

Minutes of the 114th SEAC Meeting held on 19th June 2018

<p>114- F.5859/2016</p>	<p>Proposal seeking Environmental Clearance & Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Clearance for the proposed Fish Landing Centre (FLC) with protection structures as Groyne field for 2.10 km with 11 Groynes at Kovalam Village, Kovalam Taluk, Kancheepuram District by M/s. Fisheries Department under category 'B2' – SEAC recommendation submitted to SEIAA-TN – Suggestion from SEIAA - Regarding</p>
	<p>In the 83rd TNSCZMA meeting held on 19.05.2015, TNSCZMA has issued CRZ clearance for construction of 11 Groynes at Kovalam village, Kovalam Taluk, Kancheepuram district.</p> <p>The Proponent, M/s. Fisheries Department applied for EC & CRZ Clearance with SEIAA for the proposed Fish Landing Centre (FLC) with protection structures as Groyne field for 2.10 km with 11 Groynes at Kovlam Village, Kovalam Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamilnadu on 12.12.2016.</p> <p>Meanwhile, in the Application No. 4 of 2013 (SZ) before Hon'ble NGT, South Zone Chennai, Shri. O. Fernandes and Shri. 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 Puducherry causing disturbance to the natural movement of soil.</p> <p>In the minutes of 154th meeting of EAC of MoEF held on 22-23.12.2015, 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 integrated shoreline Management Program on the basis of pilot study".</p> <p>In the 162nd meeting of EAC 29/08/2016, based on the NGT(SZ) Chennai order dt: 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)</p>

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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 informed 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 an application (Form -i) seeking EC & CRZ Clearance for project attracting CRZ Notification, 2011 on 12.12.2016 to SEIAA for construction of 11 Groynes at Kovalam village, Kovalam Taluk, Kancheepuram district.

Thereby the proposal was placed in the 84th meeting of the SEAC, TamilNadu held on 27.02.2017. After presentation and detailed discussion, the SEAC-TN has requested the proponent to furnish the following details

1. Revised EIA study for the impact on biodiversity 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 marshes and mangroves, report on water sampling for general core parameters & heavy metals and report on sediment analysis in the proposed project environment within 10 km radius enclosing details of institution & 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 underwater fish population within 10 km radius.
3. Details of the source, physical and chemical characteristics of the raw material used for the construction of Groynes.
4. Details of the impact on fisheries.
5. Report from IIT Madras regarding the conditions imposed by MoEF for construction of the Groynes, related to soft measures and level of erosion.



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6. Comprehensive Report incorporating fish landing centre and shore line management.

7. Flow data at the point of the creek.

The proponent was requested to furnish the details in Lr.No. SEIAA-TN/F.No. 5859/2016/NGT dated: 03.03.2017. The proponent furnished the details on 06.11.2017.

The details furnished by the proponent were placed in the 98th meeting held on 28.11.2017. Based on the presentation made by the proponent and the details furnished, the SEAC makes the following observations:

1. Item No.1 – Sampling should cover 10 km radius adequately. Now, sampling has been done only along the coast.
2. Item No.2 – The species of the fish population not furnished.
3. Item No.3 – The chemicals properties for the construction materials, not furnished.
4. Item No.4 – The impact study not furnished.
5. Item No.5 – Details not furnished.
6. Item No.6 – Comprehensive report not furnished.
7. Item No.7 – Details not furnished

Thus, the SEAC concluded that the proponent has furnished insufficient data and hence decided to direct the proponent to furnish comprehensive details as already informed. The decision regarding the grant of CRZ Clearance will be taken after the receipt and perusal of the data requested already.

The proponent was requested to furnish the details in Lr.No. SEIAA-TN/F.No. 5859/AE-I/2017 dated: 15.12.2017. The proponent furnished the details on 03.04.2018.

The proposal along with fresh details furnished was placed in the 107th SEAC meeting held on 11.04.2018. Based on the presentation made by the proponent and the documents furnished, the SEAC decided to recommend the proposal for the grant of EC & CRZ Clearance to SEIAA subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the normal

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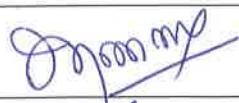
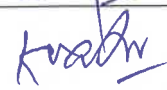
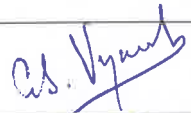

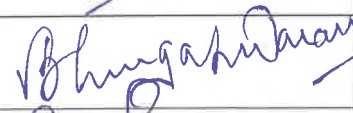



conditions:

1. 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.
2. The project proponent shall sign a MOU with any one of the reputed research institutions for monitoring during the Groynes deployment for a minimum of one year. The monitoring shall be undertaken on weekly basis during construction and monthly basis during post construction covering the parameters like physical including sedimentation rate, chemical and biological including benthic assemblages (sea grasses, coral reefs, Gorgonian beds), 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 EC & CRZ clearance.
3. The proponent shall take comprehensive remedial and management measures, if there is any disturbance to aquatic life.
4. 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. The document should be submitted to SEIAA within 3 months after the completion of the project.
5. The proponent, through IIT Madras, should use such projects for validating the computer models which they use for designing the groynes.

The recommendations of the SEAC was placed in the 317th SEIAA Meeting held on 18.06.2018. The Authority decided to refer back the proposal to SEAC for fresh appraisal being case of violation as per EIA Notification, 2006 as amended (Violation notification).

The above suggestion and remarks of the SEIAA were placed in the 114th SEAC Meeting held on 19.06.2018. The SEAC noted that SEIAA has termed the project as "project under violation category". However, there are no reasons stated to categorize the project as the project under violation

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		category. Hence, the SEAC decided to refer the matter back to SEIAA seeking clarifications on the specific reasons regarding violation.	
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. Shanmugasundaram	Member	
7	Shri B. Sugirtharaj Koilpillai	Member	
8	Shri. P. Balamadeswaran	Co-opt Member	
9	Shri. M.S. Jayaram	Co-opt Member	

MEMBER SECRETARY, SEAC

CHAIRMAN, SEAC

