

I/50943/2023



भारतसरकार  
**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
 पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &  
 CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**Regional Office, Chennai**  
**Additional Office Block for GPOA, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor,**  
**Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,**  
**Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006;**  
**Ph: 044-28222041; Fax: 28252536;**  
**E-mail: [ro.moefccc@gov.in](mailto:ro.moefccc@gov.in)**



F.No.4-TNB103/2023-CHN/  
 Date; 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

994

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu,  
 Environment & Forests Department,  
 Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai - 600 009

**Subject: Diversion of forest land of 0.874 ha for construction of foot bridges for collector well 4 & 5 and MV Panel room for Collector well 5 and construction of headworks under Combined Water Supply Scheme to 8 Town Panchayats, 2452 Rural Habitations, 3 Municipalities in Sivaganga District across Maruthur RF in favour of Assistant Engineer, Tamil Nadu Waster Supply and Drainage Board, Kulithalai- Reg.**

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter Nos.3801/FR.10/2023-1 dated 31.05.2023 and online application No.FP/TN/WATER/153702/2022 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project. The project was accorded in-principle approval (Stage-I) by the Central Government vide letter dated 13.06.2023. The State Government vide letter No.3801/FR.10/2023 dated 25.07.2023 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval;

After careful consideration of the compliance report submitted by the State Government, I am hereby directed to convey the Central Government's **final approval (Stage-II)** under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land of **0.874 ha** for construction of foot bridges for collector well 4 & 5 and MV Panel room for Collector well 5 and construction of headworks under Combined Water Supply Scheme to 8 Town Panchayats, 2452 Rural Habitations, 3 Municipalities in Sivaganga District across Maruthur RF in favour of Assistant Engineer, Tamil Nadu Waster Supply and Drainage Board, Kulithalai, **for a period of 50 years**, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;

I/50943/2023

2. The demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters from the amount realized from the User Agency;
3. As proposed the State Forest Department shall carryout Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over **47 ha of DFL area identified in D.Edaiyapatty Bit-III RF , Karur Range** from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;
4. CA shall be raised in the vacant areas / less than 0.4 density areas within the **47 ha of DFL area identified in D.Edaiyapatty Bit-III RF ,Karur Range** in a concentrated area rather than planting sparsely in the entire 47 ha and accordingly demarcation and proper signage to be placed. Considering portion of boundary of the proposed DFL area surrounded by human habitation, protection against the biotic interferences and grazing shall be ensured;
5. The degraded forest land identified for CA and the approved CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government and the State Forest Department shall ensure that the amount realized from the User Agency towards CA should not be left unspent;
6. 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;
7. Issuance of FC approval is not overriding the Hon'ble Court/ Tribunal, Water Authority's orders in force. Hence, the State Government shall ensure to obtain prior approval of the competent authority if any, to draw the water from river Cauvery;
8. **Proposed components i.e. staff quarters and office buildings shall not be established in the diverted area.** Hence, the State Government may direct the User Agency to take up the same in revenue land. Trees standing in the proposed **Staff quarters and office building** area shall not be felled;
9. In case electricity supply required for the project, if the electricity line passes through Forest area permission under FCA, 1980 for such portion of forest area need to be obtained accordingly.
10. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;



I/50943/2023

11. The User Agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling;
12. 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;
13. Tree felling shall be carried out wherever required under the strict supervision of DFO concerned.
14. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **0.874 ha (staff quarters, office building, approach road, transmission line shall not be carried out in the forest area)** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
15. 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;
16. The 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 such projects;
17. Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDG (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;
18. 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 FCA, 1980;

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Karthikeyan

Karuppiah

Date: 16-08-2023 13:56:36

**(Karthikeyan)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32

I/50943/2023

2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, GuindyVelachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32.
3. Inspector General of Forests, ROHQ Division, MoEF&CC, Indira ParyavaranBhavan, JorBagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi-110003 **for information.**
4. EE TWAD Project DN Kulithalai, 18/13, Mutharasanallur post, Trichy, Tamil Nadu, 620101 [eeprojkulithalai@gmail.com](mailto:eeprojkulithalai@gmail.com)
5. Guard file

**Sd/-**  
**(K.Karthikeyan)**  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)