

I/425570/2023

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ  
ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ  
(ಅರಣ್ಯಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ  
Office of  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)



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Old File No. A5(2).GFL.CR-03/2019-20

E-88119

E-office File No.KFD/HOFF/A5-2(GFL)/129/2019-FC

Date 08-05-2023

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government  
Forests, Ecology & Environment Department  
M.S. Building, Bengaluru-560 001

Sir

**Sub:** Diversion of 2.5315 hectare of forest land in Rekhyia village, Mangaluru District for four laning of Addahole (near Gundya) (existing chainage KM 263 + 000, Design Chainage KM 255+140) to Bantwal Cross in favour of Project Director, Project Implementation Unit (PIU), National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Mangaluru.

**Proposal No. FP/KA/ROAD/120467/2021[FORM-A]**

- Ref:**
1. This office letter of even number dated 06-02-2023 [submission of additional information to GOK], 14-03-2023 [communication of GOI EDS query to field officers and User Agency]
  2. Government of Karnataka letter No. FEE 58 FLL 2021 (e) dated 24-02-2023 [communication of additional information to GOI] and 13-03-2023 [Communication of GOI EDS query]
  3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, integrated regional office, Bengaluru letter F.No. 4-KRB1313/2021-BAN/394 dated 03-03-2023 [EDS query]
  4. DGM(T) & Project Director, National Highway Authority of India, project implementation Unit- Mangalore office Letter No. 17012/1/2020/PIU/(Mnglr)/757 dated 30-03-2023 [reply submitted to DCF Mangaluru]
  5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Mangaluru letter No. LAND CR/69/road widening/2011-12 (addl.land) dated 31-03-2023 [reply submitted to CCF Mangaluru circle]
  6. Chief Conservator of Forests, Mangaluru letter No.A3/CR-35/ Addahole (FC)/21-22 dated 19-04-2023 [reply submitted to this office]

With reference to the above subject, this office vide ref (1) letter dated 06-02-2023 has submitted additional information to Government of Karnataka for seeking 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Government of Karnataka vide ref (2) dated 24-02-2023 has forwarded the proposal to Government of India.



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The Government of India vide ref (3) has raised EDS query and directed to submit the information. The Government of Karnataka vide ref (2) letter dated 13-03-2023 had communicated the same to this office and was further communicated by this office vide ref (1) dated 14-03-2023 to User Agency and field officers.

In response, User Agency vide ref (4) has submitted the information to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Mangaluru who, after verification, vide ref (5) has submitted the information to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Mangaluru and who has, in turn vide ref (6) has submitted it to this office.

Based on the reports obtained from the User Agency and field officers, the information is furnished below.

Government of India EDS query dated 03-03-2023	Replies
<p>The Government of India has informed that the proposal was discussed in the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) meeting held on 01-03-2023 and REC after detailed deliberation recommended that the User Agency in consultation with State Forest Department shall decide on the exact location-wise elevated corridors/underpass for the elephants with specifications. The area proposed for diversion, if needed, may be modified accordingly.</p> <p>The State Government may also provide the comments sought by IRO based on the site inspection report.</p>	<p>As per directions issued in REC meeting dated 01-03-2023, a detailed joint site visit was conducted by field officers and User Agency on 25.03.2023 to decide on the exact location-wise elevated corridors /underpasses for the elephants with specification, in presence of following officers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Deputy Conservator of Forest, Mangalore Division.</li> <li>The DGM(T) &amp; Project Director, NHAI PIU Mangaluru along with Site Engineer.</li> <li>Key personals (TL, RE, SBE) of Authority Engineer, M/s. Chaitanya Projects Consultancy Pvt. Ltd., in association with M/s. Shree Bhawani Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd</li> <li>The Project Manager, M/s Shri S. M. Autade Pvt. Ltd.,</li> <li>The Assistant Conservator of Forest, Puttur Sub Division &amp; Range Forest Officer, Uppinagady Range.</li> <li>Other Concerned officials of State Forest Department.</li> </ol> <p>Elephant Corridor/ Elephant crossing has been jointly verified at the site, further after consultation with forest officials and local public residing in the vicinity, the exact location has been finalized and as per site condition/ technical feasibility it was finalized to construct Elephant Underpasses (EUP) by NHAI with following configuration;</p>



2023

Design Chainage (km)	Total Width (m)	Clear Span/ Opening (m)	Vertical Clearance
266+960	2 x 11.5	3X25	7.5 m

Further user agency submitted proposed General Arrangement of Drawing and Plan & profile of proposed EUP @ Ch 266+960 and same has been verified and found in order and enclosed herewith.

User Agency submitted that the area already proposed for diversion i.e. 2.5315 Ha of forest land is enough to accommodate / fit the proposed EUP @ Ch 266+960 and does not require further additional forest land.

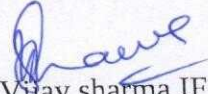
The detailed comments on the issues raised in the site inspection report dated 17.05.2022 submitted by the User Agency and Field Officers has been verified and same is enclosed.

Further, the User Agency has informed that the subject project was awarded and the new contractor is on board and about 51.41 % physical progress has been completed except in 1.12 Km where 2.5315 Ha Forest land is proposed for diversion. This project is proposed/expected to be completed and opened to public likely by Sep.2023.

In view of the above, it is requested to move the matter with the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Bengaluru to accord 'in principle' approval (Stage-I) under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the project.

The relevant documents in 3 sets are submitted here with for kind perusal and further action. The present status of the proposal obtained from the web-portal is also appended for necessary action

Yours faithfully

  
(Vijay sharma IFS)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA)

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

Copy to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Mangaluru Division, Mangaluru for information.

Copy to the Project Director & DGM (T), National Highway Authority of India, Project Implementation Unit, Door No.3-29, Bethel, Tharethota, near Pumpwell, NH-66, Mangaluru-575 005 for information.