TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

To

Thiru Syed Muzammil Abbas, 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. TS3/43555/2021 Dated: 17.11.2022.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land in Pillur Slope Reserved Forests of Coimbatore Forest Division for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District in favour of Superintending Engineer, General Construction Circle, TANTRANSCO, Coimbatore - Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Superintending Engineer, GCC, Transmission Line Construction (TANTRANSCO), Coimbatore-12 Proposal No. FP/TN/ Substation/149440/2021, dated 19.11.2021 and resubmission of proposal on 01.04.2022 and 25.05.2022
 - 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Forest Division on 01.07.2022 and resubmission of proposal on 11.08.2022 and 21.09.2022
 - Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore on 06.07.2022 and resubmission of proposal on 22.08.2022 and 23.09.2022

1) I wish to state that, the Superintending Engineer, GCC, Transmission Line Construction (TANTRANSCO), Coimbatore has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land in Pillur Slope Reserved Forests of Coimbatore Forest Division for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District under proposal No. FP/TN/Substation/149440/2021.

- 2) Details of forest area diversion proposed by the User agency and proposal forwarded by the District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests and Field Director is briefed 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 in which forest land required reported as Improvement of 230 KV substation into 400 Kv Substation at Parali.
- iii) Short narrative of the project reported as, improvement of 230 Kv substation into 400 Kv substation at Parali for evacuation of 500 MW power from Kundah Pumped Storage Hydro Electric Project.
 - iv) The details of the proposal are as follows:
- a) Improvement of 230 kv substation into 400 kv substation at Parali is proposed for evacuation of 500 MW power from Kundah Pumped Storage Hydro Electric project.
- b) Component wise break up details furnished by the user agency is as (i) 400 KV bay -2.30 ha., (ii) 230 KV bay -2.10 ha and (iii) Control room building -0.45 ha of total area required for the project as 4.85 ha
- c) The user agency has reported that as land was already diverted being in lease and under possession of TNEB, the proposed improvement works of enhancement from 230 KV into 400 KV is envisaged within allotted area. Hence it may be considered that the compensatory afforestation not applicable for this proposal.
- v) The User Agency has reported that area required in forest area is for 4.85 ha., and non forest land required for the project is Zero ha.,
- vi) The User Agency has proposed the forest area diversion for the project for a period of 20 years. The legal status of the User Agency is State PSU.
- 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, project proposal uploaded in the following proposal numbers furnished.
- a) Proposal No. FP/TN/Substation/149440/2021 for diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land This instant proposal.

- b) Proposal No. FP/TN/Trans/40663/2019 for diversion of 15.15 ha of forest land for utilizing the existing 230 KV transmission corroidor from Parali PH 3 to Nellithurai RF of Coimbatore Division for erection of 400 KV DC line on DC Tower with HTLS and the proposal is pending with user agency for submission of reply of the EDS raised by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division on 04.02.2021.
- viii) Diversion of 4.85 ha of forest has been requested in Coimbatore Forest Division area in Coimbatore District.
- ix) Village wise breakup details of the forest area requirement reported as Nellithurai.
- x) The User Agency has furnished the component wise breakup details of land required for the project as follows.

a) 400 KV bay

- 2.3 ha

b) 230 KV bay

- 2.1 ha

c) Control room building - 0.449 ha

Total

- 4.848 ha (or) 4.85 ha

- xi) Location map of the forest land proposed to be diverted in kml file of google earth, scanned copy of Survey of India topo sheet indicating the proposed diversion area marked in the map and scanned copy of Geo referenced location details of the forest land proposed to be diverted prepared in google earth map have been uploaded. DGPS co-ordinates of the proposed diversion area have been uploaded within the map.
- xii) Note containing justification for locating the project in forest area has been uploaded.
- xiii) The User Agency has stated that this project is likely to generate permanent/regular employment for 50 persons and temporary employment for 450 persons. The User Agency has stated that this project does not involve displacement of people due to the project. The User Agency has stated that costbenefit analysis for the project is not required, and this project not requires clearance under Environment (Protection) Act 1986.
- xiv) The User Agency has stated that the project or part thereof is not located in any protected area or their Eco sensitive zone. The User Agency has stated that this project or a part thereof is not located in a Scheduled area.
- xv) 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 not been completed.

The user agency has reported that the proposed site is already under possession of TNEB from 1965 onwards and the present status is lease land from Forest Department, hence the certificate on settlement of rights may be considered as not applicable for the proposed land.

xvi) Under the section of details of land identified for compensatory afforestation, the User Agency has stated that, non-forest or Revenue forest is not required to be provided by user agency and reason for not providing non-forest land reported as renewal of lease where compensatory afforestation has been stipulated and done in respect of the applied area at the time of grant/renewal of lease earlier.

The user agency has reported that as land was already diverted being in lease and under possession of TNEB, the proposed improvement works of enhancement from 230 KV into 400 KV is envisaged within allotted area. Hence it may be considered that the compensatory afforestation not applicable for the above proposal.

- xvii) In the additional information details section, following documents/certificates/undertakings have been uploaded.
- 1) Component wise break up details of forest area requirement for the project proposal.
 - i) 400 Kv bay 2.30 ha ii) 230 Kv bay - 2.10 ha iii) Control room building - 0.45 ha
 - Total 4.85 ha
- 2) Nature of works involved in the project reported by the user agency is as follows.
 - i) Dismantling of existing staff quarters -25 Nos.
- ii) Felling of 199 No of trees ie., 81 Nos manmade trees and 118 Nos spontaneous trees.
- iii) Cutting and filling of earth for forming six number of benches by construction of Protection and Retaining walls
- iv) Construction of 400 KV bays, 230 Kv bays with transformer plinths and structural plinths.
- v) Control room building and other associated civil works viz., cable duct, road formation, fencing protection wall for preventing entry of wild animals
 - 3) List of trees to be felled

- 4) The user agency has not furnished the Certificate issued by the District Collector on non-availability of non forest land for the project and reported that, the proposed site is located within the lease land and the land was already under the possession of TNEB, hence above certificate may be considered as not applicable for this proposal.
- 5) Undertaking to bear the cost of felling of trees and transportation cost of the trees likely to be removed, those available in the project area for the proposed diversion of forest land as fixed by the Forest Department.
- 6) Undertaking to pay the cost toward annual lease rent as fixed by the Forest Department at the time of sanction along with any escalation for the proposed site to an extent of 4.85 ha will be paid by TNEB.
 - 7) DGPS co-ordinates of the proposed diversion area
 - 8) Lay out plan of the site.
- 9) Copy of letter No. 6858/2021/D1, dated 16.11.2021 of District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division informing the user agency to apply online forest clearance proposal for the work of felling of trees in forest area.
- 10) Documents related to the Government orders issued regarding forest land transferred to TNEB for Kundah Hydro Electric Project and land lease issue of TNEB.
- 11) Copy of letter No. 6858/2021/D1, dated 28.01.2022 of District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division addressed to the District Collector on the details of forest area in the project area.
- 12) Certified that there is no alternate non forest land is available for the project and demand of forest land required for the project is unavoidable and barest minimum and all alternative have been examined and not feasible.
- 13) Certified that the TANTRANSCO has not violated any provisions of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 regarding utilizing 4.85 ha lease land for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 Kv substation at Parali, Coimbatore District.
 - 14) Adangal Register extract of the lands in favour of TNEB
- 15) Superintending Engineer, GCC Coimbatore letter No. SE/GCC/CBE/AEE/Moni/F.Parali 400/230 KV SS/D.135/22, dated 25.04.2022

The user agency in his letter No. (D.135) dated 25.04.2022 has reported the following details.

- i) The TANGEDCO has approved the Establishment of Kundha Pumped Storage Hydro Electric Project (KPSHEP) (4x125 MW) at Kattukupai village, Nilgiris District vide cited (Per)B.P. (FB) No.165 dated 22.12.2008. Ministry of environment & Forest (MOE&F), Government of India, New Delhi has accorded Environmental clearance to the above project vide GOI notification No.J-12011/62/2006-1A-1 DATED 08.05.2007. 30 Hectares of Forest land of the Nilgiris South Division, was already diverted to KPSHE Project under section 2 of Forest Conservation Act,1980 vide G.O. Ms. No: 149, Environment and Forest (FR-10) Department dt.28.09.2013. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has ordered for felling of 120 Nos of spontaneous trees for construction of approach road and pruning of 276 Nos of spontaneous trees for right of way for transmission line for the above project vide I.A No.2019 in W.P.(C) 202/1995. The Kundah Pumped Storage Hydro Electric project construction works are under progress and it has been programmed to commission the project in the year 2023.
- ii) Following transmission system was approved vide (Per) FB.TANTRANSCO Proceedings No:21 dated 05.03.2019 to evacuate 500 MW power from the above KPSHE Project.
- 1) Erection of 230 KV MC feeders from KPSHE Project to Proposed 400 KV SS at Parali.
- 2) Establishment of 400/230 KV Substation at Parali.
- 3) Erection of 400 KV DC feeders from Proposed Parali 400 KV SS to existing Karamadai 400 KV SS.
- iii) Establishment of 400/230 kV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District at an estimate cost of Rs.429.78 Crore.
- iv) Parali Substation is envisage as a system strengthening measure to evacuate 500 MW power from ongoing Kundah Pumped Storage Hydro Electric project VII (1x125 MW, 3 X 125 MW) at Nilgiris District which is under nearing completion and so as to distribute power in grid at Karamadai 400kV SS.
- v) The land to an extent of 4.85 Hectare proposed out of 55 Hectare at Parali in SF. No.461 of Nellithurai village, Mettupalayam taluk, Coimbatore District which is under the possession on TANGEDCO since 1967 as staff camp with various types of

dwelling quarters / office premises. This land at S.F. 461 (55.0 Hectare) was classified to the TNEB as revenue record (RSR& Adangal) based on the sub-division order TK.8A / 4/97/ dt 10.11.1988.

- vi) The above scheme was approved by claiming the proposed land at SF. No. 461 of Nellithurai village as TANGEDCO land based on the revenue records and the cost of land was taken on NIL value.
- vii) The entire substation works have been awarded to M/s. L&T / Chennai on turnkey basis and the site was handed over to the Contractor on 03.02.2021. The work could not be commenced due to approval from Forest Department of cutting 199 nos of trees available in the proposed 4.85 Hectare of land.
- viii) The Executive Engineer / PH-III / Parali has addressed letter to District Forest Officer / Coimbatore for approval of felling of trees on 18.09.2019, 21.05.20, 21.08.20, 04.09.20, 09.12.20 & 21.01.21 and Executive Engineer / TLC / Mettupalayam has also addressed letter to District Forest Officer / Coimbatore for approval of felling of trees on 05.07.2021 and 17.07. 2021. Further, the Superintending Engineer / Generation Circle / Kundah and the Superintending Engineer / General Construction Circle / Coimbatore have addressed letter to the District Collector / Coimbatore on 23.09.2021 & 07.10.2021 respectively for approval of felling trees at Parali.
- ix) The above three transmission system has to be completed before in the year 2023 so as to enable for commissioning of the KPSHE Project. Based on the approval of transmission system, a 400/230 KV Substation at Parali has to be established by TANTRANSCO.
- x) During discussion with DFO / Coimbatore on 25.08.2021, 08.10.2021, 09.11.2021, it was informed by DFO / Coimbatore that, the tree cutting permission along with diversion of forest Land has to be applied in online PARIVASH Portal by considering that the status of land is Forest land.
- xi) Meanwhile, the preliminary work was commenced in the vacant land without distributing the trees on 08.11.2021 by M/s. L&T Ltd., Chennai. But the works were stopped by Forest Department stating that no work shall be proceeded without prior approval from Forest Department.

- xii) As part of scheme that the work of construction of 50 Nos Quarters in the above land S.F. No: 461 were already completed without any objection from Forest Department, the action of stopping the balance scheme in vacant land without cutting of the trees may leads to loss to the Board. Such cost implications may be loaded as the Tariff hike over public.
- xiii) The Chairman cum Managing Director TANGEDCO has also written D.O letter to the District Collector / Coimbatore on 12.11.2021 requesting tree cutting permission by considering status of land as TNEB land based on the Revenue Records.
- xiv) In order to avoid delay in ensuring the status of land, the Forest clearance for diversion of 4.85 Hectare land under section 2 of forest Conservation act 1980 as informed by District Forest Officer, Coimbatore was applied in online Portal vide FP/TN/Substation/149440/2021.
- xv) In this regard the Principle Chief Conservator of Forest has returned the proposal and requested to attend the defects / short falls and resubmit the proposal. Consequently, the PCCF / Chennai has returned the proposal with 17 nos defects / short falls. These defects / short falls were attended by this office and resubmitted in Parivesh Portal on 01.04.2021.
- xvi) Further, the Principle Chief Conservator of Forest has returned the proposal on 21.04.2022 and requested to attend the defects / short falls in lieu of leased out particulars and resubmit the proposal. The EDS mentioned in Lr. Dated 21.04.2022 on par with leased out land are now attended and the proposal is resubmitted.
- xvii) Erection of Parali 400/230 KV SS is most essential to evacuate power Generated from Kundah Pumped Storage Hydro Electric project VII and without the erection of Parali 400/230 KV SS, the entire Kundah Pumped Storage Hydro Electric Project VII to an amount about Rs. 1800 Crore may become idle.
- xviii) In the land proposed for 400 KV Substation area to extent of 4.85 Hactare, 81 Nos of planted trees and 118 Nos spontaneous trees are identified with assistance of forest department inside the proposed land which under the possession of

TNEB since 1965. These trees have to be removed to progress the construction activity.

xix) It is learnt that felling of spontaneous trees is completely banned by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the interim Judgement of WP (C) No: 202/95 dated 12.12.96. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India general directions are given to all the States, have also issued specific directions to various States. In the direction for the State of Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India have issued following orders along with other directions.

- a) There will be a complete ban on felling of trees in all 'forest areas'. This will however not apply to:
- 1) Trees which have been planted and grown, and are not spontaneous growth and
- 2) Are in area which were not forests earlier, but were cleared for any reasons.
- xx) According to the above judgment, approval from the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for the felling of 118 nos of spontaneous trees is mandatory. In this regard a separate I.A has to be filled before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- xxi) The ongoing Kundah Pumped Storage Hydro Electric Project is nearing to completion by investing Rs 1800 Crores for which the forest permission was already obtained. The delay in completion of Evacuation line may leads to idle investment of huge expenditure apart from generation loss. On completion of the project in time, the general public of Tamil Nadu will be getting benefit to large extent through 500 MW power so as to solve power crisis problem.
- xxii) Hence, it was requested that the land for the establishment of 400/230 kV Substation at Parali is being already leased to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board so that permission may be granted to file I.A in WP (C) No: 202 / 95 for felling of 118 nos of spontaneous trees at Parali EB camp.

In this regard, as per the documents uploaded by the user agency and other documents on the issue, following details are furnished.

a) In G.O. Ms No. 2974, Agriculture Department, dated 21.10.1967, the Government has directed that the forest land measuring in all (6200 acres in Nilgiris and Coimbatore District) be placed at the disposal of the MSE Board (Madras State Electricity Board) for the execution of III and IV Stages of Kundah Hydro Electric

Project on collection of land value at the uniform rate of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) per Acre.

- b) The Chief Conservator of Forests had been requested to send proposals for disreservation of the forest land in due course.
- c) However, as directed by the Government, disreservation of forest area has not been notified under Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882 and the status of the land remains as forest land only.
- d) Subsequently, the issue of pendency of lease rent due to the Forest Department have been brought to the Government and orders have been issued for the collection of land value of forest land and lease rent collection in the following order.
 - i) G.O. Ms No. 611, Public Works Department dated 12.05.1978
 - ii) G.O. Ms No. 1040, Forest and Fisheries Department dated 30.09.1986
- iii) G.O. Ms No. 215 Environment and Forest (FR.X) Department dated 10.07.1993.
 - iv) G.O. Ms No. 6 Energy (A2) Department dated 03.02.2011.
 - v) Government letter No. 2641/A2/2011-2, dated 04.05.2011.
 - vi) Government letter No. 14238/FR.10.2010-14, dated 15.09.2011.
 - vii) Govt letter No. 1180/FR.10/2014-4, dated 25.06.2015
- e) Further, for the forest lands leased out to various agencies, lease rent fixation with regard to purpose of usage of land has been prescribed in the following Government orders and revisions have also been ordered.
 - i) G.O. Ms No. 781 Forests and Fisheries Department dated 21.07.1986
- ii) G.O. Ms No. 272 Environment and Forest (FR.XIII) Department dated 15.04.1991.
 - iii) Government letter No. 14238/FR.10.2010-14, dated 15.09.2011.
- f) As per the report of District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division, 813.864 Acres of land (submergible area of 596.648 acres and Non submergible area of 217.22 acres) for Kundah Hydro Electric Project Phase III & IV in Coimbatore Division area are under lease ie., occupation of TNEB and an amount of Rs. 97,76,00,405/- (Lease rent of Rs. 76,50,764, Interest amount of

Rs. 94,44,46,481/- and Penal interest of Rs. 2,55,03,160/-) is due from the due from the TNEB.

g) The user agency has not furnished the Map delineating the leased out area (813.864 acres of land under Coimbatore Forest Division) duly marking of area proposed for diversion. The user agency has uploaded a copy of SF No. 461 (55 ha area) of Nellithorai village of Coimbatore District.

The user agency has stated that the land at S.F. 461 (55.0 Hectare) was classified to the TNEB as revenue record (RSR& Adangal) based on the sub-division order TK.8A/4/97/ dt 10.11.1988. However, the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division in his letter No.6858/2021/D1, dated 28.01.2022 has reported to the District Collector, Coimbatore that 4.85 ha of land mentioned in the project is part of Nellithurai RF and is under the control of Karamadai Range of Coimbatore Forest Division and the areas are leased out to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board during the year 1961.

3) The District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division has forwarded the proposal to the Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore on 01.07.2022 and furnished EDS query reply on 11.08.2022 and 21.09.2022.

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

i) The legal status of the proposed site of diversion of 4.85 ha of forest lands requested for the project is Reserved Forests.

As per site inspection report name of the forest area involved in the project reported as Pillur Slope RF.

- ii) The District Forest Officer has reported that, density of the forest area is 0.5 and Eco class of forest area is One
- iii) In the Part-II of Form-A, the District Forest Officer has furnished the details of species wise and girth class wise enumeration of trees in the area and 199 number of trees enumerated in the proposed forest diversion area.

The District Forest Officer has reported that out of 199 number of trees, 116 number of trees are spontaneous and 83 numbers are planted trees. All the 199 number of trees enumerated are to be removed for this project.

- iv) On the Brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion, the District Forest Officer has reported that no vulnerability to erosion.
- v) The District Forest Officer has reported that Elephant, Leopard, Bear, Spotted deer, Sambar deer, Indial Gaur, Wild boar, Reptiles, Peacock etc., are present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion.
- a) The forest area proposed for diversion is part of Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve. This land was already leased out to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and hence there may not be much impact on wildlife.
- b) The forest area proposed for diversion is not located within eco-sensitive zone of the Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- c) The forest area proposed for diversion is located within 1 km from boundary Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve.
 - d) 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 diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land, the District Forest Officer has proposed the compensatory afforestation scheme work in 10.00 of degraded forest area in Odanthurai RF of Sirumugai Range in Coimbatore Forest Division.
- a) For the diversion of 4.85 ha of forest area, compensatory afforestation scheme has been proposed including plantation protection measures for an amount of Rs. 75.65 lakhs, which needs to be taken into account for compensatory afforestation scheme.

However, in the abstract of the CA scheme estimate, CA scheme cost was mistakenly mentioned as Rs. 67.304 lakhs and Rs. 142.777 lakhs in Section 13(i) of Part-II which was not rectified in web portal.

ix) In the site inspection report, the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division has stated that, the proposed project site of 4.85 ha in Pillur Slope RF of Karamadai Range inspected on 04.06.2022. This area was already leased out to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board prior to 1961. The project area contains unutilized and

damaged TNEB Staff Quarters and consist of 116 Nos of naturally grown trees and 83 Nos of planted trees. There 199 trees enumerated are to be removed for the project. The total area proposed by the user agency in the proposal is 4.85 ha. The canopy density of vegetation is 0.50 with 116 Nos of Naturally grown trees and 83 Nos of planted trees.

- x) In the specific recommendation of the proposal, the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division has recommended that an area of 4.85 ha of forest land in the Pillur Slope RF may be diverted for the improvement of 230 KV substation into 400 Kv substation subject to the following conditions.
- (i) Permission from the Hon'ble Supreme Court for felling of 116 naturally grown trees., (ii) payment of prescribed NPV, (iii) payment of compensatory afforestation fund required, (iv) exploring the possibility of translocation of old trees instead of felling wherever possible, (v) Any other conditions stipulated during the process of Forest Conservation Act.
- 4) The Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore has endorsed the facts and views furnished by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and forwarded the proposal with his recommendation.
- 5) The User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 20 years. The District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore have recommended the forest area diversion for a period of 20 years.

Based on the recommendations made by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore, diversion of forest area for the project proposal is recommended for a period of 20 years.

6) As recommended by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore, the proposal of diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land in Pillur Slope Reserved Forests of Coimbatore Forest Division for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District in favour of Superintending Engineer,

General Construction Circle, TANTRANSCO, Coimbatore is recommended subject to the following additional conditions.

- i) The legal status of the diverted forest land remains unchanged.
- ii) The Demarcation of the proposed forest land of 4.85 ha land to be diverted for the project 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 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.
- iv) 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.
- v) 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.
- vi) 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/)
- vii) The user agency has to obtain orders from the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for felling of 116 number of spontaneous trees to be felled in the project proposal area.
- viii) The user agency has to pay the cost towards felling and transportation cost of trees to be cut in the project area (199 numbers) to the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division for immediate execution of the felling of trees work after getting necessary permission for felling of trees.
- ix) The user agency in consultation of the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division has to explore possibility of translocation of trees wherever possible for the trees identified in the project area for felling
- x) 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.

- xi) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under any circumstances be transferred to any other agencies/ department or person without prior approval of State Government.
- xii) 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.
 - xiii) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceeds 4.85 ha
- xiv) 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.
- xv) 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.
- 7) The proposal is sent through online with the recommendation of the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act) / Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of the State of Tamil Nadu. Hard copy of the proposal also furnished.
- 8) I request that the proposal may be considered and Government of India approval may be obtained for diversion of diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land in Pillur Slope Reserved Forests of Coimbatore Forest Division for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District in favour of Superintending Engineer, General Construction Circle, TANTRANSCO, Coimbatore for a period of 20 years.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully

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

Hipm

(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 4.85 ha of forest land in Pillur Slope Reserved Forests of Coimbatore Forest Division for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District in favour of Superintending Engineer, General Construction Circle, TANTRANSCO, Coimbatore - Proposal No. FP/TN/Substation/149440/2021

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)

Kewmended

Signature:

Name Designation: Tmt. V. Karunapriya, I.F.S., Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act), O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Chennai.

Date: 28-10-2022

Place: Chennai-32.