

By e-mail



ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE
& FOREST(FR.10) DEPARTMENT,
SECRETARIAT, CHENNAI 9.

Letter No.18747/FR.10/2022-2, dated 05.04.2023

From
Thiru.T.Ritto Cyriac, I.F.S.,
Special Secretary (Forests).

To
✓ The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Chennai-32.

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal (FP/TN/
Substation/149440/2021) for diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land
in Pillur Slope Reserved Forests of Coimbatore Forest Division
for improvement of 230 KV Substation into 400 KV Substation at
Parali in Coimbatore District in favour of the Superintending
Engineer, General Construction Circle, Tamil Nadu
Transmission Corporation Limited (TANTRANSCO), Coimbatore
- Clarification - Requested - Regarding.

Ref: 1. Your letter No.TS3/43555/2021, dated 17.11.2022.
2. Government letter No.18747/FR.10/2022-1, dated
20.12.2022.
3. Your letter No.TS3/43555/2021, dated 01.03.2023.

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I am directed to invite your attention to the references cited and to state that, as per the format prescribed in Part-II of Form-A of the guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, if the proposed forest area forms part of Biosphere Reserves, the comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden is to be annexed. As you have reported in your proposal first cited that, the proposed forest area is part of Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve, I am to request you to obtain and send the remarks of the Chief Wildlife Warden on wildlife point of view.

2. As per the report of the District Forest Officer, an amount of Rs.97,76,00,405/- (Lease rent of Rs.76,50,764/-, Interest amount of Rs.94,44,46,481/- and Penal Interest of Rs.2,55,03,160/-) is due from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. It is presumed from your proposal that no lease rent due has been settled by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board so far. Hence immediate action shall be taken in respect of collection of such huge amount of lease rent due from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. Hence I am, to request you to instruct the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division to take immediate action for collection of the long pending lease rent due from the User Agency (i.e. Tamil Nadu Electricity Board) for consideration of the present proposal and also to send the detailed calculation sheet on arriving at the above said lease rent due to Government immediately.

3. Further, the User Agency has reported that the proposed site is already under possession of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board from 1965 onwards on lease from Forest Department. After enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, any non-forestry activity allowed within the forest land without obtaining prior permission of Forest Department is a violation of the provisions under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. I am, therefore to request you to clarify whether any action has been taken regarding the violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board.

Yours faithfully,

F. Q. Senthil

for Special Secretary (Forests)

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06/11/2023