



भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE
CHANGE
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F.No.4-TNB081/2022-CHN/267
Date 11th March, 2022

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu,
Environment & Forests Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai - 600 009.

Subject: Diversion of 0.42 ha of forest land for providing basic amenities to the pilgrims who visit the Arulmigu Malaiyandi Sastha Ayyanarkoil in Thoothukkudi District- Reg.

Reference: The State Government letter No 22802/FR.10/2021-2 dated 09.02.2022

Sir,

Please refer to the subject and reference and to inform that, this office carried out the site inspection of the project site on 01.03.2022. Upon scrutiny of the proposal and observation made during the site inspection, I am directed to request to submit the following additional information / clarification/ documents etc for further consideration of the proposal;

- a. The Right of Way to access road to the temple is mentioned as 818 meters in the RF notification whereas actual distance in the field is around 1200 meters. It was informed by the field officials that the alignment of road was changed in due course, due to slope of area and for the requirement of movement of vehicles during monsoon period. Hence requirement of area for using the road in addition to the RoW mentioned in the RF Notification needs clarification;
- b. As per the temple authorities the original temple was constructed with old rubble masonry wall around the temple. But additional concrete building block (1298 sqft as per DSS estimate) was constructed in northern boundary, and a small pump room (59 sqft as Per DSS estimate) was also constructed but its year of construction is not known to the officials. It needs to be confirmed.

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- c. The temple authorities informed that due to large numbers of pilgrims being visited during festival seasons some area in the southern portion was utilized temporarily (0.15 ha as per DSS estimate). Hence it has to be clarified that whether this area is required for the User Agency in future, else the cleared area shall be restored by planting some indigenous trees.
- d. This forest tract is a dry tract receives very less rainfall and having thorny vegetation. Hence during fire season adequate protection shall be ensured.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015.
2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015
3. Arulmigu Malaiyandi Sastha Ayyanar Kovil, Araikulam, Ottapidaram Taluk, Thoothukkudi, Tamil Nadu 628401. malaiyandisastha@gmail.com
4. Guard file.

Sd/-

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)