

I/671461/2022

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From  
Sri Y. Madhusudhana Reddy,  
IFS.,  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests  
&  
Head of Forest Force(FAC),  
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur – 522  
004.

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

**Ref.no.EFS02-15034/51/2020-FCASEC-PCCF/FCA-3,**  
**dated:25/11/2022.**

Sir,

Sub:-APFD – F(C)Act, 1980 – Diversion of 2.24 ha forest land for rehabilitation and up-gradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section (upto Bhalluguda) of NH-516E in Araku Range, Paderu Division – 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/153799/2022, dated: 30.03.2022.  
2. PCCF (HoFF), A.P., Guntur Rc. no. EFS02-15034/51/2020-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated:04.07.2022.  
3. CCF, Visakhapatnam Rc. no. 3956/2020/TO, dated: 18.08.2022 & 05.11.2022.

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It is submitted that, in the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, the Project Director, PIU, Araku has submitted proposal in PARIVESH portal for diversion of 2.24 ha forest land for rehabilitation and up-gradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section (upto Bhalluguda) of NH-516E in Araku Range, Paderu Division.

Accordingly, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam Circle, Visakhapatnam in the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited has processed the proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and submitted the statutory proposal in the prescribed proformae for diversion of 2.24 ha forest land for rehabilitation and up-gradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section (upto Bhalluguda) of NH-516E in Araku Range, Paderu Division with requisite certificates / undertakings.

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

- Forest area to an extent of 2.24 ha is required for rehabilitation and up-gradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section(upto Bhalluguda) of NH-516E in Araku Range, Paderu Division in favour of PD, PIU, Araku
- Cost of the project is mentioned as 51927 lakh

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- The user agency has justified that, the instant NH development is a part of MoRTH & World Bank's Green National Highway Corridor Projects (GNHCP). The alignment of roads being developed under GNHCP has been retained as existing alignments with minor realignments. As there is no alternative to this road, forest land to an extent of 2.24 ha is required to upgrade the instant road to NH Standards.
- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of CA, NPV, Addl. NPV, tree extraction charges etc.
- The area proposed for diversion is 2.24 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 300 permanent / Regular employment and 140000 person-days will be generated.
- The user agency has stated that, clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is not required.

**The Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu has submitted the following information in Part-II.**

- Forest area to an extent of 2.24 ha is required in compartment no.69, 70 of Arama RF and compartment no.62 of Kuridi RF for rehabilitation and upgradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section of NH-516E in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of PD, PIU, Araku.
- Legal Status of the forest is Arama RF and Kuridi RF notified under Section-15 of A.P. Forest Act, 1967.
- The density of vegetation is 0.5.
- No trees to be felled.
- The area is plain to moderate slope and there is little scope of soil erosion as the proposed area for diversion is very little.
- The area proposed for diversion is passing within the RF at a distance of 5-10 m from boundary.
- The proposed alignment does not form a part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, Elephant corridor etc.
- No Rare / endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna are found in the area.
- 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.
- No violation has been carried out by the User Agency.

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

The Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 15.06.2022 and stated that the density of the forest in the vicinity is about 0.50. There is already an existing old BT road to a length of 345 m with

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width ranging from 5.90 m to 6.40 m, with mean value of 6.00 m. (The carriageway in the road is ranging from 3.50 m to 3.60m. with shoulders width on either side ranging from 1.00 to 1.50m.). Further, as per the village elderly statement, the existing BT road (Paderu to Araku road) lying within the diversion proposal was formed in 1976-77 prior to 1980 and it is the main connectivity for Paderu to Araku. But there is no mention of this road under the list of right of ways in the Arama RF block Gazette notification issued in G.O.Ms.no.396, Forest & Rural Development (For.III) dt.28.05.1979. Copy of the Arama RF block Gazette notification, Survey of India Topo sheet of 1982 and village elderly are enclosed herewith.

The DFO, Paderu further reported that total area proposed for diversion is 2.24 ha in 3 bits (Bit-1, Compt.no.62, Kuridi RF, Bit-2, Compt.no.69, Arama RF & Bit-3, Compt.no.70, Arama RF). In Bit-3 (Compt.no.70, Arama RF), the existing road is falling in partly (upto 345 m length) in the proposed area for diversion for upgradation of existing road. The user agency has included the existing BT road in the total area proposed for diversion.

Further, the proposed project road (Paderu-Araku) connects Paderu, Hukumpeta, Dumbriguda and Araku Valley spanning through Visakhapatnam district, which forms an important artery for movement of main goods (e.g. coffee, species, agricultural produce and seasonal crops) between Andhra Pradesh and Orissa, and form main connectivity between Rajahmundry, Vizianagaram, Odisha and West Bengal. Site inspection report of the Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu is enclosed herewith.

Accordingly, in column no. 13 of Part -II, the Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu has **"Recommended"** the proposal subject to certain conditions in the interest of Forests and Wildlife Conservation.

Further as per para 2.5 (i) (f) 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, degraded forest land for Compensatory Afforestation has been identified to an extent of 5.02 ha in compartment no.407, Uppacheruvu RF in Pedabayalu (T) Range of Paderu Division which is double the extent of RF proposed for diversion (2.24 ha).

As per para 2.8 (ii) 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 Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu has prepared CA scheme to an extent of 4.48 ha for raising Compensatory Afforestation with a financial outlay of ₹26.11lakh for a period of 12 years including Advance operations, Maintenance of Nurseries and Raising of Plantations commencement from 2022-23 to 2033-34.

The Divisional Forest Officer , Paderu has inspected the degraded forest land identified for Compensatory Afforestation purpose in compartment no.407, Uppacheruvu RF on 15.06.2022. **Site inspection report of the Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu and suitability certificate of the land for raising CA has been uploaded at Nodal Officer level.**

The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, authenticated DGPS maps of degraded forest area are furnished with the proposal.

In Part -III, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam Circle, Visakhapatnam has agreed with the information furnished by the Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu and **Recommended** the proposal for diversion of forest land.

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In Part -IV, the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) & Nodal Officer, Andhra Pradesh has Recommended the proposal for diversion of forest land.

As per Government of India, MoEF &CC, New Delhi F.no.5-2/2017-FC, Dt. 28.03.2019, under RoFR Act, 2006, the user agency has uploaded the RoFR Certificate issued by the District Collector, Alluri Sitharama Raju District, Paderu in the prescribed format 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 at Divisional Forest Officer level.

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](http://www.parivesh.nic.in)) & a unique proposal number no. **FP/AP/ROAD/153799/2022** has been generated for this proposal. A copy of the Acknowledgment slip generated by the Ministry's web portal is enclosed herewith.

In view of the above, the statutory proposal along with necessary enclosures in (2) sets, for diversion of 2.24 ha forest land in compartment no.69, 70 of Arama RF and compartment no.62 of Kuridi RF for rehabilitation and upgradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section of NH-516E in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of PD, PIU, Araku 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.

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,  
Y Madhusudhana Reddy Ifs  
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests  
Head of Forest Force(FAC)

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Visakhapatnam Circle, Visakhapatnam for information.

Copy to the Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Project Director, Project Implementation Unit, Araku, ZP Colony, Near CBM Church, Araku Valley, Visakhapatnam District for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & CWLW, Office of the PCCF & HoFF, A.P, Guntur for information.

Copy to the Regional Officer, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Vijayawada for information.

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**PART-IV**

Diversion of 2.24 ha forest land in compartment no.69, 70 of Arama RF and compartment no.62 of Kuridi RF for rehabilitation and up-gradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section of NH-516E in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of PD, PIU, Araku....

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: 21/11/2022

Place : Guntur

Signature

Name: Anand Kumar Jha

Office Seal:

**A.K. JHA**  
Principal Chief Conservator  
of Forests (FCA) & Nodal Officer

Signed by Anand Kumar Jha

Date: 21-11-2022 13:12:23

Reason: Approved

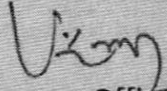
6351591/2022/FCA -PCCF

**SITE SUITABILITY CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that the identified degraded Forest land over an extent of 5.02 ha in the following Reserve Forest is suitable for raising of compensatory afforestation.

Sl. No.	Name of the Range	Section	Beat	RF/Block	Compt. No.	Degraded Forest area in ha
1	Pedabayalu	Pedabayalu	Ginnelakota	Uppacheruv	407	5.02

The CA scheme is prepared for raising of plantation and maintenance for 10 years with financial outlay of Rs. 26.11 lakh.

  
Divisional Forest Officer,  
Paderu.



Field inspection notes of Divisional Forest Officer, Paderu for the Compensatory afforestation Degraded Forest land is identified in Pedabayalu Range in lieu of diversion of 2.24 ha forest land for Rehabilitation and up-gradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section of NH-516E 15.06.2022.

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The user agency has identified 5.02 ha towards Compensatory afforestation Degraded forest land in Compartment no. 418 of Machipuram RF of Machipuram beat of Pedabayalu Range, Paderu division in lieu of diversion of 2.24 ha forest land for Rehabilitation and up-gradation to two lane with paved shoulder configuration of Paderu to Araku Section of NH-516E in Araku Range.

I have inspected the identified Compensatory Afforestation (CA)" Degraded forest land with the Forest Range Officer, Pedabayalu, and staff along with the user agency staff and found the selected site is suitable for afforestation.

Sd/-K.Vinod Kumar  
Divisional Forest Officer,  
Paderu.

//t.c.b.o//

  
Superintendent