## Site Inspection Report and Recommendation of the Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai

The Project Director, National Highways Authority, PIU – Kancheepuram Chennai District has submitted a proposal for the diversion of 14.0289 Ha of Reserved Forest land in Thirumalairajupettai Reserved Forest (3.4186 Ha) and Nediyam Reserved Forest (10.6103 Ha) for construction of 6 lane Highways Green filed corridor from Chittoor to Thatchur (NH716B) by National Highways Authority via Thirumalairajupettai Reserved Forest and Nediyam Reserved Forest in Pallipattu Range of Tiruvallur Forest Division, Tiruvallur District. The proposed project site was inspected by me on 08.07.2022 along with the District Forest Officer, Tiruvallur Division, National Highways Authority staff and forest staff.

The Thirumalairajupettai Reserved Forest was notified as Reserved Forest under Section 16 of Tamil Nadu Forest Act, 1882 vide Government of Tamil Nadu Letter No.65570/FR/III/83-3 Forest and Fisheries 25<sup>th</sup> Nov-1983 with an extent of 27.63 Ha. and Nediyam Reserved Forest was notified under 16 of Tamil Nadu Forest Act 1882, vide Government of Tamil Nadu Letter No.7497/FR/III/83-3 with an extent of 923.04.0 Ha. The forest type in the proposed area is Southern Tropical Dry Mixed Deciduous Forests. The density class is Moderate with eco-value IV. Wild animals such as spotted deer, Python, Porcupine, Mongoose, Peacock, Monitor Lizard, all snakes (Except King Cobra), etc., are said to be present in the forests.

The user agency has proposed diversion of forest area as detailed below

S. No.	Name of RF	Name of village	S.No	Extent in Ha.
1	Thirumalairajupettai	Thirumalairajupettai	78	3.4186
2	Nediyam	Kellapadi	200	3.1762
		Samanthavada	280 & 301	5.4685
		Punniyam	276	1.9656
		Total		14.0289

The land required by the user agency for the proposed 6 lane Highways Road Corridor does not involve forest tribal rights.

The proposed diversion of Forest Land does not lie in any Protected Area. The proposed site is situated about 60 km away from Pulicat Sanctuary. Out of the total extent of 27.63 ha. in Thirumalairajupettai RF, an extent of 3.4186 ha. is proposed for diversion. The proposed diversion of the forest land is along the outer boundary of the Reserved Forests. Considering the above views, the diversion of 14.0289 Ha. of Forest Land in Thirumalarajupettai Reserved Forest and Nediyam Reserved Forest, under the jurisdiction of Pallipattu Range, Tiruvallur Forest Division is recommended subject to the fulfilment of condition that a full-fledged chain link fencing shall be erected on either side of the road at the cost of user agency to prevent further biotic interference.

Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai.

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