

By e-mail



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

Letter No.4801/FR.10/2023-1, dated 04.07.2023

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

To

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

Sir,

Sub: Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Srivilliputhur  
Megamalai Tiger Reserve, Madurai circle – Srivilliputhur Wildlife  
Division & Megamalai Wildlife Division – Proposal  
(FP/TN/Others/23908/2017) for diversion of 0.19 ha of forest  
land for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable along Theni  
Mallapuram route in Saptur Reserved Forest in Srivilliputhur  
Wildlife Division, Madurai District in favour of Reliance Jio  
Inforcomm Ltd., Chennai - Regarding.

Ref: Your letter No.TS4/4382/2017, dated 08.06.2023.

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I am directed to invite attention to your letter cited, wherein you have stated among others that, the Deputy Director, Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve, Srivilliputhur Division, Srivilliputhur in his inspection report has stated that the entire project falls inside the Mallapuram beat of Saptur Reserved Forest all along Mallapuram - Myladumparai road which passes through the buffer area of Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve which involves both sanctuary and non sanctuary area.

2. In this connection, I am directed to state that as per Chapter 3.5 in the Handbook of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2003, full exemption is provided for payment of Net Present Value for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable, only if no felling of trees is involved and if the area falls outside National Park / Sanctuary. However, as the proposed Optical Fiber Cable passes through both Sanctuary area and Eco-Sensitive Zone of Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve, exemption for payment of Net Present Value is not applicable to the above proposal.

3. I am, therefore, directed to request you to send the details for payment of Net Present Value insisted for the above said proposal to Government, immediately.

Yours faithfully,

M. Megala  
4/7/2023

for Special Secretary (Forest).

4/7/23