

SITE INSPECTION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE
DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER, CHENNAI FOREST DIVISION

Name of the Project : Diversion of 0.024Ha. forest land for laying of underground Optical Fibre Cabel (OFC) along road side from Tambaram to Thiruneermalai across Pulikoradu Reserve Forest.

The User Agency, i.e., **M/S. JIO DIGITAL FIBRE PVT. LTD.**, has uploaded the proposal (No:FP/TN/OTHERS/52250/2020, dt:05.02.2024) for diversion of 0.024Ha. Forest area under FC Act, 1980 for laying of underground Optical Fibre Cabel (OFC) in Pulikoradu Reserve Forest of Tambaram Range, Chennai Division.

The proposed area has been inspected by me on 06.06.2024 along with Forest Range Officer and staff of Tambaram Range.

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 shrubs are dominant in this area. 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. Approaching road in the proposed forest area shall not affect the movement of birds and other species. The proposed area is neither forming a part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve and Wildlife Migration Corridor nor forming a part of 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 acts as a source of water to nearby reservoirs during monsoon season. This Reserved Forest possess 200-250 species of plants, 50-70species of birds, 10-20species 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 0.024Ha of Forest land for laying of underground Optical Fiber Cable at along the road side Tambaram to Thiruneermalai across Pulikoradu Reserve Forest in Tambaram Taluk of Chengalpattu District.

The proposed area lies at the left side shoulder portion of Tambaram – Thiruneermalai road which passes inside the Pulikordu Reserve Forest over a distance of 800mtrs., where the vegetation is NIL. The proposed area for diversion lies inside the Reserve Forest at the distance as 83meters of the initial then 180meters of the middle and 1mtr at the end.

The project of laying of Optical Fiber Cable is very important which is coming under JIO Digital Fiber Pvt. Ltd., This project will help to achieve digital India mission and has a large scope in overall development of villages. The use of internet has not only made it easy for friends and family to keep in touch but also helped businesses to meet a bigger part of their communication.

The User Agency has agreed to pay the Net Present Value of the above Forest land as well as cost involved towards Compensatory Afforestation.

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 the Forest land (0.024Ha) in Pulikoru Reserve Forests.


District Forest Officer,
Chennai Forest Division,
Chennai


19/06/2024