

Letter No.6119/FR.10/2023-2, dated:19.09.2024

From
Dr. P. Senthilkumar, I.A.S.,
Principal Secretary to Government.

To
The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Regional Office,
Additional Office Block for GPOA, 1st Floor,
Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 006. (w.e).

Sir,

Sub: Forests – Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam,
1980 - Trichy Circle / Pudukkottai Division - Proposal
(FP/TN/OFC/117896/2020) for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest
land in Sengeerai Reserved Forest for laying underground
Optical Fibre Cable to a length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2m depth
and width of 0.30m along the left side of road from Arimalam
to Rayavaram across Sengeerai Reserved Forest in
Pudukkottai District in favour of M/s.Jio Digital Fibre Private
Limited, Chennai – Forwarding of - Regarding.

- Ref: 1. Forest Clearance proposal uploaded by M/s.Jio Digital
Fibre Private Ltd., Chennai – Proposal No.FP/TN/OFC/
117896/2020, Dated 29.12.2020 and revised proposal
uploaded on 03.11.2022.
2. Part-II of Form A uploaded by the District Forest Officer,
Pudukkottai Division on 24.06.2023.
3. Part-III uploaded by the Chief Conservator of Forests,
Trichy Circle on 11.07.2023.
4. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)
letter No.TS4/49417/2020, dated 31.07.2023.
5. Government letter No.6119/FR.10/2023-1, dated
02.09.2023.
6. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of
Forest Force) Letter No.TS4/49417/2020, dated
19.06.2024.

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M/s.Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd., Chennai has uploaded a proposal
(FP/TN/OFC/117896/2020) in PARIVESH portal for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest
land in Sengeerai Reserved Forest for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable to a
length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2m depth and width of 0.30m along the left side of road

from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai Reserved Forest in Pudukkottai District for a period of 100 years under section 2 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

2. The District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai Division and Chief Conservator of Forests, Trichy Circle in the references second and third cited have recommended the above said proposal and forwarded Site Inspection report of the Project area. Based on the recommendations made by the District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai Division, Chief Conservator of Forests, Trichy Circle and the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) / Nodal Officer, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) has recommended the above said proposal for a period of 50 years in Parivesh 1.0 portal and forwarded the same to Government to obtain approval from the Regional office, Government of India.

3. The Government have examined the proposal in detail and decided to recommend the proposal for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land in Sengeerai Reserved Forest for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable in Pudukkottai District in favour of M/s.Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd., Chennai for a period of 30 years under section 2 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and forward it to Regional office, Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Chennai for obtaining their concurrence subject to the following conditions:-

- i) The legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii) 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 pay the cost of raising Compensatory Afforestation / maintenance of plantation, etc as fixed by the Forest Department.
- 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 for Compensatory Afforestation Scheme and 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 damage caused to flora, fauna of the surrounding forest will be compensated by the user agency, and the forest land will be restored to its original state at the cost of user agency.
- viii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval.
- ix) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- x) Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area and it will be the responsibility of the user agency to ensure that the machinery, labourers and staff engaged in execution of work shall not destruct nearby forest flora and fauna in forest area.
- xi) No tree felling shall be carried out by the user agency.
- xii) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards annual lease rent as fixed by Forest Department at the time of sanction along with any escalation in future for the entire project period.
- xiii) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.165 ha comprising the forest area to a length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2m depth and width of 0.30m.

- xiv) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies / department or person without prior approval.
- xv) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violations of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as per rules in force.
- xvi) 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.
- xvii) Period of lease is thirty (30) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before one year of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.

4. I am, therefore, directed to request you to kindly obtain the concurrence of the Competent Authority and communicate the same to this Government, early.

Yours faithfully,

A. Malathy 19/9/24

for Principal Secretary to Government

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19/9/24

Copy to:-

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Chennai-32.

M/s.Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited,
No.89, Dr.Radhakrishnan Salai,
Mylapore, Chennai – 600 004.

PART – V

(To be filled in by the Secretary in charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

Proposal (FP/TN/OFC/117896/2020) of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land in Sengeerai Reserved Forest for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable to a length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2m depth and width of 0.30m along the left side of road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai Reserved Forest in Pudukkottai District in favour of M/s.Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited, Chennai, for a period of 30 years under section 2 (1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

18. Recommendation of the State Government

Recommended

(Adverse comments made by any officer or authority in Part-B or Part – C or Part – D above should be specifically commented upon)

D. Jayalalitha

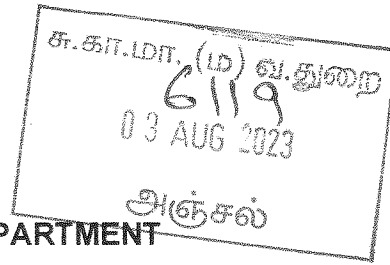
Signature
Name & Designation
(Official Seal)

Date : 19.09.2024

Place : Chennai-9.

Deputy Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change
and Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai - 9.

C.No.6/19/FR-10/2023



TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From
Subrat Mohapatra IFS.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force),
Forest Headquarters Building,
Guindy - Velachery Main road,
Near Kannikapuram Checkpost,
Guindy, Chennai - 600 032

To
The Additional Chief Secretary to
Government,
Environment Climate Change and
Forests Department, Secretariat,
Chennai 600 009.

Ref. No. TS4/49417/2020, Dated: 31.07.2023.

Madam,

Sub: Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Trichy Circle /
Pudukkottai Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest
land in Sengeerai RF for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable
to a length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2 m depth and width of 0.30 m
along the left side of road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across
Sengeerai Reserved Forest - Online proposal submission by the
User Agency ie. Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd, Chennai —
Regarding

- Ref: 1. Online application uploaded by the User Agency – Jio Digital
Fibre Private Ltd. Chennai dated 31.12.2020. (FP /TN/ OFC/
117896/2022), dt.29.12.2020.
2. Revised proposal uploaded by the user agency on 03.11.2022
3. PCCF, Chennai Lr. No:49417/2020/TS4 dated 30.11.2022
4. Acknowledgements uploaded by the user agency on 10.05.2023.
5. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter No.
TS3/49417/2020, dated 15.05.2023.
6. Part II uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Pudukottai on
24.06.2023.
7. Part III uploaded by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Trichi Circle
on 11.07.2023
8. Chief Conservator of Forests, Trichy Ref.No.7860/2023/D,
dt.04.07.2023.

I wish to state that, M/S.Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd, Mylapore, Chennai has
uploaded online application under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for
diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land in Sengeerai RF for laying underground Optical Fibre

2 -

Cable in Arimalam to Rayavaram road across Sengeerai Reserved Forest in Pudukkottai District under proposal No. FP/TN/Road/ 117896/2020.

The District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai after field inspection, has recommended the forest area diversion of 0.165 ha. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle also recommended for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest area for the project proposal and submitted the hard copy vide letter 8th cited referred above.

2) 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 under proposal No. FP/TN/Road/117896/2020.

iii) Name of the project in which forest land required and short narrative of the project reported as laying underground OFC along Arimalam Rayavaram road stretch along Sengirai Forest area in Pudukkottai District.

iv) The User Agency has reported that area required in forest area is for 0.165 ha., and non-forest land required for the project is Zero ha.,

v) The User Agency has proposed the forest area diversion for the project for a period of 100 years.

vi) 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.

vii) Diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land has been requested in Pudukkottai Forest Division area Pudukkottai District. Name of the village in which forest land requested has been reported as New Arimalam.

viii) The User Agency has furnished the component wise breakup details of land required for the project as follows.

laying underground OFC – 0.165 ha

In the area requirement statement for the project, the user agency has furnished the details of area to be diverted as 0.165 ha and the nature of the project is linear and Number of Segments is One.

ix) 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 GPS co-ordinates of the proposed alignment path have been furnished.

x) The user agency has uploaded note containing justification for locating the project in forest area as follows.

The Optical Fibre Cables are always laid along the road side due to easy supervision, quick maintenance and low cost of maintenance. The applicant does not have to acquire land for this project purpose, as the road side land is under the control of State Highway / National Highways Authority of India. However, the land classification is forest land. The area requested for the laying of the Optical Fibre Cable is the minimum considering the requirements and also considering the safety of the cables so laid. Since the telecommunication cables also carry the communication from the Government Offices, Defence & Strategic Establishments and from the different industrial organizations apart from the general public, for the safety and confidentiality of the conversation so made it is not advisable to lay such important cables on the private land belonging to different parties.

xi) The User Agency has stated that this project is likely to generate permanent/regular employment for 2 persons and temporary employment for 25 persons, this project does not involve displacement of people due to the project, cost benefit analysis for the project is not required, 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 and not located in Scheduled area.

xii) The User Agency has uploaded a copy of Forest Rights Act 2006 certificate issued by the District Collector of Pudukkottai District in Rc.No.E4/2720/2021, dated 19.09.2022 for the work for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable in Arimalam to Rayavaram road across Sengeerai Reserved Forest in Pudukkottai District to an extent of 0.165 ha. FRA

xiii) Under the section of details of land identified for compensatory afforestation, the user agency has stated that non-forest or revenue forest land is not required to be provided by the user agency and reason for this stated that not applicable.

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

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a) Area breakup details of forest area requirement.

Total Distance 5490.66 m x Width 30 cm. Hence, 5490.66 m x 30 cm = 0.165 Ha.

b) GPS reading of the proposed forest diversion area.

c) Certified that the area required for the project is 0.165 ha.

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

e) Certified that there is no catchment area treatment plan in the approved plan.

f) Certified that the project proponent have not violated any provisions of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 in seeking the minimum forest land required for the project.

g) Undertaking to bear the cost of felling of trees and transportation cost of the trees likely to be removed if any available in the alignment path for the proposed diversion of forest land as fixed by the Forest Department.

h) Certified that no work in violation of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 will be carried out.

i) Undertaking to pay the cost towards lease rent fixed by the Forest Department at the time of sanction along with any escalation in future for the forest land to be diverted.

j) Undertaking to pay the amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

k) Undertaking to pay the additional Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

l) Undertaking to bear the cost of compensatory afforestation / penal Compensatory Afforestation / maintenance of plantation / protection of plantation for the proposed diversion of forest land as fixed by the Forest Department.

m) Undertaking to pay the cost along with escalation for exploitation of trees if any available in the alignment path for the proposed diversion as fixed by the Forest Department.

n) Certified that forest land request is minimum required for the project and all other alternatives have been examined and found not feasible.

o) The User Agency has given undertaking that in Government of India guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in F.No.5-3/2007-FC, dated 05.02.2009, payment of Net Present Value for underground laying of Optical Fibre Cable has been allowed, if the area does not form a National Park / Sanctuary and no felling of trees is involved. The

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above area is not declared as National Park / Sanctuary. For the execution of the above work, felling of trees of any nature (Planted / Spontaneous growth) will not be done and alignment will be carried out to avoid removal of trees in the alignment path. Hence Net Present Value is not payable in the present case. However, if subsequently any clarification / order is issued by the Central Government / Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to the contrary, we undertake to made such payment on issue of a demand note by the State Forest Department / Competent authority.

p) Certified that there were no projects undertaken by the M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited in the past in the proposed forest area diversion. Hence, details regarding compliance of conditions stipulated in the project does not arise.

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

i) The legal status of the proposed site of diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land requested for the project is Reserved Forest area.

As per site inspection report, name of the forest land is "Sengeerai Reserved Forests" and extent of area proposed for diversion is 0.165 ha

ii) The District Forest Officer has reported that, density of the forest area is 0 and Eco class of forest area is four.

iii) As per the details uploaded in the table of species-wise girth-class wise enumeration of trees in the proposed forest diversion area as follows:

S. No.	Scientific Name	Local Name	(0-30) cm.	(31-60) cm.	(61-90) cm.	(91-120) cm.	(121-150) cm.	(>150) cm.
1	Eucalyptus	Thailam	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total			1	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total (No of Trees.)			1					

iv) Brief note on vulnerability of the forest land to erosion reported as No vulnerability of forest area to erosion.

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

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under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and not located within 1 km boundary of NP/WLs etc., for the forest land proposed for diversion. 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.

The District Forest Officer has not proposed any compensatory afforestation scheme for the diversion of 0.165 ha in Sengeerai RF for the project proposal. LCA

(viii) (ix) In the site inspection report of the project proposal, the District Forest Officer has reported the following.

An area of 0.165 ha of Forest Land in Senmgeerai RF of Thirumayam Range was proposed to be diverted for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) along road side from Arimalam to RAYavaram across Sengeerai RF by Jio Reliance Digital Fibre Private Ltd.,

During inspection on 09.03.2023, the length of proposed site is measured as 5.49 k.m. It was proposed to lay the OFC at a depth of 1 to 2 meter by digging earth in a width of 0.30 m. The Senior Executive Officer informed that the OFC will be laid on the left side of the road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai RF. The FRO, Thirumayam Range informed that the actual length measured on ground in the proposed site is 5.49 k.m which is confirmed in the site during this joint inspection. Hence, the area of forest land to be diverted in the said Reserved land for this project is $5.49 \text{ k.m} \times 0.30 \text{ m} = 0.165 \text{ ha}$.

The Senior Executive Officer informed that no trees or vegetation will be felled or disturbed during the execution of the project. While questioning about the machinery to be used for excavation and its impact, Senior Executive Officer informed that an earth mover will be used without disturbing the vegetation and the excavation earth will be refilled and compressed on the same place.

The project is important for better connectivity of 4G network to all the publics for communication. The Senior Executive Officer also informed that the excavation will be

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immediately closed after laying the underground OFC without affecting the migrating wildlife.

(x) In the recommendation of the project proposal, the District Forest Officer has reported that

An area of 0.165 Ha. Forest land in Sengeerai RF of Thirumayam Range was proposed to be diverted for laying OFC for better connectivity of 4G network by the Jio Reliance Digital Fibre Private Limited through Parivesh portal, it involves digging of 0.30m width and laying of OFC cable to a length of 5.49 k.m at 1 to 2m depth along the left side of the road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai RF of Thirumayam Range.

Since, this work is essential for improvement of better communication infrastructure (4G network) to all the people and does not involve felling of trees or other vegetation and hence, its recommended.

4) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Trichy Circle has inspected the proposed site for diversion which falls in Sengeerai RF on 04.07.2023 along with the District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai and reported that, this project for the diversion of 0.165 ha laying of underground optical fiber cable in Arimalam to Rayavaram Road Sengirai RF for providing 4G Wireless Broadband approval accorded under Forest Conservation Act, 1980. The project is important for better connectivity of 4G network to all the publics for communication. The Senior Executive officer informed that no trees or vegetation will be felled or disturbed during the execution of the project. The Senior Executive officer also excavation will be immediately closed after laying the underground optical fiber cable without affecting the migrating wildlife. There is no alternate land is available. Hence, recommended the proposal.

5) As recommended by the District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai Division and Chief Conservator of Forests, Trichy Circle, the proposal for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land in Sengeerai RF for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable to a length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2 m depth and width of 0.30 m along the left side of road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai Reserved Forest in favour of Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd, Chennai may be recommended and forwarded to the Government of India for obtaining Stage-I approval, 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) e) 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) f) Amount of Net Present Value of forest area under the project shall be transferred / deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)

(f) g) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards annual 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.

(g) h) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceeds 0.165 ha comprising the forest area to a length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2 m depth and width of 0.30 m.

(h) i) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under ^{no} any circumstances be transferred to any other agencies/department or person without prior approval of State Government.

(i) j) 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.

(j) k) 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.

(k) l) Period of lease can be ⁵⁻¹⁰ twenty (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 through online 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 be considered and forwarded to the Government of India for according Stage-I approval for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land in Sengeerai

RF for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable to a length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2 m depth and width of 0.30 m along the left side of road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai Reserved Forest in favour of M/s.Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd, Chennai for a period of fifty (50) years.

Encl: Proposal in duplicate.

Yours faithfully


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


01/8/23

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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 – Trichy Circle / Pudukkottai Forest Division – Proposal for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land in Sengeerai RF for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable to a length of 5490.66m at 1 to 2 m depth and width of 0.30 m along the left side of road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai Reserved Forest in Pudukkottai district area in favour of Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd. Chennai.

Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/ 117896/2020

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
V. Karunapriya
4/4

Signature :

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

Date : -07-2023

Place: Chennai-15.

From
Dr. Sudhanshu Gupta, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Forest Headquarters Building,
Guindy - Velachery Main Road,
Near Kannikapuram Check post,
Guindy, Chennai - 600 032.

To
The Additional Chief Secretary to
Government,
Environment, Climate Change and
Forests Department, Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009.

Ref. No. TS4/49417/2020, dated. 19.06.2024

Madam,

Sub: Forests - Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 [previously called Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980] - Trichy Circle - Pudukkottai Forest Division - for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) to a length of 5490.66 m at 1 to 2 m depth and width of 0.30 m along the left side of road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai RF in Pudukkottai District in favour of Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd, Chennai - reg.

- Ref:
1. Online application uploaded by the User Agency - Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd. Chennai, Proposal No. FP / TN / OFC / 117896 / 2020 on 29.12.2020.
 2. Part-II uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai on 24.06.2023.
 3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai, C. No. TS4/49417/2020, dated 31.07.2023.
 4. EDS raised by the State Secretary vide Government Letter No. 6119/FR.10/2023-1, dt. 02.09.2023.
 5. EDS raised by the Nodal Officer on 07.09.2023 and 27.12.2023.
 6. EDS reply uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai on 24.02.2024.
 7. EDS reply uploaded by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Trichy on 14.03.2024.

I wish to state that in the reference 4th cited, Government has requested to resubmit the proposal along with the details of Compensatory Afforestation scheme as per provisions of guidelines under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 [previously called Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980] for further consideration of the proposal. Further, the District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai has stated that one Eucalyptus tree is to be felled. In this connection, clarify whether the said tree to be felled is a planted or spontaneous tree.

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The District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai vide reference 6th cited has stated as follows and uploaded the details / documents in Parivesh Web Portal: -

- 1) Regarding Compensatory Afforestation scheme applicable as per Forest Conservation Rules 2022, so far, we are going to uploading the estimate for planting 100 saplings along with kml file of degraded forest area.
- 2) Felling of one Eucalyptus tree has been wrongly entered by the Data Entry Operator. Also, necessary instructions given to concerned Thirumayam Forest Range Officer to confirm the status. FRO after inspection confirmed that the above mentioned one Eucalyptus tree is not found in the area proposed by the User Agency.

The Chief Conservator of Forests, Trichy has forwarded the additional details submitted by the District Forest Officer, Pudukkottai vide reference 7th cited.

I enclose herewith the same and request that, the proposal may be recommended and forwarded to Government of India (Regional Office) for getting Stage - I approval for diversion of 0.165 ha of forest land for laying underground Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) to a length of 5490.66 m at 1 to 2 m depth and width of 0.30 m along the left side of road from Arimalam to Rayavaram across Sengeerai RF in Pudukkottai District in favour of M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Private Ltd, Chennai for a period of 50 years.

Encl: As stated above

Yours faithfully

S. Alayan ^{20/6/24}
for Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)


20/06/24