4-110092/2022-CHIN



सत्यमेव जयते

भारतसरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE एकीकृतक्षेत्रीय कार्यालय/Integrated Regional Office Additional Office Block for GPOA, 1st Floor, Shastri Bhawan, Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006; Ph: 044-28222041; Fax:28252536; E-mail: ro.moefccc@gov.in



F.No.4-TNB092/2022-CHN/ 660 Date; 26⁴⁶ May, 2023

To

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

Diversion of 0.82 ha of forest Subject: land for initial rectification including widening, strengthening and improvements and performance based maintenance contract for a period of 60 months in State Highways and major district roads-Widening of Thiruverumbur-grand Anaicut road-in favour of the Assistant Divisional Engineer, Highways Construction & Maintenance, Thiruvaiyaru- Reg

Reference: The State Government letter No 9283/FR.10/2022-1 dated 17.08.2022 and 9283/FR.10/2022-3 dated 23.03.2023

Madam,

With reference to the subject and reference above, it is to inform that, as per the Ministry's guidelines, AIGF(Central) IRO, Chennai has carried out inspection of area identified for CA purpose and area proposed for diversion on 03.05.2023 (**Copy of the site inspection report is enclosed**). It is noted that, possibility of water logging in the proposed CA area during peak flow of river and also not possible to raise required numbers of seedlings i.e. 1200 in the identified area.

In view of the non suitability of 1.64 ha of degraded forest area identified at Nagavalli RF for CA purpose, I am directed to request the State Government that, the field officials may be informed to identify alternative degraded forest area for CA purpose. While selecting DFL area, shall ensure that proposed 1200 seedlings can be planted in such DFL area. Details like CA area map. Kml file, revised CA scheme including protection measures etc shall be submitted and uploaded in the online application.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above

Sd/-(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy-Velachery main road, Chennai – 600 032.
- The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy-Velachery main road, Chennai – 600 032.
- 3. Office of the Assistant Divisional Engineer , Highways Department Construction and Maintenance , Bungalow Street , Thiruvaiyaru-Tamil Nadu 613204 Email:<u>ramprabhu7997@gmail.com</u>
- 4. Guard file

Sd/-(K.Karthikeyan) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

> Signed by Karthikeyan Karuppiah Date: 26-05-2023 16:44:37 Reason: Approved

Site Inspection Report

Name of the proposal: Diversion of 0.82 ha of forest land for initial rectification including widening, strengthening and improvements and performance based maintenance contract for a period of 60 months in State Highways and major district roads-Widening of Thiruverumbur-grand Anaicut road in favour of the Assistant Divisional Engineer, Highways Construction & Maintenance, Thiruvaiyaru.

I have inspected the project site and CA area on 03.05.2023, along with Sri.Akil Thampi IFS, DFO, Thanjavur Forest Division, Sri. K.Ranjit RFO, Thanjavur Range and their field staff and Sri. S.Balasubramaniyan, Divisional Engineer, Highways Dept., Thanjavur representative from the User Agency.

This proposal involves a forest area having an extent of 0.82 ha in Nagavalli RF of Thanjavur Division. The existing road from Grand Anaicut (Kallanai) to Thiruverumbur passes through the Nagavalli RF for a length of 820 mtr proposed to be widened for catering the need of increase in vehicle plying from Trichy City to Anaicut. The road was widened, except the RF portion of 820 mtr to a width of 10 mtr thus by the area calculated as 0.82 ha. The road is an elevated one running along the banks of Kavery River. The CA area was identified along the side of the road falling in the edge of river bank.

As reported, 120 numbers of trees (majority of Palmyra trees, 95 in number) needs to be felled for this project.

Compensatory Afforestation:

Since 120 numbers of trees are marked for felling, to carryout plantation of 1200 seedling *i.e.* ten times the trees to be felled in the diverted forest area was identified for 1.64 ha of degraded forest area at the same Nagavalli RF at a cost of Rs. 37.72 Lakh;

Proposed CA area is lying adjoining to the road but located in the edge of the river bank. It was informed by the field officials and the UA that due to the last year flood the area was inundated with water for some period. Moreover the proposed CA area is having thick growth of vegetation mostly of Prosopis species.

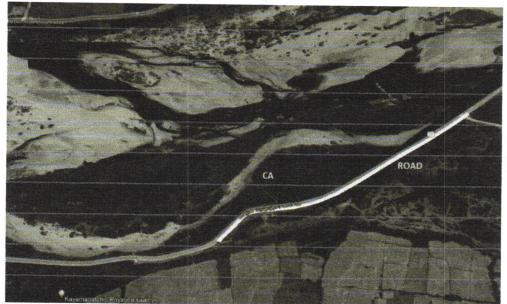
Based on the Site inspection and interaction with the field officials and User Agency and considering the possibility of water logging in the proposed CA area during peak flow of river, undertaking planting activities in the current proposed CA area is not advisable. Hence the State Forest Dept may be requested to identify land in appropriate suitable degraded areas, where proposed 1200 seedlings can be planted and the seedling shall also be protected from the threat of cattle grazing / browsing.

K. Kanthikeyan IFS, Central), IRO AIGF (Central), JRO, Chennai.

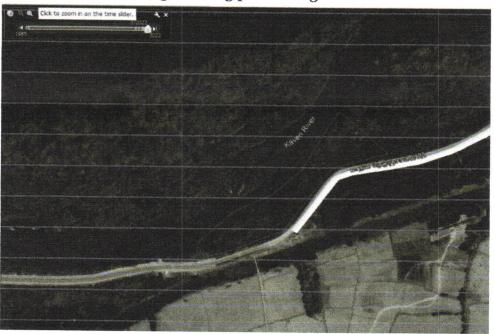
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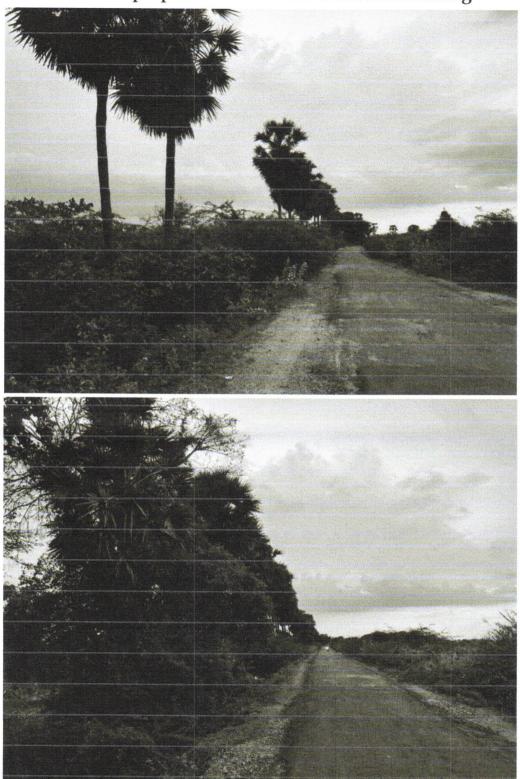
Google earth images of Proposed Road and CA land

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During flooding period August 2022





Photos of proposed road & trees marked for felling

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