Site Inspection Report of District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division, Kancheepuram

Inspected the proposed site for diversion which falls in Thirutheri Reserved Forests, Chengalpattu Range, Chengalpattu Division on 18.10.2016. The proposal is for diversion of 0.288 Ha area of Thirutheri RF for approach road to the user agencie's (M/s. Sivanesh Bagerathi Enterprises) property in S.No. 86 Veerapuram village in Kancheepuram District.

The proposed linear stretch of land (242 mtr length and 12 mtr width comprising an area of 0.288 Ha) is along the edge of Thirutheri RF and is sharing boundary with Mahindra World City (Diverted land vide G.O. Ms. No. 201 Environment & Forest department dated. 11.09.2000) It is like a linear strip of land with two bends.

There is no major natural tree growth in the land proposed for diversion. Herbs and shrubs are predominately seen here. Few very small trees (below 30 cm girth) are present and details are furnished below.

Tamil Name	Scientific Name	No. of seedlings	Girth (cm)	Height (m)
காசன் / காயா	Memecylon umbellatum	1	3	0.50
சிறுக்களா	Carissa spinarum	10	2	0.20
சூரை முள்ளு	Ziziphus oenoplia	2	2	0.45
காரை	Canthium parviflorum	20	3	0.75
ஆத்தி	Bauhinia racemosa	3	5	0.50

In addition 120 seedlings which are planted under Massive Tree Planting Programme during 2014-15 are present in the are proposed for diversion. Details are furnished below.

Tamil Name	Scientific Name	No. of seedlings	Girth (cm)	Height (m)
புங்கள்	Pongamia pinnata	60	9	0.90
நாவல்	Syzygium cumini	20	7	0.95
இலுப்பை	Madhuca longifolia	20	8	1.00
நீா்மருது	Terminalia arjuna	20	7	0.90
Total		120		

The cost for raising and maintenance for the above seedlings has to be recovered from user agency.

If the diversion is allowed 120 seedlings planted under Massive Tree Planting Programme will be damaged. The user agency can be directed to plant 1200 native tree species seedlings in S.No. 86 of Veerapuram village and adjacent survey nos and maintain them properly.

The user agency has purchased the land (S.No. 86 of Veerapuram village) from State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited (SIPCOT). The user agency must ensure that approach road is formed by the time land is mutated in favour of forest department.

There is huge difference between the guideline value of land being diverted and the guideline value of land being given under Compensatory Afforestation. The difference works out to Rs.5730015/- which shall be deposited by user agency as it is for commercial purpose that land diversion is being requested for and an undertaking should be taken from user agency to that effect. Hence I recommend with the condition that the difference between the guideline value of land being diverted and guideline value of land proposed for giving under Compensatory Afforestation to forest department which work out to Rs.5730015/- may be collected from User agency.

Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai-6.