

BEFORE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL PRINCIPAL BENCH AT NEW DELHI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No. 129 OF 2024 (PB)

IN THE MATTER OF:

SUO MOTO.

..... APPLICANT

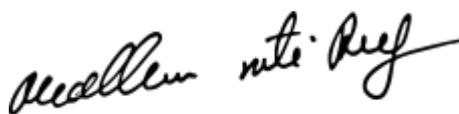
VERSUS

SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY GOVT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AND OTHERS

..... RESPONDENTS

**REPORT FILED BY THE PCCF – ANDHRA PRADESH R3**

DATE – 25.07.2024



**M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY  
ADVOCATE**

**STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**

**A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

#26, S2, Royal Castle, Gill Nagar Extension, Choolaimedu, Chennai – 600 094.

Mobile: 98407 98460 / 63831 21322,

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**INDEX**

<b>SI.NO</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT</b>	<b>PAGE NO</b>
1.	Report Filed by 3 <sup>rd</sup> Respondent – Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Andhra Pradesh	1 - 5
2.	NGT (PB) order dt:19.04.2024	6 - 8

It is certified that all the documents contained in the above annexure are true copies.

Date: 25.07.2024

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From Sri Chiranjiv Choudhary, IFS, Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri.	To The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FPD), MoEF&CC, GoI, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi.
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**Ref.No.EFS02-22022/13/2024/Vig-2(i), dt.24/07/2024.**

Sir,

Sub:-	PS - FD - Court Cases - NGT Case - Compliance of the orders of the Hon'ble NGT dt.19.04.2024 in O.A.No.129/2024 in the matter of Suo-Moto matter" In re: News item appeared in Deccan Herald dt.05.01.2024 titled "Forest land five times Delhi's geographical area under encroachment Govt. data shows" before MGT(PB), New Delhi - Details of encroachment of Forests - Revised proforma information - Submission of - Reg.
Ref:-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mail received from the Spl.CS to Govt., EFS&amp;T Department on 19.02.2024 along with Notice in O.A.No.129/2024 and orders dt.09.02.2024 &amp; copy of the petition in O.A.No.129/2024.</li> <li>2. PCCF &amp; HoFF, A.P, Mangalagiri Ref.No.19036/22/2019/Vig-2, dt.29.02.2024.</li> <li>3. G.M.No.484/Sec.II/2024/2369141, EFS&amp;T(Sec.II) Deptt., dt.04.03.2024.</li> <li>4. PCCF &amp; HoFF, A.P, Mangalagiri Ref.No.22022/13/2024/Vig-2, dt.19.03.2024.</li> <li>5. PCCF &amp; HoFF, A.P, Mangalagiri Ref.No.22022/13/2024/Vig-2, dt.05.04.2024.</li> <li>6. Mail received from the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF&amp;CC(FPD), New Delhi dt.01.05.2024 along with orders dt.19.04.2024 in O.A.No.129/2024.</li> <li>7. PCCF &amp; HoFF, A.P, Mangalagiri Ref.No.22022/13/2024/Vig-2, dt.03.05.2024.</li> <li>8. G.M.No.484/Sec.II/2024/2369141, EFS&amp;T(Sec.II) Deptt., dt.07.05.2024.</li> <li>9. PCCF &amp; HoFF, A.P, Mangalagiri Ref.No.22022/13/2024/Vig-2, dt.25.05.2024.</li> <li>10. AIG, MoEF&amp;CC(FPD), GoI, New Delhi F.No.8/4/2024-FPD, dt.19.07.2024.</li> </ol>

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In response to the reference 10<sup>th</sup> cited, the information pertaining to the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department on encroachment of forest land along with efforts made for retrieval and eviction of the area from the encroachers was furnished in the prescribed proformas as desired.

This is for information and necessary action.

Encls: As above.

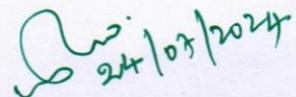
Sd/- Chiranjiv Choudhary  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests  
& Head of Forest Force

Copy to the Special Chief Secretary to Govt., EFS&T Department, A.P Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati for information.

//True Copy//

for Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests

  
24/7/24

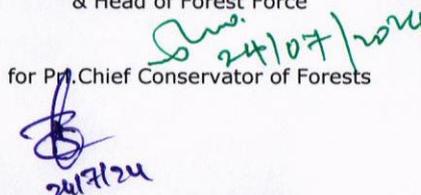
  
24/07/2024

S. No.	Name of the District	Total Forest Cover (Ha.,)	Details of encroachment					Total encroachment upto March, 2024 District Wise	Year	Cases	Action taken for removal of encroachments year-wise & District - Wise	Percentage loss of forest as on March, 2024 District wise
			Protected Forest	Reserve Forest	Deemed Forest	Sanctuaries and protected areas	Any other type of forest					
1	Andhran Pradesh	3541986.32	329.01	20518.85	0.00	6491.85	8968.98	36308.69	1976-1977	1	<p>Identifying the Vulnerable areas and regularly patrolling them. Establishment of Base camps at strategic points and deployment of strike forces in Vulnerable areas. Constant vigilance is being kept in vulnerable areas. Forest Offence cases have been booked against encroachers and charge sheets are being filed in the relevant Court of Law. Constant coordination was maintained with the District Administration and Police Department to evict the encroachments after conducting joint inspections in the disputed areas. Joint action was taken for the eviction and retrieval of the forest land and to prevent future encroachments. The encroachments issue is being emphasized in District Forest Protection Committee meetings with the District Administration and Police and other sister Departments, wherein the District Collector being the Chairman of the committee to create awareness., Steps are being taken to cancel the pattas issued in the Reserved Forest and efforts are being made to record the details of land status as Reserve Forest in the revenue records. Strict instructions issued to staff to trace out the accused and book the case against the concerned and prosecute them. Demarcation of the forest boundaries with the help of Survey &amp; Land Records Dept., wherever boundary disputes are there. Joint meetings held with the Police authorities concerned for assisting in eviction of encroached forest land. Created awareness among the encroachers that encroaching Forest land is a crime and an offence and punishable under A.P.Forest Act, 1967.</p>	1.02509
									1982-1983	2		
									1983-1984	1		
									1986-1987	1		
									1987-1988	1		
									1988-1989	2		
									1989-1990	9		
									1990-1991	1		
									1993-1994	2		
									1994-1995	3		
									1995-1996	1		
									1996-1997	1		
									1997-1998	1		
									1998-1999	2		
									1999-2000	1		
									2001-2002	2		
									2004-2005	7		
									2005-2006	25		
									2006-2007	121		
									2007-2008	7		
									2008-2009	27		
									2009-2010	35		
									2010-2011	85		
									2011-2012	48		
									2012-2013	64		
									2013-2014	107		
									2014-2015	174		
2015-2016	42											
2016-2017	77											
2017-2018	103											
2018-2019	69											
2019-2020	73											
2020-2021	96											
2021-2022	81											
2022-2023	85											
2023-2024	56											
<b>Total:</b>									<b>1413</b>			

//True Copy//

Sd/- Chiranjiv Choudhary  
Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests  
& Head of Forest Force

for Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests

  
 24/07/2024  
 24/7/24

S. No.	Name of the District	Total Forest Cover (Ha.,)	Details of encroachment					Total encroachment upto March,2024 District Wise	Action taken for removal of encroachments year-wise & District - Wise	Percentage loss of forest as on March, 2024 District wise
			Protected Forest	Reserve Forest	Deemed Forest	Sanctuaries and protected areas	Any other type of forest			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Alluri Sitharama Raju	802985.28	0	331.12	0	0	0	331.12	(56) Cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs, Chintur & Ramapchodavaram of ASR District from 2018-19 to 2022-23. Pending in concerned courts. Efforts are being taken for eviction of encroached land.  An area of 95.0933 Ha.(evicted) is under the control of Forest Department also cases booked against the offenders which are pending at Hon'ble Courts	0.04124
2	Anakapalli	80167.41	0.000	137.318	0.000	0.000	8.994	146.312	An area of 146.312 Ha is under the control of Forest Department. Further, cases have been booked for remaining area and pending at Hon'ble Court.  Total area of 484.1730 Ha. (evicted) is under the control of Forest Department.	0.18251
3	Anantapuramu	75313.046	0	0.424	0	0	0	0.424	(6) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs from 2019-20 to 2021-22.	0.00056
4	Annamayya	257527.60	41.4256	18.346	0	0	0	59.7716	(2) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs in 1990-91 & 2020-21.	0.02321
5	Bapatla	6805.79	0	101.574	0	0	0	101.574	The DFO, Bapatla has reported that, Out of (40) cases (27) cases were Acquited. (12) cases pending with hon'ble Courts and (1) case to be filed in Hon'ble Court.	1.49246
6	Chittoor	195269.123	0	80.727	0	0	0	80.727	(5) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs from 2018-19 to 2023-24.Boundaries with the help of Survey and Land records.Informed to the concerned police authorities for asserting in eviction of encroached Forest Land.Created awareness to the encroachers that encroaching forest land is a crime and punishable under AP Forest Act' 1967.Booked Offence case against the accused and remanded before the Hon'ble Court	0.04134
7	Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Konaseema	7721.32	0.00	583.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	583.62	Action is being taken by the DFO for eviction of encroachments by the taking the support of local Revenue and Police authoriteis. He has also stated that the matter is placed before the District Level Forest Protection committee meeting convened by the Collector & District Magistrate, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema District, Amalapuram and Chairman of the committee.	7.55855
8	East Godavari	8902.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.47	40.47	(7) Cases booked by the DFO at field level and area from 2008-09 to 2022-23 in is Mathangimetta CA area and pending at JC and High Court.	0.45457
9	Eluru	169296.24	0.00	10823.45	0.00	5666.44	8392.49	24882.377	(1058) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs from 2005-06 to 2023-24. cases were registered in District Courts, which are under trial. Efforts are being made to evict encroachers.	14.69754

S. No.	Name of the District	Total Forest Cover (Ha.,)	Details of encroachment					Total encroachment upto March, 2024 District Wise	Action taken for removal of encroachments year-wise & District - Wise	Percentage loss of forest as on March, 2024 District wise										
			Protected Forest	Reserve Forest	Deemed Forest	Sanctuaries and protected areas	Any other type of forest													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11										
10	Guntur	4780.59	0	33.857	0	0	0	33.857	The DFO, Guntur has reported that, cases were booked against the accused perons and the cases are under trail in concerned Hon'ble Court	0.70822										
11	Kakinada	57379.19	244.79	514.14	0.00	0.00	527.03	1285.961	(8) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs from 2019-20 to 2023-24. The DFO stated that an area 17.688 ha. of forest land was evicted from the encroachers. Cases booked against the encroachers/culprits and created awareness among the villagers to protect the forest land. The encroached land is under the control of forest department and cases are pending in respective courts.	2.24116										
12	Krishna	33938.21	0.00	280.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	280.17	(202) cases were registered in the District Courts from 2005-06 to 2019-20. The DFO stated that all these are old(erstwhile Krishna Division, Vijayawada) encroachments prior to formation of Krishna District, Machilipatnam, survey and demarcation is under progress.	0.82553										
13	Kurnool	35127.80	0	495.373	0	0	0	495.373	Notices have been issued to identified (116 Nos.) encroachers with instructions to evict Reserve Forest land on 15.05.2023, 17.05.2023, 15.07.2023, 20.07.2023, 09.08.2023, 16.08.2023 & 25.09.2023. To evict the encroachments joint survey with Revenue Department is to be conducted. Joint survey will be taken up shortly to evict the encroachments.	1.41020										
14	NTR	39762.45	0.00	4690.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	4690.36	(105) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs from 2010-11 to 2023-24. The areas covered under court cases and efforts are being taken by the field staff from time to time for eviction.	11.79595										
15	Palnadu	150953.39	0	95.825	0	0.34	0	96.17	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>2020-21</td> <td>26.248</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021-22</td> <td>23.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022-23</td> <td>3.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023-24</td> <td>5.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total:</b></td> <td><b>58.828</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Total to be evicted: 154.645-58.828= 95.817 + 0.34 = 96.157 The area of 0.34 ha. Was encroached in the year 2023. Efforts are made to retrieve the land to control of Forest Department.</p>	2020-21	26.248	2021-22	23.16	2022-23	3.97	2023-24	5.45	<b>Total:</b>	<b>58.828</b>	0.06371
2020-21	26.248																			
2021-22	23.16																			
2022-23	3.97																			
2023-24	5.45																			
<b>Total:</b>	<b>58.828</b>																			

S. No.	Name of the District	Total Forest Cover (Ha.,)	Details of encroachment					Total encroachment upto March,2024 District Wise	Action taken for removal of encroachments year-wise & District - Wise	Percentage loss of forest as on March, 2024 District wise
			Protected Forest	Reserve Forest	Deemed Forest	Sanctuaries and protected areas	Any other type of forest			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16	Parvathipuram Manyam	107686.17	0.000	9.210	0.000	0.000	0.000	9.21	Cases pending at Hon'ble Courts	0.00855
17	Prakasam	321291.22	0	83.790	0	0	0	83.79	The DFO, Prakasam has reported that, out of 114 Accused, (1) case was registered against 3 Nos only (i.e. DOR No.2/2020-21.Encroached area covered with an extent of 0.04 Ha only. Further, the DFO, Prakasam has reported that, a letter was addressed to the Tahsildar, Tarlupadu Mandal for cancelation of Pattas issued to the encroachers.	0.02608
18	Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore	229555.04	42.39	222.080	0	0	0	264.47	The DFO, Nellore has reported that, Out of (20) cases (8) charge sheets were filed in Hon'ble Courts and obtained CC no.s also remaining Charge sheet to be filed.	0.11521
19	Sri Sathya Sai	125223.7	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	-	0.00000
20	Srikakulam	44574.96	0.0000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00	(45) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs in 2004-05 & 2020-21. An area of 111.412 Ha.(evicted) is under the control of Forest Department.	0.00000
21	Tirupati	264331.150	0	1114.952	0	0	0	1114.952	(40) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs from 2011-12 to 2023-24.	0.42180
22	Visakhapatnam	14513.98	0.400	0.000	0.000	1.306	0.000	1.706	(160) cases booked against the encroachers by the DFOs in 2004-05 & 2023-24.Cases pending at Hon'ble Courts.	0.01175
23	Vizianagaram	17278.55	0.000	40.460	0.000	0.000	0.000	40.46	Cases pending at Hon'ble Courts	0.23416
24	West Godavari	2765.62	0	0	0	822.19	0	822.19	82 cases were registered in the District Courts from 2005-06 to 2023-24, which are under trail. The area of Krishna Wildlife sanctuary of WLM Division, Eluru covered under court cases and efforts are being taken by the field staff from time to time for eviction.	29.72896
25	YSR	298078.264	0	100.3355	0	0	0	100.34	(240) Cases were booked against the encroachers from 2014-15 to 2023-24 and charge sheets filed/issued notices to the encroachers.	0.03366
26	Nandyal	190757.248		761.721		1.57		763.29	An area of 84.11912 is under enchroachment. Cases booked against the enchroachers. Out of (50) identified encroachments, OR cases were booked against (13) Nos. of encroachers. Joint Survey will be taken and eviction of encroachments will be done shortly.	0.40014
<b>Total:</b>		<b>3541986.32</b>	<b>329.01</b>	<b>20518.85</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6491.85</b>	<b>8968.98</b>	<b>36308.69</b>		<b>1.02509</b>

Sd/- Chiranjiv Choudhary  
Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests  
& Head of Forest Force

//True Copy//

*[Signature]*  
24/07/2024  
for Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests  
*[Signature]*

Item No.15

Court No. 1

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI**Original Application No. 129/2024  
(I.A.No.180/2024)

News Item titled "Forest land five times Delhi's geographical area under encroachment govt. data shows" appearing in Deccan Herald dated 05.01.2024

Date of hearing: 19.04.2024

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRAKASH SHRIVASTAVA, CHAIRPERSON  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR AGARWAL, JUDICIAL MEMBER  
HON'BLE DR. A. SENTHIL VEL, EXPERT MEMBER**

Respondent: Mr. Ravinder Gupta, Adv. for MoEF & CC (Through VC)  
Mr. Pukhramban Ramesh Kumar, Mr. Karun Sharma, Ms. Raj Kumari Divyasuna & Ms. Anupama Ngangon, Advs. for the State of Manipur  
Mr. Gigi. C. George, Adv. for Andaman & Nicobar Islands  
Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, Mr. Sumit Kumar & Mr. Saurabh Tripathi, Advs. for the State of Tripura  
Mr. Divyanshu Kumar Srivastava, Adv. for the State of Himachal Pradesh (Through VC)  
Mr. Shubham Bhalla, Adv. for R - 7 (Through VC)  
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, Adv. for DCF, GNCTD (Through VC)

**ORDER**

1. In this Original Application, registered *suo-moto*, Tribunal is examining the issue of large scale encroachment on the forest land across the country.

2. Tribunal in the previous proceedings had taken note of the fact that in the State of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Tripura and Manipur, forest area under encroachment is falling to the extent of 56%. Accordingly, all the concerned States were impleaded along with the Secretary, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi as respondents and notices were issued.

3. Response on behalf of some of the States /Union Territories have been received.

4. States/Union Territories are directed to disclose the information in their reply by filing an annexure thereto containing the information in the following table:-

**Details of encroachment of Forest (in Hectors)**

S. No.	Name of the district	Total Forest Cover	Details of encroachment					Total encroachment upto March, 2024 District-Wise	Action Taken for removal of encroachment year wise District-Wise	Percentage loss of forest as on March, 2024 District-Wise
			Protected Forest	Reserve Forest	Deemed Forest	Sanctuaries and protected areas	Any other type of forest			

5. Counsel for those States /Union Territories who are yet to file the response have sought time to file the same. All the States/Union Territories are directed to supply a copy of the reply to Counsel for respondent no.1 i.e. Secretary, MoEF&CC in addition to filing of the same before the Tribunal. Secretary, MoEF&CC will compile the information so received from all the States/Union Territories in the following tabulated form:-

**Details of encroachment of Forest (in Hectors)**

S. No.	State/UT	Total Forest Cover	Details of encroachment					Total encroachment upto March, 2024	Action Taken for removal of encroachment year wise	Percentage loss of forest as on March, 2024
			Protected Forest	Reserve Forest	Deemed Forest	Sanctuaries and protected areas	Any other type of forest			

6. Let response by all the remaining States/Union Territories as also tabulated compiled response by the respondent no.1 be filed atleast one week before the next date of hearing. The States/Union Territories which have already filed the response will submit the above tabulated information to the respondent no.1.

7. Copy of the reply/response to the MoEF&CC is to be sent by all the States/Union Territories in the following email address:

- i. [ravinder\\_adv@yahoo.com](mailto:ravinder_adv@yahoo.com)
- ii. [fpd-moefcc@gov.in](mailto:fpd-moefcc@gov.in)

8. I.A. No.180/2024 has been filed by respondent no.33-State of Tripura for correction of its description. Hence, I.A. No.180/2024 is allowed and description of respondent no.33-State of Tripura is corrected as under:

“Principal Secretary to the Government of Tripura, Department of Forest, Aranya Bhawan, Nehru Complex, Gorkhabasti, Agartala, Tripura-799006.”

9. Let cause title be amended accordingly.

10. List on 31.07.2024.

Prakash Shrivastava, CP

Sudhir Agarwal, JM

Dr. A. Senthil Vel, EM

April 19, 2024  
Original Application No. 129/2024  
(I.A.No.180/2024)  
JG.