

**Letter No.5190510/FR.10/2023 - 1, dated: 25.09.2023**

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

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

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Proposal (FP/TN/Road/148718/2021) for diversion of 0.0476 ha of forest land in Anjur Reserved Forests and Sengundram Reserved Forests for relaying and periodical maintenance of Singaperumalkoil - Reddikuppam road to Chengalpattu-Thiruporur via Anjur Pattaravakkam Thenur road km 0/0-0/285 in Chengalpattu District - in favour of the Divisional Engineer, Highways, Nabard and Rural Roads, Chengalpattu - Clarification - Called for - Regarding.

Ref: Your Letter No.TS3/39367/2021, dated 07.07.2023.

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I am directed to invite attention to your letter cited, wherein it has been stated that the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram division has stated that during inspection, it was found that the road was already laid long time back in forest area and there is no proper records available on when the road was formed. The Forest Range Officer, Chengalpattu reported based on enquiry with village people that, this road was formed 20 years back and this road has no right of way as per the Anjur and Sengundram Reserved Forests notification and also informed that the last renewal was carried out prior to 2008 by Rural Department.

2. In this connection, I am to state that as the last renewal was carried out prior to 2008, (i.e.) after enactment of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, any non-forestry activity allowed within the forest land without obtaining prior permission of Forest Department, will be considered as violation of the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. I am, therefore to request you to clarify as to how the subject proposal has been proposed under General Approval category, while violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is involved in the proposed road. Hence, I am to request you to take appropriate action on the above violation of provisions of Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980 as per Government of India's guidelines dated 29.01.2018 and 15.05.2023.

Yours faithfully,

M. Megala  
25/9/2023

for Special Secretary (Forest)

SM  
25/9/2023