Letter No.12118/FR.10/2022- 2, Dated 03.12.2022

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

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Chennai-32.

Sir,

Sub: Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Kalakadu Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli Circle / Thoothukudi Division – Diversion of 0.9896 ha of forest land in Alagiamanavalapuram Reserved Land for construction of a Check dam across the Thamirabarani river between Alwarthoppu and Alwarthirunagari villages of Srivaikuntam Taluk in Thoothukudi District in favour of the Executive Engineer, Thamirabarani Basin Division, Water Resources Department, Palayamkottai – State Government's in-principle approval (Stage-I) – Accorded - Regarding.

Ref: Your letter No.TS4/44927/2021, dated 01.07.2022.

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With reference to your letter cited, I am directed to accord the State Government's in-principle approval (Stage-I) under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.9896 ha of forest land in Alagiamanavalapuram Reserved Land for construction of a Check dam across the Thamirabarani river between Alwarthoppu and Alwarthirunagari villages of Srivaikuntam Taluk in Thoothukudi District in favour of the Executive Engineer, Thamirabarani Basin Division, Water Resources Department, Palayamkottai for a period of 20 years under general approval category as per the provisions of guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for critical development initiatives for public utility, since the proposal comes under both 'irrigation and drinking water purpose' category, subject to the following conditions:-

- i The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged and shall remain as Reserved Forests.
- The demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet height cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 mts at the cost of User Agency.
- The User Agency shall pay the Compensatory Afforestation cost for raising and maintenance of Compensatory Afforestation plantation over an area of 1.972 ha degraded forest area identified in Kuthiraimozhitheri Reserved Forest of Thoothukudi Division.

- The User Agency shall pay the Net Present Value of the diverted forest area at the rates stipulated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in File No:5-3/2011-FC (Vol.I), dated 06.01.2022 and 19.01.2022 and from time to time, 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 IAs in Writ Petition(Civil) No.202/1995.
- v The fund from the User Agency towards Net Present Value and Compensatory Afforestation scheme under this project shall be deposited by generating challan from the Ministry's online web portal. UTR No. and date should be furnished.
- vi The 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 the effect.
- vii The User Agency shall remit the cost for felling and transport of trees to the District Forest Officer concerned.
- viii The User Agency shall be responsible for any loss to Flora and Fauna in the surroundings and shall take all possible measures to conserve the same.
- ix The forest land shall not be used for any other purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- x The lease rent should be realized from the User Agency as per G.O.Ms.No.272, Environment and Forest (FR.XIII) Department, dated 15.04.1991.
- xi The period of lease is for 20 years.
- xii The User Agency should send renewal proposal one year before expiry of lease.
- xiii The Conservator of Forests and District Forest Officer may impose any other condition in the interest of conservation / protection and development of forests.
- xiv The user agency should upload the compliance report in the web portal.
- 2. I am also to inform you that only after receipt of the compliance report on all the above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval and transfer of Reserved Forest land to User Agency shall not be effected prior to the issue of final approval. Further, this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years and in the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully,

M. Megala 5/12/2022 for Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

Copy to:-

The Executive Engineer, 5\\\
Water Resources Department,
Thambraparani Basin Division,
Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli – 627 002.

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, 1st Floor, Additional Office Block for GPOA. Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006. The District Collector, Thoothukudi – 628 004. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA), O/o. the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai-32. The Conservator of Forests and Field Director (FAC), Kalakadu Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli-7. The District Forest Officer, Thoothukudi Division,

Thoothukudi – 628 101. Stock File/ Spare Copy.