

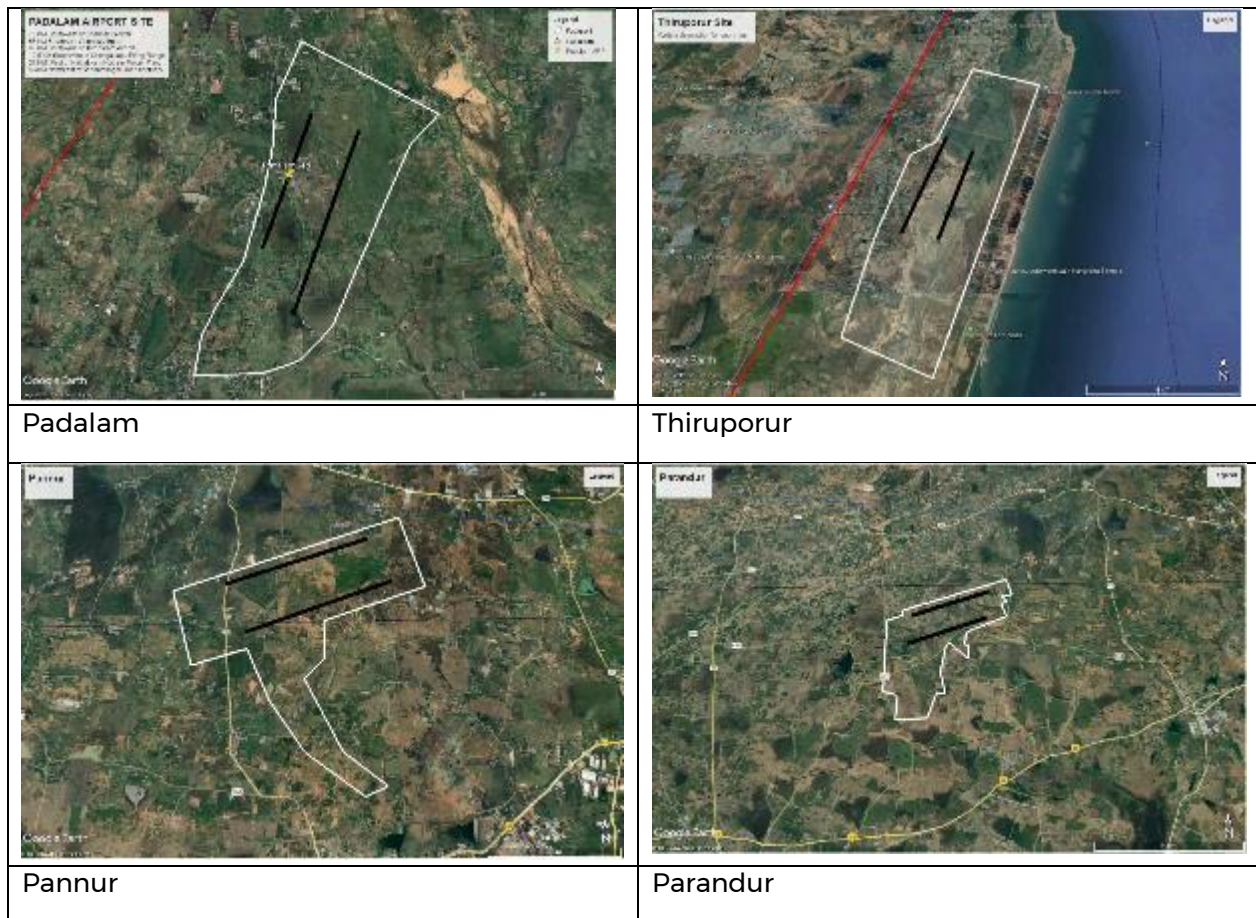
# JUSTIFICATION

TIDCO has conducted its basic level prefeasibility studies on identified potential sites. In order to take the process to next level, TN Government has asked AAI on 29.10.2021 to conduct technical prefeasibility study on those four sites. Airports Authority of India (AAI) had visited the above sites in February 2022 and conducted a Pre-Feasibility Study for the Proposed Greenfield Airport near Chennai.

The objective of this study was to evaluate potential four sites identified by Government of Tamil Nadu with respect to their suitability for Development of the Airport. The report was submitted by AAI in March 2022 documenting the findings of this study. The details of the four sites have been outlined below.

1. Parandur: The site is located northwest of Sungavarchatram.
2. Pannur: The site is located northeast of Sungavarchatram.
3. Thiruppurur: The site is located southeast of Chennai (between ECR and RG Road).
4. Padalam: The site is located 20 kilometers south of Chengalpattu.

**Figure: Analysis of Alternatives- Location Map**



Source: AAI Pre-feasibility Report

The Pre-Feasibility study findings are that the Padalam site falls in the restricted area of Tambaram Local Flying area under the control of the Indian Air Force. The site at Thiruporur is adjacent to the restricted area of Tambaram Local Flying area. Hence there will be considerable restrictions on the flight operations (arrival and departures), thereby reducing the capacity of the proposed Airport. The Chengalpattu Firing range is present towards the North-East of Padalam site and West of Thiruporur site. Moreover, the prohibited area of Kalpakkam Nuclear plant is at a distance of 5NM to the South of the Thiruporur site.

The ideally suited runway orientation is 07-25 (parallel to Chennai Airport main runway). The site at Padalam and Thiruporur permits 02-20 orientation potentially conflicting with the traffic of existent Chennai Airport. Considering these factors and based on the available airspace, AAI has reported that Padalam and Thiruporur sites are not feasible for development of Greenfield airport.

The study by AAI concluded that the proposed sites in Parandur and Pannur are comparatively more feasible for development of Greenfield airport as per availability of airspace and being relatively free of natural obstructions. Both sites are free of any restrictions affecting operational efficiency and do not face any hazards and other limiting factors like wildlife sanctuaries, refuse dumps and sewage outfalls. Both sites have good connectivity to Chennai City and have adequate availability of ground access and trunk infrastructure. Land availability is adequate and suitable for the present requirement and for desired runway orientation of 07/25 at Parandur site. The land available at Pannur is 4284 acres and in Parandur is 5369 acres. However, additional land may be required for the Pannur site, to the East and Southeast side of the proposed area to accommodate essential navigational aids. Moreover, it was observed that several Extra High Tension (EHT) towers exist in and around the Pannur site. Moreover, another limiting factor of the Pannur site is that there are seven existing industries within and near the site. Based on the finding of the feasibility study carried out by AAI and further detailed analysis of both Parandur and Pannur sites, the Parandur site has emerged as the most suitable site for development of Greenfield Airport for the following reasons:

- Project site in Parandur is nearer to the upcoming Chennai – Bengaluru Expressway providing for easier and cost-effective connectivity to the demand centres, apart from other road & rail connectivity as explained above.
- Number of families to be displaced is 1005 in Parandur and 1546 families in Pannur site.
- There are lesser man-made obstacles for aircraft operations in Parandur compared to Pannur, where several EHT lines exist in and around the site and there are operating industries near the site.
- Sufficient land free of structures is available in the proposed site at Parandur for the operational and other needs of the Airport. Additional land on the East and Southeast side of the proposed area in Pannur may be needed to accommodate essential navigational aids. The additional land required in Pannur will be difficult to acquire as the land in the vicinity is developed with habitations and industries.
- Future development around the airport at Parandur can be planned better due to the availability of large tracts of vacant land, whereas the project area proposed in Pannur is near Sriperumbudur Industrial Area and is relatively developed with permanent industrial and residential structures.

In view of the above, after detailed consideration and technical study, Parandur was selected by the Government of Tamil Nadu for developing a new Greenfield Airport.