C.No.TS4/12214/2019

O/o. the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Head of Department), Forest Headquarters Building, Guindy Velachery Main road, Near Kannikapuram Checkpost, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032. Dated: 22 .11.2022.

Sub: Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - SMTR, Madurai Circle / Theni Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.057 ha now revised 0.045 ha for Mobile, Arasu cable, Broad band connectivity (OFC connectivity) between Theni-Batlagundu through rural areas at Theni District - Online proposal submission by the User Agency ie. BSNL, Theni - Regarding.

Ref:

- 1. Online application uploaded by the User Agency Mr. Kathiresan, Divisional Engineer, OFC projects, BSNL, Madurai , dated: 17.02.2019. (FP/TN/OFC /38837/2019).
- 2. Acknowledgements uploaded by the user agency on 04.05.2022.
- 3. PCCF Ref.No:12214/2019/TS4 dated 27.05.2022
- 4. Part-II uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Theni on 01.08.2022 and Part-III uploaded by the Conservator of Forests & Field Director, SMTR, Madurai on 18.10.2022.

Attention of the Conservator of Forests & Field Director, SMTR, Madurai is invited to the references cited. The District Forest Officer, Theni has recommended the proposal for diversion of 0.045ha forest land in Pinnathevanpatti RL, Ammapuram Bit-II Reserved Forest, Paramasivan Kovil Karadu RL, Valkaradu Reserved Forest for laying of underground OFC to a total length of 1800m and width of 0.25m stating that the project is essential for improvement of communication infrastructure and no felling of trees (spontaneous (or) planted ) is involved.

The Conservator of Forests & Field Director, SMTR, Madurai has recommended the proposal to 0.054ha instead of 0.045ha stating that it is advisable to take up the width as 0.30m instead of 0.25m.

Further, in the inspection report, the name of the Reserved Forest has been mentioned in 2<sup>nd</sup> para as Ammapuram Bit-III Reserved Forest, but in the 3<sup>rd</sup> para the name of Reserved Forest has been mentioned as Ammapuram Bit-II Reserved Forest. In Part-III, the Conservator of Forests & Field Director has mentioned the name of Reserved Forest as Ammapuram Bit-I & II Reserved Forest. The Conservator of Forests is therefore requested to mention the correct name of Reserved Forest in the inspection report and Part-III and upload the revised one.

Also, the Conservator of Forests & Field Director is requested to furnish the distance of ECO sensitive zone boundary from all Reserved Forest and Reserved Land with respect to Megamalai and Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary.

The timeline for submission of proposal prescribed in the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 guidelines should strictly be followed.

Sd/- V. Karunapriya for Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force)

To

The Conservator of Forests & Field Director, SMTR, Madurai.

Copy to

1. The District Forest Officer, Theni Division, Theni for necessary action.

2. The Divisional Engineer, OFC projects, BSNL, East Masi Street, Madurai 625 001.

/True copy/By Order/