

TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Dr. R. Murugan, IFS.,
District Forest Officer,
Tirupattur Division,
Tirupattur – 635 601

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests (HoD),
Panagal Building,
Saidapet,
Chennai – 15

C.No. 9057 /98 D dated 20 .07.2019

Sir,

Sub : Forest (Conservation) Act 1980-Vellore Forest Circle/Tirupattur Forest Division – Proposal for renewal of lease for diversion of 40 ha of Forest land for Vainu Bappu observatory in Kavalur Indian Institute of Astrophysics in Jawadhi Hills in Tirupattur Forest Division in Vellore District – Copy of the proposal submitted by the User agency – Recommendation for the renewal of lease – Report submission - reg

- Ref : 1) Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office (Southern zone), Bangalore No. F(C)/A./ 16-1/33/TN/Misc/786 dt. 07.07.2004
- 2) G.O.Ms.No. 254, Environment & Forests (FR-10) Dept. dt. 24.08.04
- 3) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD), Chennai C.No.TS3/38628/18 dt. 06.02.19, 10.04.19 and 23.05.19
- 4) Online application uploaded by the User Agency dt. 22.01.19 Re-submission of 27.03.19 & 25.04.2019 proposals uploaded by the User Agency on 19.06.19 uploading of acknowledgement received from the officers
- 5) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD), Chennai C.No.TS3/38628/18 dt. 02.07.19
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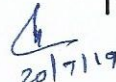

I submit that Vainu Bappu observatory in Kavalur Indian Institute of Astrophysics in Jawadhi Hills of Alangayam Range submitted a proposal in the prescribed Form B through onlie for renewal of the existing lease in respect of 40 Ha of Forest land in Inner Jawadhi RF of Alangayam Range in Tirupattur Forest Division.

The area is extensively used for the research work, the location of the observatory greatly help national and international astronomers to effectively access celestial bodies across the sky. The astronomical observatories are usually set up in forest lands

since light and other pollution in cities render them unusable for research activities. Nature of the work is purely of academic interest. They occupy a small part of the land (7.5%) which was deforested while the rest of the area is maintained as forest in order to provide conducive environment for astronomical research and to avoid any kind of disturbance to the observatory. During the site inspection, it was ascertained that the conditions imposed on the User Agency by Ministry of Environment and Forests were complied during the previous lease period and violations under Forest Conservation Act were not observed.

Hence, I submit that the existing lease may kindly be renewed with the usual conditions.


20-7-19
District Forest Officer,
Tirupattur Division.


20/7/19 

Copy submitted to the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Vellore for kind submission