

SITE INSPECTION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE
CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, CHENNAI CIRCLE, CHENNAI

The proposed road for diversion of 0.678 ha. of forest land in Mahaniyam Reserved Forest of Kancheepuram Forest Division for upgradation of Mahaniyam to Padappai Road KM 0/188 – 1/200 was inspected by me on 30.03.2022 along with the staff. This road passes through Mahaniyam RF of Sriperumputhur Range in Chengalpattu Division.

Total area requested for diversion for this project in Mahaniyam Reserved Forest is as detailed below.

1012 mtr (length) x 3.75mtr (width) x 1.475 mtr on either side of the road (shoulder width) = 6780 M² (or) 0.678 Ha.

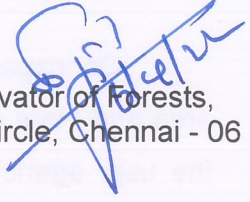
On inspection, it seemed that the road was already laid long back in forest area and there are no records available to indicate when the road was formed by the user agency. The forest land requested in Mahaniyam Reserved Forest of Kancheepuram Forest Division is in continuation of the already existing Mahaniyam – Padappai road.

As per the report of the user agency the present road was constructed before 1980 and it was maintained by Rural Development Department. It was also informed that the last renewal was carried out prior to 2006 and the road in the proposed forest area is heavily damaged. Maintenance work was not carried out for the last 16 years in forest portion. Forest Range Officer, Sriperumputhur Range has also reported on enquiring the villagers that this road was formed before 1980 by the Rural Development Department and that there is no Right of way to this road in Mahaniyam Reserved Forest notification.

The Divisional Engineer (H) N&RR, Chengalpattu has applied for diversion of 0.678 ha of forest land in Mahaniyam Reserved Forest of Kancheepuram Forest Division for upgradation of Mahaniyam to Padappai Road. User agency has submitted necessary undertakings on Compensatory Afforestation expenditure, NPV, Additional Net Present Value and lease rent. 8 trees will have

to be removed along the existing road in the forest area proposed for diversion. The road is essential for providing access to the people of Malaipattu, Sirumathur, Salamangalam, Padappai, Azhagur and Nariyambakkam villages. Many representations were received by the District Administration for the upkeep of this road as ambulances and other essential vehicles are facing problem while crossing the particular road stretch passing through the Mahaniyam RF due to the bad condition of the road.

In view of the above facts, the proposed diversion of 0.678 ha. area in Mahaniyam Reserved Forest of Sriperumputhur Range in Chengalpattu Division is **recommended.**


Conservator of Forests,
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