

By online / E-mail.

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

To

Thiru Ashok Upreti, I.F.S.,  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
(Head of Department)  
Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet,  
Chennai - 15.

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

C. No. TS3/345/2021 Dated: 23.07.2021.

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Coimbatore Forest Circle/  
Coimbatore Forest Division - Online proposal for diversion of  
0.0117 ha of forest land in Jakkanari RF of Coimbatore Forest  
Division for laying pipeline from Bhavani River to Forest  
College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore  
District – Diversion in favour of Dean, Forestry, Forest College  
and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore District  
Proposal forwarding off – Regarding. the proposal

- Ref: 1 Online application uploaded by the User Agency – Forest  
College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore  
District Proposal No. FP/TN/Pipeline/111896/2020
- 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer,  
Coimbatore Division on 28.04.2021 and EDS rely dated  
23.06.2021
- 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Additional Principal  
Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle on  
04.05.2021 and EDS rely dated 05.07.2021
- 4 Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Coimbatore Circle C. No. 1592/2021/D1, dated 04.05.2021

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I wish to state that in the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, the Dean, Forestry, Forest  
College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore District, has furnished  
online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980  
for diversion of 0.0117 ha of forest land in Jakkanari RF of Coimbatore Forest



Division for laying pipeline from Bhavani River to Forest College in Coimbatore District.

2) In the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division has uploaded details in Part-II of Form-A and forwarded the proposal through online and the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle uploaded details in Part-III of Form-A and forwarded the proposal in the web portal. (vide reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited).

3) Hard copy of the proposal has been submitted by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests vide reference 4<sup>th</sup> cited.

4) Details of forest area diversion proposed by the User agency is briefed below.

i) The Dean, Forestry, Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore District has uploaded online application under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.0117 ha of forest land in Jakkanari RF of Coimbatore Forest Division for laying pipeline from Bhavani River to Forest College in Coimbatore District under proposal No. FP/TN/Pipeline/111896/2020.

ii) 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.

iii) The User Agency has stated that 0.0117 ha of forest land is required for laying pipeline from Bhavani River to Forest college.

iv) Diversion of 0.0117 ha of forest has been requested in Coimbatore Forest Division area in Coimbatore District. Name of the village reported as Odanthurai. Forest area diversion of 0.0117 ha has been requested in Jakkanari RF area.

v) 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 boundary of forest land proposed to be diverted, Scanned copy of Geo referenced location details and DGPS co-ordinates of the proposed alignment path have been furnished.

vi) The user agency has proposed to lay a new pipeline of 200 mm diameter pipe for a length of 117 meters in Jakanari RF to lift Bhavani river to Forest



College and Research Institute to cater the needs of the Forestry education, Research and Training.

vii) The User Agency has stated that this project is not likely to generate employment, does not require cost-benefit analysis, does not involve displacement of people due to the project and not requires clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the project or part thereof is not located in any protected area or their Eco sensitive zone.

viii) The User Agency has furnished the certificate issued by the District Collector, Coimbatore District about completion of process for settlement of rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed for diversion vide Ref. No. 3993/2021/D.1 dated 04.03.2021.

ix) The user agency has furnished following certificates/ undertakings/ details under additional Information details section.

a) Scanned copy of Geo-referenced map prepared in the Google Earth for the forest land proposed for diversion.

b) District Collector, Coimbatore certificate on no alternate suitable non forest land is available for the project issued in Ref. No. 3993/2021/D1, dated 04.03.2021

c) The user agency has uploaded copy of permission issued by the District Collector, Coimbatore to the user agency in letter D.Dis No. 14366/2020/E1, dated 15.02.2021 for drawl of 562.25 Cu.m of water per day for a period of 3 years with certain conditions.

d) GPS reading of the proposed pipeline alignment.

e) Area requirement statement for the project requested by the user agency is as follows.

Length of the pipeline reported as 117m and width of the pipeline path is 1.00m and area required is 117 sq.m or 0.0117 ha

f) Combined certificates and undertakings uploaded by the user agency for

i) Certified that no violation will be occurred under the provisions of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980

ii) Undertaking to bear the Net Present Value of forest area.



iii) Undertaking to pay the additional Net Present Value of forest area if any demanded later.

iv) Undertaking to deposit the cost of compensatory afforestation cost

v) Undertaking to bear the cost along with escalation for exploitation of trees in the forest area

vi) Certified that no alternative suitable non forestland is available for the project.

vii) Certified that the demand for the forest land for the project is minimum.

viii) Undertaking to pay cost towards lease rent fixed by the Forest Department.

ix) The user agency certified that certificate has been obtained from the District Collector that there is no alternate non forest land available.

5) The proposal was forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division on 16.04.2021 for necessary follow up action.

The District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division has forwarded the proposal along with Site Inspection report and recommendation of the proposal to the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle on 28.04.2021 and the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle has forwarded the proposal to the Nodal Officer-Forest (Conservation) Act with his recommendation of the proposal on 04.05.2021

6) Specific remarks on the proposal forwarded and recommended by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle are detailed below.

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 0.0117 ha of forest land requested for the project is area notified as Reserved Forests.

As per site inspection report, name of the forest land reported as Jakkanari Reserved Forests and extent of area proposed for diversion is 0.0117 ha

ii) The District Forest Officer has reported that, density of the forest area is 0.4 and Eco class of forest area is three.



iii) As per the details uploaded under Species wise enumeration of trees, 9 number of girth class 0-30cm trees are there in the proposed forest diversion area.

In this regard, the District Forest Officer has reported that 9 number of trees are spontaneous origin and need not to be cut for this project,

iv) On vulnerability of the forest land proposed for diversion, the District Forest Officer reported that there is no possibility of land slide occur.

v) 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 also not located within one km boundary of NP/WLs etc., for the forest land proposed for diversion.

The District Forest Officer has reported that Wild animals like Elephant, Tiger, Wild boar, Spotted deer etc are present in and around the forest area proposed for diversion. However, the District Forest Officer has reported that 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) Forest area proposed for diversion is 0.0117 ha. This forest area diversion has intended for Government welfare measure of providing water needs of Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam.

The District Forest Officer has not proposed any compensatory afforestation scheme.

ix) In the site inspection report, the District Forest Officer has stated that, site inspection carried out on 23.04.2021.

The project is for laying of pipeline from Bhavani River to Forest College in Jakkanari Reserved Forests. The project involves the laying of pipeline to bring water for facilitating modern forestry technology research and irrigation facilities to



promote tree cultivation among the farmers and to meet the drinking water needs of College students and staff residential.

The total length and width proposed by the user agency in the proposal is 117m length and 1.00m width respectively, therefore the actual area needed for diversion is 0.0117 ha. The density of vegetation is 0.40. The project in Jakkanari Reserved Forests has minimum effects on environment.

x) In the specific recommendation, the District Forest Officer has stated that there is no need to fell any trees for this project and it will not affect the flora and fauna of the area, hence there is no negative impact on Forest and Wildlife. There is no tribal rights affected by this project.

Flagship species like Tiger is available in this Reserved Forests, But it is a work done in underground, it has no impact to major wildlife species.

This project in Jakkanari Reserved Forests has minimum effects on environment, Hence he recommended that, an area of 0.0117 ha of forest area in Jakkanari RF in Sirumugai Range of Coimbatore Forest Division may be diverted for laying water pipe line with condition that this project should provide drinking water to the Mettupalayam and Sirumugai Forests Staff quarters situated near to the Forest College.

7) The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle in his recommendation has stated that the project site is situated within the Jakkanari RF. This project area is 0.0117 ha (length 117m and width is 1.00m) The proposed water supply project is to benefit the staff, students and researchers numbering 580 of the Forest College of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and also the forest staff of Mettupalayam and Sirumugai Range with drinking water. The project will not have any negative impact on forest and wildlife as the water supply pipeline are proposed to be laid underground. There is no other suitable alternative non-forest land is available for this project. The forest land of 0.0117 ha required for this project is the bare minimum. Hence he recommend the proposal.

8) The User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 20 years. The District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and the Additional



Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle have recommended the forest area diversion for a period of 20 years

Based on the recommendation of the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle, diversion of forest area recommended for a period of 20 years.

9) As recommended by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle,, the proposal of diversion of 0.0117 ha of forest land in Jakkanari RF of Coimbatore Forest Division for laying pipeline from Bhavani River to Forest College in Coimbatore District in favour of Dean, Forestry, Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore District is recommended subject to the following conditions.


- a) The legal status of the diverted forest land remains 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 pay the amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- d) 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.
- e) 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.
- f) The project authorities should provide drinking water facilities to the Mettupalayam and Sirumugai Forests Staff quarters of Forest Department situated near to the Forest College.
- g) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceeds 0.0117 ha
- h) 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.




10) The proposal is sent herewith duly recommended by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (i/c) (Forest Conservation Act) / Nodal Officer of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of the State of Tamil Nadu. I request that the proposal may be considered under General approval category and Stage-I approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 may be issued for diversion of 0.0117 ha of forest land in Jakkanari RF of Coimbatore Forest Division for laying pipeline from Bhavani River to Forest College in Coimbatore District in favour of Dean, Forestry, Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore District for a period of 20 years.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully

  
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department)

  
26/07/2021



**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 : Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Coimbatore Forest Circle / Coimbatore Forest Division - Diversion of 0.0117 ha of forest land in Jakkanari RF of Coimbatore Forest Division for laying pipeline from Bhavani River to Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore District in favour of Dean, Forestry, Forest College and Research Institute, Mettupalayam, Coimbatore District – Proposal No. FP/TN/ Pipeline/111896/2020.

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-*

Signature : 

Name Designation :

*Thiru. A. Venkatesh IG*

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Forest Conservation Act), (i/c) Chennai-15

Date : *14*.07.2021.

Place: Chennai-15