



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

Letter No.17155/FR.10/2022-4, dated: 03.10.2025

From

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

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Regional Office,
Additional Office Block for GPOA, 1st Floor,
Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006. (w.e).

Sir,

Sub: Forests – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 – Proposal (FP/TN/Water/43869/2020) for diversion of 0.21 ha forest area in Kuruchi Forest Block I and II of Coimbatore Forest Division for providing water supply for 8 added areas in Coimbatore Corporation extended areas in the Coimbatore District in favour of Executive Engineer, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore District – Proposal Forwarded- Proposal forwarding of – In-principle approval – Requested – Regarding.

- Ref: 1. Forest Clearance proposal uploaded by the Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore District – Proposal No.FP/TN/Water/43869/2020, Dated 10.01.2020 and resubmission of proposal on 11.02.2020.
2. Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division on 06.10.2022 and resubmission of proposal on 07.02.2022 & 10.05.2022.
3. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF), Letter No.TS3/3481/2020, dated 27.09.2022, 08.05.2023 and 08.09.2023.
4. Government Letter No.17155/FR10/2022-2, dated 14.10.2022, 29.05.2023 & 02.11.2023.
5. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF), Letter No.TS3/3481/2020, dated 04.08.2025.

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I am directed to invite your attention to the reference cited and to state that the User Agency, Executive Engineer, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board,

Major Projects Division, Coimbatore District has uploaded a proposal (FP/TN/Water/43869/2020) for diversion of 0.21 ha forest area in Kuruchi Forest Block I and II of Coimbatore Forest Division for providing water supply for 8 added areas in Coimbatore Corporation extended areas in the Coimbatore District in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore District for a period of 20 years under section 2 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

2. In this regard, the District Forest officer, Coimbatore Division and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) has further stated as follows:-

- i. The TWAD Board has proposed the project of water supply pipeline in 1000mm MS, 450 mm DI and 80mm GI from Pillayarpuram MBR to Kuruchi added area through Kuruchi Forest Block I and II of Coimbatore Forest Division. Hence, applicability of exemption of Net Present Value for the project does not arise. In the area requirement statement, the user agency has specified the forest area required as length of the pipeline is 700m and width of the pipeline path is 3.00m and area required is 2100 sq.m or 0.21ha.
- ii. The project is laying of water pipeline along the northern and western boundaries of Kuruchi Forest Block I and II Reserved lands (ACC Compensation land). The project involves the laying of pipeline for water facility to Kuruchi and Kuniyamuthur areas. The total length and width proposed by the user agency in the proposal is 700m length and 3.00m width respectively, therefore the actual area needed for diversion is 0.21ha. The project has minimum effects on environment.

3. The District Forest Officer, Coimbatore and Nodal Officer / Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) have recommended the above said proposal in Part-II and Part-III of Form in Parivesh 1.0.

4. The Government have examined the proposal in detail (copy enclosed) and decided to recommend the proposal of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) for diversion of 0.21 ha forest area in Kuruchi Forest Block I and II of Coimbatore Forest Division for providing water supply for 8 added areas in Coimbatore Corporation extended areas in the Coimbatore District in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore District and to forward it to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate change, Regional Office in Parivesh 1.0 portal for obtaining In-principle approval of the Competent Authority under section 2 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, for a period of 20 years, subject to the following conditions:-

- i. The legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii. Demarcation of the proposed forest land shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the user agency.
- iii. The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be carryout in the degraded forest land identified in Coimbatore Division at the cost of User Agency.
- iv. The degraded forest land identified in Coimbatore District for Compensatory Afforestation and the approved Compensatory Afforestation scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government and the amount realized from the User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation should not be left unspent.
- v. The Net Present Value shall be charged for the diverted forest land measuring 0.21 ha from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in I.A.

- Nos.826 in 566 with related I.A's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 and Ministry's guideline No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-1) dated 06.01.2022 and clarification issued vide letter dated 19.01.2022 and 22.03.2022.
- vi. 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 from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
 - vii. All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred / deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
 - viii. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred / sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government.
 - ix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
 - x. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
 - xi. The User Agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage / tree felling.
 - xii. 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 labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna.
 - xiii. No tree felling shall be carried out by User Agency in the project area.
 - xiv. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.21 ha comprising water supply pipeline to a length of 700m and width is 3.00 and after completion of underground laying of pipeline area should be restored to its normalcy.
 - xv. The User Agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines for the time being in force, as applicable to this project.
 - xvi. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Deputy Director General (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.
 - xvii. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the rules / guidelines issued under Van (Sanrakshan Eevam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.
 - xviii. 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 for the above project in future for the entire project period.
 - xix. Period of lease is twenty five (20) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before one year of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.
 - xx. The User Agency shall provide Compensatory Afforestation-Non-Forest Land area for compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest area diverted, if applicable, based on the final outcome in the W.P.No.1164/2023 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. An undertaking from the user agency in this regard may be obtained.

5. I am, therefore, directed to request you to kindly obtain the In-principle approval of the Competent Authority and communicate the same to this Government, early.

Yours faithfully,

A. Malathy 610125

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

(A.M.)
6/10/05

Copy to:-

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Chennai-32.
The Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore-641011

PART – V

(To be filled in by the Secretary in charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

Proposal (FP/TN/Water/43869/2020) for diversion of 0.21 ha forest area in Kuruchi Forest Block I and II of Coimbatore Forest Division for providing water supply for 8 added areas in Coimbatore Corporation extended areas in the Coimbatore District in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore District in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore District under section 2 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Eevam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

18. Recommendation of the State Government

Recommended

(Adverse comments made by any officer or authority in Part-B or Part – C or Part – D above should be specifically commented upon)

*D. Jayadevan
03/10/2025*

Signature
Name & Designation
(Official Seal)

Date : *03*.10.2025

Place : Chennai-9.

*[D. Jayadevan
D.S to Govt]*

Deputy Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change
and Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai - 9.

S. No.	Documents Required	Documents Furnished
1.	Category of diversion (Fresh / Rediversion / Addl. land for widening / renewal)	Fresh
2.	Extent of forest land to be diverted / Name of the RF and District.	0.21 ha of forest area in Kuruchi Forest Block I and II of Coimbatore Forest Division
3.	Status of User Agency (SG/PSU/CG/Private)	PSU (TWAD Board)
4.	Name of the Project (Road / OFC / Transmission / Water / Rail / Others etc.)	Water.
5.	Density of Vegetation. i. Eco class ii. Canopy density	3 0.1
6.	Vulnerability of soil erosion	No.
7.	Significance in Wild life Point of view	Wild boar, Rabbit, Quail, Peacock.
8.	Whether any work in violation of the Act or guidelines issued under the Act has been carried out	No.
9.	Whether forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, elephant corridor, Wildlife migration corridor etc.	No.
10.	Whether the project area located within 10 km from boundary of wildlife sanctuary, tiger reserve biosphere reserve, and wildlife migration corridor etc.	No.
11.	Whether any rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the area	No.

12.	Whether any protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.	No.
13.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project.	Yes.
14.	Whether tree felling involved in this project area	No.
i.	If yes, mention the no. of trees to be felled.	Nil.
ii.	Whether the trees are Spontaneous/ Planted.	Nil.
iii.	Permission of Hon'ble Supreme court of India shall be obtained (Except road projects)	Not required
iv.	In respect of Road projects,	Nil
a.	upto 500 No's. of spontaneous tree felling allowed, as per orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India judgment dated 11.01.2023 in LA Nos 168328/2022 and 168313/ 2022 and L.A Nos. 191583/2022.	
b.	For more than 500 no's of spontaneous trees, permission of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India shall be obtained.	
v.	whether translocation of trees is possible, instead of felling	Nil
15.	CA Scheme details : (i) CA plantation :	0.42 ha of degraded forest area

	(a) Extent of area, Name of degraded Forest area / Name of non-forest land/Name of the RL	in Bolampatty Block-I RF in Coimbatore Division.
	(b) Details of seedlings, maintenance period and cost.	400 nos. of seedlings, 10 year maintenance and project cost of Rs.500999/-.
	(c) Site suitability Report of DFO regarding degraded forest area.	The DFO, Coimbatore has certified that the degraded forest land of 0.42 ha identified in Bolampatty Block RF is suitable for CA with respect to the diversion of forest area 0.21 ha.
	(ii) CA Land	No. (diversion of fresh forest land is below 1 ha.)
	(a) whether CA land is applicable (or) not	
	(b) Extent of CA land (Non-forest land/RL) (As per rule 13 of FC Rules, 2023, this land is not notified as forest u/s 16 of IFA. So, this may be considered as CA land)	0.42 ha of degraded forest area
	(c) Location of CA land	Does not arise
	(d) Site Inspection report of DFO regarding CA land.	Does not arise
16.	Re-diversion involved details of primary User Agency.	No.
	(i) NOC from the primary User Agency is obtained	Does not arise
	(ii) Whether Form-E is received.	Does not arise
17.	Project area falls within the RoW.	No
18.	Whether any Non-forest land involved in this project.	No.
19.	Wildlife Area involvement	No.
20.	Whether part of the proposed area falls under Protected area / Eco	No.

	Sensitive Zone of Protected area.	
21.	Whether the DFO, Coimbatore Division has recommended the proposal.	Yes, Recommended
22.	Justification, if any.	The diversion of proposed forest land of 0.21 ha in Kurichi Forest Block-I and II reserved land in madukkarai Range of Coimbatore Forest Division has minimum effects on environment. Hence the District Forest Officer has recommended for diversion of 0.21 ha of forest land for laying water pipe line along the northern and western boundaries of the Kurichi Forest Block –I, II and II reserved land.
23.	Whether the Nodal officer / PCCF (FCA) is recommended.	The Nodal officer has recommended the proposal. This project would benefit about 48462 families and for non domestic purposes numbering 2146. There is no other suitable alternative non forest land is available. The project does not involve felling of trees.
24.	Whether the PCCF (HoFF) has recommended the proposal	No. As per Rule 9 (15) of Van (Sanrakshan Eevam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, for the diversion of forest area of less than 5 ha, recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests is not required.

2354
25/8/25

By online / Email.

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TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From	To
Thiru Srinivas R. Reddy, I.F.S., Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Head of Forest Force) Forest Head Quarters Building, Guindy-Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai-32.	The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate Change and Forests Department, Secretariat, Chennai 9.

C. No. TS3/3481/2020 Dated: 04.08.2025.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 0.21 ha forest area in Kuruchi Forest Block I and II of Coimbatore Forest Division for providing water supply for 8 added areas in Coimbatore Corporation extended areas in the Coimbatore District in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore – Proposal forwarded – Details called for – Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Executive Engineer, Major Projects Division, TWAD Board, Coimbatore -- Proposal No. FP/TN/Water/43869/2020
- 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division in parivesh portal.
- 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle in parivesh portal
- 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/3481/2020, dated 27.09.2022, 08.05.2023 and 08.09.2023
- 5 Government letter No. 17155/FR.10/2022-3, dated 02.11.2023

With reference to the Government letter 5th cited, I am to furnish the details called for on the proposal as follows.

- i) As observed in the Government letter 5th cited above, Compensatory Afforestation is proposed in 0.42 ha of degraded forest area (Kml file for 1.00 ha effective area) in Bolampatty Block I Reserve Forest in Coimbatore Division of planting of 400 number of seedlings at a project cost of Rs. 500999/- Kml file for

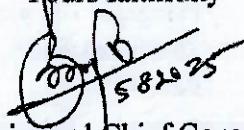
1.00 ha effective area, location marked in the Survey of India Topo Sheet, Go-reference map, geo-coordinates, site suitability certificate and detailed compensatory afforestation scheme have been uploaded in Part-II of Form-A.

ii) Diversion of forest area for laying water supply pipelines is proposed for providing water supply to 8 added areas in Coimbatore Corporation extended areas and the period of diversion has been recommended for 20 years period in favour of user agency-TWAD Board. Hence the user agency can carry out further maintenance work up to 20 years from the approval date with prior information communicated to the concerned District Forest Officer due to the wildlife movement in the terrain.

iii) The user Agency in the EDS reply letter No. 261124/F.AMRUT 2 added area/JDO/MPD/CBE/2024 dated 26.11.2024 has reported that, the water supply project is only for providing water facility to public utility for added areas of Coimbatore corporation. The city population has grown up. In order to meet the water demand for added area, it is necessary to augment the additional water for city needs. As of now, the erstwhile areas of Corporation are supplied with drinking water at the rate of 135 lpcd (Litres per Capita per Day) for once in two or three days. In respect of the added areas, the drinking water supply is now made ranging from 40 to 70 lpcd once in 8 to 15 days. So, overcome the above problems this proposal has been made. In this regard, DPR page of need of the project also furnished.

I request that the proposal may be considered and Government of India approval may be obtained for the project.

Yours faithfully



582925

For Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation Act) &
Nodal Officer, Forest Conservation Act.



05/01/2025