

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

Letter No:13735/FR.10/2022-1, dated: 05.09.2022

From

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Tmt.Supriya Sahu, IAS., Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

To The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Chennai-15.

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal (No.FP/TN/Road/156883/2022) for diversion of 0.6996 ha of forest land in Naduhatti Reserved Forests of Nilgiris Forest Division for formation of cement concrete road to a length of 2332m to a width of 3.00m through the Naduhatty Reserved Forest area from the Kallaty road at Naduhatty Village Panchayat road in The Nilgiris District to access patta lands for cultivation purpose in favour of Block Development Officer (VP), Kothagiri Block, Kothagiri, The Nilgiris District – State Government's in-principle approval (Stage-I) - Accorded.

Ref: Your letter No. TS3/18050/2022, dated 01.08.2022.

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With reference to your letter cited, I am directed to accord the State Government's in-principle approval (Stage-I) under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.6996 ha of forest land in Naduhatti Reserved Forests of Nilgiris Forest Division for formation of cement concrete road to a length of 2332m to a width of 3.00m through the Naduhatty Reserved Forest area from the Kallaty road at Naduhatty Village Panchayat road in The Nilgiris District to access patta lands for cultivation purpose in favour of Block Development Officer (VP), Kotagiri Block, Kotagiri, The Nilgiris District for a period of 30 years, under general approval category, as per the provisions of guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for critical development initiatives for public utility, since the proposal comes under 'construction / widening of roads' category, subject to the following conditions:-

- i. The legal status of the diverted forest land remains unchanged.
- ii. The demarcation of the proposed forest land shall be carried out by the User Agency by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at their cost.

- iii. The User Agency has to pay the cost towards compensatory afforestation scheme over an extent of 1.00 ha of degraded forest area as per the Compensatory Afforestation scheme including maintenance for a period of 10 years.
- iv. The User Agency has to pay the Net Present Value of proposed forest diversion area which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India /Government of India.
- v. The User Agency has to bear the additional amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as fixed by Forest Department in future. The user agency has to furnish undertaking to this effect.
- vi. The User Agency has to bear the cost towards human wildlife conflict mitigation plan approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden.
- vii. Amount of Compensatory Afforestation scheme, Net Present Value of diverted forest area under the project, human wildlife conflict mitigation plan shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<u>https://parivesh.nic.in/</u>)
- viii. The User Agency shall furnish the District Collector certificate on completion of process for settlement of rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the forest area proposed for diversion in the format prescribed by the Government of India before Stage-II approval.
- ix. The User Agency has to pay the cost towards annual lease rent for the forest area diversion period as fixed by the Forest Department at the time of sanction along with any escalation for the forest land to be diverted of the above project in future for the entire project period.
- x. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.6996 ha for with a length width of 2332 m and width of 3.00m in Naduhatty Reserved Forest (from 0/00m to 1/530m & 1/718m to 2/520m).
- xi. Existing ban orders issued by the appropriate authority from time to time will be applicable and the user agency shall follow.
- xii. Movement of wildlife should not be disturbed and the user agency shall take adequate precaution to avoid any damage to the flora and fauna, monthly report of compliance of conditions stipulated should be furnished to the District Forest Officer.
- xiii. No breaking of fresh forest land should be carried out other than the permission sought for. No chemical explosive should be used. Unwanted material should not been dumped inside the forest area. The user agency shall abide the condition.
- xiv. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under any circumstances be transferred to any other agencies/ department or person without prior approval.
- xv. If any maintenance work is under taken, the user agency shall seek written permission for the District Forest Officer.
- xvi. The User Agency shall furnish compliance report in the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change web portal.
- xvii. Period of lease is thirty (30) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before one year of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.

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2. I am also to inform you that, only after receipt of the compliance report on all the above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval and transfer of Reserved Forest land to User Agency shall not be effected prior to the issue of final approval. Further, this in-principle (Stage-I) approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years and in the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully,

M. Magala 519/2022

for Additonal Chief Secretary to Government

Copy to:

The Block Development Officer, Village Panchayat, Kothagiri, The Nilgiris - 643 217. The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, 1st Floor, Additional Office Block for GPOA. Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006. The District Collector, The Nilgiris District-643 001. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Chennai-15. The Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, Udhagamandalam-643 001. The Nilgiris. The District Forest Officer, Nilgiris Forest Division, Udhagamandalam-643 001. The Nilgiris. The Principal Secretary to Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department, Secretariat, Chennai – 09. SF/SC.