

EDS to CF & FD, SMTR, Madurai**C. No. HOTNFD/580/2025-TS4, dt: 15-04-2026****Proposal No: FP/TN/Road/42704/2019 (Parivesh 1.0)****(UA: State Highways; Division: Megamalai WL)**

1. Government of India, IRO, Chennai EDS Sl. No. (i) stated that: *“As per the Site Inspection Report, the road is an existing bitumen road running through forest and non-forest areas. The existing road is stated to be included in the Megamalai RF Notification dated 25.11.2009 as RoW No.16 for a length of 2352.2 m and width of 8 m. The present proposal is for upgradation and increase in width of the existing road. Clarification may be furnished regarding the status of the existing RoW vis-a-vis the present proposal”*. Hence, the CF & FD is instructed to clarify it, as directed by IRO immediately.
1. Government of India, IRO, Chennai EDS Sl. No. (ii) stated that: *“As per Part-I of the proposal, the forest land involved falls in four patches, all in Megamalai RF. However, the Site Inspection Report mentions that only two patches fall in Megamalai RF and the remaining two patches fall in Megamalai RL Nos. 39 and 47. The discrepancy in location details may be clarified”*. Hence, the CF & FD is instructed to clarify it, as directed by IRO immediately.
2. Government of India, IRO, Chennai EDS Sl. No. (iii) stated that: *‘In Part-I, the proposed width in forest area is indicated as 8 m and the KML file uploaded also reflects approximately 8 m width. However, the Site Inspection Report mentions that the width has been reduced to 5 m and the total length of the road is 3759.6 m. The KML file has not been amended. The State Government is requested to clarify the correct dimensions and upload a revised KML file’*. Hence, the CF & FD is instructed to clarify it, as directed by IRO immediately.
3. Government of India, IRO, Chennai EDS Sl. No. (iv) stated that: *“The Site Inspection Report does not mention the status of the road in RL notification, width of the road etc. The same may be furnished”*. Hence, the CF & FD is instructed to furnish the details, as directed by IRO immediately.
4. Government of India, IRO, Chennai EDS Sl. No. (v) stated that: *‘It is stated in the inspection report that Megamalai RF forms part of the core area and Megamalai RL forms part of the buffer area of SMTR. It may be clarified whether proposal for wildlife clearance has been submitted for the entire stretch, including both core and buffer areas, as mentioned in the Site*

Inspection Report. Clarification may be furnished for further processing of the proposal". Hence, the CF & FD is instructed to clarify it, as directed by IRO immediately.

5. Government of India, IRO, Chennai EDS Sl. No. (vi) stated that: *"The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) land allotted by the Collector, Theni, is indicated as 3.875 ha in five patches, whereas the suitability certificate issued by the DFO indicates the area as 3.76 ha. The discrepancy in extent may be clarified. Further, though the CA land proposed is more than the equivalent diverted area, it has been observed that in certain recent Stage-I approved proposals, the State Forest Department has sought amendment of conditions to reduce CA to equivalent area as per the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act. In this context, justification may be furnished for proposing CA land in excess of the equivalent diverted area"*. Hence, the CF & FD is instructed to furnish justification, as directed by IRO immediately.
6. Government of India, IRO, Chennai EDS Sl. No. (vii) stated that: *"The CA land is allotted in five separate patches and the KML indicates that some patches are not contiguous. The manageability and suitability of such fragmented CA land patches may be examined and clarified"*. Hence, the CF & FD is instructed to examine and clarify it, as directed by IRO immediately.
7. Government of India, IRO, Chennai EDS Sl. No. (viii) stated that: *"The CA scheme uploaded indicates plantation of 5000 plants over 5 ha. However, DSS analysis indicates presence of canopy cover in some of the proposed CA patches. The CA scheme may therefore be verified and a site-specific CA Scheme, may be furnished"*. Hence, the CF & FD is instructed to furnish it, as directed by IRO immediately.

Nodal Officer
Forest Conservation Act,
Tamil Nadu