

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Sec.II) DEPARTMENT
Letter.No.1481/Section.II/2021/1226406 Dated:12.10.2023

From
The Special Secretary to Government,
E.F.S&T Department,
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi,
Amaravati-522503.

To
The Inspector General of Forests (Central)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Sub-office of Regional Office,
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road,
Vijayawada-520010 (w.e)

Sir,

Sub: E.F.S. & T. Dept.- Diversion of 11.03 ha of forest land in Compartment No.253 of Kavalakuntla Extn.A&B in Porumamilla Range of Proddatur (WL) Division for upgrading and widening of the existing road to two lane with paved configuration of NH-167B from Km 51/000 to 58/500 i.e., from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) NH Division, Kadapa - Proposal submitted under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for approval - Additional information Submission off - Reg.

Ref: 1)From the PCCF & HoFF, Lr.Rc.No.EFS2-15034/24/2018/FCA-SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dt.21.08.2020 and even no.21.03.2021.
2)State Govt.Lr.No.1481/Sec.II/2021, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dt.01.09.2021.
3)From the IGF(Central), GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada,Lr.F.No.4-APC134/2021-VIJ/77, dt.30.09.2021.
4)From the PCCF&HoFF, A.P., Lr.Rc.no. EFS02-15034/24/2018/FCA SEC -PCCF/FCA-3, Dated:08.09.2022 and even No.,dated:26.09.2023.

With reference to your letter 3rd cited, I am to inform that the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, in the reference 4th cited has furnished the following additional information for consideration and accord necessary approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Sl.No.	Information requested by Gol, MoEF&CC	Information submitted by PCCF & HoFF
1.	Legal status of the existing road i.e., whether the existing road is a notified RoW or any prior approval accorded by the Central Government under FCA, 1980 etc., and supporting documents like RoW notification with clearly indicating actual length & width of RoW, and copy of the approval order under FCA, 1980 as the case may be, to be furnished.	The proposal road diversion of 11.03 ha area for up-gradation of NH 167 B from km 51/500 is passing though Kavalkuntla Extn.A & B RF, Tekurpeta Beat, Porumamilla Range, Proddatur Division. The Kavalkuntla Ext.A & B RF are notified under Section 16 of Madras Forest Act-V of 1882 vide Proceedings of Board of Revenue (Land & Revenue) Forest no.133, dt.25.03.1896. The existing road is already a notified Right of Way over a length of about (2) miles with a width of 3 feet as per notification of the Kavalakkuntla Extn.A & B RF. Copy of notification is enclosed. Further, as per the block history of working plan for the forests of Kadapa District


[Contd..P2]

		(period from 1994-95 to 2003-04) issued in PCCF Circular no.07/91-S3, Ref.no.73553/90-S3, dt.16.05.1991, the legal status of the road is mentioned as civil road from Tekurpet to Seetharamapuram (Nellore District) to a length of 8 km. But, the width of the road is not mentioned.
2.	Reasons For not including of existing road portion under the area proposed for diversion.	The existing road portion is already a notified Right of Way (ROW) over a length of about two mile with a width of 3 feet, as per notification of Kavalakuntla Extn.A & B RF. Hence, the User Agency has proposed 11.03 ha forest area for diversion excluding the existing road portion.
3.	Actual length and width of the road.	The User agency submitted that the NH-167 B road from km 51/500 to km 58/500 is passing through Kavalakuntla RF connecting to Porumamamilla and Setharamapuram. Since 1968, this road from Porumamamilla to Setharamapuram was a BT road under the jurisdiction of the PWD (R&B), Kadapa and Nellore Divisions. As per the road inspection note book of PWD (R&B) Department, signed by EE, Nellore, the land width (ROW) was mentioned as 30 m and the existing carriage width 7.5 m (i.e., 3.70 m + 1.90 m gravel shoulders on both the sides). Hence the existing road width of 7.5 m was not included in the forest land diversion and additional width on either side of the existing road was proposed based on site conditions Kas per the DGPS survey). The details may be seen.
4.	Suitable wildlife mitigation plan duly vetted by the CWLW Andhra Pradesh shall be submitted, in case the comments of the CWLW Andhra Pradesh are in affirmative as to the presence of the wildlife in the proposed area.	<p>The forest area proposed for diversion does not form part of National Park, Wild Life Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve and Elephant Corridor etc. The DFO, Proddatur WL has submitted a report to him in Rc.no.1155/2017-P8, dt. 17.08.2020 stating that the movement of Herbivore and Carnivores like Sloth bear, Panther was observed during field inspection in the proposed project area of forest land. The proposed road may dislocate the existence of Wild animals and hamper their survival.</p> <p>Hence, to facilitate easy movement/undisturbed environment to the existing wild animals, it is proposed for construction of (4) nos. underpasses in the proposed forest area with a cost of Rs.2.00 crore (Rs.50.00 lakh each). Further, the CF, Kurnool has requested to insist the User Agency for construction of underpasses and to erect maximum number of extensive signage boards in the proposed diverted forest area with the cost of the User Agency.</p>

		The Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden has approved the Wildlife Mitigation and Rc.no.1929/2022/WL-2(i), Conservation Plan dt.08.08.2022. Copy of the approved Wildlife Mitigation and Conservation Plan is enclosed.
5.	As the important flora like red sanders are existing in the forest area and 2410 numbers of red sanders trees are proposed to be felled. The User Agency may re-examine the width of the road and may reduce the width, if possible compromising standards without safety of such roads so as to reduce number of trees to be felled.	The User Agency submitted that, the width of the RoW considered beyond forest stretch is 30 m as per the National High Way standards. Consideration for reduction in road width is already taken care of and a reduced width of 20 m is proposed in the forest stretch. Due to the existence of number of hair pin bends and sharp curves with steep gradients, further reduction will have an impact on road user safety issues.

2. I request you to place the above additional information before the REC for its consideration and accord approval under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 11.03 ha of forest land in Compartment No.253 of Kavalakuntla Extn.A & B in Porumamilla Range of Proddatur (WL) Division for upgrading and widening of the existing road to two lane with paved configuration of NH-167B from Km 51/000 to 58/500 i.e., from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) NH Division, Kadapa.

Yours faithfully,


 for Special Secretary to Government

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
 Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri.
 The Executive Engineer (R&B) NH Division, Kadapa.
 SF/SC.

7954314/2023/SEC-II-EFS01

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri Y. Madhusudhana Reddy, I.F.S.,
Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh,
'Aranya Bhavan',
Mangalagiri,
Guntur -522 503.

To
The Spl.Chie Secretary to Government,
Environment, Forests, Science
and Technology Department,
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat,
Velagapudi,
Amaravathi - 522 503.

Rc.no. EFS02-15034/24/2018/FCA SEC -PCCF/FCA-1, Dated:26/09/2023.

Sir,

Sub: APFD - F (C) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 11.03 ha of forest land in Proddatur WL Division (presently in Kadapa division) in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B), NH Division, Kadapa, for up-gradation of NH-167 B from Km51/000 to Km 58/500 i.e., from Porumamilla to Chandrasekharampuram with two lanes and paved shoulders under NHDP -IV in the State of Andhra Pradesh - Proposal submitted to Government - Additional information called for - Submitted - Reg.

Ref:- 1. Govt.in Memo.no.1481/Section.II/2021(1226406), EFS&T (Sec.II) Dept., dt.10.10.2022.
2. CCF, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool, Rc.no.1885/2017-TO, dt.19.09.2023.
3. DFO, Kadapa, Rc.no.1155/2017/A14, dt.22.09.2023.

* * *

Kind attention is invited to the reference cited, wherein Government have requested to furnish a detailed report on area statement in respect of the proposal for diversion of 11.03 ha. of forest land in Compartment no.253 of Kavalkuntla Extn.A&B RF in Porumamilla Range of Proddatur WL Division (presently in Kadapa District) for upgrading and widening of the existing road to two lane with paved configuration of NH-167B from Km.51/000 to Km 58/500 i.e. from Porumamilla to ChandraseharaPuram in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B), NH Division, Kadapa, for further processing of the proposal.

In the reference 2nd cited, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool has submitted additional information which is as follows;

Area statement :-

The District Forest Officer, Kadapa submitted the following area statement.

Abstract statement showing Diversion of forest land for Rehabilitation and Up-gradation of NH-167B from Km 43/097 to 99/103 i.e from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram to two lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP IV in Andhra Pradesh in Comp No - 253 of Kalavakunta Extn A&B RF of Tekurupet Beat of Porumamilla Range of YSR(T) Division				
Sl. no.	Chainage in Km		Description	Average Area (Ha)
	From	To		
1	50.9500	52.9500	RHS6	0.99
2	53.3600	53.1800	RHS5	0.03

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3	53.4300	54.1300	RHS4	0.11
4	54.1300	56.9800	RHS3	1.25
5	56.9800	57.0400	RHS2	0.01
6	56.0800	58.5500	RHS1	1.09
7	50.9500	55.8500	LHS2	4.41
8	55.9700	58.5500	LHS1	1.7
9	57.8800	58.1900	Truck Lay By	1.44
Total Area				11.03

Further, the District Forest Officer, Kadapa has reported that, the total length of road passing through the RF area proposed for diversion is 7.600 km (or) 7600 m. The width of the proposed diversion area varies from 1.50 m to 12.5 m as per the site condition. Since the road is passing through Ghat portion with many curves and links uniform width of the diversion area is not proposed. Accordingly, forest diversion area is arrived at 11.03 ha.

Further, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool has reported that, the user agency has uploaded revised KML layer of the forest area required for diversion by reducing RoW required from 20 m. to 16.20 m. without exceeding forest area required for diversion i.e., 11.03 ha. Out of 16.20 ha RoW, the user agency has requested exemption for existing BT road of width 3.70 m from obtaining forest clearance in the subject proposal as the existing road of 3.7 m width was constructed prior to 1980.

Regarding evidence to show that, the existing BT road was constructed prior to 1980, the District Forest Officer, Kadapa has reported that, the user agency i.e., Executive Engineer (R&B), NH Division, Kadapa in Lr.no.M-K-N/NH-167B/A3/2022-23, dt.20.05.2023 has submitted a report stating that, "earlier road from Porumamilla to Seetharamapuram is a Major District Road (MDR) (assigned road No.4809). The total length of the road is 25.20Kms. Out of this, the road from Km 0/0 to 15/2 is passing through Kadapa District and it is under the control of (R&B) Kadapa division and from Km 15/2 to 25/2 is passing through Nellore district and it is under the control of (R&B) Nellore division. The total length of the road i.e., 35.20 Km was black topped in the year 1968 simultaneously by both (R&B) Kadapa and Nellore divisions in their respective jurisdiction. This road is an inter district road and it was renewed between 1973 - 1975. Subsequently, the BT patch work was also done in the Financial Year 1983-84. Unfortunately, due to heavy floods occurred to Buggavanka river on 16.10.2001, part of Kadapa town was inundated including (R&B) Division Office, Kadapa. During floods some of the records of (R&B) Division were inundated including the record of the present road. However, the Measurement Book (M.Book) showing the recorded evidence of BT patch work taken up for Porumamilla - Seetharamapuram road from Km 0/0 to 15/2 in the year 1983-84 was available (copy submitted).

The existing road with width of 3.70 m is also a part and parcel of the proposal for up-gradation of NH-167 B from km.58/500 to km.62/963 i.e., from Porumamilla to Chandrasekharapuram to two lane

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with paved shoulders under NHDP-IV in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of EE (R&B), NH Division, Vijayawada which was accepted and considered by the REC in its meeting held on 23.11.2022 and accordingly issued Stage-I approval vide GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada F.no.GoI, MoEF &CC, IRO, Vijayawada F.no.4-APC191/2022-Vij/983, dated:02.06.2023 received through GoAP Memo No.2102/section.II/2022/1838119, EFS & T (Section-II) Dept., dated: 27.06.2023.

Further, the user agency has reported that, normally after laying BT road, a minimum of "6 to 8" years' time will be required for sanction of next renewal. If the sanction of renewal is delayed then in order to maintain the road in traffic worthy condition, BT patch work will be taken up. Accordingly, the BT patch work was done in the year 1983-84. If we consider a minimum of "6" years time period for BT renewal and going back it is evident that, the road was black topped prior to 1980 itself. Therefore by going through the above facts it is known that the road from Km 0/0 to 15/2 of Porumamilla to Seethararnapuram (Kadapa district jurisdiction) was black topped prior to 1980 itself. Hence, the user agency has requested the authority to consider the existing road width as 3.70 mt only since it was black topped in the year 1968 i.e. prior to year 1980 and the road was already under usage as per their records.

Further, the user agency has informed that, the (R&B) NH Division would form the road with in the forest are required for diversion (i.e., 11.03 ha) of Kavalakuntla Reserved Forest area which was requested earlier vide their letter dated 05.01.2023. Accordingly the total land width required would be restricted to 16.20 m. instead of 20.00 m. proposed earlier duly not exceeding the earlier forest diversion area proposals.

Further, the District Forest Officer, Kadapa has submitted in the most of the stretch, the existing road width is 3.70 m. (BT). Gazette notification is saying that, RoW is not available. He referred to the block history of working of plan in which it was mentioned about 3 feet right of way for cart track. The user agency has submitted a certificate that road was formed before 1980 duly signed by AE, DE & EE of R&B NH Division, Kadapa. However, the user agency is requesting irrespective of RoW as per Gazette, consider 3.7 m. exemption as per clarification of MoEF letter dated:15.03-2023.

The additional information submitted by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool is submitted herewith.

The Government are requested to consider the additional information and forward the same to the GoI, MoEF&CC, R.O (Sub-office), Vijayawada for taking necessary action under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Encl:- As above.

Yours faithfully,
Y Madhusudhana Reddy Ifs
Prl.Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force

7954314/2023/SEC-II-EFS01

Copy to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Kurnool Circle, Kurnool.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Kadapa for information.

Copy to the Executive Engineer (R&B) NH Division, Kadapa for information.

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Madhusudhana Reddy Ifs
Date: 26-09-2023 17:09:55
Reason: Approved

Received through
mail on 25/9/23
ER

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From
Sri P.V. Sandeep Reddy, IFS.,
District Forest Officer,
YSR (T) Division, Kadapa.

To
The Chief Conservator of Forests,
Kurnool Circle,
Kurnool.

Rc. No.1155/2017/A14, dated:22-09-2023.

Sir,

Sub:- AP Forest Department – (R&B) NH Division, Kadapa – “Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH- 167B from Km 43/097 to 99/103 (Porumamilla to C.S.Puram via Seetharampuram) in the state of Andhra Pradesh to two lanes with paved shoulders under NH (O) on EPC basis- Form-A(Part-I) proposals for Stage-I approval uploaded by the user agency in the Parivesh portal – Request for consideration of existing road width as 3.70 mt – Report submitted – Area Statement submission of - Regarding.

Ref:- 1)This office Rc.No.1155/2017/A14, dated:15-09-2023.
2) Oral instructions from PCCF(FCA) Section,O/o PCCF & HoFF,
A.P.Mangalagiri on 21-09-2023.

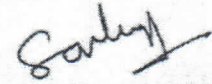
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In continuation of this office reference cited it is submitted the as per the oral instruction received from the FCA Section of Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri on 21-09-2023 a detailed area statement in connection with subject project submitted by the Executive Engineer (R&B), NH Division, Kadapa is submitted herewith for onward submission to the PCCF & HoFF, A.P.Mangalagiri for taking further action in the matter.

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

Encl: Area Statement

Yours faithfully


District Forest Officer,
YSR(T) Division, Kadapa

Name of work:- Rehabilitation and Up-gradation of NH-167B from Km 43/097 to 99/103 i.e from Porumamilla to Chandrasekhara Puram to two lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP IV in Andhra Pradesh in Comp No - 253 of Kalavakunta Extn A&B RF of Tekurupet Beat of Porumamilla Range of YSR(T) Division				
Abstract statement showing Diversion of forest land for 11.03 Ha				
S.No	Chainage in Km		Description	Area (Ha)
	From	To		
1	50.9500	52.9500	RHS6	0.99
2	53.3600	53.1800	RHS5	0.03
3	53.4300	54.1300	RHS4	0.11
4	54.1300	56.9800	RHS3	1.25
5	56.9800	57.0400	RHS2	0.01
6	56.0800	58.5500	RHS1	1.09
7	50.9500	55.8500	LHS2	4.41
8	55.9700	58.5500	LHS1	1.7
9	57.8800	58.1900	Truck Lay By	1.44
Total Area				11.03

Note :

1.Total Length of existing road passing through the Reserve Forest area proposed for diversion is 7.60 Kms (or) 7600mts.

2.Width of diversion area is not uniform and it varies from 1.50 mts to 12.5mts as per site condition. Since the road is passing through Ghat portion with mini curves and kinks, uniform width of diversion area is not proposed.Accordingly forest diversion area is arrived at 11.03 Ha dividing it is to blocks.

3.Width of existing black topped road passing through the Reserve Forest is 3.70mts.

N. S. Rao 21/9/23
Sub-Divisional Forest Officer
Proddatur Sub-Division
YSR (T) Division, Kadapa

[Signature] 21/09/23
Forest Range Officer
Porumamilla

[Signature] 21/9/23
Executive Engineer
(R&B) NH, Division, Kadapa

[Signature]
District Forest Officer,
YSR (T) Division
Kadapa.