

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

Ref.No.9000/2017/FCA-1
Dated:24.09.2018

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Telangana, "Aranya Bhavan",
Saifabad, Hyderabad - 500 004.

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

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Sub:- Forest (Conservation) Act - Diversion of **1531.0548 ha** of forest land in five different forest divisions viz. Manuguru, Paloncha and Kothagudem divisions of Bhadrachari-Kothagudem District and Sathupally and Khammam divisions of Khammam District for construction of canals, tunnels, laying of power lines etc. involved in **Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project** in favour of Chief Engineer, Projects, I&CADD, Khammam - In-principle (Stage-I) approval - Issued - Compensatory levies deposited - **Working Permission - Accorded** - Regarding.

- Ref:-**
1. Chief Engineer, Irrigation Projects, Khammam Lr.No.LE/IP/KMM/ATO/ SRLIP/FC/ 2017/441M, dated 28.11.2017
 2. PCCF's Ref.No.9000/2017/FCA-1, dated 01.12.2017.
 3. State Govt. Lr.No.5180/For.I(1)/2017 dated 04.12.2017.
 4. PCCF's Ref.No.9000/2017/FCA-1, dated 22.01.2018.
 5. State Govt. Lr.No.5180/For.I(1)/2017 dated 23.01.2018.
 6. GoI, MoE&CC, Regional Office, (South Eastern Zone), Chennai F.No.4-TSA113/2017-CHN/0188 dated 02.02.2018.
 7. PCCF's Ref.No.9000/2017/FCA-1, dated 03.02.2018.
 8. GoI, MoE&CC, Regional Office, (SEZ), Chennai No.F(C) A/11,6/REC/ROSEZ/2015/0186 02.02.2018.
 9. GoI MoEF&CC (Wildlife Division), New Delhi in F.No.6-26/2018 WL dated 19.04.2018.
 10. CE, I&CAD, Khammam Rc.No.CE/IP/KMM/DCE/DEE/DB/ATO1/SRLIP/FC/2018-19/389M dt.20.09.2018, 22.09.2018 & 24.09.2018

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In the reference 6th cited, the GoI, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Chennai has accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval, for diversion of **1531.0548 ha** of forest land in five forest divisions viz., Manuguru, Paloncha and Kothagudem divisions of Bhadrachari-Kothagudem District and Sathupally and Khammam divisions of Khammam District for construction of canals, tunnels, laying of power lines etc. involved in **Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project** in favour of Chief Engineer, Projects, I&CADD, Khammam, including the areas falling in ESZ of Kinnarsani Wildlife Sanctuary (for which SC-NBWL clearance is required), **subject to certain conditions stipulated therein**; which has been communicated vide reference 7th cited to the Chief Engineer and concerned forest officers, for taking further necessary action.

Subsequently, the National Board for Wildlife in its 48th Standing Committee meeting held on 27.03.2018 has considered and **recommended** the subject proposal vide reference 9th cited.

As the case is such, the Chief Engineer, I&CAD, Khammam vide reference 10th cited has informed that in response to the conditions stipulated in in-principle (Stage-I) approval and in compliance to the instructions issued by the concerned District Forest Officers/Forest Divisional Officers, compensatory levies towards proposed diversion of **1531.0548 ha** of forest land for **Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project** is paid in the respective Government accounts, the non-forest CA lands have been mutated and transferred in the name of the forest department, the Stage-I approval has been published in leading news papers on 19.09.2018, communicated & placed in the notice boards of the concerned offices as stipulated; **and requested to accord working permission**, for commencing the works in the forest area proposed for diversion.

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In this connection, it is informed that the GoI, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi vide Lr.No.11-306/2014-FC (pt), dated 28.08.2015 has issued guidelines about the procedure for grant of permission for felling of trees standing on forest land to be diverted for execution of linear projects. The said guideline has been issued to facilitate speedy execution of projects involving linear diversion of forest land such as laying of new roads, widening of existing highways, transmission lines, water supply lines, optic fiber cabling, railway lines etc., in which the in-principle approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is accorded.

Subsequently, in concurrence to the above orders, the State Government vide Memo No.3983/For.I(1)/2016-2, dated 15.10.2016 has authorized the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) to issue working permission to the User Agency for tree cutting and commencement of work of linear projects, **for a period of one year**, subject to the compliance of the conditions stipulated in the guidelines issued by Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change, Government of India in F.No.11-306/2014-FC(pt.) dt.28.08.2015.

According to the above said orders, working permission can be granted after confirmation of the following:

- (a) If the required funds for compensatory afforestation, net present value (NPV), wildlife conservation plan, plantation of dwarf species of medicinal plants, and all such other compensatory levies specified in the in-principle approval are realized from the User Agency.
- (b) and where necessary, for Compensatory Afforestation, transfer and mutation of non-forest / revenue forest land in favour of State Forest Dept is affected.

In accordance to the above guidelines, the User Agency has paid/deposited the amount towards compensatory levies such as NPV, CA, CAT, Wildlife conservation plan, Canal Bank Plantation, Raising of dwarf species, etc., as per the demand notice issued by the concerned District Forest Officers/ Forest Divisional Officers into the Ad-hoc CAMPA account as per the procedure prescribed which is reflected on-line Ministry's website, as well as other respective Government accounts which has been confirmed by the respective officers. Further, the User Agency has also mutated the non-forest land identified for Compensatory Afforestation (CA) in favour of Forest Department and handed over the same & furnished mutation certificate / Handing & taking over certificate of non-forest land for CA to the Forest Department.

Keeping in view of the above, the request of the Chief Engineer, I&CAD, Khammam has been examined and in exercise with the powers delegated to the undersigned in State Government Memo No.3983/For.I(1)/2016-2, dated 15.10.2016 & with reference to the guidelines issued by GoI, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi in F.No.11-306/2014-FC (pt), dated 28.08.2015 (issued in supersession of guidelines dated.07.05.2015), **working permission is hereby accorded** in favour of Chief Engineer, Projects, I&CADD, Khammam, for tree cutting and commencement of work in the forest land proposed to be diverted from the date of entering into agreement with the concerned District Forest Officers/ Forest Divisional Officers for a period of **one year**, **subject to the following conditions:**

1. The Chief Engineer, Projects, I&CADD, Khammam i.e., User Agency before starting the work shall obtain further permission from the concerned District Forest Officers/ Forest Divisional Officers having jurisdiction over proposed forest area for diversion. The works should be carried out under the supervision of the concerned District Forest Officers/ Forest Divisional Officers.
2. The Authorized Signatory of User Agency shall enter into an agreement with the concerned District Forest Officers/ Forest Divisional Officers agreeing to perform all conditions as stipulated in Stage-I approval orders and also MoEF&CC, GoI, New Delhi guidelines issued in F.No.11-306/2014-FC(pt.) dt.28.08.2015 & obtain further permission from the DFOs / FDOs for commencement of the works.

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3. The User Agency shall publish the working permission now granted in verbatim language along with the conditions and safe-guards imposed by the Central Government in Stage-I approval in two widely circulated daily newspapers, one in vernacular language and the other in English language, so as to make people aware of the permission granted to the project proponent for use of forest land for non-forest purposes. (C.No.vii of F.No.11-306/2014-FC(pt) dt: 28.08.2015).
4. The copies of the Forest Clearance should also be submitted to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies by the Second Party in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same in 30 days. (C.No. vii of F.No. 11-306/2014 - FC(pt) dt: 28.08.2015).
5. The Forest Department shall dispose all the appeals filed against the order of Deemed Permission issued by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force). (C.No.v & vi of F.No.11-306/2014- FC(pt) dt: 28.08.2015).
6. The User Agency shall agree, bind and undertake to comply to any other conditions that may be imposed from time to time by the MoEF & CC, GoI/State Government and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) in the interest of Conservation, Protection & Development of forests.
7. The working permission issued is valid upto a period of one year from the date of issue of further permission by the concerned District Forest Officers/Forest Divisional Officers. If the User Agency fails to comply with the conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval within stipulated time, for further extension they should approach MoEF&CC, GoI, New Delhi.
8. The User Agency shall agree, bind and declare that the forest department shall fell all standing trees, if any, in the forest area being diverted for the project by the forest department itself and the User Agency shall undertake not to touch or fell such trees in any manner.
9. The works should be carried out without any scope for violations under various rules and guidelines envisaged under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and other relevant guidelines and Rules in force.
10. Any other conditions imposed by the concerned Conservator of Forests, District Forest Officer/Forest Divisional Officer during execution of work in the interest of protection of Forests shall be carried out at the project cost.

They are requested to take necessary action in the matter accordingly.

Sd/- P.K. Jha,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force

To
The Chief Engineer, Irrigation Project, Khammam.

The Forest Divisional Officers, Khammam, Sathupally, Manuguru, Bhadrachalam, Paloncha, Yellandu, Kinnerasani WLM, Kothagudem.

Copy to the Addl.Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Karimnagar; Chief Conservator of Forests, Kothagudem; and Conservator of Forests, Khammam for information and necessary action.

Copy to the District Forest Officers, Bhadradi-Kothagudem, Khammam and Jagtial for information and necessary action.

Copy submitted to the Spl. Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Dept., Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad for favour of information.

Copy to the Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Telangana State Forest Development Corporation Ltd., Hyderabad for necessary action.

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Copy to the Engineer-in-Chief, I&CADD, Jalasoudha, Errum-Manzil, Hyderabad for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden Telangana State, Saifabad, Hyderabad for information.

Copy to the Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), 1st & 2nd Floor, HEPC Building, No.34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600034 for favour of information.

Copy to the Collectors & District Magistrates, Bhadrachalam-Kothagudem, Khammam and Jagityal for information.

Copy to the Superintending Engineer, SRLIP Circle, Kothagudem

Copy to the Executive Engineers, Division.1, Somulugudem, Paloncha; Division-2, Kothagudem; Divisions-3, Sathupally; Division-4, Khammam.

Copy to the Stock file.

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24/09/2018

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


Superintendent