

By speed post



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

Letter No: 3277/ FR.10/2022-1, dated: 06.04.2022

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

To
The Deputy Director General of Forests (Central),
Government of India, MoEF&CC,
Integrated Regional Office,
1st Floor, Additional Office Block for GPOA,
Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006.

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Dharmapuri Forest Circle / Hosur Wildlife Division - Diversion of 1.52 ha of forest land recorded in Revenue records as un-assessed waste-Forest Range land which defined as Forests in Ayaranapalli village, Soolagiri Taluk of Krishnagiri District for the formation of road from Rayakottai-Kelamangalam road to TATA Electronic Company km 0/00-0/812 through the forest area of Hosur Forest Division area in Krishnagiri District in favour of Block Development Officer, Soolagiri Union, Krishnagiri District - Regarding.

Ref: From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoD) letter No. TS3/27218/2021 Dated: 22.02.2022.

In the reference cited, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has stated that Block Development Officer, Soolagiri, Krishnagiri District has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 1.52 ha of forest land recorded in Revenue records as un-assessed waste-Forest Range land which defined as Forests in Ayaranapalli village, Soolagiri Taluk of Krishnagiri District for the formation of road from Rayakottai-Kelamangalam road to TATA Electronic Company km 0/00-0/812 through the forest area of Hosur Forest Division area in Krishnagiri District.

2. In the Part-II of Form-A, the Wildlife Warden, Hosur Division has furnished following particulars.

- i) The legal status of the proposed site of diversion of 1.52 ha of forest land requested for the project is unclassified forests ;
- ii) As per Revenue Records, the proposed site is classified as Un-assessed waste- Forest Range land which defined as Forest and area proposed for diversion is 1.52 ha.
- iii) Density of the forest area is 0.1 and Eco class of forest area is one

- iv) There is no tree enumerated in the proposed forest diversion area.
- v) On the Brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion, the Wildlife Warden has reported that it is a linear project and there will not be possibilities of soil erosion.
- vi) On the presence of wildlife in and around the forest land proposed for diversion, no direct and indirect signs recorded. The forest area proposed for diversion is not forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor, Wildlife migration corridor etc., and not located within the eco-sensitive zone of the protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and not located within 1 km boundary of NP/WLs etc., for the forest land proposed for diversion. There is no rare/ endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the area.
- vii) There is no protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area;
- viii) Requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project and no work in violation of the Act or guidelines has been carried out.

For the diversion of 1.52 ha of forest land, the Wildlife Warden has proposed the compensatory afforestation scheme work in the 3.04 ha of non-forest land identified by the user agency and proposed to be handed over to the Forest Department in SF No. 467-A/2 of Sanamavu village at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,47,49,596.

Salient feature of Compensatory Afforestation scheme proposed is as follows.

No of seedlings proposed for planting in one ha.	-	1000 No.
Maintenance years	-	10 years
Nursery, planting and 10 years maintenance cost With escalation of cost over the years	-	Rs. 14149596
Construction of water harvesting structure 1 No.	-	Rs. 6,00,000
Total cost of CA scheme	-	Rs. 1,47,49,596

Site suitability certificate of the proposed CA area has been uploaded by the Wildlife Warden. As per the guidelines issued by the Government of India non-forest CA lands has to be fenced at the cost of user agency.

3. In the site inspection report, the Wildlife Warden has stated that, the road leading from Rayakottai-Kelamangalam road to TATA Electronic Company km 0/0-0/812 is passing through SF No. 954-956, 959, 965, 970-972, 977, 978 to an extent of 1.52 ha of Ayaranapalli village, Soolagiri Taluk, Krishnagiri District. As per Revenue records, the proposed site is classified as un-assessed waste-Forest Range land which defined as Forests. The proposed site for the formation of road diversion under FC Act 1980 is linear project. The vegetation of the terrain contains only scrubby growth and hence the question of tree felling does not arise due to diversion of 1.52 ha for formation of road. The compensatory afforestation area in lieu of the diversion of 1.52 ha identified in SF No. 467A/2 of Sanamavu village of Soolagiri Taluk in Krishnagiri District inspected on 08.01.2022. The total extent of the SF No. 467A is 5.80 ha in which an extent of 3.04 ha has been earmarked in favour of Forest Department. The compensatory land is a hillock and type of vegetation is dry deciduous scrub forest. The faunal diversity of the compensatory area is frequently visited by wild animals such as Elephant and Leopard.

Spotted deer, Indian hare and wild boar etc., are present in this area. The proposed compensatory land is adjoining to Sanamavu RF and therefore found convenient from Forest management point of view and also suitable for afforestation purposes. It is also easier to protect the land with existing staff. Besides the land could be annexed with the Sanamavu RF and suitable habitat connectivity could be established for movement of wild animals.

4. In the specific recommendation of the proposal, the Wildlife Warden, Hosur Division has reported that the proposed site is located on the northern side of the Udedurgam Reserved Forest at a distance of 2.1km. The site consists of only shrubs and hence the question of damage to the flora and fauna does not arise and no tree felling is involved due to the diversion of 1.52 ha of the area for the formation of road. There is no endangered species of flora and fauna. Considering the facts and field observation, the Wildlife Warden has recommended the proposal for seeking diversion of land.

5. The Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle has inspected the area on 10.01.2022 and has remarked that the proposed road is formed it will also serve for the benefit of the job opportunity to the local residents and recommended the proposal for diversion of 1.52 ha of forest area. Part-III of Form-A with site inspection and recommendation of the project has been uploaded in the web portal by the Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle on 20.01.2022.

6. The User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 50 years. The Wildlife Warden, Hosur Division and Conservator of Forests Dharmapuri Circle have recommended the forest area diversion for a period of 20 years. Based on the recommendations made by the Wildlife Warden, and Conservator of Forests, diversion of forest area for the project proposal recommended for a period of 20 years.

7. Based on the recommendation of the Wildlife Warden, Hosur Division and Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has recommended the proposal for diversion of 1.52 ha of forest land recorded in Revenue records as un-assessed waste-Forest Range land which defined as Forests in Ayaranapalli village, Soolagiri Taluk of Krishnagiri District for the formation of road from Rayakottai-Kelamangalam road to TATA Electronic Company km 0/00-0/812 through the forest area of Hosur Forest Division area in Krishnagiri District in favour of Block Development Officer, Soolagiri Union, Krishnagiri District for a period of 20 years subject to the following additional conditions and requested to forward the same to Government of India for obtaining its concurrence.

- a) The legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- b) 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.
- c) The User Agency has to fence, mutate and transfer 5.80 ha of non forest land (including additional area of 2.76 ha for any future proposal for diversion of forest land) identified in SF No. 467/A of Sanamavu village of Soolagiri Block in Krishnagiri District to the Forest Department.
- d) The User Agency has to pay the cost of Raising Compensatory Afforestation / Maintenance of plantation, protection of plantation etc., as fixed by the Forest Department and willingness to deposit additional amounts if any suggested as amended owing to the change in planting technique, enhancement in the FSR etc., demanded subsequently.
- e) The User Agency has to pay the amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

- f) 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.
- g) Amount of Compensatory levies, Net Present Value of forest area under the project shall be transferred / deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- h) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards lease rent 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 as the forest area diversion is meant for commercial activity usage.
- i) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies/ department or person without prior approval of State Government.
- j) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violations of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per rules in force.
- k) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 1.52 ha
- l) Period of lease can be twenty (20) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before one year of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.
- m) Any other conditions that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forests and wildlife.

8. The Government after careful examination have decided to accept the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for diversion of 1.52 ha of forest land recorded in Revenue records as un-assessed waste-Forest Range land which defined as Forests in Ayaranapalli village, Soolagiri Taluk of Krishnagiri District for the formation of road from Rayakottai-Kelamangalam road to TATA Electronic Company km 0/00-0/812 through the forest area of Hosur Forest Division area in Krishnagiri District in favour of BDO, Soolagiri Union, Krishnagiri District for a period of 20 years under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to forward the same to Government of India for concurrence.

9. I am, therefore 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,

S. Mohamed Yunus 6/4/22
for Additional Secretary to Government
S. Mohamed Yunus 6/4/22

Copy to:-
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Chennai-15.
The Block Development Officer,
Soolagiri Union, Krishnagiri District.

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)

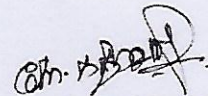
Proposal for diversion of 1.52 ha of forest land recorded in Revenue records as un-assessed waste-Forest Range land which defined as Forests in Ayaranapalli village, Soolagiri Taluk of Krishnagiri District for the formation of road from Rayakottai-Kelamangalam road to TATA Electronic Company km 0/00-0/812 through the forest area of Hosur Forest Division area in Krishnagiri District for a period of 20 years under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

18. Recommendation of the State Government

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Recommended

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


(C.K. KATHIRAVAN)
Signature

Name & Designation
(Official Seal)

Date : 06.04.2022

Place : Chennai-9.

**Under Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change and
Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.**