## SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF WILDLIFE WARDEN, CHENNAL

Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary comprises of main lake area of 29.5 ha and surrounding 5km zone of revenue villages area. The areas proposed for re-defining the boundary of Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary by de-notifying the outer 2 km zone in Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary was inspected by me along with staff on 23.01.2020.

The areas to be de-notified in 2 km zone are completely private land holdings, patta lands, poramboke lands in Maduranthagam, Puducheri, Surai, Sathamai, Karunguzhi, Melevalampettai, Morapaakkam, Papanallur, Mocheri, Thandarai, Madurai, Nelli, Soorai, Puthupattu, Papanallur, Kozhiyalam, vellaputhur and other villages.

Lands nearer to main highway are barren, converted and secured and other villages are agriculture based. During birding season in Vedanthangal, it is seen that birds do not nest anywhere outside the lake area, they do not depend on villages for nesting materials. And, most of the birds go to agricultural lands in 1-2 kms or farther areas for feed.

Hence, de-notifying the outer 2 km zone would not have any negative impact on birds in the Sanctuary and Sanctuary lake. But, this will definitely have positive impact on local people because, they will be free from restrictions on land conversion, own house construction and any other personal activities in the Sanctuary. Also, this will bring back local people for the cause of conservation of birds in Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary.

Wildlife Warden Wildlife Division Chennai