

**Letter No.5141781/FR.10/2023-4, dated:31.05.2024**

From  
Tmt.Supriya Sahu, IAS.,  
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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor,  
Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006. (w.e).

Sir,

Sub: Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 –  
Proposal (FP/TN/Road/37291/2018) for diversion of  
4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli Reserved Forest and  
Thirumalvadi Reserved Land for formation of road from  
Seenkadu to Allakatu via Erimalai village in Dharmapuri  
Forest Division to a length of 6415 m and to a width of  
7.50m in Dharmapuri District in favour of the Block  
Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union,  
Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District - Additional details –  
Forwarding of - Regarding.

- Ref: 1. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)  
Letter No.TS3/27219/2021, dated 28.06.2023.  
2. Government letter No.5141781/FR.10/2023-2, dated  
07.12.2023.  
3. Your letter No.4-TNB116/2023-CHN/04, dated  
01.01.2024.  
4. Government letter No.5141781/FR.10/2023-3, dated  
19.01.2024.  
5. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD)  
Letter No.TS3/27219/2021, dated 05.04.2024.

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I am directed to invite your attention to the references cited and to enclose a copy of the reference fifth cited for necessary action, wherein the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has furnished the additional information called for by you in your letter 3<sup>rd</sup> cited.

2. I am therefore to request you to obtain the approval for the above said proposal from the competent authority and communicate the same to Government as early as possible.

Yours faithfully,

*A. Malathy* 04/5/24

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

*AK*  
31/5/2024.



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12 APR 2024

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By online / E-mail.

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TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

To

Dr. Sudhanshu Gupta, I.F.S.,  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,  
(Head of Department)  
Forest Head Quarters Building,  
Guindy-Velachery Main Road,  
Guindy, Chennai - 32.

The Additional Chief Secretary to  
Government,  
Environment, Climate Change and  
Forests Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai 9.

C. No. TS3/27219/2021 Dated: 05.04.2024.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 4.81 ha of forest land in Kesarkuli RF and Thirumalvadi RL for formation of road from Seenkadu to Allakatu via Erimalai village in Dharmapuri Forest Division to a length of 6415m and to a width of 7.50m in Dharmapuri District in favour of the Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District - Proposal forwarded – Additional details called for by the Government of India - Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Block Development Officer BP, Pennagaram Union, Pennagaram, Dharmapuri District, Pin code 636 801 Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/37291/2018
- 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division
- 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle
- 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference No. TS3/27219/2021, dated 28.06.2023 and 22.11.2023
- 5 Government letter No. 5141781/FR.10/2023-2, dated 07.12.2023
- 6 Government of India, MoEF&CC, RO, Chennai letter F. No. 4-TNB116/2023-CHN/04, dated 01.01.2024
- 7 Government letter No. 5141781/FR.10/2023-2, dated 19.01.2024

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With reference to the Government letter 7<sup>th</sup> cited, I wish to state the following.

1) As informed by the Government of India vide reference 6<sup>th</sup> cited above, the user agency has revised the forest clearance proposal for formation of road from



Seenkadu to Alakattu via Erimalai through Kesarkuli RF (4.62 ha) and Thirumalvadi RL (0.19 ha) to a required length of 6.384 km to 6.00m wide road.

a) Revised area break up statement furnished by the user agency is as follows.

Required length of the road is 6384.50m

Reach -01 to a length of 3166.50m -2.4472 ha

Reach-02 to a length of 1699.50m – 1.2579 ha

and Reach-03 to a length of 1518.50m – 1.0514 ha

Revised width of road is 6.00m

i) Area required for straight portion- 6384.50m (l) and 6.00m (w) is 38307.00 sq.m

ii) Area for Curves – 39 Nos with an average area of 250.00 sq.m and area of 9750.00 sq.m and Total area required reported as 48057 sq.m or 4.81 ha. Hence there is no change from the original area proposed for diversion.

b) Required documents such as Justification report, area break up statement and revised kml file of diversion area have been uploaded under Part-I of Form-A.

2) The District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division has reported that, there are 272 number of trees to be felled in the revised alignment road width of 6.00m and some photographs have been furnished. These trees are of spontaneous grown.

a) Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in I.A Nos 168328/2022 and 168313/2022 and I.A Nos. 191583/2022 in judgment dated 11.01.2023, have directed that the order requiring permission of the Court for felling of trees in all forest areas in respect of any road projects initiated by NHAI or any other instrumentality of the State, which involves cutting of up to 500 trees is recalled subject to following conditions.

i) Such felling shall be done only after necessary approval under FCA 1980, Forest Conservation Rule 2022, Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act 2016 and Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules 2018 are obtained from the competent authority under the said enactments.

ii) The projects would be permitted only after the concurrence of the Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Chennai.

iii) While granting such permission, the authorities also should provide for necessary mitigation measures for ensuring free flow of the wildlife from one part of the forest to the other whenever such forest is divided by road.



In this project area felling of spontaneous trees of 272 numbers only involved. Hence orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for felling of 272 number of spontaneous trees is not required. )

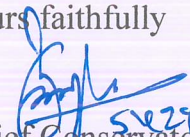
b) Revised compensatory afforestation scheme, site suitable degraded forest area over 19.24 ha has been identified in Pennagaram Reserved Forests of Hogenakkal Range. This degraded portion of area has been inspected by the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division with the Deputy Inspector general of Forests (Central), MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Chennai on 29.11.2023 and it is quite suitable for raising 500 Nos of seedlings per ha. Therefore, the targeted 9620 number of seedlings can be planted in the proposed degraded forest area. Site suitability certificate of the compensatory afforestation area has also been uploaded in parivesh portal.


c) However, there is no option provided in Part-II of Form-A for uploading the kml file of revised compensatory area identified for the project. The Google earth map, Survey of India toposheet map showing the proposed compensatory afforestation area, Revised Compensatory afforestation scheme have been uploaded in additional information details section of Part-II of Form-A.

3) Revised forest clearance proposal furnished by the User agency and recommended by the District Forest Officer, Dharmapuri Division and Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle is forwarded to the Government in parivesh portal.

I request that the proposal may be forwarded to the Government of India for obtaining approval under Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

Yours faithfully

  
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department)

  
05/24/2024

