



भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण ,वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE
CHANGE



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F.No.4-TNB071/2021-CHN/1011

Date 21st September, 2022

To

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

**Subject: Diversion of 3.708 ha in Chinnayampattikaradu RF of Natham-
Thuvarankurichi (NH-785 extension) traverse through Natham Taluk of
Dindigul District in favour of National Highways Authority of India,
Dindigul- Reg**

Madam,

Please refer to the State Government letter No. 17780/FR.10/2020-1 dated 08.02.2021 and 17780/FR.10/2022-5 dated 18.04.2022 online proposal No. FP/TN/ROAD/37330/2018 seeking prior approval of the Government of India 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 20.04.2022. The State Government have reported compliance vide letter dated 19.09.2022 (received on 20.09.2022) to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval;

After careful consideration of the compliance report submitted by the State Government and importance of the project, I am directed to convey the Central Government's approval (*Stage-II*) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **3.708 ha** in Chinnayampattikaradu RF of Natham-Thuvarankurichi (NH-785 extension) traverse through Natham Taluk of Dindigul District in favour of National Highways Authority of India, Dindigul, **for a period of twenty years**, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) 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 at the cost of the User Agency **before execution of the project work;**

- (iii) The State Forest Department shall carryout plantation of indigenous tree species and its maintenance over an extent **8.00 ha** of degraded forest area in Chinnayampattikaradu RF, from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;
- (iv) The identified degraded forest area for CA purpose and CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government. The CA land shall be demarcated properly;
- (v) As proposed, plantation of Thirugukalli (*Euphorbia Spp.*) and Kiluvai (*Commiphora caudata*) and other suitable species may be planted in Chinnayampattikaradu RF to make RF a suitable habitat for Slender loris at the cost of the User Agency and such amount shall be deposited in to the designated CAMPA account through online only before execution of the work;
- (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 by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- (vii) The trees of spontaneous origin shall be felled as per the orders of CEC/ Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed on 24.03.2022 in the IA Nos 2180 & 2186/2021 in WP 202/1995. Trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of DFO concerned. The trees (both spontaneous / planted) existing in the forest area over an extent of 1.0506 ha (within 3.708 ha) earmarked for space for avenue plantation shall not be felled. The tree felling may be carried out in phased manner as suggested / recommended in the wildlife mitigation plan;
- (viii) The State Government may carryout habitat improvement activities in the Chinnayampattikaradu RF to ensure lesser / minimal impact on wild animals (in specific to Slender loris) due to widening of the road. These activities may be carried out from the amount to be realized towards Net Present Value (NPV) under the subject project. The DFO may be instructed to prepare APO accordingly;
- (ix) Part of the existing RoW road which is not falls in the forest area proposed for diversion, Hence, such left out old road shall be dismantled and restore the area with planting 200 of seedling as proposed by the State Government over an extent of 0.1854 ha at the cost of the User Agency;

- (x) Approved Wildlife mitigation plan/measures may be approved by the Competent Authority of the State, considering all aspects related to the conservation of Slender Loris. The mitigation measures must be in accordance with the guidelines issued by WII. Approved wildlife mitigation measures are to be implemented by the State Forest Department and UA at the cost of the project. The Levies towards wildlife mitigation measures plan shall be deposited in to the designated CAMPA account through online only before execution of the work as per the National CAMPA directions. Compliance to this effect shall be submitted along with the copy of the approved mitigation measures plan.
- (xi) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (xii) Construction of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals shall be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals;
- (xiii) Roadside cuttings and fillings which require engineering support shall be provided as per the instructions of the DFO concerned so as to stabilize the soil;
- (xiv) The dug out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. Storage of any material shall not be done in the forest area;
- (xv) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xvi) The User Agency shall carryout avenue plantation (without felling of existing trees) on both sides of the road and also in the central verge of the road at the project cost;
- (xvii) The User Agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling and no labour camp shall be established inside the forest area;
- (xviii) Disturbance shall be kept minimum by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it shall 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;
- (xix) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 3.708 ha (including existing RoW road) and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;

- (xx) 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;
- (xxi) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- (xxii) 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 project;
- (xxiii) Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Officer (Central) of Integrated 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;
- (xxiv) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions under rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980.

Yours faithfully,

(S.Sasikumar)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, No.1, Jeenu Road, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015.
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, No.1, Jeenu Road, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015.
3. Inspector General of Forests (Central), MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi-110003 **for information.**
4. National Highways Authority of India, Plot No. 1, Aishwaryam Heights, Indira Nagar, Chennamanaickkanpatti (PO), Dindigul, Tamil Nadu-624004 dindigulpiu@gmail.com

(S.Sasikumar)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)