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भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & **CLIMATE CHANGE**

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय

REGIONAL OFFICE

Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17th Main Road, Ilnd Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034.



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BY SPEED POST

F.No.4-KLB1339/2022-BAN/ 3 Dated the 15 January, 2024

To

The Additional Chief Secretary,

Government of Kerala,

Forests & Wildlife (C) Department,

Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram,

Kerala, PIN - 695 001.

Subject: Proposal for Diversion of 0.3 ha of forest land in Nenmara Forest Division for implementation of Palakkuzhi Mini Hydro Electric Project Vadakkencherry Section across Palakkuzhi stream at Thendillam falls – reg

Madam/Sir,

Please refer to State Government letter No.C3/2/2022/F&WLD dated 02/02/2022 & 29.06.2022, Nodal Officer, Kerala letter No.FC1-12966/2015 dated 09/03/2023 and 25/04/2023 seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of the above mentioned subject proposal. The in-principle approval to the project was accorded by the Central Government vide letter of even number dated 27th June, 2023. The State Government vide letter No. C3/5/2022/F&WLD dated 14/12/2023 forwarded the compliance to the conditions stipulated by the Central Government in the in-principle approval.

- After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey Central Government's final approval under Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 0.3 ha of forest land in Nenmara Forest Division for implementation of Palakkuzhi Mini Hydro Electric Project under Vadakkencherry Section across Palakkuzhi stream at Thendillam falls, subject to the following conditions:
 - i. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
 - ii. CA shall be taken up over an area of 1 Ha degraded forest land identified at VFC Item No.186/3 (Kavassery Bit-III) under Choolannur Section of Alathur Range in Nenmara division for planting trees (10 times of trees to be felled in the proposed area) within two years.
 - iii. The State Government shall ensure that the boundary of the forest land to be

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- diverted shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- iv. The State Govt. shall ensure that the complete compliance of FRA 2006 as per the rule 11 (7) of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023.
- v. 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.
- vi. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- vii. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- viii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- ix. 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 **0.3 ha.**
- x. 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.
- xi. 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.
- xii. 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.
- xiii. 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.
- xiv. 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.

Yours faithfully,

(B.N. Anjan Kumar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

- 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 st 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 st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, PIN- 695 014, Kerala.

4. The Chairperson, Palakkad Small Hydro Company Ltd., District Panchayath

Building, Near Judges Bungalow, Palakkad, Kerala - 678 001.

5. Guard File

(B.N. Anjan Kumar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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