

**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',
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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.

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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 ChandrasekharaPuram 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

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

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 Gol,MoEF&CC,IRO,Vijayawada F.no.Gol, MoEF &CC, IRO, Viiayawada 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 Gol, MoEF&CC, R.O (Sub-office), Viiajayawada 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

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.

