



सत्यमेव जयते

भारतसरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE  
CHANGE

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F.No 4-TNB077/2022-CHN/ 1197

Date; 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

To

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

**Subject: Diversion of 2.3824 ha of forest land for formation of Madurai-Natham road for preparation of DPR for development of Economic Corridors, Inter Corridors, Feeder Routes and Coastal Roads to improve the efficiency of freight movement in India in favour of the Project Director, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Madurai.- Reg**

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 6885/FR.10/2021-4 dated 28.12.2021 and 6885/FR.10/2022-6 dated 20.10.2022 online application No.FP/TN/ROAD/29470/2017 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

After careful consideration of the proposal submitted by the State Government and considering the importance of the project, I am directed to convey the Central Government's in principle approval (**Stage-I**) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **2.3824 ha** of forest land for formation of Madurai-Natham road for preparation of DPR for development of Economic Corridors, Inter Corridors, Feeder Routes and Coastal Roads to improve the efficiency of freight movement in India in favour of the Project Director, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Madurai, **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) Exact length and width of the road within the proposed alignment which is not part of notified RF may be informed with supporting documents and in any case the State Government shall not allow the User Agency to utilize forest area without prior approval of Govt. of India under FCA, 1980;
- (iv) The State Forest Department shall carry out compensatory afforestation over an extent of 3.50 ha of Degraded Forest Land identified at Alagarmalai RF , Azhagarkovil Range and an extent of 5.00 ha of Degraded Forest Land identified at Kiluvamalai RF, at the cost of the User Agency;
- (v) Identified CA area and CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- (vi) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring 2.3824 ha 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;
- (vii) 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;
- (viii) All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>) ;
- (ix) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (x) The User Agency shall carryout avenue plantation and its maintenance on sides of the road at the cost of the project;
- (xi) The User Agency shall obtain prior approval of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / CEC for felling of tree of spontaneous origin and UA shall abide by the recommendations of the CEC. The State Government shall not issue working permission till prior approval of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / CEC, realization of all levies and compliance of other conditions for issuing of such working permission;