



सत्यमेव जयते

भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण ,वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE
CHANGE



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F.No.4-TNC061/2020-CHN/ 261

Date 24th December, 2020

To

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

Subject: Diversion of 16 ha of forest area in Koonimedu Reserved land for setting up desalination plant at Koonimedu Village for CWSS in Villupuram district in favour of Executive Engineer , TWAD Board, Kallakurichi District-reg

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letters No. 6861/FR.10/2020-1 dated 20.07.2020 and 6861/FR.10/2020-4 dated 27.11.2020 and online application No.FP/TN/WATER/42977/2019 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 of the State Government and as recommended by the Regional Empowered Committee (REC), 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 16 ha of forest area in Koonimedu Reserved land for setting up desalination plant at Koonimedu Village for CWSS in Villupuram district in favour of Executive Engineer , TWAD Board, Kallakurichi District, for a period of 30 years, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. The User Agency shall demarcate the forest area diverted by construction of compound wall all along the boundary with DGPS co-ordinates at suitable locations;
3. The State Forest Department shall carryout Compensatory Afforestation (CA) and its maintenance in identified non forest area to an extent of 21.415 ha in

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Sy No 5/1, 5/2, 5/3, 7/1, 8/1, 8/2, 12, 36/1, 37/1 of Kattalai Village and 11.055 ha in Sy No 107/2, 108, 109/1, 109/2, 110/3, 110/4, 119, 120/1,2, 127, 128/3,4, 135/2 and, 136/1,2 of Karattai Village in Villupuram District, at the cost of the User Agency; As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.

4. The User Agency shall transfer and mutate entire non forest area identified for compensatory afforestation in favour of Forest Department and shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section 4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant section(s) of the State Forest Act before Stage II approval and send a copy of the original Notification to this office along with the compliance report for information and record;
5. The non forest land identified for CA and CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
6. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **16 ha** from 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 as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry in this regard;
7. Additional amount of 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;
8. 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/>)
9. No residential constructions shall be built in the diverted forest area;
10. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
11. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land; sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourers after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
12. 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

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- ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
13. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for the transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
 14. Suitable indigenous tree species shall be planted in the green belt area as proposed in the proposal at the project cost in consultation with the Forest Department.
 15. Trees standing in the area earmarked for future expansion purpose shall not be felled;
 16. The UA shall seek prior approval of GoI through State Government whenever modification of components are necessitated along with revised map, component wise breakup etc;
 17. The User Agency shall obtain CRZ clearance and all other mandatory approval from the concerned authorities before commencement of the project work;
 18. The UA shall take all essential precautionary measures considering the safety of the people living in the locality;
 19. Soil conservation measures (SMC) work shall be carried out by the User Agency in and around the project area at the project cost;
 20. The UA shall ensure that percentage of allocation of processed water for domestic purpose and industrial purpose in the ratio of 95% & 5% respectively as committed in their report; deviation if any shall not be allowed without prior approval of Govt. of India
 21. The compliance report shall be uploaded on *e-portal* (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
 22. 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;
 23. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **16 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;

24. The approval under FCA,1980 is subject to the clearance under all other Acts, Rules, Guidelines, Regulations and Court Orders applicable to such project;
25. Annual self compliance report on conditions imposed in this order shall be submitted by the User Agency to the State Government and the Regional Office, MoEF&CC Chennai.
26. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Officer(Central) of Integrated 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;
27. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action provision made under FCA, 1980 and guidelines made there under.

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 conditions, this in-principle approval may be revoked as per rules.

Yours faithfully,

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015.
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, No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015.
3. Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, P.F Division, no.3, GST Road, Tindivanam Po, Villupuram District Tamil Nadu 604001.
4. Guard file.

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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