

Site inspection report and recommendation of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle

The User Agency, M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Pvt. Ltd., has uploaded the proposal (No:FP/TN/OTHERS/52250/2020, dt:05.02.2024) for diversion of 0.024 ha. Forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for laying of under ground Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) in Pulikoradu Reserve Forest of Tambaram Range, Chennai Division.

The proposed area has been inspected by me on 12.08.2024 along with the District Forest Officer, Chennai Division, Forest Range Officer, Tambaram and staff and staff from M/s Jio Digital Fibre Pvt. Ltd.,

Total extent required for this project is 0.024 ha (800 mtr. length x 0.3 mtr. width)

The Pulikoradu Reserve Forest has been declared under section 16 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act.1882 vide Notification No.390, 390A, Revenue Department, dated:03.06.1890. The vegetation of the proposed area is described as 'Tropical Thorn Forest' and is dominated by thorny shrub. The tree growth is seen widely in the hillocks and distributed sparsely. The soil type of this Reserved Forest is red loamy with gravelly in plain and red gravelly in hillocks. The proposed area is not a part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve or Eco-Sensitive Zone of any Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Pulikoradu Reserved Forest spreads over an extent of 74.92ha which is surrounded by human habitation. This Reserved Forest possess a well diverse flora & fauna and acts as a source of water to nearby reservoirs during monsoon season. This Reserved Forest possess 200-250 species of plants, 50-70 species of birds, 10-20 species of butterflies, 10 species of reptiles and mammals. The abandoned quarry plays a roosting area for migrating birds. Due to the availability of crusher units and pressure due to human habitations the flora and fauna diversity is less compared to other Reserved Forests of Tambaram Range.

This proposal is for diversion of 0.024 ha of Forest land for laying of underground optical Fibre Cable along the road side Tambaram to Thiruneermalai across Pulikoradu Reserved Forest over a length of 800 mtr. in Tambaram Taluk of Chengalpattu District where the vegetation is NIL.

The project of laying of optical Fibre Cable will help to achieve digital India Mission and has a large scope in overall development of villages.

Taking into consideration of the facts stated above, I recommend the proposal submitted by the user agency M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Pvt. Ltd., for diversion of 0.024 ha forest land in Pulikoradu Reserved Forest, Tambaram Range of Chennai Division.


Chief Conservator of Forests,
Chennai Circle, Chennai


12/08/24