#### **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, 'Aranya Bhavan', K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem, Guntur -522004

The Spl. Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Forests, Science and Technology Department, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat Velagapudi.

# Rc.no.EFS02-15034/41/2018/FCA SEC- PCCF/FCA-3, Dated:21/01/2020.

Sir,

Sub: APFD - F (C) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 3.09 ha. of forest land in compt. no. 300, 301, 302 & 303 of Veduruwada RF, Vizianagaram Division for formation of road from NR Puram to Eguvakondaparthi Road in f/o. EE, PR (PIU), Vizianagaram - Submission of processed proposal under F(C) Act, 1980 - Clearance under Section-2 of F(C)Act, 1980- Requested - Reg.

1. Online proposal no. FP/AP/ROAD/40711/2019, dated: 01.07.2019. Ref:

- 2. PCCF(HoFF), A.P. Rc.no.EFS02-15034/41/2019-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated: 16.09.2019.
- 3. EE, PR(PIU) Division, Vizianagaram Rc.no.457/2016/AE1/ PMGSY, dt.19.09.2019.
- 4. PCCF(HoFF), A.P Rc.no.EFS02-15034/41/2019-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dt.17.10.2019.
- 5. CF, Visakhapatnam Rc.no.1865/2018/TO, dated:17.12.2019.

\* \* \*

It is to submit that, the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU) Division, Vizianagaram in the reference 1st cited has uploaded the proposal in PARIVESH portal for diversion of 3.09 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 300, 301, 302 & 303 of Veduruwada RF, Vizianagaram Division for formation of road from NR Puram to Eguvakondaparthi Road in f/o Executive Engineer, PR (PIU), Vizianagaram.

The proposal was sent to the Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram Division in the reference 4<sup>th</sup> cited for processing it under F (C) Act, 1980 and amendments therein and submit the proposals through the Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam.

Accordingly, the Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam in the reference 5<sup>th</sup> cited has submitted the proposal for diversion of 3.09 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 300, 301, 302 & 303 of Veduruwada RF, Vizianagaram Division for formation of road from NR Puram to Eguvakondaparthi Road in f/o EE, PR (PIU), Vizianagaram, processed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

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

- Forest area to an extent of 3.09 ha. is required for providing BT to the road from NR Puram (Ananthagiri (M) of Visakhapatnam District) to Eguvakondaparthi of Vizianagaram District in f/o Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU), Vizianagaram.
- The road work was sanctioned / approved by Ministry of Rural Development in PMGSY grant under Batch –I.
- Cost of the project is mentioned as ₹473.00 lakh.
- The user agency has justified that, the villagers of Eguvakondaparthi reach the Mandal head quarters Gantyada with shortest path by providing this road. The existing road passes through Reserve Forest in various reaches in the road from 0/0 to 8/500. The buses and commercial vehicles are not plying on this road due to improper geometry and various streams crossing the road and people are facing problems to meet their needs of Education, Health and Transportation of Agriculture and forest produces etc. Hence, the road is proposed to upgrade to BT standard, so as to make the road traffic worthy.
- The user agency has certified that, there is no other alternative route than
  the proposed to avoid the forest area. The total forest area involved in the
  proposal is 3.09 ha. The opted route is the best one to meet the needs of
  Education, health and transportation of agricultural produce.
- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of NPV, Addl. NPV, CA, Tree extraction charges etc.
- Cost benefit analysis does not arise, as the area proposed for diversion is 3.09 ha.
- No human displacement is involved due to construction of this road.
- · No loss of public facilities involved in this project.
- The user agency has stated that, clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is not required.
- The nearby habitants will be benefited by direct employment for a period of one year and also indirectly.

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

- Forest land to an extent of 3.09 ha. is required in Compartment no. 300, 301, 302 & 303 in Veduruwada –II RF, Vizianagaram for providing B.T. to the road from NR Puram (Ananthagiri (M) of Visakhapatnam District) to Eguvakondaparthi of Vizianagaram District in f/o Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU), Vizianagaram.
- Legal Status of the forest is Veduruwada-II Reserve Forest notified U/s 15 of A.P. Forest Act, 1967.

- The proposed forest is Tropical Dry deciduous and Tropical Moist deciduous with crown density about 0.3.
- No trees are existing along the proposed road and along the width of 6 meters.
- No vulnerability of the forest area to erosion, as the area is having plain to gentle slope.
- The proposed road is passing in the midst of Veduruwada-II Reserve Forest.
- 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 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, Vizianagaram Division has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 27.11.2019 and stated that, the total length of the proposed B.T. road is 8.50 Kms. from N.R. Puram to Eguvakondaparthi. Out of which 5.15 Kms. length is falling inside the RF. No trees are falling in the 6 meters width of the proposed road for the entire length of the road proposed in RF and outside RF. This formation of road is very much essential for the movement of all the departmental officers to implement the Government schemes and all activities to the Tribal community residing in the interior villages and to bring them into the main stream. Due to the existing Kutcha road the villagers are suffering a lot to bring their pregnant women to the Hospitals and still carrying the patients by "DHOLI" from hill top villages to the plain villages.

Accordingly, in column No. 13 of Part –II, the Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram has "Recommended" the proposal.

In Part –III, the Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam has agreed with the information furnished by the Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram and "Recommended" the proposal for diversion of forest land.

The District Collector, Vizianagaram District has issued certificate under RoFR Act, 2006, 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 <u>FP/AP/ ROAD/40711/2019</u> 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, Visakhapatnam and Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram have recommended the proposal for diversion of 3.09 ha. of forest land in Compartment no. 300, 301, 302 & 303 in Veduruwada –II RF, Vizianagaram for providing B.T. to the road from NR Puram (Ananthagiri (M) of Visakhapatnam District) to Eguvakondaparthi of Vizianagaram District in f/o. Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU), Vizianagaram.

In this regard, it is to submit that, as per Chapter 4.4 of Comprehensive guidelines issued by the GoI, 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 of Public Infrastructure works in LWE Districts as notified by the Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time. The District i.e., Vizianagaram in which the subject project falls, is LWE District as notified in Ministry of Home Affairs F.No.II-18015/68/2014-LWE-III, dt. 14.04.2018.

Further, as per the guidelines issued by MoEF, GoI New Delhi vide File no. FC-11/115/2019-FC, dt.13.09.2019, Compensatory Afforestation is not required towards diversion of forest land upto 5.00 ha. with less than 50 trees per ha. Accordingly, for the subject project Compensatory Afforestation is not required, as the forest land proposed for diversion is 3.09 ha., which is less than 5.00 ha. Further, no tree felling is involved in the proposed length and width of the road, as the formation of BT road is on existing kutcha road.

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures in (2) sets, for diversion of 3.09 ha. of forest land in compt. no. 300, 301, 302 & 303 in Veduruwada –II RF, Vizianagaram for providing B.T. to the road from NR Puram (Ananthagiri (M) of Visakhapatnam District) to Eguvakondaparthi of Vizianagaram District in f/o Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU), Vizianagaram duly recommended in Part-IV is submitted herewith, with a request to accord Stage–I clearance under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 under LWE districts general approval category.

Encl: (2) sets of proposals

Yours faithfully,
N.PRATEEP KUMAR
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam and Divisional Forest Officer, Vizianagaram for information.

Copy to the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj (PIU) Division,

Vizianagaram for information and necessary action.



# **PART-IV**

Diversion of 3.09 ha. of forest land in compt. no. 300, 301, 302 & 303 of Veduruwada RF, Vizianagaram Division for formation of road from NR Puram to Eguvakondaparthi Road in f/o EE , PR (PIU), Vizianagaram.

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	Recommended.
	concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon)	

Date: 21.01.2020.

Place: Guntur

Signature

N. Prateep Kumar, IFS., Pri. Chief Conservator of Forests Name:

(Head of Forest Force) Office Seal: Andhra Pradesh

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