

C.No.TS3 / 6778 / 2016

By On-line / E-mail

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator
of Forests (Head of Department),
Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai-15.

Dated: 28.03.2019.

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Chennai Forest Circle / Chengalpattu Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.64 ha of forest land in Nallur Reserved Forests of Chengalpattu-Kancheepuram Division for widening the existing approach road leading to Sri Sairam Engineering College and Other Educational Institutions managed by M/s Sapthagiri Educational Trust - Online Submission of proposal by the User Agency –Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Online application uploaded by the User Agency - Project proponent Thiru. Sai Prakash Leo Muthu CEO of M/s Sri Sairam Educational Trust, Sai Bhavan, No. 318, Madley Road, T. Nagar, Chennai 17 – Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/17771/2016, dated 26.02.2016 and re-submission of proposal on 13.05.2016, 07.06.2016, 02.08.2016, 28.04.2018 & 28.07.2018 & 23.10.2018.
- 2 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference No. TS3/6778/2016, dated 06.08.2018 & 10.11.2018
- 3 Part-II of Form A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division on 07.01.2019
- 4 Part-III of Form A uploaded by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle on 27.02.2019

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Attention of the Chief Conservator of Forests is invited to the references cited.

In the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests references 2nd cited, On-line application received from Thiru. Sai Prakash Leo Muthu CEO of M/s Sri Sairam Educational Trust, Sai Bhavan, No. 318, Madley Road, T. Nagar, Chennai 17 for diversion of 0.56 ha of forest land in Nallur Reserved Forests of Chengalpattu-Kancheepuram Division for widening the existing approach road leading to Sri Sairam Engineering College and Other Educational Institutions managed by M/s Sapthagiri Educational Trust was forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division and subsequently area has been revised to 0.64 ha by the

user agency stating that based on field assessment and instructions of the District Forest Officer, revised area requirement has been furnished.

In the reference 3rd and 4th cited, the District Forest Officer and Chief Conservator of Forests have forwarded the forest clearance proposal with their recommendation.

In the Part-II and Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer and Chief Conservator of Forests, following shortcomings have been noticed.

a) In Part-II of Form-A, under Section 2, 3 and 4, the District Forest officer has mentioned that area of forest land proposed for diversion is 0.64, where as in site inspection report forest area diversion recommended for 0.56 ha only. This has to be clarified.

b) In the species wise details of trees available in the project area, details of 131 trees alone furnished. But as per CA scheme proposed by the District Forest Officer, number of trees to be felled reported as 149 trees. Hence table of trees available has to be revised by the District Forest Officer. Further, the District Forest Officer has not specified the status of vegetation to be felled.

c) In the site inspection report and recommendation of the project, the District Forest Officer and Chief Conservator of Forests have reported the following.

During 2003, M/s Sapthagiri Educational Trust has applied forest area diversion of 0.84 ha in Nallur RF for approach road to their educational Institutions through right of way No.6. But, the user agency has not formed road in the alignment path orders obtained under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 but formed approach road in another route and black topping also done for 700m length with 7.5m width, though diversion area has been obtained for 12m wide.

Violation has been done by the M/s Sapthagiri Educational Trust. accountability for violation has been fixed to the present Chairman and Managing Director of the M/s Sapthagiri Educational Trust.

As per DFO's report, approach road in the alternate area –other than orders obtained under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 alignment path has been carried out during 2004. But period of work done i.e., utilization has been reported as one year.

This has to be modified with reference to the work period.

d) For the violation, the DFO has stated that eviction notice has been issued. Details of action taken on the issue has not been reported.

e) For the proposed diversion of 0.64 ha of forest land for widening of existing road, the user agency in additional information details section of Form-A has furnished details about identification of non-forest land as compensatory Afforestation land in S.No. 218/2 of Perunthandalam Village, Tiruporur Taluk, Kancheepuram District, abutting Anjur RF, double the extent of forest land proposed for diversion has been identified and the user agency has given its consent for handing over of CA land to the Forest Department. This has been informed to the District Forest Officer in Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/6778/2016, dated 10.11.2018.

The District Forest Officer has not mentioned anything about the CA land, certificate regarding acceptance as CA land, CA scheme for the CA land have not been furnished. This should be furnished.

f) The District Forest Officer may be informed to furnish detailed geo-referenced map prepared for the Nallur RF indicating the right of ways allowed in the settlement process (for each admitted rights of way), its length and width, path type allowed and the present condition of such paths along with roads formed under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 with its length, width, present conditions etc.,

The Chief Conservator of Forests is requested to prepare Kml file and displayed.

g) In the geo-referenced map furnished by the District Forest Officer, right of way no. 6 marked is not joined with any accessible road link (starting and end points not marked). Right of way no. 6 path should be shown fully with its length in the field.

h) The District Forest Officer has recommended 0.56 ha of forest land as minimum requirement of the project and additional area of 0.08 requested by the user agency cannot be considered very essential, since this is required towards their gate considering the future requirements.

But the Chief Conservator of Forests has recommended forest area diversion of 0.64 ha. and the Chief Conservator of Forest has not justified the user agency future requirement of forest land for their gate purpose. Possibility of gate purpose in the user agency owned land may be explored.

Forest area diversions may be considered for minimum area requirement and unavoidable circumstances only.

Hence the Chief Conservator of Forests is requested to justify the recommendation of 0.64 ha of forest land for diversion.

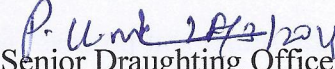
Sd/- S. Yuvaraj,
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Department)

To

The Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division, Kancheepuram.

/True copy/ By order/


Senior Draughting Officer