BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTHERN ZONAL BENCH AT CHENNAI

Appeal No. 82 of 2021

Between:

Mahesh Mamindla and Others

....Appellant(s)

VERSUS

State of Telangana and Others

....Respondent(s)po

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THROUGH ADVOCATES FOR THE 2nd RESPONDENT

Y. RAMA RAO

B. LAKSHMI NARASIMHAN

Y. SAI SANKALP, Advocates,

Plot NO. 550/C, Road No. 92, Jublice Hills, Hyderabad – 500 033, Telangana

Mob: 7667967963, 9849012022

REPLY AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT NO. 2 TO THE ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE APPELANTS

I, Shri. M. Balaram, S/o. Kaliya, Aged about 53 years, Occupation: Superintending Engineer, TSTRANSCO, R/o. Hyderabad, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely swear on oath as follows:-

- 1. It is humbly submitted that I, in my official capacity as Superintending Engineer (SE/400KV/Metro/Hyd), in the Office of the TSTRANSCO, VIDYUT SOUDHA, HYDERABAD, the answering 2nd Respondent in the above-mentioned matter, am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case on the basis of the official records. Further, I am authorized and competent to swear to the contents of the present Reply Affidavit.
- 2. It is respectfully submitted that I am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case at hand. The present Reply Affidavit may be read as part and parcel of the Counter Affidavit filed by this answering Respondent.
- 3. It is respectfully submitted that the contents which are specifically and categorically not admitted by the answering Respondent herein and all the other averments / contentions / allegations as made in the Appeal as well as the additional affidavit preferred by the Appellants, are deemed to be denied and disputed by the answering Respondent herein, and further the Appellants herein may be put to strict proof of the same.
- 4. In reply to Para 4(I) of the additional affidavit, it is respectfully submitted that the space available between the ORR and Service Lane is approximately 2 Mtrs at Mrugvani forest area. It is further submitted that a storm water drain is also existing between the ORR and the Service Lane. It is to submit that the dimensions requires for Monopole foundation as single pit is approximately 12.3 Mtrs x 12.3 Mtrs below the ground level and for RCC pedestal the dimesions required is 3.2 Mtrs x 3.2 Mtrsabove the ground

J. Rofe

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

400KV/CONSTRUCTION/METRO CIRCLE/TSTRANSCO
ERRAGADDA, HYDERABAD-500 045

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level. Due to this constraint, direct route between ORR and the service road is not considered.

- 5. It is further submitted that the answering Respondent herein had considered 3 alternate routes, namely, Green Line, Yellow Line and Blue Line. The Blue Line is not considered as the length of line is approximately 1.8 km which required higher amount of forest land diversion compared to the Yellow Line and the Green Line. Further, the Yellow Line route of length approximately 1.5 km was not considered as the same was meant for Metro Rail project. Therefore, the only left over route was the Green Line having a length of approximately 1.458 Km and the same was considered for erection of 400KV DC line from Kethireddypally-Rayadurg.
- 6. In reply to Para 4(II)(a) & (b) of the additional affidavit, it is respectfully submitted that the answering Respondent had erected approximately 1.458 Km length line of 400KV DC line from Kethireddypally-Rayadurg through forest land from location A-45 to AP-47 with 5 Nos Lattice/Quad Towers. The corridor/ width required for transmission line is same for 400KV DC line irrespective of the type of tower. The only difference is that the Monopole requires less space at Ground level. It is pertinent to mention here that as per the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Ministry of Environment & Forest, the Government of India in consultation with the Central Electricity Authority had revised the guidelines for laying of the transmission line through forest lands vide Letter F.No.7-2V2o.r2-FC dated 05-May-2014. As per these guidelines, the required "width of right of way" for 400KV DC transmission line is 46 Meters irrespective of the type of the tower.
- 7. It is humbly submitted that as per the MoEF letter F.No.7-2V2o.r2-FC dated 05-May-2014, the required "width of right of way" for 400KV DC transmission line is 46 Meters and in furtherance of the same the Forest department insisted for diversion of forest land considering the 46 Mtrs corridor for 400KV DC line irrespective of the type of tower (Monopole/Lattice), i.e., 6.7076 Ha [(1458 x 46)/10000]. Therefore considering the economical factor the answering respondent had laid 5 Nos

Lattice/Quad towers.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
400KV/CONSTRUCTION/METRO CIRCLE/TSTRANSCO
ERRAGADDA, HYDERABAD-500 045

- 8. It is respectfully submitted that the Forest department cleared the trees for a length of 1.458 Km with corridor width 46 Meters for erection of 400KV Kethireddypally-Rayadurg DC line. It is pertinent to submit that this answering Respondent had already paid the required amount to divert the equivalent forest land of 6.7076 Ha. As the corridor width of 46 Mtrs was cleared from the ground level irrespective of the type of tower, considering economical factor, 5 Nos Lattice/Quad towers were erected The total cost for supply and erection of 5 Nos Monopole towers from A-45 to AP-47 is approximately about Rs. 6.18 Crore, whereas, the total cost for supply and erection of 5 Nos Lattice/Quad towers is approximately about Rs. 1.9 Crore.
- 9. It is respectfully submitted that the approvals were granted by the Forest Department as well as MoEFand work was commenced on receipt of working permission. Therefore, the present Appeal deserves no consideration at all and needs to be dismissed in limini.

For the afore mentioned reasons, it is prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to dismiss the present Appeal No. 82 of 2021 in the interest of justice and pass such other order or orders that may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

Sworn and signed before me on this the day of March, 2023 at Hyderabad.

DEPONENT
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

CONSTRUCTION/METRO CIRCLE/TSTRANSCO
ERRAGADDA, HYDERABAD-500 045

ATTESTOR/HYDERABAD

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTHERN ZONAL BENCH AT CHENNAI

Appeal. No. 82 OF 2021

Between:

1. MAHESH MAMINDLA

S/o. YadagiriMamindla,

R/o. H. No. 5-14, Mittapally Village,

SiddipetMandal, Telangana- 502 375

Mobile No. 8008922554

Email: mamindla.mahesh@gmail.com& 1 Others.

...APPELLANTS

VERSUS

1. STATE OF TELANGANA

Through the Chief Secretary,

Department of Environment, Forests, Science

and Technology, A-3,

ParyavaranBhavan, Sanath Nagar Industrial

Estate, Hyderabad- 500018

Ph: 040-2345311

Email: prlsecy efst@telangana.gov.in

and 5 others

... RESPONDENTS

2 ND RESPONDENT

AFFIDAVIT

I, Shri. M. Balaram, S/o. Kaliya, Aged about 53 years, Occupation: Superintending Engineer, TSTRANSCO, R/o. Hyderabad, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as under:

That, I am working as Superintending Engineer (SE/400KV/Metro/Hyd), in the Office of the TSTRANSCO, VIDYUT SOUDHA, HYDERABAD, that is, in RESPONDENT No. 2 Corporation in the main appeal and I am conversant with the facts and circumstances stated in the reply and as such, I am competent to swear this affidavit.

That the contents of the accompanying reply from paragraph No.1 to 7 are true and correct and have been drafted under my instructions.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

400KVICONSTRUCTIONIMETRO CIRCLEITSTRANSCO

ERRAGADDA, HYDERABAD-500 045

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VERIFICATION

Verified on this _____ day of March, 2023 that the contents of the above-mentioned affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and based on legal advice and that have not suppressed any material fact.

Place: Hubrobeb

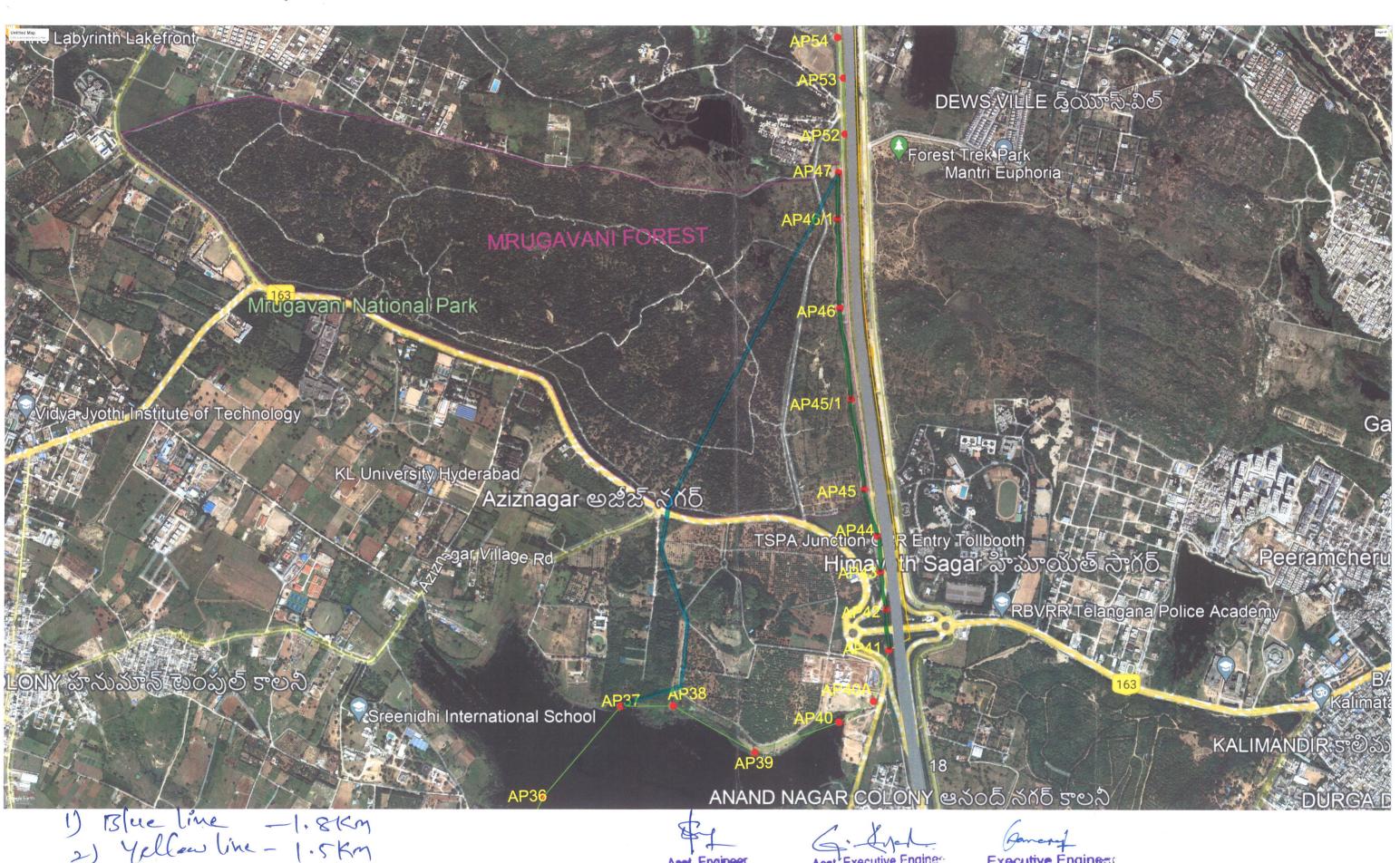
Date: 18 62 2023

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
OCKVICONSTRUCTION/METRO CIRCLEITSTRANSCO

ERRAGADDA, HYDERABAD-500 045

Advocale Hydrologo (J. Roperty)

FOREST LINE WITH ROUTES ALTERNATE



1) Blue line -1.8Km 2) Yellow line - 1.5Km 3) Green line - 1.45Km

Aset, Engineer 400KV /SD-3 / Const-H Metro, TS TRANSCO, Hyd. Aset. Executive Engine 400KV /SD-3 / Const-li Metro, TS TRANSCO, Hya

Executive Engineer 400KV / Const-II / Metro, TS TRANSCO, Hyd

F. No. 7-25/2012-FC Government of India Ministry of Environment and Forests (FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 510 Dated: 5th May, 2014

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),

All State / Union Territory Governments

Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- Guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas - reg.

Sir,

I am directed to say that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in their Order dated 7th March 2012 in the Appeal No. 10 of 2012 in the matter of Janajagarithi Samiti (Regd.) versus Union of India and Others directed this Ministry to take steps and notify the detailed fresh guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest area, incorporating necessary changes to mitigate the difficulties which arise during granting forest clearance.

Accordingly, this Ministry in consultation with the Central Electricity Authority formulated revised guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas. A copy of the same is enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

Encl.: As above.

(H.C. Chaudhary)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy along with a copy of the said guidelines to:-

- 1. Prime Minister's Office (Kind attn.: Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director).
- 2. Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all State/UT Governments.
- 4. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all State/UT Governments.
- 5. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), Government of India (GoI).
- 6. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF, GoI
- 7. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Director in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEF, GoI.

- 8. Director R.O. (HQ), MoEF, GoI.
- 9: Sr. Director (Technical), National Informatics Centre (NIC), MoEF with a request to place a copy of the letter on website of this Ministry.
- 10. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Environment and Forests.
- 11. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF.
- 12. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF.
- 13. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF.
- 14. Guard File.

(H.C. Chaudhary)

STOTING

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

GUIDELINES FOR LAYING TRANSMISSION LINES THROUGH FOREST AREAS

- Where routing of transmission lines through the forest areas cannot be avoided, these should be aligned in such a way that it involves the least amount of tree cutting
- 2. As far as possible, the route alignment through forest areas should not have any line deviation.
- 3. (i) The width of right of way for the transmission lines on forest land shall be as follows:

Transmission Voltage	Width of Right of Way (Meter)
11kV	7
· 33 kV	15
66 kV	18
110 kV	22
132 kV	27
220 kV	35
400 kV S/C	46
400 kV D/C	46
+/- 500 kV HVDC	52
765 kV S/C (with delta configuration)	64
765 kV D/C	67
+/-800 kV HVDC	69
1200 kV	89

- (ii) In forest areas, only vertical delta configuration of 400 kV S/C and delta configuration of 765 kV S/C shall be permitted.
- 4. (i) Below each conductor or conductor bundle, following width clearance would be permitted for stringing purpose:

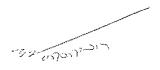
Transmission line with conductor bundle	Width clearance below each conductor or conductor bundle (meter)
Upto 400kV twin bundle	3



- (ii) The trees on such strips would have to be felled but after stringing work is completed, natural regeneration will be allowed to come up. Felling/pollarding/pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the local forest officer wherever necessary to maintain the electrical clearance. One outer strip shall be left clear to permit maintenance of the transmission line.
- (iii) During construction of transmission line, pollarding/ pruning of trees located outside the above width of the strips, whose branches/ parts infringe with conductor stringing, shall be permitted to the extent necessary, as may be decided by local forest officer.
- (iv) Pruning of trees for taking construction/stringing equipments through existing approach/access routes in forest areas shall also be permitted to the extent necessary, as may be decided by local forest officer. Construction of new approach/access route will however, require prior approval under the Act.
- (v) In the remaining width of right of way trees will be felled or lopped to the extent required, for preventing electrical hazards by maintaining the following:

Transmission Voltage	Minimum clearance between conductor and trees (Meters)	
11 kV	2.6	
33 kV	2.8	
66 kV	3.4	
110 kV	3.7	
132 kV	4.0	
220 kV	4.6	
400 kV	5.5	
+/- 500 kV HVDC	7.4.	
765 kV	9.0	
+/- 800 kV HVDC	10.6	
1200 kV	. 13.0	

(vi) The maximum sag and swing of the conductors are to be kept in view while



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working out the minimum clearance mentioned as above.

- (vii) To avoid any hazard, felling/cutting/pruning of those trees which because of their height /location may fall on conductors shall also be permitted, as may be decided by local forest office.
- (viii) In the case of transmission lines to be constructed in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees will not be cut except those minimum required to be cut for stringing of conductors.
- (ix) In case of transmission lines passing through National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Wildlife Corridors, insulated conductors shall only be used to prevent electrocution of animals.
- 5. Where the forest growth consists of coconut groves or similar tall trees, widths of right of way greater than those indicated at SI. No.3 may be permitted in consultation with CEA.

31203/03/23

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT

From, Sri A.Vijayanand Rao.S.F.S. Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad To,
The Executive Engineer,
400 KV/Const-II, Metro,
TS, TRANSCO,
Hyderabad.

Rc.No. 3434/2019/SB-2,Dt.08.06.2021

Sir/Madam.

Sub: TSFD - F(C)Act, 1980 - Diversion of 6.7076 Ha of Forest land in Shamshabad Division for Erection of 400 Kv overhead DC line from Kethireddipally 400 Kv SS to 400 Kv Rayadurg GIS (TSPA junction to ORR junction) along outer side of ORR in favour of Executive Engineer, 400 KV/Const-II, Metro, TS TRANSCO, Hyderabad - Stage-I Approval accorded - Demand notice issued - Reg.

Ref: 1. Gol MOEF Integraded Regional Office. Hyd F.No. 4-TSC 180/2021-HYD/091, dt.13.05.2021.

2. PCCF, TS, Hyd Re.13470/2019/FCA-4, dt.14.05.2021.

With reference to the subject cited above, it is to inform that the GoI MoEF has accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval for Diversion of 6.7076 Ha of forest land in Chilkur RF for Erection of 400 KV overhead D.C Line from Kethireddypally 400 KV SS to 400 KV Rayadurg GLS. TSPA to Junction to ORR Junction) in favour of Executive Engineer, 400 KV/Const-II, Metro. TS. TRANSCO, Hyderabad subject to certain conditions stipulated therein and requested to furnish the compliance report on the conditions stipulated therein; which has been communicated in ref 2nd cited with instructions to raise the demand notice over the user agency for making payment of compensatory levies for deposition into respective accounts in consultation with the Nodal officer (FCA); to obtain the compliance on the conditions stipulated from the user agency and furnish for onward submission to the Government for obtaining Stage II (final) approval.

Accordingly, the demand notice is prepared and furnished as follows:

C.No.	Description of the condition	Amount to be deposited by the user agency in Rs.	Account into which the amount to be deposited
2	Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars at an interval of 20 meters - 1458.18 m as per Circular No.5 of 2017 Big Pillars of 1.2 m base – 50 No's Rs.10,000.00 each = Rs.5,00,000.00 Small intermediate pre-fabricate pillars of 6"x6" size – 100 No's – Rs.2500/- each = Rs.2,50,000.00	7,50,000.00	CA PD account of Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad pearing number A/c No. 370602010101352, (IFSC Code - UBIN0537063) Union Bank of India, Saifabad, Hyderabad
3	Compensatory Afforestation over 13.415 ha of DFL in Compt.No.411, Mamidipally RF, Gaganpahad Beat, Shamshabad	1,73,61,300.00	Adhoe CAMPA account of Telangana through e-portal of Ministry
5	Net present Value @ Rs.8,03,000 per ha (Eco-Class III, 0.4 canopy density) = 6.7076 ha * Rs.8,03,000 per ha = Rs. 53,86,203.00	53,86,203.00	Adhoc CAMPA account of Telangana through e-portal of Ministry

C.No.	Description of the condition	Amount to be deposited by the user agency in Rs.	Account into which the amount to be deposited
7	Creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in the right of way under the transmission line – 6.7076 ha @ Rs,3,73,426/- per ha = Rs, 25,04,792.00	25,04,792.00	Adhoc CAMPA account of Telangana through e-portal of Ministry
9	Cost of extraction of tree growth	7,76,100.00	CA PD account of Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad bearing number A/c No. 370602010101352, (IFSC Code - UBIN0537063) Union Bank of India, Saifabad, Hyderabad

Hence, the following amounts are to be deposited by the user agency:

C.No.	Description of the condition	Amount to be deposited in Rs.
into Ad	hoc CAMPA account of Telangana through e-portal of M	
	and order A account of Telangana inrough e-portal of My	mistry.
paymen deposite	r agency has to upload the demand notice in the Ministry's p I by the Nodal Officer, FCA, Telangana State. Then challed to be made against the bank account number indicate and through other mode will not be accepted. The detailed p and deposition of funds is available at www.parivesh.nic.in p Net present Value @ Rs.8,03,000 per ha = 6.7076 ha * Rs.8,03,000 per ha = Rs.53,86,203.00	in has to be generated and d in the challan. Amount
3	Compensatory Afforestation over 13.415 ha of DFL in Compt.No.411, Mamidipally RF, Gaganpahad Beat, Shamshabad	1,73,61,300.00
7	Creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferable medicinal plants) in the right of way under the transmission line for -6.7076 ha @ Rs, 3,73,426/- per ha = Rs. 25,04,792.00	25,04,792.00
	Total	2,52,52,295.00
Hydera	T	habad bearing A/c No
9	Cost of extraction of tree growth	7,76,100.00
2	Demarcation of FL by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars at an interval of 20 meters as per Circular No.5 of 2017 – 116 No's @ Rs.10,000.00	7,50,000.00
	Total	15,26,100.00

Further, the User Agency has to comply with following in accordance with the MoEF&CC, GoI instructions issued vide F.no.7-23-2012-FC, Dt.24.07.2013 communicated vide Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P. Hyderabad Rc.No.45921/2001/F4, Dt.23.08.2013:

- 1. Publish the entire forest clearances granted in verbatim along with the conditions and safe-guards imposed by the Central Government in two widely circulated daily news papers one in vernacular language and the other in English granted to the project proponent for the use of forest land for the non-forest purposes.
- 2. The copies of the forest clearance should also be submitted to the heads of local bodies, Panchayats and municipal bodies by the project proponents in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same for 30 days

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Further, the User Agency has to furnish the compliance on the conditions stipulated in the Stage I approval to the Forest Divisional officer, Shamshabad in (7) sets for onward submission to Government for obtaining Stage-II approval.

The transfer of forest land to User Agency shall not be affected prior to the issue of final (Stage II) approval / working permission and no work in violation of F©Act,1980 and W(P)Act,1972 shall be carried out.

Yours faithfully, Sd/-Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad

Copy submitted to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoFF) TS, Hyd, for favour of kind information.

Copy submitted to the Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests, Rangareddy for favor of information.

Copy submitted to the District Forest officer, Rangareddy for favor of information.

Sd/-Forest Divisional Officer Shamshabad

// t. c. b. o //

Rechnical Officer



TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF TELANGANA LTD.

From
The Executive Engineer,
400KV/Const-II
Metro,
Hyderabad.

To The Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad, Ranga Reddy District.

Lr.No.EE/400KV/Const-II/Metro/Hyd/F. R'durg line /D.No. 321/21, Dt. 9 -07-2021.

Sir.

Sub:- TSTRANSCO - Erection of 400KV Twin HTLS Transmission line from 400KV Kethireddypally SS to 400KV Rayadurg GIS in the execution of 400KV DC line on Monopoles from TSPA Junction to ORR junction - Compensatory levies for diversion of 6.7076 Ha of forest land in Shamshabad division - Payment made - Permission requested - Regarding.

Ref:- 1) P.O.No.209/OM-11/CE/400kV/SE-2/D1-A1/e-EHVT-01/2018/D.No:731/18, Dt:29.09.2018.

- 2) P.O.No.210/OC-12/CE/400kV/SE-II/D1-A1/e-EHVT-01/2018/D.No.732/18,Dt:29-09-2018.
- 3) GoI, MoEF Integrated Regional Office, Hyd F.No.4-TSC 180/2021-HYD/091, Dt:13-05-2021.
- 4) PCCF, TS, Hyd Rc. 13470/2019/FCA-4, Dt: 14-05-2021.
- 5) Lr. Rc. No. 3434/2019/SB-2, Dt. 08-06-2021.
- 6) Memo No. CE/400KV/SE-II/D1-A4/Rayadurg/D.No: 391/21, Dt.25.06.2021.

Vide demand notice cited under ref. (5), it was requested to deposit Rs. 2,52,52,295/- into Adhoc, CAMPA account of Telangana by generating the challan online in Ministry's portal and

Rs.15,26,100/- into CA PD account of Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad towards diversion of 6.7076 Ha of forest land in Shamshabad division for erection of 400KV DC line on Monopoles from TSPA Junction to ORR junction.

In this connection, the Copy of Counter foil and challan for an amount of Rs. 2,52,52,295/-with UTR No. SBINR52021070831989102, Dt: 08.07.2021 deposited into Adhoc, CAMPA account of Telangana and Copy of Counter foil for an amount of Rs.15,26,100/- with UTR No. SBINR52021070831986141, Dt: 08.07.2021 deposited into the CA PD account of Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad are herewith enclosed. It is requested to arrange working permission for commencing our line works in the Mrugavani Forest in view of urgency to complete the project as per the instruction of Govt. of Telangana.

Encl: 1) Copy of Counter Foils – 2 Nos.

2) Copy of Challan – 1 No.

Yours faithfully,

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, 400KV/Const-11/Metro/Hyd.

Copy submitted to Chief Engineer/400KV/TRANSCO/VS/Hyderabad.

Copy submitted to Superintending Engineer/400KV/Construction/Metro/Hyd.

Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(Head of Forest Force), Aranya Bhavan/Hyd.

Copy to Assistant Executive Engineer/400KV/SD-3/Const-II/Metro/Hyd.

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Beneficiary Bank & Branch W. F. For office Use. Branch Manager UTR No.

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Tetangana CAMPA Beneficiary Name: UBIN0993710 IFSC Code 1557054472771143 Pay to Account No Valid only for this challan amount Lodhi Complex Branch. Block 11,CGO Complex. Phase I, Lodhi Road, New Delhi -110003

This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by HEFT/RTGS only

After making successful payment, User Agencies Email: helpdeskcampa@corpbank.co.in

Note After making the required payment through even after 7 working days, then kindly mail a cop Email: cb0371@unionbankofindia.com

H. Daubeller REDMI NOTE 5 PRO CISTIVO 520210-7.83(1989) 02 MI DUAL CAMERA



Rayodung chart

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT

Ref.No.13470/2019/FCA-4 Dated:07.08.2021.

Ref:-

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)

TSFD - F(C) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 6.7076 Ha of forest land in Shamshabad division for Erection of 400 ky overhead DC line from Kethireddipally 400 ky SS to 400 ky Davidson CTS (TEST) to 400 kv Rayadurg GIS (TSPA junction to ORR junction) along outer side of ORR in favour of Executive Engineer, 400KV/Const-II, Metro, TS TRANSCO, Hyderabad— Stage-I approval accorded— Working Permission Issued Regarding. Sub:-Regarding.

1. GoI, MoEF& CC, IRO, Hyderabad F.No.4-TSC180/2021-HYD/091 Dt. 13.05.2021.

2. PCCF Rc.No.13470/2019/FCA-4 Dt.14.05.2021.

APCCF/CF, Rangareddy Circle Rc.No.1219/2019-M2, Dt:26.07.2021. EE,400KV, Const-II, Metro, TSTRANSCO, Hyderabad, Ir.No. EE/400KV/Const-II/Metro/Hyd/F.Rayadurgline/D.No.412/21, Dt.27.07.2021. 4. EE,400KV.

Vide ref 1st cited, the GOI, MoEF&CC, Integrated Regional Office, Hyderabad has accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval for diversion of 6.7076 Ha of forest land in Shamshabad division for Erection of 400 kv overhead DC line from Kethireddipally 400 kv SS to 400 kv Rayadurg GIS (TSPA junction to ORR junction) along outer side of ORR in favour of Executive Engineer,400KV/Const-II , Metro, TS TRANSCO, Hyderabad subject to certain conditions stipulated therein and requested to furnish the compliance report on the conditions stipulated therein; which has been communicated to concerned for compliance in ref $2^{n\alpha}$

Vide ref 4^{th} cited, the Executive Engineer, 400KV, Const-II, Metro, TS,TRANSCO, Hyderabad has informed that the condition wise compliance report has been submitted to the Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad and as per the Stage-I communication by this office, the paper notification has been published in Telugu and English papers and the same has been submitted to local bodies, municipal bodies and Gram Panchayaths and requested for working permission for commencing the works in the forest area.

Further, as per the demand notice issued by the Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad the necessary funds towards the compensatory levies such as Compensatory Afforestation, Net Present Value, Dwarf species plantation under the RoW of the Transmission line etc., for an amount of Rs.2,52,52,295/- has been deposited into the Adhoc CAMPA account of Telangana by generating the challan in the Ministry's portal.

Vide ref 3rd cited, the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Rangareddy has submitted the condition wise compliance report for the conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval for the said proposal and informed that all the conditions are complied with along with the undertakings and duly confirming the deposit for an amount of Rs.15,26,100/towards construction of boundary pillars, extraction of tree growth, etc. into the PD account of Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad along with the counter foils.

In this regard, it is informed that Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change (MoEF& CC), Government of India in Handbook of F(C)Act, 1980, F(C)Rules, 2003, Guidelines & Clarifications in F.No.5-2/2017-FC, Dt.28.03.2019 and F.No.11-306/2014-FC(pt.), Dt.28.08.2015 and amendments issued therein has conveyed 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 states that they have 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, optical fiber cabling, railway lines etc., in which the in-principle (Stage-I) 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 S-tate Government vide Memo No.3983/For.I(1)/2016-2,Dt.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, which is in accordance with the guidelines issued by Ministry FC(pt.), dt.28.08.2015.

In this regard, it is informed that the following compensatory levies (amount in Rs.) have been deposited by UA, which are detailed below:

No 3.	Component Compensatory Afforestation	Shamshabad Division (in Rs.)	Remarks
7.	Raising of Dwarf species under Transmission line Net Present Value	1,73,61,300 25,04,792	Deposited in Adhoc CAM account of Telangana again the project through e-payme mode by generation
-	Construction	53,86,203 2,52,52,295	in the ministry's portal. Same is confirmed as paid in the ministry's portal.
- -	Pillars Attraction of Tree Growth	7,50,000	Deposited into PD account of FDO, Shamshabad. Same habeen confirmed vide ref 3 ^r cited.
T	otal otal	7,61,100	
	The request of the Executive	15,26,100	cited. vide ref 3rd

The request of the Executive Engineer, 400KV, Const-II, Metro, TSTRANSCO, Hyderabad is examined in exercise of the powers delegated to the undersigned by the State Government & with reference to Handbook of F(C)Act, 1980, F(C)Rules, 2003, Guidelines & Clarifications in F.No.5-2/2017-FC, Dt.28.03.2019 and F.No.11-306/2014-and Forests & Climate Change (MoEF& CC), Government of India, and working permission is hereby accorded in favour of TSTRANSCO for commencement of working agreement with the Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad for a period of one year,

- 1. The Executive Engineer, 400KV, Const-II, Metro, TS,TRANSCO, Hyderabad (User Agency) shall report to the Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad and obtain further permission from him before starting the work and works should be carried out under the supervision of the Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad.
- 2. The User Agency shall publish the working permission now granted in verbatim language along with the conditions and safe- guards imposed by the Central vernacular language in Telugu news paper and the other in English language in English news paper, 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),
- 3. The Authorized Signatory of User Agency shall enter into an agreement with the concerned Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad / District Forest Officer, Rangareddy / Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Rangareddy Officer, Officer, agreeing to perform all conditions as -stipulated in Stage-I approval orders and as per the para 11.2 of guidelines of 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 as well as covering letters, Part II/III/IV/V of Forest Department, inspection note and obtain further permission from the concerned Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad for

commencement of the works.

- 4. The copies of the Forest Clearance should also be submitted to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies by the User Agency 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).
 - 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).
 - The User Agency shall agree, bind and undertake to comply any other conditions
 that may be imposed from time to time by the MoEF& CC, GoI, State Government
 and PCCF (HoFF) 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 permission by the concerned Forest Divisional Officers. If the User Agency fails to comply with the conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval within stipulated time and obtain final Stage-II clearance, for further extension of working permission they should approach MoEF& CC, Go1.
 - 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.
 - The works should be carried out without any scope for violations and guidelines envisaged under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and other Forest & relevant Acts, Rules and Guidelines in force.
 - 10. Any other conditions imposed by the concerned the Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad / District Forest Officer, Rangareddy / Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Rangareddy during execution of work in the interest of protection of Forests shall be carried out at the project cost.
 - 11. The conditions stipulated in Handbook of F(C)Act, 1980, F(C)Rules, 2003, Guidelines & Clarifications in F.No.5-2/2017-FC, Dt.28.03.2019 and F.No.11-306/2014-FC(pt.), Dt.28.08.2015 and amendments issued therein, GoI, MoEF& CC, IRO, Hyderabad F.No.4-TSC180/2021-HYD/091 Dt. 13.05.2021, the Part I to V along with all connected documents like covering letters, undertakings, the inspection reports etc. shall be complied by the User Agency.

The Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad is requested to enter into agreement with User Agency for working permission and are permitted to take up Extraction of tree growth, Translocation of trees if any, 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 21-22 for CA PD account and reported in MPR of CA PD account.

Sd/-R.Sobha Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force)

To

The Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad. It is requested to carryout construction of boundary pillars and extraction of tree growth and other works from the funds deposited into CA PD account of Forest Divisional Officer, Shamshabad and revise the APO of CA PD account accordingly and report the expenditure in the Monthly Progress report.

Copy to the APCCF/Conservator of Forests, Rangareddy and the District Forest Officer, Rangareddy for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Chairman and Managing Director, TSTRANSCO, Hyderabad for favor of information.

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Copy to the Executive Engineer, 400KV, Const-II, Metro, TS,TRANSCO, Hyderabad for information and necessary action.

- Copy submitted to Spl.Chief Secretary to Government, Forests Department, Telangana, 4th floor, Aranya Bhawan, Saifabad, Hyderabad for favor of information.
- Copy submitted to Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (SEZ), Hyderabad, 3rd floor, Aranya Bhawan, Saifabad, Hyderabad with main office at 1st and 2ndFloor, Handloom Export Promotion Council,34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai 34 for favour of information.

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

Superintendent. 108207

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI

Appeal No: 82 of 2021

THE RESPONDENT NO. 2 TO THE ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE APPELANTS

Filed On:

Filed By:

Y. RAMA RAO, B.LAKSHMINARASIMHAN, Y. SAI SANKALP

ADVOCATES FOR THE 2nd
RESPONDENT

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