SITE INSPECTION REPROT AND RECOMMENDATION OF DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER, CHENGALPATTU DIVISION, KANCHEEPURAM

This proposal is for diversion of 0.28 Ha of forest land in Kattur Reserved Forests of Kancheepuram Forest Division for the relaying and periodical maintenance of Sembakkam road 0/0 - 0/4kms. The general public has been using the route from longtime. The road passes through for 0.28 Ha of forest land in Kattur RF, Tiruporur Range. The said area was inspected by me on 11.02.2021. Thiru.M.Suvichandran, ADE, Highways, Chengalpattu, Thiru.B.Senthilkumar, Road Inspector, Highways, Forest Range Officer and other subordinate staff of Tiruporur Range were present during the inspection.

The length of the present stretch of requested road has only one reach of 400mtrs length (0/0 to 0/4) 400x3.75=1500 M2 and shoulder width of 1.625 mts. either side 2x1.625x400=1300M2. The width of the road proposed for diversion is 3.75mtrs according to the guidelines. Total area requested for diversion is 1500M2+1300M2= 2800 M2 (or) 0.28 Ha.

On inspection, it was found that the road was already laid long time back in forest area and there are no proper records available on when the road was formed with the user agency. Also, the requested forest stretch is in continuation of the already existing road which leads to Sembakkam Village. The present forest area stretch of 400 mtrs. was also last maintained during 2012 along with rest of the village road in violation to Forest Conservation Act by Highways Department, Chengalpattu. Considering the above facts, penal action may be taken as per Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Ref. No. F.No.11-42/2017-FC, dated 29/01/2018 or other rules as deemed fit.

Now the Divisional Engineer (H) C&M, Chengalpattu has applied for diversion of this forest land for relaying and periodical maintenance of above said road stretch. User agency has submitted necessary undertaking on Compensatory Afforestation Expenditure, NPV, Additional Net Present Value and lease Rent. There is no tree growth along the proposed forest area for diversion. The road is highly essential for providing access to the people of Sembakkam village.

Taking into consideration the above facts, the proposed diversion of 0.28 ha area in Kattur Reserved Forest is **recommended** with the penal action as stated above.

District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division, Kancheepuram.

2/2/2021