

**Site inspection Report of Conservator of Forests,**  
**Chennai Circle, Chennai**

**Name of the Project:** CMWSS - Metro Water Supply - Diversion of 0.24ha. of Forest Land in Nanmangalam RF of Tambaram Range in Chennai Forest Division for laying Metro Water Pipeline

The User Agency, i.e., Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewage Board has uploaded the proposal (No: FP/TN/Pipeline/146983/2021 Dated: 08.09.2021) for conveyance of 150 MLD of product water through pipeline from the desalination plant at Nemmeli in East Coast Road - laying of pipes along Medavakkam Main road in Nanmangalam Reserved Forest.

The proposed area has been inspected by the Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle on 14.09.2021. The proposal is a linear Project that passes through the Nanmangalam Reserved Forest of Tambaram Range in Chennai Forest Division. Area required for diversion is 0.24 ha. (1200 x 2.00 m).

Nanmangalam Reserved Forest has been declared under section 16 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act 1882, vide G.O.No.931, Dated: 18.11.1890. The vegetation of the area is described as 'Vandalur Scrub' and is dominated by thorny shrubs and hardy species. Though the Nanmangalam Reserved Forest has remarkable biodiversity – comprising of about 442 species of plants, 100-125 species of birds, 40 species of butterflies, 15-20 species of amphibians and reptiles, 15-20 species of dragonflies and damselflies, etc., the conveyance of 150 MLD of product water through pipeline along Medavakkam main road in the proposed forest area shall not affect the movement of birds and other species mentioned above. The Reserved Forest or any portion of the proposed area is neither forming part of National Park,

Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve and Wildlife Migration Corridor nor forming part of Eco-Sensitive Zone of any Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.

Further, the forest area proposed for diversion under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, passes along the state highway 635 (Medavakkam Main Road) which passes adjacent to the suburban residential areas and hence there is no specialized habitat (breeding ground/ nesting area) for any faunal species including avi-fauna and hence there is no disturbance for any form of wildlife as well.

Since, there is acute shortage of drinking water in Chennai City, a basic essential requirement for any living being, the proposed pipeline address this basic needs especially during summer period (April - August) and supports in survival of the people in the suburban areas of Chennai District.

Taking into consideration of the facts stated above, I recommend the proposal submitted by the user agency, Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewage Board for diversion of 0.24 ha. of forest land in Nanmangalam Reserved Forest of Tambaram Range in Chennai Forest Division.

  
Conservator of Forests,  
Chennai Circle, Chennai.