

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ROADS AND BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri A.D.D Samarpana Rau.,
Executive Engineer,
(R&B) Division,
Guntur.

To
The District Forest Officer,
Guntur.

Lr No.AIIMS/Eastern Road- Diversion of Forest Land/J.T.O-3/2022,Dt.27-05-22

Sir,

Sub:- (R&B) Division, Guntur – Forest Department, Guntur Division – Proposal for diversion of 0.46 Ha. of Forest land for alignment of approach road till main entrance gate of AIIMS (Eastern road – Bell mouth) in Compartment No.132, Mangalagiri Block, Tadepalli RF, Guntur Division in f/o Executive Engineer, R&B Division Guntur- Further information called for – Report Submitted - Reg.

- Ref:-** 1. Govt. of India, MOEF&CC, Chennai, FNo.4-APB038 / 2017- CHN / 0951 dt 20-06-2017.
2. T.O Ltr No. EE/GNT/AIIMS/Diversion of Forest Land/ATO/2020, Dt. 29-09-2020.
3. MoM held under chairman ship of Chief Secretary to Govt.of AP, dt24-12-20.
4. Rc No. EFS - 1503 4/ 18 / 2021-FCA SEC-PCCF / FCA-3 dt 28-04-2021 of Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests, Aranya Bhavan, Guntur.
5. Online Proposal No. FP/AP/ROAD/145376/2021 for 0.46ha.
6. F.No4-APB151/2022-VIJ/272 dt 11-04-2022 of Inspector General of Forests(Central), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Vijayawada.
7. GoAP Memo No. 15/Section.II/2022/(1610054), EFS&T (Sec.II) Dept., dt:27.04.2022 communicated by PCCF,AP,Guntur, Rc.No: EFS02/15034/18/2021-FCA SEC PCCF/FCA-3, Dt:09-05-2022 forwarded by CCF, Guntur Rc.No:1589/2021/TO, Dt:11-05-2022.
8. DFO, Guntur, Rc.No:2077/2021/TO, Dt:12-05-2022.
9. Minutes of meeting held on 23-05-2022 convened by Collector & District Magistrate, Guntur, Dt: 24-05-2022.
10. T.O Ltr No. AIIMS/Eatern Road-Diversion of Forest Land/JTO-3/2022 Dt. 26-05-2022

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With reference to the 7th cited, it is submitted that in the reference 5th cited, the full shape proposals in respect of diversion of 0.46 Ha. of Forest land for “**Alignment of approach road till main entrance gate of AIIMS (Eastern road – Bell mouth)**” in Compartment No.132, Mangalagiri Block, Tadepalli RF, Guntur Division in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division, Guntur was submitted to the Government through proper channel for obtaining In-principle (Stage-I) approval.

After careful examination of the proposal, the Government of India have requested the following additional information.

- a. Compliance report on condition stipulated in the Stage-I approval order No:4-APB038/2017-CHN/0951, dated:20-06-2017 shall be submitted in full shape;
- b. Equivalent suitable non-forest area i.e 0.941 ha + 0.46 ha = 1.401 ha shall be identified for CA purpose. Details of such CA area, map, kml file, CA scheme shall be submitted under instant proposal;

In view of the above, I submit the point wise replies are as follows.

Reply to point (a):-The Government of India vide Lr.F. No.4-APB 038/2017-CHN/0951, dt.20.06.2017 have accorded permission In-principle (Stage-I) for diversion of 0.941 Ha of forest land in compartment No.132, Mangalagiri Block of Tadepalli Reserve forest in Territorial Division Guntur and District Guntur for formation of a new road from NH-16 to AIIMS, Mangalagiri in favour of the Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Guntur subject to fulfillment of certain conditions laid down therein.

Accordingly, DFO, Guntur has requested vide Rc.No:828/2016/TO, Dt:07-07-2017 to submit condition wise compliance report. Accordingly an amount of Rs. 18.891 lakhs was deposited through SBI Treasury Branch Guntur dt 29-12-2017 towards raising of Avenue Plantation, NPV & Raising & maintenance of twice the trees to be felled in the proposed diversion area. As per GOI guidelines The Chief Conservator of Forests, Guntur Circle, Guntur accorded working permission vide Rc No.890/2017-TO, Dated.03.01.2018 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions.

The Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P, Guntur vide Rc.No.EFS 02-15034/57/2019-FCA-SEC-PCCF/FCA3, dt.01.09.2019 has pointed out that on verification of the diverted forest area for formation of a road in GIS wing, the user agency has formed a road beyond the forest area diverted for the purpose. Further, some electrical poles seem to be erected along the Road portion. These works are violation to the Forest (Conservator) Act, 1980. Accordingly, Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P, Guntur directed the District Forest Officer, Guntur to inspect the area thoroughly and submit detailed report together with status of the project duly giving the details cases booked against the violations if any.

The District Forest Officer, Guntur has inspected the diverted area on.28.10.2019, together with the Superintending Engineer, APSPDCL, (CRDA) Guntur and the Forest Range Officer, Guntur, with Section & Beat staff.

During the inspection, District Forest Officer, Guntur has observed that 100'-0" road leading to AIIMS to whom the forest area of 0.941 Ha diverted, found that five (5) electrical poles were laid by APSPDCL authorities, including three (3) studs in contravention to the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Accordingly, notices were issued to the Superintending Engineer, APSPDCL (CRDA), Guntur & the Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Guntur vide this office Rc.No:828/2017/TO, dated:10-01-2020 directing to furnish a detailed report on violation took place in the proposed diversion area, so as to submit a report to the competent authorities for taking an appropriate action as deems fit and proper.

In this connection, I submit that, an estimate for formation of the road and its allied sanctioned for an amount of Rs 10.00crores in the forest land for an extent of 0.941Ha. On obtaining of working permission, the formation of road work was taken up, within the alignment proposed in the diversion proposal, without any deviation, duly following the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and AP Forest Act, 1967. Further, it was also submitted that before execution of road work, it has been noticed that there are existing 33 KV electrical line with towers under Velagapudi and Tadikonda feeders in the proposed road alignment wherein the Stage-I approvals accorded for formation of road from NH-16 to AIIMS in the extent of 0.941 Ha. At this juncture, the Superintending Engineer, (R&B) Circle, Guntur being the representative of user agency requested the APSPDCL, Mangalagiri authorities (Application No: 16221C02449 dt 11-05-2017) to shift the existing 33 KV Electrical line together with towers. Accordingly, the APSPDCL authorities have erected (5) electrical poles and (3) studs in the proposed diversion area. Moreover, the R&B department did not accord any permission to the APSPDCL for erection of electrical poles and studs in the proposed diversion area only. As such there is no violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and AP Forest Act, 1967, in concerned R&B Department

Further I submit that, the Compliance report on conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval order No:4-APB038/2017-CHN/0951, dated:20-06-2017 was already submitted in full shape, vide reference 2nd & 10th cited above.

Reply to point (b):- It is submitted that the Government of India vide Lr.F. No.4-APB 038/2017-CHN/0951, dt.20.06.2017 have accorded permission In-principle (Stage-I) for diversion of 0.941 Ha of forest land in compartment No.132, Mangalagiri Block of Tadepalli Reserve forest in Territorial Division Guntur and District Guntur for formation of a new road from NH-16 to AIIMS, Mangalagiri in favour of the Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Guntur subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. In this regard the condition wise compliance reports submitted vide reference 2nd cited. Accordingly, the working permission was accorded vide reference 1st cited. As such

formation of road work was executed, within the alignment proposed in the diversion proposal, without any deviation, duly following the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and AP Forest Act, 1967.

Further I submit that on completion of road work from NH-16 to AIIMS, Mangalagiri, a new proposal was brought forth during the review meeting held under Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to Govt. of AP on 24-12-2020, it was instructed R&B department to identify additional patch of forest land needed for alignment of approach road till main entrance gate of AIIMS and to be taken up for Environmental clearance. Consequently, a separate proposal for an extent of 0.46 Ha was submitted vide reference 5th cited for diversion of Forest land, for alignment of approach road till main entrance gate of AIIMS (Eastern road - Bell mouth) in Compartment No.132, Mangalagiri Block, Tadepalli RF, Guntur Division in favour of the Executive Engineer, R&B Division, Guntur.

Thus it is not an intentional action either to bypass CA or otherwise. Further, the District Collector has instructed the R&B authorities during the review meeting held on 23-05-2022 to submit the justification report on remarks called for by the Forest Department authorities vide F.No:4-APB151/2022-VIJ/272, dated:11-04-2022 of MoEF&CC.

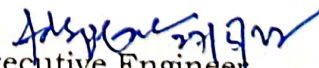
In view of the circumstances explained above I submit that the formation of the road (Four Lane with Central Divider) was executed within the alignment mentioned in the diversion proposal and not violated any the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and AP Forest Act, 1967. The violation, if any is caused by the APSPDCL, Mangalagiri authorities only.

This is submitted for favour of kind information & necessary action.

Encl: 1) Compliance report for 0.941 Ha.

2) MoM held on 23-05-2022 convened by Collector & District Magistrate

Yours faithfully,


Executive Engineer,
(R&B) Division, Guntur.