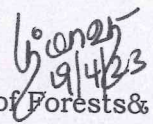


***Site inspection report of Chief Conservator of Forests and Field Director,  
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve, Madurai regarding diversion of  
Forest land 0.0264 ha. for construction of hand rails in Sathuragiri Hills,  
Saptur R.F. in Peraiyur Taluk, Madurai District requested by the Executive  
Officer, Arulmigu Sundaramahalingaswamy Temple, Sathuragiri Office,  
Watrap in Srivilliputhur Division.***

The site inspection for diversion of 0.0264 ha. of Forest land for construction of Hand rails in Sathuragiri Hills, Saptur R.F. , in Srivilliputhur Division was carried out on 14.09.2022 and 07.04.2023. The area requested by the user agency for formation of hand rails on the path via. Thaniparai to Sundaramahalingam temple falls in five locations (Valukkuparai, Sangiliparai, Konathalaivasal, Irattailingam medu and Navaloothu medu). All the five proposed locations fall in the core area of SMTR, Srivilliputhur. This area forms a part of Agasthiyamalai Biosphere Landscape, Srivilliputhur Elephant Reserve and Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary

The site proposed for formation of hand rails is home for several endangered species of flora and fauna. Although, project causes minimal damage to flora and fauna, it will ensure the safety of pilgrims as hand rails will help in easy movement of the public in the hilly terrain. The project site does not have any important monuments which has archaeological importance/ heritage site/ defence establishment etc. There is a great religious importance associated with the Sundaramahalingam temple at Sathuragiri and an important pilgrimage for people in Tamilnadu. As per the necessity in the field, an area of 0.0138 ha is recommended for diversion in Saptur RF, Grizzled Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary instead of 0.0264 ha. as there is no tree felling involved and the project is for safety of the pilgrims. This is subject to the condition that necessary clearance from the Standing Committee on National Board for Wildlife has to be obtained by the user agency.

  
Chief Conservator of Forests & Field Director

Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve

Madurai