

C.No.TS3/2987/2022

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator
of Forests (Head of Forest Force),
Forest Head Quarters Building, Guindy-
Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai-32.

Dated: 22.09.2023.

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal for diversion of 4.46 ha of forest land in Vandalur RF for formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass road branching from km 17/4 of Malmalong bridge-Irumbuliyur road from Rajakilpakkam via Agaramthen road towards Perungalathur at km 0/0-9/300 in Chengalpattu District and diversion of 0.95472 ha of forest land in Vandalur RF for construction of Road over Bridge in lieu of LC No. 32 in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway Station near Perungalathur in Chengalpattu District - Proposals forwarded to Government of India – Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Online application uploaded by the Divisional Engineer, Metro, Highways Department, CMDP Division-I, Guindy Chennai-32 - Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/148656/2021, dated 22.10.2021 and Resubmission of proposal on 13.03.2023 and 25.03.2023
- 2 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/39365/2021, dated 25.07.2023
- 3 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II, Chennai - Proposal No. FP/TN/Road/151930/2022, dated 02.02.2022 and resubmission of proposal on 17.05.2022.
- 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/2987/2022 Dated: 15.07.2023
- 5 Government of India, MoEF&CC, IRO Chennai letter F. No. 4-TNB109/2023-CHN/1035, dated 29.08.2023
- 6 Government letter No. 5227778/FR.10/2023-2, dated 15.09.2023

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

- 1) The Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-I, Chennai has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.46 ha of forest land in

Vandalur RF for formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass road branching from km 17/4 of Malmalong bridge-Irumbuliyur road from Rajakilpakkam via Agaramthen road towards Perungalathur at km 0/0-9/300 in Chengalpattu District under proposal No. FP/TN/Road/148656/2021.

i) This proposal was recommended to the Government vide Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 2nd cited for obtaining approval from the Government of India for diversion of forest land.

ii) Similarly, the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II Chennai has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.95472 ha of forest land in Vandalur RF for construction of Road over Bridge in lieu of LC No. 32 in between Tambaram and Vandalur Railway Station near Perungalathur in Chengalpattu District under proposal No. FP/TN/Road/ 151930/2022.

iii) This proposal was recommended to the Government vide Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 4th cited for consideration of the Government and to issue Stage-I in-principle approval for diversion of forest land.

iv) Since this project involves felling of 204 number of spontaneous trees, the projects would be permitted only after the concurrence of the Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Chennai. Hence concurrence of the Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Chennai has been requested by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

v) For the above two forest clearance proposals, name of the user agency has been reported as Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department, HRS Campus, Guindy, Chennai

2) Government of Tamil Nadu, ECC&F Department has forwarded the above forest clearance proposal for their concurrence and requesting concurrence for felling of spontaneous trees.

3) Government of India, MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Chennai in the reference 5th cited (copy enclosed) has informed to the State Government that, the Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department has submitted two proposals i.e. FP/TN/ROAD/ 151930/2022 for 0.95472 ha and FP/TN/ROAD/148656/2021 for 4.46 ha and noted that above mentioned two proposals are in same stretch and continuous in alignment. The State Government vide letter dated 03.08.2023 requested

the RO Chennai to convey approval for felling of 204 spontaneous trees under proposal No FP/TN/ROAD/151930/2022 involves diversion of 0.95412 ha and whereas submitted the subject proposal to this office for approval under FCA, 1980;

i) It has been informed that, splitting of same stretch of road in to smaller area shall not be done and especially for linear proposals, proposal shall be submitted for its entirety. By splitting of proposals, competent authority to decide on such proposal will also change as per the delegation of powers and such artificial splitting is not permissible.

ii) Considering the above facts, it is requested that State Government may inform all stake holders including forest department Officials not to split the proposals in future. Further, the UA i.e. Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department may be directed to withdraw the above two proposals from the PARIVESH and to submit a fresh proposal for the revised area by combining 0.95472 ha + 4.46 ha- 5.41472 ha.

iii) As the combined area will be more than 5 ha, the revised proposal needs to be processed through Project Screening Committee (PSC) as per the provision of FC rules 2022. Further, it is also noticed that, the proposed CA scheme is not as per the provision of FC rules 2022, hence, Nodal Officer may be advised to re-examine the CA scheme and to submit appropriate CA scheme along with the said revised proposal.

4) In this regard, a copy of Government letter 6th cited above is enclosed herewith for necessary follow up action.

The user agency may be informed to withdraw the above-mentioned proposals and to submit a fresh proposal for its entirety of the road work adhering the guidelines issued under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

Encl : As stated above.

Sd/-V. Karunapriya,
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

To
The Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai.

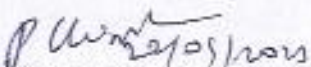
Copy to the District Forest Officer, Chennai Division, Chennai along with enclosures.

Copy to the Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department, HRS Campus, Guindy, Chennai-25 (User Agency) along with a copy of Government of India and Government letters cited for necessary follow up action.

Copy to the Divisional Engineer, Metro, Highways Department, CMDP Division-I, No. 78 Real Diamond Building, Annasalai, Guindy Chennai-32. (User agency-Project Proponent) along with a copy of Government of India and Government letters cited for necessary follow up action.

Copy to the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-II, No. 1 VV Koil Street, Saidapet, Chennai 15. (User agency-Project Proponent) along with a copy of Government of India and Government letters cited for necessary follow up action.

/True copy/By order/


Senior Draughting Officer.

Letter No.5227778/FR.10/2023 - 2, dated: 15.09.2023

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

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

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposals
(FP/TN/Road/151930/2022) for diversion of 0.95472 ha of
forest land in Vandalur RF for construction of Road over
Bridge and (FP/TN/ROAD/148656/2021) for diversion of 4.46
ha. in Vandalur RF for formation of Tambaram Eastern
Bypass road in Chengalpattu District in favour of the
Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan
Development Plan Division, Chennai – Regarding.

- Ref: 1. Your letter No.TS3/2987/2022, dated 15.07.2023 and
TS3/39365/2021 dated 25.07.2023.
2. Government letter No.5227778/FR.10/2023-1, dated
03.08.2023.
3. Government letter No.5280413/FR.10/2023-1, dated
03.08.2023.
4. From the Assistant Inspector General of Forests
(Central), Government of India, Ministry of Environment,
Forests & Climate Change, Regional Office, Chennai
letter F.No.4-TNB109/2023-CHN/1035, dated 29.08.2023.

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I am directed to enclose a copy of the reference fourth cited and to request you to inform all stake holders including Forest Department Officials not to split the proposals in future and also direct the User Agency i.e. Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department to withdraw the above mentioned two proposals (FP/TN/ROAD/151930/2022 and FP/TN/ROAD/148656/2021) from the PARIVESH portal and to submit a fresh proposal for the revised area of 5.41472 ha. (0.95472 ha + 4.46 ha).

2. Further, I am to request you to instruct the Nodal Officer to re-examine and submit appropriate Compensatory Afforestation scheme as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 along with the revised proposal.

Yours faithfully,

M. Nagala
19/9/2023

for Special Secretary (Forest)

Copy to:

✓ C.No.5280413/FR.10/2023

5/2
19/9/2023

(Rec. No. 522777/FR-10/2023)



सत्यमेव जयते

भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE
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-TNB109/2023-CHN/1035

Date: 29th August, 2023

To

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

Subject: Diversion of 4.46 ha of forest land in Vandalur RF for formation of Tambaram Eastern Bypass road branching from km 17/4 of Malmalong bridge-Irumbuliyur road from Rajakilpakkam via Agaramthen road towards Perungalathur at Km 0/0-9/300 in Chengalpattu District in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Chennai Metropolitan Development Plan Division-I, Chennai- Reg.

Reference: Online proposal No FP/TN/ROAD/148656/2021

Sir,

With reference to the subject and reference above, I am directed to inform that, upon preliminary examination of the subject proposal, it is seen that the UA, i.e. Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department submitted two proposals i.e. FP/TN/ROAD/151930/2022 for 0.95472 ha and FP/TN/ROAD/148656/2021 for 4.46 ha and noted that above mentioned two proposals are in same stretch and continuous in alignment. The State Government vide letter dated 03.08.2023 requested the RO Chennai to convey approval for felling of 204 spontaneous trees under proposal No FP/TN/ROAD/151930/2022 involves diversion 0.95472 ha and whereas submitted the subject proposal to this office for approval under FCA, 1980;

In view of the above, it is to inform that, splitting of same stretch of road in to smaller area shall not be done and especially for linear proposals, proposal shall be submitted for its entirety. By splitting of proposals, competent authority to decide on such proposal will also change as per the delegation of powers and such artificial splitting is not permissible.

Considering the above facts, it is requested that State Government may inform all stake holders including forest department Officials not to

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split the proposals in future. Further, the UA i.e. Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department may be directed to withdraw the above two proposals from the PARIVESH and to submit a fresh proposal for the revised area by combining **0.95472 ha + 4.46 ha = 5.41472 ha**.

As the combined area will be more than 5 ha, the revised proposal needs to be processed through Project Screening Committee (PSC) as per the provision of FC rules 2022. Further, it is also noticed that, the proposed CA scheme is not as per the provision of FC rules 2022, hence, Nodal Officer may be advised to re-examine the CA scheme and to submit appropriate CA scheme along with the said revised proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by Karthikeyan

Karupiah

Date: 29-08-2023 14:58:10

Reason: Approved

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, Guindy Velachery Main Road, Guindy, Chennai - 32
2. 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, Guindy, Chennai - 32.
3. Chief Engineer, Metro, Highways Department, HRS Campus, Guindy, Chennai 600 025 ade3cmdpmetro@gmail.com
4. Guard file

Sd/-

(K.Karthikeyan)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)