

Office of the Deputy Conservator
of Forests, Karwar Division
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Karnataka



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No: B4/GFL/FCA/SR-11/2011-12/2024-25

Dated:03-10-2024

To,

Conservator of Forests,
Kanara Circle,
Sirsi.

Sir,

SUB: Re-diversion of 2.469 ha. forest land in Hattikeri Village Sy. No:10/A1A1A Belekeri Hobali, Ankola Taluk Uttar Kannada District, Karwar Division for establishing Toll plaza with amenities (shifting from existing location at CH.117+900 to CH.131+200) in Goa-Karnataka Border and Kundapur Section of NH-66 Project Seabird (Primary User Agency) in favour of Project Director, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) project Implementation Unit (PIU), Mangalore (Secondary User Agency)-reg.
Proposal No : FP/KA/ROAD/33150/2018(FORM-A)

- REF:1) Govt. of India letter No: F.No. 4 KRB 1249/2020-BAN/780 dated: 07-10-2022, 4 KRB 1249/2020-BAN/267 dated:02-05-2023 and 4 KRB 1249/2020-BAN/117 dated:26-09-2023
- 2) Govt. of Karnataka's letter No:FEE 41 FLL 2020(e) dated:30-09-2023 and FEE 41 FLL 2024(E) 5620, Dated : 04-05-2024
- 3) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Forest Conservation) & Nodal Officer,(FCA) Bangalore's letter No:KFD/HOFF/A52K(GFL)/18/ 2019-FC, E-72712 dated: 21-04-2022, 26-12-2022, 08-05-2023, 12-10-2023 and 22-05-2024
- 4) Your letter No: B2/GFL/CR-324/1983-84 dated: 20-05-2023 and B2/GFL/NH-66/CR-14/2019-20 dated:25-10-2023 and 17-08-2024
- 5) Deputy Director General, (PI), Project Seabird, Karwar's letter No: SB/K/NH-66/Toll Plaza dated: 17-05-2023 and SB/K/PH IIA/ADMIN dated: 17-09-2024
- 6) This office letter even No. dated:18-01-2023,17-02-2023 13-06-2023, 12-12-2023, 16-07-2024, 19-08-2024 and 03-09-2024
- 7) Chief Manager, (Tech) and Regional Officer, National Highway Authority of India, Bengaluru's letter No:NHAI/RO-BNG/Forest/25027(B)/5/ 2022-23/3524 dated:17-01-2023
- 8) The Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, PIU, Mangalore's letter No:12014/1/2011/PIU(Mnglr)/207 dated:27-06-2022 and NHAI/PIU-HNVR/11011/DCF/2024-25/817 dated:14-09-2024

With reference to above, this office has submitted the name of the official involved in violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and constructed Toll Plaza in Seabird leased

forest area through proper channel as per reported by Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, PIU, Mangalore vide this office letter dated: 12-12-2023 cited at reference (6).

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Forest Conservation) & Nodal Officer, (FCA), Bengaluru vide his letter dated: 22-05-2024 cited at reference (3) has directed to submit the additional information sought by the Govt. of Karnataka vide there letter dated:04-05-2024 cited at reference (2). In this regard this office has submitted the detailed report vide letter dated:16-07-2024 cited at reference (6),

Again as per your kind letter dated: 17-08-2024 cited at reference (4) that informed to submit the detailed report on violation, including names of the erring officials of department/NHAI who have ordered to carry out the work in violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980, as per MoEF and State Govt. letter cited at reference (1) and (2). Accordingly, the same has been informed to Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, PIU, Mangalore and Deputy Director General (P), Project Seabird, Karwar vide this office letter dated: 19-08-2024 and 03-09-2024 cited at reference (6).

In turn both agencies are again reported vide letters cited at reference (5) and (7) as under.

The Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, PIU, Mangalore has reported that, the independent engineer for the project was AECOM Asia Company Limited in association with Rodic Consultant Pvt. Ltd., was appointed by NHAI on behalf of MoRTH, GoI for supervision and monitoring of works to be executed. The details of team leader and resident engineer at site as engineer-in-charge represent them for the works involved during the execution of work on forest land in Sy.No: 10/A1 of Hattikeri village, Ankola Taluk, Uttar Kannada district.

Sl. No.	Name	Position	Company
1	Kiran S. Vishwaroop	Team leader cum Senior Highway Engineer	Rodic Consultant Pvt. Ltd.
2	Anil Kumar Singh	Resident cum Highway Engineer-1	
3	Devaraj B.C.	Resident cum Highway Engineer-2	AECOM Asia Company Limited.

Further they have re submitted that due to the non identification of forest land, private land and Project Seabird area, the construction was started. The mistake was not intentional. The necessary action for re-diversion of forest areas was submitted. It once again requested to consider vide letter dated: 27-06-2022 cited at reference (8) with detailed justification/reason for taking up the work prior to approval under Forest (FC) Act, 1980 and requested kindly consider clarification in the large interest public and NHAI.
(copy enclosed)

The Deputy Director General (P), Project Seabird, Karwar has reported that,

- a) All statutory permissions required for re-diversion of forest land rests with NHAI in accordance with GOI/MoD order on working permission and memorandum of understanding established between MoD and NHAI.
- b. NHAI was responsible for obtaining necessary clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC).
- d.. Project Seabird had permitted NHAI to utilize defence land and forest land for construction of Toll Plaza with a clear of directive that utilization of forest land should be with prior approval of MoEF & CC. **(copy enclosed)**

This is for your kind perusal and necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,


Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Karwar Division, Karwar.