

By e-mail



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

Letter No.6502/FR.10/2020-1, Dated: 21.07.2020

From
Dr. Sandeep Saxena, I.A.S.,
Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To
✓ The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Chennai-15.

Sir,

Sub: Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Tirunelveli Circle /
Division – Diversion of 0.1196 ha. of forest land for Muthur-
Sivanthipatti Road Water Supply to Reddiarpatti and other 63 Rural
habitations in Tirunelveli District – in favour of TWAD Board,
Tirunelveli – Regarding.

Ref: Your Letter No. TS4/42954/2019, dated 19.05.2020.

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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 0.1196 ha. for Muthur-Sivanthipatti Road Water Supply to Reddiarpatti and other 63 Rural habitations in Tirunelveli District for a period of twenty years, under general approval category as per the provisions made in the new hand book of guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Critical development initiatives for public utility, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of the land shall remain unchanged and shall remain as Reserved Forests.
2. Felling of trees of spontaneous origin shall not be carried out.
3. 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.
4. 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 from time to time, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos. 826 in 566 with related IAs in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995.
5. The Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forestland 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.
6. Since the drinking water project proposed by the User Agency is for the public utility only and not for commercial purpose, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.

7. The User Agency has to pay the cost of raising Compensatory Afforestation and maintenance of plantation, Protection of plantation etc. as fixed by the Forest Department and willingness to deposit additional amount if any suggested and demanded subsequently.
8. 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.
9. The forest land shall not be used for any other purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
10. The lease rent should be realized from the User Agency as per G.O.Ms.No.272, E&F(FR.XIII) Department, dated 15.04.1991 and subsequent changes.
11. Period of lease is twenty years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before 6 months of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.
12. The 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 the above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval and this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. Further, in the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically be revoked as per Rules made under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully,

S. Mangala
21/7/2020

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government

M. S.
21/7/2020

Copy to:

The Executive Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board,
Project Division, Tirunelveli-2.
The Additional Director General of Forests (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),
1st and 2nd Floor, HEPC Building,
No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 034.
The District Collector, Tirunelveli.
The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA),
O/o. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai-15.
The District Forest Officer,
Tirunelveli Division, Tirunelveli.
The Chief Conservator of Forests,
Tirunelveli Circle,
Tirunelveli-627 007.
Stock File.