

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

ABSTRACT

Forests - Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Diversion of 68.00 acres (27.51 hectare) of forest land for renewal of lease in Nilgiris District for the Establishment of Radio Astronomy Centre at Ooty - Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (FR.10) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms) No. 129

Dated: 26.11.2007

Read:

- 1) G.O.(Ms) No.2828, Agriculture Department, Dated 25.9.1968
- 2) Government Letter No.27713/D11/69-6, Dated 21.8.1969.
- 3) Government Letter No.19281/FR.10/2000-6, Dated 1.3.2001.
- 4) Government Letter No.98/FR.10/02-5, Dated 29.11.2002
- 5) From the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi Letter F.No.8.30/2001-FC, Dated 20.12.2002.

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**ORDER:**

As per orders issued in the first and Government letter second read above, an extent of 67.377 acres comprising in S.No.383 and 408 in Ootacamund Rural village of Nilgiris District was leased out to the Department of Atomic Energy Centre for a period of 25 years with effect from 21.9.1966. The lease period expired on 20.9.1991.

2. In the Government letter third and Fourth read above, Government of India was requested to accord permission under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for renewal of lease for 25 years from 21.9.1991 for diversion of 68.00 acres of forest land to the Department of Atomic Energy for the establishment of Radio Astronomy Centre at Ooty.

3. In the letter fifth read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi conveyed its approval under section 2 of Forests (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 68.00 acres (27.51 ha) of forest land for establishment of Radio Astronomy Centre at Ooty, Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu subject to the fulfillment of following conditions :-

- (a) Legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.

- (b) Penal Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over 7.80 ha. of degraded forest land in lieu of 3.90 ha. forest land used in violation at the project cost.
- (c) The User Agency will not extend their construction activity on forest land in excess of 3.90 ha. which is already in place and will protect / maintain the balance area as a forest at their own cost, in consultation with the Forest Department.
- (d) Any other condition which the State Government of Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore may stipulate from time to time in the interest of afforestation and protection and improvement of flora and fauna of the area.

4. The Government, after careful examination accept the recommendation of the Government of India for diversion of 68 acres (27.51 ha) of forest land in Nilgiris District under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of Radio Astronomy Centre, Ooty for further period of 15 years from 21.9.96 upto 20.9.2011. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests is requested to make necessary arrangements for execution of the lease deed for the above mentioned land with Radio Astronomy Centre in accordance with the conditions stipulated by Government of India. He is also requested to pursue further action with reference to the conditions stipulated in para 3 above and send a report to Government in due course.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

R.RAJAGOPAL,  
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator  
of Forests, Chennai.15.  
The Assistant Inspector General  
of Forests  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment and  
Forests,  
New Delhi - 110 003.  
The Chief conservator of  
Forests( Central),  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment and  
Forests, Bangalore.  
The Conservator of Forests,  
Coimbatore

The District Forest Officer,  
Nilgiris South.  
Dr.P.K. Monoharan,  
Head of the Department of  
Radio Astronomy Centre,  
Udhagamandalam,  
Pin - 643 001.

/ FORWARDED BY ORDER /

OFFICER

SECTION