


PART-IV

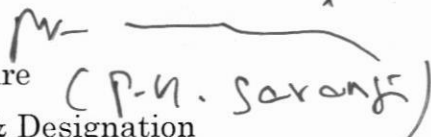
(To be filled in by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of the Forest Department)

Proposal for diversion of 23.23 Ha in Chittoor (East & West) Division
for upgradation of Chennai - Chittoor - Bangalore Road

17	Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposals 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: 09.09.2017

Place: Guntur

Signature 
 Name & Designation
 (Official Seal)
 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
 (Head of Forest Force)
 Andhra Pradesh, Guntur

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri P.K. Sarangi, I.F.S.,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh,
Sankuratri Residency, Agathavarapadu,
M.G. Inner Ring Road, Guntur-522509.

To
The Prl. Secretary to Government,
Environment, Forest, Science
and Technology Department,
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat
Velagapudi, Amaravathi.

Rc.No. 4834/2016/FCA-3, Dated : 22-09- 2017.

Sir,

Sub: - APFD – F (C) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 23.23 Ha (i.e. 3.33 Ha in Chittoor East Division & 19.90 Ha in Chittoor(West) Division of Forest land for up-gradation of four laning of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore Road NH-4 TN/AP border to AP/ Karnataka Border from Km 133/6 to Km 216 /975 in Andhra Pradesh - Submission of processed proposal U/s-2 of FCA Act, 1980- Reg.,

- Ref:-
1. Proposal uploaded in the ministry's website No. FP/AP/ROAD/28781/2017
 2. PCCF 's Rc. No. 4834/2016/FCA-3(i), dated : 23-08-2017.
 3. Chief Conservator of Forests, Ananthapur Rc. No. 1084/2017/TO, dated : 08-09-2017.
 4. APCCF /CF, WLM, Tirupathi Rc. No. 571/2017/M1, dated : 14-09-2017.

* * *

It is submitted that, the user agency i.e. Project Director, PIU, Tirupathi vide ref. 1st cited has uploaded the proposal for diversion of 23.23 Ha (i.e. 3.33 Ha in Chittoor East Division & 19.90 Ha in Chittoor(West) Division of Forest land for up-gradation of four laning of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore Road Nh-4 TN/AP boarder to AP/ Karnataka Boarder from Km 133/6 to Km 216 /975 in Andhra Pradesh.

The proposal was sent to the Divisional Forest Officers, Chittoor (West) & (East) Divisions for processing the proposal under F(C) Act, 1980 and amendments therein and submit the proposal through their concerned Conservators of Forests vide ref. 2nd cited

Accordingly, the Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests , WLM, Tirupathi & Chief Conservator of Forests, Ananthapur vide references 3rd & 4th cited have submitted the proposals duly processed for diversion of 23.23 Ha (i.e. 3.33 Ha in Chittoor East Division & 19.90 Ha in Chittoor(West) Division of Forest land for up-gradation of four laning of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore Road Nh-4 TN/AP boarder to AP/ Karnataka Boarder from Km 133/6 to Km 216 /975 in Andhra Pradesh.

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

- An area of 23.23 Ha of forest land (i.e. 3.33 Ha in Chittoor (East) Division & 19.90 Ha in Chittoor(West) Division) is required for up-gradation of four laning of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore Road Nh-4 TN/AP border to AP/ Karnataka Border from Km 133/6 to Km 216 /975 in Andhra Pradesh.
- The existing road is passing through Basavapalli, Chittrapara, Mogili, Nagamangalam, Reddigunta, Mitturu, Palamaner and Patikonda reserve forest.
- The Proposal is widening of existing 2- lane road to 4-lane for the present and future up-gradation requirements, the right of way required is 45 M. Hence, additional acquisition is inevitable. The existing project road is through reserve forest area for a length of 17.0 Kms.

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- Cost of the project is mentioned as Rs 812.00 Crores.
- The user agency has furnished justification certificate and stated that, the proposed upgradation of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangaore Road NH-4 TN/AP Boarder to AP/Karnataka Boarder from Km 133/600 to 216/975 in Andhra Pradesh, is passing through Basavapalli, Chittrapara, Mogili, Nagamangalam, Reddigunta, Mitturu, Palamaner and Patikonda reserve forest. These stretches are part and parcel of NH-4 and needs to widen to National Highways standards. There is no alternative path for the same. This road after completion will provide good connectivity to Tamilanadu / AP Border to AP/ Karntaka Border via Chittoor.
- The area proposed for diversion is bare minimum area for the purpose and there will be no further requirement of additional area. The user agency has certified that no other area other than as mentioned in the proposal is available for taking up the project.
- The area proposed for diversion of 23.23 Ha of forest land i.e. 3.33 Ha in Chittoor (East) Division & 19.90 Ha in Chittoor(West) Division, is required for up-gradation as four lanning of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore Road Nh-4 TN/AP border to AP/ Karnataka Border from Km 133/6 to Km 216 /975 in Andhra Pradesh.
- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of NPV, Addl. NPV, CA and exploitation of tree growth on the forest land proposed for diversion.
- In the Cost benefit analysis it is stated that only shrub growth will be removed. Dependency on fuel wood and minor forest produce is not there by the local population.
- The upgradation of the road will save in travel time from faster vehicle speeds and reduces congestion of traffic from Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore NH-4, the project overall saves the travel time and fuel consumption and it will also reduce the emission of dust.
- No human displacement is involved due to the upgradation of this road.
- No loss of public facilities involved in this project.
- Minor environmental impact will be associated due to proposed widening of the project road. But it will be kept at minimum through the compensatory afforestation and taking care during execution of civil work, after construction it will reduce the travel distance and fuel consumption as compared to the existing situation.
- There will be No oustees-due to the upgradation of this road. Hence the social cost of rehabilitation of oustees is Nil.
- Employment likely to be generated is 2,00,000 Man days during the construction of this project

The Divisional Forest Officer(West) Division has submitted the following information in Part-II.

- An area of 19.90 Ha of forest land is required in Basavapalle, Tekumanda, Palamaner, Nagamangalam Thopu and Pathikonda RF's of Chittoor (West) Division for up-gradation of four laning of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore Road NH-4 TN/AP boarder to AP/ Karnataka Boarder from Km 133/6 to Km 216 /975 in Andhra Pradesh.
- The Basavapalle RF is Notified U/s 16 vide notification in B.P. No. 367, dated : 21-08-1891, Tekumanda RF is Notified U/s 15 vide G.O. Ms No. 308, F & RD (For-III), Dept., dated : 17-06-1981 & 1456, F&A (For.III), Dept., dated : 06-10-1971, Palamaner RF is Notified U/s 16 vide notification in B.P. No. 183, dated : 14-05-1898, Nagamangalam Thopu RF is Notified U/s 16 vide notification in B.P. No. 158, dated : 28-05-1885 & Pathikonda RF is Notified U/s 16 vide notification in B.P. No. 556, dated : 06-12-1898.

- The Density of vegetation in the proposed area is 0.3.
- A statement showing information regarding Species – wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees is enclosed. There are 5792 Nos. of trees in the proposed area and the valuation of trees are Rs. 48,71,905/-.
- Regarding brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion, it has been stated that as there will be no impact of soil erosion in and around the proposed area.
- Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest is mentioned as adjacent to RF boundary.
- The area applied in Basavapalle & Pathikonda RFs does not fall under Sanctuary/ National Park, Biosphere reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor etc.,. But, the area in Palamaner RF falls under Elephant Corridor i.e. Rayala Elephant Reserve declared in GO Ms. No. 106, EFS & T (For.III) Dept., dated 09-12-2003. However the road is located at a distance of about 5-6 Kms in Palamaner RF from the notified KWLS boundary and the other two locations are more than 10 Kms.
- As per the minutes of the meeting held on 14-12-2012 in the chamber of the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor West Division, Chittoor it was agreed to have an eco-sensitive zone comprising of all forest & non-forest areas upto 1 Kilometer distance from the existing boundary of Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary as per the guidelines issued by the GoI (Copy enclosed).
- Regarding rare/ endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area it is stated that, Palamaner RF is surrounded by scrub jungle all around and there are no water bodies in the area proposed for diversion. But, this area falls adjacent to KWLS and is notified as Rayala Elephant Reserve vide GO Ms. No. 106, EFS & T (For.III) Dept., dated 09-12-2003 which represents for Elephant Corridor. There will be no impact of proposed project on the flora & fauna in the adjoining forest and also ecology, especially soil erosion in and around the proposed area.
- The main tree species are Eucalyptus, Bamboo, Tamarind, Tella Thumma, Pongamia (Kanuga) Azadirachta indica (Neem) etc., The under growth consists of mainly lantana & other weeds and there is no Wild fauna seen.
- There are no protected archaeological heritage sites / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.
- The requirement of forest land is un-avoidable and barest minimum.
- Regarding any work in violation of the Act has been carried out, it has been stated that, the user agency has not violated the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor (West) Division has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 31-08-2017 and stated that, the terrain consists of gentle slope & undulating and thorny growth all over. The area is surrounded by scrub jungle all around and there are no water bodies in the area proposed for diversion. There will be no impact of proposed project on the flora & fauna in the adjoining forests and also ecology, especially soil erosion in and around the proposed area.
- The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, authenticated DGPS map are furnished duly counter signed by the Divisional Forest Officer.
- In column No. 13 of Part –II, the Divisional Forest Officer has “Recommended” the proposal.

In part –III, the Chief Conservator of Forests / Conservator of Forests, Ananthapur has agreed with the information furnished by the Divisional Forest Officer and Recommended the proposal for diversion of forest land.

The Divisional Forest Officer(East) Division has submitted the following information in Part-II.

- An area of 3.33 Ha of forest land is required in Basivipalli , and Reddygunda RF's of Chittoor (East) Division for up-gradation of four laning of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore Road NH-4 TN/AP border to AP/ Karnataka Border from Km 133/6 to Km 216 /975 in Andhra Pradesh.
- The Basivipalli RF is Notified U/s 16 of FC Act, 1882 G.O. No. 664, (Rev.,) Dated : 23-07-1891 and the Reddygunda RF is notified U/s 16 of FC Act, 1882, G.O. No. 2 (Rev.,) Dated : 04-01-1897.
- The Density of vegetation in the proposed area is 0. 10
- A statement showing the information regarding Species – wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees is enclosed. There are 232 Nos. of trees and 690 Bamboo trees in the proposed area and the valuation of trees is Rs. 1,42,117/-.
- Regarding brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion, it has been stated that it is not vulnerable for soil erosion and there is no major adverse impact of the project on any flora and fauna.
- Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest is mentioned as within the "Reserve Forest boundary".
- The area applied in Basivipalli & Reddygunda RFs does not fall under Wildlife Sanctuary / National Park, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor etc.
- Regarding rare/ endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area it is stated that, the proposed area is not vulnerable for soil erosion and there is no major adverse impact of the project on any flora and fauna.
- The main tree species are Eucalyptus, Neem , Chigara Bamboo, Thapasi, Sandra etc.
- There are no protected archaeological heritage sites / defense establishment or any other important monuments located in the area.
- The requirement of forest land is un-avoidable and barest minimum.
- Regarding any work in violation of the Act has been carried out, it has been stated that, the user agency has not violated the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- The Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor(East) Division has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 06-09-2017 and stated that, the proposed area is not vulnerable for soil erosion and there is no major adverse impact of the project on any flora and fauna.
- The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, and the authenticated DGPS map are furnished duly counter signed by the Divisional Forest Officer.
- In column No. 13 of Part –II, the Divisional Forest Officer, Chittoor(East) Division has "Recommended" the proposal.

In part –III, the Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests / Conservator of Forests , WLM, Tirupathi has agreed with the information furnished by the Divisional Forest Officer and Recommended the proposal for diversion of forest land.

Under the Special provisions for Central Government / Central Government Undertaking Projects, granted in para-3.2-vi of guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 non forest land for Compensatory Afforestation has been identified to an extent of 46.50Ha which is double the extent of RF proposed for diversion (23.23 Ha) ha in Compt No. 242 & 243 of Allapalle RF, Thotakanuma Beat of Palamaner Range. As per para (ix) (a), Chapter-3 of FCA Act, 1980 guidelines a scheme for raising Compensatory Afforestation have been prepared with a financial outlay of Rs. 318.20 lakhs for a period of (10) years commencing from 2018-19 to 2029-30. The Divisional Forest Officer has furnished the authenticated DGPS map along with location map duly countersigned by him.

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The District Collector, Chittoor District has issued certificate under RoFR Act, 2006, vide Lr. REV-CSECOMG(OMSG)/48/2017-D.TH(C7), dated : 07-09-2017 as stipulated by the MoEF, Gol, New Delhi vide 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 is enclosed with the proposal.

Further, it is submitted that as per the guidelines issued by the Gol, MoEF, New Delhi this proposal has been uploaded in the Ministry's website (www.forestclearance.nic.in) & a unique file number FP/AP/ROAD/28781/2017 has been generated for this proposal. A copy of the Acknowledgment slip generated by the Ministry's website is enclosed herewith.

The Addl. Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, WLM, Tirupathi, Chief Conservator of Forests, Ananthapur & Divisional Forest Officers, Chittoor(West) & (East) have recommended the proposal for diversion of 23.23 Ha. of forest land in Chittoor(East) & (West) Divisions.

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures for diversion of 23.23 Ha of forest land { (i.e. 3.33 Ha in Chittoor (East) Division & 19.90 Ha in Chittoor(West) Division} for up-gradation four laning of Chennai – Chittoor – Bangalore Road NH-4 TN/AP border to AP/ Karnataka Border from Km 133/6 to Km 216 /975 in Andhra Pradesh duly recommended in Part-IV is submitted herewith in triplicate for onward transmission to the GOI, MoEF,R.O., Chennai for consideration of the proposal.

Encl – (3) sets of proposals

Yours faithfully,
Sd/- P.K. Sarangi,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests.
(Head of Forest Force)

//True Copy//

P. Sub
22/9/17

Ch. Dhanu
for Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests. 22/9/2017
(Head of Forest Force)