

By e-mail



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

Letter No.1355/FR.10/2023-2, dated 24.07.2023

From

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

To

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

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal (FP/TN/Others/38127/2019) for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi Reserved Forest in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s.Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai – Forwarding of - Regarding.

- Ref: 1. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Letter No.TS3/19760/2022, dated 28.02.2023.
2. Government letter No. 1355/FR.10/2023-1, dated 24.03.2023.
3. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Letter No.TS3/19760/2022, dated 18.04.2023.

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I am directed to enclose a copy of the references first and third cited and to state that, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) in his letter first cited has stated that, the M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Mylapore Chennai has uploaded online forest area diversion proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi Reserved Forest in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai.

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

- (i) The legal status of the proposed site of diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land requested for the project is Reserved Forests and name of the forest land reported as Seedeve Reserved Forest.
- (ii) The density of the forest area is 0.2 and Eco class of forest area is three.
- (iii) Species wise and girth class wise enumeration of trees in the area is NIL.
- (iv) On vulnerability of the forest land proposed for diversion, the District Forest Officer has reported that there is no vulnerability.
- (v) The District Forest Officer has not reported the wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion. The forest area proposed for diversion is not forms 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 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) As per Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 guidelines under special provisions for Compensatory Afforestation for certain categories of schemes, Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised and maintained at the cost of user agency on degraded forest land twice in extent of forest area diverted for laying of telephone / optical fibre cable.

For the proposed diversion of 0.045 ha of forest area, Compensatory Afforestation scheme has been proposed for planting of 90 number of saplings in the degraded forest area identified in Thagarai Reserved Forest at a total cost of Rs. 4,25,221/- including maintenance of plantation over a period of 10 years. Certificate regarding suitability of compensatory afforestation land has been furnished in the project proposal.
- (ix) In the site inspection report, the District Forest Officer has stated that, site inspection carried out on 07.11.2022. Laying of Optical Fibre Cable proposed along the road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi (Eraiur) and Adhiyur to Eraiur road section over a distance of 1.50km across Seedeve Reserved Forest. Right of way admitted is 4 yard (3.6m). There is no tree felling involved in this project. There is no spontaneous tree species. There is no elephant corridor. Length of the Optical Fibre Cable falls in forest area is 1500m and trench size is 0.30m width, thus area required for the project is 450 sq.m or 0.045 ha.
- (x) The District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division has, therefore recommended the project.

3. The Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle has inspected the area on 03.02.2023 and in his recommendation of the project has stated that, the user agency's request is genuine and hence he has recommended the proposal.

4. Further, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests ((Head of Forest Force)) has stated that the User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 99 years. The District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division and Conservator of Forest, Villupuram Circle have recommended the diversion of forest area for a period of 25 years. Based on the recommendations made by the District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests, diversion of forest land is recommended for 20 years. On further clarifications, he has stated that the period was mistakenly mentioned as 20 years instead of 25 years.

5. Further, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) has stated that in Government of India guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in F. No. 5-3/2007-FC, dated 05.02.2009, full exemption for payment of Net Present Value for underground laying of Optical Fibre Cable has been allowed for areas falling outside National Park/Sanctuary and there is no felling of trees is involved. As per the details furnished by the District Forest Officer, there is no tree felling involved in this project proposal and area falls outside National Park / Sanctuary, hence payment of Net Present Value of forest area may not be insisted.

6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) has further stated that State Government may accord diversion of forest land of less than one hectare in each case for non forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for creation of critical development and security related infrastructure of Government Departments under the general approval of Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 guidelines. In this case, though the forest area diversion is less than one hectare, the project proponent/user agency is a private company, hence, approval of Government of India is required under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for forest area diversion to private entity.

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

8. Based on the recommendations made by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Forest Division, Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle, Villupuram and the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act), the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has recommended the proposal for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi RF in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai, for a period of 25 years under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980,

and requested the Government to forward the same to Government of India for obtaining their approval for the project proposal, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) The legal status of the diverted forest land remains unchanged.
- (ii) Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars, duly numbered, at the appropriate distance as decided by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division at the cost of user agency.
- (iii) The user agency has to pay the cost towards compensatory afforestation scheme selected in Thagarai Reserved Forest of Villupuram Forest Division.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) Amount of Compensatory afforestation scheme under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
- (vi) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards 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.
- (vii) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.045 ha for laying Optical Fibre Cable to a length of 1500m with a width of 0.30 m in Seedevi Reserved Forest along the existing road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi Reserved Forest in Villupuram District.
- (viii) 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.

9. On further clarification with regard to the District Collector's Certificate about settlement of rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006 in the proposed forest land, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has stated that, as per the guidelines issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in File No.11-43/2013-FC, dated 26.02.2019, the compliance under Forest Rights Act is not required for consideration of in-principle approval and this has to be furnished for consideration of the proposal by the Ministry for final approval (Stage-II). Hence the user agency is being informed to furnish the original certificate of District Collector with his full name and authenticated office seal as per the format prescribed in Form-I for linear projects by the Government of India and this may be imposed as one of the conditions for compliance while issuing Stage-I approval and he has requested the Government to consider the proposal and obtain the approval of Government of India.

10. The Government have examined and accept the proposal (FP/TN/Others/38127/2019) of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi Reserved Forest in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s. Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai, for a period of 25 years, under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, subject to the conditions mentioned at para 8 above along with an

additional condition as proposed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests at para 9 above and decided to forward the same to Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India for obtaining their concurrence.

11. 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
27/7/2023

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government

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27/7/23

Copy to:-

The Principal Chief Conservator
of Forests (Head of Forest Force),
Chennai-32.

The Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited,
No.89, Radhkrishnan Salai,
Mylapore, Chennai – 4.

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)

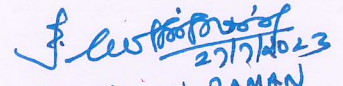
Proposal (FP/TN/Others/38127/2019) for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi Reserved Forest in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s.Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai for a period of 25 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 : *27*.07.2023

Place : Chennai-9.

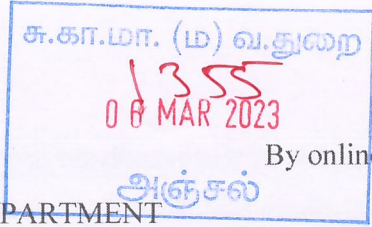

[J. MOHAN RAMAN]

Signature

Name & Designation
(Official Seal)

Deputy Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-09

C.No. 1355/FR.10/2023



TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Subrat Mohapatra, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force)
Forest Head Quarters Building, Guindy-
Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 15.

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to
Government,
Environment, Climate Change and Forest
Department,
Secretariat, Chennai 9.

C. No. TS3/19760/2022 Dated: 28.02.2023.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi RF in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai - Forwarding of - Reg.

Ref: 1. Online proposal uploaded by the User Agency - M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai - 4 Proposal No. FP/TN/Others/38127/2019, dated 17.01.2019 and resubmission of proposal on 16.02.2019, 26.06.2022 & 28.10.2022.

2. Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division on 18.01.2023

3. Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle on 06.02.2023 and resubmission of proposal on 18.02.2023

I wish to state that, M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, No. 89, Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai - 4 has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi RF in Villupuram District (now in Kallakuruchi District) under proposal No. FP/TN/Others/38127/2019.

1) Brief details of the project are given below.

i) The User Agency has uploaded the proposal in the prescribed format of Form A - Part I - under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of fresh forest area.

ii) In the short narrative of the proposal for which forest land is required, the User Agency has reported that diversion of forest land is required for laying of optical fiber cable

along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedeve RF in Villupuram District.

iii) M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, having Office at No. 89, Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai-4 has applied forest clearance proposal and for applying forest clearance proposal authorisation has been issued to the State Coordinate Officer.

iv) Diversion of 0.045 ha of forest has been requested in Villupuram Forest Division area in erstwhile Villupuram District (now in Kallakuruchi District). Name of the village reported as Eraiyur for 0.045 ha forest area and component wise break up reported as Linear.

v) Location map of the forest land proposed to be diverted in kml file of google earth, Scanned copy of Survey of India topo sheet indicating the boundary of forest land proposed to be diverted, Scanned copy of Geo referenced location map has been furnished.

vi) The user agency has proposed forest area diversion for laying of optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedeve RF in Villupuram District to a length of 1500m to trench width of 0.30m. (Area 450 sq.m or 0.045 ha).

vii) The User Agency has stated that this project does not involve displacement of people due to the project and not requires clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

viii) The user agency has stated that the project or part thereof is not located in any protected area or their Eco sensitive zone.

ix) The User Agency has furnished the certificate issued by the District Collector, Kallakuruchi District about completion of process for settlement of rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed for diversion in Ref. No. B7/2500/2021, dated 21.06.2022

x) The user agency has furnished following certificates/ undertakings/ details under additional Information details section.

a) Certified that, there is no work in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been carried out in the project area.

b) Certified that forest land requested is the minimum required for the project and all other alternatives have been examined and found not feasible.

c) Undertaking to pay the Net Present Value of forest land required for the project.

d) Undertaking to pay the additional amount of Net Present Value of forest land demanded subsequently.

e) To bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation and or penal compensatory afforestation as well as cost of protection of plantation as per the scheme prepared by the Government of Tamil Nadu in lieu of RF land diverted for the project and to deposit additional amount if any suggested as amended owing to change in planting technique, enhancement in FSR etc.,

f) Undertaking to pay the cost along with any escalation for exploitation of trees if any available in the alignment path.

g) Undertaking to bear the cost of felling of trees and transportation cost of the trees to be removed if any available in the alignment path.

h) Undertaking to lay the lease rent as fixed by the Forest Department at the time of sanction along with any escalation for the subsequent years.

i) Certificate obtained from the District Collector, Kallakuruchi about non-availability of non-forest land for the project in Ref. No. B7/2500/2021, dated 21.06.2022

j) Area requirement for the project reported as 1500m length and 0.30m width ie., 450 sq.m or 0.045 ha.

2) The District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division has forwarded the proposal along with Site Inspection report and recommendation of the proposal to the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle on 18.01.2023 through online.

Details furnished in the Part-II of Form A by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division is furnished below.

i) The legal status of the proposed site of diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land requested for the project is Reserved Forests.

As per the site inspection report and recommendation of the project uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division, name of the forest land reported as Seedevi RF.

ii) The District Forest Officer has reported that, density of the forest area is 0.2 and Eco class of forest area is three.

iii) In the Part-II of Form-A, the District Forest Officer has reported that species wise and girth class wise enumeration of trees in the area is NIL.

iv) On vulnerability of the forest land proposed for diversion, the District Forest Officer has reported that there is no vulnerability.

v) The District Forest Officer has not reported the wildlife present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion. The forest area proposed for diversion is not forms 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

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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) As per Forest Conservation Act, 1980 guidelines under special provisions for CA for certain categories of schemes, CA shall be raised and maintained at the cost of user agency on degraded forest land twice in extent of forest area diverted for laying of telephone/optical fibre cable.

For the proposed diversion of 0.045 ha of forest area Compensatory Afforestation scheme has been proposed for planting of 90 number of saplings in the degraded forest area identified in Thagarai RF at a total cost of Rs. 4,25,221/- including maintenance of plantation over a period of 10 years. Certificate regarding suitability of compensatory afforestation land has been furnished in the project proposal.

ix) In the site inspection report, the District Forest Officer has stated that, site inspection carried out on 07.11.2022. Laying of Optical Fibre Cable proposed along the road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi (Eraiur) and Adhiyur to Eraiur road section over a distance of 1.50km across Seedevi RF. Right of way admitted is 4 yard (3.6m). There is no tree felling involved in this project. There is no spontaneous tree species. There is no elephant corridor. Length of the OFC falls in forest area is 1500m and trench size is 0.30m width, thus area required for the project is 450 sq.m or 0.045 ha.

x) The District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division has reported that, Right of way admitted is 4 yard (3.6m). There is no tree felling involved in this project. There is no spontaneous tree species. There is no elephant corridor. Length of the OFC falls in forest area is 1500m and trench size is 0.30m width, thus area required for the project is 450 sq.m or 0.045 ha and recommended the project.

3) The Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle has inspected the area on 03.02.2023 and in his recommendation of the project has stated that, the user agency request is genuine, hence the proposal is recommended.

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4) The User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 99 years. The District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division and Conservator of Forest, Villuram Circle have recommended the diversion of forest area for a period of 25 years.

Based on the recommendations made by the District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests, diversion of forest land is recommended for 20 years.

5) In Government of India guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in F. No. 5-3/2007-FC, dated 05.02.2009, full exemption for payment of Net Present Value for underground laying of Optical Fibre Cable has been allowed for areas falling outside National Park/Sanctuary and there is no felling of trees is involved.

As per the details furnished by the District Forest Officer, there is no tree felling is involved in this project proposal and area falls outside National Park/ Sanctuary, hence payment of Net Present Value of forest area may not be insisted.

6) State Government may accord diversion of forest land of less than one hectare in each case for non forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for creation of critical development and security related infrastructure of Government Departments under the general approval of Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 guidelines.

In this case, though the forest area diversion is less than one hectare, the project proponent/user agency is a private company, hence, approval of Government of India is required under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for forest area diversion to private entity.

7) 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.

8) Based on the recommendation made by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division and Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle, proposal received from the M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi RF in Kallakuruchi District, seeking approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is furnished to the Government for obtaining orders from the Government of India subject to the following conditions.

- i) The legal status of the diverted forest land remains unchanged.
- ii) Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars, duly numbered, at the appropriate distance as decided by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division at the cost of user agency.

-6-

iii) The user agency has to pay the cost towards compensatory afforestation scheme selected in Thagarai RF of Villupuram Forest Division

iv) 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.

v) Amount of Compensatory afforestation scheme under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

vi) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards 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.


vii) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceeds 0.045 ha for laying Optical Fibre Cable to a length of 1500m with a width of 0.30 m in Seedevi RF along the existing road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi RF in Villupuram District.

viii) 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.

9) I request that, the proposal may be considered and forwarded to the Government of India for obtaining concurrence for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi RF in Kallakuruchi District in favour of M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, No. 89, Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai -4 for a period of 25 years.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully


01/03/2023

For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

G
1/03/2023

By e-mail

E,CC&F(FR.10)Dept.,

Letter No.1355/FR.10/2023-1 dated 24.03.2023

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Chennai-32.

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 -
Proposal (FP/TN/Others/38127/2019) for diversion
of 0.045 ha. of forest land in Villupuram Forest
Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable
along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur
and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section to
Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedevi RF in
Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s. Reliance
Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai - Details -
Requested - Regarding.

Ref: From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force), Letter No.TS3/19760/2022,
dated 28.02.2023.

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I am directed to invite your attention to the reference
cited, wherein in para 4 of your letter cited, you have
recommended the lease period for 20 years. However, in
para 9 of your letter cited, you have recommended the period of
lease for the ⁴said diversion proposal as 25 years. I am, therefore to
request you to intimate the exact period of lease for the subject
proposal.

2. Further, I am directed to state that, you have sent the
District Collector's Certificate in respect of Forest Rights Act,
2006 without Full Name and official seal of the District Collector.
I am, therefore directed to request you to obtain and send the
original certificate of the District Collector, Kallakuruchi District
with his full name and authenticated office seal as per the
format prescribed in Form-I for linear projects in the

(p.T.O)

Pl. issue

ml
24/3/2023

PP-1-b cf

✓ p. 5 cf

4 p-b cf

✓ flag (A)

-8-

-2-

C.No. 1355/FR.10/2023

Comprehensive Guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980,
to Government, as already instructed vide Government
letter No.17883/FR.10/2022-1, dated 01.11.2022, for further
consideration of the proposal.

4 Flag (B/copy)

23/3/23
me
23/3/2023

23/3/2023
US 23/3/2023

Y/f.,
24/3/2023
DS(M)

Deputy Secretary
to Government
24 MAR 2023
3
Chairman
CC & Forest Dept.
(K)
DS (M)



From Env, Climate Change & Forest Department. GoTN <eccfd@tn.gov.in>

To Tnfdts <tnfdts@gmail.com>, Pccfhod <pccfhod@gmail.com>

Date 27-03-2023 13:40



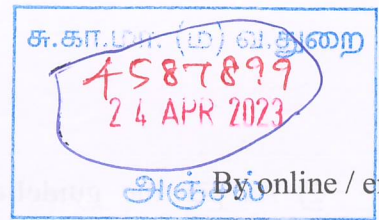
G.O.(Ms)No.63, dated 23.03.2023.pdf(~2.9 MB)



Lr.No.1355-FR.10-2023-1, dated 24.03.2023.pdf(~602 KB)



Lr.No.1274-FR.10-2023-1, dated 24.03.2023.pdf(~638 KB)



TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Subrat Mohapatra, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force)
Forest Head Quarters Building, Guindy-
Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 15.

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to
Government,
Environment, Climate Change and Forest
Department,
Secretariat, Chennai 9.

C. No. TS3/19760/2022 Dated: 18.04.2023.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedeve RF in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai - Forwarding of - Reg.

Ref: 1. Online proposal uploaded by the User Agency - M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai - 4 Proposal No. FP/TN/Others/38127/2019, dated 17.01.2019 and resubmission of proposal on 16.02.2019, 26.06.2022 & 28.10.2022.

2. Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division on 18.01.2023

3. Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle on 06.02.2023 and resubmission of proposal on 18.02.2023

4. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No., TS3/19760/2022, dated 28.02.2023

5. Government letter No. 1355/FR.10/2023-1, dated 24.03.2023

With reference to the Government letter cited above, I am to state the following.

1) The User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 99 years. The District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division and Conservator of Forest, Villupuram Circle have recommended the diversion of forest area for a period of 25 years.

Based on the recommendations made by the District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests and recommendations made for the similar type of proposal, diversion of forest land for this project is recommended for 25 years.


In the Para 4 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 4th cited above, it was mistakenly mentioned as 20 years instead of 25 years.

2) As per the guidelines issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in File No. 11-43/2013-FC, dated 26.02.2019, the compliance under FRA is not required for consideration of in-principle approval and this has to be furnished for consideration of the proposal by the Ministry for final approval (Stage-II).

Hence the user agency is being informed to furnish the original certificate of District Collector with his full name and authenticated office seal as per the format prescribed in Form-I for linear projects prescribed by the Government of India and this may be imposed as one of the conditions for compliance while issuing Stage-I approval.

3) I request that, the proposal may be considered and forwarded to the Government of India for obtaining concurrence for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground optical fiber cable along road side of Rishivandiyam to Poondi Eraiyur and Adhiyur to Eraiyur road section in Rishivandiyam to Nemili road across Seedeve RF in Kallakuruchi District in favour of M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, No. 89, Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai -4 for a period of 25 years.

Yours faithfully


For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

18/04/2023