

<p>111-  <u>F.2505</u>  2013</p>	<p>Proposal seeking Environment Clearance for the Residential dwelling units for war widows and serving/retired personnel for Army, Navy &amp; Air force and their dependents by non profit organization "Army Welfare Housing Organization" by M/s. Army Welfare Housing Organization at S.F No.172/1, 173, Thazhambur Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Kancheepuram District – Activity 8(a) &amp; Category "B2"- Building &amp; Construction Projects - Environmental Clearance under violation notification dated: 08.03.2018 of MoEF &amp; CC – Regarding.</p>
	<p>The project proponent, M/s. <b>Army Welfare Housing Organization</b> has submitted application on 10.04.2014 for the Residential dwelling units for war widows and serving/retired personnel for Army, Navy &amp; Air force and their dependents by non profit organization "Army Welfare Housing Organization" at S.F No.172/1, 173, Thazhambur Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Kancheepuram District.</p> <p>From the perusal of the office records &amp; project proposal, the following points are noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. While scrutinizing, it was found from the photographs furnished by the proponent, which shows that the construction activity was started without prior Environmental Clearance. Hence it was considered as violation of EIA Notification, 2006.</li> <li>2. The proponent was requested to furnish the 'Letter of Commitment and Expression of Apology' and the proponent submitted the same.</li> <li>3. The Proponent was informed that the project proposal is included in the list of cases involving violations of Environment (P) Act, 1986 and that the project stands delisted in the lists of proposals under process in SEIAA-TN.</li> <li>4. As per the MoEF &amp; CC Notification dated: 14.03.2017, stated that the cases of violation will be dealt strictly as per the procedures specified in the following manner  <p>"In case the project or activities requiring prior EC under EIA Notification, 2006 from the concerned regulatory authority are brought for Environmental Clearance after starting the construction work or have undertaken expansion, modernization and change in</p> </li> </ol>

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product mix without prior EC, these projects shall be treated as cases of violations and in such cases, even Category B projects which are granted EC by the SEIAA shall be appraised for grant of EC only by the EAC and Environmental Clearance will be granted at Central level only". Accordingly, the proponent was addressed to submit the proposal to MoEF & CC for EC under violation category vide SEIAA letter dated: 19.06.2017.

5. Then, the proponent has filed the application to MoEF & CC under violation 10.07.2017.
6. Subsequently, MoEF&CC issued another notification S.O.1030 (E) dated 08.03.2018, stating that "the cases of violations projects or activities covered under category A of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006, including expansion and modernization of existing projects or activities and change in product mix, shall be appraised for grant of Environmental Clearance by the EAC in the Ministry and the Environmental Clearance shall be granted at Central level, and for category B projects, the appraisal and approval thereof shall vest with the State or Union territory level Expert Appraisal Committees and State or Union territory Environment Impact Assessment Authorities in different States and Union territories, constituted under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986".
7. Accordingly, the MoEF & CC issued ToR vide F.No. 23-21/2017-IA-III dated: 06.04.2018.
8. The application was transferred from MoEF & CC to SEIAA-TN.
9. The proponent submitted the EIA report to SEIAA-TN dated: 27.04.2018 for the consideration of EC under violation notification.

The proposal was placed in the 110<sup>th</sup> SEAC meeting held on 04.05.2018. The proponent made a presentation about the project proposal.

The Committee noted that the project proposal is to be appraised under violation category as per MoEF & CC notification S.O. 1030 (E) dated:



08.03.2018. Since the project has been considered under violation category, the Committee felt that it is necessary to make an on the spot assessment of the status of the project execution for deciding the further course of action.

As per the order Lr.No.SEAC-TN/F.No. 543/2013 dated: 05.04.2018 of the Chairman, SEAC, a technical team comprising of the SEAC Members was constituted to inspect and study the field conditions in the project site on 12.05.2018 and submitted the report on 14.05.2018.

A summary of the review of the checklist and the actual field inspection is as follows:

1. The Technical Team learnt that the “violation” attributed to the project is that the construction activity was started before getting the Environmental Clearance.
2. There are totally 6 blocks. For all the 6 blocks Civil structure has been completed. Out of the 6 blocks, for which civil structure has been completed, painting and other finishing works have been completed for 2 blocks and such finishing work is going on for the remaining 4 blocks. Similarly civil works for club house, STP and Car parking completed. The technical team informed the proponent that no construction work should take place while the application for EC is getting processed at the SEIAA-TN. The proponent agreed that he will immediately stop the finishing work that was going on during the inspection. The team asked for the letter of commitment to this effect.
3. The Technical Team asked the proponent to furnish a certificate from revenue authority to the effect that there is no encroachment on water bodies and the proposed site is not prone to flooding during rains.
4. According to the proponent, there is no change in the land area, built-up area and cost of the project. There is no change in the project components, land area utilization for different purposes, parking area, occupancy load, water supply and sewage generation.
5. The proponent has informed that the Local Body(Thazhambur Village Panchayat) has been requested for fresh water supply and permission for supply of fresh water is yet to be obtained from local Body.



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However the BDO of Thiruporur, it appears, has informed the proponent that the water supply will be provided from the nearby lakes such as Karanai Lake & Thazhambur Lake.

6. Rain water harvesting civil structures have been completed. 2 numbers of rain water Collection sumps of capacity 1.5Lakhs litres each have been constructed for rain water harvesting. Percolation pits of 22 nos. are installed within the project site. Excess storm water collected via trench and drain to open well located within the project site and over flow reaches the culvert which leads to Karanai Lake on South West direction. The proponent was directed to furnish the detailed plan for storm water drainage system.
7. For MSW management OWC will be used for processing the organic wastes. The recyclable waste will be handed over to authorized recyclers .
8. For Green belt, as per norms, an area of 5995.0 Sq.m (15%) should be provided for the Green belt. For green belt, 500 numbers of approved tree species should have been planted. The proponent has planted a total of 117 trees in project site. Out of 117 already planted, a few Samanea saman and Peltophorum pterocarpum have been planted which cannot withstand heavy winds. The proponent should replace these trees with approved ones listed below and a total of 500 trees should be planted. The proponent agreed that 700 trees will be planted in the project site.
  - i) Calophyllum inophyllum
  - ii) Mimosa elengi
  - iii) Thespesia populnea
  - iv) Azadirachta indica
  - v) Pongamia pinnata
  - vi) Syzygium cumini
  - vii) Ficus retusa
  - viii) Terminalia arjuna
  - ix) Ficus religiosa

x) Alstonia scholaris

The proponent was directed to furnish a revised greenbelt plan showing the proposed green belt activities.

9. The Parking plan is as per required norms.

10. From the water balance diagram, that 333 KLD will be discharged as treated sewage into nearby Sholinganallur STP of CMWSSB. The team informed the proponent that a huge quantity of treated sewage is getting wasted and hence should work out plan for more utilization of the same. The proponent responded by stating that 44 KLD can be utilized for OSR maintenance. The proponent was directed to revise the water balance diagram accordingly.

11. 6 Numbers of 380KVA and 1 number of 250KVA have been procured and placed at different places. While installing the proponent shall ensure that proper stack height is maintained as per CPCB norms.

12. For CER activities the proponent was asked to commit Rs.114.6 Lakhs (0.5% of project cost). He was also asked to spend the CER funds on permanent infrastructure for local community like Government Schools on items related to education and sports.

13. The following certificates have been obtained:

- i. Fire NOC
- ii. Defence / Civil Aviation NOC
- iii. Land use classification
- iv. NOC from traffic department.
- v. Plan approval from Maamallapuram local planning Authority.
- vi. Structural safety for the building vetted by the IIT, madras

14. The proponent was directed to furnish the following:

- i. Site plan showing all utilities
- ii. Permission letter for fresh water supply from the competent Authority.
- iii. Permission letter for disposal of excess treated sewage from



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	<p>the competent Authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>iv. Certificate from revenue authority to the effect that there is no encroachment on water bodies and the proposed site is not prone to flooding during rains.</li><li>v. Workers Health records</li><li>vi. Letter of commitment that construction work will be stopped .</li><li>vii. Revised green belt plan</li><li>viii. Revised water balance</li><li>ix. Revised plan for storm water drainage system.</li></ul> <p>The proponent submitted the revised check list with enclosures on 14.05.2018. The annexure contains the extract of the revised checklist. The revised checklist contains old and supplementary data/information.</p> <p>From the perusal of the original proposal of the proponent, initial checklist submitted by the proponent, site inspection of the construction site, revised checklist submitted by the proponent, the technical team makes the following observation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Technical Team learnt that the “violation” attributed to the project is that the construction activity was started before getting the Environmental Clearance.</li><li>2. The Technical Team made certain recommendations to improve the ecological and Environmental compliance and these recommendations have been accepted by the proponent.</li><li>3. In view of facts presented in summary of review and the revised check list presented by the proponent , the Technical Team recommends the project proposal for the Residential dwelling units for war widows and serving/retired personnel for Army, Navy &amp; Air force and their dependents by non profit organization “Army Welfare Housing Organization” by M/s. Army Welfare Housing Organization in S.F No.172/1, 173, Thazhambur Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Kancheepuram District, <b>Tamil Nadu</b> , to SEAC for consideration for recommendation to SEIAA-TN for the issue of Environmental Clearance subject to the conditions that the</li></ul>
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proponent fulfils all the commitments made in the proposal dated 27.04.2018 and the proposals submitted to the Technical Team on 14.05.2018.

4. The proponent shall submit the following certificates before getting CTO from TNPCB,

- (i) Permission letter for fresh water supply from the competent Authority
- (ii) Permission letter for disposal of excess treated sewage from the competent Authority.

5. The technical team recommends that SEAC may process proposal in line with the points noted above. Also, it is to be pointed out that this proposal is not a "regular" project seeking EC but a special project to be covered under "violation category". There are guidelines set forth by MoEF & CC on how to proceed with such cases. The SEAC may decide further course of action in the light of the MoEF & CC notification for violation cases.

The inspection report was placed before the 111st SEAC meeting held on 15.05.2018. The SEAC as per the MoEF & CC notification assessed the project based on Ecological damage, remediation plan and natural & community resource augmentation plan furnished as an independent chapter in the Environment Impact assessment report by the proponent. The extract from the report is as follows:

a. About Ecological damage created by the proponent, Remediation plan proposed and cost-

- 1. Land environment- slight impact, mitigation provided.
- 2. Water Environment-minimum impact
- 3. Air Environment-No adverse impact
- 4. Noise Environment- No adverse impact
- 5. Biological Environment- No adverse impact

b. Natural resource augmentation plan and cost:

- AWHO has proposed to enhance ground water potential by preserving and strengthening of Karanai Lake. The Karanai Lake is located at a



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distance of 1 km from the project site.

- We have proposed to strengthening the Karanai lake bunds and planting Palmyrah trees at appropriate locations in consultation with Public Works Department, Government of Tamil Nadu at a cost of Rs. 12 Lakhs.

c. Community resource augmentation plan and cost

1. To improve the wellbeing of the community, we organize training program for self-help group and earmarked Rs. 10 Lakhs. Self-help groups will plan welfare measures for the downtrodden people like tailoring, making furniture, electrical repairs, mobile phone services etc.,

Based on the inspection report and the violation notification, the SEAC classified the level of damages by the following criteria:

1. Low level Ecological damage:

- a. Only procedural violations (started the construction at site without obtaining EC)

2. Medium level Ecological damage:

- a. Procedural violations (started the construction at site without obtaining EC)
- b. Infrastructural violation such as deviation from CMDA/local body approval.
- c. Non operation of the project (not occupied).

3. High level Ecological damage:

- a. Procedural violations (started the construction at site without obtaining EC)
- b. Infrastructural violation such as deviation from CMDA/local body approval.
- c. Under Operation (occupied).

As per the Om of MoEF & CC dated: 01.05.2018, the SEAC deliberated the fund allocation for Corporate Environment Responsibility which shall be to a maximum of 2% of the project cost.

In view of the above and based on the inspection report & the Ecological damage, remediation plan and natural & community resource augmentation plan furnished by the proponent, the SEAC decided the fund allocation for



Ecological remediation, natural resource augmentation & community resource augmentation and penalty by following the below mentioned criteria.

Level of damages	Ecological remediation cost (% of project cost)	natural resource augmentation cost (% of project cost)	community resource augmentation cost (% of project cost)	CER (% of project cost)	total (% of project cost)
Low level Ecological damage	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.25	0.75
Medium level Ecological damage	0.35	0.15	0.25	0.5	1.25
High level Ecological damage	0.50	0.20	0.30	1.00	2.00

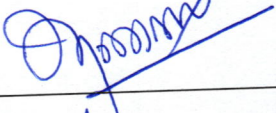
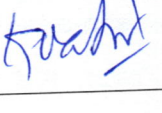
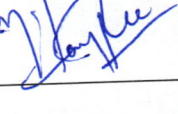
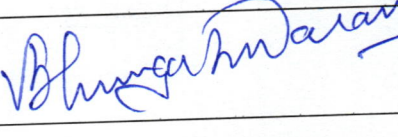
The Committee observes that the project of M/s. Army Welfare Housing Organization in S.F No.172/1, 173, Thazhambur Village, Chengalpattu Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu, comes under the "Low level Ecological damage category".

The Managing director, Army Welfare Housing organisation (AWHO), New Delhi in his letter dated: 15.05.2018 has informed that AWHO is a "No profit No loss basis organisation and is working for the welfare of the serving and retired personnel and their widows in the army. It is a registered society. He has requested for waiver of the penalty payable if any. Considering these aspects, the SEAC recommends the following funds allocation to be made by the proponent:

Level of damages	Ecological remediation cost (% of project cost)	natural resource augmentation cost (% of project cost)	community resource augmentation cost (% of project cost)	total (% of project cost)
Low level Ecological damage	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.50

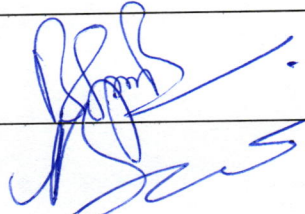
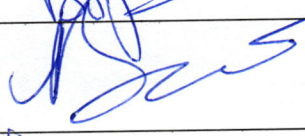


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	<p>The Committee decided to recommend the proposal to SEIAA for grant of post construction EC subject to the following conditions in addition to the normal conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The amount prescribed for Ecological remediation (Rs. 57.33 lakhs), natural resource augmentation (Rs.22.93 lakhs) &amp; community resource augmentation (Rs. 34.39 lakhs) , totalling Rs. 114.65 lakhs shall be remitted in the form of bank guarantee to Tamil Nadu Pollution Control board, before obtaining Environmental Clearance and submit the acknowledgement of the same to SEIAA-TN. The funds should be utilized for the remediation plan, Natural resource augmentation plan &amp; Community resource augmentation plan as indicated in the EIA/EMP report.</li> <li>2. The SEAC recommends that SEIAA may look into any other legal and regulatory issues that are applicable before issuing the post construction EC.</li> </ol>		
S.No	Name	Designation	Signature
1	Dr. K. Thanasekaran	Member	
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	



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8	Shri B. Sugirtharaj Koilpillai	Member	
9	Shri. P. Balamadeswaran	Co-opt Member	
10	Shri. M.S. Jayaram	Co-opt Member	