

Letter No.5006/FR.10/2007-37, dated: 15.09.2023

From
Thiru.T.Ritto Cyriac, I.F.S.,
Special Secretary (Forest).

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Chennai – 32.

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Diversion of 0.84 ha of forest land in Nallur Reserved Forest for laying access road to reach Engineering College run by M/s Sapthagiri Educational Trust – Orders issued - Factual report sought by Government of India - Discussion with District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division held on 31.08.2023 at 11.30 A.M. - Regarding.

- Ref:
1. Your letter No.TS3/28217/2000, dated 10.07.2001.
 2. G.O.(Ms)No.83, Environment and Forests(FR.10) Department, dated 21.8.2006.
 3. Government of India's letter F.No.F(C)A/11.2/118/TN/ RC/2064, dated 19.1.2007.
 4. Your Letter No.TS3/28217/2000, dated 11.05.2018.
 5. Government of India's letter F.No.F(C)A/11.2/118/TB/ RC/0804, dated 10.5.2019.
 6. Your letter No.TS3/28217/2000, dated 10.01.2020.
 7. Your letter No.TS3/28217/2000, dated 19.05.2020.
 8. Your letter No.TS3/28217/2000, dated 05.08.2020.
 9. Your letter No.TS3/28217/2000, dated 05.11.2020.
 10. Your letter No.TS3/28217/2000, dated 09.04.2021.
 11. Government Letter No.5006/FR.10/2007-32, dated 20.05.2021 and 28.12.2021.
 12. Your letter No.TS3/28217/2000, dated 14.02.2023.
 13. Government Letter No.5006/FR.10/2007-35, dated 01.08.2023 and 28.08.2023.

=====

I am directed to invite attention to your letter first cited, wherein you have requested orders for diversion of 0.84 ha of forest land in Nallur Reserved Forests (Cart-track No.6 Right of way 12 feet width) for laying approach road to reach Engineering College to M/s. Sapthagiri Educational Trust. Accordingly, the Government have issued orders in the reference second cited, for diversion of 0.84 ha of forest land in Nallur Reserved Forests for laying approach road to reach Engineering College to M/s. Sapthagiri Educational Trust.

2. In this regard, I am to state that the factual report sent in your letter 12th cited in respect of the forest area used for approach road to reach the Engineering College by the Trust is completely in contradictory to your earlier report in the reference 4th cited. Hence a meeting has been conducted with the District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division on 31.08.2023, during which the District Forest Officer has reported that the present road is not in right of way No.6. Government had issued orders allowing road in cart-track No.6 as proposed in your letter first cited. It is clear that the road formed by Sapthagiri Educational Trust is not the right of way No.6 for which permission was accorded by Government. Hence, it is considered that there is a violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in this matter.


3. Subsequently, the User Agency has sent a proposal (No.FP/TN/Road/17771/2016) for widening of approach road for which no permission has been obtained for the existing road and hence the present proposal for diversion of 0.64 ha of forest land furnished by the Sapthagiri Educational Trust for widening of the existing road cannot be considered, since the existing road is not a legal one as per the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

4. I am, therefore to request you to enquire into this in detail and send factual report on the above said violation to Government immediately, so as to forward the same to Government of India.

Yours faithfully,

M. Megala
19/9/2023

for Special Secretary (Forest)


19/9/2023