



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE  
Regional Office (Southern Zone),  
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F.No.4-GOC1239/2020-BAN/ 69  
Dated the 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Government of Goa,  
Secretariat Annexe,  
Secretariat, Porvorim,  
Goa -403 521.

Subject: Diversion of 31.53 ha. of forest land for four laning of existing Goa/Karnataka Border Panaji Goa Section of NH-4A from km 97.000 to km 153.075 in the State of Goa on BOT (Toll) basis under NHDP III (Anmod to Panaji Section) in favour of the Executive Engineer, WD Division XV (NH), Public Works Department, Ponda – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Forest Department's letter No. 6-857-2020-21-FD/35 dated 20/04/2020 on the above subject and to request to furnish the clarification /information on the following points:-

- (i) The status of land acquisition in non-forest portion of the road may be furnished. If the land acquisition is not yet started, the time-line required by the User Agency for completing the same be furnished.
- (ii) The existing road already supports heavy traffic and a double laning of railway line is also in the pipeline. Therefore, the feasibility of restricting the road to existing width or atleast minimising the requirement of widening in Western Ghat portion may be considered. Accordingly, what would be the forest land required?
- (iii) The User Agency has submitted another proposal for diversion of 32.085 ha. of forest land for four laning of existing Goa/Karnataka Border (Anmod) -Mollem Section of NH-4A from km 84.133 to km 97.000 in the State of Goa in favour of the Executive Engineer, WD Division XV (NH), Public Works Department, Ponda. Justification for submitting separate proposal for the continuous road may be furnished.
- (iv) Why non-forest land is not being proposed as the project is being implemented by the State Authority?.
- (v) Details of the area and the cost of structures coming in the alignment of the road (Departmental Structures) may be given.
- (vi) Cost Benefit Ratio Analysis may be done as per the guidelines issued under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 .( Annexure III of the Comprehensive Guideline)

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- (vii) In Part-II of the proforma proposal, the number of trees to be felled is mentioned as 'Nil' whereas the proposal involves felling of 8102 trees. Therefore, the same may also be incorporated in the Part-II of the proforma proposal, including girth wise details.
- (viii) Duration of the project may be informed.
- (ix) PCCF has proposed 3% additional amount of the project cost from the User Agency. Comments of the State Government and User Agency as the guidelines issued under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 restrict levying on such additional amount. The State may also elaborate on the activities proposed with the amount.
- (x) With regard to the widening of 4A in the State of Karnataka, the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka has observed that the length of the widening of NH-4A which is being taken-up may be more than 100 km stretching over Karnataka and Goa and has raised the issue of requirement of Environment Clearance for the project. Clarification in this regard may be provided by the User Agency.
- (xi) Mitigation measures as approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden for the portion of land in Eco- Sensitive Zone to Protected Area.

Further, the User Agency may be directed to make a presentation of the project in this office, at mutual convenience at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

(M.K.Shambhu)  
Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Department, Government of Goa, Panaji (GOA), PIN- 403001.
2. The Deputy Conservator of Forests (Monitoring & Evaluation) /Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Department, Government of Goa, Panaji (GOA), PIN- 403001.
3. The Executive Engineer, WD Division XV (NH), Public Works Department, Government Building Ponda TISK, Tiswadi, Goa 403 001.

  
(M.K.Shambhu)  
Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

 