

I/528736/2022

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,
Guntur -522004

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

Rc.no.EFS02-15034/65/2020/FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, Dated:25/01/2022.

Sir,

Sub: APFD - F(C)Act, 1980 - Diversion of 13.28 ha of forest land in Compartment - no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF and Compartment no. 263 of Maredumilli RF, Compartment no.333, 334 and 338 of Kota south-I RF and Compartment no. 750 of Tadepalli RF Kakinada Division for formation of road from Vetukuru road to Siripuram in favour of EE PR (PIU), Kakinada- 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/109163/2020, dated:
- 16.12.2020.
2. PCCF & HoFF Rc. no.EFS02-15034/65/2020- FCA SEC PCCF/FCA-3, dated: 02.01.2021.
3. CCF, Rajahmundry Rc. no. 40/2021-D1, dated:11.01.2022.

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It is to inform that, the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj(PIU) Division, Kakinada in the reference 1st cited has uploaded the proposal in PARIVESH portal for diversion of 13.28 ha of forest land in Compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF and Compartment no. 263 of Maredumilli RF, Compartment no.333, 334 and 338 of Kota south-I RF and Compartment no. 750 of Tadepalli RF Kakinada Division for formation of road from Vetukuru road to Siripuram in favour of EE PR (PIU), Kakinada.

Accordingly, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Rajahmundry Circle, Rajamahendravaram in the reference 3rd cited has submitted the proposal for diversion of 13.28 ha of forest land in Compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF and Compartment no. 263 of Maredumilli RF, Compartment no.333, 334 and 338 of Kota south-I RF and Compartment no. 750 of Tadepalli RF Kakinada Division for formation of road from Vetukuru road to Siripuram in favour of EE PR (PIU), Kakinada and processed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

I/528736/2022

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

- An area of 13.28 ha of forest land in Compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF and Compartment no. 263 of Maredumilli RF, Compartment no.333, 334 and 338 of Kota south-I RF and Compartment no. 750 of Tadepalli RF Kakinada Division is required for formation of road from Vetukuru road to Siripuram in favour of EE PR (PIU), Kakinada.
- **Are required for road = $17706.67 \times 7.50 = 132800.00$ m (OR) 13.28 ha.**
- The road work sanctioned / approved by Ministry of Rural Development in PMGSY grant under RCPLWE programme.
- Cost of the project is mentioned as ₹547.50 lakh.
- The user agency has justified that, the villagers of Vetukuru (627), maddiveedu (258), Tadepalli (1146), Denduluru (305), D.V. Kota(528), Vydapudi(311), Pedduru(247), Darawada(288), Dorachintalapalem(175), Narasapuram(398) and Siripuram(469) to reach the mandal head quarters Maredumilli with shortest path by providing this road. The existing road passes through Reserve Forest area for a length of 17706.67 m. This is only the shortest route for the people of eleven habitations. The buses and commercial vehicles are not plying on this road due to improper geometry and various streams crossing the road. The people are facing lot of problems to meet their needs of Education, Health and Transportation of Agricultural and forest produces etc., Hence, the road is proposed to upgrade the existing BT surface, so as to make the road traffic worthy.
- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of NPV, Addl. NPV, CA, tree extraction charges and also for avenue plantations etc.
- The area proposed for diversion is 13.28 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 10000 man days for a period of one year and also indirectly, the nearby habitants are benefited.
- The user agency has stated that, clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is not required.

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

- Forest land to an extent of 13.28 ha in Compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF and Compartment no. 263 of Maredumilli RF, Compartment no.333, 334 and 338 of Kota south-I RF and Compartment no. 750 of Tadepalli RF Kakinada Division is required for formation of road from Vetukuru road to Siripuram in favour of EE PR (PIU), Kakinada.
- **Legal Status of the forest as follows.**
 1. Kota South-I RF notified under Sec. 15 of APF Act, 1967 vide G.O. No. 9997, dated: 05.07.1972
 2. Tadepalli PF notified under Sec.24 of APF Act, 1967 vide G.O. Ms. no. 656, F & RD(For-III),dt.08.09.1975.
 3. Pujaripakalu PF notified under Sec.24 of APF Act, 1967 vide G.O. Ms. no. 656, F & RD (Forest-III) Dated: 08.09.1975.

I/528736/2022

4. Maredumilli RF notified under Sec.16 of Madras Forest Act, 1882 vide St. George Gazette dated: 25.10.1941.

- The average density of the adjoining forest is 0.5 to 0.6 in Kota South-I RF.
- The average density of the adjoining forest is 0.2 to 0.3 in Tadepalli PF.
- The average density of the adjoining forest is 0.7 in Maredumilli RF and Pujaripakalu PF.
- The vegetation in the adjoining forest of this road is mainly consists such as Aanem (*Bridella squamosa*), Are(*Bauhinia racemosa*), Bandaru (*Adina cordifolia*), Battaganpa (*Mitragyna parvifolia*), Bodda(*Careya arborea*), Buruga (*Bombax ceiba*), Busi (*Schleichera oleosa*), Chennangi (*Lagerostro parviflora*), Chilakadudduga (*Polyalthia cerasoides*), Chinduga (*Albizia odoratissima*)
- 1766 no. of trees to be felled and the value of the trees is ₹18,42,426/- (Maredumilli RF & Pujaripakalu PF: 1252 no; Kota South-I RF : 514 no).
- The area proposed for diversion is vulnerable to soil erosion in Kota South-I RF, Compartment no.334 and Maredumilli RF & Pujaripakalu PF.
- The proposed road passing through compartment no.333, 334 & 338 of Kota South-I RF and compartment no.750 of Tadepalli PF of Sudikonda Range and compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu PF and compartment no.263 of Maredumilli RF of RC Varam Range.
- The proposed road falls within 10 km from the boundary of Papikonda National Park i.e. in the default Eco-Sensitive Zone of Papikonda National Park.
- The fauna like sloth bear and Wild boar etc., are present in Kota South-I RF, Compartment no.334 and Maredumilli RF & Pujaripakalu PF.
- No protected archaeological heritage sites / defense 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 Divisional Forest Officer, Kakinada has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 25.11.2021. The inspection report of the District Forest Officer, Kakinada is enclosed herewith.

Accordingly, in column no. 13 of Part -II, the District Forest Officer, Kakinada has **“Recommended”** the proposal subject to the following conditions.

- **Recommended to** widen the road to a maximum width of 7.5 m. including Berms over a length of 13570.25 m. passing through **compartment no.333, 338 of Kota South-I RF & compartment no.750 of Tadepalli PF. Total area recommended for diversion is 10.18 ha.**
- **Not recommended** to widen the road over a length of 4136.42 m. passing through compartment no.334 of Kota Sourth-I RF in Sudikonda Range & compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF, compartment no.363 of Maredumilli RF of Rampachodavaram Range. **Total area not**

I/528736/2022

recommended for diversion is 3.10 ha.

- The forest area in the above compartments may not be diverted as the road formation may be vulnerable to soil erosion, adversely impact ecological balance and leads to destruction of Teak Plantations present in surrounding areas and it is possible to smuggle the valuable timber species including Ganja from the three (3) ranges i.e. Rampachodavaram, Sudikonda and Addathigala.

Further as per para 2.3 of Chapter-2 of Comprehensive guidelines issued by the Government of India, MoEF &CC, New Delhi in F. No. 5-2/2017, FC, dated: 28.03.2019 non-forest land over an extent of 13.71 ha has identified in Upplanka H/o Gurajanapalli village of Karapa Mandal of Kakinada, East Godavari District for CA purpose.

As per para 2.8 of Chapter -2 of Comprehensive guidelines issued by the Government of India, MoEF &CC, New Delhi in F.No. 5-2/2017, FC, dated: 28.03.2019, the District Forest Officer, Kakinada has prepared CA scheme to an extent of 13.71 ha for raising Compensatory Afforestation with a financial outlay of ₹78.685 lakh for a period of 12 years including Advance operations, Maintenance of Nurseries and Raising of Plantations commencement from 2022-23 to 2033-34

The District Forest Officer, Kakinada has inspected the area proposed for CA on 28.11.2021. Site inspection report of the District Forest Officer, Kakinada is enclosed herewith.

The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, authenticated DGPS maps of non-forest land identified for CA are furnished with the proposal.

In part -III, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Rajahmundry Circle, Rajamahendravaram has agreed with the information furnished by the District Forest Officer, Kakinada and **Recommended** the proposal for diversion of 10.18 ha. forest land.

The District Collector, East Godavari District has issued certificate under RoFR Act, 2006 on 08.01.2021, as stipulated by the MoEF, GoI, 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 GoI, MoEF, New Delhi this proposal has been uploaded in the Ministry's web portal (www.parivesh.nic.in) & a unique proposal number no. FP/AP/ROAD/109163/2020 has been generated for this proposal. A copy of the Acknowledgment slip generated by the Ministry's web portal is enclosed herewith.

The Chief Conservator of Forests, Rajahmundry Circle, Rajamahendravaram & District Forest Officer, Kakinada have **recommended the proposal for diversion of 10.18 ha of forest land to widen the road in compartment no.333, 338 of Kota South-I RF & compartment no.750 of Tadepalli PF and Not recommended to widen the road to an extent of 3.10 ha in compartment no.334 of Kota South-I RF in Sudikonda Range, compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF and compartment no.263 of Maredumilli RF of Rampachodavaram Range for formation of road from Vetukuru to Siripuram** in favour of Executive Engineer , Panchayat Raj(PIU)

I/528736/2022

Division, Kakinada.

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures in (2) sets, for diversion of **10.18 ha of forest land to widen the road in compartment no.333, 338 of Kota South-I RF & compartment no.750 of Tadepalli PF and Not recommended to widen the road to an extent of 3.10 ha in compartment no.334 of Kota South-I RF in Sudikonda Range, compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF and compartment no.263 of Maredumilli RF of Rampachodavaram Range for formation of road from Vetukuru to Siripuram** in favour of Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj(PIU) Division, Kakinada duly recommended in Part-IV, subject to the conditions stipulated in GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi in F. no.5-2/2017 (FC Division) Dt. 28.03.2019 is submitted herewith.

Government are requested to take necessary action for onward submission of proposal to Government of India, MoEF &CC, IRO, Vijayawada to accord forest clearance under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and amendments therein.

Encl:- (2) sets of proposals

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

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Rajahmundry Circle, Rajamahendravaram for information and necessary action.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Kakinada for information and necessary action

Copy to the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj(PIU) Division, Kakinada 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:25/01/2022

Signature:

Place:

Name:N Prateep Kumar Ifs

Office Seal:

Signed by N Prateep Kumar

Ifs

Date: 25-01-2022 17:33:45

Reason: Approved

PART-IV

Diversion of 13.28 ha of forest land in Compartment no.741 of Pujaripakalu RF and Compartment no. 263 of Maredumilli RF, Compartment no.333, 334 and 338 of Kota south-I RF and Compartment no. 150 of Tadepalli RF Kakinada Division for formation of road from Vetukuru road to Siripuram in favour of EE PR (PIU), Kakinada

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)	<i>Recommended</i>
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Date: 25.01.2022

Place : Guntur

Signature

Name:

Office Seal:

N. Prateep Kumar, IES.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur