independently and diligently examine each proposal prior to and during PSC-I meetings for completeness and correctness of documentation and

shall not rely solely on scrutiny by other members. *[Rule 9(4)]*

2. The DFOs and CFs shall specifically verify and confirm the exact forest area involved in diversion with reference to block notifications, legal status of land and notified categories such as Reserved Forest, Protected Forest or other recorded forest land. Verification shall include cross-checking of maps, DGPS data and area calculations. *[Rule 9(5), Rule 9(7)]*
3. It shall be mandatorily verified during PSC-I whether the Non-Forest Land (NFL) identified for Compensatory Afforestation is free from encumbrances and does not fall within any notified forest area or recorded forest land. Any discrepancy noticed shall be treated as a deficiency at the PSC-I stage itself. *[Rule 9(7)].*
4. Peg marking of the forest land proposed for diversion, and the Non-Forest Land proposed for Compensatory Afforestation before or at the time of PSC-I scrutiny, so as to avoid ambiguity at later stages. *[Rule 9(7)]*
5. It shall be mandatorily verified during PSC-I whether the Non-Forest Land (NFL) identified for Compensatory Afforestation is free from encumbrances and does not fall within any notified forest or recorded forest land. Any discrepancy shall be treated as a deficiency at PSC-I stage itself. *[Rule 9(7)]*
6. All deficiencies relating to documentation, forest area, legal status of land, Compensatory Afforestation land, justification or mitigation measures shall be clearly identified, recorded and communicated at the PSC-I stage itself, so that incomplete proposals are not forwarded for further processing. *[Rule 9(7)]*
7. Raising of Essential Details Sought after PSC-I by the District Forest Officer or by the Conservator of Forests is not possible and the proposal should or proposing changes in forest area required for diversion at later stages, which could reasonably have been identified at the PSC-I stage, shall be avoided as it defeats the intent of Rule 9 and causes unnecessary delay. [*Rule 9(8), Rule 9(9)].*
8. If any change in forest area, alignment, extent of diversion or Compensatory Afforestation land is found necessary based on verification, the same shall be explicitly highlighted, discussed and recorded during PSC-I proceedings itself and incorporated before the proposal is forwarded further. *[Rule 9(7), Rule 9(13)]*
9. The Divisional Forest Officer shall intimate the concerned District Collector well in advance about the proposed PSC-I meeting schedule

and request nomination of an officer(s) from the District Administration to attend the said meeting with full details.

10. The DFO shall also ensure that any encroachments, pending or settled claims under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, in the area proposed for diversion are clearly identified, verified and brought on record during the PSC-I meeting itself. *[Rule 9(4), Rule 9(7)]*.
11. All officers shall clearly appreciate that PSC-I is not a mere forwarding forum but a screening and quality-assurance mechanism to ensure that proposals recommended beyond PSC-I are complete, correct and legally vetted. *[Rule 9(5), Rule 9(7)].*

In view of the above, all District Forest Officers and Conservators of Forests are requested **to scrupulously adhere to the above instructions in letter and spirit,** so as to ensure effective functioning of PSC-I, prevent avoidable delays and facilitate timely processing of forest diversion proposals in accordance with Rule 9 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 and its subsequent amendments.

Receipt of this Circular shall be acknowledged.

Digitally signed by
C SUVARNA
Date: 11-01-2026
12:51:43

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force

To
All the CCFs/Conservators of Forests & District Forest Officers.
Copy submitted to the Prl. Secretary to Government, Environment, Forest, Science & Technology Department, Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad for favour of kind information.
Copy to the IRO, MoEF&CC, GoI, Hyderabad for favour of kind information.
Copy to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) and Chief Wildlife Warden (FAC), O/o the Prl. CCF (HoFF) TG, Hyderabad.
Copy Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (IT & WP), O/o the Prl. CCF (HoFF), TG, Hyderabad.
Copy Chief Conservator of Forests (Admn) O/o the Prl. CCF (HoFF), TG, Hyderabad.
Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests (CAMPA) and Chief Conservator of Forests (Admn), Chief Conservator of Forests (Prod) O/o the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, TG, Hyderabad.
Copy to the table of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, TG, Hyderabad
Copy to stock file.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT

Rc.No. FC5/FC44/1/2022,
Dated: 11-01-2026

O/o the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force), Telangana,
"Aranya Bhavan", Saifabad, Hyderabad.

Dr. C. Suvarna, IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force
***

CIRCULAR No. 01/2026

Sub:- TGFD – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 - Project Screening Committee–I (PSC-I) – Strengthening preliminary scrutiny and verification of Forest diversion proposals in strict adherence to Rule 9 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 – Instructions issued – Reg.

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Immediate attention is invited to the subject and references cited.

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- Accordingly, each of these authorities is statutorily required to undertake **independent verification of completeness and correctness of the proposal at the initial stage itself**, without awaiting scrutiny at any later level ***[Rule 9(4)].***

- Further, soon after receipt of proposals on the **PARIVESH portal,** the Member-Secretary of the Project Screening Committee-I shall convene PSC-I meetings under the Chairmanship of Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, TG, Hyderabad, and the concerned District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests shall attend the PSC-I meeting with full preparedness and complete factual details of the proposal ***[Rule 9(5)].***
- Further, Rule 9(5) to Rule 9(9) assign responsibility to the Project Screening Committee **to ensure that only proposals which are complete and correct are allowed to proceed for further processing.**
- Proposals involving forest land **of more than five hectares** are subject to scrutiny at the Project Screening Committee, as part of the statutory process of preliminary examination. Accordingly, identification of shortcomings, verification of correctness and confirmation of completeness for such proposals are required to be undertaken at the PSC-I stage itself.
- It has been observed that **non-verification and non-highlighting of shortcomings during PSC-I meetings are resulting in proposals being forwarded for further processing with unresolved issues**. Consequently, Essential Details Sought (EDS) information is being requested like **changes in forest area required for diversion, entry and exit points etc.,** leading to avoidable delays in processing of proposals.

- It is therefore reiterated that once a proposal is examined and recommended through the Project Screening Committee-I, the District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests can't raise any fresh Essential Details Sought or propose changes in forest area, alignment or extent at subsequent stages. Any EDS or modification, if required, shall be raised only on the User Agency and only after placing the proposal before PSC-I, as part of the statutory scrutiny process. *[Rule 9(5), Rule 9(7), Rule 9(8)]*. **Failure to identify and place such deficiencies before PSC-I defeats the very purpose of the Project Screening Committee mechanism** and leads to avoidable delays, which shall be consciously avoided. *[Rule 9(7)]*.

- Such practices are also adversely impacting the image and credibility of the Forest Department.
- The Project Screening Committee-I is envisaged as a control mechanism to ensure early identification and rectification of shortcomings, thereby reducing pendency and ensuring timely processing of proposals.
- In view of the above and to ensure that the proposals are examined thoroughly by the Project Screening Committee, the following instructions are issued:

1. The District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests concerned shall independently and diligently examine each proposal prior to and during PSC-I meetings for completeness and correctness of documentation and

shall not rely solely on scrutiny by other members. *[Rule 9(4)]*

2. The DFOs and CFs shall specifically verify and confirm the exact forest area involved in diversion with reference to block notifications, legal status of land and notified categories such as Reserved Forest, Protected Forest or other recorded forest land. Verification shall include cross-checking of maps, DGPS data and area calculations. *[Rule 9(5), Rule 9(7)]*
3. It shall be mandatorily verified during PSC-I whether the Non-Forest Land (NFL) identified for Compensatory Afforestation is free from encumbrances and does not fall within any notified forest area or recorded forest land. Any discrepancy noticed shall be treated as a deficiency at the PSC-I stage itself. *[Rule 9(7)].*
4. Peg marking of the forest land proposed for diversion, and the Non-Forest Land proposed for Compensatory Afforestation before or at the time of PSC-I scrutiny, so as to avoid ambiguity at later stages. *[Rule 9(7)]*
5. It shall be mandatorily verified during PSC-I whether the Non-Forest Land (NFL) identified for Compensatory Afforestation is free from encumbrances and does not fall within any notified forest or recorded forest land. Any discrepancy shall be treated as a deficiency at PSC-I stage itself. *[Rule 9(7)]*
6. All deficiencies relating to documentation, forest area, legal status of land, Compensatory Afforestation land, justification or mitigation measures shall be clearly identified, recorded and communicated at the PSC-I stage itself, so that incomplete proposals are not forwarded for further processing. *[Rule 9(7)]*
7. Raising of Essential Details Sought after PSC-I by the District Forest Officer or by the Conservator of Forests is not possible and the proposal should or proposing changes in forest area required for diversion at later stages, which could reasonably have been identified at the PSC-I stage, shall be avoided as it defeats the intent of Rule 9 and causes unnecessary delay. [*Rule 9(8), Rule 9(9)].*
8. If any change in forest area, alignment, extent of diversion or Compensatory Afforestation land is found necessary based on verification, the same shall be explicitly highlighted, discussed and recorded during PSC-I proceedings itself and incorporated before the proposal is forwarded further. *[Rule 9(7), Rule 9(13)]*
9. The Divisional Forest Officer shall intimate the concerned District Collector well in advance about the proposed PSC-I meeting schedule

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3 of 4 1/12/2026, 12:46 PM
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and request nomination of an officer(s) from the District Administration to attend the said meeting with full details.

10. The DFO shall also ensure that any encroachments, pending or settled claims under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, in the area proposed for diversion are clearly identified, verified and brought on record during the PSC-I meeting itself. *[Rule 9(4), Rule 9(7)]*.
11. All officers shall clearly appreciate that PSC-I is not a mere forwarding forum but a screening and quality-assurance mechanism to ensure that proposals recommended beyond PSC-I are complete, correct and legally vetted. *[Rule 9(5), Rule 9(7)]*.

In view of the above, all District Forest Officers and Conservators of Forests are requested **to scrupulously adhere to the above instructions in letter and spirit,** so as to ensure effective functioning of PSC-I, prevent avoidable delays and facilitate timely processing of forest diversion proposals in accordance with Rule 9 of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 and its subsequent amendments.

Receipt of this Circular shall be acknowledged.

Digitally signed by C SUVARNA
Date: 11-01-2026 12:51:43
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force

To
All the CCFs/Conservators of Forests & District Forest Officers.
Copy submitted to the Prl. Secretary to Government, Environment, Forest, Science & Technology Department, Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad for favour of kind information.
Copy to the IRO, MoEF&CC, GoI, Hyderabad for favour of kind information.
Copy to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) and Chief Wildlife Warden (FAC), O/o the Prl. CCF (HoFF) TG, Hyderabad.
Copy Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (IT & WP), O/o the Prl. CCF (HoFF), TG, Hyderabad.
Copy Chief Conservator of Forests (Admn) O/o the Prl. CCF (HoFF), TG, Hyderabad.
Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests (CAMPA) and Chief Conservator of Forests (Admn), Chief Conservator of Forests (Prod) O/o the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, TG, Hyderabad.
Copy to the table of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, TG, Hyderabad
Copy to stock file.

//t.c.b.o.//

Administrative Officer

12/01/2026