



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
 पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायुपरिवर्तन मंत्रालय
**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
 CLIMATE CHANGE**



क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / **Regional Office**
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F.No. 4-TNB114/2023-CHN/1290
 Date 24th November, 2023

To

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

Subject: Diversion of 0.19 ha of forest land for laying of underground OFC along Theni Mallapuram route in Saptur RF in Srivilliputhur Wildlife Division, Madurai District in favour of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd., Chennai - Reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter 4801/FR.10/2023-2 dated 30.10.2023 and online proposal No. FP/TN/Others/23908/2017, 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 of the State Government, I am hereby directed to convey the Central Government's in-principle approval (**Stage-I**) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **0.19 ha** of forest land for laying of underground OFC along Theni Mallapuram route in Saptur RF in Srivilliputhur Wildlife Division, Madurai District in favour of Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd., Chennai, **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 the appropriate distance as decided by the DFO concerned, at the cost of User Agency;
- (iii) The State Forest Department shall realize the cost towards 100 numbers of seedlings and its maintenance from the User Agency;

- (iv) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **0.19 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
- (v) 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;
- (vi) 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/>);
- (vii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (viii) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- (ix) Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the machinery, labourers & staff engaged in execution of work shall not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- (x) Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- (xi) **No tree felling shall be carried out in the diverted forest area;**
- (xii) **The State Government shall ensure prior approval of the competent authority under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and shall implement recommendations and mitigation measures, if any at the cost of the User Agency;**
- (xiii) 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;

- (xiv) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **0.19 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- (xv) 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;
- (xvi) Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDG(Central) of the 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;
- (xvii) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as provisions of rules /guidelines made under FCA, 1980;
- (xviii) 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 above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Signed by Karthikeyan
Karupiah
Date: 24-11-2023 13:24:10
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Yours faithfully,
(K.Karthikeyan)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy-Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32
2. The Additional 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. IGF, ROHQ, MoEF&CC, New Delhi -110003 for information please
4. M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, No.89 Dr.Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600004.
balsamy.thirunagalingam@ril.com
5. Guard file.

(K.Karthikeyan)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)