

By e-mail



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

Letter No:12999/FR.10/2022-1, dated: 12.09.2022

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

✓ To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force),  
Chennai-15.

Sir,

Sub: Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Srivilliputhur  
Megamalai Tiger Reserve, Madurai Circle / Sivaganga Division –  
Proposal (No.FP/TN/Water/145727/2021) for diversion of  
0.1696 Ha of forest land for laying water pipeline under  
Combined Water Supply Scheme to 8 Town Panchayats,  
2452 Rural Habitations, 3 Municipalities in Sivaganga District –  
State Government's in principle approval (Stage-I) - Accorded.

Ref: Your letter No. TS4/29851/2021, dated 09.07.2022.

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With reference to your letter cited, I am directed to convey the State Government's in-principle approval (Stage-I) under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.1696 Ha of forest land for laying water pipeline under Combined Water Supply Scheme to 8 Town Panchayats, 2452 Rural Habitations, 3 Municipalities in Sivaganga District across Eriyur North Reserved Forest in favour of the Assistant Executive Engineer, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, Project Sub Division, Karaikudi 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 drinking water category, subject to the following conditions:-

- i) The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged and shall remain as Reserved Forests.
- ii) 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.
- iii) 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.

- iv) The fund from the User Agency towards Net Present Value under this project shall be deposited by generating chalan from the Ministry's online web portal. UTR No and date should be furnished.
- v) 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.
- vi) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Government.
- vii) The pipeline shall be laid down 1.5m below the ground and after laying down of pipeline, the ground will be levelled.
- 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, E&F(FR.XIII) Dept. dated 15.04.1991.
- xi) The period of lease is 20 years.
- xii) The User Agency should send renewal proposal one year before the 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 Compliance Report shall be uploaded on e-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 (Stage-I) 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. Mogala*  
12/9/2022

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government

1/8

*12-09-2022*

Copy to:

The Assistant Executive Engineer,  
Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, Project Sub Division,  
Karaikudi-630 002.

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central),  
Government of India,

Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Integrated Regional Office,

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Additional Office Block for GPOA,  
Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,  
Nungambakkam,  
Chennai-600 006.

The District Collector,  
Sivagangai District-630 562.

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA),  
Office of The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),  
Chennai-15.

The Conservator of Forests and Field Director,  
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve,  
Madurai.

The District Forest Officer,  
Sivagangai Forest Division,  
Sivagangai District -630 562.  
SC/SF.

