

By On-line/E-mail

C.No.TS3/2374/2022

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator  
of Forests (Head of Forest Force),  
Forest Head Quarters Building, Guindy-  
Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai-32.

Dated: 22.11.2022.

Sub Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 0.768 ha of forest land in Ravathanallur RF for road expansion work on Vellimalai Moolakadu road between Pakkam and Ravathanallur villages across Ravathanallur RF in Kallakuruchi District – Proposal forwarded - Regarding.

- Ref 1 Online application uploaded by the Assistant Divisional Engineer, Highways, C&M, Sankarapuram Sub Division, Kallakuruchi District - Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/ 151612/2022, dated 26.01.2022 and Re-submission of proposal on 23.03.2022 and 28.04.2022
- 2 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests ref. No. TS3/2374/2022, dated 02.06.2022
- 3 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Division on 02.07.2022
- 4 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle on 08.11.2022- C. No. D/921/2022, dated 07.11.2022

\* \* \*

Attention of the Conservator of Forests is invited to the references cited.

In the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Assistant Divisional Engineer, Highways, C&M, Sankarapuram Sub Division, Kallakuruchi District under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.768 ha of forest land in Ravathanallur RF for road expansion work on Vellimalai Moolakadu road between Pakkam and Ravathanallur villages across Ravathanallur RF in Kallakuruchi District has been forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Forest Division for necessary follow up action.

3) In the reference 4<sup>th</sup> cited, the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle has forwarded the forest clearance proposal through online and furnished the hard copy of the proposal.

In the proposal forwarded by the Conservator of Forests, following shortcomings were noticed.



i) In the Part-II of Form-A authenticated by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Circle under the Section 4(ii) number of trees available in the proposed forest diversion area recorded as 16 Numbers.

But in the Part-II of Form-A authenticated by the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle under the Section 4(ii) number of trees available in the proposed forest diversion area recorded as 302 Numbers.

ii) In the Part-II of Form-A authenticated by the District Forest Officer, Villupuram Circle under the Section 13(i) for the diversion of 0.768 ha of degraded forest area, compensatory afforestation has been proposed for 0.768 ha of degraded forest area in Rangappanur RF and hard copy of the Compensatory afforestation scheme including maintenance of plantation for a period of 10 years, chain link fencing around the plantation to prevent biotic pressure (Rs. 4,56,000) and engaging protection mazdoor for 3 year period (Rs. 7,03,500) has been furnished for total financial outlay of Rs. 28,53,500/-

But in the Part-II of Form-A authenticated by the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle, details in compensatory afforestation scheme is not there.

iii) Instructions issued in Principal Chief Conservator of Forests ref. No. TS422483/2022, dated 13.10.2022 for preparation of compensatory afforestation scheme has not been followed. (both the catch water pits and semi circular bunds provided, 10% casualty replacement work proposed for 2<sup>nd</sup> year maintenance work, Weeding and soil working from 3<sup>rd</sup> year maintenance to 10<sup>th</sup> year maintenance not proposed and scrapping of fire lines proposed)

iv) As per Section 2.5 of Special provisions for Compensatory Afforestation under the Hand book of Forests Conservation Act, 1980 and Forest Conservation Rule 2003 communicated during March 2019, CA shall be raised and maintained at the cost of user agency on degraded forest land twice in extent of the forest area diverted in the case of construction of link roads.

However, this norm has not been followed in the proposal.

v) The District Forest Officer and Conservator of Forests have not reported any details on right of way available, existing road surface, widening of road proposed etc.,

vi) The Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle in C. No. D/921/2022, dated 07.11.2022 has reported that, 16 number of trees which are to be felled for the project is not spontaneous tree and it was planted by the Forest Department. The user agency informed that 16 numbers felling trees does not arise due to the alignment of road is being placed to avoid felling of trees, In case, it will arise in future, prior permission may be obtained from the Green Committee. In this connection, necessary undertaking and certificates furnished by the User Agency.



Senior Draughting Officer.