

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
IA SECTION-III (CRZ)**

**MINUTES OF THE 282nd MEETING OF THE EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE FOR
PROJECTS RELATED TO COASTAL REGULATION ZONE HELD ON
08th DECEMBER, 2021**

The 282nd meeting of the Expert Appraisal Committee for projects related to Coastal Regulation Zone was held on 08/12/2021 held through Video Conferencing due to prevalent pandemic situation. The list of members present in the EAC are at **Annexure-I**.

The deliberations held and the decisions taken are as under:

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Committee having noted that the Minutes of the 280th meeting are in order and confirmed the same with suggestions that in case any typographical / grammatical errors are noticed in due course, the same may be corrected suitably.

3.0 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR CRZ CLEARANCE

FRESH PROPOSALS:

Item No. 3.1

Proposal to drill offshore wells at eleven locations for the oil & Gas exploration / development in KG offshore PML Block i.e. KG/OSDSF/GSKW/2018 Block at 93.91 sq. km area in Bay of Bengal, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh by M/s Oil India Limited - CRZ Clearance regarding [IA/AP/CRZ/233942/2021] [F.NO.11/35/2021-IA.III]

“The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP report. If any part of data / information submitted is found to be false / misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental and or CRZ Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.”

The project proponent and their consultant made a detailed presentation of salient features of the project and informed that:

- (i) The proposal is for CRZ clearance to the project for Drilling of eleven Offshore Oil & Gas Exploration wells in DSF Block (KG/OSDSF/GSKW/2018) in an area of 93.91 sq. km in Bay of Bengal of the Eastern Coast of Andhra Pradesh by M/s Oil India Limited.
- (ii) The estimated project cost is ₹600 crores. Total capital cost earmarked towards environmental pollution control measures is ₹55,00,000/- and the Recurring cost

(operation and maintenance) will be about ₹18,50,000/- per annum. The project will lead to employment for 20 persons directly & 30 persons indirectly.

- (iii) There shall be five offshore fields, namely GS-70, GS-48, GS-KW-5, GS-KW6 and GS-69. All fields are located in KG offshore basin. Nearest distance from the coastline is 0.68 km from the coastline. Nearest habitations are Kesanapalle and Komaragiripatnam, located about 2.59 to 3.0 km from the fields. There are no eco-sensitive areas and CPAs within 10 km of the fields.
- (iv) Drilling will be carried out by the Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU) – Mat Type Jack up Rig. During drilling program, the material required at the drill rig will be transported by the Authorized transporters through supply vessels.
- (v) This is offshore project and there are no activities on land. Exploratory drilling will be carried out far from the coastline. Adequate measures will be taken against impact on Water, Air, Ecological aspects, Solid & Hazardous Wastes, etc.
- (vi) The Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority (APCZMA) has recommended the proposal for CRZ clearance *vide* letter No. 303/CRZ/IND/2021/176 *vide* letter dated 17/06/2021.

2. Deliberations in the EAC:

- (i) The project proponent informed the Committee that the proposal for environmental clearance is considered by the SEAC / SEIAA Andhra Pradesh as category B2 as per the EIA Notification, 2006 and amendments made therein. The project proponent submitted an undertaking stating that the instant proposal involves only exploration drilling and no development activities are envisaged and same has been submitted by project proponent *vide* e-mail dated 08/12/2021.
- (ii) The Committee noted that the proposed eleven well locations fall within CRZ IV A (Bay of Bengal) as per the CRZ Notification, 2011. The Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority (APCZMA) has recommended the proposal for CRZ clearance *vide* letter No. 303/CRZ/IND/2021/176 dated 17th June, 2021.

3. The Committee after detailed deliberations and considering the submissions made by the project proponent, recommended the proposal for CRZ Clearance to the project for exploration drilling only of eleven Offshore Oil & Gas Exploration wells in DSF Block (KG/OSDSF/GSKW/2018) in an area of 93.91 sq. km in Bay of Bengal of the Eastern Coast of Andhra Pradesh by M/s Oil India Limited, subject to following conditions:

- i) The recommendation is exclusively for exploratory drilling, not for developmental activities.*
- ii) All construction shall be strictly in accordance with the provisions of CRZ Notification, 2011 and as amended from time to time.*
- iii) A care should be taken to ensure that the exploratory wells should interfere existing production wells in the same location.*
- iv) The water quality, marine ecology and sea turtle movement should be monitored by a qualified agency periodically and reported.*
- v) No groundwater shall be extracted within CRZ area to meet the water requirements during the construction and / or operation phase of the project.*

- vi) Any temporary physical infrastructure setup during the period shall be removed after completion of the exploratory drilling.
- vii) No permanent labour camp, machinery and material storage shall be allowed in CRZ area. The project proponent shall undertake DO monitoring to ensure the water not becoming anoxic condition.
- viii) The project proponent shall strictly follow the safety guidelines for offshore oil and gas drilling.
- ix) The recommendation made by the APCZMA vide letter No. 303/CRZ/IND/2021/176 dated 17th June, 2021, shall be implemented in letter and spirit.
- x) All necessary clearance from the concerned authority, as may be applicable should be obtained prior to commencement of project or activity.

The Committee accordingly endorsed and forward the recommendations to the SEAC / SEIAA Andhra Pradesh for consideration of the proposal for grant of environmental and CRZ clearance, as per the provisions contained in the EIA Notification, 2006.

Item No. 3.2

Development of Malanad Malabar River Cruise Project-Mangrove Cruise Route along Mahe River, Anjarkandi River and Kuppam River, in Kannur & Kasargod districts-Proposed Development of Kalari and Martial Arts Cruise Operation by Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala- CRZ Clearance regarding [IA/KL/CRZ/236873/2021] [F.NO. 11/36/2021-IA.III]

“The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP report. If any part of data / information submitted is found to be false / misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental and or CRZ Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.”

The project proponent and their consultant made a detailed presentation of salient features of the project and informed that:

- (i) The proposal is for CRZ clearance to the project for Establishment of Malanad Malabar River Cruise Tourism Project - Development of Kalari and Martial Arts Cruise Route along Mahe River, District Kannur, Kerala by Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala.
- (ii) The associated facilities for the cruise route are planned at six locations along the banks of Mahe River which is CRZ Zone. Cruise route is proposed from New Mahe to Peringathur 14.4 km. The estimated project cost is ₹13.95 crores.
- (iii) Details of the proposed locations are as under:

| S. No | Location | Proposed Facility | Built up area (sq. m) | CRZ Classification |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | New Mahe | Boat Terminal | 849.00 | CRZ IVB,CRZ III (NDZ) |
| 2 | Pathikkal | Boat Jetty | 252.53 | CRZ IVB,CRZ IB |
| 3 | Kakkadavu | Boat Jetty | 344.40 | CRZ IVB |

| | | | | |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------|--|
| 4 | Monthal | Boat Jetty | 344.40 | CRZ IA (50 m mangrove buffer), CRZ IB, CRZ IVB |
| 5 | Kariyad | Boat Terminal | 442.34 | CRZ IVB, CRZ II |
| 6 | Peringathur | Boat Jetty | 442.34 | CRZ IVB |
| | | Toilet Block | 24 | CRZ II |

- (iv) The Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority (KCZMA) has recommended the proposal for CRZ clearance *vide* letter No. 1673/A2/20/KCZMA dated 16/07/2021.

2. Deliberations in the EAC:

- i) The Committee noted that the instant proposal includes toilet block in NDZ area, which is non-permissible activity as per the extant norms of CRZ Notification, 2011.
- ii) The Committee also noted that Boat Terminal with waiting room / area proposed in CRZ-II, CRZ-III & CRZ-IV B. The Committee suggested that there shall be clear reflection of the proposed activity with particular proposed area, which should be as per extant norms of the CRZ Notification, 2011 and as amended from time to time.
- iii) The Committee also advised that number of pillars should be reduced, which interrupt water flow, without compromising safety and stability of the project.
- iv) The Committee noted that the Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority (KCZMA) has recommended the proposal for CRZ clearance *vide* letter No. 1673/A2/20/KCZMA dated 16/07/2021. The Committee was of the considered view that, the project would have been single proposal for CRZ clearance, as par with the KCZMA recommendations, giving specifications of the project in different river routes. The project proponent informed that the separate proposals are submitted for easier understanding and effective execution of the project in a timely manner.
- v) The Committee also suggested that the observations of the EAC regarding development in NDZ area, distinction of activities in CRZ area, interruption in water flow, as discussed above, shall be considered by the project proponent while submitting the instant and other similarly rooted proposals.

The Committee after detailed deliberations advised the project proponent to revise the proposal as per extant norms of the CRZ Notification, 2011 and accordingly, the proposal was deferred for consideration at a later stage.

Item No. 3.3

Development of Malanad Malabar River Cruise Project-Mangrove Cruise Route along Mahe River, Anjarkandi River and Kuppam River, in Kannur & Kasargod districts- Proposed development of handicraft and Handloom Cruise by Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala - CRZ Clearance regarding [IA/KL/CRZ/237203/2021] [F.NO. 11/37/2021-IA.III]

The project proponent and their consultant made a detailed presentation of salient features of the project and informed that:

- (i) The proposal is for CRZ clearance to the project for Establishment of Malanad Malabar River Cruise Tourism Project - Development of Handicraft and

Handloom Cruise operation along Valiyaparamba Backwaters, District Kasargod & Kannur, Kerala by Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala.

- (ii) The associated facilities for the cruise route are planned at five locations along the banks of Valiyaparamba backwaters which is CRZ Zone. Cruise route is proposed from Kottappuram to Punnakkadavu (22.90 km). The estimated project cost is ₹19.03 crores.
- (iii) Details of the proposed locations are as under:

| S. No | Location | Proposed Facility | Built up area (sq.m) | CRZ Classification |
|-------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Kottappuram, Kasargod | Boat Terminal | 805.33 | CRZ IB,CRZ II,CRZ IVB |
| 2 | Mavilakadappuram, Kasargod | Boat Terminal | 805.33 | CRZ IB, CRZ IVB |
| | | Toilet Block | 24 | CRZ III (NDZ) |
| 3 | Madakkal, Kasargod | Boat Jetty | 101.58 | CRZ III (NDZ), CRZ IVB |
| 4 | Kavvayi Kalikkadappuram, Kannur | Boat Terminal | 757.60 | CRZ IB, CRZ IVB |
| 5 | Punnakkadavu, Kannur | Boat Jetty | 210.85 | CRZ IB,CRZ IVB |

- (iv) The Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority (KCZMA) has recommended the proposal for CRZ clearance *vide* letter No. 1673/A2/20/KCZMA dated 16/07/2021.

2. Deliberations in the EAC:

- i) The Committee noted that the instant proposal includes toilet block in NDZ area, which is non-permissible activity as per the extant norms of CRZ Notification, 2011.
- ii) The Committee also noted that Boat Terminal with waiting room / area proposed in CRZ-IB, CRZ-II & CRZ-IV B. The Committee suggested that there shall be clear reflection of the proposed activity with particular proposed area, which should be as per extant norms of the CRZ Notification, 2011 and as amended from time to time.
- iii) The Committee also advised that number of pillars should be reduced, which interrupt water flow, without compromising safety and stability of the project.
- iv) The Committee noted that the Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority (KCZMA) has recommended the proposal for CRZ clearance *vide* letter No. 1673/A2/20/KCZMA dated 16/07/2021.
- v) The Committee also suggested that the observations of the EAC regarding development in NDZ area, distinction of activities in CRZ area, interruption in water flow, as discussed above, shall be considered by the project proponent while submitting the instant and other similarly rooted proposals.

The Committee, after detailed deliberations, advised the project proponent to revise the proposal as per the extant norms of the CRZ Notification, 2011 and accordingly, the proposal was deferred for consideration at a later stage.

RECONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL:

Item No. 3.4

Proposal for widening and desilting the Adyar River from mouth to d/s of Thiru Vi Ka Bridge, Chainage om to 1963m (42,600m to 40,637m) in Thiruvallur, Tamil Nadu, Chennai by Public Works Department - CRZ Clearance regarding.

[IA/TN/CRZ/199027/2021] [F.NO.11/5/2021-IAIII]

“The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP report. If any part of data / information submitted is found to be false / misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental and or CRZ Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.”

The project proponent and their consultant made a detailed presentation of salient features of the project and informed that:

- (i) The proposal is for CRZ clearance to the project for Widening and desilting the Adyar River from mouth to d/s of Thiru Vi Ka Bridge, Chainage om to 1963 m (42,600m to 40,637m) in Thiruvallur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu by Public Works Department, Government of Tamil Nadu.

2. Deliberations in the EAC:

- i) The Committee made detailed deliberation on the proposal. The Committee noted that the proposal was earlier considered by the EAC (CRZ) in its 257th meeting held on 05/03/2021.
- ii) *The Committee earlier also noted that the Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority (TNCZMA) has recommended the project vide its letter No. 1216/EC.3/2021-1, dated 10/02/2021. During examination EAC noted that Adyar estuary is highly polluted due to sewage and domestic effluents while the baseline report mentioned DO levels very high, which is not correct. Other parameters such as COD, Coliform, PAC, metals, etc. are also reported below the detectable level based on the data collected in January 2020. The authenticity of data has to be ascertained by an independent and nationally credible institute with compliance from TNPCB and submit. Further, the NIOT / NCCR study is also going on and it will take 6 months to be completed. The Committee observed that the observations made in the study report would be crucial and awaiting its findings, it may be not advisable to recommend the project for CRZ clearance at this stage. Accordingly, the proposal was deferred.*
- iii) The Committee in the present meeting observed that the project proponent approached the EAC again without providing the desired information and final report of the NIOT / NCCR study. The Committee was of the view that comprehensive information / study report is required to ascertain the facts and figures of the case as intimated by PP, it is in final stage or completed.

- iv) The project proponent also informed the Committee that some maintenance work has been initiated to desilt the river mouth to manage the flow of water due to floods.
- v) The Committee after detailed deliberations, desired to seek a factual report from the Regional Office of the Ministry at Chennai regarding whether the PWD initiated any work of widening / desilting of the Adyar River mouth without requisite CRZ clearance.

The proposal was accordingly deferred for the needful to be submitted.

4.0 Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

List of the Expert Appraisal Committee (CRZ) Members participated during Video Conferencing (VC) Meeting held on 8th December, 2021

| S. No. | Name of Members | Designation |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Dr. Deepak Arun Apte | Chairman |
| 2. | Dr. Manoranjan Hota | Member |
| 3. | Shri Manmohan Singh Negi | Member |
| 4. | Shri Sham Wagh | Member |
| 5. | Prof. Ashok Kumar Pachauri | Member |
| 6. | Shri S. Jeyakrishnan | Member |
| 7. | Prof. V.K Jain | Member |
| 8. | Dr. M.V. Ramana Murthy | Member |
| 9. | Shri. R.P.S Verma | Member |
| 10. | Dr. Niraj Sharma | Member |
| 11. | Dr. H. Kharkwal | Member Secretary |
| MoEF&CC | | |
| 11. | Dr. Saranya P | Scientist D |
| 12. | Dr. Nobi.E.P | Scientist B |
