

Letter No.17155/FR.10/2022-3, dated: 02.11.2023

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: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Coimbatore Circle /
Coimbatore Forest Division – Proposal (FP/TN/Water/
43869/2020) for diversion of 0.21 ha forest area in Kuruchi
Forest Block I and II of Coimbatore Forest Division for providing
water supply for 8 added areas in Coimbatore District in favour
of the Executive Engineer, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and
Drainage Board, Major Projects Division, Coimbatore –
Clarification – Sought for – Regarding.

- Ref: 1. Your letter No.TS3/3481/2020, dated 27.09.2022.
2. Government letter No.17155/FR.10/2022-1, dated
14.10.2022.
3. Your letter No.TS3/3481/2020, dated 08.05.2023.
4. Government letter No.17155/FR.10/2022-2, dated
29.05.2022.
5. Your letter No.TS3/3481/2020, dated 08.09.2023.

=====

I am directed to invite attention to your letter fifth cited and to state that as the proposal was uploaded during the year 2020, Chapter 2 of Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 will apply to this proposal and as per Chapter 2.6, cost of plantation of ten times the number of trees likely to be felled (including ten years maintenance) or specified number of trees as may be specified in the order for diversion of forest land (subject to a minimum no. of 100 plants), shall be levied from the user agency towards compensatory afforestation. I am, therefore to request you to resubmit the proposal along with details of cost of raising of a minimum of 100 seedlings at the project cost of User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation Scheme.

2. Further, with regard to condition no.(ix) in your proposal first cited, I am to state that the User Agency shall not be allowed by the District Forest Officer for any maintenance work to be undertaken in future, since the District Forest Officer is not the competent authority for permitting such non-forestry work as per Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980. Hence, I am to request you to clarify as to how the User Agency be permitted by the District Forest Officer for any maintenance work in future, since the forest area proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be used for any purpose other than the permitted one, under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. Further, in your letter first cited, the above mentioned forest area diversion proposal has been recommended for providing water supply for 8 added areas in Coimbatore Corporation extended areas in Coimbatore District. However, it is not clear from your proposal as to whether the said water supply project of the User Agency is only for providing water facility to Public utility or else the project will also supply water for commercial purpose. I am, therefore to request you to clarify the same by clearly mentioning the exact purpose of the project, for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

M. Megala
3/11/2023

for Special Secretary (Forest)

[Signature]
03/11/2023