

I/58416/2023



भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &  
CLIMATE CHANGE

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Regional Office

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F.No.4-TNB113/2023-CHN/ 1291

Date 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Environment & Forests Department,  
Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai - 600 009

**Subject: Diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land in Pillur Slope RFs of Coimbatore FD for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District in favour of the Superintending Engineer, General Construction Circle, Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO), Coimbatore. - Reg**

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No.18747/FR.10/2022-5 dated 25.10.2023 and online application No.FP/TN/SubStation/149440/2021 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

After careful consideration of the proposal submitted by the State Government and considering the importance of the project, I am directed to convey the Central Government's in principle approval (**Stage-I**) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **4.85 ha** of forest land in Pillur Slope RFs of Coimbatore FD for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District in favour of the Superintending Engineer, General Construction Circle, Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO), Coimbatore, **for a period of 20 years**, subject to the following conditions:

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. The diverted forest area shall be fenced and the demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;

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3. The State Forest Department shall carryout Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over **10 ha of degraded forest area identified in Odanthurai RF of Sirumugai Range in Coimbatore Forest Division**, at the cost of the User Agency;
4. The degraded forest land identified for CA and the approved CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government and the State Forest Department shall ensure that the amount realized from the User Agency towards CA should not be left unspent;
5. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **4.85 ha** from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos.826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 and Ministry's guideline No. 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and clarification issued vide letter dated 19.01.2022 and 22.03.2022;
6. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) 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 Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
7. 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/>) ;
8. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred / sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
9. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
10. The User Agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling;
11. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
12. **The User Agency shall obtain prior approval of Hon'ble SC of India / CEC for felling of 116 spontaneous trees and**



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**trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of DFO concerned;**

- 13. The State Forest Department shall ensure to implement proper wildlife mitigation measures as per the field requirement at the cost of the User Agency;**
- 14. The forest area proposed for diversion is a RF area which was already leased out to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board prior to 1961 and it was also reported that, project area consists of unutilized and damaged Staff quarters belonging to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. In this connection, validity of the lease period and extent of the lease granted and its current and actual area of utilization may be informed and renewal of lease required if any under FCA, 1980 shall be ascertained and State Government shall initiate necessary action in this regard;**
- 15. As reported, UA has not paid lease rent which needs to be settled among the Departments as per the procedure laid in the local State Act/ rules / regulation etc;**
- 16. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 4.85 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;**
- 17. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the transmission line projects;**
- 18. Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDG (Central) of Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User Agency;**
- 19. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980;**
- 20. The State Government shall process and submit compliance report on the above conditions through online (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);**

After receipt of the compliance report on above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above

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conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Karthikeyan

Karupiah

Date: 24-11-2023 13:26:49

Reason: Approved

**(K.Karthikeyan)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32
2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32.
3. Inspector General of Forests (Central), MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi-110003 **for information.**
4. Superintending Engineer, General Construction Circle, Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO), 182, Dr.Subbarayan Road, Tatabad, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu-641012 [etlcmtp@gmail.com](mailto:etlcmtp@gmail.com)
5. Guard file

**Sd/-**

**(K.Karthikeyan)**

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)