

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From,
Dr. H. Dileep Kumar IFS.,
Deputy Director,
Srivilliputtur Megamalai Tiger Reserve,
Srivilliputtur

To
The Assistant Engineer,
Distribution, TANGEDCO,
Saptur Section,
Madurai District.

C.No. 4337 / 2021 D Dated. 01 .12.2021.

Sir,

Sub : **Forest Clearance** - FP/TN/others/143759/2021 - Online proposal for Erection of new 11 KV HT XLPE underground Electric Cable towards Electrification of Arulmigu Sundara Mahalingam Swamy Thirukkivil from Vazhaithoppu pathway to Arulmigu Sundara Mahalingam Thirukkivil area across Saptur R.F - Essential Details Sought- Regarding.

Ref : Online proposal submitted by the Assistant Engineer, Distribution, TANGEDCO, Saptur Section, Madurai District. No. FP/TN/others/143759/2021.

The Assistant Engineer, TANGEDCO, Saptur Section has furnished online application under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land of 0.227 ha for Erection of new 11 KV HT XLPE underground Electric Cable towards Electrification of Arulmigu Sundara Mahalingam Swamy Thirukoil located in Saptur RF in Madurai District.

Several defects /shortcomings have been noticed in the proposal, hence the user agency is requested to furnish the following details:

1. Does the project involve felling of trees along the alignment of cable and in the place where the concrete room is intended to build to house the transformer? If yes, then the following details shall be furnished
 - a. Number of trees to be felled?
 - b. Whether those trees are planted or spontaneous growth? and
 - c. Other details like species, height, girth, volume etc for each tree.

2. Details of the location and the area required to build the concrete rooms, intended to place transformers along with map.
3. It is submitted in your proposal that, three approach path ways are available to Arulmigu Sundara Mahalingam Swamy Thirukkivil. Hence, at least these three alternate paths should be examined and the following details should be provided along with maps indicating the boundary of forest land proposed to be diverted in each case
 - a. What is distance of each pathway to reach the temple and
 - b. Details of forest land required to be diverted if project is considered to be taken up in each pathway separately
 - c. In which pathway forest land diversion is bare minimum?

Accordingly serial no D (i), D(ii) and D(ii) (a) shall be updated

4. Whether the proposed 11 KV HT XLPE underground Electric Cable towards Electrification is single circuit or double circuit transmission system?
5. The width and depth of trench mentioned in the proposal is 0.5 m and 1.5 to 2 meter respectively. However, as per Handbook of guidelines for effective and transparent implementation of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the norms/ standards for laying underground insulated cables through forest areas shall be as below

Lines Voltage	Trench Width	Trench Depth
33 KV	600 mm	1200 mm
11 KV	300 mm	900 mm

For laying double circuit (D/C) underground cables through forest areas trench width shall be twice the afore-mentioned width stipulated for the single circuit cable. Thus, the width and depth of the trench shall be modified as per norms.

6. The details of the total distance of the project site in your proposal is given as
 - a. Plain land - 2270 mt.

- b. Rocky area - 2630 mt.
- c. Stream area - 460 mt.
- d. Elephant path - 250 mt.

However, the same has not been separately delineated on the Survey of India toposheet map/ google map/ georeferenced map indicating the boundary of forest land proposed to be diverted. These details and any such details with regard to alternate paths examined should also be furnished with maps.

7. It is mentioned in the proposal that, the total distance of underground electric cable work is 5610 meter, whether this distance also includes 900 meter falling inside the temple land or not?.
8. If the above said 900 meter temple land is not include in the total distance then, the same should be included and accordingly project proposal and its related maps should be revised and updated in the online portal.
9. Whether the area falling inside the temple land is "Forest" as decided by the supreme court of India in the order of 12th December 1996 in W.P. No. 202/1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Thirumalpad Vs. Union of India ?

(Sd).H.Dileep Kumar
Deputy Director,
Srivilliputtur Megamalai Tiger Reserve,
Srivilliputtur

/T.c.b.o/

Superintendent

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