GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT

From Sri N. Prateep Kumar, IFS., Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur – 522 004.

To The Spl. Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi - 522 503.

<u>Ref.no.EFS02-15034/12/2020-FCA-SEC-PCCF/FCA-3,</u> <u>dated:06/04/2022.</u>

Sir,

- Sub APFD F (C) Act, 1980 Diversion of 0.81 ha of forest land in Nellore Division for formation of BT road from Nidigallu railway station to Karimenagunta in Balayapalli mandal in favour of EE, PR(PIU) Division, Nellore – Submission of proposal under F(C) Act, 1980 – Clearance under Section-2 of F(C)Act, 1980- Requested - Reg.
- Ref: 1. Online proposal no. FP/AP/ROAD/44729/2020, dated: 25.02.2020. 2. PCCF & HoFF, A.P, Guntur Rc. no. EFS02-15034/12/2020-FCA SEC/PCCF/FCA-3, dated: 03.10.2021.
 - 3. CCF, Guntur Rc. no. 758/2020-TO, dated: 11.03.2022.

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It is submitted that, the Executive Engineer , Panchayat Raj (PIU) Division, Nellore in the reference 1st cited has uploaded the proposal in PARIVESH portal for diversion of 0.81 ha of forest land in Nellore Division for formation of BT road from Nidigallu railway station to Karimenagunta in Balayapalli mandal in favour of EE, PR(PIU) Division, Nellore.

Accordingly, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Guntur in the reference 3rd cited has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.81 ha of forest land in Nellore Division for formation of BT road from Nidigallu railway station to Karimenagunta in Balayapalli mandal in favour of EE, PR(PIU) Division, Nellore processed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The User Agency has furnished the following information in Part-I.

- Forest area to an extent of 0.81 ha is required for formation of BT road from Nidigallu railway station to karimenagunta in Balayapalli (M), Nellore in favour of EE, PR(PIU) Division, Nellore
- Cost of the project is mentioned as Rs.160.00 lakh.
- The user agency has justified that, the proposed road is connecting

Karimenigunta habitation of Katragunta to the Grampanchayat Head quarter. The total length of this road is 2.430 km from km 0/000 to 2/430 existing earthen track and from km 0/630 to 2/430 which is in reserve forest. The length of 1.800 km is falling in the reserve forest area of for an extent of 0.81 ha. This is the only route for public of Karimenigunta to reach the mandal heard quarter. At present public is facing acute problem , particularly pregnant women and school children. The up-gradation of this portion from km 0/000 to 2/430 to an All-weather road is every much essential.

- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of NPV, Addl. NPV, CA, tree extraction charges etc.
- The area proposed for diversion is 0.81 ha. Hence Cost benefit analysis does not arise.
- No human displacement is involved in this project.
- No loss of public facilities involved in this project.
- Employment likely to be generated during the construction of above work is 3000 man days .
- The user agency has stated that, clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is not required.

<u>The District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore has submitted the following</u> <u>information in Part-II.</u>

- Forest land to an extent of 0.81 ha is required in Chillamanur RF for formation of BT road from Nidigallu railway station to Karimenagunta in favour of EE , Panchayat Raj (PIU) Division, Nellore.
- Legal Status of the forest is Reserve Forest.
- The density of vegetation is 0.30 and classification of forest type is Eco-Class-IV (Tropical thorn forest)open scrub forest.
- No tree felling is required for formation of this road.
- The proposed Reserve forest is not vulnerable to erosion.
- The proposed road for diversion falls in Chillamanuru RF of Venkatagiri Range.
- The alignment of proposed new BT road from Nidigallu Railway station to Karimenigunta does not form part of National park, Wildlife sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, Elephant corridor etc.
- No rare/ endangered/unique species of flora and fauna in the RF area proposed for diversion.
- No protected archaeological heritage sites / defense establishment or any other important monuments are located in the area.
- The requirement of forest land proposed by the user agency is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project.
- No violation has been carried out by the User Agency.

The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, authenticated DGPS maps are furnished.

The District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 24.12.2021. Copy of the inspection report of the District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore is enclosed herewith.

Further, it is submitted that, as per Gazette notification of Chillamanuru RF, the proposed road is mentioned as a cart track to a width of 12 feet as admitted right of way for men, cattle and vehicles . *Cart Track from*

Nidigallu to Karimanugunta enters the forest between stations 218 and 219 at a distance of 520 links from station No. 218 and running in a North-Easterly direction for a distance of about 80 chains leaves the forest between stations 13 and 14 at a distance of 1720 links from station No.13 (copy enclosed).

Accordingly, in column no. 13 of Part –II, the District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore has **"Recommended"** the proposal.

In part –III, the Conservator of Forests, Guntur has agreed with the information furnished by the District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore and **Recommended** the proposal for diversion of forest land.

In Part-IV, the Nodal Officer (FCA), Andhra Pradesh has "Recommended the proposal.

As per Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi F. no. 5-2/2017-FC, Dt. 28.03.2019, under RoFR Act, 2006, the user agency has uploaded the RoFR Certificate issued by the District Collector, SPSR Nellore District in the prescribed format for evidences for having initiated and completed the process of settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (RoFR) Act, 2006. The certificate is enclosed with the proposal.

Further, it is to submit that as per the guidelines issued by the Gol, MoEF, New Delhi this proposal has been uploaded in the Ministry's web portal (www.parivesh.nic.in) & a unique proposal number no. **FP/AP/ROAD/44729/2020** has been generated for this proposal. A copy of the Acknowledgment slip generated by the Ministry's web portal is enclosed herewith.

In this regard it is to submit that, as per Chapter 4.3.1 of Comprehensive guidelines issued by the GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide F.no. 5-2/2017-FC, dt. 28.03.2019, in supersession of all guidelines issued in the past, for effective and transparent implementation of the provisions of Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980, the subject project falls under general approval category.

Further, as per Chapter 2.6 of Comprehensive guidelines issued by the Gol, MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide F.no. 5-2/2017-FC, dt. 28.03.2019, in supersession of all guidelines issued in the past, for effective and transparent implementation of the provisions of Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980, Compensatory Afforestation is not required towards diversion of forest land upto 1.00 ha. However, cost of plantation (including ten years maintenance) of ten times the number of trees likely to be felled or specified number of trees as may be specified in the order for diversion of forest land (subject to a minimum number of 100 plants) shall be levied from the user agency towards compensatory afforestation.

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures in (3) sets, for diversion of 0.81 ha in Chilamanur RF, Venkatagiri Range, Nellore for formation of BT road from Nidigallu railway station to Karimanugunta in favour of Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU) Division, Nellore duly recommended in Part-IV, subject to the conditions stipulated in Gol, MoEF&CC, New Delhi in F. no.5-2/2017 (FC Division) Dt. 28.03.2019, is submitted herewith for taking further action as deemed fit in the matter.

Encl:- (3) sets of proposals

Yours faithfully, N Prateep Kumar Ifs Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Guntur and the District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore for information.

Copy to the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU) Division, Old ZP Compound, Nellore for information and necessary action.

Signed by N Prateep Kumar Ifs Date: 06-04-2022 23:33:20 Reason: Approved

PART-IV

(To be filled by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest Department)

Diversion of 0.81 ha in Chilamanur RF, Venkatagiri Range, Nellore for formation of BT road from Nidigallu railway station to Karimanugunta in favour of Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU) Division, Nellore....

Γ	Detailed opinion and specific recommendations of the Recommendations of the Recommendations of the	ended.
1	State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks (while giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically	
	reviewed and critically commented upon)	

Date:06/04/2022

Signature

Place : Guntur

Name: Anand Kumar Jha

Office Seal: