

By E-mail



ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE  
& FOREST(FR.10) DEPARTMENT,  
SECRETARIAT, CHENNAI 9.

Letter No.18747/FR.10/2022- 1, dated 20.12.2022

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

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

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal (FP/TN/Substation/149440/2021) for diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land in Pillur Slope Reserved Forests of Coimbatore Forest Division for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District in favour of the Superintending Engineer, General Construction Circle, Tamil Nadu Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO), Coimbatore - Clarification - Requested - Regarding.

Ref: From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, letter No.TS3/43555/2021, dated 17.11.2022.

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I am directed to invite your attention the reference cited, wherein it has been stated that as per the site inspection report of District Forest Officer, Coimbatore, the proposed project site area was already leased out to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board prior to 1961. However, it is stated that in G.O.(Ms).No.2974, Agriculture Department, dated 21.10.1967, the Government have directed that the forest land measuring in all (6200 acres in Nilgiris and Coimbatore District) be placed at the disposal of the MSE Board (Madras State Electricity Board) for the execution of III and IV Stages of Kundah Hydro Electric Project. I am, therefore, to request you to mention the exact period from which the above said forest land has been leased out to Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB), along with a copy of Government order.

2. Further, it has been mentioned in your proposal that an amount of Rs.97,76,00,405/- towards payment of lease rent is pending from Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. In this regard, I am directed to request you to state the action taken for collection of pending lease rent from Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and if not collected, state the reasons for non-collection of this huge amount of pending lease rent.

3. Further, it has also been mentioned that, as per the report of User Agency, the proposed site is under possession of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board from 1965, the certificate on settlement of rights may be considered as not applicable. In this

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connection, I am to request you to clarify the reason for the non-submission of Forest Rights Act (FRA) Certificate obtained from the concerned District Collector for the subject proposal, since the proposal for diversion of forest land is to be considered now, under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, under which the said certificate is mandatory.

Yours faithfully,

M. Hegala  
21/12/2022

for Special Secretary (Forests).

SB  
21/12/2022