

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From:

Sri N. Prateep Kumar, IFS.,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force) (FAC),
Andhra Pradesh, 'Aranya Bhavan',
K.M. Munshi Road, Guntur-522004.

To,

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



Rc.no.EFS02-15027/12/2018/FCA-SEC/PCCF/FCA-1,

Dated: 26.12.19

Sir,

Sub:- APFD – F (C) Act, 1980 – Diversion of forest land to an extent of 0.04 ha. in favour of Airport Director, Airports Authority of India, Kadapa, for erecting obstacle light mast for aviation purpose at Kadapa Airport – Proposals submitted – Reg.

- Ref:-
1. Airport Director, Air Port Authority of India, Kadapa, Online Proposal no. FP/AP/Others/38959/2019, Dt. 25.07.2019.
 2. PCCF (HoFF), A.P., Guntur Rc.no.EFS02-15027/12/2018/FCA-1, Dt.07.08.2019.
 3. CF, Kurnool, Rc.no.2150/2018-TO, Dt.21.10.2019.
 4. CF, Kurnool, Rc.no.2150/2018-TO, Dt.29.10.2019.

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It is submitted that, the Airport Director, Airports Authority of India, Kadapa in the reference 1st has submitted proposals online for diversion of forest land to an extent of 0.04 ha. for erecting obstacle light mast for aviation purpose at Kadapa Airport. The proposals were sent to the Field Officers for processing the proposals as per the guidelines envisaged under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and amendments thereon.

Accordingly, the Conservator of Forests, Kurnool in the references 3rd & 4th cited has submitted the proposals as per the guidelines issued under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and amendments issued up to date for diversion of forest land in favour of Airport Director, Airports Authority of India, Kadapa.

The details of the proposals are as follows:-

The user agency has furnished the following information in Part-I:

- The proposal is for diversion of forest land to an extent of 0.04 ha. in Kadapa and Proddatur WL Divisions for providing obstacle light mast for aviation purpose at Kadapa Airport.
- For locating the project inside the forest, the user agency has given justification that the lighting of obstacle around an airport is intended to reduce the hazards to aircraft by indicating the presence of the obstacles. Kadapa airport is situated at the foot hills of the Nallamala Reserve Forest and is surrounded from north to south-west by hills which protrudes inside the obstacle limitation surface. The obstacle limitation surface for flight operation during day extends up to 20 km and for night operations it extends up to 56 km from the airport. For lighting of the hill tops they have considered an area up to 15 km from the airport which comes under RF area.
- It is mandatory vide Ministry of Civil Aviation, Civil Aviation requirement Section 4, Series B, Part 1 to light the obstacle which are penetrating the obstacle limitation surface around Kadapa airport for commencement of night operation at Kadapa airport. The obstacle

around the Kadapa airport is already notified vide AIP Supplement 63/2017 of India Aeronautical Information Service.

- The proposal is for commencement of night operation at Kadapa airport for which the mandatory requirement of lighting of the hill tops need to be fulfilled.
- The cost of the project is ₹100.00 Lakh.
- The User agency has stated that no employment will be generated for this project.
- Purpose-wise break-up of the forest land required for the project.

Sl. no.	Division	Area in ha.
1	Kadapa	0.02
2	Proddatur (WL)	0.02
	Total:	0.04

- The User Agency has certified that the forest land proposed for diversion is the barest minimum area.
- The User agency has submitted undertakings to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation in the degraded forest land as per the scheme prepared by the Forest Department, NPV and Additional NPV as per the order of the State Government /Government of India and the Hon'ble Supreme Court in this regard, as and when the demand is raised by the Forest Department.
- The user agency has submitted authenticated DGPS surveyed maps for the area proposed for diversion.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Kadapa Division has submitted the following information in Part-II:

- Area proposed by User agency for diversion in Kadapa Division is 0.02 ha. Out of 0.02 ha., 0.01 ha. falls in Compt.no.567 of Kanumolopalli Extn.A RF of Kanumolopalli Beat of Bhakarapet Section of Kadapa Range and 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.570 of Ganganapalli RF of Gorlapalli Beat of Gorlapalli Section of Vempalli Range.
- Legal status of the forest land is as follows.
 - i. Kanumolopalli Extn.A RF is notified under Section 16 of Madras Forest Act (V of 1882) in Notification, Dt.01.11.1886.
 - ii. Ganganapalli RF is notified under Section 16 of Madras Forest Act (V of 1882) in Notification no.34, Dt.09.01.1901.
- Density of vegetation is 0.4.
- 38 trees are to be felled only in the diversion area of 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.567 in Kanumolopalli Extn.A RF of Kanumolopalli Beat, Kadapa Range.
- The area proposed for diversion is plain and hilly and there is no vulnerability to erosion.
- The proposed area for diversion is passing through the boundary of forest.
- The area of 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.570 of Ganganapalli RF of Gorlapalli Beat of Gorlapalli Section of Vempalli Range is not falling in any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Elephant Corridor, but the area of 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.567 of Kanumolopalli Extn.A RF of Kanumolopalli Beat of Bhakarapet Section of Kadapa Range is falling in Tiger Corridor area between Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve and Sri Venkateshwara National Park.
- There are no protected archaeological/heritage site/defense establishment or any other important monument in the proposed area.

- The area proposed for diversion is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project.
- There are no endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the proposed area.
- There is no violation to the provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 within the proposed forest area.
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Kadapa has inspected the proposed area on 16.10.2019 & 17.10.2019 along with field staff and user agency.
- The Divisional Forest Officer has prepared Compensatory Afforestation Scheme with an outlay of ₹1.616 lakh for planting of 380 no. trees in view of felling of 38 trees in Compt.no.567 of Kanumolopalli Extn.A RF, Kanumolopalli Beat of Kadapa Range (38x10=380 no.).
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Kadapa has recommended the proposal in Part-II.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Proddatur WL Division has submitted the following information in Part-II:

- Area proposed by User agency for diversion in Proddatur WL Division is 0.02 ha. Out of 0.02 ha., 0.01 ha. falls in Compt.no.76, Chennamukapalli RF, Boyanapalli Beat, Proddatur Range and 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.80, Lankamalla RF, Balsingapalli Beat, Proddatur Range.
- Legal status of the forest land is as follows:-
 - i. Chenumukkala RF is notified under Section 16 of Madras Forest Act (V of 1882) in Notification no.338, Dt.12.06.1895.
 - ii. Lankamalla RF is notified under Section 16 of Madras Forest Act (V of 1882) in Notification no.592, Dt.06.12.1893.
- Density of vegetation is 0.04.
- Total 25 trees are to be felled only in the proposed area of 0.01 ha. falling in Compt.no.80, Lankamalla RF, Balsingapalli Beat, Proddatur Range
- There is light erosion due to gradient slope.
- The proposed area for diversion is at a distance of 1.00 km from the boundary of forest.
- The proposed area of 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.80 falls in Sri Lankamalla Wildlife Sanctuary and 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.76 in Eco-Sensitive Zone of Sri Lankamalleswara Wildlife Sanctuary and also in the Tiger Corridor area between Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve and Sri Venkateswara National Park.
- There are no protected archaeological/heritage site/defense establishment or any other important monument in the proposed area.
- The area proposed for diversion is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project.
- Movement of Panthers is seen in the locality. Photographic evidences of camera traps confirm the movement. Pterocarpus santalinus (Red sander) exists in the diversion area.
- There is no violation to the provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 within the proposed forest area.
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Proddatur WL Division has inspected the proposed area on 28.08.2019.
- The Divisional Forest Officer has prepared Compensatory Afforestation Scheme with an outlay of ₹1.690 lakh for a period of 12 years (2020-21 to 2031-32) for raising plantation in an area of 0.25 ha. of degraded forest land identified in Compt.no.76, Chennamukapalli RF, Bayanapalli

Beat, Proddatur Range, Proddatur WL Division, YSR Kadapa District in view of 25 no. trees to be felled in the proposed diversion area.

- The Divisional Forest Officer, Proddatur WL Division has recommended the proposal in Part-II.

The Conservator of Forests, Kurnool has submitted the information in Part-III as follows:-

The Conservator of Forests, Kurnool has not inspected the proposed area since the area proposed for diversion is below 40 ha., However, agreed with the information provided by the Divisional Forest Officers, Kadapa and Proddatur WL Division, in Part-II and also recommended the proposal in Part-III.

The Conservator of Forests, Kurnool and Divisional Forest Officers, Kadapa & Proddatur WL Division have recommended the proposal.

The proposal has been uploaded in the Ministry's website and registered with unique number FP/AP/Others/38959/2019, Dt. 25.07.2019 and the acknowledgement slip generated on the web portal is enclosed herewith.

In this connection, it is submitted that, as per Chapter-12 of guidelines issued by GoI in F.no. 5-2/2017-FC, dated: 28.03.2019, any proposal for taking up non-forest activity in Protected Areas is required to be cleared by the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, apart from prior approval of Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Such proposals for non-forest use of Protected Areas may be processed concurrently for prior approval of diversion of forest land under FCA, 1980 and seeking prior recommendation of the standing Committee of NBWL. However, clearance in one aspect will not confer any right upon the User agency and complete clearance is obtained when all requisite clearance have been obtained by the User agency.

Accordingly, the user agency has initiated separate proposals for Wildlife clearance under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for diversion of 0.01 ha. of Kadapa Division i.e., Compt.no.567 falling in Tiger Corridor area between Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve and Sri Venkateshwara National Park and also for 0.02 ha. of Proddatur WL Division i.e., 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.80 falls in Sri Lankamalla Wildlife Sanctuary and 0.01 ha. in Compt.no.76 in Eco-Sensitive Zone of Sri Lankamaleswara Wildlife Sanctuary and also in the Tiger Corridor area between Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve and Sri Venkateswara National Park.

Further, the statutory proposals along with necessary enclosures duly recommended in Part-IV for diversion of 0.04 ha. under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of the Airport Director, Airports Authority of India, Kadapa for providing obstacle light mast for aviation purpose at Kadapa Airport, as per the guidelines indicated supra, are submitted herewith.

The Government are therefore requested to forward the statutory proposals to Government of India i.e., Regional Office, Chennai for according clearance under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Encl:- As above

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

//True Copy//


26/12/19
for Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests

Diversion of forest land to ~~an~~ extent of 0.04 ha. in Ho
Airport- Director, Airport Authority of India, Kandam for erecting obstacle
light mast for aviation purpose at Kandam Airport.

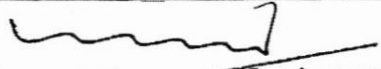
PART - IV

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

17	<p>Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks</p> <p>(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)</p>	<p>Recommended.</p>
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Date : 26.12.2019

Place : Guntur

Signature : 
Name & Designation : N. Prateep Kumar, IFS.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Office Seal : (Head of Forest Force)
Andhra Pradesh