

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From To  
Dr. Sudhanshu Gupta, I.F.S., The Additional Chief Secretary to  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government,  
(Head of Department) Environment, Climate Change and  
Forest Head Quarters Building, Forests Department,  
Guindy-Velachery Main Road, Secretariat, Chennai 9.  
Guindy, Chennai-15.

C. No. TS3/39367/2021 Dated: 06.05.2024.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 0.0476 ha of forest land in Anjur RF and Sengundram RF for relaying and periodical maintenance of Singaperumalkoil-Reddikuppam road to Chengalpattu-Thiruporur via Anjur Pattaravakkam Thenur road km 0/0-0/285 in Chengalpattu District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Nabard and Rural Roads, Chengalpattu - Proposal forwarding - Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Oline forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu - Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/148718/ 2021, dated 05.12.2021 and resubmission of proposal on 03.01.2022, 02.02.2022 and 21.02.2022.
- 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division on 14.10.2022 and EDS reply dated 09.05.2023
- 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle on 16.02.2023 and resubmission of proposal on 19.06.2023
- 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No, TS3/39367/2021, dated 07.07.2023
- 5 Government letter No. 5190510/FR.10/2023-1, dated 25.09.2023
- 6 Resubmission of proposal in parivesh portal on 21.03.2024

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With reference to the Government letter cited, I wish to state the following.

1) The Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.0476 ha of forest land in Anjur RF and

Sengundram RF for relaying and periodical maintenance of Singaperumalkoil-Reddikuppam road to Chengalpattu-Thiruporur via Anjur Pattaravakkam Thenur road km 0/0-0/285 in Chengalpattu District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Nabard and Rural Roads, Chengalpattu under proposal No. FP/TN/Road/148718/2021.

i) The District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division has reported that, only triangular portion of the road lies in forest area of Anjur RF (25.58 sq.m) and Sengundram RF (449.90 sq.m) and total extent is 475.48 sq.m or 0.0476 ha.

ii) The District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division has reported that, on inspection, it was found that the road was already laid long time back in forest area and there is no proper records available on when the road was formed. Also, the requested forest stretch is in continuation of the already existing Singaperumalkoil-Reddikuppam road to Chengalpattu-Thiruporur road via Anjur, Pattaravakkam, Thenur road. The Forest Range Officer, Chengalpattu reported, based on enquiry with village people that, this road was formed 20 years before and also reported that, this road has no right of way as per the Anjur and Sengundram RF notification.

iii) As per the report of the user agency, the present road was constructed before 1985 and it was maintained by Rural Department and also informed that the last renewal was carried out prior to 2008 by Rural Department and the road was handed over to Highways Department for further maintenance during 2018.

iv) The District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division has reported that, as per Survey of India topo sheet No. 66D/2 of 1976 year, the road is not mentioned, thus, it can't be ascertained whether the road was laid before 1980.

v) Now the Divisional Engineer (H), N&RR, Chengalpattu has applied for diversion of 0.0476 Ha of this forest land for up gradation of Singaperumalkoil-Reddikuppam road to Chengalpattu-Thiruporur road via Anjur, Pattaravakkam, Thenur road. The road is highly essential for providing access to the people of Reddikuppam, Anjur, Pattaravakkam and Thenur villages. Many representations from all corners were received by the District administration and the District Collector, Chengalpattu has also insisted during the inter departmental meetings for the upkeep of this road as Ambulances and other essential service vehicles are facing problem while crossing the particular road stretch passing through the Anjur and Sengundram RF due to the bad condition of the road in this stretch.

vi) Taking into consideration of the above and area of forest area involved is less than one hectare, the proposal has been recommended for State Government approval.

vi) Now as per Van (Sankrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023 is comes into force, hence the proposal may be forwarded to the Government of India for approval of the proposal.

2) As stated above, the road was earlier formed and maintained by the Rural Development Department. During 2018, road handed over to Highways Department for further maintenance.

i) The Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Chengalpattu has informed to the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Nabard and Rural Roads, Chengalpattu that, no records available on obtaining permission from the Forest Department for the formation/maintenance of roads and the District Collector, Chengalpattu also informed non availability of records. Copies of the above reports are enclosed.

ii) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle has reported that, since the particulars of the work executed are not available, it is not possible to determine exact duration of works executed and person responsible for violation against whom action to be initiated.

I request that, above reports may be accepted and the proposal may be forwarded to Government of India for its approval.

Encl : As stated above.

Yours faithfully

*S. Alayudh*  
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department)

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*06/05/2024*