INSPECTION REPORT OF CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, HIGH RANGE CIRCLE, KOTTAYAM

Inspected the proposed site of KIIFB "Drinking water supply scheme to Paingottoor Panchayath " on 07.03.2020 along with Range Office Kaliyar and staff. The site is located in Kaliyar Range of Kothamangalam division, in Neduvakkad section. The area proposed to be diverted are situated in two locations around 1/2 Km apart. The lower plot was 50 cents near a small river and is a rocky unoccupied plot surrounded by encroached forest lands, many of which are regularized and patta issued. This is proposed to locate the water treatment plant. The upper plot is situated on another rocky patch, 10 cents in area inside a privately occupied enclosure. This location is around 100 M away from the edge of the presently maintained boundary of forest with no jundas. On local enquiry with staff and based on age of improvements and houses constructed, the occupied land around lower plot are old occupations for which patta are already issued or in various stages of distribution and the proposed land is unoccupied being rocky. The occupied land around upper plot is much recent – ie 20 to 30 years old occupation and without any records. The pipe line connecting the two plots will be underground and through these occupied private lands and roads, and is not included in the proposal. The nearby forest is only the most inhospitable rocky out crop left out after all encroachments and the western most edge of the Thodupuzha reserve and end of a rocky ridge radiating from the Nagarampara hills. Since the area is part of an already occupied forest land, the diversion will not affect the main forest. Also since this diversion is for construction of a drinking water supply scheme for the Paingottoor Panchayath which will help common people, it is recommended for diversion of 60 cent of lands as per application.

Conservatoro Conse

Chief Conservator of Forests