

**RENEWAL OF LEASE OF PEPPARA POWER HOUSE**

Peppara Small Hydro Electric Project is located in the bank of Karamana river in Vithura Panchayath of Nedumangadu Thaluk in Thiruvananthapuram District having a capacity of 3MW. This scheme involves a dam, over ground Power House and tailrace directly discharging to the river. Of these, dam and reservoir are under the control of Kerala water authority and the Power House and appurtenant works are of Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd. The total forest land leased for the Power Stations was 0.63Ha from forest department since 1990 (letter no. 20888/C2/94/F&WLD dtd. 23-09-1996 of Forest & Wildlife (C) Department). Out of this land, 0.3 Ha was on permanent lease for 10 years and the balance land 0.33 Ha was leased out on temporary basis. The lease period of 0.3 Ha forest land leased out permanently to KSEB for Peppara Power Station was renewed to further 10 years vide Government Order No. GO (Rt)154/2002/F&WLD dated 25-05-2002 and had expired on 2012. Subsequently after commissioning of the Power Station, 0.33Ha of the temporarily leased land was surrendered to the forest department and the forest department visited the site during 2011 and prepared a site mahassar (Mr.Kumaran, Aryanad-Palode Section Forester) to take back the possession of 0.33 Ha land. Now we are remitting lease rent for 0.3Ha of land with effect from 20-11-2012. Since the lease period had expired on 2012, a proposal for renewing the lease deed was submitted to the Divisional forest office vazhuthakadu, Thiruvananthapuram on 31-07-2013 as usual, but the renewal is not sanctioned till date. On 31-10-2016, after 3 years of submission of application, we had received a letter (No. L-4907/2013 dated 22-11-2016) from the office of the Divisional Forest

Office, Thiruvananthapuram to submit the proposal for renewal of lease deed through online as the present system of hard copy submission is abandoned with effect from 2014.

Now it is learned that as per the provision of Forest Conservation Act, renewal of lease is not possible, since the lease period has expired. Hence we are submitting the online application in form - A under section 2(ii) for getting approval for 0.3Ha of forest land in Peppara reserve forest for the existing Peppara Power Station.



Executive Engineer  
Generation Division, Seethathode