

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

FOREST DEPARTMENT

From
Sri N. Prateep Kumar, I.F.S.,
Prl. 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.11160/2017/FCA-3, Dated:17/02/2020.

Sir,

Sub:APFD – F(C)Act, 1980 – Diversion of 4.92 ha. of forest land in compartment
- no. 141, 142, 143, 144, 146, 149, 150 & 151 in Vizianagaram Division for
improvement to Kurupam – Muliguda road to Beerupadu in f/o EE
R&B Division, Parvathipuram - 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/39610/2019, dt.01.04.2019.
- 2. PCCF (HoFF), A.P., Guntur Rc.no.11160/2017-FCA-3,
dt.03.11.2019.
3. CF, Visakhapatnam Rc.no.2574/2018/TO, dt.17.12.2019 &
01.02.2020.

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It is to submit that, the Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Parvathipuramu
in the reference 1st cited has uploaded the proposal in PARIVESH portal for
diversion of 4.92 ha. of forest land in Compartment no.141, 142, 143, 144, 146,
149, 150 & 151 in Vizianagaram Division for improvement to Kurupam –
Muliguda road to Beerupadu in f/o Executive Engineer, R&B Division,
Parvathipuram.

Accordingly, the Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam in the reference
2nd cited has submitted the proposal for diversion of 4.92 ha. of forest land in
compartment no.141,142,143,144,146,149,150 & 151 in Vizianagaram Division
for improvement to Kurupam – Muliguda road to Beerupadu in f/o EE R&B
Division, Parvathipuram, processed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

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

- Forest area to an extent of 4.92 ha. is required in compartment no. 141, 142, 143, 144, 146, 149, 150 & 151 in Vizianagaram Division for improvement to Kurupam – Muliguda road to Beerupadu in f/o EE R&B Division, Parvathipuram.
- The road work was sanctioned / approved under LWE RRP –II Scheme.
- Cost of the project is mentioned as ₹1554.26 lakh.
- The user agency has justified that, the main object of the scheme is to connect the interior villages to nearest market places, thereby providing infrastructure facilities to the villages which in turn will solve unemployment problem of poor tribes living in remote areas. They will also help in improving the social life of the tribes. Further, the proposed road is to serve the habitation (Tribal) having a population of 4071 members. It is required to bring this tribal population into normal civilization by providing this road. By laying this road, the poor tribes living in remote areas can transport the Non-timber forest produce collected from the nearest shanties for sale. The Government Organizations like Girijan Co-operative Societies will directly make contacts with Tribal people and they will buy the forest products without mediation of brokerst thereby, the tribals will get benefited by getting better income and become better civilized.
- The user agency has certified that, there is no other alternative route than the proposed, to avoid the forest area. The total forest area involved in the proposal is 4.92 ha. in Vizianagaram 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 4.92 ha.
- No human displacement is 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 70164 mandays for a period of one year.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram Division has submitted the following information in Part-II.

- Forest land to an extent of 4.92 ha. is required (i.e., 2410 m. in Compartment no. 150, 151 of Deruwada RF, 1280 m. in Compartment no. 146 & 149, Thatchidi RF and 4510 m. in Compartment no. 141, 142, 143 & 144 of Goipaka RF) for improvement to Kurupam – Muliguda road to Beerupadu in f/o EE R&B Division, Parvathipuram.
- Legal Status of the forest is Deruwada RF, Thatchidi RF and Goipaka RF notified U/s 15 of A.P. Forest Act, 1967.
- The type of the forest is Tropical dry Deciduous and Tropical Moist deciduous with Crown density about 0.1.
- There are no trees existing along the proposed road and along the width of 6 meters.
- No vulnerability of the forest area to erosion, as the area is having plain to gentle slope.
- The proposed road is passing in the Midst of (3) Reserved Forests i.e.,

Deruwada, Thatchidi and Goipaka.

- 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 unavoidable 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 Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram Division has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 21.11.2019 and stated that, the total length of the improvements proposed is 16.60 Kms. from Kurupam – Muliguda road to Beerupadu via Deruwada. Out of which, 8200 meters length is falling inside the RFs covering (3) RFs (i.e. Deruwada RF with 2410 m. in Compartment no. 150,151, Thatchidi RF with 1280 m. in Compartment no. 146 & 149 and Goipaka RF with 4510 m. in Compartment no. 141, 142, 143 & 144). No trees are falling in the 6 meters width of the proposed improvements of the road for the entire length of the road proposed in Reserve Forest and Outside Reserve Forest. It is essential for the movement of all the departmental officers to implement the Government schemes and all activities to the Tribal community residing in the interior villages and to bring them into the main stream. Due to the existing Katcha road the villagers are suffering a lot to bring their pregnant women to the Hospitals and still carrying the patients by “DHOLI” from hill top villages to the plain villages.

Accordingly, in column no. 13 of Part –II, the Divisional Forest Officer has “Recommended” the proposal.

In part –III, the Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam has agreed with the information furnished by the Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram and “Recommended” the proposal for diversion of forest land.

The District Collector, Vizianagaram 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.

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/39610/2019 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, Visakhapatnam and Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram have recommended the proposal for diversion of 4.92 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 141,142,143,144,146,149,150 & 151 in Vizianagaram Division for improvement to Kurupam – Muliguda road to Beerupadu in f/o Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Parvathipuram.

In this regard it is to submit that, as per Chapter 4.4 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 Public Infrastructure works in LWE Districts as notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time. The District i.e., Vizianagaram in which the subject project falls, is LWE District as notified in Ministry of Home Affairs F.No.II-18015/68/2014-LWE-III, dt. 14.04.2018.

Further, as per the guidelines issued by MoEF, GoI New Delhi vide File no. FC-11/115/2019-FC, dt.13.09.2019, Compensatory Afforestation is not required towards diversion of forest land upto 5.00 ha. with less than 50 trees per ha. Accordingly, for the subject project Compensatory Afforestation is not required, as the forest land proposed for diversion is 4.92 ha., which is less than 5.00 ha. Further, no tree felling is involved in the proposed length and width of the road, as the formation of BT road is on existing kutcha road.

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures in (2) sets, for diversion of 4.92 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 141, 142, 143, 144, 146, 149, 150 & 151 in Vizianagaram Division for improvement to Kurupam – Muliguda road to Beerupadu in f/o. Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Parvathipuram duly recommended in Part-IV is submitted herewith, with a request to accord clearance under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 under LWE districts general approval category.

Encl: (2) sets of proposals

Yours faithfully,
DR.S.S.SREEDHAR IFS
for Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam and Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram for information.

Copy to the Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Parvathipuram for information and necessary action.

PART-IV

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)	Recommended
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Date:**17/02/2020**

Signature

Place: Guntur

Name: **DR.S.S.SREEDHAR IFS**

Office Seal:**ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL
CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS**

