

Recommendation

A proposal has been received by this office from National Highways Authority of India, Mangalore for the diversion of 5.195 ha of Byndoor RF extension block forest area for the slope correction in the jurisdiction of Kundapura Division.

On 10-09-2019 Inspected the proposed site required for diversion. I have perambulated the area and following observations were noticed. The soil strata is fragile and loose soil were observed which are prone for land sliding whenever there is a heavy downpour. Due to heavy rainfall, high level of landslides were observed all along the the National Highway- 66 (17).

Already expansion of NH work is on progress, the proposed additional land is required for the stabilization of the slopes. Without stabilization of slopes there is high threat of land sliding of fragile hills every monsoon season which may lead to degradation of the forest land

The Proposed area falls in the Shiroor and Paduvari villages of Byndoor range which is not included in the draft notification of the Kasturi rangann report. As per ACF and RFO Byndoor report around 54 trees are marked for felling which includes Acacia, Cashew, Casurina, Strychnos, Mahogany etc., the proposed area does not possess any major tree species. These areas are nearer to NH road and no endangered flora and fauna were found.

In the above said proposal, portion no 1 and 2 are hilly terrain and have deep slopes but portion no 3 is a flat terrain. The above said area is located at a distance of 7km from the Kollur Mookambikai Wildlife Sanctuary. Since the notified Eco-sensitive Zone of Kollur Mookambikai Wildlife Sanctuary is restricted to 01km from the sanctuary boundary the above proposed area does not falls under the Eco- sensitive Zone of wildlife sanctuary.

The requirement of forest area as proposed by the User agency in Portion No. 01, 02 & 03 of Part-I total area 5.195ha. is unavoidable and it is a barest minimum requirement for the project.

In the third portion of proposal it was observed that huge trench of 600m. length, 4.5m. width and 1.3m. depth was excavated in the Byndoor RF extension block prior obtaining FC clearance of newly proposed area. Excavated Soil was dumped in the reserve forest area of Byndoor RF extension block.

The User agency has to pay the NPV and has to bear the cost of raising of CA plantation. A certificate was issued by the office of the Deputy Commissioner of Udupi District stating that no suitable non forest land is available in Udupi district for compensatory Afforestation for proposed diversion of forest land in Udupi district. This for information and further action.

On the basis of the observation cited above I hereby recommend for the diversion of forest land of 5.195 ha. in Kundapura Division under Forest Conservation Act 1980 to National Highway Authority of India, Project Implementation Unit, Mangalore for the slope stabilization of National Highway-66(17).

Date: 18-09-2019

Place: Kundapura.



(Kamala K, IFS.,)

Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Kundapura Division, Kundapura.