



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

Letter No.11028/FR.10/2022-1, Dated 22.07.2022

From  
Tmt.Supriya Sahu, IAS.,  
Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

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

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 5.00 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for formation of road from Thimmalankadu to Kotturmalai to a length of 6.00 km and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri Forest Division of Dharmapuri District - in favour of the Block Development Officer (BP), Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District - Proposal forwarding - Regarding.

Ref: From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, letter No.TS3/31973/2019, dated 17.06.2022.

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I am directed to enclose a copy of the reference cited and to state that, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in his letter cited has stated that, the Block Development Officer (BP), Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 5.00 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for formation of road from Thimmalankadu to Kotturmalai to a length of 6.00 km and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri Forest Division of Dharmapuri District.

2. In the Part-II of Form A by the District Forest Officer, Tirupathur Division is furnished below:-

- i. The legal status of the proposed site of diversion of 5.00 ha of forest land requested for the project is Reserved Forests. As per the site inspection report and recommendation of the project, name of the forest land reported as Kesarkuli RF.
- ii. Density of the forest area is 0.25 and Eco class of forest area is three.
- iii. Species wise and girth class wise enumeration of trees in the area reported as 167 numbers.
- iv. On vulnerability of the forest area to erosion reported as the area already eroded and no soil to be eroded.

- v. Details of wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion reported as NIL. The forest area proposed for diversion is not 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 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.
- viii. For the proposed diversion of 5.00 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for Thimmalamkadu to Kotturmalai road, compensatory afforestation has been proposed in 10.00 ha of identified non forest CA land in SF No. 692/5 of Kammampatty in Nallampalli Taluk of Dharmapuri District by planting @ 600 number of trees per ha and 800 numbers per ha of 5.00 ha of degraded forest area selected in Parigam A RF.
  - a. The District Forest Officer has reported that the non forest land has been inspected on 06.10.2021 and it is quite suitable for raising compensatory afforestation. It is also approachable and manageable on protection point of view. Naturally grown trees are existing in the identified CA land and looks like a forest. Due to lack of possibilities to plant the targeted saplings in this place, it has been decided to plant the remaining saplings in the degraded forest area of Dharmapuri Range in Parigam A RF.
  - b. CA scheme cost proposed by the District Forest Officer is as follows:-

i)a)	CA scheme in 10.00 ha of non-forest CA land @ 600 numbers per ha including maintenance of plantation for 10 year period	
		– Rs.90,14,400/-
b)	Chain link fencing around plantation to prevent biotic pressure	– Rs.28,12,500/-
c)	Engaging protection mazdoor for 3 year period	– Rs.7,02,630/-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs.1,25,29,530/- (or) Rs.1,25,30,000/-</b>
ii)a)	CA scheme in 5.00 ha of degraded forest CA area in Parigam A Reserved Forests @ 800 numbers per ha including maintenance of plantation for 10 year period	
		– Rs.35,55,727/-



b)	Chain link fencing around plantation to prevent biotic pressure	– Rs.18,75,000/-
c)	Engaging protection mazdoor for 3 year period	– Rs.7,02,630/-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 61,33,267 (or) Rs. 61,33,500/-</b>
	<b>Grand total of CA scheme</b>	<b>– Rs. 1,86,63,500/-</b>

c) The District Forest Officer has furnished the cost estimate of the CA scheme and area marked in the Survey of India topo sheet and surveyed sketch of the proposed CA area in geo-referenced map for the non forest CA land. Site suitability certificate of the CA area has also been furnished by the District Forest Officer.

- ix. The District Forest Officer has inspected the Proposed site on 07.10.2021 and reported the following:-

The user agency has not yet commenced any work in the field therefore the question of violation of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 does not arise and there is no encroachment in this area. The forest land required for the project is not part of any National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary/Biosphere. In the alignment of the proposed road, there are exist 167 numbers of trees which are spontaneous growth in nature and requires felling, The proposed road is to be laid to a length of 6000m and to a width of 7.50m and the alignment area lies in Kesarkuli RF.

- x. In the Specific Recommendation of the project, the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division has reported the following:-

The proposal submitted by the user agency for diversion of 5.00 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for formation of road from Thimmalankadu to Kotturmalai village. In the alignment of the proposed road, no right of way was admitted in the Tamil Nadu Gazette notification of Kesarkuli RF. The proposed road connects Thimmalankadu to Kotturmalai. Until now, there is no any other alternative road for them to drive vehicles. This is the long lasting demand by the village peoples for the past ten years. This demand has also been raised in the Legislative Assembly often. The work will be permitted under strict supervision of the Forest Officers. Possible damage to wild flora and fauna due to this project is very low. Considering the facts and field observation, the District Forest Officer has recommended the proposal for seeking diversion of land.

3. The Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle has inspected the area on 01.12.2021 and endorsed the details provided by the District Forest Officer and recommended the proposal for the welfare of the people living in Kotturmalai habitation.



4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) has also stated that, the User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 99 years. The District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division and the Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle have recommended the diversion of forest area for a period of 10 years. Generally forest area diversion proposal for formation of road in forest areas have been recommended for a period of 25-30 years. Based on the above, diversion of forest land is recommended for 25 years.

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HOFF) has further stated that, the proposal is sent herewith duly recommended by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act) / Nodal Officer of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of the State of Tamil Nadu.

6. Based on the recommendation made by the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division and Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has recommended the proposal for diversion of 5.00 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for formation of road from Thimmalankadu to Kotturmalai to a length of 6.00 km and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri Forest Division of Dharmapuri District in favour of the Block Development Officer (BP), Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for a period of 25 years and requested the Government to forward same to Government of India for obtaining the approval for the project proposal, 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 mutate and transfer double the extent of non-forest land of 10 ha identified in SF No.692/5 of Kammampatty Village of Nallampalli Taluk in Dharmapuri District to the Forest Department.
- d) The User Agency has to pay the cost of Raising Compensatory Afforestation / Maintenance of plantation, protection of plantation etc., both in non-forest land and degraded forest land as fixed by the Forest Department and willingness to deposit additional amounts if any suggested as amended owing to the change in planting technique, enhancement in the FSR etc., demanded subsequently.
- e) The User Agency has to pay the Net Present Value of proposed forest diversion area which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India /Government of India.
- f) 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.
- g) Amount of Compensatory afforestation scheme, Net Present Value of diverted forest area under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- h) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards annual lease rent for the forest area diversion period 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.

- i) The user agency has to obtain permission from the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for felling of 167 number of spontaneous trees growth in the forest area proposed for the project.
- j) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceeds 5.00 ha for with a length of 6000 m and width of 7.50m in Kesarkuli RF.
- k) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under any circumstances be transferred to any other agencies/department or person without prior approval.
- l) 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.

7. The Government have examined the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) for diversion of 5.00 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for formation of road from Thimmalankadu to Kotturmalai to a length of 6.00 km and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri Forest Division of Dharmapuri District in favour of the Block Development Officer (BP), Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District for a period of 25 years, under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and decided to forward the same to Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India, for concurrence.

8. 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,

M. Megala  
22/7/2022

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

Copy to:-

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)  
Chennai-15.

The Block Development Officer (BP),  
Pennagaram block,

Dharmapuri District-636 801.



## 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 for diversion of 5.00 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF for formation of road from Thimmalankadu to Kotturmalai to a length of 6.00 km and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri Forest Division of Dharmapuri District in favour of the Block Development Officer (BP), Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District for a period of 25 years, under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

### 18. Recommendation of the State Government

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

*Recommended*

Date : 22.07.2022  
Place : Chennai-9.

*MR Amarnath* 22/7/2022  
Signature  
Name & Designation  
(Official Seal)  
(M.R. AMARNATH)  
Under Secretary to Government  
Environment, Climate Change and  
Forest Department  
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

*(R.10)*