

DRAFT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Preparation of Coastal Zone Management Plan with reference to the CRZ Notification 2019

As per the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2019 published by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi, the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Tamil Nadu have been entrusted with the responsibility of preparation of the Coastal Zone management Plans of the coastal area of the State through agencies authorized by the MoEF&CC, New Delhi. Accordingly, the work of preparation of draft CZMPs for all the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu was entrusted to the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai, who is an authorized agency approved by the Govt, for the said purpose.

The NCSCM, Chennai has completed the job of the preparation of draft CZMPs of all the 14 Coastal districts of Tamil Nadu as per the guidelines of CRZ notification 2019. As per the annexure IV, Para 6 of CRZ Notification 2019, the said draft CZMPs has to be published on the Website. The Draft CZMP maps has been uploaded in the website of Department of Environment and Climate Change (<http://www.environment.tn.gov.in>) and ENVIS Centre (<http://tnenvis.nic.in>) on 07.10.2022 inviting suggestions / objections, if any, from all the Departments/ local communities/ NGO's etc.

In this regard, it is informed that the Coastal Zone Management Plan in 1: 25000 scale for all the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu has been prepared as per the following and other guidelines of CRZ Notification 2019 and the said draft Plan consists of 117 Sheets indicating CRZ I (Ecological Sensitive Area), CRZ II (Developed Area), CRZ III (rural areas etc.), CRZ IV (Water Area), Cadastral information, etc.

CRZ Notification 2019

Para 2.0: Classification of the CRZ – For the purpose of conserving and protecting the coastal area and marine waters, the CRZ area shall be classified as follows, namely:-

2.1 CRZ – I

Areas are environmentally most critical and are further classified as under

(i) CRZ-I A :

(a) CRZ-I A shall constitute the following ecologically sensitive areas (ESAs) and the geomorphological features which play a role in maintaining the integrity of the coast viz.:

- (i) Mangroves (in case mangrove area is more than 1000 square meters, a buffer of 50 meters along the mangroves shall be provided and such area shall also constitute CRZ-IA);
 - (ii) Corals and coral reefs;
 - (iii) Sand dunes;
 - (iv) Biologically active mudflats;
 - (v) National parks, marine parks, sanctuaries, reserve forests, wildlife habitats and other protected areas under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972), Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (69 of 1980) or Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), including Biosphere Reserves;
 - (vi) Salt marshes;
 - (vii) Turtle nesting grounds;
 - (viii) Horse shoe crabs' habitats;
 - (ix) Sea grass beds;
 - (x) Nesting grounds of birds;
 - (xi) Areas or structures of archaeological importance and heritage sites.
- (b) A detailed environment management plan shall be formulated by the states and Union territories for such ecologically sensitive areas in respective territories, as Mapped out by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai based on guidelines as contained in Annexure-I to this notification and Integrated with the CZMP.

2.1.2 CRZ-I B:

The intertidal zone i.e. the area between Low Tide Line and High Tide Line shall constitute the CRZ-I B.

2.2 CRZ-II:

CRZ-II shall constitute the developed land areas up to or close to the shoreline, within the existing municipal limits or in other existing legally designated urban areas, which are substantially built-up with a ratio of built-up plots to that of total plots being more

than 50 per cent and have been provided with drainage and approach roads and other infrastructural facilities, such as water supply, sewerage mains, etc.

2.3 CRZ-III:

Land areas that are relatively undisturbed (viz. rural areas, etc.) and those which do not fall under CRZ-II, shall constitute CRZ-III, and CRZ-III shall be further classified into following categories: -

2.3.1 CRZ-III A:

Such densely populated CRZ-III areas, where the population density is more than 2161 per square kilometer as per 2011 census base, shall be designated as CRZ-III A and in CRZ-III A, area up to 50 meters from the HTL on the landward side shall be earmarked as the 'No Development Zone (NDZ)', provided the CZMP as per this notification, framed with due consultative process, have been approved, failing which, a NDZ of 200 meters shall continue to apply.

2.3.2 CRZ-III B:

All other CRZ-III areas with population density of less than 2161 per square kilometre, as per 2011 census base, shall be designated as CRZ-III B and in CRZ-III B, the area up to 200 meters from the HTL on the landward side shall be earmarked as the 'No Development Zone (NDZ)'.

2.3.3:

Land area up to 50 meters from the HTL, or width of the creek whichever is less, along the tidal influenced water bodies in the CRZ III, shall also be earmarked as the NDZ in CRZ III.

Note: The NDZ shall not be applicable in the areas falling within notified Port limits.

2.4 CRZ- IV:

The CRZ- IV shall constitute the water area and shall be further classified as under:-

2.4.1 CRZ- IVA:

The water area and the sea bed area between the Low Tide Line up to twelve nautical miles on the seaward side shall constitute CRZ-IV A.

2.4.2 CRZ- IVB:

CRZ-IV B areas shall include the water area and the bed area between LTL at the bank of the tidal influenced water body to the LTL on the opposite side of the bank, extending from the mouth of the water body at the sea up to the influence of tide, i.e., salinity of five parts per thousand (ppt) during the driest season of the year.

3.0 Areas requiring special consideration in the CRZ.-

Following coastal areas shall be accorded special consideration for the purpose of protecting the critical coastal environment and difficulties faced by local communities: -

3.1 Critically Vulnerable Coastal Areas (CVCA):

Areas requiring special consideration for the purpose of protecting the critical coastal environment and difficulties faced by local communities and other Ecologically Sensitive areas like Gulf of Mannar identified as under Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 and managed with the involvement of Coastal communities including fisher folk who depend on coastal resources for their sustainable livelihood.

3.2 CRZ for inland Backwater islands along the mainland coast.

Hence, all the stakeholders including the institutions/public/NGOs etc., are requested to submit the suggestions/objections, if any, in writing in English (or) Tamil to the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Ground Floor, Panagal Maligai, Saidapet, Chennai -15 on the said draft CZMPs within 45 days from the date of publication of these draft CZMPs and to reach the Department of Environment and Climate Change such a way on or before 21.11.2022.

Sd./- Director,
Director of Environment and
Climate Change