Appendix - I

Interview Schedule for Farmer-Encroachers

1. Name / Age:

2. Religion / Caste / Language:

3. Name of reserve land / forest, village, and panchayath; extent and period of residence/ cultivation:

4. What is your family's source of income and have you incurred any debts?

5. What are the educational credentials of your family?

6. What is the nature of basic facilities (school / hospital) facilities in your area? Do you have the following amenities at home, and did you face any difficulty in obtaining them?

   Electricity / Telephone / Water connection / Fuel

7. Have you and (or) family migrated? Have you informed relatives or have any network with place of origin? Are decisions to 'encroach' individual or collective and does expansion involve any 'measurement'?

8. Did you buy land and did anyone inform / help in occupation of lands or assuming patta (e.g. Revenue officials, politicians, lawyers, estate employees etc) and do you lease / cultivate land other than in possession or patta?

9. How crucial is encroachment-possession of land to your and the wider community's economy and which land is the source of more income / supplementary income- owned / at hand? Why is it possible to encroach and cultivate in government lands and what will you do if evicted?
10. Have you ever been evicted or have your crops been cleared? What socio-economic problems do you face in terms of not having patta-part or whole or being treated as an encroacher?

11. Which of the following 'Classified' land lies in proximity to your land? Do you have any advantage / problem due to such proximity? Do people live in them and has it changed in any manner?
A. Reserved Forest / reserved land B. Sanctuary / National Park
C. Sec. 17 D. Revenue E. Private / Patta

12. Are you paying any tax or fines or have been served any notice by the forest / revenue Department or the estate? Are you aware of the legal status of your land and what documents do you possess or propose to as proof of possession / residence?

13. What is the basis of your patta claim viz. moral right as tenant under Janmi; as old immigrant; on ethnic grounds; on legal grounds or any other livelihood ethic?

14. What crops do / did you cultivate, and do you cultivate for subsistence or the market? Who procures your crop? What is your method of cultivation (shifting, settled) and do you follow an agricultural cycle and symbolize it ritually? Does the government assist you in any manner for cultivation? Do you have farm labor?

15. Do you depend on surrounding forests in any manner for your agricultural and other livelihood pursuits viz. grazing, minor/non-timber forest produce collections? Do you have a system of resource use and regulation and do you claim any customary, moral, material, or legal forest right?
16. Have you ever felled trees for any purpose and were you fined? What were the species involved and how was it disposed?

17. Why and how do you protest or resist eviction / clearance and how do you handle everyday actions of forest / revenue personnel?

18. Have you participated in any form of collective action in the course of land / forest conflicts and if yes, what was the nature and outcome? Why is there no collective action (or attempt or organize) among farmers with reference to forest claims or deforestation in Gudalur?

19. Have there been any ecological changes viz. deforestation, rainfall decline, soil erosion that has affected your agricultural cycles / practices? Have they affected you in any other way?

20. What are your views on the conservation efforts of the forest department? Will you help in conservation if given patta?

21. Have you had any kind of encounter / problem with wild animals at place of residence or cultivation? Do you face any problems with concerned authorities?

22. Who are the other social groups (castes / religions) constituting your area and Gudalur and what is the nature of your interaction with these people? Is there solidarity and reciprocity? What is the nature of interaction with landlords, lessees and labour? Is there any animosity over land or other social issues?

23. Are you a member of any association / party and do you receive any associational / political patronage? Do you vote in local / state elections?

24. What is your opinion of the Janmam system, state reorganization, the 1971-73, 1978-82 evictions, protest and resistance, writ petitions, patta grant, the Louis immolation incident and the repatriate issue? Does it have any bearing on the land problem?
Topic Guides for Plantations

1. Corporate and Spatial Identities

A. Name of Plantation, its age and corporate history of proprietary?

B. What is the total acreage of plantation and extent of undeveloped forest land?

C. What is the planted extent-initial and present- of holding, and has the plantation expanded or proposes to?

2. Legal Identities

A. What are the problems faced by the plantation with forests and revenue departments with regard to the legal status (i.e. Sec 17, Sec 8) of the plantation and how has the plantation contested this status and what has been the outcome of the contestations? Specifically, what problems relating to the Janmam Act do the plantataters face?

B. Were you aware of the legal status of land at the time of purchase and do you foresee any change in the legal status in the future? What is the plantation's stand on the issue?

3. Local and Migrant Ethnic Content of Plantations

A. Was there any old inhabitation (village) of forests or in lands around the estate? Is there any dispute over forestlands with people who inhabit such lands and if so what is the nature of their moral, ethnic and legal claims?

B. Have there been attempts to occupy forests within the estate by migrant-settlers (encroachers) or plantation workers?
C. What are the socio-cultural identities of 'encroachers'? What are their material pursuits and economic status?

4. Encroachments and Conflict

A. What are the nature of encroacher claims and how do they protest or resist government and plantation action? Have they been evicted or given any sort of title over land?

B. Has the ownership of forests within the estate been contested between encroachers and existing groups or between encroachers themselves? How do the forest / revenue departments assist you in this regard?

5. Deforestation

A. Have there been any evident changes in the ecological profile (flora, fauna, water, soil etc at the plantations)? Has there been change in the climate and weather conditions?

B. Does / did the forests within the estate contain any wildlife and does their presence or movement within the forests or neighboring forests threaten your crops? How do you deal with the situation and is there any problem with the wildlife department given the situation?

6. Conservancy

A. Has the plantation attempted to preserve forests- previously and now- and if so why?
B. What is the plantation's stance on private forests in particular and the conservation issue in general?

4. Legal, Political and Economic Contexts

A. Does the plantation feel there is legal uncertainty in issues concerning conservancy or land policy? Does the legal status of Sec.17 lands make them susceptible or encroachments?

B. The issue of '11 big' estates controlling most of the lands in contention has emerged as a political issue in Gudalur. Comment, emphasizing the politics of the issue.

C. Does the plantation economy - as part of national / global market – determine the uses to which private forests are put to? What are the economic factors that come into play in the issue?

Topic Guide for Political Leaders

1. Party Profile

A. Description of Party’s local history?

B. How has the party performed in local and state elections in the past and recently in Gudalur?

2. Party Policy and Initiative

A. What is your party's stance on forest encroachments by small farmers and large land grabbers and the conflicts that arise consequently?

B. If in power will you suggest that your government give patta? If so, for which section of occupants and from which period of occupancy and for what extent?
C. How do you view deforestation and the conservation efforts of the government?

D. What initiatives have you/your party taken to stop encroachments / deforestation, while in power or otherwise?

E. Have you or your party opposed or supported evictions or clearance?

4. Encroachment, political affiliation / vote bank interface

A. Which section of encroacher-farmers constitute your vote bank?

B. How significant is the forest problem as a political and electoral issue in Gudalur?

5. Party Policy / Opinion

A. Comment on the Janmam tenure and its abolition and the act? Do you think there is uncertainty over the legal status of lands and in the Janmam act itself?

B. How did a heterogeneous society like Gudalur function without class /caste/religious tensions and is the source of such apparent solidarity lie in the common experience of tenurial insecurity?

C. What is your opinion on the functioning of the Forest and Revenue departments?

D. What is your opinion on the writ petitions filed by plantations, M. J. Cherian, the Janmi and various other writ petitions and their verdicts?

E. What are the political overtones of the state reorganization, the 1978-82 evictions, settlement operations and Tamil- Malayalee antagonism? Do they have any bearing on the forest problem?
Topic Guide for Forest Settlement Officer (FSO)

1. Nature of Designation

A. What is the nature of your jurisdiction?

2. Current Settlement Situation

A. What are the number of patta applications, and the spatial, legal and cultural identities of encroachers?

3. Settlement Difficulties

A. Does the legal uncertainty over lands make settlement difficult?
B. Is there any political interference in the settlement process?
C. Are there any ecological constrains on settlement enquiries in reserve lands given the vegetative incongruities?

4. Encroachments

A. What are the socio-cultural & economic identities of patta applicants?
B. What are the ‘community’ dimensions of encroachers?

5. Encroacher Opinion/Claim

A. What are the legal rights of encroacher-applicants and their opinion on the same?
B. What are the moral and livelihood claims of encroacher-applicants?
Topic Guide for Legal Practitioners

1. Spatial and Legal Characteristics of Clientele

A. Who of the following are your clients in Gudalur, how long have they resided in Gudalur?
   - Planters
   - Small encroachers / Medium/large encroachers
   - Any others

B. What are their legal statuses vis-à-vis section-17 lands, reserve lands and forests?

C. Are your clients in any manner dependent on the forests and what are their moral and material claims over forests?

2. Eviction and Land Regularization

A. Have any of your client's lands been regularized under any scheme / Act? What is the general pattern of regularization in Gudalur?

B. Have your clients been victims of encroachments / evictions? Can you describe a typical encroachment / eviction / regularization procedure?

3. Legal Opinion

A. What is your opinion on the encroachment and deforestation problem?

B. Has any specific legal Act or its sections affected your clients or are generally contended in Gudalur?

C. What is the nature of legal uncertainty in Gudalur, what are its origins and consequences?
D. What are the roles of lawyers in litigation and consequently the ambiguity surrounding Gudalur?

**Topic Guide For NGOs**

1. **Organization Profile**
   
   a. Name of organization.
   
   b. Period of activity and
   
   c. Membership base.

2. **Objectives of the Organization**
   
   a. What are the objectives of your organization in terms of conservancy?
   
   b. What is the nature of your organization's engagement with the forest / land problem in Gudalur?

3. **Experiences**
   
   a. What is the organization's perception and experience of the forest / land in Gudalur and what are its socio-ecological causes and consequences?
   
   b. What are the distinct achievements of the organization? Have its activities found acceptance or have been resisted by either planters or peasants?
   
   c. How does the organization propose to do to resolve conflicts and deforestation?
4. **Topic Guide for District Forest Officer (DFO)**

1. **Plantation Leases**

   a. What is your opinion on the Section 17 issue?

   b. What are the reasons for encroachments by farmers and land speculators?

   c. What measures is the forest department initiating to stop encroachments and land grabbing?

   d. What are the contentions of planters? Are they staking claim over forests also, after the Supreme Court verdict in 1999?

   e. Who in your opinion is responsible for deforestation in Section 17 lands, Planters or farmers?

2. **Reserve lands and forests**

   a. What is your opinion on the encroachment issue in notified forests?

   b. Is the department willing to give Patta for encroachers?

   c. How is the forest department trying to conserve forests given the presence of encroachments?

3. **Legal and Political Issues**

   a. Do you feel that there is legal uncertainty over the forest problem in Gudalur?

   b. Does the department face any political pressures in its efforts to curtail deforestation?
Appendix - II

Village and Tenure wise Classification of Consolidated Area

Area (in acres)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th>Janmam</th>
<th>Non Janmam</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Gudalur</td>
<td>9,937.89</td>
<td>1915</td>
<td>11,853.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Devala</td>
<td>11,735.73</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>11,891.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Padanthurai</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>7818.00</td>
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<td>4. O’ Valley</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>25558.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Cherumulli</td>
<td>7288.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7288.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Sri Madurai</td>
<td>2737.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2737.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Mudumalai</td>
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<td>(Remaining Portions notified as National Park)</td>
<td>46,678.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Nelliyalam</td>
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<td>9. Munanad</td>
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<td>19309.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Nellakottah</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Erumad</td>
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Appendix - III

Forest Ranges and Reserve Land and Forest Extents (in acres)

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<tr>
<th>Forest Range</th>
<th>Reserve Forest</th>
<th>Reserve Land</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1.Gudalur</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.Pandalur</td>
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<td>7085</td>
<td>7831</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.Cherambadi</td>
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<td>5980</td>
<td>7729</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.Bitherkad</td>
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<td>3407</td>
<td>4496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5967</strong></td>
<td><strong>17582</strong></td>
<td><strong>23549</strong></td>
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