

## **ANNEXURE D-I**

### **Justification for locating the Project in Forest Land and Details of alternatives examined:**

#### **Name of the Project:**

Proposed restoration of Rail connectivity(Broad-gauge Line) between Rameswaram and Dhanuskodi across Rameswaram R.F. in Rameswaram Taluk, Ramanathapuram District.

#### **Details of the Project:**

The project aims to restore connectivity to heritage sites of religious and cultural significance. This project is strategically tourism wise, pilgrimage wise important one. It may be useful for restoring service to Srilanka in future. The proposed alignment connects Jada Theertham Temple, KothandaRamarKovil, Mukundarayanchatram and Dhanuskodi.

Railway line existed till Dhanuskodi which was almost following the proposed alignment, was washed away by a cyclone in 1964. This project aims to restore the track that existed before the cyclone. As the project is restoration of rail connectivity between Rameswaram and Danuskodi, it follows erstwhile alignment which was in existence till 1964 and it is important from pilgrimage point of view to connect the stations mentioned above such as Jada Theertham Temple, KothandaRamarKovil , Mukundarayanchatram and Dhanuskodi.

  
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