

By (E.Mail (Scanned copy)/Courier)

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From Thiru. Deepak S.Bilgi, I.F.S.,
Conservator of Forests and
Field Director, Srivilliputhur
Megamalai Tiger Reserve,
Madurai.

To The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force),
Chennai-15.

Ref.No.9688/2019/D1 Dated: 05.05.2022.

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Forests (Conservation) Act 1980- SMTR, Madurai-
Theni Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 2.839 Ha
(now revised as 1.658 Ha) of Forest land for the
improvement work of Theni Bye-pass road connecting
Dindigul - Theni road and Madurai - Cochin road across
Valkaradu Reserved Forest - Submission of replies to the
queries raised by the GOI - Reg.

- Ref: 1) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai, Ref.No.
TS4/39100/2019, Dt.04.10.2021 and 03.12.2021
2) Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests
and Climate Change, Chennai. F.No.4-TNB068/2020-
CHN/942, Dt.04.10.2021
3) District Forest Officer, Theni. Ref.No. D/7304/2013,
Dt.26.04.2022

With reference to the above subject, I submit that the report
called for Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter cited has been
received from the District Forest Officer, Theni vide reference 3rd cited. In
view of the revised proposal the area proposed for diversion has been revised
from 2.839 Ha. to 1.658 Ha and replies received from the user agency to the
queries raised by the Government vide 2nd cited.

The proposed site has been inspected by the District Forest Officer,
Theni on 08.04.2022 and 25.04.2022. The user agency was handed over 8.59
ha in S.No.1511/1 in veerapandi village of Theni District to forest
department as compensatory land for the diversion as originally proposed
and it was notified under section 4 of TNFA 1882 as Perumalkovil Karadu
Extn. in GO.Ms.No.43, Environment & Forests Dt.02.03.2012 and the
notification under section 16 of TNFA 1882 is under process.

The user agency has reduced the proposed area for diversion is 1.658Ha Compensation Afforestation area has been selected from the above said land for an area of 3.316ha

The copies of the part I, Part II Formats and sketch of the proposed area as submitted by the District Forest Officer, Theni in triplicate is enclosed herewith for favour of kind perusal and documents were already uploaded in parvish portal by the District Forest Officer. I submit that the report of the District Forest Officer, Theni may be accepted for the diversion of 1.658 Ha of Forest land.

Encl: As stated above

Yours Faithfully,
Sd/-Deepak S.Bilgi,
Conservator of Forests and Field Director,
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve,
Madurai

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TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From
Tmt. C. Vidhya, I.F.S.,
District Forest officer,
Theni Forest Division,
Theni.

To
The Conservator of Forests and
Field Director,
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger
Reserve,
Madurai.

C. No. 7304/2013/D dated 26/04/2022

Sir,

Sub:-

Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Madurai Circle / Theni Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 2.839 Ha. (now revised as 1.658 Ha.) of forest land for improvement of Theni Bye-Pass road connecting Dindigul - Theni road and Madurai Cochin road across Valkaradu Reserved Forests - Submission of Replies to the Queries raised by the GoI - Reg.



- Ref:-
1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Ref. No. TS4/39100/2019 dated 04.10.2021
 2. GOI, Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Department, Chennai F.No.4-TNB068/ 2020-CHN/942 dated 04.10.2021
 3. Divisional Engineer, Highways, Construction and Maintenance, Theni, Letter No. 180/2021/JDO3 dated 18.03.2022
 4. Commissioner, Theni Allinagaram Municipality, Theni C.No. 3222/2021/H1 dated 07.03.2022

With reference to the above subject and reference cited, I submit that the User Agency has submitted the revised proposal for improvement works of Theni By-Pass road connecting Dindigul - Theni Road and Madurai - Cochin Road vide reference 3rd cited. In view of the revised proposal the area proposed for diversion has been revised from 2.839 Ha. to 1.658 Ha and the following are the replies received from the User Agency to the queries raised by the Government vide 2nd cited,

- A) As the UA informed that 10.50 mtrs width is required for construction of road against 23 mtr proposed in the application and recommended by State Government, the State Government shall look in to the matter and shall report actual length and width of the road essentially required, that is bare minimum specifying carriage way, shoulder etc;

The User Agency has submitted that "KM. 1/6 - 2/8 length of road is 1.2km Theni Bye - pass road center portion work completed and the widening portion for

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the same length is pending due to permission awaiting from Forest Department. The actual requirement of 10.50m width for (Bituminous surface) construction of road against 23m proposal in the application because the project is pending from 2018-19. Hence the width of the road essentially needed is 13.50m (that is bituminous surface 10.50m and both side berms each (1.50 + 1.50m) is enough to complete the project.

Hence the revised Forest Land requirement is calculated in the table.

S.No.	Survey no and Classification	Length of Road in Chainage
1.	Valkaradu Reserved Forest (RF)	<u>1st Reach</u> 1. Ch:- 1+553 to 1+831 = 278 m <u>2nd Reach</u> 2. Ch:- 2+243 to 3+398 = 950 m Total 1228 m

The length requirement is 1228m x 13.50 width = 16578 sqm or 1.658 Hectare. As per the revised calculation the actual requirement of Forest land is **1.658 Hectare** only. "

B) As directed in the earlier inspection of Regional Office (MoEF, Chennai), construction of wall all along the adjoining forest area opposite to bus stand shall be done. The state forest department shall identify vulnerable locations of people entry points into RF areas and propose cost estimate for construction of wall only in such locations

The User Agency has given Undertaking Certificate that "Highways (Construction and Maintenance) Department, Theni is hereby undertaking to bear the cost of work proposed to be construct the Earth protective Retaining wall opposite to the Theni Bus stand for a length of 500m as fixed by the Forest Department will be proposed under the Road safety scheme for the year 2022-2023." and "Highways (Construction and Maintenance) Department, Theni is hereby undertaking to bear the cost of work proposed under Forest Department for forming the fencing around the Valkaradu Reserve Forest for a length of 4.96 km and the estimate cost of Rs. 87.50 Lakhs workout by the Forest Department will be proposed under the Road safety scheme for the year 2022-2023."

C) The User Agency in consultation with the municipality, shall devise an effective waste management proposal all along the proposed road and surroundings of the bus stand and submit along with the current proposal

The following waste management has been proposed by the Commissioner, Theni-Allinagaram, Theni vide 4th cited as follows (Copy enclosed),

“தேனி-அல்லிநகரம் நகராட்சி, வார்டு எண். 32 மற்றும் 24-களுக்கு (தேனி புறவழிச்சாலை, தேனி புதிய பேருந்து நிலையம் மற்றும் சிவாஜி நகர்) அருகாமையில் தேனி வனக்கோட்டம், தேனி வனச்சரகம், வால்கரடு காப்புக்காட்டின் எல்லை பகுதிக்குள் பொதுமக்களால் குப்பைகள் மற்றும் கழிவுகள் கொட்டப்படுவதை தவிர்க்க ஒவ்வொரு 100 மீட்டர் இடைவெளியிலும் குப்பை தொட்டி வைக்கப்படும். அதில் நாள்தோறும் சேகரமாகும் கழிவுகளை Battery Operator vehicle மற்றும் தள்ளுவண்டிகளின் உபயோகத்துடன் துப்புரவு பணியாளர்களால் அப்புறப்படுத்த நடவடிக்கை மேற்கொள்ளப்படும்.

மேலும் அவ்வள எல்லைகள் ஓரம் குப்பைகள் கொட்டுவதை தவிர்க்க அறிவுரை வழங்கப்படுவதுடன், அத்துமீறினால் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்படும் என்பதனை தெரியப்படுத்தி முன்னெச்சரிக்கை விளம்பர பலகைகள் பொது மக்களின் பார்வைக்கு அறியும்படி வைக்கப்படும். அத்துடன் வனப்பகுதியில் குப்பைகளை கொட்டுவது வனக்குற்றமாகும் என்ற விபரத்துடன் அதற்கான தண்டனைகள் விபரத்தினை தெரியப்படுத்தி தொடர்ச்சியாக ஒலிபெருக்கி மூலம் பொதுமக்களுக்கு தெரியப்படுத்தப்பட நடவடிக்கை மேற்கொள்ளப்படும்.

தேனி புதிய பேருந்து நிலையம் எதிர்புறம் (சிவாஜி நகர் செல்லும் சாலை) தேநீர் கடைக்கு பின்புறமுள்ள வனப்பகுதி மிகவும் மறைவான பகுதியாக (Hidden Spot) உள்ளதால் பொதுமக்கள் குப்பை கொட்டுவது, இயற்கை உபாதைகள் கழிப்பது போன்று ஒழிங்கின செயல்களில் ஈடுபடுகின்றனர். எனவே அப்பகுதி தொடர்ந்து மாசுபடுவதை தவிர்க்க அப்பகுதியில் சுமார் 100 மீட்டர் நீளத்திற்கு சிறப்பு நிரந்தர வேலி அமைத்து பாதுகாக்கப்படும்.

எனவே இவ்வாறு புதிய பேருந்து நிலைய வளாகம் மற்றும் அதனை சுற்றியுள்ள வனப்பகுதியில் திடக்கழிவு மேலாண்மை மேம்படுத்தப்படும் என்பதனை அன்புடன் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.”

D)As rightly pointed out by APCCF, Madurai Circle in his inspection report “Movement of heavy and fast-moving vehicles on the road can cause disturbance to such wildlife and their habitat and tend to result in road kills as has been witnessed elsewhere. Further trash and garbage deposited by the general public on the sides of the road may also add to the discomfiture experienced by

wildlife leading to death of fauna, particularly reptilian fauna". in order to mitigate the problem specifically with respect to protecting wildlife and its habitat appropriate wildlife mitigation measures shall be proposed.

The User Agency has submitted that *"Steps will be taken to provide necessary sign boards and speed limits boards with reflectors in the Valkaradu Forest Zone. All vehicle driving in the forest area to be requested to maintain maximum speed in 30 km/h. in the stipulated time 6:00 pm to 6:00 am. This type of measures are leads to avoid death of fauna and other living Forest animals."*

Moreover, I submit that the following documents listed below are enclosed herewith,

- 1) Site Inspection Report & Photographs
- 2) Recommendation Report
- 3) Hard Copy of the revised Proposal received from the User Agency
(4 Copies)
- 4) Part - II of the proposal (4 copies)
- 5) Estimate for the Compensation Afforestation.

I also submit that all the above reports have been uploaded in the Forest Clearance Website; This is for favor of kind information.

This is for favour of kind information.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/- C.Vidhya
District Forest Officer,
Theni Forest Division, Theni.

/t.c.b.o/

Superintendent.

26/4/2022

26/04/2022