



भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST &  
CLIMATE CHANGE

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**BY SPEED POST** 518

F.No.4-KLC1436/2023-BAN/

Dated the 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

To

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

**Subject:** Diversion of 7.414 ha of forest land for upgradation of 9.93 KM existing 66 KV Attingal-Palode SC Feeder to 110 KV double circuit from Mithirmala to Palode in favour of The Assistant Executive Engineer, Transmission Sub-division, KSEB Ltd., Nedumangad – reg.

Sir,

Please refer to State Government letter No. C3/79/2023-F&WLD dated 21/02/2023 & 07.06.2023, Nodal Officer, Kerala letter No.FC2-3774/2022 dated 25/03/2023 seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above-mentioned project.

The proposal was examined by the Regional Empowered Committee constituted under Sub-rule 1 of Rule-4A of the Forest Conservation Rules, 2003 in its meeting held on 27/06/2023.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of approval of the Regional Empowered Committee, **in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance** of the Central Government under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is hereby granted for diversion of 7.414 ha of forest land in Pangode village , Thiruvananthapuram Forest Division for upgradation of 9.93 KM existing 66 KV Attingal-Palode SC Feeder to 110 KV double circuit from Mithirmala to Palode in favour of Assistant Executive Engineer, Transmission Sub-division, KSEB Ltd., Nedumangad subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:-

**A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department.**

1. 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.
2. The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising Compensatory Afforestation over **15 ha.** of degraded forest land in Ananthan Estate of Kallar Section, Palode Range, Thiruvananthapuram Division at the current wage rate in consultation with the State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include demarcation of degraded forest land using appropriate fencing with provision for anticipated cost of increase for working scheduled for subsequent years. The CA will be maintained for 10 years.
  3. The KML file of the area diverted and CA area shall be uploaded in the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with GPS Id.
  4. The State Government shall complete the settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence as prescribed by this Ministry in its letter No. 11-9/1998-FC dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 read with 05.07.2013 with necessary enclosures, in support thereof.
  5. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
  6. 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.
  7. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
  8. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019;

**B: Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:**

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over double the extent of degraded forest land within three years from the date of Stage-II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency and at least 1000 plants per hectare shall be planted over identified degraded forest land within three years of grant of final approval.
3. 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.
4. Only wherever there is necessary, the felling of trees may be carried out and in other places where it is sufficient to maintain the line clearance by pruning/ lopping of branches in such cases, the trees need not be felled.
5. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
6. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.

7. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
8. 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 **7.414 ha**.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. The State Government and user agency shall comply with the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT order & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. This in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years. The forest land shall not be transferred to the User Agency prior to the issue of final approval.

Yours faithfully,

  
(M.K. Shambhu)

*etc* Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. 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
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram-695 014, Kerala.
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the PCCF, Forests Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, PIN- 695 014, Kerala.
4. The Assistant Executive Engineer, Transmission Construction Section, Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd., (KSEBL), Nedumangad, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala – 695 541. Email ID:-aetcsndgd@gmail.com.
5. Guard file.

  
(M.K. Shambhu)

*etc* Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)