

Letter No.5280413/FR.10/2023-3, dated 07.11.2023

From
Tmt.Supriya Sahu, I.A.S.,
Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

To
The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Regional Office,
Additional Office Block for GPOA, 1st Floor,
Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006. (w.e).

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposals (**FP/TN/Road/148656/2021**) for diversion of 4.46 ha of forest land in Vandalur Reserved Forests for formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass road branching from km 17/4 of Malmalong bridge-Irumbuliyur road from Rajakilpakkam via Agaramthen road towards Perungalathur at km 0/0-9/300 in Chengalpattu District and (**FP/TN/Road/151930/2022**) for diversion of 0.95472 ha of forest land in Vandalur Reserved Forest for construction of Road Over Bridge in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division, Chennai – Concurrence requested - Regarding.

- Ref:
1. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Head of Forest Force), Letter No.TS3/39365/2021, dated 25.07.2023.
 2. Government letter No.5280413/FR.10/2023-1, dated 03.08.2023.
 3. Government letter No.5227778/FR.10/2023-1, dated 03.08.2023.
 4. Your letter No.4-TNB109/2023-CHN/1035, dated 29.08.2023.
 5. From the Chief engineer (H) Metro, letter No.4162/2008/AE-1, dated 05.09.2023.

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I am directed to enclose a copy of the reference 5th cited. In your letter fourth cited, it has been informed that splitting of same stretch of road into smaller area shall not be done and especially for linear proposals, proposals shall be submitted for its entirety and such artificial splitting is not permissible. Hence, it has been requested to inform all stake holders including Forest Department Officials not to split the proposals in future and also to direct the User Agency i.e. Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department to withdraw the two proposals viz., (FP/TN/ROAD/151930/2022 and

FP/TN/ROAD/148656/2021) from the PARIVESH portal and to submit a fresh proposal for the revised area of 5.41472 ha. (0.95472 ha + 4.46 ha).

2. In this regard, the Chief Engineer (H), Metro in his letter 5th cited has reported as follows:-

- i) Land Acquisition for the work of formation of Tambaram Eastern by pass road at Km 0/0 - 9/300 has been sanctioned by Government of Tamil Nadu on 23.09.2004. The stretch from Km from 8/000-9/300 falls in Vandalur Reserve Forest area to an extent of 4.46 ha. Hence, proposal for diversion of forest land of 4.46 ha in Vandalur Reserved Forest was uploaded online in **Parivesh Portal** vide online proposal No.FP/TN/Road/148656/2021 on 22.10.2021.
- ii) The work of Construction of ROB in lieu of LC-32 at Perungalathur in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway stations has been sanctioned by the Government of Tamilnadu on 01.12.2010. Forest land to an extent of 0.95472 ha in Vandalur Reserve Forest land is required. Hence proposal for diversion of forest land of 0.95472 ha in Vandalur Reserved Forest was uploaded online in **Parivesh Portal** vide online proposal No.FP/TN/Road/151930/2022 on 02.02.2022.

3. Further, he has stated that, the requirement of forest land for the above two works were assessed at different dates, accordingly the proposal for diversion of forest land was submitted to Forest Department for approval in Parivesh Portal as detailed below:-

The facts on each scheme are tabulated below:

Sl. No	Description	Proposal 1: Formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass Km 0/0-9/3 Proposal No.FP/TN/ Road /148656/2021	Proposal 2: Construction of LC 32 ROB Proposal No.FP / TN / Road / 151930/2022	Remarks
1.	Name of the Work.	Formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass	Construction of ROB in lieu of LC-32 at Perungalathur in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway stations.	
2	Scheme	2004-2005 Traffic Improvement Scheme	RWP (Railway Work Program) Program for the year 2010-2013.	Railway Work Program is on Cost Sharing basis with Southern Railways.
3	Administrative Sanction By Government of Tamilnadu	G.O.(Ms).No.264 Highways (HW1) Department, dated 23.9.2004	i G.O.(D)No.230 Highways (HQ2) Department, dated 01.12.2010.	

			ii RAS G.O.(Ms). No.34, Highways and Minor Ports (HP2) Department, dated 07.03.2019.	
4	Extent of Forest land involved	4.46 ha	0.95472 ha	
5	Actual Date of Initiation of Diversion of Forest land proposal	Divisional Engineer (H) Thiruvallur & Divisional Engineer (H) CMDP-1 addressed District Collector, Kanchipuram requesting alternative double extent of compensatory land on 06.12.2005 & 09.01.2012 respectively.	Divisional Engineer (H) CMDP-2 addressed the District Collector, Chengalpattu requesting alternative double extent of compensatory land on 20.10.2021.	
6	Proposal submitted to Forest Department in Parivesh Portal by User agency	22.10.2021 Proposal No.FP/TN/Road/ 148656/2021	02.02.2022 Proposal No.FP/TN/Road/151930/2022	
7	Alternate land approved by State Government	8.92 ha Non Forest land in SF.No.96/1 of Vedhanarayanapuram village in Chengalpattu District.	Not Applicable (Since extent is less than 1 ha)	
8	Compensatory Afforestation	Planting of 8920 number seedlings proposed in 8.92 ha of degraded forest land in Gudulur Reserved Forest including maintenance and protection of plantation for 10 years period.	Planting of 1909 number seedlings proposed in 1.909 ha of degraded forest land in Vandalur Reserved Forest including maintenance and protection of plantation for 10 years period.	

He has further stated that from the above said table, it may be noted that though the combined area of forest land is more than 5 ha for the two works, the works have been sanctioned at different dates and the proposal for diversion of forest land has also been initiated at different dates depending upon the execution stage of the above schemes, and stated that the said proposals were not intentionally spilt.

4. The Chief Engineer (H), Metro has therefore requested the Highways and Minor Ports Department to accord necessary permission of Environment, Climate

Change and Forest Department on the earlier proposals submitted for diversion of forest land for two works viz., 4.46 ha of forest land in Vandalur Reserved Forests for formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass and 0.95472 ha of forest land in Vandalur Reserved Forest for construction of ROB LC-32 in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway Stations near perungalathur, in order to expedite both the works independently. Considering the above reasons, the Highways Department has requested this department to reconsider the above said proposals, since a fresh submission of the same would delay the execution of works adversely.

5. I am, therefore directed to request you to consider the reasons put forth by Highways Department justifying submission of two proposals and communicate the concurrence of the competent authority for these two proposals (FP/TN/Road/148656/2021 and FP/TN/Road/151930/2022) to this Government, early.

Yours faithfully,

M. Megala
8/11/2023

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

de
08/11/2023

Copy to:

C.No.5227778/FR.10/2023

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT

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13.9.23 43-

From
T.Elango, B.E.,
Chief Engineer (H) Metro,
Guindy,
Chennai – 600 025.

To
The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Highways and Minor Ports Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai-600009

Letter No: 4162/2008/AE-I, dated: 05.09.2023

Sir,

Sub : Highways Department – Metro Wing - Diversion of 4.46 Ha of Forest land in Vandalur RF for formation of **Tambaram Eastern Bypass** (Proposal No: FP/TN/Road/148656/2021 dated 22.10.2021) and Diversion of 0.95472 Ha of Forest land in Vandalur RF for construction of **ROB LC-32 at Perungalathur** (Proposal No: FP/TN/Road/151930/2022 dated 02.2.2022)- Clarification furnished – Reg.

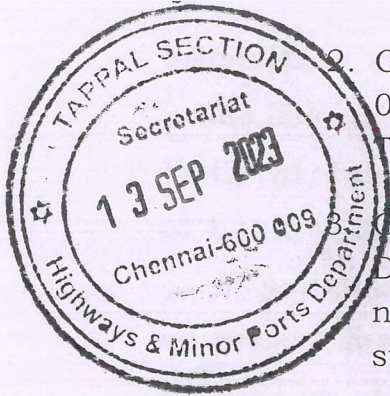
Ref : 1. G.O.(Ms). No: 264 Highways (HW1) Department dated 23.9.2004 (Land Acquisition for Formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass) *Flag (B)*

2. G.O.(D). No: 230 Highways (HQ2) Department dated 01.12.2010 (for Construction of ROB no: LC-32 in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway stations) *Flag (B)*

3. G.O.(Ms). No. 34, Highways and Minor Ports (HP2) Department, dated: 07.03.2019 (RAS for Construction of ROB no: LC-32 in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway stations) *Flag (B)*

4. Online Application of Tambaram Eastern Bypass uploaded by the Divisional Engineer, Metro, Highways Department, CMDP, Division-1, vide Proposal No: FP/TN/Road/148656/2021 dated 22.10.2021 and Resubmission of proposal on 13.3.2023 and 25.3.2023 *NPU*

5. Online Application of Construction of ROB no: LC-32 in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway stations uploaded by the Divisional Engineer, Metro, Highways Department, CMDP, Division-2, vide Proposal No: FP/ TN/ Road/ 151930/2022 dated 02.2.2022 and resubmission of proposal *NPU*



on 17.5.2022.

6. PCCF letter no: C.No: TS3/2987/2022 dated 15.7.2023 (addressed to ACS to State Govt for Environment, Climate Change and Forest department).
7. PCCF letter no: C.No: TS3/39365/2021 dated 25.7.2023 (addressed to ACS to State Govt for Environment, Climate Change and Forest department).
8. Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate change and Forest Department to RO, Chennai MoEF, Chennai vide Online Diversion of forest land Proposal no: FP/TN/ROAD/148656/2021
9. Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate change and Forest Department letter no: 5227778/FR-10/2023-1 dated 03.8.2023 to RO Chennai, MOEF&CC of Forest proposal for ROB-LC-32.
10. AIG, RO Chennai, MOEF&CC letter No: F. No:4-TNB109/2023-Chn/1035 dated 29.8.2023 addressed to ACS, Environment and Forest.
11. The Superintending Engineer (H), CMDP Circle, Lr.No. 115/2010/LC 32 & 33/AE-I, dated: 31.08.2023.

I wish to inform the following with reference to the letter in reference 10th cited, wherein the Assistant Inspector General of Forest, Regional office, MOEF&CC, Chennai has stated that two proposals submitted by Chief Engineer (H), Metro for diversion of forest land may be withdrawn and to submit fresh proposal combining the two proposals and avoid splitting.

- i) Land Acquisition for the work of Formation of Tambaram Eastern by pass road at Km 0/0 - 9/300 has been sanctioned vide ref. 1st cited by Govt. of Tamilnadu on 23.09.2004. The stretch from Km from 8/000-9/300 falls in Vandalur Reserve Forest area to an extent of 4.46 Ha. Hence proposal for diversion of forest land of 4.46 Ha in Vandalur RF was uploaded online in **Parivesh Portal** vide online proposal No FP/TN/Road 148656/2021 on 22.10.2021.
- ii) The work of Construction of ROB in lieu of LC-32 at Perungalathur in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway stations has been sanctioned vide ref 2nd cited by the Government of Tamilnadu on 01.12.2010. For this work, forest land to an extent of 0.95472 Ha in

Vandalur Reserve Forest land is required. Hence proposal for diversion of forest land of 0.95472 Ha in Vandalur RF was uploaded online in **Parivesh Portal** vide online proposal No FP/TN/Road/151930/2022 on 02.2.2022.

The requirement of Forest land for the above two works were assessed at different dates and accordingly the proposal for diversion of forest land was submitted to Forest department for approval in Parivesh Portal.

The facts on each scheme are tabulated below:

S. no	Description	Proposal 1: Formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass Km 0/0-9/3 Proposal No. FP/TN/Road 148656/2021	Proposal 2: Construction of LC 32 ROB Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/151930 /2022	Remarks
1.	Name of the Work.	Formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass	Construction of ROB in lieu of LC-32 at Perungalathur in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway stations	
2	Scheme	2004-2005 Traffic Improvement Scheme	RWP (Railway Work Program) Program for the year 2010-2013.	Railway Work Program is on Cost Sharing basis with Southern Railways.
3	Administrative Sanction By Government of Tamilnadu	GO No 264 Highways (HW1) Department dt.23.9.2004	i) GO No 230 Highways (HQ2) Department dated 01.12.2010. ii) RAS G.O.(Ms). No. 34, Highways and Minor Ports (HP2) Department, dated: 07.03.2019.	
4	Extent of Forest land involved	4.46 Ha	0.95472 Ha	
5	Actual Date of Initiation of	Divisional Engineer (H)	Divisional Engineer (H) CMDP-2 addressed the	

	Diversion of Forest land proposal	Thiruvallur & Divisional Engineer (H) CMDP-1 addressed District Collector, Kanchipuram requesting alternative double extent of compensatory land on 06.12.2005 & 09.01.2012 respectively.	District Collector, Chengalpattu requesting alternative double extent of compensatory land on 20.10.2021.	
6	Proposal submitted to Forest department in Parivesh Portal by User agency	22.10.2021 Proposal No: FP/TN/Road/148656/2021	02.2.2022 Proposal No: FP/TN/Road/151930/2022	
7	Alternate land approved by State Government	8.92 Ha Non Forest land in SF. No: 96/1 of Vedhanarayanapuram village in Chengalpattu District	Not Applicable (Since extent is less than 1 Ha)	
8	Compensatory Afforestation	Planting of 8920 number seedlings proposed in 8.92 Ha of degraded forest land in Gudalur RF including maintenance and protection of plantation for 10 years period.	Planting of 1909 number seedlings proposed in 1.909 Ha of degraded forest land in Vandalur RF including maintenance and protection of plantation for 10 years period.	

From the above table, it may be inferred that ^E though the combined area of forest land is more than 5 Ha for the two works, the works have been

sanctioned at different dates and the proposal for diversion of forest land has also been initiated at different dates depending upon the execution stage of the above schemes. Hence, it is submitted that there is no artificial split up of forest land diversion proposal.

Considering the above facts, I request that necessary permission may be obtained from Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department for the proposal for diversion of forest land for the above two works as submitted earlier in order to expedite both Bypass and ROB works independently.

Encl. Copy of references (1), (2), (3) & (6 to 10).

Hayden
05/9/23
**Chief Engineer (H),
Metro, Chennai -15.**

Copy to the Superintending Engineer (H), CMDP Circle, Chennai-15

Copy to the Divisional Engineer (H), CMDP Division-~~I~~II, Chennai – 15 for follow up action.

