

C.No.TS3/45980/2021

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator  
of Forests (Head of Forest Force),  
Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet, Chennai-15.

Dated: 07.09.2022.

Sub Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Proposal for diversion of 4.27 ha of forest land in Social Forestry plantation area in Othivakkam for erection of 230 kv DC line on MC tower by making LILO of existing Ottiyambakkam to Omega feeder 2 at the proposed Mambakkam 230/110 kv Substation in Chengalpattu District – Proposal forwarded by the Circle through on-line - Regarding.

- Ref 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Executive Engineer, TANTRANSCO, General Construction Circle II 230 kv GIS SS TNEB, Alandur Chennai 16 - Proposal No. FP/TN/Trans/150320/2021, dated 23.12.2021 and resubmission of proposal on 11.01.2022 and 09.02.2022
- 2 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter No. TS3/45980/2021 dated 22.02.2022
- 3 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division on 18.04.2022
- 4 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle on 10.08.2022
- 5 Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle Ref. No. 2729/2022/D, dated 10.08.2022

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

1) In the references 1<sup>st</sup> cited, the Executive Engineer, TANTRANSCO, General Construction Circle II, 230 kv GIS SS TNEB, Alandur, Chennai has uploaded online forest clearance proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.27 ha of forest land in Social Forestry plantation area in Othivakkam for erection of 230 kv DC line on MC tower by making LILO of existing Ottiyambakkam to Omega feeder 2 at the proposed Mambakkam 230/110 kv Substation in Chengalpattu District.

2) In the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, the proposal forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division for taking further action under the guidelines of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

3) The District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division has forwarded the proposal to the Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle on 18.04.2022 and resubmitted the proposal on 01.06.2022.

4) The Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle has forwarded the proposal with her recommendation of the proposal through on line on 10.08.2022 and furnished the hard copy of the proposal vide reference 5<sup>th</sup> cited above.

Following shortcomings are noticed in the proposal.

i) In Section 4(ii) of Species-wise and girth class wise tree enumerated in the project area, details of 232 number of trees have been reported. But in the site inspection report, it has been reported that 284 trees planted in Othivakkam Kumizhi TAP area are to be removed for the erection of 230 KV DC line with high tension lines. Number of trees to be removed in the area may be corrected.

ii) Compensatory afforestation scheme has been proposed for the following.

a) Plantation of ten times of number (284) of standing trees to be felled – 2840 No.

b) Plantation of two times area (8.54 ha) in degraded forest area - 8540 No.

For the planting of 11380 seedlings with ten year maintenance, CA scheme has been proposed at a cost of Rs. 2,46,57,121/-

As per Para 2.5 of Special provisions for CA for certain categories of the projects, CA shall be raised and maintained at the cost of user agency on degraded forest land twice in extent of the forest area diverted for the project of laying transmission lines.

In this proposal, 4.27 ha of area recorded as Kadu Poramboke in Revenue records has been proposed for laying of transmission line and as per the above guidelines, Compensatory Afforestation in double the extent of degraded forest area may be proposed.

However, the District Forest Officer has proposed CA scheme in double the extent of degraded forest area and planting of 10 ten times of trees to be felled.

There is no guidelines under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for imposition of both the category of compensatory afforestation (ie., double the extent planting and ten times of trees to be felled in the project).

Hence the compensatory afforestation scheme proposed for the scheme has to be revised.

iii) Details of kadu poramboke land and map marking the outer boundary of the land of the Kadu poramboke land has not been furnished by the District Forest Officer.

iv) Further, the presence and absence of spontaneous tree growth (to be felled) in the proposed forest diversion area may be reported.

Above shortcomings may be rectified and additional details called for may be uploaded in the project proposal early.

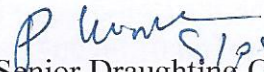
Sd/- A. Deivendran,  
For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Forest Force)

To  
The Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division, Kancheepuram for necessary follow up action.

Copy to the Executive Engineer, TANTRANSO, General Construction Circle II, 230 kv GIS SS TNEB, Alandur, Chennai 16. (User agency)

/ True copy / By order /

  
Senior Draughting Officer.