## GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT

Ref.No.19174/2018/FCA-3 Dated:08-03-2021.

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 (FAC)

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Sub:- TSFD - Forest (Conservation) Act - Proposal for diversion of forest land to an extent of **0.7763 ha** in **Jannaram forest division** of Mancherial District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of M/s. Vindhya Telelinks Limited - **In-principle (stage-I) approval** - Condition-wise compliance report - **Working Permission - Issued** - Regarding.

- Ref:- 1. M/s. Vindhya Telelinks Limited, Hyderabad Lr.No.VTL/IP1/2018/ TS/RoW/046 dated 29.10.2018.
  - 2. PCCF's Ref.No.19174/2018/FCA-1 dated 08.11.2018.
  - 3. CF/FD, KTR, Nirmal Rc.No.4344/2018/D2 (FCA) dated 26.09.2019.
  - 4. PCCF's Ref.No.19174/2018/FCA-1 dated 11.10.2019.
  - 5. GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi, Lr.No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
  - 6. G.O.Rt.No.55 EFS&T (For.I) Dept., dated 23.05.2020.
  - 7. PCCF's Ref.No.19174/2018/FCA-1, Dt.18.06.2020.
  - 8. M/s. Vindhya Telelinks Limited, Hyderabad Lr.No.VTL/IP1/TS/RoW/2019-20/125, Dt.23.02.2021
  - 9. DFO, Mancherial, Rc.No.5721/2018/D5, Dt.27.02.2021.

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The Government vide reference 6<sup>th</sup> cited has accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval, for *diversion of forest land to an extent of* **0.7763 ha** *in* **Jannaram forest division** of Mancherial District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of M/s. Vindhya Telelinks Limited. The above orders have been communicated vide reference 7<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> cited, the District Forest Officer, Mancherial has obtained condition-wise compliance report from the User Agency and Forest Divisional Officer, WLM Jannaram and submitted together with its enclosures. The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs.11,09,300/- towards cost of construction of boundary pillars on 28.01.2021 vide Ref.No.N028211386603102 into the CA-PD Account of the Forest Divisional Officer, Jannaram as per the conditions imposed in Stage-I approval and the same has been confirmed. Further, the User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs.24,29,819/- towards NPV through online payment on 29.01.2021 vide Bank Ref.No.N029211387692459, into the Telangana State CAMPA account with A/c.No.155707136969674 of Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 (RTGS/IFSC No.CORPO000371), and the same has been confirmed online in the ministry's portal. Further, the User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs.32,00,000/- towards Wildlife Mitigative Measures vide Reference No.N028211386603101, Dt.28.01.2021, into the Bio-diversity conservation society of Telangana, A/c.No.110310100030284 of Andhra Bank (now Union Bank of India) Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad (RTGS/IFSC No.ANDB0001103), which has been confirmed from the concerned. Finally, the User Agency has requested this office

for commencement of works as all the compensatory levies has been paid and the compliance on Stage-I has been submitted and kindly accord working permission for laying of Optical Fiber Cable for the above-mentioned project. In brief, the detailed payments are as follows.

S. No.	Component	Amount deposited (Rs.)	Remarks
1	NPV	Rs.24,29,819/-	An amount of Rs.24,29,819/- been deposited into the Adhoc CAMPA account of Telangana by generating the challan in to the Ministry's portal. Same has been confirmed as paid status in the portal
2	Construction of Boundary Pillars	Rs. Rs.11,09,300/-	Deposited in to the PD account of the Forest Divisional Officer, Jannaram WLM, same has been confirmed vide reference 9th cited.
3	Wildlife Mitigative measures	Rs.32,00,000/-	Deposited into the Bio- diversity conservation society of Telangana A/c.No.110310100030284 of Andhra Bank (now Union Bank of India) Secretariat Branch, Hyderabad.

With regard to working permission, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi vide <u>Lr.No.11-306/2014-FC (pt)</u>, <u>Dt.28.08.2015</u> 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.

Purther, 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 (M/s. Vindhya Telelinks 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 M/s. Vindhya Telelinks Limited, Secunderabad for commencement of works in the forest land proposed to be diverted from the date of entering into agreement with the Forest Divisional Officer, Jannaram for a period of one year," subject to the following conditions:

- M/s. Vindhya Telelinks Limited i.e., User Agency shall report to the Forest Divisional Officer, Jannaram WLM 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 Forest Divisional Officer, Jannaram WLM / District Forest Officer, Nirmal / Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project Tiger, Kawal Tiger Reserve, Nirmal 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 Forest Divisional Officer, Jannaram. 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 Officer, Mancherial District/ Forest Divisional Officer, <u>Jannaram</u> 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 <u>2021-22</u> 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) (FAC)

To,

The Forest Divisional Officer, Jannaram.

- M/s. Vindhya Telelinks Limited, EPC Division, Plot No.56, Ishaq Colony, Opp: Syndicate Bank, Picket Branch, Wellington Road, Near AOC Center, Marredpally, Secunderabad-500015, to submit compliance report within a month for obtaining stage II Final Clearance.
- Copy submitted to the Spl. Chief Secretary to Government, Forest Department, Telangana, Hyderabad for favour of information.
- Copy to the Conservator of Forests & Field Director Project Tiger, Kawal Tiger Reserve, Nirmal for necessary action.
- Copy to the District Forest Officer, Mancherial District for information and necessary action.

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