

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri N. Prateep Kumar, I.F.S.,
Pri. Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force),
Andhra Pradesh, 'Aranya Bhavan',
K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem,
Guntur -522004

To
The Spl. Chief Secretary to Government,
Environment, Forests, Science
and Technology Department,
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat
Velagapudi.

Rc.no.EFS02-15034/51/2018/FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, Dated:29.02.2020.

Sir,

Sub:- APFD - F(C)Act, 1980 - Diversion of 0.99 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 332, Rangapuram RF, Kurnool division for providing BT surface to the road from R.S. Rangapuram to Yaganti (via) Ambapuram , Katikavanikunta of Betamcherla (M), Kurnool District in f/o EE , PRI, Kurnool- Submission of processed 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/36111 /2018, dt.13.11.2018.
2. PCCF(HoFF), A.P., Guntur Rc.no.EFS02-15034/51/2018-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dt. 14.11.2019.
3. CF, Kurnool Rc. no.2831/2018-TO, dated: 28.01.2020.

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It is to submit that, the Executive Engineer, PRI Division, Kurnool in the reference 1st cited has uploaded the proposal in PARIVESH portal for diversion of 0.99 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 332, Rangapuram RF, Kurnool division for providing BT surface to the road from R.S. Rangapuram to Yaganti (via) Ambapuram , Katikavanikunta of Betamcherla (M), Kurnool District in f/o EE , PRI, Kurnool.

Accordingly, the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool in the reference 2nd cited has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.99 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 332, Rangapuram RF, Kurnool division for providing BT surface to the road from R.S. Rangapuram to Yaganti (via) Ambapuram, Katikavanikunta of Betamcherla (M), Kurnool District in f/o EE , PRI, Kurnool, processed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

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

- Forest area to an extent of 0.99 ha. is required in Compartment no. 332, Rangapuram RF, Kurnool Division for providing BT surface to the road from R.S. Rangapuram to Yaganti (via) Ambapuram , Katikavanikunta of Betamcherla (M), Kurnool District in f/o EE , PRI, Kurnool.
- The road work was sanctioned by District Collector under Special Development package in Proceedings no.139/SDP/Dy.SO(3)/2015, dated: 30.03.2017.
- Cost of the project is mentioned as ₹5.00 Crore.
- The user agency has justified that, it is very important road connecting temples of Maddilety Swamy near Rangapuram and Yaganteswara Swamy at Yaganti, which are very ancient temples in Kurnool District and pilgrims visit the temples throughout the year. These temples can be connected, if the road is laid for a length of 11.30 Kms. Out of 11.30 Kms length, there is cart track in Km. 0/0 to 7/8 i.e. 7.80 Kms and balance length in Km. 7/8 to 11/3 i.e. 3.50 Km is BT road. At present the distance between two temples as per the existing R&B road connection is about 50 Km. By providing the above sanctioned road the distance between the temples will reduced by 38.70 Km. which reduces time and fuel consumption also. In addition two un-connected habitations i.e. Katikavanikunta and Fathenagar will also be connected by all-weather road. The proposed road from Km 2/790 to Km 3/650 i.e. 860 m is falling in Compartment no. 332 of Rangapuram Reserve Forest of Dhone Range, Kurnool Division and a total extent of 0.99 ha. forest area is required for diversion.

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- The user agency has certified that, there is no other alternative route than the one proposed, to avoid the forest area. The total forest area involved in the proposal is 0.99 ha. in Kurnool Division. The opted route is the best one to meet the needs of Education, Health and Transportation of agricultural produce.
- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of NPV, Addl. NPV, CA, Tree extraction charges etc.
- Cost benefit analysis does not arise, as the area proposed for diversion is 0.99 ha.
- No human displacement involved due to construction of this road.
- No loss of public facilities involved in this project.
- The user agency has stated that, clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is not required.
- Employment likely to be generated is 500 mandays.

The District Forest Officer, Kurnool has submitted the following information in Part-II.

- Forest land to an extent of 0.99 ha. is required in Compartment no.332 of Rangapuram RF, Dhone Range, Kurnool Division for providing BT surface to the road from R.S. Rangapuram to Yaganti (via) Ambapuram, Katikavanikunta of Betamcherla (M), Kurnool District in f/o EE, PRI, Kurnool.
- Legal Status of the forest is Rangapuram RF notified U/s -16 vide G.O. no. 504, dated: 13.11.1906.
- The density of the Reserve Forest is 0.2 to 0.4 (eco-class -III).
- No tree felling is involved in the area proposed for diversion.
- The proposed RF area is not vulnerable for erosion.
- Approximate distance from the Reserve forest is 0.0 Km.
- There are no rare/ endangered/unique species of fauna found in the proposed area.
- No protected archaeological heritage sites / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.
- The requirement of forest land proposed by the user agency is un-avoidable and barest minimum for the project.
- The user agency has not violated the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, authenticated DGPS maps are furnished.

The District Forest Officer, Kurnool has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 30.11.2019 and stated that, the area is with plain to gentle slope. The classification consist of thorny scrub jungle growth. There are no trees to be felled in the proposed area for diversion and the density of the proposed area is 0.2 to 0.4 under Eco-class-III, Open Forest.

Accordingly, in column No. 13 of Part -II, the District Forest Officer has "Recommended" the proposal.

In part -III, the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool has agreed with the information furnished by the District Forest Officer, Kurnool and "Recommended" the proposal for diversion of forest land.

The District Collector, Kurnool District has issued certificate under RoFR Act, 2006, as stipulated by the MoEF, GoI, New Delhi in the Lr.No.11-9/1998-FC (pt), Dt.05.07.2013, in the prescribed format Annexure-I (Form-I) 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.

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Further, it is to submit that as per the guidelines issued by the GoI, MoEF, New Delhi this proposal has been uploaded in the Ministry's web portal (www.parivesh.nic.in) & a unique proposal number FP/AP/ ROAD/36111/2018 has been generated for this proposal. A copy of the Acknowledgment slip generated by the Ministry's web portal is enclosed herewith.

The Conservator of Forests, Kurnool and District Forest Officer, Kurnool have recommended the proposal for diversion of 0.99 ha. of forest land in Compartment no.332, Rangapuram RF, Kurnool division for providing BT surface to the road from R.S. Rangapuram to Yaganti (via) Ambapuram, Katikavanikunta of Betamcherla (M), Kurnool District in f/o EE, PRI, Kurnool.

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 of Critical development initiatives for public.

Further, as per Chapter 2.6 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, 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. Though tree felling is involved in the proposed formation of road, avenue plantation shall be raised and maintained for ten years on either side of the road at the cost of the user agency.

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures in (2) sets, for diversion of 0.99 ha. of forest land in Compartment no.332, Rangapuram RF, Kurnool division for providing BT surface to the road from R.S. Rangapuram to Yaganti (via) Ambapuram, Katikavanikunta of Betamcherla (M), Kurnool District in f/o EE, PRI, Kurnool duly recommended in Part-IV is submitted herewith.

The Government are requested to accord clearance under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 under general approval category.

Encl: (2) sets of proposals

Yours faithfully,
Sd/- N. Prateep Kumar
Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

// True Copy//

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10/03/2020

[Handwritten signature] 10/03/2020
for Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

PART-IV

Diversion of 0.99 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 332, Rangapuram RF, Kurnool division for providing BT surface to the road from R.S. Rangapuram to Yaganti (via) Ambapuram , Katikavanikunta of Betamcherla (M), Kurnool District in f/o EE , PRI, Kurnool.

17.	Detailed opinion and specific recommendations of the 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)	<i>Recommended.</i>
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Date: 29.02.2020

Place: Guntur

Signature

Name:

Office Seal



N. Prateep Kumar, IFS.,
Pri. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
Andhra Pradesh