F.No.11-35/2020-IA-III

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(IA.III Section)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003 Dated: 23rd September, 2020

To

M/s National Highways Authority of India, O/o The Project Director, PIU, No. 26, 1st Floor, VGP Nagar West, Vazhudhareddy Post, Villupuram – 605401 Tamil Nadu

Subject: CRZ Clearance for four laning of Poondiyankuppam (km.67.000) to Allivilagam (km 123.800) at Cuddalore and Nagapattinam District of NH-45A in the State of Tamil Nadu/UT Puducherry under NHDP Phase-IV - reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your online proposal No. IA/TN/CRZ/134952/2020 received in this Ministry on the above mentioned project, for CRZ Clearance in accordance with the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011 issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

- 2. The proposal was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for Infrastructure Development, Coastal Regulation Zone, Building/ Construction and Miscellaneous projects, in its 240th meeting held on 30/07/2020. The details of the project as per the documents submitted and presented during the aforesaid meetings are as under:
- (i) The proposal is for widening/strengthening of the existing road to 4 / 6 lanes. Total length of the project road will be 56.80 Km.
- (ii) The proposed project road starts at design Ch 67+000 (11°38'1.09"N, 79°44'0.25"E) near Poondiyankuppam and ends at Ch 123+800 (11°12'30.17"N, 79°45'21.12"E) near Sathanathapuram traversing through the state of Tamil Nadu;
- (iii) Project shall utilise the 38.02 km of existing road and will entail 18.78 km of the new section (Bypasses).
- (iv) Existing RoW is 12m 46m and proposed RoW is 45m along existing carriageway & 45 to 60 in bypass/realignment/Grade separators/cross drainage structure locations.
- (v) 4 bypasses (at B. Mutloor Bypass, Chidambaram link Bypass, Kollidam Bypass & Sattanathapuram Bypass) are proposed for a length of 18.78 km along the project road. There will be no realignment.
- (vi) Total area under CRZ is 80499 sq.m or 8.05 ha.

	Area of road (ROW) in CRZ area (sq.m)					
Taluka	CRZ- IA	CRZ-IB	CRZ- II	CRZ-III	CRZ- IVA	CRZ-IVB
Cuddalore	Nil	828.18	Nil	15324.68	Nil	1057.62
Chidambaram	Nil	796.02	Nil	11186.8	Nil	9363.06
Sirkali	Nil	17743.46	Nil	17510.87	Nil	6688.16
Total	-	19367.66	-	44022.35	-	17108.84

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(vii) Proposed road passes through one major river which come in the purview of CRZ notification, 2011 and 2019.

River name	Design Chainage	Length of Existing Bridge (m)	Length of Proposed Bridge (m)
Gadilam	67.851	45.50	45.00
Gadilam	71.913	37.50	75.00
Uppanar	75.363	49.50	49.50
Vellar	87.839	309.00	309.00
Kollidam	105.912	-	910.00
Uppanar	119.210	76.50	76.50
Uppanar	122.603	-	30.00

- (viii) Total area of land required for the project road is 320.57 ha. of which 97.82 ha. is available and 222.75 ha. is proposed for land acquisition.
- (ix) There is no diversion of any forest land and no notified protected area is present within 10 km of the project road.
- (x) A total of 14768 trees are proposed for felling. Permission for government for tree felling has been granted by Sub-Collector, Cuddalore vide its letter no. 3/3349/2018, dated 24/10/2018.
- (xi) NHAI will deposit the fund for compensatory plantations per local laws with forest department as deposit work.
- (xii) Compensatory Plantation is proposed in 1:10 ratio for every tree to be cut are proposed to be planted on proposed bypasses as per IRC SP-21:2009 based on availability of RoW.
- (xiii) For construction of the project road approx. 1489 KLD water will be required. Water will be sourced through surface water bodies. Licensed vendors shall be approached for water supply.
- (xiv) Water requirement will be about 225 KLD sourced from surface/ground water. Concessionaire shall obtain necessary permission before commencing Construction work.
- (xv) No notified ESA/Marine park present within 15 km from the project road.
- (xvi) The employment potential of the project is 310 persons.
- (xvii) The total cost of proposed project is ₹1777.05crores
- (xviii) Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority (TNCZMA) has recommended the above proposal for clearance vide their letter No. 20976/EC.3/2019-1, dated 06th December, 2019.
- 3. Based on the recommendation of the Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority issued *vide* its letter No. 20976/EC.3/2019-1, dated 06th December, 2019, and information submitted as at para no. 2 above and information provided during the presentation before the Expert Appraisal Committee and others, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, in acceptance of the recommendation of the Expert Appraisal Committee (CRZ) hereby accords CRZ Clearance for 'Four Laning of Poondiyankuppam (km.67.000) to Allivilagam (km 123.800) at Cuddalore and Nagapattinam District of NH-45A in the State of Tamil Nadu/UT Puducherry under NHDP Phase-IV', under the provision of CRZ Notification, 2011 and amendments thereto and circulars issued thereon, and subject to compliance of the following specific and general conditions as under:

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PART A - SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:

- (i) As committed by the project proponent, for every tree felled, ten trees shall be replanted and it shall be ensured that the survival rate is not less than 85%.
- (ii) The clearance may be subject to outcome of the matter before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP(c) No.11745 of 2020.
- (iii) No groundwater in the CRZ area shall be extracted to meet with the water requirements during the construction and/or operation phase of the project.
- (iv) No excavated material during the construction shall be dumped in water bodies or adjacent areas. The site shall be restored to its near original condition after completion of construction of bridge.
- (v) Temporary structures raised for construction activity shall be removed within one month of completion of construction activity.
- (vi) Flow of natural tidal water to mangroves, if any, should remain un-affected and thus adequate measures to be provided to maintain un-interrupted tidal water to mangroves.
- (vii) The conditions stipulated by the Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority issued vide its letter No. 20976/EC.3/2019-1, dated 06th December, 2019, shall be strictly implemented as may be admissible.

PART B - GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- (i) Management of solid waste in accordance with the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 shall be strictly implemented.
- (ii) There shall be no dressing or alteration of the sand dunes, if any, present in the vicinity and the same shall be kept undisturbed. No alteration of natural features including landscape changes shall be undertaken for beautification, recreation and other such purpose.
- (iii) Disposal of muck during construction phase should not create any adverse effect on the neighboring communities and be disposed taking the necessary precautions for general safety and health aspects of people, only in approved sites with the approval of competent authority.
- (iv) All liquid waste arising from the proposed development will be disposed of as per the norms prescribed by Central/State Pollution Control Board. There shall not be any disposal of untreated effluent into the sea/coastal water bodies. It shall be ensured that the wastewater generated is treated in the STP as committed by the project proponent. The treated waste water shall be reused for landscaping, flushing and/or HVAC cooling purposes etc. within the development. The project proponent should also make alternate arrangement for situation arising due to malfunctioning of STP. There shall be regular monitoring of standard parameters of the effluent discharge from STP under intimation to the SPCB.
- (v) Any hazardous waste generated during construction phase, shall be disposed off as per applicable rules and norms with necessary approvals of the State Pollution Control Board.

- (vi) 'Consent to Establish' and /or 'Consent to Operate' shall be obtained from State Pollution Control Board under the provisions of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and / or the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, as may be applicable.
- (vii) A copy of the clearance letter shall be uploaded on the website of the concerned State Coastal Zone Management Authority/State Pollution Control Board. The Clearance letter shall also be displayed at the Regional Office, District Industries centre and Collector's Office/ Tehsildar's office for 30 days.
- (viii) A six-monthly monitoring report shall need to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned regional Office of this Ministry regarding the implementation of the stipulated conditions.
 - (ix) The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change or any other competent authority may stipulate any additional conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary in the interest of environment and the same shall be complied with.
 - (x) Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
 - (xi) The above stipulations would be enforced among others under the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability (Insurance) Act, 1991, the EIA Notification, 2006 and the extant CRZ regulations.
- (xii) Full co-operation shall be extended to the officials from the Regional Office of MoEF&CC, during monitoring of implementation of environmental safeguards stipulated. It shall be ensured that documents/data sought pertinent is made available to the monitoring team. A complete set of all the documents submitted to MoEF&CC shall be forwarded to the concerned Regional Office of MoEF&CC.
- (xiii) In the case of any change(s) in the scope of the project, the project would require a fresh appraisal by this Ministry.
- (xiv) The Ministry reserves the right to add additional safeguard measures subsequently, if considered necessary, and to take action to ensure effective implementation of the suggested safeguard measures in a time bound and satisfactory manner, including revoking of the environment clearance under the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, for non-compliance.
- (xv) All other statutory clearances such as the approvals for storage of diesel from Chief Controller of Explosives, Fire Department, Civil Aviation Department, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 etc. shall be obtained, as applicable by project proponent from the respective competent authorities.
- (xvi) The project proponent should advertise in at least two local Newspapers widely circulated in the region, one of which shall be in the vernacular language informing that the project has been accorded CRZ Clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) and may also be seen on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at http://www.envfor.nic.in. The advertisement should be made within Seven days from

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the date of receipt of the Clearance letter and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry.

- 4. This Clearance is subject to final order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Goa Foundation Vs Union of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No.460 of 2004 as may be applicable to this project.
- 5. Any appeal against this clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
- 6. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the project proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parisad/Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal.
- 7. The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the Regional Office of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and SPCB.
- 8. The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Office of the Ministry by e-mail.

(Dr. H. Kharkwal) Scientist 'E' (CRZ)

Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Secretary, Environment & Forests Department (EC-3), Government of Tamil Nadu, Secretariat, Chennai 600009
- 2. The Chairman, Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority, Environment & Forests Department (EC-3), Government of Tamil Nadu, Secretariat, Chennai 600009
- 3. The Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, CBD cum Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi 110032
- 4. The Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, No. 76, Anna Salai, Guindy Industrial Estate, Race View Colony, Guindy, Chennai 600032
- 5. The Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority, Department of Environment, No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, Ground Floor, Saidapet, Chennai 600 015
- 6. The Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (SEZ), I and II Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai -600034.

7. Guard File/ Record File/ Monitoring Cell.

(Dr. H. Kharkwal) Scientist 'E' (CRZ)