

Construction of high level bridge at Km 0/4 of Chennai Pulicat Road to Pasiyavaram road including forming of approaches.

The proposed site for the construction of a High Level Bridge across the Pulicat lake is located at the tail end of the extended Chennai – Pulicat road in Thiruvallur District to give connectivity to Pasiyavaram and other Kuppams from Pazhaverkadu (Pulicat). The Pulicat Lake is in backwater spread from the sea mouth of Bay of Bengal. As per PWD, Lr.No.DB/JDO1/F Highways/2009/ dated:15.07.2009 that the Buckingham Canal is not crossing the proposed alignment for construction of High Level Bridge at Km 0/0 – 0/4 Chennai Pulicat Road to Pasiyavaram village. The Bridge is proposed to be constructed across the Pulicat back water.

The work has been sanctioned under Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme (TRP)' 2007-08 scheme for Rs.1500.00 Lakhs vide G/O/Ms/No/401/Revenue (NC III(2)/Department/Dt. 25.07.2007 subsequent to the above G.O the revised Administratively sanctioned was obtained for adopting PWD norms for 1820 lakhs vide GO.Ms No.363/Revenue)NC IV(1) department dated:30.09.2009.

Clearance of NBWL and Green Bench required. (NBWL returned the proposal for want of standing committee of State Board of Wild Life). In the above circumstance the work could not be put in to tender.

Bridge Technical Details:

The proposed bridge is of 20 spans of 21.60m C/C with RCC T-Beam cum Slab to length of 432.00m. The approach road length Chennai Pulicat Road 475.00m and Pasiyavaram Side 354.00 m. Carriage way 7.50m.

Necessity and Importance:

- **No direct link or indirect link to Pasiyavaram village**
- **People have to cross the lake for their day to day activities**
- **One of the biggest islands in the PULICAT lake**
- **This island suffered maximum casualties in the surroundings in the Tsunami 2004**

- **Around 200 Tsunami rehabilitation houses are constructed in this island**

Land Alienation:

Since the bridge site is located on Pulicat Bird Sanctuary the National Board Wild Life, Government of India clearance is mandatory before tender. The proposal for compensation land to Forest Department in favour of Highways was selected on Pulicat Village was returned by Forest Department on 28.09.2010 for change of place for raising of plant. Hence land at Thangal Perumbullam Village was selected and recommended to Government but rejected by the Wild Life Warden on 09.02.2011 due to non suitability for raising plants and trees. This fact was immediately informed by the Divisional Engineer to District Collector and requested for selecting another compensation land vide letter dated 21.03.2011 and 28.05.2011. The process for selection of alternate land and rejection due to non suitability for raising plants as requested by the Wild Life Warden, Chennai took place upto 03.01.2012. Finally a land at Eguvarpalayam Village in Gummidipoondi Taluk has been identified and necessary proposal from District Revenue Officer, Thiruvallur was sent to CLA, Chempauk on dated 08.02.2012 and 22.06.2012 after rectifying the queries, by District Revenue Officer, Thiruvallur vide letter no.3199/2011/B2/Dt.21.11.2012 the alternate land proposal has been sent from CLA, Chempauk to Revenue Department vide letter no.V1/38430/2010/Dt.03.05.2013 for transfer of the Eguvarpalayam land in favour of Highways Department to Forest Department and above pending in Revenue Department.

Forest Clearance

The Secretary to Government Highways and Minor Ports instructed to send the proposal format (I to VI) for approval from National Board of Wild Life, Government of India to carry simultaneously with the selection of alternative land work. In response to the above the National Board Wild Life

proposal sent to Forest Department on 26.03.2012 by Highways Department. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest has recommended the proposal to the Principal Secretary to Forest Department on 12.09.2012 for obtaining necessary clearance from the National Board of Wild Life, Government of India. The Principal Secretary sent the proposal to Inspector of Forest, Government of India on 15.10.2012 and the Inspector of Forest returned the proposed for want of standing committee of State Board of Wild Life. In turn the Principal Secretary to Forest Department, Government of Tamilnadu requested the Government of India to reconsider for placing the proposal to National Board of Wild Life, Government of India because of the Standing Committee of State Board of Wild Life is yet to be reconstituted .On request of the Principal Secretary to Forest Department the Inspector of Forest, Government of India placed the proposal to National Board of Wild Life, Government of India on 20.03.2013. The Board has returned and directing to obtain the recommendation of Standing Committee of State Board Wild Life as prescribed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India guide lines to the Forest Department.

Present Stage:

Clearance of NBWL and Green Bench required. On 11.9.2014 Standing Committee of State Board approved. On 23.9.2014 Government of Tamilnadu has forwarded the proposal to the Inspector of Forest, New Delhi for placing the proposal in the National Board of Wild Life. On 21.1.2015 the National Boards of Wild life has approved the project.