



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय/Regional Office, Chennai.
1st Floor Additional Office Block for GPOA, Shastri Bhawan,
Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai -600 006
e-mail: ro.moefccc@gov.in



F.No.4-TNB109/2023-CHN/ 305
Date: 08th March, 2024

Minutes of the Meeting for reviewing various road proposals held at Regional Office, Chennai on 06.03.2024 at 04:00 PM

A review meeting was held at RO, Chennai with the User Agencies and State Forest Department under the Chairmanship of Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), RO Chennai on 06.03.2024 to review and discuss the issues in some of the road proposals.

The officers of RO, Chennai, State Government of Tamil Nadu and representatives from User Agencies participated in the meeting. **List of participants of the above meeting is attached as Annexure.**

At the outset, the Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), RO Chennai, extended a warm welcome to all the participants and informed that this meeting is intended to address the issues involved in some of the road proposals in which, even after EDS was raised, the reply received is not satisfactory. The Nodal Officer or State Government have not substantiated the reply furnished by the User Agency on the EDS raised. After that, the Assistant Inspector General of Forests explained each proposal and the latest reply on EDS received from the State Govt. Proposal wise decision taken is appended here.

Proposal No. 1: FP/TN/ROAD/155502/2022

Diversion of 0.536 ha area of Nanmangalam RF for the construction of Grade Separator connecting Medavakkam - Sholinganallur road junction, Medavakkam - Mambakkam road junction, Mount - Medavakkam Road junction in Marmalong Bridge - Irumbuliyur Road at Medavakkam.

This proposal was submitted earlier under General Approval category, and request from State Govt. was received for giving concurrence of RO, Chennai for felling trees of spontaneous origin as per the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court in dealing of such cases. Accordingly RO, Chennai has given approval for felling of trees of spontaneous origin as per this office letter F.No.FP/TN/ROAD/155502/2022/1309 dated 06.12.2023.

But as the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023 came into effect from 01.12.2023, the State Govt. has forwarded the proposal to Regional Office for approval.

The DDGF opined that since the proposal is a separate one it needs to be dealt as an individual proposal and to process it accordingly.

Proposal No. 2: FP/TN/ROAD/151930/2022

Diversion of 0.95472 ha of forest land 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.

Proposal No. 3: FP/TN/ROAD/148656/2021

Diversion of 4.46 ha of forest land in Vandalur RFs for formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass road branching from km 17/4 of Malmalong bridge-Irumbuliyur road from Rajakilpakkam via Agaramthen road towards Perungalathur at Km 0/0-9/300 in Chengalpattu District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-I, Chennai.

Proposal No. 2 & 3 are contiguous and this office had sought clarification on clubbing the proposals together, which may affect the applicability of the Compensatory Afforestation land, procedure of dealing the proposal etc.

The representative of the User Agency informed that the Govt. Sanction for both the proposals are different and needs to be considered as a separate proposal and also informed that Non-Forest Land to the extent of 8.92 ha was given for the CA land in Chengalpet District in lieu of the proposal involved forest area of 4.46 ha.

The DDGF discussed the issues in detail and informed that report on the suitability of the Non Forest Land identified in the Chengalpet District is lacking on some technical and silvicultural aspects, such as total area of the hillock where this CA was earmarked and whether any other areas in this hillock were given as CA in lieu of any earlier FC proposals and details thereof, Sec.4 notification for some of the areas were sent earlier as per DFO's report needs further clarification. It was advised that the non forest land given for CA shall be critically examined by the field officials as per the guideline issued by the Ministry in this regard. Specifically, *"the suitability of land offered for CA in lieu of forest land proposed for diversion in terms of its vicinity to the area being proposed for diversion and/or contiguity with the existing forest area and will ensure that manageability of such CA land has been taken care of for future"* needs to be substantiated by DFO / Nodal Officer.

After perusal of the issues and submission by the representative of Nodal Office and the User Agency, the DDGF informed that,