

Minutes of the 4th meeting of Regional Empowered Committee (REC) of Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Chennai held on 23.03.2015

The 4th meeting of the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) of Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Chennai was held on 23.03.2015 in the office of the Addl.PCCF (Central), HEPC building, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai. The following members / special invitees were present during the meeting.

1. Shri.K.S.Reddy,
Addl.PCCF (Central),
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Regional Office (SEZ), Chennai ... **Chairperson**
2. Dr.C.N. Rao,
9-10-3 Giddi Lane
Gandhi Nagar, Kakinada,
East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh ... **Non-official Member**
3. Shri B.S.S.Reddy
107, White House Apartments,Road No.13,
Banjara Hills, Hyderabad ... **Non-official Member**
4. Dr.K.Ganesh Kumar
Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central) **Member-Secretary**
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Regional Office (SEZ), Chennai
5. Smt. R. Shobha,
Addl.PCCF /Nodal Officer
Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
Government of Telangana,
Hyderabad ... **Special Invitee**
6. Shri. Narendar Rao
Deputy Secretary, Revenue Department,
Government of Telangana
Hyderabad. ... **Special Invitee**

At the outset, Chairperson extended a warm welcome to the members of REC and special invitees representing the State Government of Telangana. The proposals in the agenda were examined by the Committee. The representatives of the project proponents present were also heard. Recommendations / decisions of the Committee, based on the deliberations, are as under: -

Agenda No.1: Diversion of 8.78 ha of Forest Land in RF Arli Block Adilabad Range of Adilabad Division, in favour of SE, I & CAD Dept. Irrigation Circle, Nirmal, for Construction of Canal to lift 5.12 TMC of Water from Lower Penganga Inter State Project, Proposed between the States of Maharashtra and Telangana.

The Committee noted the following in the proposal: -

1. Legal status of the forest area proposed for diversion is Reserve Forest.
2. Density of the vegetation is less than 0.2 to 0.3
3. The area proposed for diversion does not form part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, Elephant Corridor, etc.
4. No rare/endangered/unique Species of flora and fauna are found in the forest area proposed for diversion.
5. No Archaeological/ Heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.
6. Certificates related to ensuring compliance of the Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests vide letter F.No. 11-9/98-Fc (pt)-dated 05.07.2013 have been furnished.
7. The subject proposal has been recommended at all levels.

The Committee approves the proposal for diversion with the following conditions in addition to the usual conditions for irrigation projects subjected to the furnishing of annexures mentioned in the RoFR, Act 2006 certificate.

1. Revised CA Scheme including 7 to 10 years of maintenance to be submitted.
2. Water required for nurseries/ raising plantations shall be provided at free of cost to the forest department.
3. Onetime payment of Rupees One Crore to be deposited with the State Forest Department for creation of a task force to prevent encroachment and illegal cultivation.

Agenda No.2: Diversion of 31.6093 Ha of Forest Land in compt.No.409, 410, 411 & 412 of Hathini RF of Kushnepally Range of Bellampally Division for Medium Irrigation EPC-Package No.19-main canal and distributary 11 & 12 Peddavagu Diversion scheme across Peddavagu near Jagannathapur (V) Kagaznagar (M) Adilabad District in favour of Executive Engineer, I & CADD, P.P. Rao project Division Bellampally

Committee decided to seek the following documents / information from the State Government of Telangana for further necessary action:-

- a) CA land to be provided at one place and adjacent to forest area and map with DGPS readings related to non-forest land proposed for raising compensatory afforestation.
- b) CA Scheme including 7 to 10 years of maintenance to be submitted.
- c) List of species and diameter class wise enumeration of trees in the area proposed for diversion.
- d) Map along with contours showing alternatives examined and justification for the selected alignment.
- e) Certificate related to ensuring compliance of the Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests vide letter F.No. 11-9/98-Fc (pt)-dated 05.07.2013.
- f) Action taken report against those responsible for the violation of F(C) Act, 1980 in the area proposed for diversion be submitted.

C.N.R.
23/03/15

(Dr.C.N. Rao)
Non-official Member

B.S.S.Reddy

(Shri B.S.S.Reddy)
Non-official Member

R. Shobha
23/3/15

(Smt R. Shobha)
Addl.PCCF /Nodal Officer, Telangana
Special Invitee

Narendar Rao

(Shri.Narendar Rao)
Deputy Secretary, Revenue Department,
State Government of Telangana,
Special Invitee

K.Ganesh Kumar

(Dr.K.Ganesh Kumar)
Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)
Member-Secretary

K.S.Reddy

(K.S.Reddy)
Addl.PCC (Central) &Chairperson