



सत्यमेव जयते
भारतसरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय/ Regional Office

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Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai -600 006

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F.No.4-TNB033/2019-CHN/326

Date: 26th February, 2025

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary,
Environment, Climate Change & Forest Department,
Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai-600 009.

Subject: Diversion of 0.08 ha of forest land for 20 MGD closed circuit scheme for water supply scheme to Thermal Power Project, SIPCOT Complex, Heavy Water Plant and other industries in Thoothukudi District for drinking and Industrial purpose in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Thoothukudi-Reg.

Madam,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 20575/FR.10/2018-9 dated 25.03.2019, 20575/FR.10/2018-14 dated 23.12.2019, 20575/FR.10/2018-21 dated 04.08.2020 and online proposal No. FP/TN/IND/34099/2018, seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, for the above-mentioned project. The project was accorded In-principle approval by the Central Government vide letter No. 4-TNB033/2019-CHN/651 dated 18.08.2020. The State Government vide letter No. 20575/FR.10/2018-26 dated 24.03.2022 and 20575/FR.10/2018-28 dated 12.02.2025 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the In-principle approval.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am hereby directed to convey the Central Government's **Final approval (Stage-II)** under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the proposal "Diversion of 0.08 ha of forest land for 20 MGD closed circuit scheme for water supply scheme to Thermal Power Project, SIPCOT Complex, Heavy Water Plant and other industries in

Thoothukudi District for drinking and Industrial purpose in favour of Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Thoothukudi" 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 Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department as proposed over 0.16 ha in degraded forest in compt. No. 48, 49 Sri Vaigundam Range, Vallanadu RF at the cost of User Agency;**
- (iv) **Identified CA land shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;**
- (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.
- (vi) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (vii) The User Agency shall use existing paths and roads for laying of pipeline and no new paths/roads to be formed;
- (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 by the User Agency;**

- (xii) 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;
- (xiii) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **0.08 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- (xiv) No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;
- (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 DDGF (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) Violation of any of the above conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and action would be taken as per Rules and Guidelines issued under the Adhiniyam;

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Karthikeyan

Karuppiah

Date: 26-02-2025 13:54:29

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant 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 Addl. 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. The Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Maintenance Division, No 25, Chidhambara Nagar, Thoothukudi District, Tamil Nadu-628008 (E-mail: eemainttcn@gmail.com)
5. Guard file.

Sd/-

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)