FC1- 749/2019



Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram - 14. Ph: 0471-2529243, 2529322 E-mail: apccf-sa.for@kerala.gov.in **Date : 06.01.2022**

From

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Officer, F(C)Act, Chief Executive Officer, CAMPA Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram – 695014.

То

The Chief Conservator of Forests, (Eastern Circle) Palakkad.

Sir,

R

- **Sub :-** Proposal for diversion of 0.9354 ha of forest land under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Valanthode Small Hydro Electric Project in Nilambur North Division - regarding.
- **Ref**:- 1. This office letter on even No. dated 23.12.2021.
 - 2. Letter No. F.No. 4-KLB 1318/2021-BAN/1099 dated 30.11.2021.

Attention is invited to the subject cited. You are requested to furnish the action taken report urgently so as to enable submission of details to Government of India.

Yours faithfully,

1 interest

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Officer, F(C)Act, Chief Executive Officer, CAMPA

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण ,वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE Regional Office (Southern Zone), Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17th Main Road, IInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560 034, Tel.No.080-25635908, E.Mail: <u>rosz.bng-mef@nic.in</u>



F.No.4-KLB1318/2021-BAN 1044 Dated the 30th November, 2021

To The Principal Secretary to Government, Government of Kerala, Forests & Wildlife (C) Department, Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, PIN - 695 001.

Subject:- Proposal under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the diversion of 0.9354 ha of forest land in Nilambur North Forest Division for Valanthode Small Hydro Electric Project Scheme-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Government's letter No.C3/221/2021-FWLD dated 16.10.2021 on the above subject. In this regard, it is informed that the above proposal was placed before the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) in its meeting held on 23.11.2021 and after due deliberations REC noted that the Nilambur North Division is part of Nilgiri Biosphere reserve. Since it is ecologically highly sensitive area, the project may have impact on the forest area.

Therefore, REC requested the State Government to review the proposal in consultation with experts with special reference to the loss of Bio-diversity and effect on special habitats such as nesting sites, spawning sites and special breeding ground for fishes and other fauna and also vulnerability of the structures proposed to be developed under this project, to damage by flash floods which have been earlier reported in this area. REC also requested to assess suitable and viable alternative means of power generation using renewable energy.

In view of the above, it is requested that the State Government may further examine the proposal as pointed out by REC above.

Yours faithfully,

(B.N. Anjan Kumar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forest (Central)

Copy to:-

- The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 014.
- 2. Kerala State Electricity Board Ltd., Office of the Project Manager, Valanthode Small HEP, Chandakkunnu P.O, Nilambur, Malappuram-679342, Kerala.

(B.N. Anjan Kumar) Assistant Inspector General of Forest (Central)