

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE  
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Regional Office  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Additional Office Block for GPOA, Shastri Bhawan,  
Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai -600 006  
e-mail: ro.moefccc@gov.in /roefccc@gmail.com

फा.न./F.No. 4-TNB121/2024-CHN/ 27

दिनांक/Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2026

सेवा में/To,

The Additional Chief Secretary,  
Environment, Climate Change & Forest Department,  
Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Secretariat, Fort St. George,  
Chennai-600 009.

**विषय/Subject:** Diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land passing through Valkaradu RF, Paramsivankovil Karadu Reserved Land, Ammapuram Bit-II RF and Pinnathevanpatti Reserved Land of Theni FD to a length of 1800 m and width of 0.25 m and in depth 2m for laying of underground Optical Fibre Cable along existing road for providing Mobile Arasu Cable, Broad Band Connectivity (OFC connectivity) between Theni-Batlagundu through rural areas at Theni District in favour of Divisional Engineer, Optical Fibre Cable Projects, BSNL, Madurai-Reg.

महोदय/ Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 3411/FR.10/2023-2 dated 06.03.2024 and online proposal No. FP/TN/OFC/38837/2019, seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance Section 2(1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the above-mentioned project. The project was accorded In-principle approval (Stage-I) by the Central Government vide letter 4-TNB121/2024-CHN/469 dated 04.04.2024. The State Government vide letter No. 3411/FR.10/2023-4 dated 01.12.2025 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 "**Final approval (Stage-II)**" under Section 2 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, for the proposal of diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land passing through Valkaradu RF, Paramsivankovil Karadu Reserved Land, Ammapuram Bit-II RF and Pinnathevanpatti Reserved Land of Theni FD to a length of 1800 m and width of

0.25 m and in depth 2m for laying of underground Optical Fibre Cable along existing road for providing Mobile Arasu Cable, Broad Bank Connectivity (OFC connectivity) between Theni-Batlagundu through rural areas at Theni District in favour of Divisional Engineer, Optical Fibre Cable Projects, BSNL, Madurai, subject to the following conditions:-

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. The User Agency shall provide CA in NFL area for compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest area diverted, if applicable, based on the final outcome in the WP No.1164/2023, which is currently pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The State Forest Department shall ensure that an undertaking from the user agency is obtained in this regard;
- iii. **The User Agency has made payment Rs. 1,55,273/- towards CA, and the levies paid by the UA shall be utilized for the same as per the approved plan/scheme.**
- iv. **The maximum size of the trench shall not exceed 2.00 m depth, 1800 m length and 0.25 m width. The forest land shall be restored to its original state after laying the same.**
- v. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- vi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- vii. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the machinery, labourers & staff engaged in execution of work shall not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- viii. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- ix. **No tree felling shall be carried out by the User Agency;**
- x. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- xi. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **0.045 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- xii. User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
- xiii. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Officer (Central) of the 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;
- xiv. Violation of any of the above conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Eevam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and action would be taken as per Rules and Guidelines issued under the Adhiniyam;

आपका विश्वासी/Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by  
Yuvaraj S

Date: 02-01-2026  
10:11:38

(एस.युवराज /S. YUVARAJ)  
उप वन महानिरीक्षक(केंद्रीय)/

**Deputy Inspector General of Forest (Central)**

प्रतिलिपि/Copy to: -

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority, 3rd Floor, Supreme Court Metro Station (Line 3), New Delhi – 110 001.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy-Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai – 32.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy-Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai – 32.
5. The CEO State CAMPA, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai32. (tnforest@nic.in).
6. Divisional Engineer, OFC Projects, Dvn 1, 3 Rd Floor, Annex Building, Emm Telephone Exchange, East Masi Street, Madurai - 625001 (email: deofcdn1ma@gmail.com).
7. Guard file.

Sd/-

(एस.युवराज /S. YUVARAJ)  
उप वन महानिरीक्षक(केंद्रीय)/

**Deputy Inspector General of Forest (Central)**