

**TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT**

From  
Tmt. K. Geethanjali, I.F.S.,  
Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Chennai Circle,  
Chennai - 06.

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force),  
Guindy Velachery Main Road,  
Chennai – 600 032.

**Ref. No. 6286 / 2022 / D, Dated: 19.03.2024**

Sir,

**Sub:** FORESTS – Kancheepuram District – Chengalpattu Division – Proposal for diversion of 0.8169 Ha of forest land in Vallam RF for relaying and periodical maintenance of Singaperumal Koil - Reddikuppam Road at Chengalpattu – Thiruporur via Anjur Pattaravakkam Thenur road KM 7/747 – 8/947 in Chengalpattu District – Report submitted – Reg.

- Ref:**
1. Online application uploaded by the User agency – The Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu Proposal No.FP/TN/Road/148705/ 2021 Dt.05.12.2021 and Re-submission of revised proposal on.03.01.2022.
  2. Forest Range Officer, Chengalpattu Range, Chengalpattu, C.No.83/2022, Dt.25.02.2022
  3. District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division, Ref No.D/1120/22 Dt.23.06.2022.
  4. Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu Letter No.753/2022/JDO.1/ Dt.26.07.2022.
  5. District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division, Ref No.D/1120/22 Dt.01.08.2022.
  6. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Regional office, Chennai Lr.No.4-TNB111/2023-CHN/1130 Dt.05.10.23.
  7. Government letter No.900/FR.10/2023-3, Dt.20.10.2023.
  8. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Chennai-32, Ref.No.TS3/39369/21 Dt.27.10.2023.
  9. Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai-06, Ref.No.D/6286/2022, Dt.07.11.2023
  10. District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division, Ref No.D/1120/22 Dt.22.11.2023
  11. The District Collector, Chengalpattu, Ref No.4947/2023/A12, Dt.07.12.2023.
  12. Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu Letter No. 753/22/JDO.1/ Dt.12.12.2023.
  13. Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai-06, Ref.No.D/6286/2022, Dt.30.01.2024.
  14. District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division, Ref. No. 1120/2022/D, Dated:01.03.2024.

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I submit that the District Forest Officer Chengalpattu Division in the reference 14<sup>th</sup> cited has submitted his report for the queries raised in the Government letter 6<sup>th</sup> cited as follows,

“the user agency has submitted proposal for relaying and periodical maintenance of Singaperumal Koil - Reddikuppam Road at Chengalpattu – Thiruporur via Anjur Pattaravakkam Thenur road KM 7/747 – 8/947 in Chengalpattu District. It was mentioned in the proposal that this road was constructed before 1985 and maintained by Rural Development Department. The last renewal was carried out prior to 2008 and the road is heavily damaged for the past 13 years in forest portion. The stretch found with lot of surfaces worn outs, ruts, potholes which is discomfort to the road users and fast-moving vehicles.

As per reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, Forest Range Officer, Chengalpattu has reported that the road passing through between forest boundary stone No.86 and 87 of Vallam Reserved Forest and there is no right of way in the Vallam Reserved Forest notification.

In the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited, the District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division has addressed to Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu requested to clarify the following.

1. Whether any permission from the Forest Department for black topping and subsequent maintenance was obtained?
2. If yes, kindly provide the order copy or relevant document other of the same

As per reference 4<sup>h</sup> cited, Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu reported that no documents are available in the office regarding obtaining permission from forest department for the work carried out earlier.

As per reference 5<sup>th</sup> cited, a letter was addressed to Deputy Director and Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Chengalpattu requested to clarify the detailed information of the person responsible for the violation and awaiting response from the District Rural Development Agency for same.

In the reference 10<sup>th</sup> cited, additional report called for by the Government a letter was addressed to Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu requesting following details.

1. As mentioned in the proposal the last renewal was carried out for this road before 2008, whether any permission from the Forest Department for black topping and subsequent maintenance was obtained. If yes, kindly provide the copy of the same.
2. If there are no permission was obtained then it amounts to be violation of provision of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

In this case, the details of person responsible for violation, along with the authority, details of duration during which construction and maintenance work was carried out were also called for.

As per reference 11<sup>th</sup> cited, Divisional Engineer, Highways Department, Rural Roads, Chengalpattu based on District Collector, Chengalpattu letter reference no.4947/2023/A12, dt.07.12.2023 reported that the Chengalpattu

District was formed during march 2020 bifurcated from combined Kancheepuram District. Hence, the particulars of Road work executed are not available in Chengalpattu District and not traceable from Kancheepuram District.

**Based on the above facts, he submitted reply to the following quires:**

**A. The user agency and official(s) responsible for violation of Forest (Conservation) Act,1980.**

As per the proposal the road was constructed before 1985 by District Rural Development Agency. However, as per the 4<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> cited, particular of road work executed are not available. Thus, it is not possible to determine official responsible for violation.

**B. Year in which the existing road was built/constructed.**

As per the proposal the road was constructed before 1985.

As per the reference 4<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> cited, particular of road work executed are not available. Hence, it is not possible to determine exact year in which the existing road was built/constructed.

**C. Forest Department Officials who are all responsible for not preventing of such violation.**

As per the proposal the road was constructed before 1985. As per the reference 4<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> cited, particulars of road work executed are not available. Hence, it is not possible to determine exact year in which the existing road was built/constructed and due to unavailability of documents cannot be found out the departmental officer who are responsible for such violation.

**D. Action Taken by the State Government so far on officials responsible for violation may be submitted.**

As a long time has been lapsed since construction of road and due to unavailability of proper documents, it is not possible to determine officials responsible for violation. Hence, no action can be taken in this regard.

**E. Further, it was also requested to clarify that any change in the user agency from District Rural Development Agency to Highway in the present project.**

As per reference 11<sup>th</sup> cited. The District Collector, Chengalpattu has reported that the Singaperumal kovil to Reddikuppam road to Chengalpattu – Thiruporur Road (via) Anjur, Patravakkam, Thenur road from km 7/77 – 8/593 and 8/703.8-8/947 in Chengalpattu District was already handed over to the Highways Department for further maintenance in the G.O 2D No.85, Highways and Minor Ports (HF1) Department, Dated:27.11.2018.

A copy of letter received from the District Forest Officer Chengalpattu Division for favour of kind necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above.

Sd/- K. Geethanjali,  
Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Chennai Circle, Chennai.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division.

//t.c.b.o.//

  
Senior Draughting Officer

