



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE
समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय
INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE
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BY SPEED POST

F.No.4-KRC1321/2021-BAN/ 1475
Dated the 28th February, 2022

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka,
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department,
M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bangalore - 560 001.

Subject: Diversion of 14.0567 ha (revised from 16.8014 ha) of forest land in various Survey Numbers of Thoppahalli, Mandyala, Sunnakallu, Yendaguttapalli, Rayalpadu and Guntapalli villages, Srinivasapur Taluk, Kolar District for widening (Two-laning with Paved shoulder) of existing State Highway (SH-82) from Chintamani to Andhra Pradesh Border (total length 39.8 km) under Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project (KSHIP-III) in favour of the Executive Engineer, Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project (KSHIP), Tumkur -reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. FEE 54 FLL 2021 (e) dated 09/11/2021 and 10/02/2022 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section '2' of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above project.

The proposal was examined by the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) constituted under sub-rule (1) of rule 4A of the Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003 in its meeting held on 17/02/2022. REC noted that forest area proposed for diversion of Toll Plaza and Rest to an extent of 2.7447 ha is not site-specific which can be shifted to non forest area. During the meeting, Nodal Officer (FCA) Government of Karnataka appraised the Committee regarding importance of proposed road and requested to consider the proposal for issuing in principle approval excluding the area proposed for toll plaza and rest area.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the approval of the Regional Empowered Committee, **in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance** of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of 14. 0567 ha. (Out of 16.8014 ha) of forest land in Srinivasapura Taluk, Kolar District for widening (Two-laning with Paved shoulder) of existing State Highway (SH-82) from Chintamani to Andhra Pradesh Border (total length 39.8 km) under Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project (KSHIP-III) in favour of the Executive Engineer, Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project (KSHIP), Tumkur, subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department.

1. The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the guideline issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06/01/2022. The requisite funds shall be

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- transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State Concerned.
2. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation over an extent of 14.0567 ha. of non-forest land in Sy.No. 9, Bettada Hosahalli village, Kasaba Hobli, Kolar Taluk and District at the current wage rate, in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme shall include demarcation of CA area using appropriate fencing, provision for tall plants for better survival, provision for watering and SMC works and appropriate provision for anticipated cost escalation for the works scheduled for subsequent years.
 3. The non forest land proposed for Compensatory Afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in the name of forest department and notified as RF/PF prior to Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non forest land under section 4 or section 29 of Indian forest Act, 1927, or under relevant section of State Forest Act, as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Government prior to Stage-II approval.
 4. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
 5. The State Government while issuing the working permission shall ensure that trees to be felled for the project be restricted to the 14.0567 ha only.
 6. The village wise Sy. Nos of the forest land to be diverted along with GPS co-ordinates shall be furnished prior to Stage-II approval.
 7. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
 8. The KML file of the area diverted (14.0567 ha) and area proposed for CA shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with compliance report.
 9. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
 10. The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence as prescribed by this Ministry in it's letter No. 11-9/1998-FC dated 3rd August 2009 read with 05.07.2013 with necessary enclosures, in support thereof.
 11. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
 12. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the

B: Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over equal identified non-forest land (NFL) land within three years from the date of Stage –II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency and at least 1000 plants per hectare shall be planted over identified non- forest land. If it is not possible to plant so many saplings in the area identified for CA, then balance saplings will be planted in degraded forest land in Guntapalli village Sy. No. 16, Rayalpad Hobli, Srinivaspura Taluk, Kolar district as proposed by the State Government, as per prescriptions of approved working plan with provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance.
3. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
4. All statutory clearances including Environment Clearance, if applicable shall be obtained before commencing the work in forest area.
5. Tree felling shall be restricted to the barest minimum possible and under confirmation from the local forest officials.
6. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
7. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 14.0567 ha.
8. Suitable signages for speed regulation and animal safety will be erected along the road through forest areas.
9. The User Agency / concessionaire at their cost shall take up strip plantation on both sides and central verge of the road as per the IRC norms, wherever possible in consultation with State Forest Department as per the guidelines issued by Ministry vide letter No.FC-11/39/2020-FC dated 08/09/2021.
10. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
11. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
12. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
13. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be

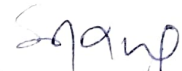
transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

14. The forest land shall not be used for any other purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
15. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
16. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
17. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area.
18. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year.
19. The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The User Agency shall take up the work as per the Guidelines in force and after ensuring that all necessary clearances for the entire stretch are in place. Working permission, if any issued, shall be intimated to IRO, Bengaluru. Transfer of forest land shall not be effected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall be revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully,



(M.K. Shambhu)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)


Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) /Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
3. The Executive Engineer, Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project (KSHIP), 1st Floor, PWD Annexue Building, K.R.Circle, Bengaluru -560 001.
4. Guard file.



(M.K. Shambhu)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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28/2/2022