



भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE
CHANGE



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F.No.4-TNB029/2019-CHN/ 1297

Date 30th November, 2022

To,

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

Subject: Diversion of 2.71 ha of Forest land in Pudhupatti RF for formation of road from Pudupatti to Kedamalai- Km 0/0 to 11/375 through Pudhupatti RF of Namakkal division in favour of DRDA, Namakkal, Namakkal District- Reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government letter No.No.20642/FR.10/2018-1 dated 04.01.2019 and online proposal No. FP/TN/ROAD/19576/2016 seeking prior approval of the Government of India in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project. The project was accorded in-principle approval (Stage-I) by the Central Government vide letter dated 07.02.2019. The State Government vide letter No.20642/FR.10/2018-8 dated 21.11.2022 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval;

After careful consideration of the compliance report submitted by the State Government and importance of the project, I am directed to convey the Central Government's approval (*Stage-II*) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the diversion of **2.71 ha** of Forest land in Pudhupatti RF for formation of road from Pudupatti to Kedamalai- Km 0/0 to 11/375 through Pudhupatti RF of Namakkal division in favour of DRDA, Namakkal, Namakkal District **for a period of 25 years**, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) Concrete pillars claimed to be erected for demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be intact and to be maintained;
- (iii) The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over **5.65 ha** of non forest area in S.F.No 324/1 in Mangalapuram Village of Rasipuram taluk in Namakkal District, from the amount already been realized from the User Agency;

File No.4-TNB029/2019-CHN

- (iv) Identified CA land shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (v) Non-forest land identified for the purpose of compensatory afforestation which is claimed to be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department and claimed to be **notified under Section 26 of Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882** shall be notified as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the local Forest Act. **The State Forest Department must report compliance within a period of 3 months from the date of grant of final approval and send a copy of the original notification to this office for information and record;**
- (vi) Additional amount of 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;
- (vii) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (viii) 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 labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- (ix) The UA shall construct retaining walls and check walls wherever required by consulting the DFO concerned, at the project cost;
- (x) **The existing Right of Way (RoW) available shall be extinguished by the State Government, in lieu of the proposed diversion of fresh forest area for the road and the same may be afforested with suitable species at the cost of the User Agency;**
- (xi) The construction of culverts/bridges, if any, over the natural streams/rivers/canals shall be done in such a manner that it does not hamper the natural course of water, does not give rise to water-logging, and also does not hamper movement of wild animals;
- (xii) **The State Government shall / UA shall ensure compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / CEC directions while felling the spontaneously grown trees in the proposed forest area for diversion;**
- (xiii) The User Agency shall arrange to raise avenue plantation all along the roadside at the project cost with maintenance of 7-10 years;

- (xiv) The User Agency shall endeavor to avoid felling of trees existing on the Forest Land proposed to be utilized. Wherever necessary, the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the DFO/FDO concerned;
- (xv) While felling of trees, wherever feasible the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of the trees at the cost of the User Agency;
- (xvi) Roadside cuttings and fillings which require engineering support shall be provided as per the instructions of the DFO concerned so as to stabilize the soil;
- (xvii) The dug out material / overburden shall be dumped outside the forest area. No storage of any material shall be done in the forest area proposed;
- (xviii) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **2.71 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- (xix) 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;
- (xx) 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;
- (xxi) Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Officer (Central) of Integrated 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;
- (xxii) The Progress of the Compensatory Afforestation under the jurisdiction of the DFO, Namakkal Forest Division shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Integrated Regional Office Chennai;
- (xxiii) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions made under rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(K.Karthikeyan)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

File No.4-TNB029/2019-CHN

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. The IGF, RO(HQ) Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi -3
4. The DRDA, Namakkal, Panchayat Union Office, Vennandur Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu-637505 bdovnr.tnrmk@nic.in
5. Guard File.

Sd/-

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)