



### **ABSTRACT**

Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Diversion of 0.050735 ha. of forest land in Coimbatore Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Campus area for Coimbatore 24x7 Water Supply Scheme of laying main feeder water supply pipeline across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S.Puram area in Coimbatore City in favour of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore – Under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Orders – Issued.

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### **Environment and Forests (FR.10) Department**

G.O.(Ms) No.136

Dated : 19.11.2019

விகாரி, கார்த்திகை -03 ,

திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு -2050

**Read :**

From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter  
No.TS3/24095/2017, dated 24.10.2019.

### **ORDER:**

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in his letter first read above has furnished a proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.050735 ha. of forest land in Coimbatore Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Campus area for Coimbatore 24x7 Water Supply Scheme of laying feeder main across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S.Puram area in Coimbatore City in favour of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore.

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

- i. The legal status of the proposed site of diversion of 0.050735 ha of forest land requested for the project is area notified under Section 26 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882. As per site inspection report, name of the forest land is "Forest College Complex (Old SFRC Campus) Reserved land" and extent of area proposed for diversion is 0.050735 ha.
- ii. Density of the forest area is 0.1 and Eco class of forest area is three..
- iii. On vulnerability of the forest land proposed for diversion, there is no possibility of land slide.
- iv. 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 1 km boundary of

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NP/WLs 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. Wild animals Civatcat, Peacock are present in and around the forest area proposed for diversion. There is no rare/ endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the area.

- v. There is no protected archaeological / heritage site / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.
- vi. 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.
- vii. There is no tree growth available in the area proposed for diversion.
- viii. Forest area proposed for diversion is 0.050735 ha only and there is no felling of trees involve. This forest area diversion has intended for Government welfare measure of providing drinking water supply to the Coimbatore Corporation area. Hence the District Forest Officer has not proposed any compensatory afforestation scheme.

3. The District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division has inspected the site on 13.08.2019 and he has stated that the project is laying of feeder main pipe line across Forest College complex from Barathi Park road to Cowley Brown Road. The project involves the laying of pipeline for water facility to R.S. Puram area in Coimbatore City. The total length and width proposed by the user agency in the proposal is 563.72mts and 0.90m respectively. Therefore the actual area needed for diversion is 0.050735 ha. The laying of pipe line is along the western side of the existing road. The density of vegetation is 0.10. The project is in Forest College Complex (Old SFRC Campus) Reserved Land and has minimum effects on environment.

4. In the specific recommendation, the District Forest Officer has stated that there is no need to fell any trees for this project and it will not affect the flora and fauna of the area. Hence there is no negative impact on Forest and Wildlife. The project in Forest College Complex (Old SFRC campus) Reserved land has minimum effects on environment. Hence he recommended that an area of 0.050735 ha of forest area in the Forest College Complex (Old SFRC Campus) may be diverted for laying feeder main pipe line along the western side of the existing road.

5. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle in his recommendation, has stated that the project site is situated within the Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Campus and the land was notified under Section 26 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882. The forest land required for the project is 0.050735 ha for laying 500mm diameter pipeline using ductile iron pipe to a length of 563.72 metres and the required width is 0.90m. The water supply project would benefit about 59000 peoples in the near future. There is no other suitable alternate non forest land available for this project. The forest land required for this project is the bare minimum and the project is not likely to adversely impact on Forest and Wildlife. He has agreed with the remarks of the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division and recommended the project. In the Part-IV, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) has also recommended the proposal.

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6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has also stated that as per guidelines issued by the Government of India in letter F. No. 5-3/2007-FC, dated 05.02.2009, collection of Net Present Value of forest land to be diverted for laying of underground drinking water supply pipeline up to 4 inches diameter of forest area diversion below one hectare is exempted. However, this project of water supply pipeline is proposed in 500mm diameter new pipeline of ductile iron water supply main. Hence applicability of exemption of Net Present Value for the project does not arise. Hence collection of Net Present Value of forest area has been recommended.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Department) has recommended the proposal for diversion of 0.050735 ha. of forest land in Coimbatore Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Campus area for Coimbatore 24x7 Water Supply Scheme of laying 500mm diameter main feeder water supply pipeline of ductile iron across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S.Puram area in Coimbatore City in favour of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for a period of 20 years subject to certain conditions.

8. The Government after careful examination, accord approval to the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for diversion of 0.050735 ha. of forest land in Coimbatore Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Campus area at Coimbatore Forest Division, Coimbatore District for Coimbatore 24X 7 Water Supply Scheme of laying 500mm diameter main feeder water supply pipeline of ductile iron water supply pipeline across Forest College, Coimbatore to carry water to R.S.Puram area in Coimbatore City in favour of Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation, Coimbatore for a period of twenty years under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, under general approval category as per the provision made in the new hand book of guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for Critical development initiatives for public since the proposal comes under drinking water, 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 pay the amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- d) 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.
- e) 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.
- f) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceeds 0.050735 ha comprising water supply pipeline to a length of 563.72m and width is 0.90m and after completion of underground laying of pipeline, area should be restored to its normalcy.

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g) Period of lease can be twenty (20) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before one year of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.

h) Monthly report by the Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) shall be submitted to the concerned Regional Office by 5<sup>th</sup> of every month.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests is also requested to take action accordingly and to send a report to Government in due course.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

SHAMBHU KALLOLIKAR  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD),  
Chennai-15.  
The Assistant Inspector General of Forest (C),  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),  
No.1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, HEPC Building,  
Cathedral Garden Road,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai-34.  
The Inspector General of Forests,  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003.

**Copy to:-**

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Forest Conservation Act), Chennai-15.  
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forest,  
Coimbatore Circle, Coimbatore-43.  
The District Forest Officer,  
Coimbatore Forest Division,  
Coimbatore.  
The City Engineer,  
Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation,  
Coimbatore-641 001.  
SF/SC

// Forwarded By order //

G. R. Sundar  
19/11/19  
SECTION OFFICER

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19/11/19