



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Forest & Wildlife Department - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 0.249 ha of forest land in Wayanad (South) Division for laying Optical Fiber Cable from Mananthavady to Pulpally, Panamaram to Bhootdanam and Bathery to Panamaram - Stage II Approval - Orders Issued - regarding.

FOREST & WILDLIFE (C) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.265/2025/F&WLD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 04-07-2025

Read 1 Letter No. FC1-2782/2022 dated 14.10.2022 from the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Officer, Thiruvananthapuram.

2 G.O (Rt) No.454/2022/F&WLD dated 25.10.2022.

3 Letter No.FC1-2782/202 dated 19.06.2025 from the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Officer, Thiruvananthapuram.

ORDER

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, as per the letter read 1st paper above, recommended and forwarded the proposal FP/KL/OFC/155906/2022 in Form A under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.249 ha of forest land in Wayanad (South) Division for laying Optical Fiber Cable from Mananthavady to Pulpally, Panamaram to Bhootdanam and Bathery to Panamaram in favour of Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited.

2. Subsequently, State Government examined the proposal under the general approval powers of the State Government vide 4.3 of F(C) Act,1980 guidelines, and accorded Stage I (in- principle) approval, as per Government Order read 2nd paper above, subject to the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated

on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.

3. Additional amount of Net present Value of the diverted forest land, if any becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future shall be charged by the State Government from the User, they will meet up the requirement as above within the time frame specified.

4. All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

5. Necessary certificates/ documents under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change vide letter No. 11-9/1998-FC(pt) dated 05.07.2013 shall be furnished before Stage-II clearance.

6. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.

7. No labour camp shall be established on forest land.

8. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.

9. The forest area shall be used only for the purpose for which it is granted. The total forest area utilized for this project shall not exceed 0.249 ha.

10. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without the prior approval of Government of India.

11. The User Agency shall enter into an agreement with Divisional Forest Officer incorporating all the conditions imposed by the Central/ State Government in this regard and lease rent as decided by the State may be remitted.

12. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

13. The User Agency shall apply for renewal after 25 years.

14. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

15. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate

Change vide F.No. 11-42/2017-FC dated 29/01/2018.

16. The User Agency shall provide for a 4x4 vehicle for RRT under Chedleth Range to facilitate securing the inspection path along the OFC alignment and in the surrounding areas as it happens to be a intense conflict zone on the man-animal front.

17. The User Agency shall provide free internet connectivity to the forest establishments to facilitate live surveillance and real time GIS analysis in the landscape carried at reducing the conflict prevailing in the region.

Now, as per the letter read 3rd paper above, the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer has reported that User Agency has paid the required NPV envisaged in the Stage I approval and the compliance report submitted by User Agency has been verified and certified by Divisional Forest Officer, Wayanad (South).

3.In the above circumstances, after careful examination ,Government are pleased to accord Stage II/Final Approval for the proposal for diversion of 0.249 ha of forest land in Wayanad (South) Division for laying Optical Fiber Cable from Mananthavady to Pulpally, Panamaram to Bhootdanam and Bathery to Panamaram in favour of Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited, subject to the above conditions.

(By order of the Governor)
BISHWANATH SINHA
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY

To:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Chief Conservator of Forests (Northern Circle), Kannur.
Divisional Forest Officer, Wayanad.

Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited, Uttar Pradesh.

The Principal Accountant General (A&E)/Audit, Thiruvananthapuram.

I&PR (Web & New Media) Department.

Stock File.

Forwarded /By order

Section Officer

Copy to : PS to Hon. Minister (Forest & Wildlife Department)

PA to ACS (Forest & Wildlife Department)