



भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS
& CLIMATE CHANGE
Sub Office, Vijayawada
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road
Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh
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F.No. 4-APA209/2023-VIJ/ 211
Date 12th February, 2024

To,

The Special Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh,
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department Government of
Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1st Floor, 4th Block, Andhra Pradesh
Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati Guntur District- 522503

Subject: Diversion of 65.95 ha (i.e. 65.71 ha in Narsipatnam + 0.24 ha in Paderu) of forest land in Narsipatnam and Paderu Divisions for Rehabilitation and Upgradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Koyyuru - Chaparathipalem - Lambasingi - Paderu section of NH-516E in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of Regional Officer, MoRTH; Vijayawada - Reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 574/Section.II/2023/2029147 Dated: 17.04.2023, 574/Section.II/2023/2029147 dated 06.07.2023 and online application No. FP/AP/ROAD/49639/2020, seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project. The project was accorded in-principle approval (Stage-I) by the Central Government vide letter F.No.4-APA184/2022-VIJ/1019 dated 06.07.2023. The State Government vide letter No. 574/Section.II/2023/2029147 Dated: 23.01.2024 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey the Central Government's approval (**Stage-II**) under "2(1)" of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of **65.95 ha (i.e. 65.71 ha in Narsipatnam + 0.24 ha in Paderu)** of forest land in Narsipatnam and Paderu Divisions for Rehabilitation and Upgradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Koyyuru - Chaparathipalem - Lambasingi - Paderu section of NH-516E in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of Regional Officer, MoRTH; Vijayawada, subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;
- The State Forest Department shall carry out compensatory afforestation over

- an extent of **120.12 ha** out of **147.26 ha** (5 patches) degraded forest area identified in Araku and Pedabayalu Ranges as per the approved CA scheme at the cost of the User Agency;
- iv. Identified CA area and CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
 - v. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
 - vi. **The State Government / UA shall implement approved Wildlife mitigation plan at the cost of the project;**
 - vii. **Trees shall be felled wherever necessary under the strict supervision of the DFO concerned;**
 - viii. The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
 - ix. The User Agency shall carryout avenue plantation and its maintenance on sides of the road at the cost of the project;
 - x. Construction of culverts / bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals shall be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals;
 - xi. Roadside cuttings and fillings which require engineering support shall be provided as per the instructions of the DFO concerned so as to stabilize the soil;
 - xii. The dug out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. Storage of any material shall not be done in the forest area;
 - xiii. The State Government shall ensure settlement of eligible RoFR holders as per the rules / regulation as per the R&R Scheme;
 - xiv. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
 - xv. The User Agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling and no labour camp shall be established inside the forest area;
 - xvi. Disturbance shall be kept minimum by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it shall be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
 - xvii. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **65.95 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal.
 - xviii. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
 - xix. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
 - xx. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Office may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User

Agency;

- xxi. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980;
- xxii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

Yours faithfully,

(Balaji Kari)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to;

1. The Inspector General of Forests, ROHQ, MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavarana Bhavan, JorBagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi-110003
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department (HoFF), AP Forest Department, AranyaBhavan, P.V.S. Land Mark, Ground Floor, Opposite to IHC Corporate, Industrial Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522503
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, AranyaBhavan, P.V.S. Land Mark, Ground Floor, Opposite to IHC Corporate, Industrial Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522503
4. The Regional Office, Ministry of Transport and Highways , Door no.38-2-3/12, Gorledalapanna veedhi,Near American Hospital, Punnammithota, Vijayawada 520010 romorthvijayawada@gmail.com
5. Guard file

(Balaji Kari)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Signed by Balaji Kari

Date: 12-02-2024 12:01:51