



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

F.No.4-KLC1475/2023-BAN/

Dated the 20th May, 2025

To

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

Subject: Diversion of 0.456 ha of forest land under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the construction of Edavetty Nadayam Depot road in Kothamangalam Division in favour of Secretary, Edavetty Grama Panchayat – reg.

Madam/Sir,

Please refer to State Government letter No. C3/243/2023-FWLD dated 01/08/2023 on the above-mentioned project seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on the above-mentioned project. The in-principle (Stage-I) approval to the project was accorded by the Central Government vide letter of even number dated 18th August, 2023. The State Government vide letter No. C3/243/2023-FWLD dated 13/05/2025 reported compliance to the conditions stipulated by the Central Government in the in-principle approval.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey Central Government's approval (**Stage-II**) under Section '2(1)' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of **0.456** ha of forest land under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the construction of Edavetty Nadayam Depot road in Karikode Village, Thodupuzha Taluk, Kothamangalam Division in Idukki District in favour of Secretary, Edavetty Grama Panchayat subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The State Government shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer before issuing the final diversion order.
3. Compensatory Afforestation shall be carried out on land identified by the State Forest department within 2 years of grant of final approval. Planting will be carried out in one block for easy maintenance and monitoring.

4. The State Government shall ensure that the KML file of the forest area diverted and forest area selected towards CA plantation (ten times no. of trees to be felled) shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details before issuing the final diversion order.
5. 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.
6. Tree felling shall be restricted to the barest minimum possible and under confirmation from the local forest officials.
7. 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 less.
8. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
9. No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
10. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
11. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
12. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.456 ha.
13. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
14. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused
15. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
16. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year.
17. 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.
18. The State Government and user agency shall comply the provisions of all the 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.
19. 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.
20. 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,

(Praneetha Paul)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Chief Executive Officer, National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority, 4th Floor, Block No.3, CGO Complex, New Delhi – 110 003.
2. The Inspector General of Forests (RoHQ), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indra Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Deptt, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram-695 014, Kerala.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Management) & 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 Secretary, Edavetty Grama Panchayat office, Edavetty P.O, Thodupuzha, Idukki, Kerala – 685588.
6. Guard file.