

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE Regional Office 1st Floor Additional Office Block for GPOA, Shastri Bhawan,

1st Floor Additional Office Block for GPOA, Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai -600 006 e-mail: ro.moefccc@gov.in

> F.No.4-TNB117/2024-CHN / 468 Dated: 04th Epsil, 2024

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu, Environment & Forests Department, Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai – 600 009.

Subject: Diversion of 0.536 ha of forest land in Nanmangalam RF for construction of Grade Separator connecting Medavakkam-Sholinganallur road junction, Medavakkam-Mambakkam road junction, Mount-Medavakkam road junction in Marmalong Bridge-Irumbuliyur road at Medavakkam in Chengalpattu District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II, Chennai-Reg.

Madam,

Please refer to the State Government's letter Nos. 5294077/FR.10/2023-2 dated 26.12.2023 and online proposal No.FP/TN/ROAD/155502/2022, seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section 2(1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey the Central Government's in-principle approval under Section 2(1) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 0.536 ha of forest land in Nanmangalam RF for construction of Grade Separator connecting Medavakkam-Sholinganallur road junction, Medavakkam-Mambakkam road junction, Mount Medavakkam road junction in Marmalong Bridge-Irumbuliyur road at Medavakkam in Chengalpattu District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II, Chennai, **for a period of 20 years,** subject to the following conditions:-

(i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;



- (ii) Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;
- (iii) The State Forest Department shall carry out compensatory afforestation over an extent of 1.072 ha of DFL area in Gudalur Reserve Forests as per Compensatory Afforestation Scheme including maintenance for a period of 10 years, at the cost of the User Agency;
- (iv) Identified CA area and CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- (v) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring 0.536ha from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos.826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 and Ministry's guideline No. 5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 06.01.2022 and clarification issued vide letter dated 19.01.2022 and 22.03.2022
- (vi) 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 this effect;
- (vii) All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through eportal (<u>https://parivesh.nic.in/</u>);
- (viii) The User Agency shall arrange transplantation of 17 spontaneous trees instead of felling, if technically feasible;
- (ix) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (x) Roadside cuttings and fillings which require engineering support shall be provided as per the instructions of the DFO concerned so as to stabilize the soil;
- (xi) The dug out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. Storage of any material shall not be done in the forest area;

- (xii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xiii) The User Agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling and no labour camp shall be established inside the forest area;
- (xiv) Disturbance shall be kept minimum by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it shall be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- (xv) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed <u>0.536 ha</u> and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- (xvi) 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;
- (xvii) The 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;
- (xviii) Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDGF (Central) of 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;
- (xix) Non compliance of any of these conditions will amount to violation under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.
- (xx) The State Government shall process and submit compliance report on the above conditions through online (https://parivesh.nic.in/);

After receipt of the compliance report on the fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section 2(1)) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 2 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions within 2 years, the inprinciple approval shall be deemed to be null and void.

> Yours faithfuliy, Signed by Karthikeyan Karuppiah Date: 04-04-2024 09:57:23

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai – 32
- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai – 32.
- 3. The IGF, RO(HQ) Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi –3
- CHIEF ENGINEER METRO, HRS CAMPUS, GUINDY, Chennai-25 (email: <u>divisiontwocmdpchennai15@gmail.com</u>)
- 5. Guard File.

Sd/-(K.Karthikevan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)