



ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS(FR.10)  
DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT,  
CHENNAI 9.

Letter No.18711/FR.10/2019-2, Dated. 23.01.2020

From  
Thiru. Shambu Kallollikar, I.A.S.,  
Principal Secretary to Government.

To  
The Additional Director General of Forests (Central),  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),  
1 & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, HEPC Building,  
No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai-34.(w.e.)

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Dindigul Circle / Dindigul Division  
– Proposal for diversion of 0.05632 ha. of forest land for providing Electricity  
service to Agricultural purpose in Sy. field No.103 of Thoppampatti village,  
Sirumalai North West Slope RF in Sirumalai Range – in favour of  
Superintending Engineer, TANGEDCO, Dindigul Electricity Distribution circle,  
Dindigul - Regarding.

Ref: 1. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Letter No.TS4/9964/2018,  
dated 14.10.2019.  
2. Government Letter No.18711/FR.10/2019-1, dated 20.11.2019.  
3. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Letter No.TS4/9964/2018,  
dated 20.12.2019.

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In the reference first cited the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has stated that the User Agency, (i.e.) Executive Engineer, TANGEDCO, Dindigul Electricity Distribution Circle, Dindigul has furnished online application under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.05632 ha of forest land for providing Electricity service to Agricultural purpose in Sy.field No.103 of Thoppampatti village, Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forests in Sirumalai Range for a period of 7 years. The User Agency has uploaded necessary documents, Certificates and Undertakings in the Online Submission and Monitoring of Forests Clearances Proposal (OSMFCP) portal.

2. The User Agency has stated that the proposed area in S.F.No:103, Thoppampatty Panchayat, Authoor Taluk in Dindigul District is situated in Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forests in Ambathurai Beat. The proposal is for laying overhead electricity transmission line as part of giving electricity connection to private Patta land. This Patta land

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is about 1.5 acre situated inside the Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forests as a enclosure. There is already a right of way allowed in Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forest to an extent of 3818 meter length and 3.60 meter width. The existing alignment of overhead electricity transmission line is along and within the right of way. There is no cutting of trees availability of endemic species. There is no alternate land available for creating this infrastructure.

3. The District Forest Officer, Dindigul has inspected the proposed site in Survey field No. 103 of Thoppampatty village Sirumalai North West Slope Reserved Forest on 29.04.2019 and has observed the following:-

- 1) Legal status of forest land proposed for Diversion is Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forest.
- 2) The area proposed by the User Agency is barest minimum and there is no alternative land for the proposed project except forest land.
- 3) The User Agency has not started any work proposed in Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forests. Therefore, the question of violation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for this proposal does not arise.
- 4) The proposed site is a Reserved Forest and no tree felling has been proposed for the purpose of providing electrical service.
- 5) The right of way permitted for access foot hill of Ambathurai beat via Thozukkadu to SirumalaiPudhur North West Slope RF is 512 meter length and 3 meter width. The area proposed by the User Agency is 0.05632 Ha. i.e., 512 meter length and 1.1 meter width.
- 6) There is no widening proposed in the project.
- 7) No protected archeological / Heritage Site / defense establishment and there are no monument in the above said project area.
- 8) The proposed area is not part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, Elephant corridor etc.,
- 9) The proposed area is not having any Endangered/ Unique species of flora and fauna.

4. The District Forest Officer in her recommendation has stated that the work proposed to be carried out within the existing right of way. No tree felling is involved in the proposed site. There is also no Tribal population in the proposed area and no presence of major wildlife species like Tiger, Leopard and Elephant, so no threat to wildlife species. No protected archaeological / Heritage Site / defence establishment and there are no monument in the above said project area. Further the proposed area is not part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary. Hence she has recommended the proposal in Part-II of Form A.

5. The Chief Conservator of Forests in his site inspection report has stated that the proposed site was inspected on 07.08.19 along with District Forest Officer, Dindigul. The Chief Conservator of Forests had agreed with the recommendation of the District Forest Officer, Dindigul and it is essential for providing electricity connection for Agriculture purpose. Hence, he has recommended the proposal in Part-III of Form A.

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6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has sent the proposal duly recommended by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980) / Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of the State of Tamil Nadu.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has further stated that Compensatory Afforestation is not insisted for this project, as the area proposed for this project is less than one ha. (i.e.) 0.05632 ha. and no felling of trees is involved. Hence, he has recommended the proposal. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has, therefore, requested to consider the proposal and to obtain the approval of Government of India for diversion of 0.05632 ha of forest land in Sirumalai North West Slope RF of Dindigul Forest Division, Dindigul District for providing Electricity service to Agricultural purpose in Sy.field No.103 of Thoppampatti village, Sirumalai North West Slope RF in favour of Executive Engineer, TANGEDCO, South / Dindigul, Dindigul Electricity Distribution Circle, Dindigul District for a period of 7 years, subject to the following conditions:-

- 1) The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged and shall remain as Reserved Forests.
- 2) Felling of trees of spontaneous origin shall not be carried out. User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
- 3) The User Agency shall pay the Net present value of the diverted forest area at the rates stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change from time to time, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos. 826 in 566 with related IAs in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995.
- 4) The 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 the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to the effect.
- 5) The fund from the User Agency towards cost of NPV under this project shall be deposited in SB Account No.1025227-CAF, Tamil Nadu, Corporation Bank, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110 003 (RTGS/IFSC No. CORP 0000371) The details of deposition of funds including inter-alia the DD Nos. and date, amount, the Bank on which drawn and the date of deposition in the designated Bank shall also be furnished. The User Agency shall generate chalan from the Ministry's Online web portal to deposit the amount towards Compensatory levies.
- 6) The User Agency shall be responsible for any loss to Flora and Fauna in the surroundings and shall take all possible measures to conserve the same.
- 7) The forest land shall not be used for any other purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- 8) The lease rent should be realized from the User Agency as per G.O.Ms.No.272, Environment and Forests (FR.XIII) Department, dated 15.04.1991.
- 9) Period of lease shall be 7 years.
- 10) The District Forest Officer may impose any other condition in the interest of conservation /protection/and development of forests.


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8. On further clarifications, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in his letter third cited has stated that the proposal for diversion of 0.05632 ha. of forest land in Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forests of Dindigul Forest Division for providing Electricity service to Agricultural purpose in Sy.field No.103 of Thoppampatti village, Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forests in Sirumalai Range is for private use only and therefore requested to forward the same through online to the Government of India for obtaining their concurrence, early.

9. The Government after careful examination have decided to accept the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for diversion of 0.05632 ha. of forest land in Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forests of Dindigul Forest Division for laying overhead electricity transmission line for providing Electricity service to private patta land for Agricultural purpose in Sy.field No.103 of Thoppampatti village, Sirumalai North West Slope Reserve Forests for a period of 7 years, under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of the Executive Engineer, TANGEDCO, South / Dindigul, Dindigul Electricity Distribution Circle, Dindigul District and to forward the same to Government of India for concurrence. I am, therefore, directed to request you to kindly obtain the concurrence of the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and communicate the same to this Government, early.

Yours faithfully,

  
for Principal Secretary to Government

**Copy to:**

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department),  
Chennai-15.

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The Executive Engineer,  
TANGEDCO, South/Dindigul,  
Dindigul Electricity Distribution Circle,  
Angunagar SS Complex,  
Meenakshinayakenpatty (PO),  
Dindigul-624002.