

TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Thiru. K. Rajangam,
District Forest Officer,
Dharmapuri Forest Division,
Dharmapuri - 636 705.

To

The Block Development Officer,
Pennagaram,
Dharmapuri District.

C. No. 7968 / 2018 / D, dated. 18-10-2024

Sub : Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Proposal for diversion of 4.81ha of Forest land in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL for formation of Seenkadu to Alakattu via Erimalai Road to a length of 6415mtr and a width of 7.5mtr in Dharmapuri Forest Division in Dharmapuri District - EDS raised by the Government of India - Regarding.

Ref : 1. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change vide F.No.4-TNB116/2023-CHN/1139 dated.29.07.2024.

2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Chennai. C.No.TS3 / 27219 / 2021, dated. 30-08-2024.

I wish to invite your kind attention to the references cited above. In the reference 1st cited above, the EDS raised by the Government of India at PARIVESH 1.0 web portal and short comings for rectification of proposals are as follows.

1. The original road proposal with the 7.5 mtr width was submitted earlier with the felling proposal of 343 numbers. Whereas after the EDS raised by Government of India to reduce the width of the road the proposal was amended for laying road for the width of 6 meter. While, verifying the trees enumerated in the field for felling it is seen that trees to be felled were not physically marked. Therefore, it was not possible to ascertain the exact number of trees identified for felling.
2. The trees to be felled are very less in the road portion from Seenkadu to Erimalai but the numbers are very high from the Village Erimalai to

(P.T.O)

Alakattu. In the Alakattu Village only around 50 peoples are living hence it is suggested the road width may be restricted to 3 meter carriage way / tarring portion with sufficient drainage and provision in curves. So, that substantial numbers of trees to be felled can be avoided. This causes revision of KML file.

3. During the field verification by **the Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)** there are the evidence of Elephant movements and presence of spotted deer were observed. Thus, the User Agency is requested to **furnish the undertaking for Cost of Mitigation measures** to be proposed by the Forest Department will be bear at the cost of User Agency and this may be uploaded in Additional information details section in PART-I of form-A.
4. A Copy of the reference 1st cited above is enclosed herewith for necessary immediate action for rectification of proposal.

In this regard, you are requested to revise the proposal in consultation with the Forest Range Officer, Palacode (76672 24593) for tree counting and the necessary rectification may be done in the project proposal at PARIVESH 1.0 Web portal for getting forest clearance at the earliest.

Sd/- K.Rajangam,
District Forest Officer,
Dharmapuri Forest Division,
Dharmapuri.

Encl. As stated above

Copy submitted to the Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle, Dharmapuri for kind information.

Copy to the District Collector, Dharmapuri for kind information.

Copy to the Additional Collector, District Rural Development Agency, Dharmapuri District for information.

Copy to the Forest Range officer, Palacode for information, necessary follow up and coordination in the field.

// t.c.b.o //


Draughting Officer


18/10/2024

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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



क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय / Regional Office, Chennai
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Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai -600 006.
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F.No. 4-TNB116/2023-CHN 1139
Dated: 29th July, 2024

To

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

Subject: Diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi Reserved Land for formation of road from Seenkadu to Allakattu via Erimalai Village in Dharmapuri Forest Division to a length of 6415 m and to a width of 7.5 m in Dharmapuri District in favour of the Block Development Officer, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District. - Reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. 5141781 FR.10/2023-4 dated 31/05/2024 on the above subject. In this regard, it is informed that site inspection of the proposal was carried out by this office on 18/07/2024 and during the site visit the following were noticed:-

1. The original road proposal with the 7.5 mtr width was submitted earlier with the felling proposal of 343 numbers. Whereas after the EDS raised by this office to reduce the width of the road, the proposal was amended for laying road for the width of 6 mtr and accordingly the trees to be felled for this proposal was re-worked as 272 numbers and the same was forwarded by the State Forest Dept. vide letter No. 5141781 FR.10/2023-4 dated 31.05.2024. But while verification of details in the field, the DFO & RFO reported that trees to be felled for the revised proposal as 297 numbers and on verification of the details uploaded in Parivesh 1.0 portal the number of trees to be felled is mentioned as 297 only. While verifying the actual trees enumerated in the field for felling, it is seen that trees to be felled were not physically marked. Therefore, it was not possible to ascertain the exact number of trees identified for felling.
2. The trees to be felled are very less in the road portion from Seenkadu to Erimalai, but the numbers are very high from the Village Erimalai to Alakattu. In the Alakattu Village only around 50 people are living hence it is suggested the road width may be restricted to 3 mtr carriage way (tarring portion with sufficient drainage and provision in curves so that substantial numbers of trees to be felled can be avoided).

- 3 During the field verification indirect evidence of elephant movement and presence of spotted deer were observed. This has also been confirmed by Field Officials.
- 4 The revised CA area, which was identified in Hoggenakkal Range Pennagaram RF for the extent of 19.14ha was inspected and it is seen that the area was already planted during the last monsoon season i.e. 2023-24 under NABARD Scheme. Hence the area cannot be proposed again for the CA Scheme for this proposal.

In view of the above, it is requested that the following information may please be furnished for further consideration of the proposal: -

- a The number of trees to be felled shall be re-verified thoroughly especially in the road portion from Erimalai to Alakattu Village with the minimum damage to environment. The revised number of trees to be felled shall be updated in Parivesh 1.0 and the same needs to be recommended by the State Government.
- b Since the proposed CA area was already utilized for planting under other scheme, CA area to be amended satisfying the requisite suitability requirement such as crown density of the area is below 40 percent as per FC Rules 2023, the same along with with kml file, CA Scheme etc. need to be updated in Parivesh 1.0.
- c Since part of the proposed road area falls under ESZ of Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary, approval under District Committee constituted as per ESZ Notification, if any may need to be obtained.
- d Considering the road passes through the Cauvery south wildlife sanctuary and its ESZ, Wildlife Mitigation Measures as approved by the competent authority need to be implemented in the locality of sanctuary area.

Yours faithfully

Signed by Karthikeyan
Karuppan

Date: 29-07-2024 14:40:10

(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 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 Block Development Officer, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District -636 801.

Sd.-

(K. Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)