



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Forest & Wildlife (C) Department

No.C3/221/2021/F&WLD

16/10/2021, Thiruvananthapuram

From

The Principal Secretary to Government

To

The Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central),
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Government of India,
Regional Office (Southern Zone),
Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor, E&F wing,
17th main Road, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560034

Sir,

Sub: Forest & Wildlife Department - Proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the diversion of 0.9354 ha of forest land in Nilambur North Forest Division for Valanthode Small Hydro Electric Project Scheme-reg.

Ref: Letter no.FC1-749/2019 dated 25.09.2021 from the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer.

A proposal (3 set hard copies) along with the required appendices, duly recommended is forwarded herewith for diversion of 0.9354 ha of forest land in Nilambur North Forest Division for Valanthode Small Hydro Electric Project Scheme (7.50 MW/15.291 MU).

It is proposed to construct a weir of 101 m in Kurumanpuzha in Chaliyar Basin at Thottappally in Akampadam Village of Chaliyar Panchyath of Nilambur Taluk in Malappuram District and 591 m rectangular channel, 25 m dia forebay tank, 396 m penstock of 1.8 m dia and a Power house. The Project Manager, Valanthode Small Hydro Electric Project is the user agency. The proposed site is located in Kurumanpuzha, in Chaliyam Basin at Pantheerayiram Malavaram (VFC item No.5 & 40) under Akampadam Forest Station of Edavanna Range in Nilambur North Division.

The Chief Conservator of Forests (Eastern Circle), Palakkad and the Divisional Forest Officer, Nilambur North recommended the proposal. As per the inspection reports, the project is for the establishment of Valanthode Hydro Electric Project (7.5 MW) which envisages a diversion weir of maximum height 8.5 m and a length of 101 m across the Kurumanpuzha. The proposed area does not form part of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Elephant corridor, Tiger Reserve and Biosphere land. No rare/ endangered/unique species of flora and fauna are found in the area. It is reported that while implementing the project, 20 trees are to be felled in the area proposed for diversion and also 11 trees, 6 clumps of reeds and some undergrowth are expected to be submerged under water. The project will not affect the free movement of wild elephants as the area is located towards the boundary of forests and may be helpful in reducing the scarcity of power in the State and may not have any serious ecological impact on forest and wildlife of the region. The requirement of forest land proposed by the User Agency is also evaluated to be the bare minimum. The proposal is uploaded in Parivesh Portal vide no.FP/KL/HYD/37079/2018 and all due procedures have been completed.

Hence, the proposal is submitted for consideration and approval subject to the following conditions subject to the following conditions:-

1. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
3. The User Agency shall make online payment of cost of Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value with ad-hoc CAMPA through e-payment module of forest clearance portal. (forestclearance.nic.in).
4. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land of 0.9354 ha from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos 826 in 566 with related IA's in WP(C)202/1995.
5. Additional amount of Net Present Value of the diverted forest land,

if any becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future shall be charged by State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.

6. All the funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal(<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

7. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.

8. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.

9. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.

10. The forest area shall be used only for the purpose for which it is granted. The total forest area utilized for this project shall not exceed 0.9354 ha.

11. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Government of India.

12. The User Agency shall sign an agreement with Forest Department before transfer of the land to the User Agency.

13. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

14. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

15. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Guideline F. No.11-42/2017-FC dated 29/01/2018.

Yours faithfully,



Rajesh Kumar Sinha

Principal Secretary to Government