

F.No.10-62/2016-IA-III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(IA.III Section)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 3

Date: 7th March, 2019

To,

The Chief Engineer,
M/s Visakhapatnam Port Trust
Visakhapatnam - 530 035, Andhra Pradesh
E Mail: cevizagport@yahoo.co.in

Subject: Improving the capacity utilization of OR-I & OR-II berths at Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT), Andhra Pradesh by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Trust - Environmental & CRZ Clearance - reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your online Proposal No. IA/AP/MIS/58669/2016 dated 6th March, 2018, submitted to this Ministry for grant of Environmental and CRZ Clearance in terms of the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011, under the Environment (Protection), Act, 1986.

2. The proposal for 'Improving the capacity utilization of OR-I & OR-II berths at Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT), Andhra Pradesh promoted by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Trust was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (Infra-2) in the Ministry in its 32nd meeting held on 02-04 July, 2018.

3. The details of the project, as per the documents submitted by the project proponent, and also as informed during the above said EAC meeting, are reported to be as under:-

- (i) The Visakhapatnam Port, one among the thirteen Major Ports of India, is an all weather natural Port and the fastest growing maritime gateway to the peninsular India. The Port is located on the East Coast of India in between Chennai and Kolkata at a latitude of 17°42'00" North and longitude of 83°23'00" East Visakhapatnam Port, a premier port of our country situated in the state of Andhra Pradesh India has been handling large volumes of cargoes and has been in the first position among all the major port of our country successively during the year's 2001 to 2007.
- (ii) The Port comprises of Inner harbour (a natural harbour within Mehadri Gedda River), Outer Harbour (an artificial harbour at the mouth of the Mehadri Gedda River) and Fishing Harbour (an artificial harbour catering exclusively to fishing vessels). Outer Harbour with a water spread of 200 hectares (ha) has 6 berths is capable of handling ships up to 200,000 DWT and draft up to 18.1 meters. Inner Harbour, with a water spread of 100 ha has 18 berths capable of accommodating fully laden Panamax vessels with draft up to 14.5 meters, with tide advantage. At present Inner Harbour is capable of handling vessels of up to 12.5 m draft. In order to meet the requirements of cargo carriers and increase the cargo handling capacity of Visakhapatnam Port, the approach channel and turning circle of Inner Harbour are being deepened to cater to fully loaded Panamax Vessels with a draft of up to 14.0 m.

- (iii) The existing OR I – OR II berths, located in the Western part of Inner Harbour, were constructed in 1957 and are of monolithic construction. The available draft at these berths is 10.5 m at present. They have outlived their useful life (fixed as 50 years by the Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India). It is proposed to construct a additional oil berth of length 180 m in between fertilizer berth and OR-II.
- (iv) The existing berths will be demolished and reconstruction of new OR-I and OR-II with facilities. Construction of protection wall with length of 30m shall be constructed at end of OR- I berth on seas side.
- (v) Widening of western arm channel by 12 m along the alignment of the proposed new development. Increase the dredge depth from (-)10.70m to (-) 16.10m. The project will be implemented in two phases, each phase The construction of additional berth between the OR-II and fertilizer berth shall be executed in stage 1, After completion of the new additional berth.
- (vi) The proposed project does not envisage any land acquisition. The existing berths have hardly any vegetation and hence the proposed project shall not involve any tree felling. At present the existing berths are handling Naphtha, MS, SRO, AIT, HSD, LDO, FO, LSHS, MS, HSD.
- (vii) The construction of additional berth between the OR-II and fertilizer berth shall be executed in stage 1 of development plan as desired by VPT management. After completion of the new additional berth, the dismantling and reconstruction of OR-I commences with additional berth length of 60 m which is followed by OR-II. OR-II will be decommissioned and dismantled after completion of additional berth and new OR-I. Protection wall with length of 30m shall be constructed at end of OR-I berth on eastside. The proposed development is planned to operate one handymax and one Panamax vessel as per the suggestion of Joint Director. So the length of additional berth is required as 180m. Overall length of proposed berth is 606m. [OR-I + Extension of OR-I + OR-II + Additional berth (ie.183+60+183+180=606m)]. The new development will have a dredge depth of -16.1 m to handle higher capacity vessels of upto 85,000 DWT with maximum draft of -14.5m.
- (viii) The proposed OR-I & OR-II, when fully operational, is expected to handle 9.81 MTPA (Mt/yr) of cargo throughput able to handle one panamax size and one handymax size vessel at a time retaining the cargo share of western arm.
- (ix) Berth demolition wastes will be dumped in low lying area in western part of the port. Dredge spoils will be dumped far offshore in area identified by Central Water and Power Research Station, Khadakvasla. Wastes discharged from ships will be handed over to the port's licensed contractors who have appropriate waste handling and disposal facilities.
- (x) Water requirement is 2.25 KLD. Water requirement for the proposed expansion project is very minimal which will be met through the current own sources of VPT from Malkapuram and SG Puram. Considering the sewage generation for 50 personal at the rate of 90% of the water requirement is 2.0 KLD. This additional incremental generation of waste water shall be accommodated in the existing 10 MLD STP. There shall not be any burden or impact from the proposed project on waste water treatment.
- (xi) MoEFCC granted ToR to this project vide letter No. F. No. 10-62/2016/IA-III dated 26th October, 2016. Baseline study was conducted during March-May, 2017.

- (xii) The project is recommended by APCZMA vide letter No 64/APCZMA/2017/535 dated 14th February, 2018.
- (xiii) Public Hearing for the proposed Enhancement of Cargo Handling, Petroleum, Oils & Lubricants (POL Products) From 3.28 MTPA to 9.81 MTPA by Modernization And Creation Of New Facilities for Oil Refinery-I (OR-I) & Oil Refinery-II (OR-II) berths at Visakhapatnam Port, was conducted by Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board on 31st October, 2017 at VPT truck parking yard, dock yard road, near 'Y' junction, adjacent to BPCL petrol bunk, Visakhapatnam.
- (xiv) Cost of the project is Rs.193.3 Crores.
- (xv) Employment generation: Employment will be generated for local people wherever possible to maximum extent.
- (xvi) Benefits of the project: Meeting the Requirements of Port Users, Increasing the Port's Efficiency, Dispose off Old Resource Guzzling Mechanical Equipment Peripheral development and creation of social capital, Improve Environmental Performance and Reduce Pollution, Employment Generation and Economic Growth.

4. The project proponent also confirmed the following in written:

- a. Air quality modelling was duly carried during preparation of EIA report by considering base line data generated at site as well as the predictions during project period (Construction and operation period).
- b. Regional office, MoEF&CC. Chennai had duly prepared the compliance report for all earlier Environmental Clearances (ECs) obtained by VPT in their report dated 24.03.2016 and further they have prepared compliance report again for the two projects viz. 1) Development of multipurpose terminals by replacement of existing EQ2 to EQ5 berths and 2) Improving the capacity utilization of OR-I and OR-II berths at Visakhapatnam Port Trust, vide report dated 29.11.2017, which are attached as Appendix- VI to the EIA report.
- c. Notice for Public Hearing was issued by AP Pollution Control Board, Visakhapatnam on 30.09.2017 and the Public Hearing was conducted on 31.10.2017.
- d. APCZMA vide letter No. 64/APCZMA/2017.535 dated 14th February, 2018 has recommended at Para 3 for carrying out Study on Marine bio-diversity which was carried out through Andhra University and the report has been furnished as part of the EIA Report.
- e. Similarly, APCZMA vide letter dated 14th February, 2018 has recommended at Para 4 that VPT to continue to the Beach nourishment on the Northern side of North breakwater of VPT at Visakhapatnam, which VPT is continuing since long by every year pumping sand on the beach for average quantity 2 lakh cum. VPT will continue to do the same.
- f. Similarly, APCZMA vide letter dated 14th February, 2018 has recommended at Para 5 mentioned to undertake scientific study through NIOT for feasibility of constructing submerged breakwater to protect the Beach road from seasonal erosion and during cyclones. It is mentioned in this connection that, the Collector, Visakhapatnam already entrusted such study to NIOT and also for further examination by Delta RS of the Netherlands. Final report of the study is awaited. It is gathered that AP Government has approached World

Bank for funding the Erosion mitigative measures as would be suggested by the consultants.

5. The project/activity is covered under category 'A' of item 7 (e) i.e. 'Ports, harbours, break waters, dredging' of the schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments, and requires appraisal at Central level.

6. The Expert Appraisal Committee (Infra-2), after detailed deliberations on the project, has recommended the project for grant of Environmental and CRZ Clearance. As per recommendations of the EAC, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords Environmental and CRZ Clearance for the project 'Improving the capacity utilization of OR-I & OR-II berths at Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT), Andhra Pradesh promoted by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Trust', under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 and CRZ Notification, 2011 and amendments thereto and circulars issued thereon and subject to the compliance of the following specific and general conditions as under:-

A. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:

- (i) Construction activity shall be carried out strictly according to the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2011. No construction work other than those permitted in Coastal Regulation Zone Notification shall be carried out in Coastal Regulation Zone area.
- (ii) All the recommendations and conditions specified by the Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority who has recommended the project vide letter No. No. 64/APCZMA/2017.535 dated 14th February, 2018 shall be complied with.
- (iii) Consent to Establish/Operate for the project shall be obtained from the State Pollution Control Board as required under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
- (iv) Notification GSR 94(E) dated 25.01.2018 of MoEF&CC regarding Mandatory Implementation of Dust Mitigation Measures for Construction and Demolition Activities shall be complied with.
- (v) Comprehensive certified compliance report against each condition with respect to the compliance of earlier Environmental & CRZ Clearances issued shall be submitted condition wise to the Ministry within 03 months from issue of EC&CRZ clearance.
- (vi) The project proponent shall ensure that the project is in consonance with the new CZMP prepared by the State Government under the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2011.
- (vii) The Project proponent shall ensure that no creeks or rivers are blocked due to any activities at the project site and free flow of water is maintained.
- (viii) No solid, semi solid cargos would be handled.
- (ix) Dredging shall not be carried out during the fish breeding season.
- (x) Dredging, etc shall be carried out in the confined manner to reduce the impacts on marine environment including turbidity.
- (xi) Dredged material shall be disposed safely in the designated areas.

- (xii) Shoreline should not be disturbed due to dumping. Periodical study on shore line changes shall be conducted and mitigation carried out, if necessary. The details shall be submitted along with the six monthly monitoring report.
- (xiii) While carrying out dredging, an independent monitoring shall be carried out by Government Agency/Institute to check the impact and necessary measures shall be taken on priority basis if any adverse impact is observed.
- (xiv) The fresh water requirement (7.11 MLD) for the present project will be met from Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC), and also drawn from VPT's own open wells & galleries located outside CRZ area. Rain water harvesting shall be followed as per local byelaw and harvested water shall be stored, treated and reused to reduce the additional water requirement since Chennai is a water deficient area, besides use of water efficient appliances.
- (xv) The concerns expressed during the public hearing held by the Visakhapatnam Port Trust needs to be addressed during the project implementation. These would also cover socio-economic and ecological and environmental concerns, besides commitment by the management towards employment opportunities.
- (xvi) Marine ecological studies as carried out by Marine Biology Department, Andhra University and its mitigation measures for protection of phytoplankton, zooplanktons, Benthic Organisms, Macro benthos and Olive Ridley's Turtles etc as given in the EIA-EMP Report shall be complied with in letter and spirit.
- (xvii) Protection shall be ensured to the existing mangrove area around Meghadrigedda Creek and other water bodies within the Port area. Plantation of mangroves in suitable new area and maintenance of existing ones to be prioritized to maintain the present status of ecology/biodiversity.
- (xviii) A copy of the Marine and riparian biodiversity management plan duly validated by the State Biodiversity Board shall be submitted before commencement of implementation.
- (xix) A continuous monitoring programme covering all the seasons on various aspects of the coastal environs need to be undertaken by a competent organization available in the State or by entrusting to the National Institutes/renowned Universities/accredited Consultant with rich experiences in marine science aspects. The monitoring should cover various physico-chemical parameters coupled with biological indices such as phytoplankton, zooplanktons, Benthic Organisms, Macro benthos, Olive Ridley's Turtles and fishes on a periodic basis during construction and operation phase of the project. Any deviations in the parameters shall be given adequate care with suitable measures to conserve the marine environment and its resources.
- (xx) Continuous online monitoring of for air and water covering the total area shall be carried out and the compliance report of the same shall be submitted along with the 6 monthly compliance report to the regional office of MOEF&CC.
- (xxi) Ambient air quality shall be maintained at prescribed levels. The existing ambient air quality stations shall have a system of reporting exceedances separately to the Pollution Control Board.
- (xxii) The project configuration should integrate and dovetail with the State Plan and not implemented unless the state plan is prepared and dovetailing ratified.
- (xxiii) Marine ecology shall be monitored regularly also in terms of sea weeds, sea grasses, mudflats, sand dunes, fisheries, echinoderms, shrimps, turtles,

corals, coastal vegetation, mangroves and other marine biodiversity components as part of the management plan. Marine ecology shall be monitored regularly also in terms of all micro, macro and mega floral and faunal components of marine biodiversity.

- (xxiv) Spillage of fuel / engine oil and lubricants from the construction site are a source of organic pollution which impacts marine life, particularly benthos. This shall be prevented by suitable precautions and also by providing necessary mechanisms to trap the spillage.
- (xxv) Necessary arrangements for the treatment of the effluents and solid wastes/ facilitation of reception facilities under MARPOL must be made and it must be ensured that they conform to the standards laid down by the competent authorities including the Central or State Pollution Control Board and under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The provisions of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. E- waste Management Rules, 2016, and Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 shall be followed.
- (xxvi) Compliance to Energy Conservation Building (ECBC-2017) shall be ensured for all the building complexes. Solar/wind or other renewable energy shall be installed to meet energy demand of 1% equivalent.
- (xxvii) All the recommendations mentioned in the rapid risk assessment report, disaster management plan and safety guidelines shall be implemented.
- (xxviii) Measures should be taken to contain, control and recover the accidental spills of fuel and cargo handle.
- (xxix) Necessary arrangement for general safety and occupational health of people should be done in letter and spirit.
- (xxx) All the mitigation measures submitted in the EIA report shall be prepared in a matrix format and the compliance for each mitigation plan shall be submitted to the Regional Office, MoEF&CC along with half yearly compliance report.
- (xxxi) VPT will strengthen their Environmental Management Cell.
- (xxxii) VPT Shall consider more employment opportunities to the local people
- (xxxiii) As per the Ministry's Office Memorandum F.No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated 1st May 2018, funds @0.75% of project Cost shall be earmarked under Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) for the activities such as strengthening of environmental cell by new recruitments, development of green fields, environmental monitoring surveys, solid waste management, sanitation and sewage facilities, widening of culverts etc. The activities proposed under CER shall be restricted to the affected area around the project. The entire activities proposed under the CER shall be treated as project and shall be monitored. The monitoring report shall be submitted to the regional office as a part of half yearly compliance report, and to the District Collector. It should be posted on the website of the project proponent.

B. GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- (i) Appropriate measures must be taken while undertaking digging activities to avoid any likely degradation of water quality.
- (ii) Full support shall be extended to the officers of this Ministry/ Regional Office at Chennai by the project proponent during inspection of the project for monitoring purposes by furnishing full details and action plan including action

taken reports in respect of mitigation measures and other environmental protection activities.

- (iii) A six-Monthly monitoring report shall need to be submitted by the project proponents to the Regional Office of this Ministry at Chennai regarding the implementation of the stipulated conditions.
- (iv) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change or any other competent authority may stipulate any additional conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary in the interest of environment and the same shall be complied with.
- (v) The Ministry reserves the right to revoke this clearance if any of the conditions stipulated are not complied with the satisfaction of the Ministry.
- (vi) In the event of a change in project profile or change in the implementation agency, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- (vii) The project proponents shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (viii) A copy of the clearance letter shall be marked to concerned Panchayat/local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/ representation has been made received while processing the proposal.
- (ix) A copy of this clearance letter shall also be displayed on the website of the concerned State Pollution Control Board. The Clearance letter shall also be displayed at the Regional Office, District Industries centre and Collector's Office/ Tehsildar's office for 30 days.

7. All other statutory clearances such as the approvals for storage of diesel from Chief Controller of Explosives, Fire Department, Civil Aviation Department, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 etc. shall be obtained, as applicable by project proponents from the respective competent authorities.

8. The project proponent shall advertise in at least two local Newspapers widely circulated in the region, one of which shall be in the vernacular language informing that the project has been accorded Environmental and CRZ Clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the State Pollution Control Board and may also be seen on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at <http://www.envfor.nic.in>. The advertisement should be made within Seven days from the date of receipt of the Clearance letter and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional office of this Ministry at Bhubaneswar.

9. This clearance is subject to final order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Goa Foundation Vs. Union of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No.460 of 2004 as may be applicable to this project.

10. Any appeal against this clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

11. Status of compliance to the various stipulated environmental conditions and environmental safeguards will be uploaded by the project proponent in its website.

12. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parishad/Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/representations, if any, were received while

processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the company by the proponent.

13. The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated Clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the Regional Office of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB.

14. The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated Clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB.

15. The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of Clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Office of MoEF&CC by e-mail.


16. The above stipulations would be enforced among others under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability (Insurance) Act, 1991 and EIA Notification 1994, including the amendments and rules made thereafter.

17. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.


(Kushal Vashist)
Director

Copy to:

1. The Secretary (Environment), Environment and Forest Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi – 32.
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, 1st and IInd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-34.
4. The Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board Paryavaran Bhavan, A-III, Industrial Estate, Sanath Nagar Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
5. Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Costal Zonal management Authority, Environment Forest Science and Technology Department, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
6. Guard File, Monitoring File.
7. MoEFCC website.


(Kushal Vashist)
Director