



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE
CHANGE
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, REGIONAL OFFICE
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BY SPEED POST

F.No.4-KLB 1440/2023-BAN/

Dated the th April, 2025

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Kerala,
Forests & Wildlife (C) Department,
Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram,
Kerala, PIN – 695 001.

Subject: Diversion of 1.9801 ha of forest land in Kozhikode Forest Division at Nellipoyil & Thiruvambady Village of Kodencherry Panchayat, Thamarassery Taluk for installation of Maripuzha Small Hydro Electric Project (2x 3 MW) run off the river scheme in Chaliyar Basin in favour of The Chief Engineer, Civil, Investigation & Planning, Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd. (Online Proposal No. FP/KL/HYD/37412/2018) –reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No.C3/106/2023-FWLD dated 10/03/2023, 23/05/2024 (uploaded in PARIVESH portal on 17/03/2025) seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for the above project.

The proposal was examined by the Regional Empowered Committee in its meeting held on 31/10/2023 and based on the recommendation of REC and direction of MoEF&CC, New Delhi, **in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance** of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of **1.9801 ha** of forest land in Kozhikode Forest Division at Nellipoyil & Thiruvambady Village of Kodencherry Panchayat, Thamarassery Taluk for installation of Maripuzha Small Hydro Electric Project (2x 3 MW) run off the river scheme in Chaliyar Basin in favour of The Chief Engineer, Civil, Investigation & Planning, Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The boundary of the forest land to be diverted shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer, before Stage-II approval.
3. The non-forest land in Sy.No. 271/1 & 271/12 of Padinjarathara village, South Wayanad Division identified towards Compensatory Afforestation over an extent of

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2.1229 ha. shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the Forest Department prior to Stage-II approval and shall be notified as Protected Forest/ Reserved Forest. After notification of such non-forest lands, a copy of said notification may be uploaded on the PARIVESH portal. This process should be completed before handing over the proposed forest land to the User Agency by the State Government.

4. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation over 2.2219 ha. of non-forest land at the current wage rate, in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. Since the identified CA area is a grass land, CA plantation shall be taken up in 2 ha of degraded forest land located in Choothupara under Kakkayam Forest Station in Peruvannamoozhy Range of Kozhikode Forest Division as proposed by State Forest Department. Provision shall be made in the CA scheme for eradication of climbers before taking up the planting activity. Plantation should be protected by erecting solar power fence.
5. The KML file of the forest area to be diverted and CA area (both NFL and DFL) shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with compliance report including GPS ids.
6. The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the guideline issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06/01/2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State Concerned.
7. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) 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 the State Government from the user agency. The user agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
8. **No Objection Certificate from the competent authority with reference to the CIA/CCS studies (Impact Assessment) of Iruvanjipuzha, one of the major tributary of the Chaliyar river and its recommendations shall be obtained by the State Government along with any other environment related compliance/clearance.**
9. **The State Government shall ensure that the proposed SHEP unit is within the stipulated carrying capacity recommended in the CIA/CCS study.**
10. User Agency shall provide an integrated solar component wherever possible.
11. The User Agency shall not carry out any muck disposal in the forest area.
12. User Agency shall undertake suitable fencing along the canal, penstock and also provide additional trench to prevent any accident.
13. User Agency shall undertake plantation activity along the canal and around the power house.
14. The State Government shall furnish an undertaking to the effect that the CA areas proposed are not/shall not be proposed for any other projects.
15. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred /deposited to CAMPA fund only through (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
16. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
17. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
18. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
19. The forest area shall be used for the purpose for which it is granted. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 1.9801 ha.
20. 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.

21. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is lesser.
22. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
23. The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
24. The conditions required to be adhered under the Forests Right Act, 2006 as per the guidelines issued under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 shall be strictly complied with.
25. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.
26. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed under the Act, Rules and Guidelines relevant.

After receipt of the compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 2 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions within 2 years, the in-principle approval shall be deemed to be null and void.

Yours faithfully,
Digitally signed by
Praneetha Paul

Date: 30/04/2025 (Praneetha Paul)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority, Ministry of Environment Forests & Climate Change, 3rd Floor (Front Portion), Supreme Court Metro Station Building (Line-3), New Delhi-110 001.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram-695 014, Kerala.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests / Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, PIN- 695 014, Kerala.
5. The Chief Engineer, Civil, Investigation & Planning, Kerala State Electricity Board

Ltd, 2nd Floor, Vydhuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram -695 004.
6. Guard file.