

Minutes of the 117th SEAC Meeting held on 28.07.2018

117- F.5994/ 2016	Proposed construction of 4 Groynes (G1-800m, G2-200m, G3-75m & G4-50m) at Periyathalai Village, Sathankulam Taluk, Thoothukudi District by The Executive Engineer, PWD/WRD Special Project Division Virudhunagar-Activity 6 (b) & sub category 'B2' – Infrastructure and Miscellaneous Projects + CRZ - CRZ Clearance – Regarding
	<p>Based on the application from the proponent namely, The Executive Engineer, PWD/WRD Special Project Division Virudhunagar, the Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority (TNSCZMA) in the 83rd meeting held on 19.05.2015, has accorded CRZ clearance for construction of 4 Groynes (G1-800m, G2-200m, G3-75m & G4-50m) at Periyathalai Village, Sathankulam Taluk, Thoothukudi District.</p> <p>Based on the above recommendation from the TNSCZMA, the proponent has filed application to SEIAA-TN seeking Environmental Clearance & CRZ Clearance for construction of 4 Groynes (G1-800m, G2-200m, G3-75m & G4-50m) at Periyathalai Village, Sathankulam Taluk, Thoothukkudi District under sub category 'B2' – Infrastructure and Miscellaneous Projects + CRZ.</p> <p>Meanwhile, in the Application No.4 of 2013(SZ) before Hon'ble NGT, South Zone Chennai, Shri.O. Frenandes and C.H. Balamohan Vs Union of India & others filed an application to stop the ongoing construction of hard structure/ sea walls/ Groynes along the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu and Puduchery causing disruption to the natural movement of soil.</p> <p>In the minutes of 154th meeting EAC of MoEF&CC held on 22.12.2015 & 23.12.2015, it is stated that "EAC took a serious note of the development and expressed the view that the new district wise localized schemes for shoreline protection have potential to cause irreversible damage to adjacent control area and ecology of the area under consideration. Taking this into account, EAC in the past has suggested to the PWD to undertake</p>

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integrated shoreline Management Program on the basis of pilot study”.

In the 162nd meeting of EAC 29.08.2016, based on the NGT(SZ) Chennai order dated: 17.08.2016 in the Application No. 4 of 2013 (SZ), the EAC took note of the amendment dated: 28.11.2014 in the CRZ Notification 2011, which inter-alia provides that such proposals covered under para 4 (i) of the CRZ Notification 2011, but not attracting EIA Notification 2006, requires CRZ clearance from the SEIAA in the respective states and informed that the same has been communicated to NGT(SZ) Chennai through an affidavit filed by Shri. Sundar Ramanathan, Scientist 'D' on 02.08.2016.

Hence, the EAC has felt that the same Notification would be applicable to the present case also and as such, it may have no jurisdiction to handle this case unless directed to do so by the Ministry.

In the above circumstances, the project proponent has filed application (Form-1) seeking EC & CRZ Clearance for project attracting CRZ Notification 2011, on 27.02.2016 to SEIAA for construction of 4 Groynes (G1-800m, G2-200m, G3-75m & G4-50m) at Periyathalai Village, Sathankulam Taluk, Thoothukkudi District.

The proposal was placed in the 84th meeting of the SEAC –TN held on 27.02.2017. The salient features of the project are as follows:

1. The public works department has proposed to provide coastal protection to the Periyathalai village of Thoothukkudi district coastal stretch to prevent the coastal erosion and so that sufficient beach width is kept for berthing and safe landing of fishing boats.
2. It is proposed to construct Groyne (G1) of 800m length, (G2) of 200m length, (G3) of 75m length and (G4) of 50m length.
3. The distance between G1 and G2 are 600m, G3 will be positioned at 200m from G2 and G4 will be positioned 500m from G3.
4. The cost of the project is Rs.25.2036 Crores.

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After the presentation and detailed discussion the SEAC has directed the proponent to furnish the following details:

1. Revised EIA study for the impact on the Bio-diversity of the marine environment comprising of recent baseline data for the 2016-2017 including details of marine components such as coral reefs, seaweed communities, sea grasses, salt marshals and mangroves, report on water sampling for general core parameters & heavy metals and report on sediment analysis in the proposed project environment within 10km radius enclosed in details of institution and experts involved in sampling and details of location of sampling area. The coral reefs, sea grass beds and gorgonian beds are to be assessed in using Grids (1 km²) for detailed data.
2. Data on fish landing and under water fish population within 10 km radius.
3. Details of the source, physical and chemical characteristics of the raw materials used for the construction of Groynes.
4. Details of the impact on fisheries.
5. The report from IIT, Madras regarding the conditions imposed by MoEF & CC for construction of the Groynes, related to soft measures and level of erosion.

The above minutes was communicated to the project proponent vide SEIAA letter dated 03.03.2017. The project proponent has furnished the said details on 24.05.2018.

The details furnished by the proponent and the proposal were placed in the 112th SEAC Meeting held on 28.05.2018. The project proponent has not turned up for the meeting. Hence the committee decided to defer the proposal.

The details furnished by the proponent and the proposal were again

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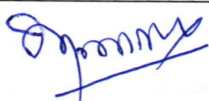

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placed in the 117th SEAC meeting held on 28.07.2018. The proponent was also present and explained the details furnished.

With the above deliberation, the SEAC decided to recommend the proposal for the grant of CRZ Clearance to SEIAA subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the normal conditions:



1. The proponent should not undertake any change in the plan, design and purpose of the project without the prior permission of the SEIAA.
2. The construction of the Groynes should not affect the quality of sea water especially in terms of turbidity and the construction should not affect the aquatic species population prevalent in the area.
3. The project proponent shall sign a MOU with reputed institutions for monitoring during the Groynes deployment for a minimum of one year. The monitoring shall be undertaken on weekly basis covering the parameters like physical including sedimentation rate, chemical and biological including benthic assemblages (sea grasses, coral reefs), macro fauna and fish population covering within 5km radius from the project site. A copy of the MOU for monitoring shall be submitted to SEIAA before obtaining CRZ clearance.
4. The proponent shall take comprehensive remedial and management measures, if there is any disturbance to aquatic life.
5. The proponent should monitor the impact of the construction of groynes on the sea erosion and prepare proper document so as to ascertain whether the project has yielded the anticipated results.
6. The proponent, through IIT Madras, should use such projects for validating the computer models which they use for designing the groynes.

S.No	Name	Designation	Signature
1	Dr. K. Thanasekaran	Member	

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2	Dr.K.Valivittan	Member	
3	Dr.Indumathi M. Nambi	Member	
4	Dr. G. S. Vijayalakshmi	Member	
5	Dr. M. Jayaprakash	Member	
6	Shri V. Sivasubramanian	Member	
7	Shri V. Shanmugasundaram	Member	
8	Shri B. Sugirtharaj Koilpillai	Member	
9	Shri. P. Balamadeswaran	Co-opt Member	
10	Shri. M.S. Jayaram	Co-opt Member	

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