



सत्यमेव जयते

भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE
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F.No.4-TNB068/2020-CHN/
Date: 31st October, 2022

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To,

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

Subject: Diversion of 1.658 ha (revised from 2.839 ha) of forest land for Improvement work of Theni Bye-pass road connecting Dindigul-Theni Road and Madurai-Cochin Road across Valkaradu R.F in favor of Divisional Engineer, Highways Construction and Maintenance, Theni-Reg.

Madam,

Please refer to the State Government's letter Nos.6353/FR.10/2020-2 dated 17.10.2020, 6353/FR.10/2020-5 dated 30.07.2021 and 6353/FR.10/2020-7 dated 11.07.2022 and online proposal No.FP/TN/ROAD/41255/2019, 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 and with the recommendation of the Regional Empowered Committee (REC), I am hereby directed to convey the Central Government's approval (*Stage-I*) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **1.658 ha (revised from 2.839 ha) i.e. 1228mt length x 13.50 mtrs width** of forest land for Improvement work of Theni Bye-pass road connecting Dindigul-Theni Road and Madurai-Cochin Road across Valkaradu R.F in favor of Divisional Engineer, Highways Construction and Maintenance, Theni, **for a period of 25 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;
- (i) The State Forest Department shall carryout plantation and its maintenance over an extent of **3.316 ha of non forest area in Sy No 1511/1 in Veerapandi Village, Theni District**, at the cost of the User Agency;