

## INSPECTION REPORT

Inspected the area proposed for Valanthode small Hydro Electric Project, a run off- the river scheme which envisages construction of a diversion weir of maximum height **8.5 meter** and length **101 meter** across the Kurumanpuzha, a tributary of Chaliyar, on 09.03.2021 along with Sri. K.J.Martin Lowel, Divisional Forest Officer, Nilambur North, Sri. Jose Mathew, Assistant Conservator of Forests and staff. The project will result in water impoundment of 0.22 Ha of forest land which spread over river bed rock. It aims at generation of power only during the monsoon. The water stored in monsoon season is directed through the intake to the Canal for power generation. The water after power generation is let into the same river through the tail race channel. The excess water will spill over the weir to the river itself. The installed power generation capacity of the project is 7.5 MW as per KSEBL's proposal.

During summer season power generation is not envisaged and there is no diversion of water to the canal from the reservoir. So the project can ensure the presence of water in Kuramanpuzha round the year.

While implementing the project 20 trees are to be felled in area proposed for diversion and also 11 trees, 6 clumps of reeds and some undergrowth are expected to be submerged in water. The trees and other vegetation present in the locality are not endangered /threatened categories. The area proposed for diversion is a wildlife habitat, their presence of wild elephants, wild boar, Bonnet macaque etc, are noted. But implementation of the project will not affect the free movement of wild elephants as project area is located along the boundary of forests. The forest land required for the project is 0.9354 Ha as per the proposal. The authorities of KSEB Ltd. have clarified that there is no need of any forest land to be diverted for constructing approach road to the project site or for drawing transmission line to the substation.

The project may be helpful in reducing the scarcity of power in the State, and may not have any ecological impact on forests and wildlife. Hence the proposal is recommended to be favourably considered as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.



Chief Conservator of Forests  
Eastern Circle