



ABSTRACT

Environment, Climate Change & Forests Department - Forest – Announcement for the year 2021– 2022 – Establishment of Tamil Nadu Forests Archives and Data Centre - Administrative Sanction -Preparation of Detailed Project Report – Orders issued.

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTS (FR.7) DEPARTMENT

G.O. (D) No.157

Dated: 30.10.2021

திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு-2052

பிலவ, ஐப்பசி - 14

Read:-

1. Announcement made by the Honourable Minister (Forest) on the Floor of the Assembly on 3.09.2021.
2. From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD), Letter No:GIS/036970/2021 dated:5.10.2021

ORDER:

Tamil Nadu Forest Department has an extremely rich history and biodiversity heritage. Set up in the year 1856, the department has grown tremendously over 160 years of its existence. The Department is in possession of several historical documents, research articles, books and reference materials reflecting the rich heritage of forests, their management systems and conservation efforts. The Department can take pride in the fact that it is one of the oldest Forest Departments in India with an impressive body of work in the field of Forest protection, Biodiversity Conservation and Wildlife Management. While there is an impressive collection of forest related material, there is no forest repository to enable easy access to information & data. Creating a digital repository of forest information will be extremely useful for future forestry initiatives and shall help to preserve the information for posterity.

2. An announcement was made by the Government on the floor of the Tamil Nadu Assembly on 3rd September 2021 that a Forest Archive and Data Centre shall be set up. In accordance with the announcement, the Tamil Nadu Forest Archives and Data Centre (TNFADC) shall be set up at Chennai as an invaluable repository of information about Tamil Nadu's flora and fauna and its rich conservation history. The TNFADC shall contribute to a greater understanding of the Tamil Nadu Forest initiatives. The Data Centre will strive to digitise the entire resource into an e-library to provide access to information quickly and meaningfully. The TNFADC shall be a "Treasure Trove" of the rich archival material related to forest protection and conservation.

(p.t.o)

3. The Tamil Nadu Forest Archives and Data Centre shall be a repository of the following:-

- i. Forest Research Reports
- ii. Scientific Publications and Documents
- iii. Government Orders and Gazette Notifications
- iv. Old Manuscripts and Historical References
- v. Forest Maps
- vi. Books / Handbooks of Forest Flora and Fauna, Herbaria
- vii. Rare Photographs
- viii. Forest Working Plans, Management Plans and Annual Reports
- ix. Research Publications
- x. Forest related Books and Periodicals, Newsletters
- xi. Forest Manuals and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- xii. Unique Resources covering the Conservation Movement
- xiii. Forest related resources from around the world
- xiv. Rare Photographs, Slides, Negatives and Plates documenting the history of Tamil Nadu Forest Department's evolution
- xv. Collection of Historical References relating to Forest Service including copies of articles, correspondence, pamphlets and photos etc.
- xvi. Photos and details of awards, fellowships etc.
- xvii. Central and State Government approved action plans and vision documents towards conservation and protection of Forests and Environment.

4. The TNFADC shall be extremely useful in research, publication and educational outreach. The TNFADC will be valuable to anyone interested in the history of Forests, Natural resources and Management techniques. Apart from research fellows and students from Schools and Colleges, it shall also be extremely useful for students, journalists, editors and people interested in Forests and Environment not only from India but from around the world

5. Tamil Nadu Archive and Data Centre will go a long way in permanent preservation of fragile, historic and scientific records, TNFADC will successfully document, preserve and show case the heritage of the Tamil Nadu Forest Department to the outside world. This repository will definitely inspire the present and future generations of foresters and enthusiasts and public as well.

6. In order to set up the TNFADC, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai, shall engage the services of a reputed agency / organisation with a proven track record of working on such prestigious projects. The agency shall help in collecting, collating, coding and coordinating the collection of documents needed for TNFADC from various circles, divisions and field offices. The agency shall also help in digitising them into an e-library for online access and preservation for posterity simultaneously.

7. The Government after careful examination, accord administrative sanction for setting up of the Tamil Nadu Forest Archives and Data Centre (TNFADC) at Chennai. The Government also accord sanction for Rs.5.00 lakhs for preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR). The funds for the project shall be met out from the Corporate-Social Responsibility (CSR) funds of Tamil Nadu Forest Plantation Corporation Limited (TAFORN).

8. This orders issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O.No:45486/AHD&F/2021 Dated:26.10.2021

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

SUPRIYA SAHU
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD), Chennai-15

The Principal Accountant General, Chennai-18

The Pay and Accounts Office, Chennai – 35

Copy to:

The Finance (AHD&F) Department, Chennai-9.

The Planning Development & Special Initiatives Department, Chennai-9.

The Special Personal Assistant. to Hon'ble Minister(Forest), Chennai-9

The Private Secretary to Secretary IV to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Chennai-9

The Private Secretary

to Principal Secretary to Government,

Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department, Chennai-9

SF/SC

// Forwarded by order //

M. S. Senthil
Section Officer.