



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

Letter No.14924/FR.10/2017-10, Dated. 20.06.2019

From  
Thiru. Shambu Kallollikar, I.A.S.,  
Principal Secretary to Government.

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

Sir,

Sub: Forest – Vellore Forest Circle / Division - Diversion of 5.42 ha. of forest land in Magimandalam Reserved Forest of Vellore Forest Division for construction of 4 Lane Bangalore – Chennai Expressway in favour of Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, Project Implementing Unit-Krishnagiri – Under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Regarding.

Ref: From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Letter No.TS3/36408/2014, dated 16.07.2018.

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I am directed to state that the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has sent a proposal for diversion of 5.42 ha. of forest land in Magimandalam Reserved Forests of Vellore Forest Division for construction of 4 Lane Bangalore – Chennai Expressway in favour of Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, Project Implementing Unit-Krishnagiri Under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. In the Part-II of Form-A, the District Forest Officer has furnished following particulars:-

- i) Density of the forest area is 0.4 and Eco class three.



ii) 778 Nos of Misc. standing trees of spontaneous origin having girth class more than 31 cm and 110 Nos of Red Sander Trees having girth class of 23cm to 130 cm planted in the year 1971 has to be felled for execution of the project. In that a Red Sander tree having girth class of 23cm is also uploaded in the Part-II of Form-A, but, this one tree has not been reflected in the form since the form indicate the figure of girth class 30 cm and above only displayed.

iii) The Reserve Forests area proposed for diversion not vulnerable for erosion.

iv) The forest area proposed for diversion does not form part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor, Wildlife migration corridor etc., and not located within 1 km boundary of NP/MLs etc., for the forest land proposed for diversion and not located within the eco-sensitive zone of the protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

v) There is no rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the area.

vi) There is no protected archaeological / heritage site / defence establishment or any other important monument 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 issued under the Act has been carried out.

viii) Compensatory Afforestation scheme has been proposed to an extent of 10.84 ha (double the extent of proposed diversion area of 5.42 ha) in Ammoor RF of Arcot Range in Vellore Division at a cost of Rs. 51,60,398/- (Rs. 4,76,051/- per hectare) with plantation maintenance of 10 years.- 1000 seedlings of 16x30 size polythene bags planting work proposed per hectare.

3. He has further reported that the proposed forest area diversion site falls in Magimandalam Reserve Forests has been inspected on 30.04.2016, and in his site inspection report, has justified the forest area diversion for Bangalore-Chennai Expressway on public interest as this will serve rapid road transportation facilities from Hoscote near Bangalore to Sriperumpudur near Chennai. Further he has recommended the project under condition basis that an underneath passage may be provided during the execution of the road work such that the fauna in the Reserved Forests such as spotted deer, wild hare, porcupine, leopard etc., could migrate without any obstruction from one side of the Highway to the other. With the above observation, he has recommended the forest area diversion proposal for fifteen years.

4. The Chief Conservator of Forests has inspected the area on 09.06.2016 & 26.05.2018, and also recommended the period of diversion for 15 years considering



the fact that the development of road to cut down travel time, fuel consumption, vehicle operating cost and general development in public interest.

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has stated that the User Agency has already filed IA in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India ( Application No. 1411 of 2017) for felling of trees of spontaneous origin and the Central Empowered Committee, after inspection of site has filed its report in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and on 06.03.2018, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has accepted the Central Empowered Committee recommendation of diversion of forest land for the project.

6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Department) has recommended the proposal for diversion of 5.42 ha. of forest land in Magimandalam Reserved Forests of Vellore Forest Division for construction of 4 Lane Bangalore - Chennai Expressway in favour of Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, Project Implementing Unit-Krishnagiri Under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for a period of 15 years subject to the following conditions:-

- i) The legal status of the diverted forest land remains unchanged.
- ii) 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.
- iii) The User Agency has to pay the cost of Raising Compensatory Afforestation / Maintenance of plantation, protection of plantation etc., 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.
- iv) 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.
- v) 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.
- vi) 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.
- vii) The User Agency has to pay the cost toward felling and transportation of trees in the proposed area to the godown identified by the Department.
- viii) An underneath passage to the size of 25.0 m X 3.0 m at KM 171 + 730 of Bangalore Chennai Express shall be provided such that the fauna in the



Reserved Forests could migrate without any obstruction from one side of the Highway to the other.

ix) User Agency shall take care of the maintenance of underpass and removal of silt to prevent block log during rainy seasons.

x) Period of lease can be fifteen (15) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before six months of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.

7. The Government have examined the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD) for diversion of 5.42 ha. of forest land in Magimandalam Reserved Forests of Vellore Forest Division for construction of 4 Lane Bangalore - Chennai Expressway in favour of Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, Project Implementing Unit-Krishnagiri for a period of 15 years, under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and have decided to accept the same subject to the conditions in para 6 above and forward the same to Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India for concurrence.

8. 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 the Government early.

Yours faithfully,

G. R. Suresh  
24/6/19  
for Principal Secretary to Government

Copy to:-  
The PCCF (Head of Department)  
Chennai-15.

The Project Director,  
National Highways Authority of India,  
Project Implementing Unit,  
Krishnagiri.



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)

Diversion of 5.42 ha. of forest land in Vellore Forest Circle / Division, Magimandalam Reserved Forest for construction of 4 Lane Bangalore - Chennai Expressway in favour of Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, Project Implementing Unit-Krishnagiri for a period of fifteen 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 -

G. S. J. J.   
24/06/19

Signature

Name & Designation  
(Official Seal)

[M. SATHISH KUMAR]  
Under Secretary to Government  
Environment & Forest Department  
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009

Date : .06.2019

Place : Chennai-9.





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

Letter No.14924/FR.10/2017-15, Dated: 25.02.2021

From  
Dr. Sandeep Saxena, I.A.S.,  
Additional Chief Secretary to Government .

To  
✓ The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central),  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment and Forests & Climate Change,  
Integrated Regional Office (SEZ),  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, HEPC Building,  
No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai-34. (w.e).

Sir,

Sub: Forest – Vellore Forest Circle / Division - Diversion of 5.42 ha. of forest land in Magimandalam Reserved Forest of Vellore Forest Division for construction of 4 Lane Bangalore – Chennai Expressway in favour of Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, Project Implementing Unit-Krishnagiri – Under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Forwarding of additional Details – Regarding.

- Ref:
1. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Letter No.TS3/36408/2014, dated 16.07.2018.
  2. Government letter No.14924/FR.10/2017-10, dated 20.06.2019.
  3. Your office letter No.4-TNC043/2019-CHN/1358, dated 02.08.2019.
  4. Government letter No.14924/FR.10/2017-11, dated 08.08.2019 and reminded on 22.01.2021.
  5. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, letter No.TS3/36408/2014, dated 15.02.2021.

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I am directed to forward the information / documents / clarification furnished by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in the reference fifth cited as called for in your letter third cited and to request you to obtain stage-I approval from the competent authority and send the same to Government early.

Yours faithfully,

*S. Mohamed Yusoff*  
for Additional Chief Secretary to Government  
22.



TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Thiru S. Yuvaraj, I.F.S.,  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department),  
Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet,  
Chennai - 600 015.

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to  
Government,  
Environment and Forests Department,  
Secretariat,  
Chennai 600 009.

Sir,

C. No. TS3/36408/2014 Dated: 15.02.2021.

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Vellore Forest Circle / Vellore Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 5.42 ha of forest land in Magimandalam Reserved Forests of Vellore Forest Division for Construction of 4-Lane Bangalore-Chennai Expressway by the National Highways Authority of India - Additional details called for by the Government of India - Regarding.

- Ref: 1. Online application uploaded by the User Agency - Project Director, National Highways Authority of India, Project Implementing Unit - Krishnagiri Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/8238/2014
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/36408/2014, dated 16.07.2018, 31.08.2018, 26.10.2018 and 03.05.2019
3. Government letter No. 14924/FR.10/2017, dated 20.06.2019
4. Government of India letter No. 4-TNC043/2019-CHN/1358, dated 02.08.2019
5. Government letter No. 14924/FR.10/2017, dated 08.08.2019, 12.11.2019, 27.02.2020 and 22.01.2021.

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With reference to the Government of India letter 4<sup>th</sup> cited above, I wish to inform the following details.

i) As informed by the Government of India in the above letter cited, kml file of the diversion area has been uploaded by the user agency for 5.42 ha area in Magimandalam RF and compensatory afforestation degraded forest area of 10.84 ha in Ammoor RF by the District Forest Officer, Vellore Division.

ii) Actual length of the road proposed to be constructed in forest area reported by the District Forest Officer, Vellore Division is as flows.

RHS length - 685m



LHS length - 567m

Width at different intervals (chainage points) furnished by the user agency is enclosed herewith.

iii) Proposal status now updated in the web portal.

iv) Original hard copies of Part I, II III and IV of the project proposal is enclosed again.

v) Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in I.A No. 113993/2017 in WP (Civil) No. 202/1995 judgment order dated 06.03.2018 has accepted the recommendation of the Central Empowered Committee on felling of spontaneous trees in the project area.

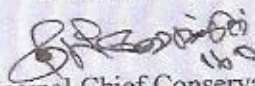
Further, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in subsequent order dated 09.04.2018 has disposed of the above I.A.


vi) The User agency has reported that no court case is pending related to this diversion of forest land proposed.

I request that, the EDS reply may please be forwarded to the Government of India for consideration of the proposal.

Encl : As stated above.

Yours faithfully

  
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department)

  
16/02/24