

Justification for location Project in forest land:

Hydro power development is considered as one of the cleanest and cheapest energy harnessing technologies. Kerala with the special attributes of undulating topography. Chrsicrossed by a network of reverts and rivulets and high rainfall, holds tremendous potential for hydro power generation.

Various studies conducted by KSEB and other agencies had found that among the major river basins of Kerala, the Pamba river basin is considered as an ideal location for hydropower development and it is evident from the execution of the prestigious Sabarigiri Electric Project and Kakkad Hydro Electric Projects in the river basin. The Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB), as part of a second stage development attempt conducted a techno-feasibility assessment in order to utilise the tail water of Kakkad power project, resulting in the establishment of two additional small hydel schemes in the river basin, namely, Ullunkal Small Hydro Electric Project and Maniyar Hydro Electric Project. Both these have been developed as per the policy of private participation in power sector (PPP). Further studies and level surveys resulted in the genesis of yet another small hydel scheme at Karikayam (Karikkayam Small Hydro Electric Project) to be located between Ullunkal and Maniyar projects in Kakkad river, a tributary of the River Pamba. Of these, the Karikayam and Ullunkal SHEPs were allotted to M/s TECIL Chemical and Hydropower Ltd. under captive power policy for the promotion of SHPs as all High Tension/Extra High Tension (HT/EHT) consumers of KSEB with demand load of 0.5 MW are eligible for hydel captive power development. Unfortunately, M/s TECIL Chemicals and Hydro Power Ltd. suffered a shutdown of its production units in the State and in the process, the two SHEPs allotted the company too suffered a setback, which were later revived through take over

by M/s Ayyappa Hydro Power Ltd., a subsidiary unit of the Energy Development Company Ltd. (EDCL). While the Ullunkal Ullunkal Small Hydro Electric Project was commissioned in month of November 2009, the construction of Karikkayam Hydro Electric Project (5 X 3 = 15 MW) is progressing.