

I/421393/2021

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, Nagarampalem,
Guntur -522004

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

Rc.no.EFS02-15034/13/2019/FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, Dated:20/04/2021.

Sir,

Sub: APFD - F(C)Act, 1980 - Diversion of 0.98 ha. of forest land in
- compartment no.25 & 26 of Bitragunta Beat, Nellore Division for
construction of road from Patha Bitragunta R&B road to Kothuru,
Bogole(M), Nellore Division in f/o EE , PR, Kavali - Submission of 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/43095/2019, dated: 03.01.2020.
- 2. CF, Guntur Rc. no. 259/2019/TO, dated: 18.03.2021.

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It is submitted that, the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Division, Kavali in the reference 1st cited has uploaded the proposal in PARIVESH portal for diversion of 0.98 ha. of forest land in compartment no.25 & 26 of Bitragunta Beat, Nellore Division for construction of road from Patha Bitragunta R&B road to Kothuru, Bogole(M), Nellore Division in f/o EE , PR, Kavali.

Accordingly, the Conservator of Forests, Guntur in the reference 2nd cited has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.98 ha. of forest land in compartment no.25 & 26 of Bitragunta Beat, Nellore Division for construction of road from Patha Bitragunta R&B road to Kothuru, Bogole(M), Nellore Division in f/o EE , PR, Kavali and processed it under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

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

- Forest area to an extent of 0.98 ha. for construction of road from Km 2/4 of Patha Bitragunta R&B road to Kothuru of BogoleM(M), SPSR Nellore in f/o EE PR Division, Kavali.

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- The road work sanctioned under PMGSY Phase-XI grant.
- Cost of the project is mentioned as ₹129.76 lakh.
- The user agency has justified that, the road is being used by thirty thousand pilgrims every year in the month of March apart being used daily by the villagers from Kothuru, Kondabitrugunta, Patha Bitrugunta for agricultural and facilities like Hospitals, Railway station and markets. These villagers have no alternative than this road. It is a single connectivity road. Hence black topping of road proposed. The adjacent RF area is minimum and there no alternative road to fly busses since the length of the road from Kondabitrugunta to Kothuru villages is very short.
- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of NPV, Addl. NPV, CA, tree extraction charges etc.
- The area proposed for diversion is 0.98 ha. Hence Cost benefit analysis does not arise.
- No human displacement is involved due to construction of this road.
- No loss of public facilities involved in this project.
- Employment likely to be generated is 900 to 1000 man days will be generated through mazdoors.
- The user agency has stated that, clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is not required.

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

- Forest land to an extent of 0.98 ha. is required in compartment no.25 & 26 of Bitrugunta Beat, Nellore Division for construction of road from Patha Bitrugunta R&B road to Kothuru, Bogole (M), Nellore District in f/o EE , PR Division, Kavali.
- Legal Status of the forest is Reserved Forest.
- The density of adjacent plantation area is 0.40.
- There is no tree felling involved along the length and width of proposed road.
- The proposed forest area is not vulnerable for erosion.
- The proposed road passing through Reserve Forest.
- The proposed road is not a part of National park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, Elephant corridor etc.
- No rare/ endangered/unique species of fauna found in the proposed area.
- No protected archaeological heritage sites / defence 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 District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 04.12.2020 and stated that the BT road is proposed on the existing road in Bitrugunta RF. The road is existing prior to 1980 i.e. about 50 years as informed by the local villagers. The existing road is not a right of way as per gazette notification of Bitrugunta RF.

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Accordingly, in column no. 13 of Part -II, the District Forest Officer, SPSR, Nellore has **"Recommended"** the proposal.

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

The District Collector, SPSR Nellore District in Rc. no. E7/476/2020, dated: 09.10.2020 has issued certificate under RoFR Act, 2006 on 08.01.2021, as stipulated by the MoEF, Gol, 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 Gol, 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/43095/2019** 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, Guntur & District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore Division have recommended the proposal for diversion of 0.98 ha. in compartment no. 25 & 26 of Bitragunta RF, Nellore Division for formation of BT road from Km. 2/4 of Patha Bitragunta R&B road to Kothuru of Bogole (M), SPSR Nellore District in f/o EE , Panchayat Raj Division, Kavali.

In this regard it is to submit that, as per Chapter 4.3.1 of Comprehensive guidelines issued by the Gol, 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.

Further, as per Chapter 2.6 of Comprehensive guidelines issued by the Gol, 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 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.

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures in (2) sets, for diversion of 0.98 ha. in compartment no. 25 & 26 of Bitragunta RF, Nellore Division for formation of BT road from Km. 2/4 of Patha Bitragunta R&B road to Kothuru of Bogole (M), SPSR Nellore District in f/o EE , Panchayat Raj Division, Kavali duly recommended in Part-IV subject to the conditions stipulated in Gol, MoEF&CC , New Delhi in F. no. 5-2/2017 (FC Division) Dt. 28.03.2019 is submitted herewith for taking further action as deemed fit in the matter

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Encl:- (2) sets of proposals

Yours faithfully,
N Prateep Kumar
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Guntur and District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore for information.

Copy to the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Division, Kavali for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, Vijayawada for information.

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:20/04/2021

Signature:

Place:

Name:N Prateep Kumar

Office Seal: