



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

Letter No.17215/FR.10/2020-5, Dated:19.08.2021

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

To

✓ The Additional Director General of Forests (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Integrated Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),
1st & 2nd Floor, HEPC Building,
No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai-34.(w.e.)

Sir,

Sub: Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Dindigul Circle /
Dindigul Forest Division – Diversion of 1.68 ha. of forest land for
upgradation by formation of black top road from the foot hills of
L.Malaiyur to L.Malaiyur Village – in favour of Project Director,
DRDA, Dindigul District – Regarding.

Ref: From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of
Department) Letter No.TS4/31700/2017, dated 03.12.2020,
27.02.2021 and 14.06.2021.

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In the reference cited, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has stated that the User Agency, (i.e.) the Project Director, DRDA, Dindigul has sent a proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 1.68 ha. of forest land for road upgradation of black top road from the foot hills of L.Malaiyur to L.Malaiyur Village of Dindigul Forest Division in Dindigul District in favour of DRDA, Dindigul. The total length proposed for normal road is 2100 m and the width is 6 m and for curved portion length of the road is 420 m and the width is 10 m, totally 2.520 kms passes through Perumalai RF and total extent of forest land proposed for this road is 1.68 ha. The user agency has stated that the proposed road is the first road construction in between the foot of the Perumalai RF to L.Maliyur village. Now the villagers, daily workers, school students and college students are using this road for day-to-day activities and also transporting the agricultural materials by head load or by using horse only. The proposed road will be useful for the village people and 250 acres of agricultural land will also be benefitted by this road. The User Agency has uploaded necessary documents, certificates and undertakings in the Online Submission and Monitoring of Forests Clearances Proposal (OSMFCP) portal.

(P.T.O)

2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has also stated that the District Forest Officer, Dindigul has inspected the proposed project area on 14.02.2018. The proposed area is having hilly terrain and there are 202 small spontaneous trees found available in the forest area proposed for the road project. The list of the 202 Nos. of spontaneous trees is enclosed in Additional Information Section of Part-II, Form-A. All the 202 trees were numbered in the field. He has further stated that for felling of 202 no. of trees of spontaneous growth, the user agency had approached the Central Empowered Committee and the Hon'ble Supreme court of India has granted permission for removal of 202 trees.

3. The District Forest Officer has also inspected the Compensatory Afforestation land in S.F.No.1154/2 of Sendurai Village of Natham Taluk over an extent of 3.36 ha on 04.02.2020 and furnished site suitability certificate. He has proposed Rs.57.707 lakh towards Compensatory Afforestation for raising of Misc. plantation in the compensatory land with 10 years maintenance cost of plantation. Further, the District Forest Officer vide his letter dated 12.11.2020 has furnished revised Compensatory Afforestation scheme for Rs.39.16 lakh for raising and 10 years maintenance and this revised Compensatory Afforestation scheme was uploaded in additional information section of Part-II of Form A. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Dindigul has also forwarded the revised Compensatory Afforestation scheme, vide his letter dated 20.11.2020. Further, the District Forest Officer has stated that this road project in Perumalai Reserved Forest has minimum effects on environment and more beneficial to the public. This Road project would help the villagers to ease their access to Basic amenities on Education and Medical treatment and hence recommended the proposal.

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has further stated that the Chief Conservator of Forests, Dindigul has inspected the proposed site on 18.04.2018 along with the District Forest Officer, Dindigul. The total length of the road proposed in RF is 2.520 Kms and extent of forest land required for the project is 1.68 ha. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Dindigul has also inspected the Compensatory Afforestation land identified in Sy.No:1154/2 of Sendurai Village on 01.09.2020. The Chief Conservator of Forests has agreed with the remarks of District Forest Officer, Dindigul and recommended in Part-III of Form A proposal on 11.09.2020. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Dindigul has recommended this road proposal with a condition that the patta boundaries of the inhabitants are demarcated in the field physically before the start of the project to avoid encroachment and other illegal land issues in future.

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has sent the proposal duly recommended by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act) (i/c) / Nodal Officer, Forest Conservation Act of the State of Tamil Nadu.

6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has, therefore recommended the proposal for diversion of 1.68 ha. of forest land in Perumalai Reserved Forest in Dindigul Division, for upgrading the road by formation of black top road from the foot hills of L.Malaiyur to L.Malaiyur Village subject to the following conditions:-

- 1) The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged and shall remain as Reserved Forests.
- 2) The demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet height cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 mts at the cost of User Agency.

- 3) The User Agency shall mutate the compensatory land of 3.36 ha identified in Sy.No: 1154/2 of Sendurai Village, Natham Taluk of Dindigul District to Forest Department and the same to be notified as Reserved Forests as per Tamilnadu Forest Act, 1882 before Stage-II approval.
- 4) The User Agency shall remit CA amount as demanded by the Forest Department.
- 5) The User Agency shall plant and maintain ten times the number of trees felled on the diverted land to maintain the green cover at the project cost, planting site for the purpose will be identified by the State Forest Department (Preferably within or in the surrounding area of the project). Only indigenous forest trees species shall be used for such plantations.
- 6) The User Agency shall pay the Net Present Value of the diverted forest area at the rates stipulated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests from time to time, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos. 826 in 566 with related IAs in Writ Petition(Civil) No.202/1995.
- 7) The fund from the User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation and NPV under this project shall be deposited by generating chalan from the Ministry's Online web portal. UTR No, and date should be furnished.
- 8) The 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 the effect.
- 9) The User agency shall be responsible for any loss to Flora and Fauna in the surroundings and shall take all possible measures to conserve the same.
- 10) The forest land shall not be used for any other purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- 11) The lease rent should be realized from the User Agency as per G.O.Ms.No.272, E&F(FR.XIII) Dept dated 15.04.1991.
- 12) The User Agency shall ensure that all the patta land boundaries of the inhabitants are demarcated in the field physically before the commencement of the project to avoid encroachments and other illegal land issues in future.
- 13) The period of lease is 20 years.
- 14) The User Agency should send renewal proposal before one year of expiry of lease.
- 15) The District Forest Officer may impose any other condition in the interest of conservation /protection land development of forests.

7. On further clarification, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has clarified that the Chief Conservator of Forests, Dindigul has stated that at present the people of L.Malaiyur Village are being used the natural earthen path. The earthen path will be upgraded as BT road forming the new BT road by the DRDA, Dindigul District. Hence the project means that the earthen path will be upgraded as BT road by forming new BT road and the proposal is for formation of new black top road as per records as well as field.

8. In the above circumstances, this department has proposed to accept the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for diversion of 1.68 ha. of forest land in Perumalai Reserved Forest in Dindigul Forest Division for upgrading the road by formation of new black top road from the foot hills of Lingavadi Malaiyur to Lingavadi Malaiyur Village of Dindigul Forest Division in Dindigul District in favour of the Assistant Engineer, Natham Union Office, DRDA, Dindigul for a period of twenty years, subject to the conditions mentioned in para-6 above and forward the same to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change for obtaining their concurrence.

9. I am, therefore to request you to kindly obtain the concurrence of the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and communicate the same to this Government, early

Yours faithfully,

S. Mohamed Yusuf 23/8/2021.
for Principal Secretary to Government
f23.8.21

Copy to:-

The Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests (Head of Department), Chennai-15.
The Assistant Engineer,
Natham Union Office,
Dist. Rural Development Agency,
O/o. the Collectorate,
Dindigul-624 004.

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 1.68 ha. of forest land in Perumalai Reserved Forest in Dindigul Forest Division for upgrading the road by formation of new black top road from the foot hills of Lingavadi Malaiyur to Lingavadi Malaiyur Village of Dindigul Forest Division in Dindigul District in favour of the Assistant Engineer, Natham Union Office, DRDA, Dindigul for a period of twenty years under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

18. Recommendation of the State Government - *Recommended -*

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

Date : 23.08.2021

Place : Chennai-9.

S. Rajan
(S. RAJAN)

Signature

Name & Designation

**Under Secretary to Government
(Official Seal)
Environment, Climate Change and
Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.**