## Field Inspection Report of the Deputy Director, Project Tiger, Markapur

The area proposed for diversion of 38.60 ha of Forest land towards Compt No. 63, 64 & 65 Mutukur RF, Sirigiripadu Beat, Sirigiripadu Section of VP South Range of Project Tiger, Markapur of Palnadu District and Compt No.182, 183 & 184, Markapur RF, Mallepalem Beat, Y Palem Section, and Compt No.170, 172 & 173 Markapur RF, Komarolu Beat, Y Palem Section and Compt No. 169 & 174, ENB XI RF, Komarolu Beat, Y Palem Section of Y Palem Range of Project Tiger, Markapur of Prakasam District for Rehabilitation and Upgradation of NH 565 from km 133.922 to Km 154.900 (Davupalli to Mallepalem) two lanes with paved shoulders in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The undersigned has inspected the said area along with the Forest Range Officers, V.P.South & Y Palem and concerned staff on 14.07.2023.

## The details of the area proposed for diversion is as follows Total area is 38.60 ha. (V P South Range = 17.50 ha + Y Palem Range = 21.10 ha). Falls in Buffer area of NSTR.

The flora observed in the area proposed for diversion include Jana (Grewia rotundifolia), Billudu (Chloroxylon swietenia), Naravepi (Hardwickia binata), Sandra (Senegalia catechu), Palabariki (Holorrhena pubescens), Oddi (Alangium salviifolium), Yegisa (Pterocarpus marsupium), Nemalinara (Holoptelea integrifolia), (Rhamnaceae), Rela (Cassia fistula), Mushti (Couroupita guianensis), Taluku (Pithecellobium dulce), Chilla (Casearia graveolens), Poliki (Gyrocarpus americanus), Anduga(Aglaia elaeagnoidea), Vepa (Azadirachta indica), Thaadi (Amaranhaceae salasola), Aare (Bahinia racemosa), Muriki Nimma (Pleiospermum alatu), Nemaliadugu (Vitex pinnata), Velthuru (Dichrostachys cinera), Chirumanu (Anogeissus latifolia), Gumpena (Lannea coromandelica), Lokki (Lagenaria siceraria), Narlinga (Albizia amara), Kale (Brassica oleracea var.sabellica), Kommi (Mallotus philippensis) etc.,. The ground flora consists of grasses which is beneficial to the wild animals. The fauna Tiger(Panthera tigris), Leopard(Panthera pardus), existing in the area are Nilgai(Boselaphus tragocamelus), Chowsinga(Tetracerus quadricornis), Sambar deer(Rusa unicolor), Spotted deer(Axis Axis), Wild dog(Cuon alpines), Sloth bear(Melursus ursinus), Honey Badger(Mellivora capensis), Porcupine(Hystricidae), Civet cat(Paradoxurus hermaphrodites), Python (Python), Peacock (Pavo cristatus), Jungle Cat(Felis chaus), Mouse Deer (Moschiola indica), Birds and insects and diverse avifauna as well.

As stated by the User agency, the Rehabilitation and Up-gradation of the highway from Davupally to Mallapalem Junction i.e., from Km 133.922 to Km 154.900 is approved by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRT&H), Gol.. It is an important highway starting from Nakrekal (in Telangana State) connecting Nalgonda, Macherla, Yerragondapalem, Kanigiri, Rapur, Venkatagiri, and terminating at its junction with NH 71 near Yerpedu in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Widening and improvement of this section of NH-565 would further improve connectivity in terms of achieving smooth and safe traffic flow and improve level of service. User agency further stated that, widening NH 565 with an average width of 21.45 m is required, out of which Bituminous

surface will be 10 m and the rest of land is for provision of earthen shoulders, side slopes and longitudinal drains. A Proposal for Diversion of Forest land for Two laning of Davupally to Mallapalem Section of NH-565 from Km 133.922 to Km 154.900, having a total length of 18.078 Kms in the State of Andhra Pradesh land with an average width of 21.45 m is to be diverted for widening of the road. The area of the land to be diverted in Project Tiger, Markapur is 38.60 ha. The User Agency stated that there is no other alternative except proposing the diversion of 38.60 ha of forest land. Now a days, there is a significant increase in the traffic flow along the stretch. This road after completion will provide better mobility between the Palnadu & Prakasam Districts of Andhra Pradesh.

Hence, the proposal for diversion of 38.60 ha of RF area may be accepted, subject to the fulfillment of the proposed various mitigation measures in the mitigation plan, at the cost of User agency.

Deputy Director, Project Tiger, Markapur