

By online / E-mail.

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Subrat Mohapatra, I.F.S.,  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
(Head of Forest Force)  
Forest Head Quarters Building,  
Guindy-Velachery Main Road,  
Guindy, Chennai - 32.

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to  
Government,  
Environment, Climate Change and  
Forests Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 9.

C. No. TS3/27219/2021 Dated: 28.06.2023.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL for formation of road from Seenkadu to Allakatu via Erimalai village in Dharmapuri Forest Division to a length of 6415m and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri District in favour of the Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District - Proposal forwarding off - Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District, Pin code 636 801 Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/37291/2018
- 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division on 05.09.2022 and resubmission of proposal on 04.11.2022 and 13.05.2023
- 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle on 29.09.2022 and resubmission of proposal on 07.11.2022 and 25.05.2023

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I wish to state that the Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District, has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL for formation of road from Seenkadu to Allakatu via Erimalai village in Dharmapuri Forest Division to a length of 6415m and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri District under proposal No. FP/TN/Road/37291/2018.



1) Brief details of the project are given below.

i) The User Agency has uploaded the proposal in the prescribed format of Form A - Part I - under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of fresh forest area.

ii) Name of the project for which forest land required and short narrative of the project reported as Formation of Seenkadu to Allakkattu via Erimalai road.

iii) Category of the project reported as 'Road' and shape of the land proposed for diversion is 'Linear'.

iv) The User Agency has reported that area required in forest area is for 4.81 ha and non-forest land required for the project reported as Zero ha.,

v) The User Agency has proposed the forest area diversion for the project for a period of 99 years.

vi) On behalf of User Agency – Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District, the incumbent Officer has applied the on-line proposal for diversion of forest land.

vii) In the section of uploading details of proposal seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Act for diversion of forest land for the project already submitted in the past reported as NIL

viii) Diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land has been requested in Dharmapuri Forest Division of Dharmapuri District. The User Agency has specified the village wise breakup details of land required for the project as Kesarkuli RF for 4.73 ha of forest area. Which is comes under Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary and 0.08 ha in Thirumalvadi RL of Default Eco Sensitive Zone of Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary.

ix) In the component wise break up of forest land required details, the User Agency has reported the following.

(a) Road-1 – 2.445 ha, (b) Road-2 – 1.2675 ha and (c) Road 3 -1.0965 ha (Total – 4.809 ha) lies in the forest area.

x) KML file in three bit of road area totaling 4.809 ha uploaded.

As per location marked in the Survey of India topo sheet, the proposed approach road runs through forest area connecting three habitations located inside the forest area.



xi) The user agency has uploaded the copy of location map of the forest land proposed to be diverted in kml file of google earth, Survey of India Topo sheet indicating the boundary of proposed forest diversion area and scanned copy of the Geo-referenced map of the forest land proposed to be diverted.

xii) The User Agency has uploaded the copy of note containing justification for locating the project in forest area.

In this segment, the User Agency has reported that this road length is 6.415 km and width is 7.50m. The existing surface of the road is earthen. The mentioned road is very much useful to the people those who are living in the habitation of Erimalai and Alakattu habitations, which having the population of 495 in Vattuvanahalli Panchayat, Pennagaram Block. Now the people of above habitation are very much struggling to reach Public Distribution Shop, School, Hospital and market as no connectivity by all weather roads to that habitation. Since completion of this road, the people very much benefit to schooling, marketing and hospital purposes. Vehicle movement will help the socio-economic development of the individuals. Hence it is justified that the road from Seenkadu to Alakattu via Erimalai in Vattuvanahalli Panchayat is essential.

xiii) The User Agency has not uploaded a copy of map indicating location of alternative examined for the project and reason for not providing such map in the segment reported as no other ways to examined.

xiv) The User Agency has stated that, the project is likely to generate permanent/ regular employment for 150 persons and temporary employment for 100 persons. The User Agency has stated that this project does not involve displacement of people, this project does not require cost-benefit analysis, clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

xv) The User Agency has modified the section of applicability of Wildlife Protection Act, since Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary has been notified during 2022.

Permission under Forest Conservation Act 1980 has been applied for formation of Seenkadu to Alakattu via Erimalai road to a length of 6.415 km proposed. Out of this, 6.310 km is lies in Kesarkuli RF and inside the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary and this road portion of road from Seenkadu to Alakattu



village via Erimalai in Kesarkuli RF to a length of 6.307 km with 7.50m width was excluded from the sanctuary notification.

Remaining length of 105 m of the proposed road falls in Thirumalvadui RL which is outside the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary and within the default Eco Sensitive Zone of 10km radius.

Hence the user agency has reported that approval under Wildlife Clearance is needed, status is reported as application yet to be submitted.

xvi) The User Agency has stated that, the process for settlement of Rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed to be diverted has been completed and uploaded a copy of certificate issued in ROC No. 1123/2018/R2, dated 24.01.2023 by the District Collector, Dharmapuri District about completion of process for settlement of Rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006 in the 4.81 ha of forest land proposed to be diverted for the project.

xvii) For the diversion of 4.81 ha of degraded forest area in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL, the user agency has identified 9.65 ha of non-forest compensatory land in SF No. 692/6 of Kammampatty village of Nallampalli Taluk in Dharmapuri District.

a) The District Collector, Dharmapuri District in his proceedings No. 13305/2018/T1, dated 12.07.2021 has ordered for the transfer of 41.6334 ha of Government Poramboke land classified as un-assessed waste dry Karadu to the Forest Department as compensatory lands for the forest areas involved in five project. This formation of Seenkadu to Allakadu via Erimalai road involving 4.81 ha of forest area is one of the project involving diversion of forest land and the District Collector has ordered for transfer of 9.65 ha of land to the Forest Department.

b) Location map of the identified non-forest CA land proposed to be transferred to Forest Department in kml file of google earth, scanned copy of Survey of India topo sheet indicating the proposed road alignment area marked in the map and scanned copy of Geo referenced location details of the forest land have been furnished in the web portal.

xviii) In the additional information details section, following details/certificates/undertakings have been uploaded.



a) Break-up details of forest land required for the project.

Length of the road : 6412m (3260+1690+1462m in 3 reaches)

Width of the road : 7.50 m

Area including curves : 6412m X 7.50m = 48090 sq.m (OR) 4.81 ha.

b) FMB sketch of proposed CA land indicating the sub-divisions in the map.

c) Certified that, proposed road lying in Papparapatty Revenue village, Papparapatty Firka.

d) Certified that no suitable alternate non-forest land is available for the project.

e) Certified that ten times of saplings cost would be paid towards the number of trees proposed to be cut, which falls on the forest alignment.

f) Certified that, they have not violated any provision of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in seeking the minimum forest land required for the formation of road.

g) Copy of Chitta-Adangal register of the proposed CA land.

h) Certificate issued by the District Collector, Dharmapuri about no alternate non-forests land is available and best possible alignment requires the utilization of the Reserve Forests land for the project. Roc No. 1123/2018/R2, dated 20.09.2021

i) Consent letter of District Collector Dharmapuri for handing over of 10.00 ha of land as CA scheme (Roc No. 13305/2018/T2, dated 12.07.2021).

j) Certified that assured employment will be generated throughout the year after completion of the road project. Due to commercial vehicle movement, there is a possibility to hike in transaction of Agricultural and Commercial products.

k) GPS reading of CA land

l) GPS reading of the proposed road aligned in forest area.

m) Undertaking to pay the additional amount of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed for diversion if any fixed in future.

n) Undertaking to pay the entire amount for compensatory afforestation in lieu of the forest area diverted for the project at the prevailing wage rates at the time of plantation.

o) Undertaking 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 for the formation of road.



p) Undertaking to pay the Net Present Value of the forest land proposed for diversion.

q) Undertaking to bear the cost of felling of trees and transportation cost of the trees to be removed during formation of road under the project in the forest area as fixed by the Forest Department has not been furnished.

r) EDS reply of applicability of Wildlife Clearance for the project and its status

2) In the Part-II of Form-A, the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division has furnished following particulars.

i) The legal status of the proposed site of diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land requested for the project is Reserved Forests.

As per the EDS reply document, site inspection report and recommendation of the project uploaded by the District Forest Officer, name of the forest land reported as Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL

ii) The District Forest Officer has reported that, density of the forest area is 0.25 and Eco class of forest area is three.

iii) Species wise and girth class wise enumeration of trees in the area reported as 343 numbers.

a) As per the site inspection report of the District Forest Officer, in the alignment of the proposed road, there are exist 343 numbers of trees, which are spontaneous growth in nature and requires felling.

iv) On vulnerability of the forest area to erosion reported as the area already eroded and no soil to be eroded.

v) The District Forest Officer reported that, small insects, Wild boar, monitor lizard and reptiles are present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion.

a) Total length of the road is 6.415 km, in this, 6.310 km-4.73 ha length of road falls in Kesarkuli RF and within the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary and it was excluded vide G.O. Ms No. 193, ECC&F(FR.5) Department, dated 07.11.2022 and the balance length of 105m-0.08 ha falls in Thirumalvadi RL which is within the default Eco Sensitive Zone of 10km radius.

b) There is no rare/ endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the area.



vi) There is no protected archaeological/ heritage site/ defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.

vii) 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.

viii) For the proposed diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for formation of Seenkadu to Allakkatu via Erimalai road in Pennagaram Taluk in Dharmapuri District, compensatory afforestation has been proposed for planting of 600 number of saplings per ha in 9.65 ha of identified non forest CA land in SF No. 692/6 of Kammampatty in Nallampalli Taluk of Dharmapuri District and 800 number of saplings per ha in 5.00 ha of degraded forest area selected in Parigam B RF.

a) The District Forest Officer has reported that the non forest land has been inspected on 07.10.2021 and it is quite suitable for raising compensatory afforestation. It is also approachable and manageable on protection point of view. Naturally grown trees are existing in the identified CA land and looks like a forest. Due to lack of possibilities to plant the targeted saplings in this place, it has been decided to plant the remaining saplings in the degraded forest area of Dharmapuri Range in Parigam B RF.

b) CA scheme cost proposed by the District Forest Officer is as follows.

i) a) CA scheme in 10.00 ha of non-forest CA land

@ 600 numbers per ha including maintenance

of plantation for 10 year period - Rs. 69,92,891/-

b) Chain link fencing around non-forest CA land

plantation area to prevent biotic pressure - Rs. 31,84,720/-

Subtotal - Rs. 1,01,77,591/-

ii) a) CA scheme in 5.00 ha of degraded forest CA area in Parigam B RF

@ 800 numbers per ha including maintenance

of plantation for 10 year period - Rs. 52,23,650/-

Subtotal - Rs. 52,23,650/-

Grand total of CA scheme - Rs. 1,54,01,241/-

c) The District Forest Officer has furnished the cost estimate of the CA scheme and area marked in the Survey of India topo sheet and surveyed sketch of the proposed CA area in geo-referenced map for the non- forest CA land. Site



suitability certificate of the CA area has also been furnished by the District Forest Officer.

d) The Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle in C. No. 5269/2019/D, dated 07.11.2022 has reported that the chain-link fencing has been proposed for the protection of plantation in non-forest land to periphery of 1316m length at a cost of Rs. 31,84,720/- as per site specific needs. However, by deleting 390 m of common boundary on the eastern side, the periphery of the chain-link fencing required to be provided to a length of 926m only. Therefore the cost arrived at for chain-link fencing may be reduced to Rs. 22,40,920/- from the District Forest Officer proposal of Rs. 31,84,720/-

Hence the compensatory afforestation cost including protection of plantation by providing chain link fencing proposed at Rs. 1,44,57,441/-

ix) In the site inspection report, the District Forest Officer has reported the following

Proposed site is inspected on 07.10.2021. The user agency has not yet commenced any work in the field therefore the question of violation of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 does not arise and there is no encroachment in this area. The forest land required for the project is not part of any National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary/Biosphere. In the alignment of the proposed road, there are exist 343 numbers of trees, which are spontaneous growth in nature and requires felling. The proposed road is to be laid to a length of 6415m to a width of 7.50m.

x) In the Specific Recommendation of the project, the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division has reported the following

a) The proposal submitted by the user agency for diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for formation of road from Seenkadu to Allakatu via Erimalai village. The proposed road connects Seenkadu, Alakkattu and Erimalai villages. Until now there is no other alternative road for them to drive vehicles. This is the long-lasting demand by the village peoples for the past ten years. This demand has also been raised in the Legislative Assembly often.

b) The work will be permitted under strict supervision of the Forest Officers. Possible damage to wild flora and fauna due to this project is very low. Considering



the facts and field observations, the District Forest Officer has recommended the proposal for seeking diversion of land.

3) The Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle has inspected the area on 20.09.2022 and endorsed the details provided by the District Forest Officer and recommended the proposal.

4) The User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 99 years. The District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division and the Conservator of forest, Dharmapuri Circle have also recommended the diversion of forest area for a period of 99 years.

Forest area diversion proposals for road works are permanent nature and may be recommended for a period of 50 years.

5) Notification of Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary has been issued under Wildlife Protection Act 1972 vide G.O. Ms No. 193, Environment, Climate Change and Forest (FR,5) Department dated 07.11.2022 and in this path way of leading from Seenkadu village to Alakattu village through Erimalai village to a 6.307 km and 7.50m width has been excluded from the Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary.

As per the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division report, total length of the road is 6.415 km and in this, 6.310 km lies in Kesarkuli RF and balance length of 105m falls in Thirumalvadi RL which is within the default Eco Sensitive Zone of 10km radius and attracts the Wildlife Protection Act 1972.

Hence the user agency has to obtain approval from the National Board for Wildlife under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

6) Based on the recommendation made by the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division and Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle, proposal for diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL for formation of road from Seenkadu to Allakatu via Erimalai village in Dharmapuri Forest Division to a length of 6415m and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri District seeking approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by the Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District is recommended to the Government for consideration of the Government and to obtain approval from the Government of India and the following conditions may be recommended for imposition of the project.

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 mutate and transfer 9.65 ha of non-forest land indentified in SF No. 692/6 of Kammampatty Village of Nallampalli Taluk in Dharmapuri District to the Forest Department.

iv) 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.

v) The User Agency has to pay the Net Present Value of proposed forests diversion area which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India /Government of India.

vi) 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.

vii) Amount of Compensatory afforestation scheme, Net Present Value of diverted forest area under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)

viii) The user agency has to obtain approval from the National Board for Wildlife under Wildlife Protection Act 1972 for formation of road from Seenkadu village to Alakattu village through Erimalai village for the road passes through Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL.

ix) The user agency has to pay the cost towards felling and transportation cost of trees to be cut in the project area to the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division for immediate execution of the felling of trees work after getting necessary permission for felling of trees.

x) 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.



xi) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceeds 4.81 ha for with a length of 6415 m and width of 7.50m in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL.

xii) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under any circumstances be transferred to any other agencies/department or person without prior approval.

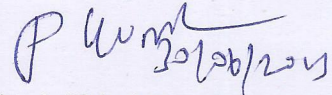
xiii) Period of lease can be fifty (50) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before one year of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.

7) The proposal is sent herewith duly recommended by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act)/ Nodal Officer of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of the State of Tamil Nadu.


8) I request that the proposal may be considered and approval may be obtained from the Government of India for diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL for formation of road from Seenkadu to Allakatu via Erimalai village in Dharmapuri Forest Division to a length of 6415m and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri District in favour of Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District for a period of 50 years.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully

 30/06/2023

For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)

 30/06/2023



PART - IV

(To be filled in by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest Department)

Name of the work : Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL for formation of road from Seenkadu to Allakatu via Erimalai village in Dharmapuri Forest Division to a length of 6415m and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri District in favour of the Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District - Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/37291/2018

17	Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks
	(While giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon)

Recommended subject  
to clearance from National Board  
for wildlife.

Signature :

*[Signature]*  
22/6/23

Name Designation : *Tmt V. Karuna Priya IAS*  
Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Forest Conservation Act), O/o the Principal Chief  
Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Chennai.

Date : 22 -06-2023

Place: Chennai-32.

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