Inspection report of Divisional Forest Officer, Thiruvananthapuram dated 10.06.2025

Sub: Forest department -Thiruvananthapuram Forest Division-Inspection report on the proposal for diversion of 0.3Ha of forest land for the purpose of Peppara Small Hydroelectric Project in Aryanad-Palode section of Paruthippally Range – reg.

Ref: FP/KL/HYD/26932/2017 dated 14.07.2017

Inspected the 0.3 Ha.forest area proposed for diversion as per proposal no.FP/KL/HYD/26932/2017 of M/s KSEB along with Range Forest Officer, Paruthipally and the officials from User Agency on 10.06.2025.The area lies between latitude N 08 37' 22.35" and longitude E 077 08' 14.67" and situated in Aryanad-Palode section of Paruthippally Range in Thiruvananthapuram division. The area was originally leased to M/s KSEB Limited as per G.O(Ms)8/1990/F&WLD dated 01.02.1990 for ten years for the purpose of establishing a Small Hydroelectric Project.The original lease executed on 01.01.1992 . As per **wide** G.O(Rt) 154/2002/F&WLD dated27.05.2002 lease renewed for 10 years from 2002 upto 2012.

The lease period was expired during 2012 and the User Agency has applied for the renewal of lease. The 0.3 Ha Forest area proposed for renewal of lease form part of Palode reserve and on inspection it is found that there is a Power Generation unit maintained by KSEB exists in the area which is well demarcated with fencing and gate. There are two buildings in the compound. A Power Generation Station and another security cabin. There are 17 trees present in the proposed area, belongs to 7 species that includes 14 cultivated trees (Coconut, Mango,Cashew and Jackfruit) and 3 trees belongs to natural species. None of the species are there in Red, Endangered Threatened (RET) category. As the area is already under power generation unit and no species of conservation importance exists, the lease can be renewed. It is also found that the extent required for the project by the User Agency for the purpose is bare minimum and no alternate land available in the locality. Hence the proposal can be accepted.

Divisional Forest Officer. Thiruvananthapuram.

Reccommendations of the Divisional Forest Officer, Thiruvananthapuram

Reccommended for diversion of 0.3 Ha of forest area proposed by the User Agency as per proposal no.FP/KL/HYD/26932/2017 due to the following reasons:

1. The area proposed is the bare minimum extent required for the project.

2. There are no RET species present in the area

3. There are no species of wildlife present in the area

4. The project will benefit the public at large through contribution to the power requirement of the state to a certain extent.

Divisional Forest Officer, Thiruvanahthapuram.