

TAMIL NADU STATE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Note for circulation:

The following agenda item is circulated among the Members of the Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority, for perusal and approval.

Agenda Item : CRZ Clearance issued for the construction of a Beach Man Hole and Laying of cable to M/s. Bharti Aquanet Ltd., Chennai - Requested permission for repair works of Beach Manhole for SEA ME WE 4 Submarine Cable System at Pattinapakkam Beach, Chennai

A complaint was received from South India Fishermen welfare association, Mylapore, Chennai -600 004 regarding the digging work for cable and construction work for Beach Man Hole carried out in the CRZ-1 area by Airtel, wherein such activity are prohibited. Based on the complaint, the site was inspected by officials of TNPCB, Chennai district on 04.04.2022. The TNPCB said that during inspection, it has been noticed that M/s. Bharti Aquanet Ltd., Chennai was carrying out digging work using excavation (Bockline) at CRZ-1A area located (GPS No:Lo:80⁰ 16'43.46" E, La:13⁰ 1'28.16 N) at Block No:101 & 102, Mylapore part- 2 Village, Mylapore Taluk, Chennai District. During enquiring, it was informed that, due to soil erosion existing BMH got tilted and the tilted BMH affects the existing submarine cable. Also it was informed that, BMH has to be straightened to bring it back to its original position.

2) Further, the TNPCB stated that the Unit was requested to stop the work immediately and to carryout the work after obtaining necessary permission from competent Authority vide letter dated: 05.04.2022.

3) M/s. Bharti Aquanet Ltd., Chennai has got Clearance under the CRZ Notification, 1991 from the TNSCZMA for the construction of Beach Man Hole and laying of cable for the Sea Me We 4 Cable Project, vide this office Proceedings dated 05.10.2005 and constructed the Beach Manhole.

4) In this connection the unit has replied vide letter dated 19.04.2022, stating the following reasons for immediate maintenance work.

.2.

1. Critical Maintenance Required: The beach Manhole with the Submarine Cable System was initially set up in 2005, post which in due course of time, the beach Manhole was tilted on its own axis due to heavy soil erosion in the area and this has created a lot of stress on the submarine cable connected from Singapore landed at the Beach Manhole.
2. Urgency of the Repair: a) The SEA ME WE 4 Submarine Cable system is connected from France to Singapore giving additional telecom connectivity to 16 Countries. b). In India the Submarine Cable is providing Telecom Connectivity to entire Eastern Coast for Airtel, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and other Telecom Service Providers. c) In case the Repair works are postponed or suspended further, it may cause a cable break or cable damage, which will affect the telecom connectivity of entire Eastern coast for Airtel, BSNL and many other telecom networks and may affect the Telecom Connectivity of the other countries connected through the SEA ME WE 4 Submarine Cable System."

5) Further, the Unit has requested for the issuance of "NOC" for urgent repair work in the Beach Manhole at Pattinapakkam, Chennai. The Unit has assured to follow the conditions given in the CRZ clearance issued vide Proc. No.2755/2004/P1 dated 05.10.2005. The Unit has also furnished works to be carried in the CRZ area, which is as follows:

- The work will be conducting repairs in the Beach Manhole Area and Laid cable area only.
- To apply additional beams under the Beach Manhole to avoid further tilting and damages to the Beach Manhole and Cable in the future.
- The already laid cable will be recovered till the 0 (Zero)-water mark or the Shore line and will be buried again after adding extra protective pipes (Articulated Pipes) without acquiring any extra space.
- As per the Repair plan the repair works will be finished in 30 days of time once initiated the work again.

.3.

- As per the original CRZ approval given, not to construct any new super structure, but will conduct the Repair works only.

Details of repair work as per the CRZ approval:

S.No	Original CRZ approval	Repair Plan
1	Geo Location 13°01.469" N 80° 16.720" E	Geo Location 13°01.469" N 80° 16.720" E
2	Beach Manhole is 4x3x2 metres	Same area of 4X3X2 metres will be maintained, however for repair the digging will be conducted in 6x4 metres area. Post repair the area will be filled back with sand.
3	No new Superstructure	No new Superstructure. Only repair works.

6) In view of the above, the DCZMA for CMDA areas has recommended the request of M/s. Bharti Airtel Ltd., to SCZMA and requested to consider to make urgent repair work in the Beach Manhole at CRZ-1A area located (Geo Location 13°01.469"N 80° 16.720" E) at Block No.101 & 102, Mylapore part- 2 village, Mylapore Taluk, Chennai District, vide letter dated 26.04.2022.

Sd./- xxxx
Additional Chief Secretary,
Environment, Climate Change & Forests Department /
Chairperson, TNSCZMA

To
The Members of Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority

Whether the permission may be given to make urgent repair work in the Beach Manhole at CRZ-1A area located (Geo Location 13°01.469"N, 80° 16.720" E) at Block No.101 & 102, Mylapore Part- 2 Village, Mylapore Taluk, Chennai District.

Sd./- xxx (14.06.2022)
Member-Secretary, TNSCZMA /
Director, Dept. of Environment & Climate Change

It is requested to convey your acceptance to record this as minutes by returning a signed copy.

1. The Director of Town and Country Planning,
CMDA Office Complex, E&C, Market Road,
Koyambedu, Chennai - 600 107.
2. The Commissioner,
Department of Fisheries, Sd./-
Nandhanam, Chennai - 600 015.
3. The Member Secretary,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Sd./-
Guindy, Chennai, 600 032.
4. The Member Secretary,
Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, Sd./-
Egmore, Chennai. 600 008.
5. The Regional Director,
Central Ground Water Board, Sd./-
Rajaji Bavan, Besant Nagar,
Chennai. 600 090.
6. The Director/ Commissioner,
Department of Industries and Commerce, Sd./-
Guindy Industrial Estate,
Chennai. - 600 032.
7. Dr.R.Venkatesan.
Scientist G & Group Head - Ocean Observation System, Sd./-
National Institute of Ocean Technology,
Ministry of Earth Sciences,
Chennai. - 600 100.
8. Dr.R.Ramesh,
Director, Sd./-
National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management,
Anna University Campus,
Guindy, Chennai. 600 025.
9. Dr.D.Thirumalaivasan,
Director, Sd./-
Institute of Remote Sensing,
Anna University,
Chennai. - 600 025

10. Dr.L.Elango,
Professor & Head,
Department of Geology,
Anna University, Chennai. 600 025.

Sd./-

11. The Advisor,
M/s Care Earth Trust,
No. 3/2, 6th Street,
Thillaiganganagar,
Nanganallur, Chennai-61

Sd./-

Sd./- xxxx (20.06.2022)
Chairperson, TNSCZMA and
Addl. Chief Secretary to Government,
Environment, Climate Change & Forests
Dept., Chennai-9