To,
The Special Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh,
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department,
Andhra Pradesh. Secretariat, Hyderabad- 500 022.

Subject: Diversion of 2.26 ha of forest land in Sangam RF of Atmakur Range in Nellore Division for up gradation of NH-67 from Km 707+500 to Km 708+880 to two lane with paved shoulders in the State of Andhra Pradesh under NHDP-IV in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B), NH Division, Kadapa -reg

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government’s letter No. 4661/Section -II/2016 dated 03.09.2016 and online application No. FP/AP/ROAD/19123/2016 seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section ‘2’ of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project. The project was accorded in-principle approval (Stage-I) by the Central Government vide letter dated 20.09.2016. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh vide letter No.4661/Section-II/2016 dated 12.07.2017 has reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am hereby directed to convey the Central Government’s approval (Stage-II) under Section ‘2’ of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 2.26 ha of forest land in Sangam RF of Atmakur Range in Nellore Division for up gradation of NH-67 from Km 707+500 to Km 708+880 to two lane with paved shoulders in the State of Andhra Pradesh under NHDP-IV in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B), NH Division, Kadapa, subject to the following conditions:-

(i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged

(ii) The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over 5 ha identified Degraded Forest land in Compt. No. 131, Daggavolu RF, Venkatagiri Range at the cost of user agency.

(iii) Identified CA land and approved CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
(iv) Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from User Agency. User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.

(v) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government. User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.

(vi) The user agency shall dig trenches on either side of the road in order to avoid any further encroachments on the road side.

(vii) The construction of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals, should be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper the movement of wild animals.

(viii) Trees standing in the diverted area shall be felled strictly as per the requirement with prior permission of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned.

(ix) There will be speed breaker on the road within the wildlife areas/ wildlife crossings, along with frequent signage reminding cross of speed limits and the damage of wildlife hits.

(x) The user agency shall develop an integrated green corridor along the proposed road at the project cost as per the guidelines of the National Green Highways Mission.

(xi) The muck shall not be dumped outside the road. The muck generated in the earth cutting if any, will be disposed of at designated dumping sites and in no case, the muck/debris will be disposed of in the forest areas.

(xii) Roadside cuttings and fillings which require engineering support shall be provided as per the instructions of the DFO so as to stabilize the soil.

(xiii) The State Forest Department shall translocate the trees, wherever feasible instead of felling at the cost of user agency.

(xiv) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 2.26 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
(xv) The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred / sub leased to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.

(xvi) The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to the clearance under all other Acts, Rules/Regulation and Guidelines as may be applicable to such project. User agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

(xvii) Any other conditions that the Central Government or Addl. PCCF(Central) of Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency.

(xviii) The user agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Govt. and to the Regional Office, regularly.

(xix) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as decided by the Additional PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Chennai.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr.K.Ganesh Kumar)
Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-
1. The Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN- 500 004
3. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN- 500 004.
4. The Deputy Secretary, RO(HQ) Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003.
5. The Executive Engineer, Public works (R&B) Department, NH Division, Rabindra Nagar, Kadapa-516003

(Dr.K.Ganesh Kumar)
Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)