

By e-mail / By RPAD

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARMENT

From
Tmt.R.Padmawathe, IFS.,
Conservator of Forests
and Field Director,
Srivilliputhur Megamalai
Tiger Reserve, Madurai - 2.

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests, (Head of Forest Force)
Chennai - 32.

C.No.2471/2022/D1, Dated: 07 .03.2023

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - SMTR, Madurai, Theni Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land for laying of underground OFC along Valkaradu RF, Paramasivan Kovil Karadu RF, Ammapuram Bit 2, Pinnathevanpatti RL in Theni Range in Theni Division- between -Batlagundu through rural areas at Theni District - Online proposal submission by the User Agency ie BSNL , Theni - Additional details called for - Report submission of - Reg.

- Ref: 1) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Letter No.TS4/12214/2019, Dated; 27.05.2022.
- 2) Conservator of Forests and Field Director, SMTR, Madurai Ref. No.D1/2471/2022 Dt. 22.02.2022.
- 3) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Letter No.TS4/12214/2019, Dated; 22.11.2022.
- 4) District Forest Officer, Theni Ref. No.2265/ 2018/D Dt.06.01.2023 & 23.02.2023.

I Submit that, With reference to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter 1st cited the District Forest Officer, Theni has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.045 ha of forest land for laying of underground OFC along Valkaradu RF, Paramasivan Kovil Karadu RF, Ammapuram Bit 2 RF, Pinnathevanpatti RL in Theni Range in Theni Division Theni District submitted by the user agency in FCA project No. FP/TN/OFC/38837/2019 under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 through online.

The Sub Divisional Engineer, Office of the Divisional Engineer, Optical Fiber Cable Division, BSNL Madurai (User Agency) has informed that, normally depth requirement for laying optical fiber cable is 1.65 Mtr But the proposed Reserved Forest area is rock influenced and nearer to Hillocks, also the maximum depth requirement is less than 1.00 Mtr How ever based on the site

inspection on 14.10.2022 the width of the proposed laying cable is 30 cms is advisable and based on that the area for diversion is 540 m² (0.054 Ha).

It is also submit that the proposed area across Pinnathevanpatti RL, Ammapuram Bit II RF, Paramasivankovil Karadu RL and Valkaradu RF and village near Allinagaram, Karuvelnaickanpatti, Boduvarpatti and Pinnathevanpatti in Theni Forest Division. In the earlier report it was reported that the proposed area falls in the Ammapuram Bit -III Reserve Forest by over sight and hence this has been corrected in the revised site inspection report and Part III of the proposal, ie Recommendation. (Copy enclosed)

The District Forest Officer Theni Forest Division has furnished that the distance of Eco Sensitive Zone from the proposed Reserve Forest and Reserve Land in respect of Megamalai and Kodaikanal are as follows.

S.No	ReservedForest/ Reserved Land	ESZ from Megamalai (SMTR)	ESZ from Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuary
1	Pinnathevanpatti RL	12.30 KM	13.00 KM
2	Ammapuram Bit-II RF	12.80 KM	13.90KM
3	Paramasivan Kovil Karadu RL	12.40 KM	13.70 KM
4	Valkaradu RF	12.45 KM	13.40 KM

This is for kind information and necessary action.

Encl:- as stated above

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-R.Padmawathe
Conservator of Forests and Field Director,
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve,
Madurai

/True copy By order/

S. Gnananathan
Senior Draughting Officer
21/3/23

vj
07/3/23

Revised Site Inspection report of Conservator of Forests and Field Director, SMTR, Madurai regarding diversion of 0.045Ha of forest land in Valkaradu RF, Paramasivan Kovil Karadu RF, Ammapuram Bit II RF, Pinnathevanpatti RL for laying of underground OFC along road side from Batlagundu to Theni in Theni Forest Division of Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve, Madurai.

The proposed forest area for laying an underground Optical Fiber Cable in an extent of 0.045 Ha in Theni Range of Theni Division and Theni District has been inspected by me along with the District Forest Officer, Theni and concerned officials on 14.10.2022.

The proposed underground Optical Fibre Cable passes through the forest area in a length of 1800 mt, width of 0.25 mt and depth of 2.00m along the roadside from Batlagundu to Theni across Pinnathevanpatti RL, Ammapuram Bit II RF, Paramasivankovil Karadu RL and Valkaradu RF and village near Allinagaram, Karuvelnaickanpatti, Boduvarpatti and Pinnathevanpatti in Theni Forest Division. This does not involve any felling of trees nor cause any disturbance to vegetation or any spontaneous growth in the proposed RF area.

The area to be diverted falls in the following RF/RL;

S.No	Reserved Forest/ Reserved Land	Length (m)	Width(m)	Area(m2)
1	Pinnathevanpatti RL	600	0.25	150.00
2	Ammapuram Bit-II RF	190	0.25	47.50
3	Paramasivan Kovil Karadu RL	760	0.25	190
4	Valkaradu RF	250	0.25	62.50
	Total	1800		450

The proposed area does not fall under any Eco Sensitive Zone, Wildlife Sanctuary, National Park or Tiger Reserve. There are no trees to be felled for laying the underground OFC cable. Based on the inspection, it is advisable to take up the width as 30cms for laying the cable and the area to be diverted may be changed to 540 m² ie. 0.054 Ha.


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


21/10/22

REVISED PART - III

[to be filled by concerned Conservator of Forests and Field Director]

17.	Whether site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by concerned Conservator of Forests and Field Director (Yes / No) if yes, the date of inspection & observations made in form of inspection note to be enclosed.	:	Yes. Inspected by the Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve, Madurai on 14.10.2022 and site inspection report enclosed.
18.	Whether the concerned Conservator of Forests and Field Director agree with the information given in Part B and the recommendation of District Forest Officer.	:	Yes
19.	Specific Recommendation of concerned Conservator of Forests and Field Director for acceptance	:	<p>The proposed diversion of forest land does not have any important monuments of Archeological, Heritage site, Defense establishment etc., and the project is location specific and the area requested for the project is barest minimum.</p> <p>The proposed underground OFC is proposed to pass through Valkaradu RF, Paramasivan Kovil Karadu RF, Ammapuram Bit II RF , Pinnathevanpatti RL to a length of 1800m, and width of 0.25m and in depth 2m. Recommended, for diversion of 540 m² (0.054 Ha) as the width may be increased to 30 cms from 25cms as the OFC cable is proposed to be laid underground and no tree felling is involved.</p>

Signature :

Name : R. Padmawathe, IFS,

Office Seal : **Conservator of Forests and Field Director,
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve,
Madurai - 625 002.**

Date : 07.03.2023

Place: Madurai.

