



BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

No: DCF/PR:154/2022-23

Office of the
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
N.R Square, Bangalore

Date: 12.12.2022

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

- Sub: Permission regarding Translocation and Removal of trees which are standing at the Project Area from Cauvery Theatre Junction to Mekhri Circle (from Palace Gate No. 09 to Palace Gate No. 04) for the Project of "Widening and Development of Road from Cauvery Theatre Junction to Mekhri Circle" Bengaluru – reg
- Ref: a. ಕಾ.ಪಾ.ಅ/ರ.ಮೂ.ಸೌ-ವ್ಯ.ಟಾ/ಪಿ.ಆರ್/144/22-23 dtd 16.09.2022
b. Member Secretary, TEC Letter No. ACF/PR 66/2022-23 dtd 08.12.2022 along with Report and Proceedings of Tree Expert Committee

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Preamble:

The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure Development, East Zone, BBMP (EE, RID, BBMP) vide their letter cited under reference (a) above, has sought permission for clearance of 58 number of trees which are standing at Project area from Cauvery Theatre Junction to Mekhri Circle (from Palace Gate No. 09 to Palace Gate No. 04), Bengaluru.

As such Public Notice dated 18.04.2022 was issued by the Tree Officer & DCF, BBMP as per Section 8 (3) of the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act 1976 (as amended in 2015) with the intention to invite objections/remarks from public.

In response to the public notice, 50 objections/suggestions has been received from public within the stipulated dates. The Tree Officer has reported that mostly the objections/suggestions are related to the subjects like felling of the trees, shrinking green and blue cover of the nature, impact to the lakes situated inside the Palace Grounds and some people have remarked that the stretch between Mekhri Circle and Cauvery Theatre is a small stretch but rich in biodiversity. Many objectors have stated that the Project of Widening of the Palace Road over the proposed stretch is just a short term solution and in no way will ease the traffic, instead the traffic gets piled up at the next junction. Some of them have expressed that improvement in public transport and finding alternative ways to the traffic problems, would both save the trees and solve existing traffic problem besides they have objected for the Project of Steel Flyover. One of the objector has mentioned that the cutting of 58 trees is an incomplete plan, a sinister piecemeal approach of a project to build flyover from Chalukya Circle to Hebbala. Further he has also quoted certain research and study findings and has expressed that the Road Widening does not solve the problem of traffic congestion. Lastly another objector has mentioned that it is contrary to the provisions of the Constitution of India, given the clear conflict that one Officer (Executive Engineer, BBMP) of the Organisation applying for tree felling permission before another Officer (DCF, BBMP) of the same Organization

(BBMP). He opines that permission for tree felling given in this case will not be deemed to be objective, fair and in accordance with the principles of natural justice, given the conflict in this case.

Regarding the technical matters of the objections, the matter was communicated to the RID, BBMP. They have responded that the identified 58 number of trees are getting affected for widening of the road to accommodate growing traffic and are within the vicinity of the Carriageway. The trees which are away from the Right of Way (ROW) and are standing near the compound wall of the Palace ground are not going to be felled. Further RID, BBMP have clarified that the project is for Widening of the exiting road and not for the Steel Flyover. The BBMP assures that no more road widening is possible in future because of the land acquisition issues. In response to the objection that it is an incomplete plan, a piece meal approach of a bigger project, the RID, BBMP have stated that initially the project was to widen the Palace Road from BDA Circle to Mekhri Circle and Jayamahar Road from Mekhri Circle to Cantonment Railway Station by acquiring part of the premises of Bangalore Palace. That proposal was reexamined in the current scenario and it was found that the earlier proposal of the road widening project in those conditions was not feasible on account of certain factors. Therefore, the project was redesigned with road widening being restricted to the currently available total road width. Therefore, in the revised project only 58 trees need to be removed instead of 172 trees, which were marked earlier.

With regard to the objection mentioning that the permission of tree felling between the Officers of the same Organisation, the Tree Officer has expressed that the Tree Officer & DCF, BBMP comes under the administrative control of BBMP for development activities but so far as regulatory functions are concerned, the DCF, BBMP is governed by KPT Act, KF Act and Rules, and other Act/Rules framed by the Government. Besides this, the Tree Officer and DCF, BBMP takes decisions based on the recommendations of Tree Expert Committee constituted by GOK on the Orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka in matters related to standing trees.

Further the Tree Officer remarked that even though no objections/suggestions have been received, the first priority of the Forest authorities will be to save and retain more number of trees at the spot and in case that is not possible, the next option would be translocation of such trees which fulfill the desired criteria and felling of the trees has to be last resort. The Compensatory Afforestation would involve planting of saplings duly following the norms of 10 saplings to be planted in lieu of each tree translocated/felled (i.e., in the ratio 1 : 10).

In this context, the Field Forest Officers conducted the spot inspection on 23.09.2022, the ACF/DCF visited the area on 28.09.2022, and then TEC visited the areas and conducted field Inspection on 30.09.2022, duly examining all the trees besides having discussions with the Project Engineers.

The Field Inspection Report was tabled during the TEC meeting held on 28.10.2022 and detailed discussions were held.

- i. The primary objective of the TEC was to retain-on-site as many trees as possible.
- ii. In case the trees are falling within the project activity area and their removal becomes inevitable, the next option for TEC was for translocation of trees depending upon its general condition and its location so that the extraction of root ball of adequate size becomes feasible.

- iii. The felling of trees has to be the last resort and that has to be done very judiciously in a prudent manner.

Based on the records/documents produced by RID, BBMP followed by thorough scrutiny of the same and detailed discussions of the field inspection reports which were prepared after examination of each and every tree, the following order is issued.

ORDER

Under the circumstances explained above and in exercise of the powers vested with the undersigned as per Section 8 (3) of Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act, 1976 and based on the guidelines and decisions taken as per the Field Inspection Report and Proceedings of the Meeting dated 28.10.2022 of the TEC for retention-on-site, translocation, and removal of trees which fall in RID, BBMP Project Area from Cauvery Theatre Junction to Mekhri Circle (towards Palace Gate No. 09 to Palace Gate No. 04), the below mentioned schedule is approved subject to the conditions mentioned thereon. This Order will come into effect after ten (10) days from the date of uploading of the order on the Official website of BBMP and for that purpose separate directions will be issued from this Office.

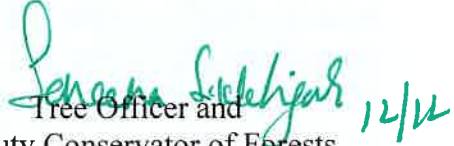
SCHEDULE

1. The three (03) trees which are listed in Annexure A appended to this Official Memorandum have to be retained-on-site. Hence, permission is declined to remove the said 03 trees and they should continue to stand at their present locations.
2. Based on the considerations as stated above and also detailed in the Report, the two (02) trees which are listed with justification, enclosed to this Official Memorandum as Annexure B have to be translocated. Hence permission is accorded to translocate the said 02 trees to suitable places as mentioned below in the 'Conditions'.
3. The remaining Fifty Four (54) trees only which are listed with justification, enclosed to this Official Memorandum as Annexure C can be removed. Hence permission is accorded for removal of these said 54 trees only as per the felling of trees norms adopted by Karnataka Forest Department (KFD).

Conditions

1. No damage should be caused to the trees which are retained on the spot, while carrying out the civil works or any project related works.
2. The trees which are retained-on-site have to be properly protected and maintained. Accordingly RID, BBMP should give an assurance in this respect.
3. The translocation of trees should be done at suitable vacant space at nearby BBMP Ramanamaharshi Park, 7th Cross, Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru in collaboration with the DCF, BBMP.
4. The Persons/Agencies who are entrusted with translocation works should have sufficient knowledge and experience in such works.
5. The work of translocation of trees has to be executed under close supervision of Officials/Officers of Forest Wing of BBMP and according to the formulated guidelines of UAS, Bengaluru.

6. The trees so translocated have to be properly maintained and taken care of, for a minimum period of three years.
7. The entire process of translocation of trees has to be properly documented and records compiled in a systematic manner.
8. In lieu of the trees translocated and felled, 10 healthy and heighted saplings have to be planted in lieu of each tree either translocated or felled. The saplings have to be planted as per forestry practices and maintained for a minimum period of three years. Photographs and proper documentation has to be there for saplings/seedlings planted.
9. Regular monitoring must be done to ensure the conducive growth of translocated trees and planted saplings/seedlings.


Tree Officer and
Deputy Conservator of Forests
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike,
Bengaluru

Copy to:

1. The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure Department, East Zone, Bengaluru
2. The Chairman, Tree Authority and Chief Conservator of Forests, Bangalore Circle, Bangalore for kind information
3. The Member Secretary – Tree Expect Committee, and the Assistant Conservator of Forests, BBMP for information and further action.
4. The Assistant Conservator of Forests, BBMP for information and further action
5. The Range Forest Officer/Deputy Range Forest Officers for information and further action
6. Office Copy

ANNEXURE - A

Retention of Trees

Project: Widening and Development of Road from Cauvery Theatre Junction to Mekhri Circle (from Palace Gate no-9 to Gate no-4)

Sl.No.	Tree No.	Tree Name	Girth (Mtr)	Height (Mtr)	Remarks
1.	42	Peltophorum	1.30	3.00	Tree is standing between the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and storm water drainage channel and hence recommended for retention.
2.	45	Peltophorum	1.13	3.00	Tree is standing between the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and storm water drainage channel and hence recommended for retention.
3.	47	Mahagony	0.85	5.00	Tree is standing between the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and storm water drainage channel and hence recommended for retention.
Total trees for Retention = 03 Nos.					


Tree Officer &

Deputy Conservator of Forests,
BBMP, Bangalore.

ANNEXURE - B

Translocation of Trees

Project: Widening and Development of Road from Cauvery Theatre Junction to Mekhri Circle (from Palace Gate no-9 to Gate no-4)

Sl. No.	Tree No.	Tree Name	Girth (Mtr)	Height (Mtr)	Remarks
1.	18	Mahagony	0.67	4.00	Tree is standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width). The minimal root protection zone available, young and healthy conditions of the tree qualify the tree for transplantation / Translocation.
2.	UN 01	Mahagony	0.70	3.00	The unnumbered tree is standing between Tree no. 17 and 18. This tree is healthy and qualifies for transplantation / Translocation.
Total trees for Translocation = 02 Nos.					


Tree Officer &

Deputy Conservator of Forests,
BBMP, Bangalore.

ANNEXURE - C**Felling of Trees**

Project: Widening and Development of Road from Cauvery Theatre Junction to Mekhri Circle (from Palace Gate no-9 to Gate no-4)

Sl. No.	Tree No.	Tree Name	Girth (Mtr)	Height (Mtr)	Remarks
1.	1	Peltophorum	1.00	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
2.	2	Akash mallige	1.50	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
3.	3	Akash mallige	1.60	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
4.	4	Honge	0.80	2.00	Tree is with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
5.	5	AkashaMallige	1.70	5.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
6.	6	Peltophorum	1.20	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
7.	7	Akash mallige	1.40	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
8.	8	Peltophorum	1.60	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for

					road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
9.	9	Honge	1.20	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
10.	10	Peltophorum	1.40	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
11.	11	Thiru Mahagony	1.77	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
12.	12	Mahagony	1.30	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
13.	13	Peltophorum	1.50	5.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
14.	14	Akash mallige	1.54	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
15.	15	Peltophorum	1.70	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
16.	16	Akash mallige	1.83	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
17.	17	Peltophorum	1.40	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
18.	19	Mahagony	1.47	5.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and

					standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
19.	20	Peltophorum	1.26	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
20.	21	Paper mulberry	0.92	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
21.	22	Akash mallige	1.90	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
22.	23	Mahagony	0.98	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
23.	24	Akash mallige	1.70	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
24.	25	Akash mallige	1.80	7.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
25.	26	Peltophorum	1.83	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
26.	27	Peltophorum	1.90	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
27.	28	Akash mallige	1.80	8.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
28.	29	Peltophorum	0.94	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and

					standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
29.	30	Rain tree	2.20	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
30.	31	Peltophorum	1.19	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
31.	32	Peltophorum	1.18	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
32.	33	Akash mallige	1.94	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
33.	34	Peltophorum	1.22	5.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
34.	35	Peltophorum	1.18	3.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
35.	36	Peltophorum	1.65	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
36.	37	Peltophorum	1.30	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
37.	38	Peltophorum	1.60	5.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
38.	39	Akash mallige	1.70	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and

					standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
39.	40	Akash mallige	2.05	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
40.	41	Rain tree	2.58	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
41.	43	Arali	4.00	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
42.	44	Peltophorum	1.83	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
43.	46	Akash mallige	1.13	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
44.	48	Akash mallige	1.92	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
45.	49	Peltophorum	1.55	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
46.	50	Akash mallige	1.84	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
47.	51	Akash mallige	2.20	6.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
48.	52	Peltophorum	1.90	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and

					standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
49.	53	Peltophorum	1.65	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
50.	54	Peltophorum	1.58	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
51.	55	Peltophorum	1.55	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
52.	56	Akash mallige	2.10	8.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
53.	57	Peltophorum	2.05	4.00	Tree is matured with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
54.	58 58A	Akash mallige	0.90	4.00	Tree is matured, forked (with weak branch union) with constricted roots (disqualifies transplantation) and standing on the footpath proposed for road widening (of 3.5m width) and hence recommended for felling.
			0.87	2.00	
Total trees for felling = 54 Nos.					


Tree Officer &

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