

By online / Email.

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

To

Dr. P. Durairasu. I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Department)
Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet,
Chennai - 15.

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

C. No. TS3/24095/2017 Dated: 24.10.2019.

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Coimbatore Forest Circle - Coimbatore Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.050735 ha of forest land in Coimbatore TNFA Campus area for Coimbatore 24x7 Water Supply Scheme - Laying feeder main across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S Puram area in Coimbatore City – in favour of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore - regarding.

- Ref: 1. Online application uploaded by the User Agency - Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore -- Proposal No. FP/TN/Water/38852/2019, dated 03.05.2019 & 12.06.2019.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter No. TS3/24095/2019 dated 26.07.2019.
3. Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division on 21.08.2019
4. Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle on 12.09.2019 and resubmission of proposal on 09.10.2019.

I wish to state that the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation represented by City Engineer, Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore has uploaded online application under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Coimbatore 24x7 Water Supply Scheme of laying feeder main across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S. Puram area in Coimbatore City and requested forest area diversion of 0.050735 ha of forest area in Coimbatore Forest Division /District in the State of Tamil Nadu under proposal No. FP TN Water 38852/2019

ii) After obtaining proposal copy from the user agency, the proposal was forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division for taking appropriate action under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 guidelines vide Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 2nd cited above.

2. 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) In the short narrative of the proposal for which forest land is required, the User Agency has stated that forest land is required for laying feeder main across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S Puram area in Coimbatore City

iii) Diversion of 0.050735 ha of forest has been requested in Coimbatore Forest Division area in Coimbatore District. Name of the village reported as Thelungupalayam in Coimbatore City limit. Forest area has been requested in Tamil Nadu Forest Academy (TNFA) Campus, Coimbatore.

iv) Location map of the forest land proposed to be diverted in kmf 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.

v) The user agency has proposed to lay a new pipeline of 500 mm diameter ductile iron water supply main adjacent to the existing 450mm diameter cast iron feeder main. The existing 450 mm diameter cast iron feeder main will be discarded upon completion of laying of a new pipeline of 500 mm diameter ductile iron water supply main. The length and width of the forest land proposed to be diverted is 563.72m and 0.90m respectively. The proposed pipeline is estimated to serve the population of 59,180 in future.

vi) The User Agency has stated that this project 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.

vii) 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.

viii) 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 laying of 500mm diameter Ductile Iron Water Supply Feeder Main connecting Master Service Reservoir at Bharathi Park with District II Service Reservoir near RS Puram Head Post Office in RS Puram. (Certificate No. NIL, dated 23.04.2019)

c) GPS reading of the proposed pipeline Trench alignment in RS puram Forest College Campus.

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

Length of the pipeline reported as 563.722m and width of the pipeline is 0.90m (563.722mx0.9m=507.3498 sq.m (OR) 0.050735 ha) and forest area required for the project is 0.050735 ha.

e) Combined certificates/ undertakings furnished by the Commissioner and Special Officer, Coimbatore Corporation, Coimbatore.

i) certified that no violation has been occurred under the provision of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 occurred.

ii) Undertaking to bear the Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as fixed by the Forest Department.

iii) Undertaking to bear the additional cost towards Net Present Value which will be fixed in future as per the guidelines of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as fixed by the Forest Department

.iv) Undertaking to deposit the cost of raising compensatory afforestation, penal compensatory afforestation and maintenance of plantation for a period of 7-10 years / protection of plantation / fencing 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) Undertaking to bear the cost along with any escalation for exploitation of trees in the forest land to be diverted for the project.

vi) Certified that no alternative suitable non forest land 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 as fixed by the Forest department at the time of sanction along with any escalation for the forest land to be diverted to the above project.

3) The proposal was forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division on 01.08.2019 (through on-line) 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. and by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle with recommendation of the proposal.

4) 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 0.050735 ha of forest land requested for the project is area notified under Section 26 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882.

As per site inspection report, name of the forest land is "Forest College Complex (Old SFRC Campus) Reserved land" and extent of area proposed for diversion is 0.050735 ha

ii) The District Forest Officer has reported that, density of the forest area is 0.1 and Eco class of forest area is three..

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

iv) 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 1 km boundary of NP/WTs etc., for the forest land proposed for diversion and not located within the eco-sensitive zone of the protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

The District Forest Officer has reported that Wild animals Sivatcat, Peacock are present in and around the forest area proposed for diversion. There is no rare/ endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna found in the area.

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

vi) 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.

vii) There is no tree growth available in the area proposed for diversion.

viii) Forest area proposed for diversion is 0.050735 ha only and there is no felling of trees involve. This forest area diversion has intended for Government welfare measure of providing drinking water supply to the Coimbatore Corporation area. Hence 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 inspected carried out on 13.08.2019.

The project is laying of feeder main pipe line across Forest College complex from Barathi Park road to Cowley Brown Road. The project involves the laying of pipeline for water facility to R.S. Puram area in Coimbatore City. The total length and width proposed by the user agency in the proposal is 563.72mts and 0.90m respectively, therefore the actual area needed for diversion is 0.050735 ha. The laying of pipe line is along the western side of the existing road. The density of vegetation is 0.10. The project is Forest College Complex (Old SFRC Campus Reserved Land 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. The project in Forest College Complex (Old SFRC campus) Reserved land has minimum effects on environment. Hence he recommended that an area of 0.050735 ha of forest area in the Forest College Complex (Old SFRC Campus) may be diverted for laying feeder main pipe line along the western side of the existing road.

5) The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle in his recommendation has stated that the project site is situated within the Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Campus and the land was notified under Section 26 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882. The forest land required for the project is 0.50735 ha for laying 500mm diameter pipeline using ductile iron pipe to a length of 563.72 metres and the required width is 0.90m. The water supply project would benefit about 59000 peoples in the near future. There is no other suitable alternate non forest land available for this project. The forest land required for this project is the bare minimum and the project is not likely to adversely impact on Forest and Wildlife. The remarks of the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division are agreed to and the project is recommended.

6) The User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 99 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 recommendations made by the District Forest Officer and Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, diversion of forest area for the project proposal is recommended for a period of 20 years.

7) As per guidelines issued by the Government of India in letter F. No. 5-3/2007-FC, dated 05.02.2009, collection of Net Present Value of forest land to be diverted for laying of underground drinking water supply pipeline up to 4 inches diameter of forest area diversion below one hectare is exempted.

However, this project of water supply pipeline is proposed in 500mm diameter new pipeline of ductile iron water supply main. Hence applicability of

exemption of Net Present Value for the project does not arise. Hence collection of Net Present Value of forest area has been recommended.

8) As recommended by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle, the proposal of diversion of 0.050735 ha of forest land in Coimbatore TNFA Campus area for Coimbatore 24x7 Water Supply Scheme - Laying 500 mm diameter main feeder water supply pipeline of ductile iron water supply pipeline across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S Puram area in Coimbatore City – in favour of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore is recommended with the following additional 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 total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceeds 0.050735 ha comprising water supply pipeline to a length of 563.72m and width is 0.90m and after completion of underground laying of pipeline, area should be restored to its normalcy.
- g) 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.

9) The proposal is sent herewith duly recommended by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act) Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of the State of Tamil Nadu. I request that the proposal may kindly be considered and Government of India approval may please

be obtained for diversion of 0.050735 ha of forest land in Coimbatore TNFA Campus area for Coimbatore 24x7 Water Supply Scheme - Laying 500 mm diameter main feeder water supply pipeline of ductile iron water supply pipeline across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S Puram area in Coimbatore City – in favour of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore for a period of 20 years.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully



for Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Department)

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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 – Coimbatore Circle/
Coimbatore Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.050735 ha of forest land
in Coimbatore TNFA Campus area for Coimbatore 24x7 Water Supply Scheme -
Laying feeder main across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S Puram
area in Coimbatore City – in favour of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation,
Coimbatore - Proposal No. FP/IN/Water/38852/2019.

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 :

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation Act),
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Chennai-15

Date : 15.10.2019

Place: Chennai-15