ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & FOREST(FR.10) DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT, CHENNAI 9.

Letter No.16788/ FR.10/2021-1, dated: 17.11.2021

From Tmt.Supriya Sahu, IAS., Principal Secretary to Government.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Department),
Chennai-15.

Sir.

Sub: Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Vellore Forest Circle / Tiruvannamalai Forest Division - Diversion of 0.47 ha of forest land in Veerappanur and Palamarathur RFs for construction of 21 number of retaining walls in various places of Polur-Jamunamarathur-Alangayam-Vaniyambadi road in Tiruvannamalai District in favour of Divisional Engineer, Highways, Construction and Maintenance, Tiruvannamalai District – State Government's in-principle approval – Accorded.

Ref: Your letter No. TS3/4455/2020, dated 29.09.2021.

With reference to your letter cited, I am directed to convey the State Government's in-principle approval (**Stage-I**) under Section 2 of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.47 ha of forest land in Veerappanur and Palamarathur RFs for construction of 21 number of retaining walls in various places of Polur-Jamunamarathur-Alangayam-Vaniyambadi road from km 37/2 to 50/8 of SH-215 in Tiruvannamalai District in favour of Divisional Engineer, Highways, Construction and Maintenance, Tiruvannamalai District for a period of 25 years under general approval category as per the provisions made in the new hand book of guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Critical development initiatives for public utility, subject to the following conditions:-

- a. The legal status of the diverted forest land shall 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 exceed 0.47 ha.
- g. Period of lease can be twenty five (25) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before one year of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.
- 2. I am also to inform you that only after receipt of the compliance report on the above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval and thisin-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. Further, in the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically be revoked as per Rules made under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully,

for Principal Secretary to Government

Copy to:-

The Divisional Engineer,

Highways, Construction and Maintenance, Tiruvannamalai.

The Deputy Director General of Forests (Central),

Government of India,

Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,

Integrated Regional Office,

1st Floor, Additional Office Block for GPOA,

Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,,

Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006.

The District Collector, Tiruvannamalai.

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA),

O/o. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,

Chennai-15.

The District Forest Officer,

Tiruvannamalai.

The Chief Conservator of Forests and

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA)

Vellore Circle, Vellore.

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