

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 Integrated Cooum River Eco- restoration project in Chennai proposed by CRRT, Chennai - regarding.

The Chennai River Restoration Trust (CRRT), Adyar Poonga has proposed several activities under the project "Integrated Cooum River Eco Restoration Project (ICRERP)" to restore and protect the degraded Cooum River and provide a clean environment to the urban community. Originally under the project the following major activities are proposed along the Cooum River:

I. River front development:-

- a) Development of park at right bank upstream of Central Buckingham Canal ie., Napier Bridge to Periyar Bridge, walkway with 2.50 m width, lawn, Children play ground, view point terraces,
- b) Developing public space at right bank from C in C Road Bridge to College Road Bridge - lawn, children play ground, view point and terraces, food courts
- c) Developing public space on the right bank from Munroe Bridge to Chetpet Railway Bridge
Walk way, cycle track

II. Maintenance walk way at right bank from river mouth to Napier bridge.

III. Mangrove Development along the river bank

IV. Sewage and Sanitation (interceptors, Modular STPs, manholes)

V. Flood Management - De-silting the cooum river from river mouth to upstream side of Napier Bridge, deepening of river beds.

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VI. De-silting is proposed. - the volume of accumulated silt is 76,425 cum, 61,388 cum & 3,70,364 cum in three places. Totally 5,08,177 cum. 60% will be used for stabilizing the river beds (bundling) and developing greenery (landscape changes). The desilting is permissible activity. However bundling and landscape changes are prohibited activities. The CRRT indicated that the balance dredging silt will be disposed to Chennai Corporation dump yards equivalent to 23,715 trucks.

2) The project area between the Cooum river mouth and Chetpet Bridge is falling in CRZ in CRZ-I (inter tidal zone), CRZ-II and CRZ-IV (water area). The project cost is Rs.105 crores. As per the proposal the public space is for the recreational purpose - Any reclamation for entertainment activity and any landscape changes for beautification are prohibited activities vide para 3 (ix) and 3 (xiii) of CRZ Notification 2011.

3) The District Coastal Zone Management Authority for CMDA areas has recommended the project to the TNSCZMA subject to the following conditions:

- a) The desilting of River Cooum shall be undertaken only once.
- b) The silt generated shall be scientifically disposed in suitable area outside CRZ area.
- c) The Nature Reserve proposed to be established in the CRZ area shall not be a public park and be maintained as a Nature Reserve. Park should not be utilized for entertainment / recreation purpose.
- d) The greeneries proposed in the CRZ area shall be undertaken in consultation with the Forest Department.
- e) The modular STPs proposed in the CRZ area shall be temporary nature to treat the raw sewage let into River Cooum until permanent measures are taken by CMWSSB to provide sewerage network for treatment & disposal.
- f) The treated sewage shall meet the disposal standards as prescribed by the TNPCB and to be utilised for greenery development or for other beneficial use.

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- g) The consent to establish of the TNPCB shall be obtained prior to the establishment of the STPs.
- h) Food Courts should not be established. There should not be any cycle track, Children play ground, view point and terraces in CRZ.
- i) Walk way should be paved for only maintenance purpose.

4) Maintenance or clearing of waterways, channels and ports, based on EIA studies is permissible activities as per para 3 (iv) of CRZ Notification 2011. However the above activities require Clearance from MoEF& CC vide para 4 (ii)(d) as the proposal involves constructions several interception mains to convey the sewage from outfalls to STPs for treatment and for discharge into the river.

5) The subject was placed before the 88th meeting of the State Coastal Zone Management Authority held on 15.02.2016 and the Authority resolved to request the following details from the CRRT.

- a) Flood mitigation Plan including flood modelling for the river to be prepared and implemented on the event of any heavy rain fall to mitigate the adverse impacts. And the plan so prepared should be validated to the recent floods.
- b) Specific details on the project components, which are proposed to be executed by the PWD.
- c) List of Mangroves Associates and native species with specific focus on riparian vegetation to be planted should be furnished.

6) Accordingly the CRRT furnished the above details in their letter dated 24.02.2016 and copies of the same are enclosed for kind perusal.

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7) Therefore the State Coastal Zone Management Authority may resolve to recommend this proposal to Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India for their consideration.

Member Secretary,
TNSCZMA

To

The Members of Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority

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

APPROVED

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