

By on-line / E-mail.

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Dr. Sudhanshu Gupta, I.F.S.,  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
(Head of Department)  
Forest Head Quarters Building, Guindy-  
Velachery Main Road, Guindy,  
Chennai - 32.

To

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

C. No. TS3/19763/2022 Dated: 14.05.2024.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 0.1266 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along road side of Sankarapuram to Arakandanallur road section from Kulathur to Nariyandhal across Kaduwanur RF (2.00 km length-0.06 ha) and Swamimalai RF (2.22 km length-0.0666 ha) in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai – Stage-I approval accorded by Government of India – Compliance report furnishing – Regarding

- Ref: 1 Online application uploaded by the User Agency - M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai - 4 Proposal No.FP/TN/Others/36379/2018
- 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division
- 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle
- 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference No. TS3/19763/2022, dated 14.03.2023
- 5 Government letter No. 2245/FR.10/2023-2, dated 17.07.2023
- 6 Government of India letter F. No. 4-TNB106/2023-CHN/919, dated 31.07.2023

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I wish to furnish herewith the Compliance report on Stage I in-Principle approval accorded for diversion of 0.1266 ha of forest land in Villupuram Forest Division for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along road side of Sankarapuram to Arakandanallur road section from Kulathur to Nariyandhal across Kaduwanur RF (2.00 km length-0.06 ha) and Swamimalai RF (2.22 km length-



0.0666 ha) in Kallakuruchi District in favour of the M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai as follows.

Condition No.	Conditions stipulated by Government of India	Compliance of condition
i	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;	Legal status of forest land will remain unchanged. The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
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 DFO concerned, at the cost of User Agency;	The District Forest Officer has reported that, demarcation of the proposed forest area by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars, duly numbered, for each and every turning at an interval of visible distance of 200 meters has been laid and also assured to maintain the demarcation stones for the entire project diversion period by the user agency
iii	The State Forest Department shall carryout plantation of 254 numbers of saplings with maintenance for a period of 10 years in the DFL area over an extent of 0.2532 ha identified in Thagarai RF Kallakurichi Range, at the cost of the User Agency. The CA shall be carried out as per the time line provided in the FC Rules 2022;	An amount of Rs.3,22,905/- has been paid by the user agency in the CAMPA account by generating challan in the Ministry web portal on 08.11.2023 and the credit was confirmed in the Parivesh Portal.
iv	Full exemption of NPV is allowed in case of laying of underground OFC cable provided no felling of trees is involved and area proposed for diversion is outside of Protected Area as per the MoEF&CC Guidelines.	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.



Condi tion No.	Conditions stipulated by Government of India	Compliance of condition
	But in case an 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 this effect;	
v	The maximum size of the trench shall not exceed 2.00 mtr depth, 4.22 km length and 0.30 mtr width. The forest land shall be restored to its original state after laying the same;	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
vi	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
vii	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
viii	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 ensure that the machinery, labourers & staff engaged in execution of work shall not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
ix	Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.



Condition No.	Conditions stipulated by Government of India	Compliance of condition
	Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.	
x	No tree felling shall be carried out by the User Agency;	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
xi	RoFR certificate to be obtained from the competent authority and same shall be ensured by the State Govt. before execution of project work, as per the provision made under FC rules 2022;	Certificate issued by the District Collector on completion of process for settlement of Rights under Forest Rights Act 2006 on the forest land proposed for diversion has been uploaded in Part-I of Form-A
xii	The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
xiii	The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.1266 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
xiv	User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.
xv	Any other conditions that the Central Government or Deputy Director General of Forests (Central) of the Regional Office, Chennai may	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.



Condition No.	Conditions stipulated by Government of India	Compliance of condition
	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;	
xvi	In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions in Ministry's guidelines.	The user agency has furnished an undertaking in this regard.

Further, I wish to state that the compliance report of user agency and District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division along with documents, undertakings uploaded in the parivesh portal.

I request that the compliance report may be forwarded to the Government of India, MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Chennai for issue of Stage-II final approval early.

Yours faithfully

For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department)

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15/05/2024



## **TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From  
Thiru.Sumesh Soman, I.F.S.,  
District Forest Officer,  
Villupuram Forest Division,  
Villupuram.

To.  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department) ,  
Forest Head Quarters Building,  
Guindy-Velachery Main Road,  
Near Kannigapuram Check Post,  
Guindy, Chennai-600 032.

(Through Conservator of Forest  
Viluppuram Circle, Viluppuram.)

**C.No.7776/2022/ D. dated:21.12.2023.**

Sir,

Sub : Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 -Villupuram Forest Division – Proposal for diversion of 0.1266 ha of forest land for laying of underground Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) along road side of Sankarapuram to Arakandanallur road section from Kulathur to Nariyandhal across Kaduvanur RF (2.00 Km-0.06 Ha), Swamimalai RF(2.22 Km/0.0666 Ha) in kallakurichi District – Stage –I approval accorded – Compliance report –Regarding.

- Ref : 1. The Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change Lr.No.F.No:4-TNB106/2023-CHN/919, Dated: 31.07.2023 (Proposal No: FP/TN/Others/36379/2018).
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai C.No.TS3/19763/2022, Dated: 12.09.2023.
3. District Forest Officer, Villupuram C.No:D/7776/2022, dated: 15.09.2023.
4. Reliance Jio Infocomm ltd, Chennai letter dated NIL.

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I submit that the compliance report on the fulfilment of conditions stipulated in the Stage I approval under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.1266 ha. Of forest land for the use underground OFC works along the road side of Sankarapuram to Arakandanallur road section from Kulathur to Nariyandhal across Kaduvanur RF (2.00 Km-0.6 Ha) and Swamimalai RF (2.22 Km- 0.0666 ha) in Kallakurichi District in Villupuram forest division, is furnished below:

Condition No	Condition stipulated by Government of India	Compliance of condition
i.	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.	Legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged. An undertaking is separately enclosed by the user agency.



Cond ition No	Condition stipulated by Government of India	Compliance of condition
ii.	Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting of 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at the appropriate distance as decided by the District Forest Officer concerned, at the cost of User Agency.	Demarcation of the proposed forest area by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered for each and every turning at an interval of visible distance of 200 meters has been laid and also assured to maintain the demarcation stones for the entire project diversion period by the user agency.
iii.	The State Forest Department shall carryout plantation of 254 numbers of saplings with maintenance for a period of 10 years in the Degraded Forest Land area over an extent of 0.2532 ha identified in Thagarai R.F. Kallakurichi Range, at the cost of the User Agency. The CA shall be carried out as per the time line provided in the Forest Conservation Rules, 2022.	An amount of <b>Rs.3,22,905/-</b> (Rupees Three Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Nine Hundred and Five Only) has been paid directly to the CAPMA account vide UTR No. <b>AXISP00442103963</b> by generating challan in the Ministry's website by NEFT/RTGS towards the Compensatory Afforestation cost in the Degraded Forest Land area over an extent of 0.2532 ha. (Thagarai R.F.) by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram against the proposed area to an extent of 0.1266 ha, across Kaduvanur RF (0.06 ha) and Swamimalai RF (0.0666 ha). Copy of the Challan enclosed.
iv.	Full exemption of NPV is allowed in case of laying of underground OFC cable provided no felling of trees is involved and area proposed for diversion is outside of Protected Area as per the MoEF & CC Guidelines. But in case an 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 undertaking to this effect:	An undertaking is enclosed for payment of additional NPV by the user agency.



<b>Condition No</b>	<b>Condition stipulated by Government of India</b>	<b>Compliance of condition</b>
v.	The maximum size of the trench shall not exceed 2.00 meter depth, 4.22 Km length and 0.30 meter width. The forest land shall be restored to its original state after laying the same.	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
vi.	The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
vii.	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
viii.	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 ensure that the machinery, labourers and staff engaged in execution of work shall not destruct nearby forest flora and fauna.	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
ix.	Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the laborer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
x.	No tree felling shall be carried out by the User Agency	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
xi.	RoFR certificate to be obtained from the competent authority and same shall be ensured by the State Govt. before execution of project work, as per the provision made under Forest Conservation Rules, 2022;	Recognition of Forest Rights Act, 2006 certificate obtained from the District Collector in the prescribed format has been submitted with the application by the user agency copy enclosed.
xii.	The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, development or person without prior approval of the Central Government	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.



Cond ition No	Condition stipulated by Government of India	Compliance of condition
xiii.	The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.1266 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal.	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
xiv.	User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
xv.	Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Officer (Central) of the 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.	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.
xvi.	In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions in Ministry's guidelines.	A separate certificate is enclosed in this regard by the user agency.

Copy of the compliance report submitted by the user agency is herewith enclosed in duplicate.

Since the conditions stipulated in the Government of India letter have been fulfilled, I request that Government of India orders may please be issued for Stage II final approval for 0.1266 ha of forest land for laying of underground OFC along road side of Sankarapuram to Arakandanallur road section from Kulathur to Nariyandhal across Kaduvanur RF and Swamimalai R.F in Villupuram Forest Division for approval.

Encl.: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,  
Sd/-Sumesh Soman,  
District Forest Officer,  
Villupuram Division,  
Villupuram.

Copy to: The Conservator of Forests, Viluppuram Circle, Viluppuram.

Copy to: Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Chennai.

-//T.C/B.O//-

*[Signature]*  
26.12.23  
Draughting Officer.