


RECOMMENDATIONS OF CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
HIGH RANGE CIRCLE, KOTTAYAM ON PROPOSAL
NO.FP/KL/Others/45009/2020

Proposal No. NO.FP/KL/Others/45009/2020 for setting up a Geo Environmental Observatory (GEObs) at Sankhumalai, Munnar as part of Assessment of Global Environmental Changes in Sahyadri by National Centre for Earth Science Studies, Akkulam, Thiruvananthapuram was studied and site inspected. The proposal is to divert 0.04 Ha ie a square plot of 20m x 20m to set up an automated observatory with a chain link fencing around to protect it from man and animals. Since it is an automatic set up and watcher for protection will be staying outside in nearby building of Police, no disturbance is envisaged. The site is situated on the fringe of forest of Mankulam Division along boundary between Mankulam proposed reserve forest and land of KDH Company. Thus it does not affect forest or wildlife protection. The site is just 200m away from boundary of Eravikulam National Park. Hence it falls in the Eco-sensitive zone of the PA and Nilgiri Tahr is very common in the location.

Electric connection is proposed from Police Wireless Station and the connection can pass through KDH land to directly entire the area to be diverted. Since the site is a ridge with grassland and nearby Anamudy peak and about 2100m above MSL it is ideal for an observatory due to minimum disturbance and connectivity for observation and installation.

Since the project will cause only minimum disturbance and the area required is negligible and is only a research setup with no other disturbance from development envisaged, the proposal is recommended. Only condition is that the area should not be further developed in future for any purpose.


Chief Conservator of Forests
High Range Circle, Kottayam