

Justification and Recommendation

A part of the water supply pipeline for meeting the water requirements of Thrissur Zoological Park at Puthur is required to be laid utilizing 0.06 Ha of the reserved forest land in Ayyampilly hill reserve, which is in at Kainoor village of Puthur Panchayat. Ayyampilly hill reserve is an isolated patch of reserve forest (total area is nearly 10 Ha) surrounded by human habitation. This site is under the jurisdiction of Mannamangalam station of Pattikkad range in Thrissur Forest Division.

The Zoological Park demands daily water requirement of 8.9 Lakh Litre out of which nearly 5.2 Lakh Litre will be recycled and used. Thus a net quantity of 3.71 Lakh Litre water is required to be pumped daily. The major source of water is river Manali and Irrigation Department has given approval for drawing water from the river. The total pipeline of 4 km length has to be laid to the main OHT tank inside the Park. The well, pump house and the water supply pipeline for nearly 3km, falls in the Panchayat land. In between, an area of 0.06 Ha is required inside the reserve forest land of Ayyampilly for laying the water supply pipeline underground. The remaining portions of the water supply pipeline, over head tank, treatment and distributions system etc lies in the Zoological Park Project site for which Stage I clearance is already received from MoEF. The other justification for implementing a part of the project in the forest site is because of the following reasons:-

1. There is an urgent need to shift the wild animals surviving in the cramped conditions of the existing Zoo at Chembukavu. The present forest diversion proposal of water supply scheme, is for meeting the needs of the Zoological Park at Puthur. The Park will house innumerable wild animals and birds; will promote research and conservation measures of the wild animals & birds and has an objective to improve the wild populations inside the forest areas. Thus the diversion proposal indirectly will be beneficial on ecological perspective.
2. No alternate and feasible route for laying pipeline is available. The only alternate route available is to take the pipeline along Chemboor road, Murkinnikara-Puthur road, Puthur PWD road, Kurisumoola-Thonippara road route through Panchayat & PWD roads for a length of nearly 6km. At present, proposal for widening of the PWD road is under consideration and the works in this regard are progressing with the Revenue Department. A permanent lay of water pipeline is essential for the water supply scheme, since the water requirement is to meet the sensitive demands of the Zoological Park. Therefore the route touching the PWD roads are not be feasible. Also the opening up of the Zoological Park should happen by December,

2020. Hence the only available land for laying pipeline needs to cross a small forest area along with the Panchayat road.

3. The entire Ayyampilly reserve is a 10 Ha area of 1938 Teak-Acacia Plantation. No trees need to be felled for laying UG water supply Pipeline in the proposed site of diversion.
4. The Ayyampilly reserve is an isolated bit of forest land surrounded by human habitation. There are no scheduled tribes and other forest dwellers in the Ayyampilly forest area.
5. The animals seen in the Ayyampilly reserve forest are mainly porcupines and snakes. This reserve land is not in contiguity with any of the major forest area and therefore is not a corridor for any wild animals. The reserve forest is neither included any of the Wildlife Sanctuaries/National Park/Nature Reserve nor a part of any proposal for declaring the same.

With respect to above justifications, I recommend the diversion of 0.06 Ha of forest in Ayyampilly Reserve for implementing Water Supply Scheme to Thrissur Zoological Park.

Date:


Chief Conservator of Forest
Central Circle, Thrissur