

Letter No.5227778/FR.10/2023-4, dated: 11.06.2024

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, 1st Floor,
Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006. (w.e).

Sir,

Sub: Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 –
Proposal (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 lieu of LC No. 32 in between Tambaram and
Vandalur Railway Station near Perungalathur in Chengalpattu
District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai
Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II, Chennai –
Regarding.

- Ref: 1. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoFF), Letter
No.TS3/2987/2022, dated 15.07.2023.
2. Govt letter No.5227778/FR10/2023-3, dated 31.01.2024.
3. From the Assistant Inspector General of Forests(Central).
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Government of India, Regional Office, Chennai, Letter
No.F.No.4-TNB109/2023-CHN/305, Dated 08.03.2024.
4. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (HoD), Letter
No.TS3/2987/2022, dated 24.05.2024.

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I am directed to enclose a copy of the reference 4th cited, wherein the
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD) has furnished the reply on the
clarification called for in your letter 3rd cited.

2. I am, therefore, to request you to obtain In-principle approval from the
competent authority and communicate the same to the Government at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

A. Malathy 12/6/24

for Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

Pi.
12/6/2024

By On-line/Email

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Dr. Sudhanshu Gupta, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Department)
Forest Head Quarters Building,
Guindy-Velachery Main Road,
Guindy, Chennai-15.

To

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

C. No. TS3/2987/2022 Dated: 24.05.2024.

Madam,

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 0.95472 ha of forest land in Vandalur RF for construction of Road over Bridge in lieu of LC No. 32 in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway Station near Perungalathur in Chengalpattu District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II, Chennai - Proposal forwarded - Meeting conducted by the Government of India - Additional details called for - Regarding.

- Ref:
- 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II Chennai - Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/151930/2022
 - 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Chennai Division
 - 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle
 - 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/2987/2022 Dated: 15.07.2023
 - 5 Government of India, MoEF&CC, IRO Chennai letter F. No. 4-TNB109/2023-CHN/1035, dated 29.08.2023
 - 6 Government letter No. 5227778/FR.10/2023-2, dated 15.09.2023
 - 7 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/2987/2022 Dated: 03.01.2024
 - 7 Government of India, MoEF&CC, RO Chennai letter F. No. 4-TNB109/2023-CHN/305, dated 08.03.2024
 - 8 District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division, Kancheepuram C. No. 6525/2003 D, dated 08.05.2024

With reference to the Government of India letter 8th cited, I wish to inform the following.

The Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Government of India, MoEF&CC, RO, Chennai has conducted a meeting on 06.03.2024 to discuss the proposal and the Divisional Engineer, Metro, Assistant Divisional Engineer, CMDP and other officials participated in the meeting and the Government of India has informed to furnish the additional details for further consideration of the proposal.

Additional details on the proposal are furnished below.

i) The user agency and project proponents have applied two separate forest clearance proposal at different dates and different project proponents. Proposals have been processed based on the area applied and for the diversion of below one ha area, compensatory land has not been insisted following the guidelines issued under the Forest Conservation Act 1980.

ii) For the proposed diversion of 0.95472 ha of forest land in Vandalur RF for construction of Road over Bridge in lieu of LC No. 32 in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway Station near Perungalathur in Chengalpattu District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II, Chennai, compensatory afforestation has been proposed in 1.909 ha of degraded forest area in Vandalur RF.

a) Regarding the compensatory land identified by the user agency, I wish to state that, SF. No. 96/1 of Vedhanarayanapuram village in Chengalpattu District consist of 31.09 ha and in this non forest area, compensatory land has been proposed for the forest clearance proposal furnished in Chengalpattu district.

b) No other area in this hillock was given as Compensatory land for any earlier FC proposal.

c) For the proposal furnished for declaration of land under section 4 of Tamil Nadu Forest Act 1882 for converting the land as Reserve Forests for the extent of 31.09 Ha in Survey No.96/1 in Vedhanarayanapuram village at Chengalpattu District, the District Collector, Chengalpattu vide his letter N.Ka.No.8265/2021/A2 Dt.06.03.2023, replied to Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle that, the proposal under section 4 notification could not be considered, since this land shall be utilized for compensatory afforestation for various other Government projects.

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d) It is observed that, the land is already having vegetation and forest like characteristics. Compensatory Afforestation plantation can't be taken up on this land. Thus, Compensatory Afforestation plantation may be taken up in degraded forest area. While accepting the above survey field number area may be accepted as Compensatory Afforestation land. This non forest CA land is a part of hillock that is adjacent to Palar River. Also, it is located at a distance of 400 mtrs from existing Hanumanthapuram RF. Compensatory afforestation has been proposed in 8.92 ha of degraded forest area in Gudalur RF.

e) Already for one other diversion proposal, land parcel in same hillock is being considered as Non-forest Compensatory Afforestation land and hillock is of 31 Ha, hence it is found suitable for compensatory land, provided that this hillock of 31 Ha should be earmarked for Compensatory Afforestation purpose only.

I request that the additional details may be considered and forwarded to Government of India for further consideration of forest clearance proposals forwarded for approval.

Yours faithfully

S. Alagappan/27/5/24
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Department)

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27/05/24

