



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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

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F.No.4-TNB127/2024-CHN/ 1627
Date: 17th October, 2024

To,

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

Subject: Diversion of 0.9 ha of forest land in Seemakottai Extension RF of Cuddalore division for widening of road from Single lane to Double lane and improvement of Vridhachalam to Kattuckudalore road from km 10/6 to 11/6 in Cuddalore District in favour of Assistant Divisional Engineer, Highways, Construction and Maintenance Sub Division, Vridhachalam, Cuddalore District- **Reg.**

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter Nos. 7205743/FR.10/2023-1 dated 19.08.2024 and online proposal No.FP/TN/ROAD/150630/2021, seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section 2(1)(ii) 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 (Stage-I)** under Section 2 (1) (ii) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, for diversion of 0.9 ha of forest land in Seemakottai

Extension RF of Cuddalore division for widening of road from Single lane to Double lane and improvement of Vridhachalam to Kattuckudalore road from km 10/6 to 11/6 in Cuddalore District in favour of Assistant Divisional Engineer, Highways, Construction and Maintenance Sub Division, Vridhachalam, Cuddalore District, **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 User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the guideline issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06/01/2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State Concerned;
- (iv) 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;
- (v) 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/>) ;
- (vi) **The State Forest Department shall raise plantation of 100 seedlings in 0.9 ha of degraded forest area in Kattumayillur in Vridhachalam Range of Cuddalore Division and maintain it for 10 years at the cost of the project;**
- (vii) The User Agency shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required, by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (viii) Construction of culverts / bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals shall be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals;
- (ix) **No tree felling shall be carried out by the User Agency;**

- (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 0.9ha 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) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the rules / guidelines issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980;
- (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 effected 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 in-principle approval shall be deemed to be null and void.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Yuvaraj S

Date: 11-10-2024 09:54:15

(S.Yuvaraj)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32
2. 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
4. ADE H Vridhatchalam, Highways, Construction and Maintenance Sub Division, NH532 Cuddalore NH Road, Cuddalore- 607001 E-Mail-arivukkalanjiyam.hd@gmail.com
5. Guard File.

Sd/-

(S.Yuvaraj)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)