

By e-mail



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

Letter No:13830/FR.10/2022-1, dated: 19.09.2022

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 / Theni Division – Proposal (No.FP/TN/Water/41506/2019) for diversion of 0.5 Ha of forest land in Kottakudi Reserved Forest of Theni Forest Division, Theni District for water supply improvement scheme to Bodinayakanur by construction of check dam across Sambalar river in favour of the Commissioner, Bodinayakanur Municipality – State Government's in-principle approval (Stage-I) - Accorded.

Ref: Your letter No. TS4/39090/2019, dated 27.07.2022.

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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 0.5 Ha of forest land in Kottakudi Reserved Forest of Theni Forest Division, Theni District for water supply improvement scheme to Bodinayakanur by construction of check dam across Sambalar river in favour of the Commissioner, Bodinayakanur Municipality, Bodi 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, 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 challan 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 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.
- vii. The forest land shall not be used for any other purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- viii. 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.
- ix. Adequate facilities may be provided for provision of drinking water for wildlife as mammals in the said area, especially during the pinch season of the year.
- x. Necessary arrangements should be made to maintain the Zero level of the Check Dam to be proposed at the minimum to avoid submerging of vast forest area even during rainy season.
- xi. The construction debris should not be dumped anywhere nearby or inside the forest area.
- xii. Shelters for the construction personnel should not be allowed inside the forest area.
- xiii. Suitable information boards should be erected warning people not to take bath in the proposed check dam to be constructed at the site.
- xiv. The user agency shall furnish the clearance obtained from NBWL for Stage-II approval.
- xv. The period of lease is 20 years.
- xvi. The User Agency should send renewal proposal one year before expiry of lease.
- xvii. The Conservator of Forests and District Forest Officer may impose any other condition in the interest of conservation / protection and development of forests.

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. Nagala
20/9/2022

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government

V8201
20-09-2022

Copy to:

The Commissioner,
Bodinayakanur Municipality, Bodi,
Theni – 625 513.

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,
Theni District-625 531.

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

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Madurai Circle,
Madurai – 625 002.

The District Forest Officer,
Theni Forest Division,
Theni District-626 531.
SF/SC.

