

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT

From
Dr. Mohd. Ilyas Rizvi, I.F.S.,
Pvt. Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh,
"Aranya Bhawan", K.M. Munshi Road,
Nagarampalem, Guntur -522004

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

Rc.No. EFS02-15034/22/2018/FCA-SEC PCCF/FCA-3, Dated : 20-10-2018..

Sir,

Sub:- APFD - F (C)Act, 1980 - Proposal for diversion of 1.79 Ha of forest land in Giddalur division for upgradation of NH -167 B from Km.86/540 to Km.87/340 i.e. from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram to two lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP -IV in the State of Andhra Pradesh- Submission of processed proposal U/s-2 of F(C)Act, 1980- Reg.,

Ref:- 1. Proposals uploaded in the Ministry's website No. FP/AP/ROAD/33878/2018.
2. PCCF 's Rc.No.EFS02-15034/22/2018- FCA- SEC PCCF/FCA-3, dated : 15-06-2018.
3. Conservator of Forests , Visakhapatnam Rc. No. 1980/2018-TO, dated : 12-10-2018..

It is informed that, the Executive Engineer (R&B), NH Division, Kadapa vide reference 1st cited has uploaded the proposal for diversion of 1.79 Ha of forest land in Giddalur division for upgradation of NH -167 B from Km.86/540 to Km.87/340 i.e. from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram to two lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP -IV in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

The proposal was sent to the Divisional Forest Officer, Giddalur Division vide reference 2nd cited for processing under F(C) Act, 1980 and amendments therein and submit the proposals through the concerned Chief Conservators of Forests/Conservator of Forests.

Accordingly, the Conservator of Forests, Guntur vide reference 3rd cited has submitted the processed proposal for diversion of 1.79 Ha of forest land in Giddalur division for upgradation of NH -167 B from Km.86/540 to Km.87/340 i.e. from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram to two lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP -IV in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

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

- An area of 1.79 Ha of forest land in Giddalur division is required to upgrade and widening of the existing road to two lane with paved configuration of NH -167 B from Km.86/540 to Km.87/340 i.e. from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram.
- Cost of the project is mentioned as Rs 498.23 Crores.
- The user agency has furnished justification certificate and stated that, the existing road from Km. 86/340 of NH -167B is passing through Chandrakonda RF of Kanigiri Range of Giddalur Division in Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh. There is no other alternative except widening of existing road. Therefore proposal for diversion of 1.79 Ha of forest land is proposed. This road after completion would further improve connectivity in terms of achieving smooth and safe traffic flow and improve level of service. In addition to above, substantial economic gain in terms of reduced Vehicle Operating Cost (VOC) and reduced travel time will be achieved.
- The user agency has also certified that, the road i.e. Nh-167B is a National Highway and inter state connectivity road and there is no other alternative except proposing widening of the existing road in forest areas of Chandrakonda RF in order to meet the norms of MoRTH, Gol, New Delhi.
- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of NPV, Addl. NPV, CA , Trees extraction charges etc., .

- The area proposed for diversion is 1.79 Ha. Hence Cost benefit analysis does not arise.
- No human displacement involve due to construction of this project.
- No loss of public facilities involved in this project.
- The user agency has stated that, no Environment (Projection) Act, 1986 is required
- Employment likely to be generated is 1000 man days for a period of one year and also indirectly, the nearby habitants are benefited.

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

- An area of 1.79 Ha of forest land in Giddalur division is required to upgrade and widening of the existing road to two lane with paved configuration of NH -167 B from Km.86/540 to Km.87/340 i.e. from Porumamilla to Chandrasehara Puram.
- The Density of vegetation in the proposed area is 0.40
- Legal Status of the forest is Reserve Forest.
- Regarding Species – wise (scientific names) and diameter class –wise enumeration of trees it has been stated that there is no valuable trees is there and there are no economically value trees.
- Regarding brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion, it has been stated that, this is plain area/ Undulating, not vulnerable for erosion.
- Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest is the proposed road is starting from RF boundary at North –West boundary and ending South –East boundary of RF.
- Regarding rare/ endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area it is stated that, there are no rare/ endangered/unique species of fauna found in the proposed area.
- 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 proposed by the user agency is un-avoidable and barest minimum for the project.
- 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, Giddalur Division has inspected the areas proposed for diversion on 03-09-2018 and stated that the land required by the user agency is a Reserve Forest . The quality of forest is open with mainly with the species like Chikireni (Albizia - amara), Gotti (Zygifus -xylophera), Danthi (Gymnosporia- spinosa) etc., The class of the forest is tropical dry deciduous Forest with Eco Value-III.

- The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, authenticated DGPS maps are furnished

In column No. 13 of Part –II, the Divisional Forest Officer has “Recommended” the proposal duly stating that, the proposed Up-gradation of NH-167B road results in Congestion and delay to both through as well as local traffic and in order to handle the increase in traffic, except widening of existing road, there is no any other alternative and this road after completion would further improve connectivity in terms of achieving smooth and safe traffic flow and improve level of service. In addition to the above, substantial economic gain in terms of reduced Vehicle Operating Cost (VOC) and reduced travel time will be achieved.

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

In this regard it is to submit that the MoEF, Gol, New Delhi vide F.No.11-9/98-FC, dt.13.05.2011, 10.12.2012, 01.02.2013, 17.05.2013 & 15-02-2018 has accorded general approval under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for creation of critical public utility infrastructure works to be carried out by Government Department in 117 LWE affected districts for diversion of forest land not more than 40.00 Ha in each case/activities as mentioned therein. In such cases, the State Government is empowered to accord permission, subject to the condition that the forest area is falling outside Protected Areas.

Further, as per the guidelines issued by MoEF, Gol New Delhi vide F.No.11-9/98-FC, dt.16.06.2011, no compensatory Afforestation is to be insisted on diversion of forest land upto 5.00 Ha, to be carried out by Govt. Dept. in the notified LWE Affected District. Prakasham District is one of the notified LWE Districts in Andhra Pradesh and this proposal falls in Prakasham District and the area proposed for diversion is 1.79 Ha, which is less than 5.00 Ha, as such equivalent non-forest land for CA is not required for this project.

The District Collector, Prakasham District vide Ir. E.No. 120664(F1), dated : 23-09-2018 has issued certificate under RoFR Act, 2006, 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 informed 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/33878/2018 has been generated for this proposal. A copy of the Acknowledgment slip generated by the Ministry's website is enclosed herewith.

The Conservator of Forests, Guntur & Divisional Forest Officer, Giddalur Division have recommended the proposal for an area of 1.79 Ha of forest land in Giddalur division for upgrade and widening of the existing road to two lane with paved configuration of NH - 167 B from Km.86/540 to Km.87/340 i.e. from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures for an area of 1.79 Ha of forest land in Giddalur division for upgrade and widening of the existing road to two lane with paved configuration of NH -167 B from Km.86/540 to Km.87/340 i.e. from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram duly recommended in Part-IV in triplicate is furnished herewith for further consideration of the proposal.

Encl – (3) sets of proposals

Yours faithfully,
Sd/- Dr. Mohd. Ilyas Rizvi,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

Copy to Conservator of Forests, Guntur and Divisional Forest Officer , Giddalur for information.

Copy to Executive Engineer (R&B) NH Division, Rabindra Nagar, Kadapa for information.

// t.c.b.o.//

S. B.
22/10/18

M. Ilyas Rizvi
22/10/2018
Superintendent

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 1.79 Ha of FL in Oillardor Division for upgradation of NH 167-B, i.e from Km 43/097 to 99/103 Povamilla to C.S. Puram

17	Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the state Forest Department for acceptance of other wise 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)	<i>Recommended</i>
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Place:

Date:

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Signature
Name
Office Seal

Dr. Mohd. Ilyas Rizvi IFS.
Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur