

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Subrat Mohabatra, I.F.S.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force)
Forest Head Quarters Building, Guindy-
Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai-32.

To

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

C. No. TS3/12645/2020 Dated: 14.07.2023.

Madam,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for temporary diversion of 0.091 ha of forest land in Thiruthuraiyur RF of Cuddalore Forest Division for the purpose of Reconstruction of damaged bridge at km 6/4 of Pudupettai-Oraiur-Karumbur-Paithampady road across Malattar River in Cuddalore District – Details called for – Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Construction and Maintenance, Cuddalore, Proposal No. FP/TN/Approach/43097/2019
- 2 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Cuddalore Division
- 3 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle
- 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/12645/2020, dated 12.11.2022 and 07.02.2023
- 5 Government letter No. 18547/FR.10/2022-2, dated 21.03.2023

With reference to the Government letter 5th cited, I am to furnish the details called therein as detailed below.

1) The District Forest Officer, Cuddalore Division has reported that, the user agency has requested temporary diversion of forest area for road formation work for a period of one year while re-construction of minor bridge proposed. After completion of bridge construction, the temporary diversion road area will be handed over back to the Forest Department by the user agency after reclaiming the area to the original state. Hence compensatory afforestation not required.

In this regard, I wish to state that, there is no tree felling is involved in this project and diversion of forest area is below one hectare, hence as per Para 2.6 of Handbook of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Forest Conservation Rule 2003 issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate

Change in March 2019, compensatory afforestation has not been proposed by the District Forest Officer, Cuddalore Division and the same has been recommended by the Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation Act) and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force).

2) Temporary diversion of forest land has been requested in Thiruthuraiyur Reserve Forest. This forest block includes the area of Malattar River and spotted deer, Wild pig, Reptiles are present in and around the forest land proposed for temporary diversion for a period of one year.

The District Forest Officer, Cuddalore Division has informed following instruction has been sent to the user agency for adoption during the diversion period.

- i) The vehicle speed limit should be within 40km/hr.
- ii) Awareness caution board should be erected in the Reserve Forest area.
- iii) Speed breakers should be laid in animal crossing areas.

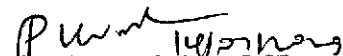
3) I request that the proposal may be considered under the General approval category where-in the State Government have empowered to divert forest areas up to one hectare for critical public utility and welfare projects undertaken by Government agencies and the proposed approach path for reconstruction of bridge in the existing road may be considered under Road category and in-principle Stage-I approval orders may be issued for temporary diversion of 0.091 ha of forest land in Thiruthuraiyur RF of Cuddalore Forest Division for the purpose of Reconstruction of damaged bridge at km 6/4 of Pudupettai-Oraiur-Karumbur-Paithampady road across Malattar River in Cuddalore District in favour of Divisional Engineer (H) (C&M), Cuddalore for a Period of one year.

Yours faithfully
Sd/-V. Karunapriya,
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Villupuram Circle, Villupuram and District Forest Officer, Cuddalore Forest Division, Cuddalore.

Copy to the Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Construction and Maintenance, Beach Main Road, Cuddalore, Pin code 607 001. (User Agency)

/True copy/By order/


Senior Draughting Officer.