

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From
Subrat Mohapatra IFS.,
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force),
Forest Headquarters Building,
Guindy - Velachery Main road,
Near Kannikapuram Checkpost,
Guindy, Chennai - 600 032

To
The Additional Chief Secretary to
Government,
Environment Climate Change and
Forests Department, Secretariat,
Chennai 600 009.

Ref. No.TS4/25987/2023 dated. 28.07.2023

Madam,

- Sub: Forest – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – SMTR, Madurai Circle / Madurai division – Proposal for diversion of 0.1275 ha of forest land for formation of new black top road from Vikramangalam - Kadupatti village through Mannadimangalam Reserved Forests — Regarding.
- Ref: 1. Online application uploaded by the User Agency – Block Development Officer, Vadipatty (FP/TN/Road/34073/2018)
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref.No.TS4/25987/2018 dated.19.10.2022.
3. Government Lr.No:17883/FR-10/2022-2 dated 25.04.2023.
4. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref.No.TS4/25987/2018 dated.26.04.2023.
5. District Forest Officer, Madurai C.No.4289/2018/D1, dt.04.07.2023.
6. Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director, SMTR, Madurai C.No.12025/2021/D, dt.18.07.2023.

I wish to state that the reason for non-submission of Compensatory Afforestation scheme called for by the Government vide reference 3rd cited is furnished below.

In the chapter 2.5 of hand Book of FCA Rules 2003 Guidelines & Clarifications – 2019 stated that:

Sl.No.2.5 (i) g

Conservation of link roads, small water, minor irrigation works, school building, dispensaries, hospital, tiny rural industrial sheds of the Government or any other similar work excluding mining and encroachment cases, which directly benefit the people of the area in hill districts and in other districts having Forest area exceeding 50% of the geographical area, provided diversion of Forest area does not exceed 20 Ha.

In Madurai Forest division, the forest area (Forest Cover 13.83%) does not exceed 50% at the total Geographical area and the diversion of the Forest area is only 0.1275 Ha and the proposed road for formation of new black top road from Vikramangalam – Kadupatti Village is situated within the area of Vikramangalam town limits. There are no standing trees that needs to be felled in the

proposed area of diversion 0.1275 Ha in and adjacent by and there no tree felling involved in the proposed area. This path is being used by public and is a long pending demand from local people. It is also informed that, development of existing kacha road into black top road (Length-150 Mt. and Width-8.5 Mt) does not involve felling of trees or affect any wildlife and no threat to flora and fauna or adverse impact on surroundings.

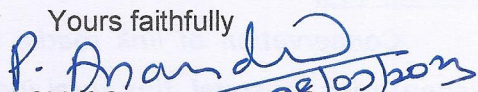
Further, a Clarification was issued by the Government of India vide Lr.No.FC-11/118/2021-FC, dt: 13.06.2023. As per that, "following categories of proposals, cost of plantation of ten times the number of trees likely to be felled or specified numbers of trees as may be specified in the order for diversion of forest land (subject to a minimum no. of 100 plants), shall be levied from the User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation".


- a) Clearing of naturally grown trees in forest land or in portion thereof for the purpose of using it for reforestation.
- b) Diversion of forest land up to one hectare.
- c) Underground mining in forest land without surface rights,
- d) Renewal of mining lease for the forest area for which CA has already been paid.

In this regard, it is stated that the diversion of forest land is less than one hectare and no trees have been proposed to be felled. Hence, Compensatory Afforestation scheme is not proposed.

I request that the proposal for diversion of 0.1275 ha of forest land in Mannadimangalam Reserved Forests for formation of new black top road from Vikramangalam - Kadupatti village in Madurai District in Madurai Forest Division for a period of 20 years may be accorded in favor of the Block Development Officer, Vadipatti Panchayat Union, Vadipatti may kindly be approved and communicated early.

Yours faithfully


for Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)


28/7/23