

C.No.TS3/9165/2022

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

Dated: 20.12.2024.

- Sub Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – On-line forest clearance proposal for diversion of 0.246 ha of forest land in Vellore Division for laying underground OFC on the Vellore - Tirupathur Main Road between Kuravankottai to District Border across Karuttamalai R.F. in Ambur Taluk, Vellore District – Forwarded - Regarding.
- Ref 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by M/s Telesonic Networks Limited, Mylapore Chennai-4 - Proposal No. FP/TN/OFC/153781/2022
- 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Vellore Division
- 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Vellore Circle
- 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/9165/2022, dated 25.10.2024
- 5 Government letter No. 8793239/FR.10/2024-1, dated 14.11.2024
- 6 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/9165/2022, dated 20.11.2024
- 7 Conservator of Forests, Vellore Circle Ref. No. D1/4137/2022, dated 18.12.2024 – Resubmission of proposal in parivesh portal on 18.12.2024.
- 8 District Forest Officer, Vellore Division, C. No. 3726/2023, D1, dated 12.12.2024

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

On the forest clearance proposal forwarded for diversion of 0.246 ha of forest land in Vellore Division for laying underground OFC on the Vellore - Tirupathur Main Road between Kuravankottai to District Border across Karuttamalai R.F. in Ambur Taluk, Vellore District in favour of M/s Telesonic Networks Limited, Mylapore Chennai, Government in the reference 5th cited above has called for clarification/additional details on the proposal as detailed below and forwarded through parivesh portal vide Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 6th cited above.

a) The District Forest Officer, Vellore Division has reported that, the area requested for diversion of 0.246 ha of forest land for laying underground OFC cable along the road side from Asanampattu to Alangayam road (Vellore to Tirupathur main

road) falls in Karuttamalai RF. The road is a State Highways road formed prior to FC Act 1980 and No forest land has been diverted to the State Highways Department in Vellore Division. The present proposal of diversion of 0.246 ha of forest land in Karuttamalai RF is considered under the category of fresh/new diversion.

The District Forest Officer has not reported the following details.

i) Whether any right of way allowed in the forest block notification. If so, furnish the details.

ii) What is the width allowed in the forest block notification and present length and width of State Highways road (BT surface, side berms, drains etc.,) in the forest area.

iii) Whether the State Highways has obtained any orders from the Forest Department for formation of road in the forest area.

iv) Evidence of road formed before the enactment of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

Further, attention is invited to Para 4.2 of Consolidated Guidelines and Clarification (dated 29.12.2023) issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023 by the Government of India.

In para 4.2 of Consolidated Guidelines issued by the Government of India, General approval is accorded in the forest land and located in the existing Right of Way (RoW) of roads which have already been allowed for non-forestry use for laying of OFC cables (both underground and above ground), telephone lines involving trench size not more than two meter in depth and one meter in width and the State Government already authorised the Nodal Officer in this regard.

The District Forest Officer may be informed to analyse the proposal in depth and ensure that, if the laying of aerial OFC is proposed in the forest land and located in the existing Right of Way (RoW) of roads which have already been allowed for non-forestry use, then the user agency may be informed to furnish proposal under Form-E of re-diversion of forest area.


Sd/-D. Rajendiran,
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

To
The Conservator of Forests, Vellore Circle, Vellore

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Vellore Division, Vellore for necessary follow up action.

Copy to the Senior Manager, M/s Telesonic Networks Limited, No. 2/147&44/146, Santhome High Road, & Rosary Church Road, Mylapore Chennai-4. (User agency)

/ True copy / By order /


Senior Draughting Officer.