

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bagh Road Aliganj
New Delhi-110003
Dated:12-06-2025

To

Additional Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Kerala
Forests and Wildlife Department
Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram
Kerala- 695001

Sub: Proposal for seeking ex-post facto approval of the Central government under section 2 (1) (ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 for diversion of 0.138 ha of forest land for the construction of Vellakkayam 90 KW Micro Hydro Electric Project in Kothamangalam Division (Online Proposal No. FP/KL/HYD/144656/2021)-Reg.

Sir,

With regards to the subject cited above, I am directed to refer to the Government of Kerala's letter No. C3/74/2023/F&WLD dated 23.02.2023 and additional information submitted on 26.04.2025 for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 (1) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

In this regard, I am also directed to inform that the proposal has been examined in the ministry and after the examination, following have been observed which required to be submitted by the State Govt. for further necessary action in the matter:

- i. The State Government is requested to clarify whether the instant proposal is the first hydro-electric project in the river.
- ii. The State Government is asked to submit an action taken report against the said violation in the instant proposal.
- iii. The State Government is requested to initiate disciplinary action against the official concerned for not being able to prevent use of forest land for non-forestry purpose without prior approval of Government of India;
- iv. Status of the the CIA/CCS studies (Impact Assessment) of River on which the proposal has been proposed shall be provided.
- v. The KML file and map of the entire project area (forest & non-forest area) is

not available. The same shall be provided / uploaded.

Digitally signed by
SUNDAR SAMBAMOORTHY
Date: 12-06-2025
17:06:52

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(S. Sundar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. PCCF (HoFF), Forest Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi, 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, PIN-695014, Kerala.
2. DDGF (Central), MoEF&CC's RO Bengaluru.
3. APCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF (HoFF), Forest Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1st Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695014.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.