

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

Ref.No.17061/2017/FCA3
Dated:16.03.2021

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

Smt. R.Sobha, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Head of Forest Force

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Sub: TS - Forest (Conservation) Act - Diversion of forest land to an extent of **0.490 ha** in Medak and Sangareddy forest for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited- **In-principle (Stage-I) approval - Accorded - Working Permission Accorded** - Regarding.

Ref: 1. Dy.General Manager, Optical Fibre Cable Projects, Hyderabad, BSNL, Hyd.Lr.No.DGM/OFC/HD/WLP/VoIII/2018-19/37,Dt. 12.06.2018.
2. PCCF's Ref.No.17061/2017/FCA-1,Dt.25.06.2018.
3. PCCF's Ref.No.17061/2017/FCA-1,Dt.08.01.2020.
4. CF, Medak Rc.No.1421/2019/C3,Dt.18.03.2020.
5. PCCF's Ref.No.17061/2017/FCA-1,Dt.06.07.2020.
6. GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, Lr. F.NO. 5-2/2017-FC,dt. 28.03.2019
7. Govt. G.O.Rt. No.97, EFS&T (FOR.I) Dept, Lr. dt. 20.08.2020.
8. PCCF's Ref.No.17061/2017/FCA-1,Dt.03.09.2020.
9. Divisional Engineer, Microwave Survey, Hyderabad, Dt.17.02.2021.
10.CF, Medak, Rc.No.1421/2019/C3, Dt.09.03.2021.

The Government vide reference 7th cited has accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval, for "*diversion of forest land to an extent of **0.490 ha** in Medak and Sangareddy forest for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited.*" The above orders have been communicated vide reference 8th cited to all the concerned officers and User Agency with the instructions to submit condition-wise compliance report on the conditions stipulated therein.

Vide reference 10th cited, the CCF/Conservator of Forests of Forests, Medak has obtained condition-wise compliance report from the User Agency, the District Forest Officers, Medak and Sangareddy and submitted together with its enclosures. The User Agency has deposited an amount of **Rs.4,45,200/-** towards constructions of boundary pillars on 16.02.2021 through **NEFT Ref No.000219645998** into the CA-PD Account of the District Forest Officer, Sangareddy and an amount of **Rs.7,97,280/-** towards construction of boundary pillars on 16.02.2021 through **NEFT Ref No. 000219643868** into the CA-PD Account of the District Forest Officer, Medak as per the conditions imposed in Stage-I approval and the same has been confirmed. Finally, the User Agency has requested this office for commencement of works vide reference 9th cited as all the compensatory levies has been paid and the compliance on Stage-I has been submitted and to kindly accord working permission for laying of

Optical Fiber Cable for the above-mentioned project. In brief, the detailed payments are as follows.

C. No.	Component	Amount deposited (Rs.)	Remarks
ii.	Construction of Boundary Pillars	Rs.4,45,200/-	Deposited in to the PD account of the District Forest Officer, Sangareddy A/c.No.37249920410, State Bank of India, Sangareddy Branch through NEFT Ref No.000219645998 , the same has been confirmed vide reference 10th cited.
		Rs.7,97,280/-	Deposited in to the PD account of the District Forest Officer, Medak, A/c.No.6339497946, Indian Bank, Medak Branch through NEFT Ref No.0002196438688 , the same has been confirmed vide reference 10th cited.

With regard to working permission, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi vide **Lr.No.11-306/2014-FC (pt), Dt.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.

Further, it is informed that the Hand book issued by **the GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi on 28.03.2019 on F(C)Act, 1980, F(C)Rules, 2003, Guidelines & Clarifications, in which the GoI in para 11.2 has issued guidelines** about the procedure for grant of permission for tree cutting and commencement of work of a linear project in forest land for a period of one year. 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. Such orders shall be passed only after full realization of 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 Stage I (in-principle) approval from the UA, and where ever applicable, transfer and mutation of non-forest/ revenue forest land in favour of State Forest Department.

Further, the State Government of Telangana 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 conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and their compliance, in accordance with the guidelines issued by **GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi in F.No.11-306/2014-FC(pt.) dt.28.08.2015.**

In view of the above, the request of the User Agency (**Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited**) has been examined in exercise of the powers delegated to the undersigned in **Govt. Memo No.3983/For.I(1)/2016-2, Dated.15.10.2016** and with reference to the guidelines in the Hand book issued by the GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi on 28.03.2019 on F(C)Act, 1980, F(C)Rules, 2003, Guidelines & Clarifications in F.No. 5-2/2017-FC, as per the para 11.2 guidelines (issued in supersession of guidelines& clarifications issued till that time), **"working permission is hereby accorded in favour of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, for commencement of works in the forest land proposed to be diverted from the date of entering into agreement with the District Forest Officers, Medak and Sangareddy for a period of one year,"** subject to the following conditions:

1. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited **i.e., User Agency** shall report to the District Forest Officers, Medak and Sangareddy having jurisdiction over proposed forest area; and obtain further permission from him before starting the work. The works should be carried out under the supervision of the concerned Forest Divisional Officer/District Forest Officer.
2. The Authorized Signatory of User Agency shall enter into an agreement with the District Forest Officers, Medak and Sangareddy/ CCF/Conservator of Forests, Medak 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 for commencement of the works.
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 and the working permission 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 PCCF (HoFF). (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, in addition to conditions imposed in Stage I (in-principle) approval.
7. The cable line shall be laid at least one meter below the ground level and the forest land shall be restored to its original state after laying the same.
8. No tree felling shall be carried out by the User Agency. No damage shall be caused to forest/wild life and to the environment.
9. The User Agency shall ensure that the length of the trench dug at a time does not exceed 500m. The trench should be filled up and compacted before digging next stretch of 500m. The User Agency shall make good any loss to forest/ environment.

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.
11. 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.
12. The working permission issued is valid upto a period of one year from the date of entering into an agreement with the District Forest Officers, Medak and Sangareddy. In case, if the User Agency fails to complete the work within the stipulated time, for further extension of working permission, they have to approach the undersigned.

The District Forest Officers, Medak and Sangareddy Districts are requested to enter into agreement with User Agency for working permission and are permitted to take up Construction of boundary pillars from the amount deposited in the CA-PD account of DFO/FDO soon after entering into agreement for working permission. The works shall be included in APO **2021-22** for CA-PD account and should be reported in MPR of CA-PD account.

Sd/-R.Sobha,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

To

The District Forest Officers, Medak and Sangareddy.

The Divisional Engineer, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Microwave Survey, Creche Building, P&T Quarters Complex, SP Road, Secunderabad - 500 003 for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Medak for information and necessary action.

Copy submitted to the Spl. Chief Secretary to Government, Forest Department, Telangana, Hyderabad for favour of information.

Copy to the Collector and District Magistrate, Medak and Sangareddy Districts for information.

Copy to the Deputy General Manager, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Optical Fiber Cable Projects, 5th Floor, BSNL Bhavan, Adarsh Nagar, Hyderabad 500 063 for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Stock file.

Spare copy

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

D. Subodh
Superintendent 16/3/2021

16/03/2021