PART - III

(To be filled by the concerned Chief Conservator of Forests)

1. Whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Chief Conservator of Forests (Yes/No). If yes, the date of inspection & observations made in form of inspection note to be enclosed.

No

2. Whether the concerned Chief Conservator of Forests agree with the information given in Part – II and the recommendations of Deputy conservator of Forest.

Yes.

- 3. Specific recommendation of concerned Chief Conservator of Forests for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with detailed reasons.
 - The status of Malkapur-Buldhana-Chikhali-Takarkhed Bhagile-Deulgaon Raja-Jalna, NH 753 A road before 1980 as per the toposheet of survey of India 1977 which was surveyed in 1974-75 shows that it was metalled road and as per direction issued vide GoM letter No. FLD-3102/Cr.No.9/F-10, Revenue & Forest Department, dated 24th June 2003 its width was 7.50 mtr.
 - 2. As per the gazette of Buldhana district gazetteer originally printed in 1910 the status of Malkapur-Buldhana-Chikhali-Takarkhed Bhagile-Deulgaon Raja-Jalna road was murum road. (unmettaled road)
 - 3. As per the notification of GoM dated 19th April 1967, Building and Communication Department this road was declared as State Highway.
 - 4. As per the letter of Ex. Engineer NHAI Akola vide letter no. 2050/ता.शा./2020, dated 06th July, 2020. Malkapur-Buldhana-Chikhali-Takarkhed Bhagile-Deulgaon Raja-Jalna road has been transferred from Ex. Engineer PWD, Buldhana to Ex. Engineer, NHAI, Akola as on 18th December, 2015. As per said letter the width of road at the time of taking over was 24 mtr. The status of road was tar road. Thus it shows that the up gradation and widening of the road has already been done by the Ex. Engineer PWD Buldana.
 - 5. The User Agency has submitted the detailed project note of 2005 prepared by PWD, Buldhana for four laning of Malkapur-Buldhana-Chikhali-Takarkhed Bhagile-Deulgaon Raja-Jalna road. The report shows that upto 2009 the existing width of road was 5.50 mtr to 7.00 mtr. As per the developmental plan of PWD the said road was to be up graded to four laned tar road. Thus PWD was supposed to take prior permission of forest department for this up gradation. Available records shows that no such permission was taken by the PWD, Buldhana. Thus violation of FCA, 1980 was done by PWD, Buldhana in the year 2009-10.

- 6. Available records shows that, Ex. Engineer PWD Buldhana has taken the tree felling permission from RFO Deulgaon Raja for scheduled trees on 13th January, 2009 and also for Non-scheduled trees species from SDO Buldhana (Revenue) on dated 16th March, 2009 for widening and four laning of the road. Thus it is confirmed that the four laning and widening of road has taken place during the year 2009 to 2010.
- 7. In 2018 Ex. Engineer NHAI Akola has started the up gradation work of Chikhali-Takarkhed Bhagile-Deulgaon Raja-Jalna road from tar road to cement concrete road. It was noticed that the Project Authority has not taken prior permission under FCA, 1980 for this up gradation work. Hence, RFO Deulgaon raja vide letter no. dated 13th October, 2018 informed the Project Authority to stop the work and submit proposal under FCA, 1980 for the up gradation of road and the forest land diversion.
- 8. Thus the Ex.Engineer NHAI Akola has violated the provision of the FCA, 1980 by carrying out up gradation work without prior approval of the Central Government.
- 9. With respect to this violation forest offence was booked by RFO Deulgaon Raja vide POR No. 592/18 and 592/19, dated 30th November 2018 and RFO Buldhana vide POR No. 678/5, dated 30th November, 2018 against Ex. Engineer NHAI, Akola. Also administrative action against the concerned forest officers and staff is initiated under MCSR, 1979 and is under progress.
- 10. Good transportation systems are lifeline to the area they serve. Roads bring about all round development in the region. A good road network helps in the success of all developmental activities. The project under reference undertaken by NHAI is part of public infrastructure facility and essential for convenient, fast & safe travel. Hence, the proposal is being accepted and recommended as per the provisions contained in Handbook-2019 published under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in paragraph No. 1.21 of Chapter-I.

de

Date: 16/10/2020

Place: Amravati

(Dr. Pravin D. Chavan) Chief Conservator of Forest (Territorial) Amravati